



Connection

Calpaca Connection Newsletter

Summer 2011



Youth in the News.. Riley Morris-Hagen



Art work by Sandi Ridge

Special points of interest:

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- *ARI conference, page 33*
- *CA Classic 2011, pages 30-31*
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- *Photo contest, page 10*
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What do you do with your fleece?



Photo by Shauna Shipley

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From left to right: Mike Herrick
Owner, Dave Seroggins Calpaca
Marketing Director, Ron
Calcagno Sales Manager



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Left to right: J. Scroggins, L. Findley,
J. Jordan,
K. Rodrigues, D. Rabe

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Connection Deadlines

Fall : September 15

Winter: December 15

Spring : March 15

Summer: June 15

Article submissions:

unique articles, 1 page
(500 to 750 words preferred)

Advertising

Paid Advertising rates are as follows:

B/W Business Card \$40.00 per year

Color Business Card \$75.00 per year

**(Year is Spring through Winter
Editions, prorated otherwise)**

B/W 1/4 Page \$25.00 (1/4 of 8/5x11) per issue

B/W 1/2 Page \$45.00 (8.5Wx5.5H) per issue

B/W Full Page \$85.00 (8.5x11) per issue

Color 1/4 Page \$45 per issue

Color 1/3 Page \$55 per issue

Color 1/2 Page \$85 per issue (8.5Wx5.5H)

Color Full Page \$160 per issue (8.5x11)

Make checks (payable to Calpaca)

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California Statewide Sales and Use Tax Rate

**to Decrease by 1%
on July 1, 2011**

**Statewide Base Tax
Rate Decreases from
8.25% to 7.25%**

Classified

Services 25-26
(Adgismsnts, tax,
Shearers, mills,
transport & more)

Herdsmen 21

For Sale 28
Alpacas & Property

Cria announcements 28

Wanted 28

Business cards 33- to
35



Calpaca Director Dave selling tickets
at the Classic. Have you purchased
yours yet?

Letter to the Editor

Something on your mind? Here's your opportunity to share your thoughts.

Letters are limited to a maximum of 200 words and one topic Name (first and last), city and state must be included. Ranch names will not be listed with a published letter.

Deadlines are listed above. Letters may be edited for content and space limitations. All submissions become the property of the Connection.

Thank you!

By Sharon Turner

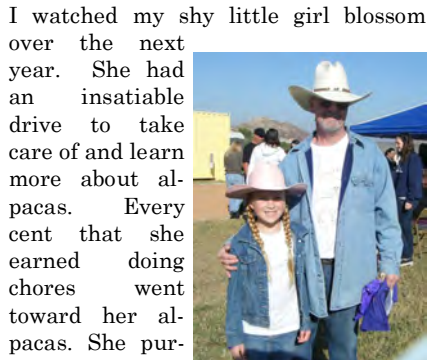
"I want a horse!" I would hear my animal loving 8-year old plead. "Horses eat a lot and can be dangerous," we would explain. Then we saw an advertisement for alpacas. Our daughter, Kaylynn, was sold on the idea the minute she laid eyes on those long-necked fluff balls.

We found several alpaca ranches close by and our search led us to the ranch of Dennis and Bea. We were greeted at the gate by a man with an enthusiastic smile and wearing a white cowboy hat. With a handshake he introduced himself as Dennis. Out of respect, Kaylynn referred to him as "Mr. Dennis."



After visiting many ranches and seeing many different sizes and colors of alpacas, we decided on a young fiber boy from Mr. Dennis' ranch. At every chance she got, Kaylynn would spend time learning all that she could from Mr. Dennis. She took along her camera to document everything. Trimming feet, teeth, vaccinations, shearing... Dennis did it all and taught her everything he could about how to properly care for alpacas. His enthusiasm was contagious and Kaylynn had caught it. She was terminally in love with alpacas.

I watched my shy little girl blossom over the next year. She had an insatiable drive to take care of and learn more about alpacas. Every cent that she earned doing chores went toward her alpacas. She pur-



chased her first two fiber boys all on her own!



Dennis always wore his signature white cowboy hat. One reason was to hide the scars from surgeries he had had over the past year. We knew something was wrong but it wouldn't be polite to ask. It never seemed to affect his enthusiasm to teach Kaylynn. He was always so happy to see her. I remember the day Bea told me. She held my hand, lowered her voice and said his cancer was spreading and he was

...how neat it would be to take an alpaca like Jasper to visit people "who don't feel so good."

going to start chemo. I remained calm but inside, my world was spinning. Cancer? What could I do? A week later Kaylynn asked if she could start her own American Cancer Society Relay for Life team. As tears swelled in my eyes and threatened to flood, I told her, "Of course you can!" She called her team "Camelids for A Cure" and started writing letters to alpaca ranches throughout California, asking for donations. "I want to help find a cure for Mr. Dennis," she wrote. Within six months her team had raised just under \$5,000. On the day of the relay event Mr. Dennis beamed with pride. The walk around the track was slow but he was joined by his wife, Kaylynn, and close friends. Together they walked hand-in-hand, Dennis in his white cowboy hat and Kaylynn in her pink cowgirl hat.

Dennis also taught Kaylynn how to

show an alpaca. He explained every detail, how to get the animal show-ready, the proper attire, and how to show respect to the judge. When the 2009 AlpacaFest West rolled around, Dennis transported our female yearling to the show. Kaylynn eagerly took on the job of keeping the stalls clean and the water full. With shaky knees, she entered the show ring surrounded by eight adults with their own show animals. She looked so tiny standing in the ring. Mr. Dennis gave her a reassuring smile. With his tutelage she did a fantastic job showing her alpaca to the best of its abilities. Bea, Dennis, and the rest of the crowd cheered as the judge presented Kaylynn with a third place ribbon. I will never forget the proud smile on Dennis' face.

A few short months later, Dennis entered into the Hospice program. Bea left work to stay home and enjoy those last precious days.

As Dennis and Kaylynn strolled through the alpaca enclosures he continued to teach her. He told her, "Alpacas are my best medicine."

Early March 2010, while visiting a neighboring ranch, Kaylynn befriended a young suri alpaca named Jasper. It was so cute watching this curious and friendly alpaca follow her every move. On our drive home



Thank you, continued...

Kaylynn talked about how neat it would be to take an alpaca like Jasper to visit people “who don’t feel so good.” She wondered if she could do that with Jasper.

Mr. Dennis passed away on March 11, 2010. The hardest thing I’ve ever had to do as a parent is tell my little girl that her best friend was gone.

The memorial service was nice. Everyone who had ever met Dennis knew him as I did, always smiling and eager to share any wisdom he had to offer, but above all...he loved life.

It’s been a little over year since we lost our friend but I see him everyday, still

influencing my life and especially the life of my little girl. She worked very hard and earned the money herself to buy that extra-friendly little suri named Jasper. They became a registered animal assisted therapy team. Together, they visit people “who don’t feel so good” and spread smiles. In addition, Kaylynn has gone on to participate in four more alpaca shows. Her showmanship skills are remarkable. She loves being in a show ring handling an alpaca. At the ripe old age of eleven, she has her own business cards advertising her show handling service. All of the money she earns go toward her passion for alpacas and her dream of becoming, what else... a camelid veterinarian.

As I look out over our growing herd of thirteen alpacas, five of which came from Bea and Dennis, I can’t help but reflect on the impact Dennis had and to whisper a simple...thank you.



