



ABR Newsletter E-'Paca Parade January, 2008

(This issue is provided through e-mail; no paper copy will be sent.)

ABR Newsletter Committee

Denise Haines
Ron Hinds
Becky Zierer

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Message from the President

Carl McGill

Bayou Creek Alpacas

Happy New Year everyone! I hope you have all had a great start for 2008. With the beginning of the New Year it is always a time to reflect and ponder. Reflect on the year gone by and ponder on what is to come. Reflections include our shows continuing to grow with each passing event and 2007 Fall Festival, with our new venue was the biggest and best yet. GWAS looks to be one of the best in the country. The Fiber Committee continues to grow and sponsor events thru the year, including the Fiber Art Competitions at our shows. The Education committee strives to put together programs to help all of us.

I also reflect on the great people I have had a chance to work with on our board of directors. I want to thank them all for their hard work. Without the many volunteer hours that they and many others put in, we would not continue to be one of the premier affiliates in AOBA.

As I ponder the future I see us continuing to learn from our past experiences and face the new challenges in our future with the many things we need to do. I see us gathering information for our members to help them evolve and keep our industry alive and growing.

Each member and volunteer in our organization determines what we will accomplish and who we will become. Thank you for all you do. I know that if we continue to work together we will accomplish great things, as we all have something wonderful in common, Alpacas.

With this comes a lot of responsibility and work and I am positive this year's BOD is up to the challenge.

**Alpaca Breeders of the Rockies
Quarterly Membership Meeting
Saturday--February 2, 2008
Radisson Graystone Castle
85 East 120th Ave - Denver
9:30 AM to 12 Noon**

Welcome	Carl McGill
Introduction of new Members/Guests	Ron Hinds
Call for Quorum	Jody Sharp
Director – Membership Report	Ron Hinds
Treasurer's Report	Ann Danielson
2008 Budget, review	
Old Business	Carl McGill
Director – Communications Report	Denise Haines

Director – Education Report
Director – Marketing Report
Director – Shows/Events
GWAS

Fiber Committee
By-laws Review Committee

Presidents Congress Information

Suzy Rosenkranz
Tom Costner
Beth Blonder
Lucy Farrar
Becky Zierer
Christin Jones
Kim Sawyer

Carl McGill

Afternoon Program

"Tax Issues" with Lynn Boak and John Pippinger

RSVP Ron Hinds pacaron@estreet.com

Vice President's Corner

By Kim Sawyer

Tapestry Farm Alpacas

I wanted to let everyone know what a privilege it has been to be your Vice President this last year. It's a huge responsibility to be part of driving the future of an organization while considering our commitment to the members. I hope I have done well by you. I know I'm leaving this position in good stead and welcome Lynn Boak to the BOD.

Here's some last minute updates:

By-Laws Committee

Hopefully you know that we're in the middle of a 30 day comment period for By Laws revisions. We were close the last time and want to give it one more college try. The comment period ends January 16th so if you haven't seen them, let us know.

The ballot will be sent out mid January, when you see it, please vote! We hope to have some positive feedback at the February ABR Quarterly meeting.

Long Range Planning Committee

As you may have heard at the November Quarterly meeting, the LRP committee did quite a bit this last year in formulating 3 main areas of focus for our long term strategy: Future of Fiber, Youth Programs and investigation into an ABR Building. The committee has put a great game plan together and this next year we should start seeing some meat put to those outlines. Even more important, this provides

some great areas for the members to participate on short term projects rather than committing a full year. More information to come on these areas.

Government Relations

This was the first year we attempted to put this committee together and we had a quick and short run. I think there's still a great deal we can accomplish for the membership in this area but we need your help! You don't have to be an expert in government of any kind. It would help if you did but there's lots of other work that can be done without having that background. And, you can learn as you help develop an information base for the membership. If you're interested, please contact Brenda Gallagher, tierradelcielo@wildblue.net.

Communications

By Denise Haines
Daybreak Creations Alpacas

Member events can be posted on the ABR website.
Send your items to: Daybrkcreation@aol.com

Newsletter

We are still in need of an editor for the newsletter. If you are interested, please contact Denise for more details.

