

CONNECTION

Fall 2010



California Alpaca Breeders & Owners Association
Newsletter



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Thank you to
Our Contributing Members.

Taking the time to write and send articles and information to share with the Membership is a big deal (at least it is in my book, since I beg and plead for every issue of *your* newsletter and thankfully someone always comes through! So a big thank you to the members listed below, you will find their articles in this issue of the Connection:

Diane Hoschler

Ian Watt
(Submitted by
Diana Jordan)

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International Lama Registry

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Fall 2010

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Classified Ads

Important Links, Information and Articles are to be found throughout every issue!

President's Message

Communications

Have you been to the Calpaca webpage lately? If not, log on and check out the link to an e-copy of the Connection! Placing this link on the home page is in response to requests from the Membership, and will allow for easy retention of editions for future reference, while allowing web surfers who may be interested in Alpacas, to get a sense of what the Association is all about. Good suggestion and appreciate the feedback we have been receiving. When you receive your 2011 Membership renewal you will be given the option to continue or stop receiving the hard copy in favor of the e-copy; by going "green" we can save a few trees. Also want to remind you that you can find minutes of the monthly Board meetings and quarterly Calpaca meetings posted at the Calpaca site.

The results of the survey on supporting AWE have been distributed to the Membership. Bottom line is AWE ended up not needing any economic support and they have decided to not have a 2011 show. If you have any questions on this matter please email me at tapetersen48@hotmail.com.

AOBA has recently reached out to the Affiliates to discuss ways to improve the dialog between AOBA and the Affiliates. All Affiliates were invited to participate in a teleconference hosted by Ian Watt; ~ 15 Affiliates participated. Ian described the AOBA Board objectives and strongly encouraged a positive response by the Affiliates. A second teleconference, absent Ian, was held on October 13 with ~ 15 Affiliates participating, during which we discussed options for responding to AOBA. I will be preparing a summary of the discussion in a separate letter to the Membership.

Education

The Camelid Symposium is on track and I assure you it will be as great as ever. Mark your calendars for January 15-16 and plan on attending, also, encourage your Vet to participate and come ready to hear the latest in Camelid medicine and research. Alpacas in the news continues with a Martha Stewart segment having run on October 22nd-Nice that the topic was on fiber! BTW, for those of you that were unable to attend the August Calpaca meeting hosted by Haley Jessup and Joan Speirs, you missed a very informative presentation by Dr. David Jensen with a focus (sorry) on eye injury and treatment. Information on the next Calpaca meeting scheduled for December 4 is posted on the Calpaca website-FYI there will be a great prize awarded that can be used to practice what you learn at the meeting.

Marketing

Feedback on the annual clip was modest- I have data from 22 ranches. Educating our local Ag Advisors on our industry is critical, and quantifying our fiber production key to demonstrating that we are a fiber industry. If you did not attend the Dixon Caper you missed a great opportunity to introduce the public to Alpacas. Rated as Level 1 AOBA certified show, our primary goal was to introduce alpacas to other fiber producers. Lambtown was the perfect venue to do that as wool fiber artists routinely attend the well known event and this year they got to see a new fiber source. Alpaca fleece and products sold very well. Also, the performance classes were a huge hit-youngsters associated with 4-H did a marvelous job of demonstrating their herdsman/women abilities-a new market for fiber boys? I think so. **Vision:** In my first Presidents message I referenced a comment from Alice in Wonderland-"If you do not know where you want to go, then any road will do." Agreement on where we wish to go is becoming more clear, thus the road to take more clear. AOBA has announced a Fiber Industry meeting to be held in November in Nashville-good news in my mind. The value of the Affiliates voice is being acknowledged-again good news in my mind. Continuing to support new breeders via the Ambassador program currently led by Dianna Jordon a valuable investment that supports the industry for the long term. Developing relationships with our Senators and Assembly Members equally important-they will be our voice in addressing legislative issues going forward. Do you know who your Senator/Assembly Member is? If not contact me!

Thank you for supporting Calpaca, stay involved, stay connected and stay tuned-see you at Derwydd's/Twisted Tree on December 4th.

Best regards

Tom Petersen



Alpacas All Around

Tom and Susan Petersen

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breedings, and fiber
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Calpaca Quarterly Membership Meeting Minutes

8/14/2010

Tom called meeting to order at 10:20am. All board members present except for Jack.

Tom thanked Haley Jessup, Joan Speirs hosting the event and arranging for a social event this evening!. We had perfect weather for the meeting. We also had several members from SoCalpaca at this meeting. It was very nice to have a meeting in an area where more people from both affiliates could come.

Minutes from May Meeting were posted on the web site. Joyce made motion to approve, Dennis second, minutes were approved.

Finance Report-Jack was not present to give treasurer report but Calpaca continues to be very strong with about \$50,000 in the bank.

Shows

Grass Valley Show Update-Kay advised that plans are moving along and we have several people already spoken for various sponsorships. We are still looking for volunteers for some of the key positions: Silent Auction, Vendor coordinator and we need gate keepers and ring stewards. If you can volunteer, please contact Karen Ball or Kay and Eva. The show dates will be October 23-24, 2010. Dale had the original show program and some history from the 1st show and will be giving that to Dianna Jordan who is in charge of the show program. Entry forms are now posted on the web site, www.goldcountrygathering.com or at www.calpaca.org.

Dixon-Dale and Joyce have both been working very hard to get this small show going. Dale asks if you will be showing at this show and you have black and brown alpacas, please come Friday night so the show can start on time. There will be a Friday night check in and Saturday morning check in from 7am to 8 am only. Remember, Sunday there will be no vendors bring a sack lunch! Show dates are October 2-3, 2010. Forms are at www.dixoncaper.com. This is a great show for those who have never shown before. Dale and Joyce are looking for volunteers to help with this show also.

California Classic 2011-Joyce advised that the dates have changed for this show because it fell on Easter. New show dates are April 30-May 1, 2011. Because of the date change, we now have two new judges, Helen Humphreys and Stephanie Glyptis.

Nationals 2011-Likely to be in Denver

2010 clip reporting-Number of alpacas shorn and total weight report to Tom @ tapetersen48@hotmail.com. Deadline for entering is September 1. If you don't like the wine, how about a box of chocolates?

Mentors/New breeder support-Diana was not present but she gave an update to Dale and there are a lot of helpful people in Calpaca. Everyone that volunteers at this meeting, please contact Dianna and get on the list.

Legislative Issues - Tom not much going on at this time.

Alpaca Fiber for Oil Mitigation-no one stepped up to help organize the effort to get fiber to the spill. Fiber did go into the boom project but the booms did not get used by BP.