Let’s Talk About the North American Fiber Industry By Dianna Jordan

In preparation for my presentation at the May 2011 Calpaca meeting I surveyed current Calpaca members. The purpose of the survey was to gather information about how long members have owned alpacas, the motivation for purchasing alpacas, and level of interest in and knowledge about fiber processing then and now. Thank you to the 65 members who responded to the survey.

My objective was to measure if there was significant change in the interest and participation in the “fiber production” piece of the alpaca industry since individuals purchased their first alpacas. Summarizing the results based on the number of those responding:

- Slightly more than 50% purchased alpacas within the last five to ten years
- Two primary motivations emerged...supplemental income and tax advantages
- Close to 50% had some initial interest in fiber and fiber processing
- Over 95% have an interest in fiber and fiber processing today
- Half of us did not investigate the existence or level of development of the North American Fiber Industry before purchasing Alpacas
- Over 75% have attended a training session on how to skirt, sort and grade fiber
- Close to 60% of us have toured a processing mill

- A majority of us do something with our fiber besides leaving it stored in our barns, garages, etc.

The intent of the presentation was to open dialogue and discussion about the current state of the alpaca industry and the creation of a North American Fiber Industry... The discussion was lively, polite, and informative. One of the things I love as a discussion leader, or as I referred to it in my former corporate trainer life a “Learning Facilitator”, is to see the light bulbs turn on in the eyes of those who are participating. I also received the ultimate indicator of success comment...“all of this has made my head hurt.”

We had great discussions. We also left with more questions than answers, which is the way it is when working through challenges of this nature. One thing I think we all took away is the need for unification among those already building the fiber processing industry. Whether it’s already existing fiber cooperatives, individual fiber sorting and grading guidelines and procedures, or individual mini-mills, there must be a meeting of the minds and resources for us to move full-steam ahead to create the North American Fiber Industry.

Dianna Jordan is an AOBA approved speaker and presented at two AOBA Mid-Winter Conferences. The central theme in both presentations was the development of the North American fiber industry and how critical it is for alpaca breeders to understand what needs to be accomplished individually and collectively, to create, and support the fiber industry.

Dianna is a past president the Alpaca Fiber Cooperative of North America, Inc. (AFCNA) Board of Directors.

[Survey results on page 19](#)

What do YOU do with your fiber? Contact Dianna Jordan at

dljordan@live.com

From the President....

One of the reasons I got into the alpaca business was for the people. In that regard it is very sad when we lose a member of our breeder community.

The recent passing of Rick Horn has saddened everyone who was privileged to know him. It has reminded me to appreciate all my alpaca friends.

One of my objectives this year is to get new people involved in the alpaca industry. In an effort to do this, CALPACA will be at the Mother Earth News Fair on Labor Day weekend. The event at the Marin County Event Center in San Rafael is projected to receive

several thousand visitors. We will be there to deliver the truth about alpacas to an ideal demographic of potential alpaca owners. If you would like to volunteer to participate, please contact me right away to sign up.

Have you made plans to join us at Len Chyet's Washoe Valley Alpaca Ranch in Carson City for the summer general membership meeting? Len has lined up his vet, Dr. Jaime Hustace, to talk to us about the inevitable alpaca health emergency. She will be providing ways to be well prepared for it when it does happen, so you will have the best opportunity to keep the situation under

control. The meeting is the same weekend as "Hot August Nights" in Reno, so book your hotel rooms early!

I am looking forward to seeing you in August, spending the day with friends, enjoying the time we are together, and sharing memories of the friends who are no longer with us.

Best Regards

Dennis Rabe
CALPACA President 2011

Practicing politics already?

A few weeks after AG Day, one of Linda's dams delivered a beautiful little light fawn female. Linda sent a photo of cria and dam throughout the Capitol letting everyone know that the cria was named in honor of the Assembly Sergeant of Arms, and Assembly Member Kristin Olsen's husband,



Rodi must know that sweet talking is the best way to make a good impression?

Rodi. Several photos of Sergeant Rodeline and her mom have made their way around the Capitol, again raising awareness of alpacas in the State Capitol. A huge THANK YOU to Dr. Linda Halderman, along with Mango and Rodi.

Summer Skin Care

Save Your Skin

Sunburn is both painful and dangerous. The American Academy of Dermatology warns that repeated sunburns substantially increase the risk of developing melanoma and other skin cancers. Even tanning is risky. A "healthy" tan is actually the skin's response to an injury. Repeated tanning leads to wrinkling and age spots. Both light and dark skin can suffer sunburn, so take basic precautions

to protect your skin from the sun's harmful rays. And the Number One thing you can do to protect your skin from the

A "healthy" tan is actually the skin's response to an injury.

sun - **Wear sunscreen!** If you are in the sun for more than 20 minutes a day, you should wear a sunscreen.

Select a sunscreen with an SPF

(Sun Protection Factor) of at least 15.

Apply sunscreen about 30 minutes before going outside. Reapply at least every two hours. Even water resistant sunscreens need to be reapplied after swimming or significant perspiration.

Lips can sunburn, too!

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What to do with Your Fleece?

By Dena Kotka-Holtz
ALPACA CLAN ACRES, USA

I am thrilled that the alpaca community is beginning to look seriously at the many textiles that can be made from their alpaca's fleece! My husband and I started in the alpaca business in 2006, but I had been investigating the business sooner than that. I instinctively knew that breeding was not going to be the only thing to keep this business alive but I assumed the manufacturing of alpaca fleece was already in place; after all, look how many billions of sheep there are in the world. We soon became disappointed with what we had learned about the alpaca fiber part of the business at that time.



We fell in love with the alpaca business; who wouldn't? I have always wanted to have animals on a farm but not in the traditional way

of farming. I did not want to raise animals for slaughter but I also did



not want just pets. I really wanted to use the alpaca's fleece. When we first got into the business, I bought a pair of alpaca socks to see if I would like them more than the traditional wool socks I had been buying for my winter activities. I honestly found the alpaca socks much warmer and less bulky than wool socks.

So, after waiting around for awhile for something to come along for the fiber community, we decided to take matters in our own hands. I have many years of experience in crafty projects. I wanted a hat from our alpaca's fleece and decided to start making one. By the end of a few days, I was pleasantly surprised by the result. Unfortunately, my end product was too small for my head, but I kept trying. I was ready to sell my third hat and I did. After that the hats just kept getting better and we kept selling them.

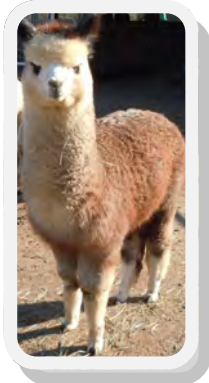
A person told me she would rather learn from me than to go through the trial and error herself. I realized not everyone had the confidence I have in making a project work, and that others wanted to express themselves in creating products from their own alpaca's fleece. So, I began the task of writing a book on wet felting and how to make the now called, "Rocky Mountain Paca Hat". So far, the book, "Alpacas to Felt, the Making of the Rocky Mountain Paca Hat" is selling well.

My suggestion for people in the alpaca community is to listen to the customers and make it your goal to answer their questions.

When a customer asks, "What do you do with the fleece?", we all need to feel confident in giving our customers an answer. I would also suggest one more thing, think young in your designs, our younger generation has the focus to buy your products and they are looking for a greener, more durable product.