The newsletter committee is looking into the possibility of having the newsletter printed and mailed each quarter. If this turns out to be a viable option, ABR would sell ad space in the newsletter. Stay tuned!

Website

The website is still being improved and updated. Our next project for the website is the bulletin board. We will let you know when it is up and operating. If you have suggestions regarding ideas for the website, please contact Denise or one of the committee members.

EDUCATION

By Suzy Rosenkranz
ABR Director of Education
Chairman, Education Committee
E-mail: sirosenkra@aol.com

HAPPY NEW YEAR! On behalf of the Education Committee, I wish you all a wonderfully successful 2008 full of little girl crias running through the pastures!! I look forward to serving you on ABR's Board of Directors and the Education Committee for another year. Speaking of that, the committee welcomes your ideas, suggestions, critiques and participation. If you would like to join us or even chair the committee, please contact me or any member of the committee. It promises to be an exciting 2008!

Be sure to mark your 2008 calendars for events that include:

- * Tax Issues program at our February 2 ABR member meeting presented by Lynn Boak and John Pippinger;
- * Eric Hoffman, March 15-16, (registration form and details are on the ABR website home page);
- * Neonatal Clinic with Dr. Kim Gardner-Graf, April 12;
- * Dr. Toni Cotton's presentation at the GWAS Thursday night seminar;
- * Jane Wheeler, VP/Research at CONAPA, Lima, Peru, July 26-27;
- * Fiber Presentation at the August ABR member meeting;
- * Neonatal Clinic with Dr. Tim Thompson and Marci Stilles at CSU, October 4.

In addition, for those who wish to update their color compliance certification, GWAS is sponsoring another color compliance clinic to be held Saturday, February 23, at Jefferson Farms in Lakewood.

We are also working on a health issues program, plus a couple more programs that will be advertised as soon as they are locked in, so please watch for these announcements. A lot of educational events going on—to be added to your already busy schedules!

Again, all good wishes to everyone for a wonderful 2008!

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Report

Ron Hinds

El Zorro Colorado Alpacas

ABR Membership Director – 2007/08

Hello folks.

Happy Holidays to one and all.

It's Membership time once again!

The 2008 ABR Membership forms have been mailed to the 2007 members and a handful of new alpaca owners that are in the database. Just in case the USPS didn't get it to you, you can go to the 'Join Us' section on the ABR website and download the necessary form... Or you can contact me and I'll be happy to send you (email or USPS) another one.

The deadline to get into the 2008 Membership Directory is, as usual, Jan. 15, 2008

If you let me know that you are going to join but can't make the Jan. 15th date. Contact me so I can save you a space in the directory.

All members must pay the full amount of the dues (not prorated) to be listed in the membership directory.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Jody Sharp

Arazzmatazz Alpacas

ABR Director Shows and Events 2006/2007

It has been a wonderful year for the Shows and Events that ABR has hosted. Together we have worked hard and we just keep growing and growing and getting better and better! We started our year by introducing more people to alpacas at the ABR booth at the **National Western Stock Show**. Then we hosted **GWAS**, which was a fabulous success. We participated in the **Blizzard Benefit** to help out our livestock friends who suffered so badly from the blizzard of '07. We had ABR volunteers help our judge trainees at the **AOBA Judge's Clinic** held in Golden last summer. ABR supported members who held farm days for the first ever **National Alpaca Farm Day**. Then we were delighted to see **Fall Festival** expand as we moved to a newer, bigger and better venue at The Ranch in Loveland and the number of entries grew by over 100!

I would like to welcome Beth Blonder as our new Director of Shows and Events. Beth will be at the helm for 2008 and 2009 as we again start the year

with our booth at the Stock Show, January 12-27. This year ABR is sponsoring a second booth to allow members to sell their wonderful alpaca products to the public at the Stock Show. Be sure to sign up for that one! It should be very profitable! Also, the GWAS steering committee has been busy planning for this year's show in May for several months now. Be ready to step up to help host this event which draws alpaca breeders from around the country.