Alpaca Rescue-The Calpaca board would like to give a big Thank you to Lin, Steve, Brenda and Karen for doing such a wonderful job. All but 2 of the 25 rescued alpacas have been placed. It takes a lot of time, effort, money and a huge heart to take on a rescue. The board asked on the survey what the membership expected in a case like this and most wanted more information. We are looking for someone to look into the different rescue efforts, Southwest Lama Rescue, Safe Haven and any other rescue that might be able to help in these hard times.

Survey Monkey as a survey tool-Everyone that replied to the surveys that went out wanted more information. We will try to give you more in the future.

Submitting issues/concerns/word on the street to the Board. Please, if there is something that you feel the board should be addressing, please send us an email, grab us at a meeting or just call. We are here to service the membership and need your help to do this.

Other Business:

RFP's - Dale, Dianna, Jack and a few others have put together RFP's (request for proposals) to be used in hiring all help for paid positions. This includes show programs, event managers, Connection, show super's, announcers and so on. If you would ever like to be considered for any of these jobs, the forms will be located on the Calpaca web site soon.

AWE - Kay advised that AWE did not need money to cover costs. Somehow there was more money after bills were paid and a checking account that had not been touched in years. AWE has been postponed until 2012. In this time we hope to find a new venue in the CA area to host the show. Kay is sending out RFP's and is looking for a facility with at least 70,000 square feet to hold the show.

IAO is going to be held at the Ventura County Fairgrounds, March 17-18, 2011. The new format is very exciting and new rules are posted at www.iaoshow.com.

Dale went to the 3rd annual Fiber Symposium in Virginia and said it was a very intense meeting. Main focus on fiber and finished product. AOBA gave \$1000 to have alpaca fiber rated (tensile strength, flammability and so on). We are still in a cottage industry with the blanket project using the most fiber (25,000 lbs) the Co-Op using between 15-20,000 lbs and down from there. There are 42 mini mills in the states. Still, not everyone is using their fiber. To make this a successful industry, we need to get our fiber out there.

Connection has not been sent out yet. We would like your expectations on what you think the Connection should be. Survey sent out about how you wanted to get your Connection and it was split, email or snail mail. We will start putting the Connection in an email form so we can have an archive of past issues. We will also add another question at renewal - Connection - Email or mailed or both?

Announcements:

AFW is November 13-14 in the City of Industry. Nancy from Silo Springs Alpacas is putting out a performance challenge and holding a Kids Camp to get more kids interested in the performance part of the show. Go to www.alpacafestwest.com or contact Nancy at Silo Springs Alpacas for more on the Kids corner.

Next Meeting: December 4, 2010 at Dale/Jan Davis' new house!

Meeting adjourned at 12:15. Following lunch, Dr Jensen went over problems with the eyes and how to fix them.

Submitted respectfully by
Kay Rodriguez

Welcome new 2010 Calpaca members.

First Quarter

Jody & Jeff Damon - Summer Breeze Alpacas

Tom & Mette Goehring - Ranch of the Oaks,
Lompoc, CA

Linda Nicolosi - Alpacas of Baragon, Santa Ynez, CA

William & Darlene Hagen - Summer Star Alpacas,
Vacaville, CA

Second Quarter

Alison Marschewski of Two Trees Alpacas, Ventura, CA

Kenneth and Margo Knapp, Fairview Alpaca Ranch,
Tehachapi, CA

Vicki Antonio, Victory Farm, Santa Rosa, CA

Shauna Shipley, Shawn Jole, Yara Farms,
Sacramento, CA

Third Quarter

Ken Bredlau, Pleasanton, CA

Joe & Susan Attili, La Dolce Vita Alpacas, Ramona, CA

Lynette Halverson, Richard Katus, Los Angeles, CA

Neil & Ruth Barney, Black Oak Alpacas, Tehachapi, CA

Glenn & Carolyn Waddell, Sawdust Alpacas, Reno, NV

Lisa Alexander, Clovis, CA

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Entering Spin-offs and Why Would I Want To?

By

Diane Hoschler, Double Diamond Alpacas

It seems like every time I turn around there is an email in my inbox advertising another alpaca show somewhere in the country and each one is encouraging me to drop everything right now and send in my entry for the Spin-off by a specified deadline. And then a couple days prior to said deadline – another email comes out telling me that the deadline has been extended so hurry up and get your entries prepared and submitted.

So, just what is this spin off competition, why would you want to enter it, and what do they mean by prepared?

A spin off competition offers you, the breeder, an opportunity to have your alpacas fleece evaluated for processing – including ease of preparation, ease of spinning, the finished product – and to take away a small sample skein of the resulting yarn.

Currently the judging point system awards 25 – 30% of the points for the actual prep, processing, and resultant yarn. Approximately 35% of the points can be affected by your preparation of the entry and the rest are specific to the fiber itself – much like the evaluation in a fleece show.

So – how do you enter a spin off?

First, choose the fleeces that you want to enter. Just like for a fleece show, the entry must have been shorn within 380 days of the date of the show. Lay out the fleece on a table and pick out an area that **best** represents the entire fleece. From this area (you can pick and choose around the fleece), take out a 2 – 3 oz portion. Since the judge only sees what you send in, you will get a better score and a nicer yarn if you select and skirt the sample for uniformity/consistency.

Preparing the sample:

1. Before you do any work – check first for parasites and then check the length of the fiber. Parasitic infestation is grounds for immediate disqualification. And, the minimum qualifying length is 3 inches. If the sample submitted is shorter than that – it is automatically disqualified. When I found samples that had short areas I checked throughout to determine if there was at least a ½ ounce of fiber 3” or longer – essentially if I could determine that at least 25% of the sample was long enough, I didn’t disqualify it. This is currently at the discretion of the individual judges.

The maximum allowable lengths are the same as stated in the show rules for a fleece show. For huacayas, the length must be between 3 and 8”. Suri fleeces must be between 3 and 9” in length. The one length exception is for a first shearing on an animal less than 24 months of age. There is no maximum for this exception.

2. Spin off rules state that the sample must be between 2 and 4 oz of prime fiber. You will lose 1 point for every tenth of an ounce less than the 2oz minimum or more than the 4 oz maximum. (I had one entry in the Gold Country Spin-off that lost 25 points because they submitted 6.25 oz!). Weigh the sample before placing it in the zip lock bag. If your scale doesn’t weigh to tenths of ounces or if you think it might be a little off – then send in about 2.5 ounces. Although all the fiber you submit should be returned to you along with the resulting yarn – it has been my experience that you don’t always get back the “left overs”. So, with good preparation, there is no need to send in more than the required minimum amount.

3. The obvious first preparation step (once you have selected the portion of the fleece you plan to submit) should be to remove as much of the vegetation and dirt as possible. Also do some basic skirting just like preparing the entire fleece for a show - look for those really strong primary staples/locks (guard hairs, 3rds), really dirty areas, etc. and take them out! As in anything produced, garbage in results in garbage out and you want the highest number of points so your entry will have the blue ribbon hanging on it when you get to the show!