For more information, please visit Dena's website at: www.Alpacaclanacres.com



Left: Fortune, by Debra Emory

Right: Donkeys meet the boys, by Dave Zandberg



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AMAZING!!**

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Alpacas of Marin



SoCal Suri Alpacas

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Youth in the News... Riley Morris-Hagen

I'm 12 years old, and am a member of the Vaca Valley 4-H Club for about six months. I have been involved with Alpacas for about a year.

I worked with Percy last year at the Dixon Caper, where he and I



earned two First Places and a Second Place. We did the Obstacle Course then, too.

Percy made the course look easy this year, but it didn't start out that way. When he and I first started

training, he was just being weaned from his mother, so he was very difficult to work with.

But I like a challenge, and was able to work with him and make him better.

I decided to work with Alpacas because my parents are trying to get into Alpacas as a business.



Get to know your alpaca. Then you should practice each step carefully.



And don't expect success. Alpacas take a lot of patience.

Originally I selected Percy because he was small and, I assumed, easy to work with.

My favorite part of the Obstacle Course is the jump. My least favorite is the backing section.

Submit your "Youth in the news" along with pictures! Let's get our youth recognized!

Photo Contest!

Do you always have a camera? Is your Facebook profile constantly showing your talents? Well, the *Connection* is looking for you! Shauna Shipley has volunteered to be the judge. Sending them is easy—just *attach* to your e-mail (please do not embed). Make sure photos are least 300 dpi- .tif or jpg preferred. Send to maureenmacedo@aol.com

Categories

Cria

Ranch Life

Alpacas and Kids

Fiber Arts

Artistic (digitally edited)

Please include your name (first and last), ranch name, phone number and caption!

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Derwydd Manchu's Kusa

Manchu's Kusa is our very first cria out of 8x Champion Derwydd Accoyo Manchu. In her very first show at 9 mos old she swept up the White Championship at AlpacaMania 2009!! The judge acknowledged she was the densest female, with the longest staple growth, excellent capacity for such a young female and quite the overall package!

Her sire Accoyo Manchu is a dense, 8-time champion we co-own with Accoyo America. His skin biopsy is an eye popping - Follicular Density of 61; S/P Ratio 11 to 1 (Watts 2006)

Her dam Chipana is a ½ Accoyo Legacy daughter with stunning fleece (22 afd at 6 years old and shearing ~10lbs at 6 yrs old and 3 crias!) and champion in her own right..

Kusa has a lovely head, solid bone, fleece to her toes and a well-balanced frame. Her fleece is eye popping bright white, with well aligned bundling in the blanket and consistent style throughout. Kusa's full sister Qisspiqay is following in her footsteps winning Color Champion in her first THREE shows last fall - Demonstrated Pedigree Performance!

Kusa is currently confirmed pregnant to Accoyo American Tempest.. Tempest is a male cast in his VERY famous father's image (Nautilus).. And his skin biopsy is incredible! Follicular Density of 63; S/P Ratio 13.3 to 1 (Watts 2011) and retaining his fineness with a mean secondary fiber diameter of 15.9 at age 4 - WOW!! We expect to see an REALLY nicely fleeced alpaca out of this breeding. Kusa sells with an additional breeding to any Derwydd Herdsire while resident at Derwydd.



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EPD Results	
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SDAFD	-0.423
SF	-1.67
%F>30	-6.48
MC	+3.263
SDMC	+1.597
%M	-0.792
MSL	-1.054
FW	+0.658

101A Skywalkers Justice



2010 California Classic 1st Place
Brown Juvenile

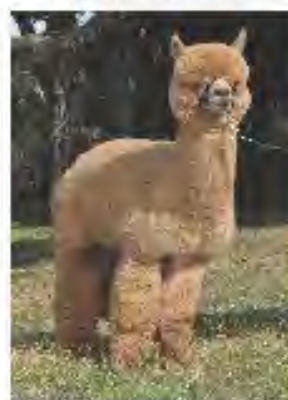
2010 Gold Country Gathering Brown
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2010 California Classic Fawn
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2010 Gold Country Gathering Fawn
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California Legislators meet alpacas

Once again Calpaca was well represented at the State Capitol during AG Day. Despite the rain and winds, Bonnie Potter and Joan Clappier somehow put together a very nice display booth filled with finished alpaca products. How they managed to do



Secretary of Ag Ross

that in those conditions, I will never know. For the second year in a row, AG Day fell on Bonnie's birthday. But there she was along with Joan, working their tails off in the rain. The rain was coming down pretty good as I loaded the animals into the trailer and I thought for sure we were going to be rained out for the first time ever. I called Bonnie, fully expecting her to tell me to simply take the girls back home. Instead she said the booth was up and the weather report they were getting was for clearing condi-



Dr. Haldeman & Assembly Member Perea

tions. Sure enough, as I entered Sacramento, the skies parted and the sun actually came out. With

the exception of a couple of sprinkles, we couldn't have asked for a better day.

I firmly believe this was our most successful event so far, with the greatest opportunity to speak directly to California's law makers. We didn't get the Governor in the alpaca pen this year, as we have in the past. More importantly, we did get a multitude of the State's Legislators and their staff in the pen. Most of this is courtesy of one of Calpaca's own, CA Assembly Member, Dist. 29, Dr. Linda Halderman. Assembly Member Halderman and her Chief of Staff, Eric Stein were simply fantastic. First of all they put together a flyer and sent it throughout the Capitol before AG Day, inviting

Many of the Legislators wanted a picture of themselves with Linda and Mango.

all the Senators, Assembly Members, and staff to come to see Mango (one of Linda's alpacas). Several people came up inquiring about Mango before the alpacas were even unloaded and in the pen. Linda also had her publicity staff, along with the publicity staff for the Legislature get in the pen for numerous photos of the alpacas.

During the first hour each year, AG Day is opened for just the

Legislators and Capitol staff members. In previous years this



Dr. Haldeman & Assembly Member Grove

has always been a problem. Since none of the legislators wear a name tag, we never knew just who was who. Tom Petersen had arranged for a lovely young lady from his office, Amber Wiley, to come over and stand next to the pen to help us identify various dignitaries. Amber did a very



Assembly Member Wagner

nice job, but she was overshadowed by Linda's Chief of Staff, Eric Stein. Eric didn't wait for a legislator to approach; he went out and got them, dragging them over to the pen. We had dozens of legislators and staff actually get in the pen with the alpacas.



Assembly Member Knight

Legislators, continued

By far, the “Stars of the Show” were Linda and Mango. Dressed as one of us, in jeans, boots, and denim shirt, Linda arrived early. She got in the pen with Mango and stood there answering every legislator’s question until Mango got tired and cushed. That didn’t faze Linda at all. She simply knelt down next to Mango and continued to answer questions, as



Senator Corbett

various dignitaries entered the pen to get a photo of themselves with Linda and Mango. Many of the legislators and their staff asked very good questions regarding the alpaca industry and Linda seized every opportunity to explain that alpacas were a “Livestock Industry” with a very viable end product. The mention of small, family-run farms and their contribution to California agriculture seemed to get the attention of most of the Legislators. Linda stayed in the pen throughout the entire event, staying to meet the public after the legislators returned to the Capitol. Eric had to finally come and drag her out, since she was scheduled for an Education Committee Meeting. What fantastic ambassadors Linda and Mango are for Calpaca and California’s alpacas. Diane Hoshler sat in front of the product booth spinning, answering questions and directing peo-

ple into the booth. Joan Clappier manned the booth explaining to everyone that these products were the reason we are raising these incredible animals. Products for the booth were provided by Diane Hoshler, Joan Clappier, Vicki Arns, Maureen Macedo and Kerry Anderson. Maureen also got some great photos of the entire day. She was everywhere with her camera, and had lots of requests for copies of the photos. Several of the photos have also circulated around the Capitol. Dave Scroggins was on hand, both in and out of the pen. He worked the crowd from both sides. And of course there was our “Birthday Girl” Bonnie, she was simply everywhere, doing everything.