What an exciting and educational experience I have had the last two years as Director of Shows and Events. Working with all of you has been wonderful. I thank you for volunteering at every event and I cherish the opportunity to meet all of you as we worked together for ABR. I'll still be here helping out and enjoying the opportunities that ABR provides us. Together we've all made ABR one of the top affiliates in the country!

Great Western Alpaca Show 2008

Better hurry and get your stalls under the Early Bird discount! The \$25-per-stall expires at midnight, Jan. 15 and the stall price reverts to the regular rates. Go to www.greatwesternalpacashow.com to obtain the stall form. (You can register your animals later.)

Gold Sponsorships sold out quickly, but there are 3 Silver Sponsorships remaining. Silver sponsorships have enticing perks: Preferential stall placement, ads in publications for the show, VIP Parking pass, etc. Check the website for details or contact Billie Rogers, billie@dutchvalleyranch.com.

2008 judges are: Charlene Friedman, Jude Anderson and Amanda VandenBosch in the halter rings, with Nard Mullen and Harold Herbold judging fleeces. Harold will also be the Performance Judge on Sunday.

The Thursday night seminar will be a presentation by Toni Cotton DVM on EMAC and Mycoplasma Hemolamae in alpacas. More info and registration forms will be on the GWAS website early next week, so look for them there. You can register for the seminar when you order your stalls.

We are still looking for a Fiber Arts Show Superintendent! This does not require a Fiber Artist...just someone with organizational skills to take entries, arrange entries into categories, be present during the judging and arrange for attendants during the time the Fiber Arts are on display. Contact Lucy or Becky if you can take on this responsibility for GWAS.

Lucy Farrar, GWAS Shows Manager 719-488-0986 or info@coloradoalpaca.com

Becky Zierer, GWAS Event Manager 303-644-4110 or lzbalpacas@aol.com

GWAS Spin-Off

Our Spring Show (GWAS) will be here before you know it. Those ribbon winning animals of yours are now in your breeding program, but guess what...they can still be ribbon winners for you! Maybe you just don't like sending animals to shows, but it would sure be nice to have some of your animals still be evaluated and get one of those really cool (and highly coveted by the way) gingham ribbons GWAS is noted for. And let's not forget those possibly not so "conformationally perfect" animals we all own that might not even place in the tough GWAS halter show, but have the most exquisite fleece that you can't keep your hands out of. After all, it IS about the fiber, isn't it?

So you're asking, what is she talking about and where the heck is she going with this? Why, it's a Spin-Off of course!!

We will be having a Spin-Off at this years GWAS! The deadline is fast approaching though (February 4th) so you need to hurry to your fiber storage and pull out those blankets sheared this past season. We require a 2 oz sample (make sure it's 2 oz, if it's less you will be docked points or possibly disqualified) of prime blanket.

Forms are available at the GWAS website:

http://www.alpacabreeders.org/gwas/2008/halter_fleece.html

So, head over there and.....

1. print them out,
2. get your 2 oz fiber samples, and
3. a picture of your animal,
4. send them to me!

Deborah Robinson – TerraSoLuna Alpacas terrasolunalpacas@earthlink.net
16615 W. 9th Avenue, Golden, CO 80401

Marketing Committee

Peter Ziek

Wild Hair Alpacas

Happy New Year from your ABR Marketing Committee! The 2008 National Western Stock Show runs from January 12 – 27, 2008, and we would like to thank each of you who volunteered for either the marketing booth and/or the product sales booth. This is the first year ABR is selling alpaca products, so we are excited to see how well it goes. Look for an update in the second quarter Paca Parade.

Marketing preparations for the Great Western Alpaca Show are well underway. Look for our ads in Alpacas Magazine, Camelid Quarterly, and American

Livestock, and sign up early for the show. It looks to be another sell out so don't delay. This will be the second year of a joint alpaca show and fiber fiesta, and we still need additional volunteers to help with print advertising, TV, mailings, and the other marketing tasks that bring in both participants and general public. This is one of the premier shows in the country and it is your show, so please step up and help out.

One last reminder, ABR will continue to offer funding support for your county fair booth. The grant form is available on the ABR site or you can contact Peter Ziek at pziek@us.ibm.com and request the grant form. There is a limited budget for underwriting, so get your grants in early to ensure your funding.

