

Minutes of Empire Alpaca Association Meeting 22 September 2008

Present:

Jeannine Anderson	Gaze Acres Alpacas
John Askew	Sunset Ridge Alpacas
Cindy Cuykendall	Song Meadows Alpacas
Chris Gilman	Riverside Alpacas
Steve McCarthy	Spruce Ridge Farm
Ann Merriwether	Nyala Farm Alpacas
Sue Zelazny	Andes Dandies, LLC

Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM

Steve McCarthy motioned that the 18 August Minutes be approved. Cindy seconded and the motion passed by voice vote.

2008 Extravaganza

- 940 animals registered so far as compared to 805 last year at this time.
- A winery has expressed interest in hosting a cocktail party but the Extravaganza would need to be designated a Farmer's Market in order for them to sell wine. Steve will contact Ag & Markets to see what needs to be done. Alternative is a cash bar catered by the Fair.
- Platinum sponsors will get a multi-tool as an additional gift.
- All entrants will get a coffee mug.
- AOBA is not offering a TV commercial this year. It will cost \$600 to update last year's commercial.
- Charities for the silent auction will be ARF, Cornell and Tufts.
- Cindy will send out a message encouraging fleece sale from exhibitor booths.
- There will be a fiber arts demonstration area.

2009 Symposium

- Steve has booked the Renaissance in Syracuse for 2009 and the Desmond in Albany for 2010.
- There will be a dinner on Saturday evening for an additional fee.

Miscellaneous

- 62 Farms signed up for NAFD on the EAA website.
- Ann did one TV interview for NAFD and sent out a number of press releases.
- Jeannine will collect photos for 3 new display banners. The old display will still be available for use.
- Waiting for a cost estimate to build the skeleton parts for the artificial cria project. Board agreed to place a \$10K line item in the 2009 Budget for this project.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM

Next meeting scheduled for 13 October 2008, 7:00 PM