Many of the legislators and their staff asked very good questions regarding the alpaca industry

With all the rain, my paddocks were simply one big mud puddle. Mango, as she loves to do, had been rolling in the mud. So Linda’s white alpaca wasn’t very white leading up to AG Day. I



Assembly Member Donnelly



Assembly Member Hill

called the Hotel Derwydd and requested a room with a view for three special ladies. Dale immediately offered up the Penthouse Suite for these three ambassadors. So, when we actually got to the Capitol, Mango, along with my two girls were dry and presentable.

A big Thank You to all involved making 2011 the best AG Day yet!

Bruce Nelson
Ahh...Sweet Alpacas
www.sweetalpacas.com



Dr. Haldeman & Assembly Member Jones



Assembly Member Olsen

Save the Date!

August 27th (Saturday) Alpacas of Baragon and Pacific Breeze will hold a silent auction, selling some beautiful breeding females and first class males. It will be from 9 AM to 12 PM. This auction will be open to the public so come on early. All are wonderful animals. There will be a vet on premises to check fecal, bring ones you are concerned about. Mary Ann Mammone will be here to check fiber, bring some samples.

Sales include a fecal and a vet check. If you decide to breed one of my herd sires to a girl you've bought, that is included. Drive-bys are at a special rate now.

If you are new to the business, or just looking for pets, we have a new bee or lease to own, We have an education program here (by the time you take them home, you'll be able to care for them) also included with a purchase.

We do agistments and care for them as if they were our own. Five beautiful pastures at reasonable rates! Kelley and Linda are on call 24/7 with any concerns you may have.

Hope to see you here. If you would like to RSVP, please do. 805-698-0980 Linda Nicolosi

Also check out the web, <http://www.calpaca.org/events.htm> , for more events!

Calpaca Membership Meeting

August 13

Washoe Valley Alpacas, Inc.

Len Chyet and Dr. Rebecca Loftis
7501 N Old US Highway 395
Washoe Valley, Nevada 89704

Directions: Rte 80 E to Rte 395 S in Reno to Bowers Mansion exit in Washoe Valley. You will then be on Old US Highway 395. #7501 is down approximately 5 miles on the right, clearly marked and with green metal corral fencing.

Agenda

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM - Business Meeting

12:00 PM to 1:30 PM – Lunch

Please bring salad / desserts to share. Drinks of all kinds will be provided

1:30 PM Speaker: Dr. Jaime Hustace, DVM

“How To Manage An Alpaca Crisis”

Please bring chairs for your use.

“Hot August Nights” Reno/Sparks and Surrounding Area

August 9, 2011 thru August 14, 2011

Please RSVP

775-224-3685 or LR1819@sbcglobal.net

We look forward to seeing all of you and having a fun time !

**Derwydd & Alpacas of Marin are THRILLED
to introduce their newest ACCOYO herdsire**

Accoyo America Hawkeye

STANDING at West Ranch Summer 2011

Full Accoyo!!

FAWN!!



Accoyo America Hawkeye



**Alpacas at
West Ranch**

Joan Speirs and Hayley Jessup
Welcome you to
West Ranch



www.alpacasatwestranch.com

hayleyjessup@gmail.com

**For more information on breeding fee
and to arrange a breeding - please contact Hayley Jessup
Unique availability to a Fawn Full Accoyo El Nino son..
Email or -Call now! 805.698.4540**

Renaissance Ridge Alpacas

Renaissance Ridge Alpacas was born when Julie and Ken Rosenfeld left their hectic lives in Boston to “live off the land” in California.

Ken sought a complete change of pace from 32 years of OB/GYN practice while Julie wished to raise their family in a peaceful country setting working with her hands in art.

While looking for a joint endeavor, they “found” alpacas and the marriage of science and art began. Ken’s “retirement” from medicine was the impetus for a serious re-direction in their breeding program, moving it from a hobby to a serious business.

They found the finest genetics and utilized the most up to date scientific tools available to measure their goals and move them forward.

Their program completely turned around and today they have a nationally recognized herd of only 55 alpacas which continues to produce some of the top alpacas showing in the country today.

Whatever your breeding goals are, if elite fleeces interest you, in any color, take a minute to check out what they do.

Schedule a visit and you will not only see beautiful alpacas, but taste some outstanding local wines!

Pictures taken at the May Calpaca meeting,
generously hosted by Julie & Ken
Thank You!



Minutes (Calpaca's May 14 meeting , Renaissance Ridge Alpacas)

Welcome – Dennis welcomed everyone to meeting and thanked Julie and Ken for having us. Meeting started at 10:30 AM and all board members were present.

Approve minutes from February meeting as posted on web site – Bonnie made motion to approve minutes and Joyce seconded. All approved.

Treasurer Report – Jack reported that we have about \$110,000 in all accounts combined. Still very strong.

Membership Report – Laurie talked with Lin before meeting and we have 2 new members, 33 renewals for a total of 157 members.

Connection Update – Maureen advised that the turnaround time from the printers on her first *Connection* issue was three weeks. Everyone said they got their copy of the *Connection* prior to meeting. There are lots of changes and improvements Maureen would like to make, so keep your pictures and articles coming. Maureen is looking for more subscribers to the newsletter to make it more of a magazine-type publication. She and Dave will look for corporate advertising once we get the numbers up. Any ideas or comments, please contact Maureen or Dave.



Lovely patio area and picnic spot for lunch

OLD BUSINESS:

CA Classic – Joyce advised she is still waiting on some of the invoices to close out this year's show. We have Kristen Bergman and Jill McLeod for our judges next year and the show will be on the old weekend, April 20-21. We are already taking suggestions for next year's show, so if you have any ideas, please give them to Joyce so she can research.

UC Davis Scholarships Awarded – Dave went to the award ceremony and the two recipients are Crystal Williams and Lauren Riley. Both were awarded a \$2,700 scholarship from Calpaca and promise to stay in touch once they graduate from school. Lauren is in her 4th year and Crystal in her 3rd year.

*UC Davis Scholarships Awarded -
Crystal Williams and Lauren Riley...
promise to stay in touch once they
graduate from school.*

NEW BUSINESS:

Winagator – Dave reports 58 farms have already purchased tickets for the raffle and some ranches have bought more than one. The Gator is scheduled to go to the Mother Earth Fair in September and the State Fair in July. Tickets will be available to the general public at these events but the total number of tickets is still limited to just 250. Everyone at the meeting was already saying the gator belonged to them. Don't miss out; get your raffle ticket today from any board member.

Dixon Caper – Joyce said she had her first committee meeting last night and we are on the right track for another

great show. This will be a learning show, non-AOBA and no CVI required. Negative proof of BVD will be required at check in. Joyce will



Members sitting in one of the shady areas of Renaissance Ridge

keep us posted on the progress.

