

# SeAA News and Notes

## March, 2007

### Southern Select

#### Wrap-Up

The Southern Select 2007 is history now. And it was a very well-received show this year. The new check-in procedure at the gate worked quite well. The gelding classes and their prize money helped pay for the trip for several farms. The participants in the performance classes who placed first through third got a little "walking around money." The Live Auction of Herd Sire Breedings earned \$22,400. The Silent Auction earned \$5,335. We had two new judges this year. Not new to judging, but new to the Southern Select. Jude Anderson judged the males and Jill MacLeod judged the fleece show. And Amanda VandenBosch judged the Performance and the females.

Our participants at the show this year came not just from the Southeast but from states as far away as Texas, Oregon, Minnesota, West Virginia, and Ohio.

Once again Peg Stephens and her crew made the show run very smoothly. They are real pros at organizing the event.

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### Marketing News

TN Crossroads, a feature production of WNPT, Nashville's Public Television station, sent a camera crew and took footage at the Southern Select. Their emphasis was on the animals, the longevity of the Southern Select, and just the general "wow factor" of alpacas. The episode featuring alpacas and the Southern Select will air on April 12 at 7 PM and April 15 at 10 AM on all public television in Tennessee.

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### Socks for Soldiers

A remarkable event occurred at the 2007 Southern Select dinner and Auction. Before the auction began Susie Wheelis asked the attendees to donate to a collection the purpose of which was to send alpaca socks to soldiers serving in the Middle East. In just a few short minutes the people there gave over \$1200 for the Socks for Soldiers campaign.

Originally, 30 pair were sent to one special Forces unit north of Ramadi. Then Susie, along with the generous help of Nance Sturm, sent 180 pairs of Creekwater Alpacas' socks to four soldiers in Iraq. Nance says that the soldiers receiving the boxes will likely send pictures



and emails when they get the boxes. We'll post those on the SeAA website when they are available.

And Susie knows of folks in the West who are starting a savings account where they can deposit sock money and send socks out regularly when they get requests from the soldiers or from people who know soldiers.

So if you'd like to contribute further, please contact Susie Wheelis at [lastpennyfarm@ioa.com](mailto:lastpennyfarm@ioa.com).

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### OPEN GELDING CLASS DONORS

The Southeastern Alpaca Association is grateful for the generosity of the donors to the gelding classes prize money at the Southern Select 2007.

Donations from Magical Farms, Studmasters, Heart's Desire Farm, Latah Creek Alpacas, The Alpaca Trading Company, and High Meadow Alpacas were matched by the SeAA allowing us to pay out \$10,000 in premiums to class winners.

According to David Carrell who rounded up these donations, the two first place suris took home

\$857. Two second place suris took home \$571.

Three first place huacayas won \$1488. Three second place huacayas won \$535, and three third place huacayas won \$357.

You may see the show results on the show website, [www.SouthernSelectAlpacaShow.org](http://www.SouthernSelectAlpacaShow.org). The results are now posted.

And, it's a good time to plan your entries for next year!

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## Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee members for 2007 have been selected. They are Carrie Gamblin, the Chairperson, Susie Wheelis, Ed Hinshaw, Jannette, Cox, and Michele Atkins. We appreciate their agreeing to serve the association.

There are three (3) open Board of Director positions this year. If you are interested in serving or would like to recommend someone, please contact one of the committee members.

The election will be held shortly before the Annual Meeting, August 11. The results will be announced at the meeting.

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

The official show site of the Southern Select is the website which is the headline for this article. Go there to see the farms who were sponsors of the 2007 show. There also you will find the Donor Hall of Fame for those farms donating herd sire breedings to the Herd Sire Live Auction. Those donors will be listed for two years.

The show results are now compiled and available on the show website and the SeAA website.

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## SeAA Volunteers

The national organizations are fortunate this year to have three of our outstanding SeAA members nominated for board positions. David Carrell is on the ballot of AOBA, the Alpaca Owners and Breeders Association. Paul Kimball is one of the ARI nominees for 2007 who also serves on an ARI committee. And Elwin Bagley is a candidate in the AFCNA 2007 board of directors election.

Let's all support these Southern gentlemen. For too long the national organizations have lacked a Southern voice.

Our other volunteers at the national level are Michael Goldston, serving on the AOBA Nominating Committee and the GIRCOM group, and Caroline Mixon, also serving on the GIRCOM group.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS:

*Palmetto Alpaca Classic—April 7-8*

*Kentucky Classic—March 31-April 1*

*SeAA Annual Meeting—August 11, 2007.  
Fairyland Club, Lookout Mountain, GA*

*Sunbelt Expo—October 16-18, 2007, Moultrie, GA*

*Southern Select 2008—March 1-2, 2008  
Shelbyville, TN*

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## **\*\*Reminder\*\***

Be making your plans to join us August 11, 2007, for the SeAA's Annual Meeting. We'll be back

**The  
Fairyland  
Club  
August 11  
BE  
THERE!**

at the Fairyland Club on Lookout Mountain just south of Chattanooga. We'll have details and reservation information in a future newsletter.