If you can feel vegetation when you lightly squeeze the fiber in your hands – then when the judge opens up that fiber – they have additional work to do on your entry before they can spin and that counts as points deducted. Hold the sample over a bowl, or the garbage can or something and shake it lightly. The more loose dirt and teeny vegetation that you can shake out – the less the judge has to do.

DO NOT WASH YOUR ENTRY! All entries must be submitted in a natural state – although as stated above, the removal of loose vegetation and dirt that doesn’t disturb the condition of the fiber is allowed and recommended. The judge will wash the yarn after it has been spun and plied.

4. Next, look for second cuts and guard hair that might be in the sample you have selected. Remove these! Watch for those teeny little shear “burrs” of fiber that the shears leave behind and that get buried in the cut ends – especially on the very dense huacaya fleeces. These are very hard to remove once the judge starts prepping the fiber.

5. The entry must be submitted in a “clear, unmarked, plain, **gallon-size** zipper type plastic bag”. Some Ziploc and Glad brand bags have their labeling printed on the bags with spaces for writing. These bags are ok as long as YOU don’t write anything on them. I have found that my local dollar store carries a very nice totally clear gallon sized zipper bag that fits the requirements perfectly. If you forget and write the alpaca’s name on the bag or your ranch name or anything – the superintendent is supposed to re-bag the sample before sending it on to the judge. Sometimes they miss and then the judge has to take extra time and expense to put your entry into a bag the way you should have before sending it in. The judge cannot know anything about the breeder or the specific animal during processing.

6. Before you put the entry into the bag, weigh it again to be sure you still have at least 2 oz and then – a last step you can do to enhance your point total is to line up the fiber. Line up the staples with all the butts together and all the tips together – looking like a little picket fence! You may need to make two or three rows within the bag – but doing this one last step will make everything the judge needs to do to evaluate your entry much, much easier. Although grabbing a handful of suri fiber usually keeps it “lined up” – taking the time to lay it out uniformly before placing it into the bag, actually makes determining length and uniformity much easier for the judge.

First impression is worth 10 points! Do the above and you'll probably end up in the 9 – 10 point range.

7. To finish prepping your sample for submission – a completed "AOBA Handcrafter's Spin-Off Entry Tag" should be inserted into the bag. This will identify the animal including birth date, date of this shearing, date of last shearing (or birth date, if a first shearing), age class, and color. You also need to include a 4"x6" (or smaller) color photo of the animal and a copy of the ARI certificate with the entry, but not in the bag.

8. Follow the instructions for registration including to whom and where to send the entry and fees and submit as far before the deadline as possible. The reason you see extended deadlines is because of the people that wait til the last minute to submit. The original deadline is set with agreement from the judge that they have enough time to process the estimated number of entries and return them, completed, to the superintendent approximately 2 weeks or more prior to the actual show. Extended deadlines generally mean that the judge gets more entries than planned for and then has to really scramble to meet all the deadlines.

You've done your part – now what?

Once the entries are received by the spin-off superintendent, they put them into classes following the rules set forth by AOBA in the Show System Handbook. The entries are grouped by age and then by color. Once completed, the superintendent creates a scorecard for each entry and a worksheet per class for the judge and the entries (without the specific identifying info – name, ranch, picture, ARI cert, etc.) are turned over to the judge.

What is the judge looking for - And what will my scorecard tell me?

Huacaya entries are judged as follows with the maximum number of points per category listed:

First Impression	10
Staple Length – min 3"	5
Cleanliness	10
Lack of Second Cuts	5
Lack of Guard Hair	5
Crimp	5
Staple (Architecture)	5
Uniformity	10
Fineness	10
Hand	5
Ease of Prep for Spinning	10
Ease of Spinning	10
Hand feel, softness of Yarn	
& Loft	5
Brightness	5
Total possible pts	100

The first 35 points available can absolutely be affected by how well you prepare your entry before sending it in!!

Suri entries are judged as follows with the maximum points available listed:

First Impression	10
Staple length – min 3"	5
Cleanliness	10
Lack of Second Cuts	5
Lack of Guard Hair	3
Lock Structure	7
Uniformity	10
Fineness	10
Hand	5
Luster	10
Ease of Prep for Spinning	10
Ease of Spinning	10
Hand Feel, Softness of Yarn	5
Total possible pts	100

The first 33 points of the suri sheet can be affected by how well you prepare your entry before submitting it!!

The judge starts by taking the fiber out of the bag and weighing it. If less than 2oz or greater than 4oz the judge will determine the amount of deduction and record that on the scorecard. The judge will also be looking for parasitic infestation at this time – automatic disqualification if found.

Next the judge will pull out a few staples/locks from various sections of the sample and measure them. If too long or too short – the entry is disqualified. Anything over about 6" for a huacaya fleece is awkward to process smoothly using hand cards for hand spinning. The really long suri fleeces and/or those that are tightly twisted into the pencil locks that are loved in the show ring and fleece show – are a big challenge to process whether by hand or by machine.

The judge will next look at cleanliness. Does a dust cloud arise when the sample is lightly patted? When the sample is picked up off the table – is there dirt and vegetation left behind? Can the judge feel a lot of imbedded vegetation when lightly squeezing the fiber sample? Are there second cuts that should have been removed? What about guard hair? Good preparation on your part should result in high points for cleanliness, lack of second cuts, and lack of guard hair. (If you see guard hairs protruding from the end of the staple/lock – it is ok to pull them out during prep!)

...Continued page 8

Next the judge reviews the sample for strength, uniformity, fineness, hand, etc. You don't have any preparation control over these categories and this is very subjective depending upon the background of the judge.

Now the judge begins the processing. A first fleece in both huacaya and suri will usually have drier tips (not necessarily weak) that trap vegetation and dirt. These should be opened up as much as possible by flick carding the huacaya tips and combing the suri tips. There will be some loss of fiber during this process. At the same time – the butt/cut ends should be flick carded or combed depending on fiber type. Flick carding the butt ends of a dense huacaya fleece will expose buried second & burr cuts, while combing the cut end of suri will open up the locks and remove coting.

By the second fleece – these first steps should not be necessary. However, there is the occasional first fleece entered from an animal that is between 12 and 24 months. These entries suffer – because most if not all of the other entries in that class are a 2nd shearing. How these fleeces are prepared can and will vary between judges, but whatever a judge does for one fleece in a class – they have to do to all the entries in that same class.

To finish the prep for the huacaya entries, I finger picked the fiber to remove as much dirt and vegetation as possible and then hand carded the fiber into rolags for spinning. After combing the tips and cut ends of all the suri entries, I was able to go straight to the carding without a picking step.

Each entry was put through 3 washes with detergent, 2 clear water rinses, and hung in the sun to dry. Many of the entries started out so dirty that they could have used more soap washes – but again, I had to pick a number that seemed to work best for the majority.