State Fair – Maureen advised that all forms are on line at the state fair site. This is an ALSA show, so if you are not a member of ALSA, there will be an extra fee with your registration. This will be held in an air conditioned barn and the Llama folks are very excited to have us joining them. There will be showmanship, obstacle, PR and many more classes. There is also another llama show at the Sonoma fairgrounds. Any questions, please contact Maureen Macedo or Phyll Clemson.



Ken introduces our Speaker, Dianna Jordan

Mother Earth Day – Dennis advised that SoCalpaca and Calpaca are

May Minutes, Continued...

working together on the Mother Earth Fair to be held Labor Day weekend at the Marin County Fairgrounds. We have a total of four booths together and will have alpacas and alpaca items to show the public what earth friendly alpacas are and what they produce.



Members sitting in one of the lovely areas of Renaissance Ridge

AOBA had a booth last year at the East Coast Fair and took \$80,000 of product that sold out the first day! This event focuses on green products and draws a crowd that is in the age range of 30-60 and has a disposable income of \$80,000 or more. This is the group that we need to focus on as our potential customers. If you are interested in helping with this event, please contact Dennis for more information. If you are in SoCalpaca, Patty

Hazard is your contact for this event.

Gold Country Gathering – Kay and Eva advise plans are going along with GCG. We have the dates of October 22-23 at Nevada County Fairgrounds and our judges are Wade Gease in halter and Ken Hibbits for fleece. We

Mother Earth Fair to be held Labor Day weekend at the Marin County Fairgrounds...

are currently working on getting the web site up and forms ready to go. Spin off will open next month so get your fleece samples ready. More to come.

Symposium update – Bonnie advises that plan are moving forward but they do not have any speakers set in stone yet. If you have anything that you would like to see covered at next year's Symposium, please contact Bonnie, Joan or Dale with your thoughts.

Quarterly Meetings - August meeting at Washoe Valley Alpacas in Nevada; this is the same weekend as Hot August Nights, a classic car show in Re-

no, so book hotel rooms early if you want to stay the weekend. We are still looking for a host ranch for the November meeting so if you would like to be considered, please contact a board member.

Elections – Jack Jordan and Kay Rodriguez's terms are up this year, Jack has served four years so he will step down. Kay said she would run again but we still need nominees and a Chair to run the election. If you are interested in running for the board or helping with the election, please see Dennis or a board member.



And after the speaker....

Meeting adjourned at 12:15. Ken and Julie had lasagna and pizza followed by Dianna Jordan talking about fiber and what to do with it.

Let's Talk About the North American Fiber Industry (cont'd from page 5)

Here are the results with the answer receiving the largest percentage listed first:

1. Owned alpacas

Five to ten years 51.6%, Less than five years 31.3%, More than ten years 17.2%

2. Motivation for purchasing alpacas

Supplement income 76.6%, Tax advantages 70.3%, Other 26.6%, Wanted them as pets 25%, Wanted to raise own fiber 21.9%

3. Level of interest in learning about fiber and fiber processing when first purchasing alpacas

Some interest 47.7%, Very interested 35.4%, No interest 12%, Already familiar with fiber 6.2%

4. Level of interest in learning about fiber and fiber processing today

Very interested 95.4%, Some interest 4.6%, No interest 0.0%

5. Investigated the "state" (existence, level of development, etc.) of the North American Fiber Industry before purchasing alpacas

No 50%, Didn't give it much thought 28.1%, Thought infrastructure was already in place 26.6%, Yes 10.9%

6. Have attended at least one training session on how to skirt, sort and grade fiber

Yes 76.6%, Plan to someday 12.5%, No 10.9%

7. Have toured a processing mill

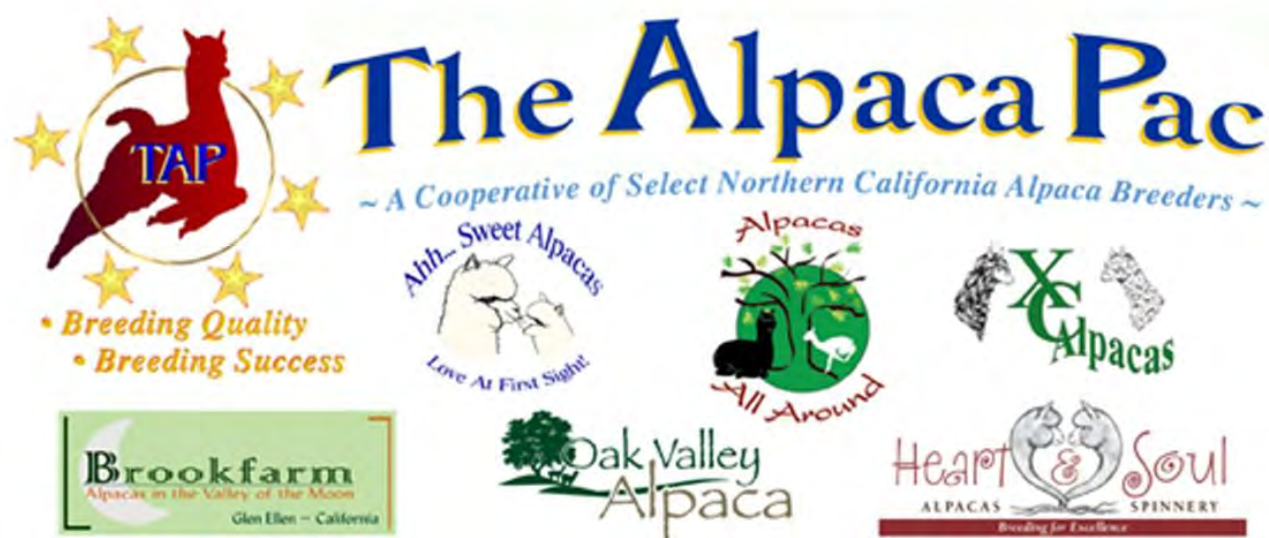
Yes 59.4%, No 31.3%, Plan to someday 10.9%

8. Regularly contribute yearly fiber harvest to a fiber collection/processing business

No 57.8%, Yes 43.8%

9. All fiber harvest is sent to a fiber processing business or processed through an independent fiber mill annually...don't store it from year-to-year

Yes 46%, No 31.7%, Usually 22.2%



"TAP" into our combined resources at www.TheAlpacaPac.com

2012 Northern CA Herdsire Showcase ~ March 31, 2012

Call Bruce Nelson (707) 689-0758 or Rick Brady (209) 772-3906 to Participate

The advertisement for American Pride Alpacas, LLC features a woman in a black shirt leading a white alpaca with a blue and green ribbon. In the background is a large American flag. To the left are two smaller photos of alpacas. A banner in the background reads 'Maui Herd Premium Alpaca Show 2007'. The text 'Breeders of Elite Alpacas' and 'World Class Genetics' is displayed. The company name 'American Pride Alpacas, LLC' is prominently shown with a logo of a alpaca in the colors of the American flag. Contact information at the bottom right includes the address '4350 Hilltop Lane, Shingle Springs, California 95682', the website 'www.AmericanPrideAlpacasLLC.com', and 'Donna Poplawski, MD • 916-761-7783'.

