



EAA Newsletter

December 2007

President's Message: A Year in Review

As 2007 draws to a close, it is good to reflect on what we, as members of Empire Alpaca Association, have accomplished this year. Is the world (specifically, the alpaca world) better off now than it was a year ago because of what we have done in 2007? Thinking about what the Association has done this year, I do think we have made a difference.

Sure, the Extravaganza is fun, but more importantly it allows us to raise money that is used to benefit our industry and our animals. In 2007, EAA put on a free seminar for vets and vet students with Dr. Ahmed Tibary. Within a month of that seminar, we heard several stories of alpaca dystocias where the crias were saved because of what the vet learned at Dr. Tibary's seminar. The seminar made a difference! EAA funded a research study for a drug to help alpacas in surgery and gave seed money to help fund an alpaca reproductive textbook. Cornell received a new ultrasound machine from EAA. EAA funded two of Dr. Steve Purdy's students from UMass to attend the AOBA Nationals, thus encouraging these young people to pursue a career in camelids. The scholarship fund we established a few years back for Cornell vet students was used in 2007 to help underwrite the vet students' study of camelids. Funds raised from this year's online herd sire auction totalled almost \$11,000 for the UMass Camelid Studies Program and \$6,300 for AOBA 2009 Rose Bowl Float (2009 is the year of the natural fiber).

2007 was a good year – as an Empire member, you should be proud of what was accomplished. Let's make 2008 an even better year! Happy Holidays and have a happy, healthy 2008!

~ Steve McCarthy, Spruce Ridge Farm

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Save the Dates!

2008 Winter Symposium and Fleece Event with Neonatal Class with Dr. LaRue Johnson!

March 1 and 2, 2008

**The Saratoga Hotel
Saratoga, NY**

Optional Fiber Workshops and Seminar for Vets on February 29th!

Empire Extravaganza Wrap Up

~ Scott Young, Show Coordinator, Hilltop Alpacas

The 2007 version of our annual show is complete and I hope that who all attended felt that this year's show lived up to the hype. Of course the respiratory virus that has challenged many of us caused a bit of a downer on the show but for items that we could control the show seemed to run fantastically.

We hosted a record number of both exhibitors and entered animals in 2007, and also by far saw the largest number of public we have ever had walk through the building, hopefully all of you had some positive exposure from that. We had a magnificent year in both the product booth with almost \$15,000 in sales for our member farms and also in the raffle/silent auction with over \$31,000 raised for alpaca-related charities! Thanks you to all of those that donated items and all those that gave their money to support the causes. The seminars were very well attended, with both the most choices offered and the highest number of folks to stop by and take in some knowledge. Lastly this year featured our first fiber arts corner for kids. That was the brain child of Suzanne Drum from Bentwood Alpacas. This brings up a great point, if you have any suggestions on how to make the Extravaganza better don't hesitate to let either a Board Member or me know about your suggestion.

So many people unselfishly give of their time to make our show run smoothly, I wanted to take this opportunity to say it is noticed and greatly appreciated, we couldn't do all that has to be accomplished without you. So a Big THANK YOU goes out to all of you who stepped up to the plate and gave your organization a little sweat equity.

Plans are already underway for the '08 Extravaganza, I have a verbal commitment from the fair grounds for 2 weeks after Columbus Day which next year will be October 24 & 25. Keep an eye on the website and newsletters for updates on the dates and slate of Judges which we hope to finalize soon.



Look for more great '07 Empire moments throughout this issue!

Symposium Pump Up

~ Scott Young, Show Coordinator, Hilltop Alpacas

Time flies when you're living the alpaca lifestyle and the 2008 Empire Fleece Event is right around the corner already! This year we have changed venues but we are planning the same encompassing fleece event. All AOBA certified shows, we will have a fleece show with mail in fleeces judged by Tim Lavan and Diana Timmermann, a Spin Off judged by Wini Labreque, Fiber Arts judged by David Stensland and a Skien Competition judged by Wini Labreque as well. These are all magnificent ways to get your breeding programs or your hobbies or business some special recognition. If you attended last year's Symposium you will remember how awesome it was in the room with all of the entries displayed all day Sunday for everyone to see. It was a huge promotion for the entries and also for everyone to see the benefits of harvesting our alpaca fleece. Hopefully this will inspire more farms to enter as well.

