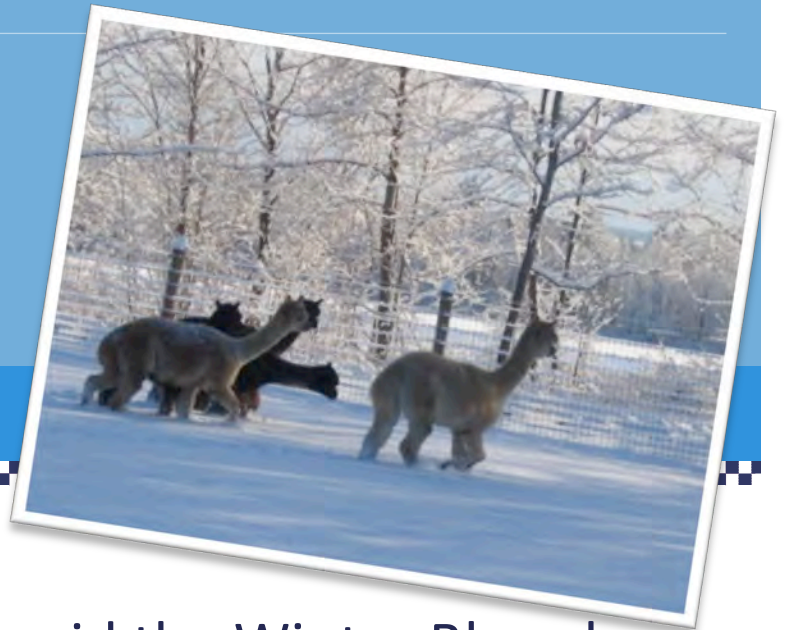


# Empire Alpaca Association

Promoting, educating and supporting the alpaca breeders, owners and enthusiasts of New York State.



Winter Issue, December 2011

## Calendar of Events:

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| January –<br>December<br>2012 | Alpaca Shows & Dates<br><a href="http://www.alpacashows.com">www.alpacashows.com</a>  |
| April 10-12<br>2012           | World Alpaca Conference<br>2012<br><a href="http://www.alpaca2012.com">www.alpaca2012.com</a>   |
| May 25-28<br>2012             | 2012 AOBA National<br>Conference: "Off To The<br>Races"<br><a href="http://www.alpacaowners.com/2012nationalshow">www.alpacaowners.com/2012nationalshow</a> |
| May 26 – 28<br>2012           | AOBA National Show  |

## Avoid the Winter Blues by Preparing for Spring Blues

by Barb Rossi

Wintertime in the Northeast is associated with shorter daylight, snow covered landscape and cloudy grey skies. Many, like myself, start feeling the winter blues after the holiday season and prior to the warmth and sun of spring. So why not avoid those Winter Blues and walk away from the colder months well prepared to accept the Spring Blues.

So how do we prepare for the Spring Blues? Start thinking about and planning for the spring shows. They will arrive quicker than you think and you should be prepared to walk in the ring with your alpacas best foot forward and hopefully walk out with a Blue Ribbon and smile on your face.



## 2012 Extravaganza Dates

October 12, 13 & 14, 2012.



## Presidents Message

Cindy Cuykendall, Song Meadows Alpacas

As the year 2011 draws to a close, I would like to extend the warmest holiday wishes to you and yours.

Looking back, 2011 has been a year full of challenges. Certainly not the least of these challenges were the floods that hit so many of our friends and fellow alpaca breeders. The tremendous support and outpouring of assistance that followed is truly indicative of the strength and cohesiveness of this amazing industry. "Alpaca People" are really a caring and giving group. It is an honor and a privilege to

be a part of such a wonderful group.

Looking forward to the New Year, 2012 is full of promise and exciting developments. The Board of Directors of EAA has been as busy as Santa's elves, planning and restructuring the Extravaganza for 2012. This year's show will be so new and innovative it will amaze you! In fact, we have added so much to the agenda that the name "Extravaganza" is no longer big enough. The all-new Empire show in 2012 will be the Alpaca Trifecta. There will be

something for everyone- small breeders and large breeders, fiberholics and fashionistas. We will include a fleece show and educational seminars, as well as a plethora of new and exciting offerings. Keep watching your inbox for details about this incredible event.

Wishing you all a safe and wonderful Holiday season, Happy New Year, and, of course, "Fleece on Earth"!

EAA President

*Cindy Cuykendall*

## FOCUS Magazine

EAA's inaugural edition of FOCUS will be distributed in early 2012. Your FREE edition will be mailed directly to your farm. Additional copies are available for the cost of printing. FOCUS is an informative magazine to offer customers and hand out at your farm events. It is a proud representative of EAA's members.





# 2011 Extravaganza Reflection

by Scott Young

Two months have passed since the Extravaganza, and as I sit here, feeling full after a Christmas meal and excited after watching my daughter's reaction to a Christmas puppy, I have time to reflect on the entire weekend.