Herdsires

Primitivo of the Shire: Dark gray suri out of gray and black parents. Blue Ribbon Halter and Blue Ribbon Spin-Off winner. Has produced a black offspring, plus he's easy to handle. Look for him at the **Alpaca Shire** or www.alpacanation.com/alpacashire and contact Vicki Arns to make a date for YOUR female. (707) 938-5412 or email vickiashire@vom.com.

Callaway Jaxon: The only silver offspring of Axtion Jaxon to date, a non-fading true black male that won four Reserve Color Championships and Get of Sire over two white males! Callaway's first and second year histograms were below 20 microns. He's soft, he's dense and has great conformation; and is a sweetheart to handle. He has produced silver and rose gray. Co-owned by Vicki Arns, **Alpaca Shire**, vickiashire@vom.com or (707) 938-5412 and Paige Romine, **Retiredice Alpacas**, paige@retiredicealpacas.com or ((530) 620-1415.

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 offspring, 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. Visit Inti at www.alpacasontheweb.com

Alas de Angel Alpacas has awesome sires just waiting for your girls! Bloodlines include: **SRRA P Glacier**, **FDA Gladiator**, **Our Peruvian Cirrus**, **El R Luciano**, and **Silver Sage**. All are direct sons of these magnificent herdsires. Prices start at \$500. 707-998-9156. www.alpacastreet.com/alasdeangelalpacas.asp

925 Suris of Sterling Alpacas, where suri alpacas are sterling, has three up and coming suri herdsires "at your service"... all multiple blue ribbon winning males ready to bring your gray suri program to the next level....**Sterling Silver Dollar**, our full Peruvian MSG; **Sterling Vindication** a stunning high luster LSG; and **Sir Frederick Gray**, our MSG Captain Morgan boy. These studs share time between NoCal, SoCal, and Oregon, so please contact us through our website www.925suris.com for availability.

L Peruvian Lipton, sire of the grey multi-champion Shazam and multi-champion Pacifica's Dunemaster. Lipton has sired 50 offspring....all colors from white to TB and everything in between! We have reduced his fees to \$950 for Calpaca members, limited time offer. **Luv R Pacas**, Dennis & Donna Morris, (209) 826-2610 luvrpacas@yahoo.com

THE STUDS AT HEART & SOUL RANCH:
Hobby Horse Black Epic's Signature, a TB son of 5 x champion Black Epic - **4-Sight's Snow Prince**, MSG son of Legend's Challenger - **Treasure's James Bond**, LF 3x R. Color Champion - Undeclared in 2011- **Blue Grass Peruvian Rhythm & Blues** (S) TB son of Sierra Bonita's Sargent Pepper. CHECK THESE BOYS OUT AT www.heartandsoupspinnery.com



Tom Peterson's guest finds some new friends!

"NEWS FLASH - Quri's *FULL SISTER* Delivers TRUE BLACK CRIA out of BLACK"

FOR SALE \$4900



Full Peruvian; Black Granddam!!



**SIRE: 4 TIME
Get of Sire Winner!
Derwydd Inti-Sapa**

**Service
Sire!! Peruvian Francisco**



Derwydd Inti-Quri

Quri's sire is none other than Derwydd Inti-Sapa = 4 time Get of Sire winner! He had a 22 micron fleece in his 5th year as a breeding male! He started his breeding career at 2 yrs of age. His fleece is dense with a very high frequency and low amplitude crimp [S/P ratio 11.8; Follicle density 47 - biopsy @ 61 months]. He has 10 champion cria on the ground with over 23 Champions/Reserve Awards.

Quri's dam is Peruvian Hamusac who has graced us with 2 champion crias including Quri's full sister Derwydd Inti-Siqay, 6x Res Champion. Quri is full Peruvian, with Accoyo Vengador as a grandfather.

Quri did well in the show ring winning a 1st at the California Classic 2009. She is currently confirmed pregnant to Peruvian Francisco. We have seen some recent Francisco crias that are thrilling us including the Fawn Reserve Champion at the Gold Country Gathering.. Angel.. The goal is a stunning BLACK OR FAWN cria. Quri's full sister, Siqay, bred to Dundee's AJ StormCat(TB) just produced an outstanding black cria! Her sire Inti-Sapa has produced a number of winning black crias - we expect that this pairing will be quite nice. THEN you can bring Quri back for a repeat! OR bred her to Accoyo Manchu (who has 4 fawn crias now) OR to Accoyo Hawkeye out newest Full ACCOYO El Nino FAWN son. Quri sells with an additional breedings to any Derwydd herdsire while resident at Derwydd.





**GOLD COUNTRY
GATHERING**
ALPACA SHOW

Calpaca is pleased
to announce the

2nd Annual

Gold Country Gathering

October 22-23, 2011
Nevada County Fairgrounds
Grass Valley, CA
www.goldcountrygathering.com






Level III Halter

Level II Fleece

Costume Contest

Spin-Off

Fiber Arts Display

Judges

Wade Gease - Halter *Ken Hibbits - Fleece*

Thank you last years sponsors

Friendly Farm Alpacas	Renaissance Ridge Alpacas	Heart & Soul Alpacas	The TAP Group	Alpacas of El Dorado
Juniper Creek Alpacas	SoCal Suris	Alpacas of Marin	Derwydd Alpacas	Shiloh Springs Alpacas

925 SURIS

OF STERLING ALPACAS

**DISCOVER FOR YOURSELF... OUR BREEDING PROGRAM,
CUSTOMER SERVICE & COMMITMENT TO THE FIBER INDUSTRY ARE**

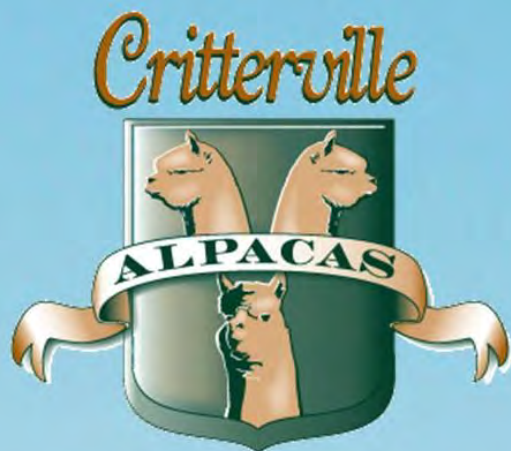
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Now three locations to serve you. Visit our website for more information.

Nancy & David Helwig

www.925suris.com

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Critterville

ALPACAS

Critterville Alpaca is situated in the gold country of Northern California eight miles south of Yreka on Interstate 5.

*Critterville is owned and operated by John and Jann Foulke and is the 4th generation of ranching in California for the Foulke family. We keep the atmosphere honest, caring and welcoming for all. But, Alpacas receive special love 'cause God put a smile on **alpacas**!*

WE ARE A FULL SERVICE ALPACA RANCH

John & Jann Foulke

10404 Old Highway 99 Grenada, CA

(530) 436-9802

Services


Bonny L Rice MBA **Tax Preparation** located in Clearlake Oaks, Ca 707-998-9156. Specializing in Alpaca Farms along with traditional Individual, Partnership and Corporation returns. Consultations offered. CalPaca discount. www.bonnyrice.com

Brookfarm ~ Alpacas in the Valley of the Moon is your local Schacht Spindle Co. dealer. **Spinning Wheels, Weaving Looms, equipment and accessories.** If it is on the Schacht website at www.schachtspindle.com, Brookfarm sells it! 707-996-0350 brookfarmalpacas@mac.com www.brookfarmalpaca.com

Boarding/Agistment Available: Grass pastures, moderate climate, Vet on site. Daily Care: \$4.25 **Alpacas at Windy Hill** -- Cindy Harris and Doug Fieg-- www.alpacalink.com -- info@alpacalink.com **2011 Workshop Series**--Monthly Workshops/Seminars--**NeoNatal Clinic June 25**-- See www.alpacalink.com/events.html

Transporters & Mill

Check the ads in the *Connection*! Want to be added? Contact the editors for your FREE listing!