We have made one change with the mail in fleeces and fiber arts this year. We will be switching away from the United States Postal Service and will use UPS instead. We will be charging a per fleece fee for this service and the fee covers getting the entries back to you. This will allow us to track your entries back to your door, something we lacked in the past.

Keep an eye out in your inbox for more information and deadlines with the Spin off coming up quickly in the middle of December. See you in Saratoga!

Alpaca care tip: Here's a great way to avoid that awful 'frozen hand' syndrome all of us know about who have to scoop hay bits out of water buckets all winter long. Instead of using your hand, use a pasta fork – it works great!

~ Sue Zelazny, Andes Dandies, LLC

Agri-Tourism Grant

~ Steve McCarthy, Spruce Ridge Farm

As discussed in the last newsletter, New York State's Department of Agriculture and Markets announced a second round of agri-tourism grants. On behalf of Empire Alpaca Association, I submitted a "Grant Request for Proposal" in October. My grant request was for \$50,000 (the maximum allowed) and requested funding for a New York State advertising campaign (print and television) for the 2008 National Alpaca Farm Day and the 2008 Empire Alpaca Extravaganza. This grant is a matching grant, so if we are approved, we will need to match the \$50,000. These two events blend perfectly with agri-tourism so we hope the state will look favorably on our request. If we get this grant and raise the funds for the match, we will be able to dramatically increase our marketing efforts for these two events, which can only be beneficial to our businesses and the alpaca industry.

Herd Sire Services Auctions

~Steve McCarthy, Spruce Ridge Farm

This year, I wanted to crank up the money raised from the auctions, so we added an online feature and put breedings to 3 herd sires on a national auction platform (eBay). These three studs raised \$17,110 for charities – exceeding my expectations and goal. We also raised \$10,142 through the regular herd sire silent auction.

The donors of the 3 online breeding were asked to select the charity to which the funds from their breeding would be donated. UMass Camelid Studies Program received \$10,810 and the AOBA 2009 Rose Bowl Float received \$6,300.



Our sincere appreciation to all who donated breedings to their studs and to the purchasers. Thank you's go out to:

- Jennifer & Ian Lutz (Cas-Cad-Nac Farm) and Donna & Pat Badger (Alpaca Grove) for the breeding to Archangel; won by Deb & Ed Bratton of Maple View Farm Alpacas for \$5,610
- Phyllis & Steve Decker (Alpacas of Maple Lane) and Geri & Frank Gabriel (Lakeside Alpaca Farm) for the breeding to Principio; won by Beth & Pete Phelps (Sweet Brook Farm) for \$5,200
- Beth & Jeff Kressin (Alpacas of Ohio) and Kathy & Scott Young (Hilltop Alpacas) for the breeding to Silver Celebration; won by Denise & Doug Caldwell (A. L. Paca's Farm) for \$6,300
- Esther & Dave Friedman of Adirondack Alpacas for donating breedings to Dali, Mezcal and Acoyanza
- Darla, Barry, Barb & Don Rockefeller of Morning Star Alpaca Ranch for the breeding to Magnum AON
- Marsha & Wayne Oliver of Rock Ridge Alpacas for the breeding to Sokoki
- Martina & Bob Horwath of Thunder Bay Alpacas for the breeding to Zephyrson
- Helen & Timm Herman of Sugartown Farms for the breeding to Matias
- Denise & John Jacobus of Idema Creek Alpaca Farm and Ann & Andy Merriwether of Nyala Farm Alpacas for the breeding to Invasion
- Jennifer & Don Tompkins of Alpacalachin Farms for the breeding to Exodus

Thank all of you who donated, purchased or participated in these auctions. The funds will all be given to very worthy alpaca related charities!

