

SeAA News And Notes

August, 2007

Annual SeAA

Meeting Held

The Fairyland Club at Lookout Mountain provided a picturesque setting for the annual SeAA meeting. President Larry Dietsch opened the meeting with a welcome to the attendees and a well deserved kudos to Kay Kemp for her efforts in arranging the event. Dietsch gave an overview of the past year in the SEAA. One item of note is the summary of alpaca numbers per state in the southeast. The indications point to continuing growth within each state with plenty of room for additional growth.

The Affiliate Congress was another topic of interest. With the president of each participating affiliate meeting to brainstorm pertinent alpaca issues, we can look for uniformity within the alpaca community. Major strides have been made in coordinating AOBA and affiliates, with information available on the AOBA web site.

In addition to Larry Dietsch's overview of the previous year's activity within the SeAA, Michael Goldston gave an update on marketing strategies, and Roger van Rekom gave the treasurer's report. Following that, Sue Matlis gave tips on alpaca obstacle training, David Carrell spoke on the Sun Belt Expo, and Caroline Mixon gave an update on the Education Committee.

Appreciation plaques were given to Charlotte Goldston, Roger van Rekom, and George Dick. Thanks to those board members for their dedicated service during the previous term. The general meeting concluded with an announcement of the newly elected/re-elected board members.

Congratulations to the recently elected/re-elected board members:

Charlotte Goldston

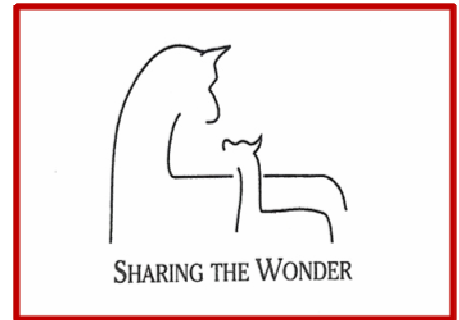
Paul Kimball

Peggy Gamblin

Marketing Update

Michael Goldston apprised attendees at the SeAA annual meeting of marketing venues available to the alpaca industry. We can expect more exposure as the word on alpacas gets out. Certainly programs such as the one aired on *Tennessee Crossroads* this past spring provide good exposure. That segment was filmed at the 2007 Southern Select in March. Members are always looking for new ideas, so feel free to share.

Secretary, Bill Peacock, will be mailing out the latest membership directories to members who did not pick them up at the SeAA annual meeting.



SeAA 2007-2008 Board of Directors

Larry Dietsch, President

David Carrell, Vice President

Bill Peacock, Secretary

*Carrie Gamblin, Treasurer

Charlotte Goldston

Kay Kemp

Peggy Gamblin

Paul Kimball

*(not a board member)

Sun Belt Expo

SeAA is preparing for its tenth consecutive year at Sun Belt Expo which runs Tuesday through Thursday, October 16-18. Stalls measuring 10'x16' are still available to SeAA members for \$200. Contact David Carrell for info on stalls and Pam Peacock with items for the SeAA Alpaca Store. Fiber artists and other volunteers are needed to address the interested crowds.

Education Committee

Caroline Mixon presented some interesting educational modules on various alpaca care subjects. The form and availability of those will come at a later time.



Gearing Up For Southern Select 2008

Mark the Date: March 1-2, 2008

Plans are well under way for a bigger and better Southern Select in 2008. A smoothly run show depends on volunteers ranging from gate checkers to ring stewards and many areas in between. Volunteering is a good thing. Peggy Gamblin and Carrie Gamblin are co-chairs for the Silent Auction. They'll be requesting donations starting in December. Charlotte Goldston is again heading up the Live Auction of Herd Sire Breedings. Not only will there be a live auction, there will be live entertainment of the blue grass variety as well. Now, how about that.

Southern Select Sponsors

Early bird sponsors for the 2008 Southern Select are invited from now until the deadline of **October 15**. Early bird fees are:

-  Platinum - \$750
-  Gold - \$500
-  Silver - \$250
-  Bronze - \$100

After October 15, 2007 and until the final deadline of **January 4, 2008**, fees will be the following:

-  Platinum - \$1000
-  Gold - \$600
-  Silver - \$300
-  Bronze - \$150

There will be no fleece and fiber sponsors for 2008, rather we will be recognizing Donors to the Gelding Class. Those checks, payable to the SeAA, may also be sent to Kay Kemp.

Show Web Site:

www.SouthernSelectAlpacaShow.org

Handcrafter's Spin-Off 2008

Note the change for the spin-off this year. Entrants may now submit three (3) samples per breed type, per age division at shearing, per color designation.

Entries for this event **must** be postmarked by **November 1, 2007** and sent to show superintendent, Peg Stevens. Complete information and entry forms will soon be available on the show website, www.SouthernSelectAlpacaShow.org. Please respect the integrity of the event by meeting the deadline.

Obstacle course events will be held at lunch time this year. Judging will be done by the fleece judge, Amanda VandenBosch



SHARING THE WONDER

National Alpaca Farm Day

September 29

Several affiliates have presented a proclamation for their governor to sign designating the last weekend in September as National Alpaca Farm Day. This event will receive nationwide advertising. Get involved: register for a listing on www.NationalAlpacaFarmDay.com. Complete information is available on the AOBA web site.

Southern Select 2008 Judges

We're pleased to, once again, have outstanding judges back for Southern Select 2008.

Jude Anderson – all females

Jill MacLeod – all males

Amanda VandenBosch – fleece and performance

Cathy Songer – Spin-Off

✓ Check This Out

- ✓ SeAA now has 127 farm members,
- ✓ Efforts are being made to get amount of clip statistics.
- ✓ Permanent Chair needed for SeAA Alpaca Store.
- ✓ New capabilities on AOBA web site. Take a look.
- ✓ Many thanks to BOD retiree, Roger Van Rekom for his years of service as treasurer of SeAA.