Finally the resulting yarn was judged along with the brightness or luster of the fiber and the scorecards were completed and signed.

It totally amazed me to find an awesome fleece that made a very inconsistent yarn and to find a not so wonderful fleece that resulted in an amazing yarn. Many times the entry that resulted in the nicest yarn ended up at or near the bottom in overall points and many times the entry that had the highest initial points resulted in a less than impressive yarn. The beautiful, soft, fine first fleece that felted when you just look at it crossways – will be a big disappointment if you pay a mini-mill or other commercial processor to make yarn. It may come back as a nice yarn, but the first time you wash (no matter how careful) the finished garment – it will felt. These are the things that you want and need to know about your fiber.

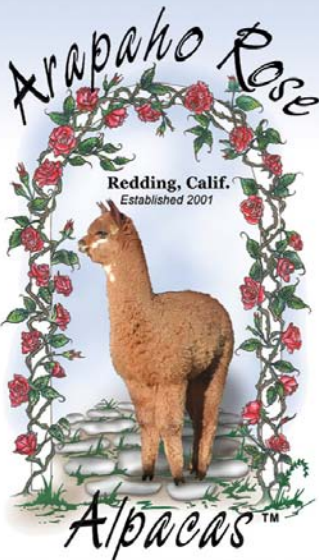
So, now what?

If you earned a blue ribbon – congratulations! If you didn't, take the time to look at the score cards from the other entries in your class and check out the differences. Was it in the preparation? Now you know how to change that. Was it in the fleece evaluation? That's where good breeding decisions can improve the score. Was it in the ease of prep or ease of spinning? Did the judge tell you why you lost points there – again, was it an entry preparation issue? Was the fleece too long? Too dirty? Too much vegetation? Was it something that you can change next time?

Collect those ribbons, make mental notes of what to do different next time, and take home that fun little skein of yarn. Put it on display and when a potential customer comes by to look at that alpaca – show them the yarn and tell them that this is how that alpacas fleece looks and feels when spun up. Can't they just imagine wearing a sweater made out of that yarn?

...And – thank you for supporting your local spin-off!






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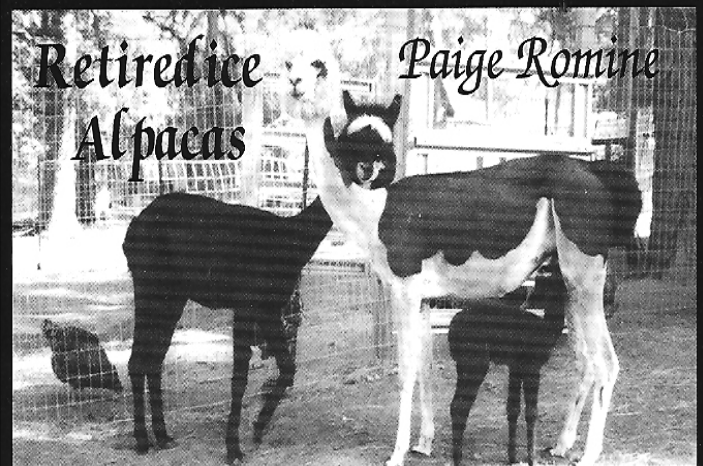
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Calendar of Events

Quarterly Calpaca Membership Meeting

December 4, 2010

Where: In Esparto... At Derwydd Alpacas (In our **new** house!) The house may not be completely done, but we should have electricity and bathrooms.

What Time: 10:00 am. Calpaca Business Meeting starts. Coffee and snacks will be available.

Remember to BRING CHAIRS!

12:00 Noon: Pot Luck Lunch! For those of you that like to cook - please feel free to exercise your cooking skills and those that don't like to cook, no worries, Derwydd will be cooking up a bunch of something too.. I just don't know exactly what yet!

Please let us know if you will be attending, so that we can assure you that there will be plenty of food/drink!

FYI—the kitchen will likely not be completed. We will have tables and electricity available - and might have oven/stove, or might not...

1:00 pm - "How to run your own fecal tests and figure out what's on those slides" by Dale Davis - and "when to treat and with what" by Dr Daniel Mora, DVM

In addition, we will be gifting a **microscope** and a **centrifuge** at the meeting, the folks that need one are invited to drop their names in for the drawing.

Folks that do own a microscope - If you would be kind enough to bring it along to the meeting, we will have lots of slides with good stuff on them, so that you can practice focusing and parsing slides..

Directions to Derwydd

Google for a driving directions map to: **24497 County Road 23, Esparto, CA**

If you would like non computer oriented directions - email me where you are coming from and I will provide them!

Contact info

Dale 530-908-3534

Jan 530-908-1506

dale.davis@yahoo.com

dale@derwyddalpacos.com

jandavis@derwyddalpacos.com

January 15-16th, 2011



www.CamelidSymposium.com

Registration is now open!

Check out our great lineup of Speakers and topics. Dr. Claire Whitehead will be here from the UK. Dr. Michelle Kunzler and Dr. Nance Irlbeck will share their expertise with us and Dr. Steve Hull will be returning to the Symposium. Plus, the incomparable Dr. Murray Fowler as well as Dr. Julie Dechant and other UC Davis faculty/staff Members will be giving presentations.

For any of you who have not yet been to the Symposium, this is one of the best Symposiums (and most affordable) in the country! We offer 3 parallel tracks... Basic Owner / Advanced Owner / Veterinarian. Be sure that your Veterinarian knows about this Symposium and that CE Credits are offered. If you don't have a Camelid vet in your area, try to find a Veterinarian who is interested in learning about our animals and invite him or her to the Conference.

Affordability comes, in part, because of the generous Sponsors who help underwrite the Symposium. Be sure to check out the "Become a Sponsor" page and consider sponsoring and putting out your marketing materials at the event.

Joan Clappier

Opus Two Alpacas

530-346-7157

Joan@opustwoalpacos.com

Fortitude, Grit, and Determination!

By Ian Watt

At the **Gold Country Gathering** I was privy to what this industry can be all about - a beautiful outdoor venue for a first-time show in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada ranges of California, an event hosted by our very progressive Calpaca Affiliate, a group of alpaca breeders out for a good time and a ribbon or two and a test of endurance, patience and understanding.

My lady and I arrived at 4.30 on Friday just as the rain started to fall and left at 4pm on Sunday while it was pelting rain and wind - and not for one minutes did it stop raining!

Tall pines with simple open sided, wooden-framed pens surrounding a high-roofed ring on sloping ground in a rural showground was a setting to die for. Nearly 300 animals, a GREAT group of breeders, one or two first-time showers, a small fleece show, the usual silent auction as well as a fiber arts exhibition of surprising depth and good quality (at least in my eyes!), a sponsored Saturday night barbeque and wine plus a get-together on the Friday night with breeders hosting tables bulging with cheeses by the dozen, freshly smoked salmon, breads, dips, sausage, sweet nibbles, plenty of conversation and chiaking - it was a simply wonderful display of fellowship and collegiate respect.