Bandito's Story

~Ann Merriwether, Nyala Alpacas

It all started in September, when Helen came running in from the barn, "Dito is walking funny!" Walking funny what the heck does that mean we wondered? We all charged out to the barn and 'Dito was walking funny, in fact he was paralyzed, dragging his back legs with his feet turned under. Andy and I looked at him with dismay and shock. M-worm we thought, its got to be m-worm. How could that be? He had his shot 3 weeks ago. What the heck? As it turned out it wasn't m-worm, it was worse.

Actually of course it started much earlier in July. I know you love all your alpacas and of course so do we but I have to say there are a few that are special maybe even the f-word (what were you thinking, I meant 'favorite'). Andy's favorite alpaca is Magneeto. He's a cute guy but it's more his personality that Andy likes. He's bossy and when the boys get fed he makes really loud noises like a crazed dinosaur and we all exclaim the raptors have escaped!

(Continued on page 5)

Board of Directors Election Results

~ John Askew, Sunset Ridge Alpacas

The annual election of Board members takes a tremendous amount of work and dedication from the Nominating committee. Please join me in thanking Dave Serino, Cindy Vars, Karin Young and the Committee Chair, Sue Watts. Double thanks to Wayne Jarvis for serving on the Nominating Committee and serving as Inspector of Elections.

By running for the Board, each candidate commits to at least 3 years of service to the Empire Alpaca Association. The entire slate of candidates deserves our gratitude so please join me in a thank you to Jeannine Anderson, Cindy Cuykendall, Mark Gilbride, Todd Gruenhagen, Steve McCarthy and Susan Wissick.

This year marks a milestone for the Empire in that Richard Jonassen, the last of the original Board members, has completed his final term. Thank you Richard for seven years of dedicated service to the Empire Alpaca Association! Thank you also to Susan Wissick for three years of service on the Board.

So finally, your new Board members are Jeannine Anderson of Gaze Acres Alpacas and Cindy Cuykendall, of Song Meadow Alpacas. Steve McCarthy of Spruce Ridge Farm was elected for his second term. Thanks again to all of the candidates and the many people who helped with this election!

New Text Book by Dr. Tibary

~ John Askew, Sunset Ridge Alpacas

If you have attended either of the Empire Symposiums that featured Dr. Tibary, you know that he is an entertaining speaker and possesses a wealth of information about camelid reproduction and neonatology. If you missed the seminars, or even if you didn't, here is your chance to benefit from Dr. Tibary's expertise and experience in these important aspects of alpaca farming.

As a result of the dedicated efforts of Bob and Lou Eustance of French Hollow Alpacas, a text book authored by Dr. Tibary will go to print. "Camelid Reproductive Medicine and Herd Health (Alpaca Theriogenology)" will be available in the summer of 2008 and will include extensive chapters on male and female reproduction, neonatology, breeding management and herd health. Anticipated retail price will be \$125 for over 400 pages of detailed alpaca information.

Having a text of this nature available to you as a breeder and to your Veterinarian will be of tremendous value, but this book will have greater impact on the alpaca community. Washington State University Foundation, where Dr. Tibary teaches has agreed to obligate all proceeds from the sale of this book toward research and development of the Camelid Theriogenology Teaching and Research Program at Washington State University. Through this program we will all benefit from a better understanding of these beautiful animals. The Empire Alpaca Association's Board of Directors recently approved a \$5,000 donation towards the initial printing of this highly anticipated book.

By-Law Amendments

~ Steve McCarthy, Spruce Ridge Farm

All four of the proposed by-law amendments were approved by the farm members. To recap:

- #1 Revocation of Membership: Approved 120 to 9
- #2 Annual Meeting Date Correction: Approved 128 to 1
- #3 Inspector of Elections: Approved 129 to 0
- #4 By-Law Amendment Voting: Approved 126 to 3

With 176 farm members eligible to vote as of the annual meeting date and the by-law amendment voting requirement of 2/3 of eligible voters approving any by-law amendments, we needed 118 votes to approve the amendments. With the approval of amendment #4, future by-law amendments will only need to be approved by 2/3rds of the members who vote, rather than 2/3rds of the eligible voters. This will make future amendments much easier to pass. Thank you to all who took the time to consider these issues and vote.