ABR - What's In A Name? Part IV

It's holiday time and we are "wrapping up" our series on What's In A Name? Last but not least:

- RG Alpacas, Bob Callahan:
RG is simply Bob's initials and also part of his cattle brand. The logo he uses is actually a real registered Colorado brand.

- Falkor Ranch Alpacas, Diane & Tom Cribley:
Falkor is a luck dragon. Diane & Tom found him in a book (and movie) called Never Ending Story by Michael Eade. In the book, Falkor helps a young boy to believe that he can make a difference in the world by being involved, making decisions, and taking control of his own life. That's what got Diane & Tom into the world of alpacas. They started dreaming of a different future and looking for a way to get there. They found it – wonderful animals, friendly, helpful people and an independent lifestyle. They are now moving with Falkor's help and letting their imaginations lead them into the future.

So in summary....how did we all choose and what's in a name?

- some emphasized color: Qolque Paku
- some are area descriptions: Corona Trail Alpacas, Wyoming Prairie Alpacas, Agua Ausente Alpacas, Bird Song Alpacas, Arroyo Seco Alpacas
- some are biblical: Eye of the Needle Ranch
- some were designed by grandma: Las Bonitas Alpaca Ranch
- some were based on fairy tales: Rapunzel's Farm
- some honored the owners heritage: Bella Vita Ranch
- some were based on other animal types: Aardwolf Alpacas, el Zorro Colorado
- some have nothing to do with alpacas: Lavender Fields Alpacas
- some describe the farm or ranch: Weather'd T Ranch, Long Skinny Ranch
- some are tied directly to what alpacas do: Daybreak Criations
- some are philosophical: Wabi Sabi

- some reflect Spanish origin to honor alpaca heritage: Tierra del Cielo Alpaca Ranch, Luna Nueva Ranch
- some husbands actually had the first idea!: Cielo Grande Alpacas

Whether simple or complex, sophisticated or contemporary, we all basically used the same steps to choose our name. We:

- took time to decide and were selective
- focused on something important to us
- found something different from everyone else
- had fun creating a name for our new ventures!

Thanks to all of you for sharing your story and giving me an opportunity to meet you via e-mail. Happy New Year to you AND your alpacas!

Linda Davis
Wyoming Prairie Alpacas

Alpaca Registry Update

The ARI Strategic Planning Workshop is slated for Jan. 23-24 in Las Vegas. Representatives of key camelid organizations and several members of ARI have been invited to sit down with the ARI Board and give input on a plan for the future of ARI. All ARI members have an opportunity to give input via a survey. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to go to the survey or use the following link in your browser: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=p1n_2b_2bgSxcdMKBg_2bTAyW72g_3d_3d. We really need your input!

Lucy Farrar, ARI BOD Secretary

Fiber Committee

By Barb Dedecker

The Fiber Committee has had a great year. We started the year off by holding our annual Hats for Cancer Patients Day. The sponsorships received put us in the black. Even though it was a snowy day, we had a large group and made a lot of beautiful hats, which were donated to the Cancer Society.

This year saw the delivery of our first Fiber Arts Directory, a beautiful and must source to have on hand.

Workshops were held in April and September, bringing instruction to our members on more ways to use that beautiful fiber we all love.

At GWAS, the Fiber Competition was a hit and there were a lot of blue ribbons awarded. Jody Sharp led the set-up of our booth at the Estes Park Wool Market in June. It looked wonderful and many items were sold.

In July, we held a two day seminar on skirting fiber presented by a well known fleece judge. The August quarterly meeting was all about fiber and we presented a panel from several mills to give our membership much needed information about processing their fiber.

The Fiber Committee held its first Spin-off competition at the Fall Festival. With 109 entries, it was a huge success.

We ended the year with the Fiber Competition at Fall Festival, and though the number of items entered was less than expected, a lot of blue ribbons went home. The Holiday Boutique was also held at the Fall Festival and did quite well and the set-up was very creatively done.

Next year will bring some changes. I am stepping down as Chairperson to give my full attention to the Denver Fiber Arts Fiesta (slight name change there) that will be held in conjunction with GWAS 2008.