While the rain started with a drizzle it quickly moved to persistent and then into full storm mode - water gushing everywhere, pens being flooded out, people in wet-weather gear of considerable bulk and variety of color, wet shoes and socks, young men running around doing water abatement works, breeders huddled around gas heaters whilst the wind drove the rain into the judging ring where Diana Timmerman displayed great fortitude, goodwill and great humor to continue judging to the very end after the exhibitors voted to continue the show despite what was atrocious weather - it really was test of spirit.

It truly was miserable walking reluctant animals through mini-lakes of water, getting drenched (can you get re-drenched after being drenched the first time?), huddling like penguins to find succor and warmth from the masses ... this was THE show of shows!!

For all who attended I 'dips me lid' and hope that everyone got as much satisfaction and enjoyment out of the adversity that brought us all together in a show that deserved so much more!

For everyone else - there is goodwill, a sense of purpose and a bringing together of people with good spirit and acceptance in sharing the showing experience no matter what the conditions!! Let us remember what life could be like if we just consider how really lucky we all are and how often petty are our moans and groans at shows.



Photo: Aase Frederick



Photo: Maureen Macedo



Critterville

ALPACAS

10404 Old Highway 99

Grenada, CA 96038

{209} 436-9802

*Critterville Alpacas is now located in
"The State of Jefferson"*

We are now in Grenada, 8 miles south of Yreka, 1 mile south of the I-5 turn off on the west side of the interstate. We are getting the new location setup and hope you can stop by and see us.

*Services Include
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Agisting
Ranch Setup
BAR-ALE Pellets*

Oak Valley Alpaca is having a "RIGHT SIZE" Sale

(no we didn't want to call it downsizing or herd reduction but we would like a few less alpacas to care for)

Proven Bred Females - many from our Championship lines
Females with cria at side ~ many already bred back for 2011 cria

Near Term Females ~ bred to our Champion Herdsires

Juvenile Females ~ out of Champion dams and sires

Full Peruvian Breeding Quality Juvenile and Yearling Males from Championship Lines
Fiber & Pet Quality Males

We are offering **VERY** aggressive pricing in line with today's Alpaca Market

Package Pricing and Financing is Available ~ Offers Carefully Considered

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For additional details on any of our alpacas contact

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 Heart of the Valley
 AlpacaMania-Halter
 AlpacaMania-Fleece
 Reserve Fleece AlpacaFest West
Champion 2009
 AlpacaMania
1st Place 2008
 AOBA Nationals Composite
 Heart of the Valley
 AlpacaMania-Halter
 AlpacaMania-Fleece
1st Place 2009
 AWE-Halter
 California Classic-Halter
 AlpacaMania-Halter



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*Inti-Hatun
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 thru
 January*

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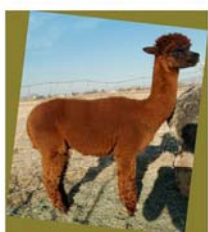
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74 Cria
41 Females
33 Males
On The Ground

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 and now full time at
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 Antonio**

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 NOW
 \$600.00**

Fiber at two
 years old
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 SD 5.3
 CV 22.6
 30+ 11.3

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Phone 530-436-9802

Alpaca Country Estates



Production Sale

When: Saturday/Sunday, November 20th & 21st, 2010
Time: 9am to 4pm

Where: 6975 Cavitt Stallman Road, Granite Bay, CA 95746
AlpacaCountryEstates@yahoo.com
(209)-202-9504

In 2009 our ranch, **Alpaca Country Estates**, purchased some of the best black Snowmass genetics for our ranch from Julie Skinner at Snowmass Alpacas. Our sale includes 40 quality females bred to these herdsires!

Production Sale Special: Buy one female, choose another female for FREE!



www.AlpacaCountryEstates.com

Name the Farm CONTEST

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are joining forces in order to offer our customers a more complete service
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from our newly purchased fiber mill!

We're bringing a new spin to the Alpaca industry!



**Help Name our Farm
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to one of our multi-champion studs,
- **2 Pet Alpacas,**
or a beautiful
- **100% Alpaca Throw**

Entries must be post marked by December 15th.
Send to

14514 Oak Meadow Rd., Penn Valley, CA 95946

Russell Ratti & Karen Ball



Machos

**KT
El Toro**



Breeding Fee: \$1500

**El Nino's Accoyo
El Jefe**



Breeding Fee: \$1800

**Endurance Accoyo
El Commandanté**



Breeding Fee: \$1500

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www.KTLeeRanchAlpacas.com

Herdsire Services

4 x Get-of-Sire, color champion and too many blue ribbons to count – **Derwydd Peruvian Inti-Sapa** is a winner - both in the show ring and in his progeny! One of his off spring, medium fawn ALR Inti-Sapa's Peruvian Ruffo earned Reserve Champion at the 2010 AlpacaMania fleece show (class of 19). Inti has a 22 micron fleece at 7 years old! He started his breeding career at 2 years of age. With 57 registered females and 40 males on the ground, Inti-Sapa is one of the West Coast's hottest herd sires. His fleece is dense with a very high frequency and low amplitude crimp (S/P ratio 11.8; follicle density 47 –biopsy at 61 months). Inti-Sapa will be at Alpacas at Lone Ranch in Southern Oregon from April through September and is available for lease & lease to own.

Call Richard or Renate at 541-826-7411 for details.

Derwydd Inti-Hatun will be making his way back to **Macedo's Mini Acre** from February through the end of May... Book your girls now! Larry 209-648-2338 or Maureen maureenmacedo@aol.com

Ahh...Sweet Alpacas introduces the two newest members of their Herdsire Row, **Ahhh Sweet's Enrique** and **Ahhh Sweet's Rocky**. Both have settled several females. **Enrique** is a Full Peruvian **Rose Gray** from the **Luciano/Platinum** line, and took 1st Place at AFW 09. **Rocky** is Light Fawn, with a micron of **18.1** at 3 yrs. **Rocky** combines two legendary bloodlines, **Legacy** and **Victor**. Introductory fees for both boys are **\$500**. Visit www.sweetalpacas.com or call **707-448-9157** for more information. And don't forget our established Studs, **Gladiator**, **Glacier**, **Cirrus**, **Grey Ghost**, and **LV Silver Sage**. So far Little Sage has produced 7 cria, 3 Rose Gray, 2 Silver Gray, and 2 Black..... *Discounts offered for multiple breedings.*

An amazing alpaca ready to produce a quality cria! Alpacas of Baragon introduces its namesake herdsire, Terra de Luz Cochiti's Baragon. A beautiful fawn macho boy, Baragon has some wonderful lines with Aspen Ridge Augusto's Cochiti as his sire. Visit our website to view the impressive lines of Baragon:

www.loveofalpacas.com

Email: alpacasofbaragon@aol.com or call Linda Nicolosi at 805.698.0980 to discuss your breeding goals. Stud fees are currently \$800, which is a steal in today's market!