(Bandito: Continued from page 3) Magneeto is friendly with people and you can pretty much do anything with him. This past summer, on Andy's birthday, we had a lovely little brown boy we named Magneeto's Bandito, 'Dito for short. His dam is Georgie one of our first girls and she also has a great personality. She will take your hat and likes to play with the cria. I know what you are thinking I'm talking about personality and when you say someone has a great personality it means they are, how shall we say, not so pleasing in form. Well actually Georgie and Magneeto are also very cute nice alpacas and their little son looked great. He was dense and crimp, with a bright show future ahead of him...until September, when Helen came in with the bad news.



We rushed Bandito and Georgie to Cornell and their initial diagnosis was m-worm. By the next day they knew it wasn't m-worm at all. The signs were wrong. The spinal tap showed nothing, His blood work was normal. His temp was normal. X-rays show no obvious injury. He nursed if supported, otherwise he stayed kushed with his hind legs splayed a bit. He could move his tail. He appeared bright but obviously not right. We posted on alpaca site and alpaca nation forum. Could it be a toxin? Had anyone ever seen anything like this? The responses poured in, folks called, e-mailed not just from NY but from around the world even from Australia and Peru. Cornell continued to explore options. They did a myelogram, Dye was injected along his spine to see if there was any issue not showing up on the x-rays. The next step, if they could find some area to target, would be either a CAT scan or an MRI. The myelogram results were so interesting they did the MRI for free. I saw the MRI and it showed a large abscess pushing up under his spine. His spine was flat! Now the options were put him down or try very experimental surgery on him. They gave us the estimate on what it would cost (a lot) they gave us the prediction on whether it might work (50/50). The correct business thing to do would have been to put him down. But the business plan does not include the reactions of our two little girls. Also Georgie is my friend and I've seen alpaca mom's grieve. I didn't want to watch Georgie go through that. I left it up to Andy and he said let's give him a chance. A large team at Cornell did a Hemilaminectomy they went in and removed a small piece of bone out of his spine, removed the abscess and then implanted antibiotic beads. The doctors who did this surgery had done it in on other animals with success, but had never done it on an alpaca.

Almost immediately problems began. His vertebrae compressed and he developed a pretty dramatic curve in his back. He was on pain meds and the first night Georgie helpfully pulled out his IV. A horse with Salmonella came into Cornell, and despite the usual precautions, Bandito and Georgie both tested positive for salmonella. He couldn't stand, walk or even pee by himself. Dr Mitchel the resident on his case was totally devoted to his care. They got him a cart from the small animal hospital (used for dogs) and he spent some time in it each day. As his back legs slowly improved his front legs atrophied and his tendons began to contract. Dr Mitchel contacted an animal physical therapist and she suggested all kinds of exercises. Students came and went on his case, came and went. We drove up to visit occasionally. He was now in the isolation building (because of the salmonella). You had to wear a full body suit to go in and see them. They tried to wean him off of antibiotics but the antibiotic beads eventually stopped working and he spiked a fever. His blood work showed evidence that the original infection (which to this day they have not been able to identify) was still there. They put him back on antibiotics and slowly he improved.

Eventually Bandito had three negative salmonella tests in a row (Georgie had beaten it right away) and could come home. 'Dito and Georgie had to be quarantined in the front yard until one more fecal could be checked to see if he had shaken the salmonella. While we were waiting for that result everyone who had contact with him wore a full haz-mat suit, booties and gloves. The Binghamton University pre-vet club volunteered to help with his therapy and in their protective coveralls they looked like a racing team pit crew. Andy started calling them "Team 'Dito". His fecal came back negative, and finally after weeks he and Georgie were moved into a small field with a mini-herd of gentle older girls and two infant cria. Our kids Kenni and Helen learned to do the physical therapy and shortly asked if he could be their alpaca that they could keep forever. That was an easy answer. He's improving by inches but he is still improving.