Christin Jones and Suzanne Core are going to co-chair the Fiber Committee.

Stay tuned, as these two ladies have a lot of great ideas for this coming year.

Alpaca Breeders of the Rockies

Schedule of Shows, Events, Meetings, Deadlines Updated December 17, 2007

January 3, 2008	Winter 'Paca Parade Newsletter E-mailed
January 12 – 27, 2008	National Western Stock Show ABR Booths
January 14, 2008	Agenda Items due for January BOD Meeting
January 15, 2008	Early Bird Stall Registration Deadline GWAS 2008
January 16, 2008	January BOD Meeting
January 19, 2008	Hats for Cancer Day – Fiber Committee

January 25 - 27, 2008	AOBA Fiber to Fashion – Las Vegas
February 2, 2008	Winter Quarterly Membership Meeting
February 9, 2008	Finishing Day for Hats for Cancer – Fiber Committee
February 18, 2008	Agenda Items due for February BOD Meeting
February 20, 2008	February BOD Meeting
February 23, 2008	GWAS Color Compliance Workshop
March 15 - 16, 2008	Eric Hoffman Seminar
March 17, 2008	Agenda Items due for March BOD Meeting
March 18, 2008	Agenda Items due for Spring Membership Meeting
March 18, 2008	Articles due for spring 'Paca Parade
March 19, 2008	March BOD Meeting
March 25, 2008	Spring 'Paca Parade Newsletter E-mailed
April 12, 2008	Neonatal Clinic – Douglas County Fairgrounds
April 14, 2008	Agenda Items due for April BOD Meeting
April 16, 2008	April BOD Meeting
April 27, 2008	Spring Quarterly Membership Meeting
May 1, 2008	GWAS Thursday Night Seminar – Dr. Toni Cotton
May 2 - 4, 2008	Great Western Alpaca Show
May 12, 2008	Agenda Items due for May BOD Meeting
May 14, 2008	May BOD Meeting
May 21 – 25, 2008	AOBA National Conference – Sandy, Utah
June 7 - 8, 2008	Fiber Workshop – Sherry Konya, Needlefelting
June 14 – 15, 2008	Estes Park Wool Market

June 16, 2008	Agenda Items due for June BOD Meeting
June 18, 2008	June BOD Meeting
June 23, 2008	Articles due for summer 'Paca Parade
June 23, 2008	Agenda Items due for Summer Membership Meeting
July 1, 2008	Summer 'Paca Parade Newsletter E-mailed
July 14, 2008	Agenda Items due for July BOD Meeting
July 16, 2008	July BOD Meeting
July 26 – 27, 2008	Jane Wheeler Seminar
	Judges Training??
August 2, 2008	Summer Quarterly Membership Meeting
August 18, 2008	Agenda Items due for August BOD Meeting
August 20, 2008	August BOD Meeting
August 22 – Sept 1, 2008	Colorado State Fair
September 13, 2008	Fiber Arts Committee Fiber Workshops
September 15, 2008	Agenda Items due for September BOD Meeting
September 17, 2008	September BOD Meeting
September 22, 2008	Articles due for fall 'Paca Parade
September 22, 2008	Agenda Items due for Fall Membership Meeting
September 27 - 28, 2008	National Alpaca Farm Day
October 1, 2008	Fall 'Paca Parade Newsletter E-mailed
October 1, 2008	2008 Budget e-mailed to Membership
October 4, 2008	Neonatal Clinic – CSU Animal Hospital
October 13, 2008	Agenda Items due for October BOD Meeting

October 15, 2008	October BOD Meeting
November 2, 2008	Annual Membership Meeting
November 8 – 9, 2008	12 th Annual Fall Festival
November 17, 2008	Agenda Items due for BOD Meeting
November 19, 2008	November BOD Meeting
November 20, 2008	Membership Renewal Forms Mailed
December 15, 2008	Agenda Items due for BOD Meeting
December 17, 2008	December BOD Meeting
December 19, 2008	Newsletter Articles due for winter 'Paca Parade
December 19, 2008	Agenda Items due for Winter Membership Meeting
January 5, 2009	Winter 'Paca Parade Newsletter E-mailed