Classified

For Sale: 2 Females! CCR Valienza w/female cria at side DOB 7/9/05 Dark Brown Bred Female \$5000

Valienza is a 1/2 Peruvian girl sired by Inti-Sapa. She has dark vicuna markings that create her striking appearance and wonderful presence. Her confirmation is impeccable from her bite to her dead straight legs. She has a bay black CCR Malato female cria at her side and is bred to SilverCoyo Outlaw for an May 2011 cria.

Sunny Acres Alpacas 559-323-9608 See her at www.SunnyAcresAlpacas.com

OVA Kiernan of St. Andrews

Snowmass Legacyna x FDA St. Andrews

Full Peruvian ~ Medium Brown

ARI # 30528987



Show Record

Kiernan Cria

Color Champion - CA Classic 2009

Color Champion - CA Classic 2008

Res Color Champion Fleece - CABA Classic 2009

First Place Halter - AOBA Nationals 2008

First Place Halter - CABA Classic 2009

First Place Halter - CA Classic 2008

First Place Halter - CA Classic 2009

First Place Halter - AWE 2009

Second Place Halter - Monterey Prunk 2007

First Place Fleece - Dixon Alpaca Fleece Show 2009

First Place Fleece - AWE 2009

First Place Fleece - CABA Classic 2009

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www.alpacanation.com/oakvalley.asp



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\$1,000 with a breed back if you get a boy the first time. Even though, in this case, getting a boy may be the greatest breeding investment for your herd. Limited time offer!

Also, offering **TODDITO'S ELVIS**, producing black and grey - 50% off at \$1,000.00 and Christopher B Charming introductory at \$500. CALL Jeanne at Adore Alpacas (831) 636-6600

Benchmark's SilverCoyo Outlaw (1/2 Accoyo Silver Gray)

Outlaw has the look, the fiber, the genes, and the ribbons to back it all up! And even better, he's passing it on. He just took **1st Place Get of Sire at Southwest Regional Alpaca Show 2010** over some amazing white and fawn studs and one of his daughters just won **Gray Female Color Champion at AOBA National's 2010**, beating out 24 other grays from across the country. Now that, is winning!! His impressive show record includes: 10 Blue Ribbons, 4 Color Champs and 2 Reserves. He's producing gorgeous grays and so far his offspring have acquired 4 Color Champs and 2 Reserve Champs, as well as multiple Blue Ribbons. Incredible Accoyo Express bloodlines at an outstanding price.

Stud Fee: \$2200 Calpaca members get a 60% discount

Sunny Acres Alpacas 559-323-9608 See him and his progeny at www.SunnyAcresAlpacas.com

The Peruvian Tin Man

Tin Man is a beautiful dark fawn, but his real beauty is in his fiber. He offers matchstick bundling, amazing crimp, fineness and density. Tin Man is a Shades of Gray son and grandson of the legendary dark silver gray herdsire, Peruvian Silverado. His progeny are hitting the show ring in all colors and winning, including multiple Blue Ribbons and Color Championships..

Stud Fee: \$2000 Calpaca members get a 60% discount

Sunny Acres Alpacas 559-323-9608 See him and his progeny at www.SunnyAcresAlpacas.com

Classified

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Stop by www.brookfarmalpaca.com for more details.

Herdsires

Alpacas All Around invites you to checkout these Herdsires: **HVLA Black Jack** (ARI 1191011), co-owned with Brookfarm Alpacas, Multi-champion non-fading true black, with *BLUE* ribbon offspring. **2007 OFDA Fiber Testing** identified **Black Jack, FINEST BLACK HUACAYA in the country** for his age. **Derwydd Bueno's Akupana** (ARI 30033825), co-owned with Derwydd Alpacas and Washoe Valley Alpacas, light fawn, show ring success, excellent fiber statistics, and *BLUE* ribbon offspring. **AKU's 2009 AlpacasAllAround** crias, all female, including one true black. **Cinnamon's Legacy** (ARI 30613324), multi blue ribbon/reserve color champ, light brown, just beginning his breeding career. Contact Susan Petersen 916.660.1918. **Tom and Susan Petersen** **Alpacas All Around**

916.660.1918

susan.petersen89@yahoo.com www.alpacasallaround.com

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If you are looking to add some solid and valued genetics to your breeding program, **Alpacas of Somerset Farm** (Dianna and Jack Jordan) offers the following proven herd sires for your consideration.

CF Cuzco (1100259) WH, Sire: Eastwind's Andino, GSires: 4PeruvianPachucuti/5PeruvianChaccu

Followill Emilio (842819) BG, Sire: Snowmass Peruvian Highlander, GSires: Peruvian Don Julio/Peruvian Bueno—co-owned with EBA Oaks Alpacas

Eastwind's Blade (30502710) MB, Sire: Victor's Hemiaccoy Viking, GSires: PPeruvian Victor/Peruvian Hemingway.

Check them and their progeny out www.alpacasomersetfarm.com, or call for more information 530-620-6033.

Distinction, Maturity, Harmony, Patience, Heritage, Legend: **Jack Daniels!** Just like the fine product Our Jack is named after, this stud can bring satisfaction to your ranch. Square conformation, density & coverage – this is what Jack can bring to your herd. Fee \$500 **Macedo's Mini Acre in Stevinson, California.** Contact Maureen or Larry at macedosminiacre.com or call 209-648-2384 or 209-648-2338 Agist or drive by, Jack is ready!

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996-0350 www.brookfarmalpaca.com

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HVLA BLACK JACK TB [COLOR-CHAMP](#). 2007-OFDA-2000 identified as Finest Black in Country in age. Superfine fleece, dense, well-defined crimp & luster. Retaining fineness into 4th-year. Fee \$1,500

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New to California - Callaway Jaxon, a gorgeous silver stud out of Axtion Jaxon, a non-fading true black male that won four Reserve Color Championships and Get of Sire over two white males! Callaway's 1st and 2nd year histograms reflected 19.0 and 19.5 microns respectively. He's soft, he's dense and has great conformation; plus he's a real nice guy! Co-owned by **Retiredice Alpacas** and **Alpaca Shire**. To make a date for your girl, contact *Paige Romine* at paige@retiredicealpaca.com or

Vicki Arns at vickiashire@vom.com

Sierra Rose Alpacas Bronson

Now standing stud.

Modern Rose Gray won 1st place Juvenile Halter at the 2010 California Classic. Limited breedings available at low introductory pricing. **707-373-6871**

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SHEARERS (as of Fall 2009)

Kris Kelly

Ktkelly@charter.net

530-226-1971

Eddie Dunham.

theshearer@macnet.com

503-864-4240

cell: 503-805-7409

Brett Crosby

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Highland Shearing Bruce MacLean

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Portland vicinity.