We still get e-mails asking about his progress, and no matter what alpaca event we attend, everyone wants to know how he is. We want to thank everyone for their support on this. It has kept us going. I guess the question I've gotten from most folks lately is if you had it to do over again would you do the surgery? We knew what the surgery would cost but didn't anticipate the two months of recovery at Cornell and that came with a higher price tag than the surgery. It's been a long road and we still have a long, long way to go. He's never going to walk well, will never be a stud and will never be shown. We sold a female from our foundation herd to pay his vet bill, so in a sense we traded a grey female for a defective future-gelding male. Still for me the answer is "yes". I watch my kids doing the physical therapy and trying to make him well. How do you put a price on that? On top of that, the support for our decision in the alpaca community was fantastic. Alpaca folks are just crazy about alpacas too. If you would like to see more of Bandito, I did post a video clip on the You Tube site (this is from a while ago, he's a bit better at walking now). <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lsJJrbq68a4>.

Making a Skirting Table

~ Cindy Cuykendall, Song Meadows Alpacas

Skirting fleece, whether for further processing or for show, can be a lot of work. A good skirting table can make the job much easier. Commercially made tables can be expensive, and tend to be one-size-fits-all. There are many varieties of home-made skirting tables, made with all sorts of materials and skill levels. If you choose to make your own table, there are several factors to consider in designing it. The height of the table will depend upon the height of the skirter and whether the skirting will be done standing up or seated in a chair. I prefer to skirt standing up, sometimes sitting on a high stool. This allows me to move around the fleece easily, and rest my back if necessary. Because I am somewhat limited by a bad back, my table's height allows me to skirt easily without bending over the table.

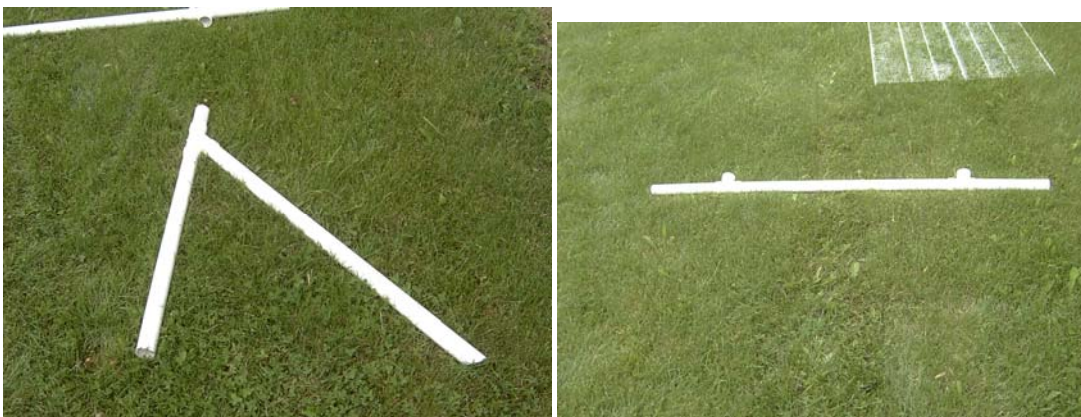
The size of the table surface is another important factor. The table should be large enough to accommodate a full fleece easily, but also must be small enough to allow the skirter to reach the center of the fleece. Too big is better than too small, as you can work on one side of the table if necessary.

When you are skirting a show fleece, it is ideal to work on a table that allows the fleece to glide easily across the surface without snagging or catching. Wire grids are a common material used for tables, but they can be rough and may snag the fleece as you work. If you do choose to use a wire grid material, be sure that the openings between the wires are large enough to allow the dirt and debris to fall through as you work. Squares $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide work well; screen material is much too tightly woven.

In addition to these concerns, when I made my skirting table, I wanted something portable, fairly lightweight, and collapsible so that it could be easily stored. The result is pictured below.



The legs of the table are made from 1 1/2" PVC pipe, joined together with Y's and T's.