THE DIXON CAPER


ANNOUNCING
The "seriously, ridiculously fun" Dixon Caper
Saturday, October 1, 2011
Judge: Ken Hibbits
Dixon Fairgrounds, Dixon, CA
Calpaca Marketing & Training Event
(in conjunction with Lambtown)

DON'T MISS:

- Costume Parade
- Egg & Spoon Race with Lambtown Exhibitors
- Youth AND Adult Performance Classes
- Full Fleece and Shorn Halter Classes
- Quality fleece Sale (this is the place to sell your very best fleeces)
- Friday night "Open Barn"

NON-RULE RULES

- NON-AOBA Certified Event
- Halter & Performance Events will be run with rules similar to AOBA rules
- Proof of negative BVDV required
- No CVI required
- ARI registration not required



Fiber BLOGS...

Do you have a Blog about fiber?
Send an e-mail with the link...

Coarse fiber is wanted....did you ever think you'd come to see the day you could make money with that? Bless those aging alpacas in our herd - they're the easiest to sort, producing the greatest total weight per specs (blanket, neck and leg) and the best for creating alpaca business income for us right now.

So visit our blog and watch our fiberometer rise, as we work to reach our goal!

www.alpacazonia.blogspot.com

Shearers



Dianna's survey results about alpaca fiber caught the members' attention!

Steve Murray
Lassen View Alpacas
530-945-2181
stevemurray@shasta.com

Russell Murray
530-604-3830
Murray44185@yahoo.com

Steven Mortimer
Escalon Ca
209-988-3396
sandyacresalpacas.com



Taryn brings in Romance for shearing... Donna Morris, giving final instructions.

Agistments, breedings and more!

Alpaca Acres Ranch is a full-service, family-operated ranch offering **sales, agistment, business plan consultation, alpaca-related products** in our Ranch Store, and great customer support. Our mission is to produce healthy alpacas with correct conformation and an abundance of very dense, fine fiber. Some of our bloodlines...6Peruvian Ninaya, JA Camelot, Peruvian Aladdin, Peter the Great, MFI Peruvian Gallant Deed, JA Dorado, JA Halebop, Peruvian Hemingway, Peruvian Fuego and El Ganador of Peru. www.AlpacaAcresRanch.com (707)928-0354

Christi Amoroso & Cathy White, owner/operators Alpacas...Our Passion...Our Pleasure!

Suris and Huacayas in Southern California--Pregnant Females! Crias! Show Quality! Herdsires! Breedings available to legendary Accoyo Suri herdsires: **Pperuvian Torbio! NGG Accoyo Apache II! Breedings** available to **AWH Boreas--** 7X Champion black son of Sierra Bonita Sirius Black-- Blue ribbon crias, more than eight black crias this year! Breedings available to **Silvano of PVA--** Silver Gray Champion son of Platinum Marquis--proven producer of Gray!

Alpacas at Windy Hill -

Cindy Harris and Doug Fieg

www.alpacalink.com -- info@alpacalink.com

Bluegrass Peruvian Rhythm & Blues

UN-DEFEATED in 2011

1st 2011 Place Commercial Halter International Alpaca Odyssey

1st Place 2011 Walking Fleece International Alpaca Odyssey

1st Place 2011 The Futurity

And

1st Place 2011 AOBA Nationals



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www.heartandsoulspinnery.com

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(209) 745-8833
xcfarm@softcom.net

Let's Hear It For The Girl!



Wisp of Smoke (Male)
2011 Grey Champion
DOB: 6/7/10



Hot Stuff (Male)
2011 Black Reserve
DOB: 5/5/09

Melody's Mystique

Two offspring — Two Color Champions

Dianna Jordan
dljordan@live.com



Jack Jordan
530-620-6033

www.alpacasomersetfarm.com

New...Pen Sale & Online Auction at Gold Country!

Calpaca has always been an innovator in providing new concepts for your alpaca show experience. At this year's Gold Country Gathering, Calpaca will be offering a new way to help its membership with a marketing opportunity.

The Gold Country Gathering will be holding a pen sale/online auction, open to all entries in the show. If you plan on submitting an entry in spin off, fleece or halter, you can enter that alpaca in the Pen Sale/On Line Auction as well.

Here's how it will work:

Pay the auction fee of \$50 per animal at the same time you are completing the paperwork to enter the alpaca into the Gold Country Gathering show. We will include your alpaca on the auction page on the Calpaca web site. You set the minimum bid price and we will advertise the auction to the national AOBA membership through email blasts. The pen sale/online auction will be held during the Gold Country Gathering on, October 22-23, 2011. The lots will be set up in order of color class so blacks will go first, then browns, etc., just like the show.

Bidding will start at the reserve price that the owner specifies. Each participating entry will receive a special identifying designation at the show, either at the pen, the fleece box or spin off entry.

We hope you like this new way to market your alpaca while attending the show and choose to participate. If you have any questions, please contact the Online Auction/Pen Sale coordinator Kay Rodriguez at krodriguez@lazyk-ranch.com

What we will need from you at the time of completing your entry:

A Good Digital Photo	Male or Female	Birthdate
Name of Sire	Name of Dam	ARI Number
Proven/Unproven	Bred or Maiden	Reserve Price

For Sale

CCR Valienza DOB 7/9/05 Dark Brown Bred Female \$4000 Valienza is a ½ Peruvian girl sired by Inti-Sapa. She has dark vicuna markings that create her striking appearance and wonderful presence. Her conformation is impeccable from her bite to her dead straight legs. She is being bred to SilverCoyo Outlaw for a Spring 2012 cria and comes with a free breedback. **Sunny Acres Alpacas 559-323-9608** See her at www.SunnyAcresAlpacas.com

Cria Announcements

Outlaw's Silver StarDust

Our Multi-Champion and Get of Sire winning stud, SilverCoyo Outlaw continues to hit them out of the park,,, and in beautiful silver gray, no less. The latest Outlaw daughter has arrived and she's SPECTACULAR! Dusty is a gorgeous dark silver gray, with outstanding conformation, fiber and coverage. She looks almost identical to her previous two gray Color Champ sisters, including Encantar, who won Gray Female Color Champ at AOBA National's last year. We will eagerly be awaiting her turn in the show ring and are sure she will follow in the footsteps of her older brothers and sisters. **Sunny Acres Alpacas 559-323-9608**
See her at www.SunnyAcresAlpacas.com

Wanted!