Sharon Allen

(Chiloquin OR area only)

Ballen004@centurytel.net

Steven Mortimer

Sandy Acres Alpacas

Escalon CA 95320

209-505-2959 ranch cell

209-988-3396 Steven's Cell

Steve Bell's Shearing

541-913-9959

OR, WA, ID, CA, NV

Jerry Lane

jdlane@gotsky.com

Green Valley Alpacas of Rescue

(El Dorado County CA)

3613 Walnut Drive

Rescue, CA 95672

(530) 672-0710

(916) 606-9063 Cell

Russell Murray

530-604-3830

5245 Woodview Dr

Redding CA 96002

murray44185@yahoo.com

**you can use the Advanced Search feature of the Ranch
Finder on the Calpaca website (www.calpaca.org). Search
for "shearing".**



FOR SALE: Tennessee's Carina. Carina is now two years old and ready to add that special Tennessee touch to *your* herd. In our Summer issue, David Barboza wrote about "foundation" animals, this is one of those—her mom "Star" is true black and the "Matriarch" of all the beautiful and award-winning black girls at EBA Oaks Alpacas. Friendly, sweet and ready for your boy, this girl is a steal at only \$2000 (negotiable) for more details and more pictures, email me at Aase@4fast.net.

There are 40 more girls to be had—from age one through fourteen, loads to pick from and with bloodlines to dye for (pun intended) - prices vary from \$750 and up, obviously priced to sell and we are seriously SELLING!



The Alpaca Fiber Cooperative of North America, Inc. (AFCNA) is an agricultural cooperative incorporated in 1998 under the Colorado cooperative corporation laws. AFCNA Members wholly own it. To be a Member, one must produce alpaca fiber and purchase one share of voting common stock. AFCNA is headquartered at 17494 State Highway 58 N, Decatur, Tennessee where a small permanent staff provides cooperative administration, product manufacturing management, product sales & fulfillment (packing & shipping) and customer services. A 7 to 15 Member elected, volunteer Board of Directors guides AFCNA's business and finances.

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www.loveofalpacas.com, email me at alpacasofbaragon@aol.com or call Linda Nicolosi at 805.698.0980 to discuss any and all of your questions and concerns.



Photo: Dave Zandberg




Where suri alpacas are sterling

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805-496-3063 (fax)
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www.925suris.com

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John and Jann Foulke

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Cell: 209-329-9406

info@crittervillealpacas.com
www.crittervillealpacas.com

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PENN VALLEY, CA. 95946

Sheridan & Joline Atkinson
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530-273-1866

www.goldcountryalpacas.com
email: gca@goldcountryalpacas.com

Cria Announcement:

Adore Alpacas is thrilled to announce the arrival of our first Suri female: Accoyo America Helios Honey by Helios and her dam is Accoyo America Songbird. Also, a true black huacaya, Adore Evita and a Rose Gray male, Adore Silver Bullet and a white female, Adore Angelique WOW they are show stoppers!



The six member ranches of The Alpaca Pac invite you to participate in the

Fourth Annual TAP Northern California Herdsire Showcase

SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, February 26, 2011

Dixon May Fair Grounds, Dixon, California

Free Educational Seminar on Breeding Strategies

Significant Breeding Discounts Offered by participating Ranches

Many of the top Herdsire's on the West Coast
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Hands-on Evaluation of the Herdsire's that can take your
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For Additional Information Contact:

Rick Brady ~ 209.772.3906 ~ Brady-OVA@att.net

Bruce Nelson ~ 707.448.9157 ~ SweetAlpacas@cs.com

www.TheAlpacaPac.com





Sweet Water Alpaca Ranch
Cecilia Secka

35315 Glenwall Street
 Agua Dulce, CA 91390
 Phone: 661-645-1420
 E-mail: ecsecka@yahoo.com
www.sweetwateralpacas.com



Photo: Maureen Macedo

John & Shannon Galvan
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Cria Announcement!

ZZALPACAS is proud to announce the arrival of our 2010 crias. We have had 3 boys and 3 girls this time around. Our rose grey stud **Michi** produced 2 attractive rose-grey males Tommy Lee and Vlad Tepes, as well as a beautiful fawn female we named Noelani. We also had a handsome light fawn male named Ysenio, a true black female named Bella Donna, and a delicious dark brown female named Valrhona...she has very nice markings, including white bracelets on all 4 legs!

Come visit us at www.zzalpacas.com

10 Acres for Sale in Sonora CA

\$310,000

Good parcel for alpacas or llamas

Close proximity to experienced Camelid Vet. Agistment possible while you develop your ranch.

For info/photos see:

www.zzalpacas.com or call:

510-303-5530

**Useful (or just interesting) WEBSITES
BOOKS & LINKS**

Calpaca, Inc: www.calpaca.org

Alpaca and Llama Show Association
www.alsashow.org

Alpaca Fiber Coop of N. America (AFCNA)

www.americasalpaca.com

www.afcna.org

Alpaca Research Foundation (ARF)

www.AlpacaResearchFoundation.org

Yahoo Groups:

AlpacaSite, AlpacaGeldings, AlpacaMarket,

AlpacaMarketClassified

AlpacaBrags, AlpacaPolitics, AlpacaWatch

Links

including sources for looking up Poisonous Plants

www.feedsafe.com

**Includes information on how to obtain a home kit for
testing your hay and grasses for NITRATES**

The following link has a bunch of links to articles about poison-
ous plants and trees (at the bottom of his webpage)

http://www.vims.edu/bio/faculty/perry_je.html

<http://www.calacademy.org/research/library/biodiv/biblio/poison.htm>

<http://envhort.ucdavis.edu/ce/king/PoisPlant/>

Reference Books

“The Complete Alpaca Book” by Eric Hoffman

www.bonnydoonalpacas.com

“Alpaca Field Manual” by C. Norman Evans, DVM
Able Publishing and AG Press Inc.

“Caring for Llamas and Alpacas”

by Clare Hoffman, DVM and Ingrid Asmus

“Llama and Alpaca Neonatal Care”

By Bradford B. Smith DVM, PhD, Karen I. Timm, DVM,
PhD,

Patrick O. Long DVM

**Field Guide to Plants Poisonous to Livestock West-
ern U.S.**

By Shirley A Weathers

*The following are also advertising websites (alpaca sales,
alpaca goods and services, etc.) but do contain useful
information on their
forums & libraries of articles*

www.alpacastreet.com

www.alpakanation.com

www.OpenHerd.com

WWW.KNITCLICK.COM

www.hatshapers.com

TKA - Knitting Guild of America

www.knitpicks.com

Has useful and helpful Podcasts and well designed instructions for
beginning and advanced knitting and crocheting

www.lionbrand.com—free patterns

<http://www.siskiyounknits.com/>

Lots of useful links and information on knitting and spinning

DIY website

“Knitty Gritty” podcasts and knitting Patterns and links

Conference of N. CA Handweavers: www.ench.org

Spinners and Weavers Housecleaning Pages

<http://homepages.together.net/~kbruce/kbbspin.html>

www.alpacafibersymposium.com.