Each of the four legs consists of 2 long segments connected with a Y, and a short segment on top (picture #1 above). This piece was cemented together for stability. On each side, 2 legs are joined together by a cross member, made up of 1 long piece, 2 short pieces, and 2 T's (center picture above). This piece is also cemented together. I did not cement the legs to the cross piece. This allows for the frame to be disassembled for portability, and to be stored flat when not in use. The two side pieces stand parallel with the angled legs facing inward, and the top simply rests on top. The top is made of two closet shelf pieces, purchased at one of those home improvement warehouse stores. Each shelf unit measures 20' x 6", and has a 2" lip along the front edge. I simply bolted these front edges together to make a table top 40" x 6'. The plastic coated shelving provides a great surface for skirting. The dirt falls through easily, and the fleece slides nicely.

Feel free to use this idea in creating a skirting table of your own, adapting it to meet your own needs. If you have any questions, give us a call at Song Meadows Alpacas, (315) 685-7410. Happy skirting!

Show Coordinator Position

~ Steve McCarthy, Spruce Ridge Farm

In 2007, the Empire board hired Scott Young to be the 2007 Extravaganza Show Coordinator; this was the first year this was a paid position. For the 2008 Extravaganza, the board deemed it appropriate to open the position to all interested parties. I want to emphasize that the board is not posting this position because of any dissatisfaction with Scott or his performance - personally, I think he does a terrific job - rather we are posting this position in an effort to be more open and negate some criticism the board has received.

A few of the responsibilities of this position include:

- negotiate contracts and coordinate with all event suppliers (venue, panels, sod, lighting, food, etc)
- prepare appropriate registration documents and promotional materials
- purchase exhibitor and volunteer gifts
- coordinate volunteers, vendors and judges
- obtain the sponsors ads; prepare and print the exhibitors' information book; coordinate printing of show book
- store and transport to and from the show all signs, equipment, banners, ribbons, supplies, etc



If anyone is interested in this position, please contact me by January 15, 2008 at 518-794-6294 or spruceridgefarm@aol.com and I will give you more information.

Flea Circus?

A friend of mine noticed the wire grid table in my kitchen and asked what it was. "That's my skirting table," I told him. At his blank look, I explained, "I use it for skirting fleece." Looking even more baffled than before, he asked, "Why would you want to put skirts on fleas?!" ~ Cindy Cuykendall, Song Meadows Alpacas

What Exactly is Fiberart?

~ Jeannine Anderson, Gaze Acres Alpacas

It's not listed in my dictionary. Is it Fiberart or Fiber Art? How is it different than Textile Art? If we call the same items Craft or Handcrafted are they viewed differently or valued differently? After many years of teaching and a few too many discussions of is it Art or is it Craft, I have to say that what we call it does not really matter. Why waste energy on words when that energy could go into creating beauty?

Perhaps more important questions are - how do we enrich our work or how do we become a better audience for the work of others? The whole point here is to learn, grow, create and enjoy. So let's look at two aspects of the items we create and consider them separately while realizing that they are inseparable— **Technique and Aesthetic.**

Techniques, there are many – knit, weave, crochet, hook, felt (wet, needle), wearable, sculptural, mixed media. There is no limit to the how of creation. Whatever technique is used it should be so perfect that it goes unnoticed. It should not distract from the overall experience of the piece. If you are hoping no one will notice that puckered hem or huge buttonhole – they will. Flaws don't hide they jump out and scream. Technique supports aesthetic and technique can detract from aesthetic.

Aesthetic - what do you want the finished piece to look like? What would you like the wearer or viewer to experience? This presents you with another limitless palette of choices. Now go back to technique and make it so. Remember technique and aesthetic are inseparable and interdependent.

Places to go for inspiration –

- Museums – exhibits, collections
- Art Centers – classes, exhibits, visiting artist talks
- Guilds – monthly meetings, websites
- Universities and Colleges – classes, exhibits, lectures, continuing education
- Galleries – exhibits, websites, exhibition catalogs
- Summer Craft Schools – Arrowmont, Penland, Split-Rock...