As many of you know, this year's show was much smaller than previous years and we assume that is because of the economy. Sales have been down and many breeders have kept more of their females open resulting in fewer births, thus fewer youngsters for the show ring. Many folks have cut back on spending, however, spending money on a show is not just about having fun, it is some of the best marketing money you can spend. If we want to draw more people into this industry, we need to be spending money on marketing. If you just sit on your farm and wait for things to improve, you will be waiting for a long time, but if you get out there and work it, good things will come. There were, in fact, new buyers at the show and some

exhibitors benefited from that exposure.

As I look back on the 2011 show, it really was a fantastic event. We had 419 animals entered from 130 breeders, a very nice selection of vendors, an active silent auction that raised \$6,265 for the association, a popular photo contest with some spectacular art, a herdsire auction, educational seminars with great speakers and our second annual fashion show. The coffee donated by Rosehaven Alpacas was eye-opening as always and the Saturday Evening Social and Cocktail Party presented by A.L. Paca's Farm was a great way to end the festivities on Saturday!



Cocktail Party provided  
by A.L. Paca's Farm

The one thing that always makes the Extravaganza stand out is the quality of alpacas that our exhibitors bring and the top notch judges that we put in the ring to assess those alpacas. The judges commented to me several times throughout the weekend that they were seeing some truly nice animals and enjoyed seeing how much the Northeast is improving our national herd. I have always said that the toughest shows in the country happen right here in the Northeast and that is proven time and time again.

The 2011 Extravaganza was a great event, but we can never just rest on our laurels. Planning for the 2012 show is well underway with our show committee working hard to make sure the next version of the Extravaganza is one not to be missed. Mark it on your calendars October 12, 13 & 14, 2012. See you then!

## Continued from Page 1

- Begin by reviewing the upcoming show schedule (see Calendar of Events).
  - Dig out your color chart and determine what color class your alpaca should enter.
  - Have the shearing dates of your alpacas available so entering your registration information is quick and easy.
  - Evaluate your alpaca's fleece and confirmation: determine quality of fleece such as fineness, density, brightness and uniformity. Closely examine their conformational traits and determine if they
- have any faults that would eliminate them from the ring or drop points.
- Monitor herd-health to keep your alpacas in top form. Establish the proper winter feeding program to enhance fleece strength, brightness, and alpaca overall conditioning.



- Properly train your alpacas so they are ready for the ring.
- So, forget about having time for those winter blues and welcome in the Spring Blues.

## 2012 AOBA National Conference and Auction

### "Off To The Races"

**AOBA National Conference**  
**May 25, 2012 – May 28, 2012**

Kentucky Exposition Center  
 937 Phillips Lane  
 Louisville, KY 40209  
 (502) 367-5000

[www.kyfairexpo.org](http://www.kyfairexpo.org)

### Schedule Summary

**Friday May 25** – Animal and Vendor move in

**Saturday May 26** – AOBA Annual Meeting and Auction

**Sunday May 27** – Show and evening function

**Monday, May 28** – Show and move out after 4pm

## Boys of the Empire.....Raffle coming soon!

EAA is once again hosting the popular and successful Herdsire Raffle.

Same benefits for members with a little different spin to it.

The 2012 raffle will run from **March through June**.

Each month a new list of sires will be presented for a \$500 drive-by breeding.

One winner per sire will be selected each month.

**More information on donating a breeding and entering the raffle coming soon.**

# Thank You 2011 Extravaganza Sponsors

## Diamond Cocktail Party

A.L. Paca's Farms  
[www.bemyalpaca.com](http://www.bemyalpaca.com)

## Diamond Coffee

Rosehaven Alpacas  
[www.rosehavenalpacas.com](http://www.rosehavenalpacas.com)

## Platinum

Cas-Cad-Nac Farm, LLC  
[www.alpacaexcellence.com](http://www.alpacaexcellence.com)

Flying Pony Alpacas, LLC  
[www.flyingponyalpacas.com](http://www.flyingponyalpacas.com)

Tripping Gnome Farm, LLC  
[www.trippinggnomefarm.com](http://www.trippinggnomefarm.com)

## Gold

A Paca Fun Farm  
Classic Alpaca  
Sugartown Farms  
The Farm at Rainbow's  
End

## Youth

Tanner Z Farm

## Silver

Cabin View Alpacas  
Copper Star Alpaca Farm  
Long Acres Alpaca Farm  
Nether Walnut Hill Alpacas  
Vermont Alpaca Company

## Cart

Shalimar Alpacas

## Bronze

Cagney's Way Alpacas  
Patchwork Meadow  
Alpacas  
Sallie's Fen Alpacas &  
Sallie's Fen Fibers  
Song Meadows Alpacas  
Staghorn Valley Alpacas

## Championship

Cinco C's Alpacas  
Jay Mountain Alpacas  
K-Ran Alpacas  
Spruce Ridge Farm

## Business

Crosswind Farm Alpacas  
Indian Trail Farms  
Marble River Alpacas  
Sage Hill Farms Alpacas  
Salmon River Alpacas



2011 Fashion Show



Youth Performance



The Board of Directors would like to thank its members, volunteers and sponsors who have made this organization so successful.

We look forward to an exciting 2012 with new ideas and plans underway.

Happy New Year!