You might consider joining the symposium yahoo chat
group thealpacaibersymposium.

www.ETSY.com

Your place to buy and sell all things handmade

Useful Farm Links

<http://www.alpacadelapacifica.com/scratch.htm>

**Please Contact the Connection Editor
if you have a “useful” link on your own website!
Aase@4fast.net**



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Information on how to submit advertising and articles etc. to the Editor of the Connection Newsletter

(when sending me checks, please make sure your ranch name is somewhere on either the check or the return address on the envelope: Make checks payable to: Calpaca Connection and mail to:

Aase S Frederick
EBA Oaks Alpacas
6010 Little Creek Road
Yreka, CA 96097
Phone: 530-842-3504 Cell: 530-340-0660
Email: Aase@4fast.net

DEADLINES ARE FIRM. You will receive emails from the Editor, in plenty of time, regarding deadlines for each issue:

2010: December / Spring **April 11th** / Summer **July 11th** / Fall **October 10th**

Please **do not bother with NEXT day mailings to Yreka, they take longer than Priority mail!**

Stud Services, Agistment, Cria Announcement and Classified Advertising up to **100 words** for each category are FREE for Calpaca Members

Business Cards, Herdsire and Agistment advertising is **renewable once a year, SPRING ISSUE** — Classified and Cria Announcement are renewed each issue. *Business Cards are prorated if they are received at other times of the year.*

Each page is 8.5 X 11 inches, with a 1/2 inch margin all around. So a full page ad is 7.5 X 10 Inches. Half page is 7.5 X 5.

A quarter page is 3.75 x 5 and 1/3 page is always run at just over 2.5 H X 7.5 L. You can also run a 1/2 page 3.75 X 10 H

B/W Business Card	\$40 per year
Color Business Card	\$75 per year

B/W 1/4 Page	\$25.00
B/W Half Page	\$45.00

B/W Full Page	\$85.00
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Color 1/4 Page	\$45 per issue
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Color 1/3 Page	\$55 per issue
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Color 1/2 Page	\$85 per issue
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Color Full Page	\$160 per issue
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ADVERTISING AND BUSINESS CARDS must be submitted electronically (via email), or, if the file is more than 8 MB (a full page color ad should run not much more than 2 MB at 300 dpi) , copy to a CD and mail (USPS). Graphics must be submitted as .jpg files or PDF and ready to go. ***Please do not submit "WORD" documents with un-imbedded graphics—even if you print them as PDF docs, they do not transfer to the publishing program.***

I can correct some problems, but a low quality "pixelly" product is going to print that way and some other problems are not correctable at all. For example, please don't send me a half-page formatted ad and ask me to STRETCH to a full page, if you think about it, it will look like the funny mirror at the fair :)... please check it for yourselves (on computer) before you send it, to make sure the quality is what you are looking for. **Please be sure** the file format is what I requested and—also, please do not send me an ad that is meant for a professional print shop, those require special programs just to open them and I don't use professional "Printer" programs to create this newsletter. Please keep in mind that we now have more than 230 members at any given time so, **please sign your emails and articles with all your information including contact phone, email and websites if applicable.**

ARTICLES AND OTHER TEXT FILES should be emailed as attachment "Word" documents. Please do NOT format your Word docs, since I have to undo the formatting to make it work in the program I use for producing this newsletter. ***Please contact me if these instructions need more explanation.***

The editor may edit articles for content and especially for length. Articles should fit about 1 to 3 pages of text (7.5 x 10). Tahoma font (size 10, 9 or 8 is great). Articles of interest to everyone are really appreciated and enjoyed by all. Articles about current events that are of importance to our industry, such as research and development of new or better Vet info, new developments in procedures or application of certain meds and supplements are all of general interest and are beneficial to all of us and can be educational or just fun! Articles about your experiences as alpaca farmers are invaluable to the newbies and also to everyone else!

PLEASE MAIL YOUR ADVERTISING AND CHECKS IN PLENTY OF TIME TO MEET THE DEADLINES!

CALPACA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND INFORMATION SHEET

Farm Name: _____
Name: _____
Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax _____ Cell _____
Email: _____ Website: _____

Number of Alpacas:

Huacaya: Males _____ Females _____ Geldings _____

Suri: Males _____ Females _____ Geldings _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ Date: _____

Farm Membership \$100.00 (First Year Farm: \$50.00)

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Run for a seat on the Board of Directors.
Receive inquiries from potential buyers.

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The Quarterly Calpaca "Connection" Newsletter
Free Listing on the Calpaca Web Page
and up to 100 WORDS in the Classified section
of the Connection Newsletter & Entrance to all
free Calpaca functions

Associate Membership entitles you to:

The Quarterly Calpaca "Connection" Newsletter
Entrance to all free Calpaca functions

Mail new Membership Applications

(and yearly renewals)
To Membership Chair:

Lin Murray
Lassen View Alpacas
22783 Venzke Road
Cottonwood CA 96022

alpacas@shasta.com
(530) 941-7855

National Disaster Rescue Information

From: Sheila Fugina, IRC Council

National Lama Intervention & Rescue Coordination Council

As a result of the networking efforts of several camelid organizations, a communication system for disaster response and relief has been set up on the web site for the International Camelid Institute (ICI). The tornadoes and floods in the Midwest were the most recent impetus to putting such a plan together, but the wildfires and droughts in other parts of the country started the discussions much earlier. Contact information and links have been provided on the site for national, regional and local agencies involved with disaster preparedness, response and relief for both people and animals. A list of owners with immediate needs such as water, pasture, hay and shelter will be posted on the site shortly, as will a list of people offering help (transportation, pasture room, water, etc.). The list will be updated often over the next several weeks as ICI receives additional information. Specific concerns and suggestions from camelid veterinarians regarding disaster response and relief also will be posted on the site.

Much of the data in several of the reports was compiled by Sandra Wallace and her team members on the Alpaca Owner and Breeders Association (AOBA) Affiliate Congress who then worked with ICI and the IRC Council to get the actual communication system in place. Though the current concern is with the problems in the Midwest, the system is intended to provide immediate communication regarding any disaster nationwide. Please inform your members they can go to ICI's web site at www.icinfo.org and click on "Help for Affected Flood Owners" under the Hot Topics section for information and help not only for this latest weather related crisis, but also for future disaster concerns.

Calpaca Connection Newsletter
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Yreka CA 96097

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