LOOKING FOR USED ALPACA EQUIPMENT

Shearing table, Clippers, Poop Vac, ATV...Or anything else you think I might like! Gaye Cornell, Vello Vellon, 12701 E. Peltier Road Acampo, CA 95220 209 663-8727 cell or 209 334-0908 house e-mail bandaid1@clearwire.net

Property

10 Acres For Sale in Sonora CA \$289,900.

Good parcel for alpacas or llamas. Close proximity to experienced Camelid vet. with agistment possible while you develop your ranch. For info/photos see WWW.ZZALPACAS.COM or call 510-303-5530

SHEARER

Kris Kelly, Arapaho Rose Alpacas 530-941-9945 ktkelly@charter.net

For Sale: Package of 3 Bred Females w/1 female cria \$9000

Package of 3 beautiful girls, 2 proven dams and 1 maiden, with 1 dark brown female cria at side. Dams range from white to dark fawn and are nice, quality girls. Package includes Angelina, Centava, Tehaya, and Centava's cria. For details see them at www.SunnyAcresAlpacas.com

Cria Announcements:

Outlaw's Silver StarDust Our Multi-Champion and Get of Sire winning stud, SilverCoyo Outlaw continues to hit them out of the park,,, and in beautiful silver gray, no less. The latest Outlaw daughter has arrived and she's SPECTACULAR! Dusty is a gorgeous medium silver gray, with outstanding conformation, fiber and coverage. She looks almost identical to her previous two gray Color Champ sisters, including Encantar, who won Gray Female Color Champ at AOBA National's last year. We will eagerly be waiting her turn in the show ring and are sure she will follow in the footsteps of her older brothers and sisters.

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

Herd sire

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 took **1st Place Get of Sire at Southwest Regional Alpaca Show 2010** over some amazing white and fawn studs and one of his daughters 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 6 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 during these tough economic times.** **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 the 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 during these tough economic times. **Sunny Acres Alpacas 559-323-9608** See him and his progeny at www.SunnyAcresAlpacas.com

AGISTMENT SPACE AVAILABLE

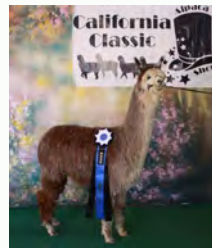
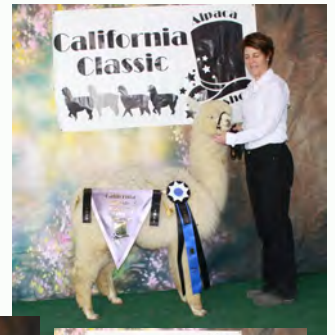
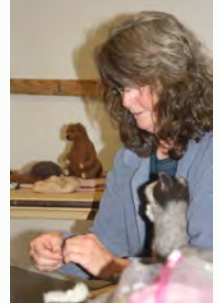
Ruth, Dave and Caitlin Gomez, El Corazon en las Nubes, MALIBU, CA (818)707-6113 ranch, (818)324-0666 Ruth's cell, Fax: (818)879-2165 email: malipacabu@gmail.com Years in camelid business: 14 Able to agist: Females (and crias), and weanlings Fee: \$3.50/day Includes: Daily care with hay, supplemental pellets, minerals, microbiotics, toenail trimming, inoculations and worming. Special needs and training \$15.00/hr. Crias under 3 months free, half rate until weaned at 6 months. Vet bills at cost. Birthing and shearing extra – please inquire. Vet: Jana Smith, DVM Our ranch is in the coastal mountains in Malibu with mild temperatures. Full mortality insurance required.

California Classic SILENT AUCTION THINK Outside the Barn!

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2011





Showing Up

Phyl Clempson
Alpaca Reserve of Napa Valley

We have all heard that eighty percent of success is showing up. I for one have not always shown up for the Calpaca shows. I have a list of excuses that would at the very least get me out of our barn's timeout corner.

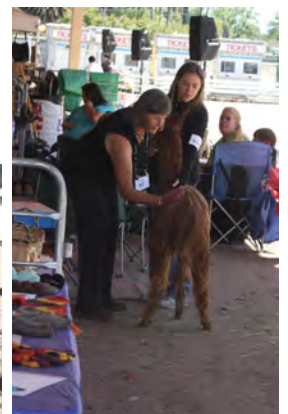
This past show awakened some emotions that I wanted to share with you, my fellow members.

Showing up this year created a sense of belonging, a sense of purpose and of course the renewal of camaraderie with folks I only see at the shows. I also experienced sadness when I realized some of the folks who normally attend could not make it. It occurred to me we all have cycles and circumstances that create detours. It was then I wondered why it has never crossed my mind that people may have wondered why I did not show up in the past. The thoughts went deeper when I pondered how I have felt about myself when I have not shown up. I know it takes effort, time away from family, money and a good deal of energy to make it all happen. Throw in a few other unexpected detours and staying home just gets easier. It also gets easier to isolate and to convince yourself no one misses you. I was wrong, I believe as a whole we are missed when we do not show up.

I realize sporadic commitment is not an option for the long list of consistent volunteers. I felt a surge of gratefulness for them and a renewed commitment to the common cause of showing up. The endless volunteers who have given their time, their energy, sacrificed family events without resentment, do that for all of us whether we show up or not.

The minute I saw Joan Clappier and Bonnie Potter working with Dr. Danny Mora I felt the show had begun for me. There is a rhythm they have created to welcome every ranch big and small. I also realized I have never *not* been greeted by them at vet check. The list goes on to salute the people who show up, not for the ribbons, not for the praise but to provide all of us a venue to learn, to be challenged and come away with better farm practices and a renewed commitment to our industry. I felt this stirring of responsibility within me and that was when I knew I want to do more than just show up sporadically: I would like to encourage all of you to show up in some small way, do a little more for the shows and the meetings than you did last time; help Calpaca to grow and sustain the reason we all own alpacas.

In reflection, I have been thinking how much I lost by not showing up. The most important thing is my animals lost out, the very reason I bought them instead of remodeling the kitchen nine years ago. So while I always joke that my "other kitchen" is an alpaca, I would not trade a kitchen for what Calpaca and you, the members, mean to me. I truly did not know that until I *Showed Up* at the Classic.



Second International Conference on Camelid Genetics and Reproductive Biotechnologies

By Bonnie Potter, ARI President

An important conference you should consider attending and/or sponsoring this year is coming up September 16–18, 2011 in Houston, TX. Organized by the Alpaca Registry, Inc. and the Alpaca Research Foundation, it promises to be an exciting and informative event. Many of the sessions will focus on the genetic studies of camelids and others will focus on reproductive biotechnologies used in camelids. Many of these topics directly impact the breeding of camelids for traits of economic value to their owners!

Geneticists and reproductive scientists from around the world including the Middle East, Australia, South America and the United States who study camelid species will convene in Houston to ex-

change information on the latest developments in their fields. This conference follows the highly successful first International Workshop

... an opportunity for alpaca breeders to learn more about alpaca genetics ...

on Camelid Genetics held in 2008, which brought together a group of researchers and veterinarians focused on the genetic and genomic study of camelids. The results were new scientific collaborations and a greater understanding among researchers of basic research tools needed. This conference, unlike the first one, is open to camelid owners and breeders and others interested in genetic

improvement, so it is an opportunity for alpaca breeders to learn more about alpaca genetics as well as reproductive technologies that are used in many livestock species. State-of-the-art plenary lectures targeted at all attendees will be delivered in morning sessions. The afternoons will be devoted to concurrent breeder and researcher break-out sessions. Breeder break-out sessions are designed to give all breeders the opportunity to ask any questions about genetics or reproduction in alpacas. Registration will be limited to 200 on a first-come, first-served basis. Go to www.camelidconference.com and register today!

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