Books

- Fiberarts Design Book (One, Two, Three...Seven), Lark Books
- The Fiberarts Book Of Wearable Art, Katherine D. Aimone
- Textiles 5,000 Years, Jennifer Harris editor

Magazines

- Fiberarts
- American Craft
- Surface Design Journal
- Handwoven
- Knits
- Crochet
- Spin-off



Symposium Update

~ Steve McCarthy, Spruce Ridge Farm

Registration for the Symposium should be up by January 1, 2008; I will send out an email in advance announcing the official start date. Again, we will use online registration for the vet session, fiber workshops and symposium. As previously announced, the schedule will be:

- Friday February 29, 2008: Free session for veterinarians and vet students with Dr. LaRue Johnson (focus: neonatal)
- Friday February 29, 2008: Fiber workshops for owners/breeders. Four workshops in both the morning and the afternoon. Topics include: spinning, tri-loom weaving, felted hats, skirting fleeces, and tapestry weaving.
- Saturday & Sunday March 1 & 2, 2008: Seminars for owners/breeders on neonatal, tax, genetics, fiber and parasites. Sunday will also have wet labs with Dr. LaRue Johnson and several assisting veterinarians.
- Saturday & Sunday March 1 & 2, 2008: Fleece event consisting of fiber arts and spin-off competitions, and a fleece show with Tim Lavan and Diana Timmerman as the judges.

We have received enough cria donations to allow us to schedule 4 two hour neonatal wet labs on Sunday March 2; a limit of 24 people per lab. The Empire membership voted at the annual meeting to limit the wet lab attendance to Empire members and one attendee per farm. If the 96 slots for the wet labs do not fill up under this criteria, the labs will then be open to others.

You may have heard that Dr. Johnson was hospitalized in November; he is recovering well and doesn't expect our seminar to be affected.

The venue for this great alpaca weekend is The Saratoga Hotel & Conference Center in Saratoga Springs, NY (518-584-4000). A limited number of hotel rooms have been blocked under Empire's name.

Volunteers: Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

~ Steve McCarthy, Spruce Ridge Farm

One of the main reasons the Empire Alpaca Extravaganza is such a successful, fun show is because of the volunteers who help get things done and keep the show moving along smoothly. Again, Empire members have done a superb job of volunteering for the 2007 Extravaganza. Color checkers, gate keepers, ring stewards, check-in staff, seminar speakers – SO MANY volunteers! While there are too many (80+) volunteers to list individually (and I'll skip the past & present board members who also worked their butts off for the show!), I would like to single out a few volunteers who did a tremendous amount of work for the show:

Barb & Darla Rockefeller: silent auction & raffle
Paulie Drexler: promotions
Ellen Chamberlain and Kathy Young: product booth
Barb Rossi: photo contest
Sarah Lamana: sponsorship coordinator
Suzanne Drumm: kids' activities

A big thank-you to all volunteers. We sincerely appreciate your help! Also, many thanks to all those who donated items to the raffle as well which raised \$1,248 for charity.



434 Route 13
Old Chatham, NY 12136

“Showtime!” DVD Available!

In 2005, the EAA board commissioned EAA members Michele Armour and Rob Bruce of Rosehaven Alpacas to videotape the 2005 Empire Alpaca Extravaganza and produce a video that EAA could sell. Michele, Rob and their crew visited farms before the show to film and interviewed people at the show. They edited the footage and produced an amazing video entitled “Showtime!” In October, EAA distributed a free copy to all EAA members and started selling copies of the DVD.

We think Michele and Rob did a great job on this video. This video should be very helpful to people attending their first show and we encourage you to buy copies to give to your customers. Please remember that this video is copyrighted and should not be copied. Thank you to Michele and Rob for a superb job!

**Additional copies can be purchased for \$20 by sending a check payable to “Empire Alpaca Association” and mailed to:
Steve McCarthy, Spruce Ridge Farm 434 Route 13 Old Chatham, NY 12136**