

SeAA News And Notes

November, 2007



SeAA Membership Renewal

In order to make the membership renewal process more efficient and better serve our members, the following changes have been approved by the board of directors:

Beginning in November 2007, all members with an email address will receive their renewal notice via email. Members without an email address will receive their renewal notice via hard copy. We will follow up in December via hard copy for any farm that has not renewed their membership. The deadline to renew and be included in the 2008 Member Directory is February 15, 2008. After that date, members who have not renewed will be removed from the SeAA web site and will not be printed in the 2008 SeAA Member Directory.

Dues for 2008 should be mailed to treasurer, Carrie Gamblin, at 209 Quarry Road, Glencoe, AL 35905. Appropriate member information will be shared between Carrie and secretary, Bill Peacock. The annual dues remain: Farm Member, \$100, Associate Member, \$50. No late fees will be assessed, but your timely renewal will be greatly appreciated.

The 2008 Member Directory will be distributed at Southern Select. Any member who does not attend will be mailed a directory. Extra copies will be available at each SeAA event.

SeAA Boasts New Website

By now most members have seen the new look for the SeAA web site. We have a new webmaster who is not only talented, but extremely patient. In addition, we have had some great people in the SeAA assisting with and working on this project.

The intention was to upgrade our site giving members more capabilities for showcasing their farms and alpacas. The new site will do all that and more. New features keep rolling out each week.

The following tips are meant as an aid in navigating the new site:

- ❑ Click "Member Log-In" on the bottom right of the Home Page. Log-in information for the first time is your email address. Password is "seamember." This may be changed after initial log-in.
- ❑ Your farm name is on the Member Site page. Click "Edit" to add information about your farm. Check and edit, if necessary, current information.
- ❑ On the "Edit" screen click "General Information." Type in something about your farm to appear on your farm page. SeAA member's farms will be randomly featured on the "Welcome" page, and clicking on "for more information" will take the viewer to your farm page.
- ❑ On your farm page, there is a place to insert your logo and three pictures of your farm or alpacas.
- ❑ Once your information is loaded, you may enter up to three pictures and write ups of herd sires in the "Herd Sire Feature."
- ❑ The "Award Winners" section is for "showing off." Blue Ribbon and Championship winners will

be showcased here. If you have a winner from the 2007 season, submit the information.

- ❑ To send an email to every member of the SeAA with a listed email address use: members@sealpaca.org
- ❑ Send in information about your up-coming farm event and it will be listed on the "Events" site.
- ❑ The new SeAA website contains a link to the Southern Select web site.
- ❑ Use the "Photo Link" site to send great pictures of your alpacas to share with members.

Although we're still a work in progress, we're pleased to receive all the wonderful comments and words of praise for our new web site. A tremendous thanks is in order to the webmaster, Charlotte Goldston, Kay Kemp, Suzie Conn, and Jacki Robert for getting this project off the ground. For assistance, contact Charlotte at cggoldston@comcast.net or Charlotte Goldston, High Meadows Alpacas, 1900 Old Hickory Blvd., Brentwood, TN 37027.

Sunbelt Expo A Success

The Sunbelt Exposition held in October was a tremendous success. Interested farmers from many of the southeastern states visited booths set up by alpaca owners. Visitors were directed to nearby alpaca farms for visitation as well as the SeAA web site for contacting farms. The store did well also, bringing in thousands of dollars in merchandise sales.

Thanks to David Carrell for all his hard work as the event chair. Also, special thanks to Pam and Amber Peacock and Carrie Gamblin for taking care of the store. Thanks to Susan Darling for her spinning demonstration, and everyone else who got involved. It was a lot of fun and an excellent opportunity to show off our wonderful alpacas.



The Pace Picks Up For Southern Select 2008

Mark the Date: March 1-2, 2008

Plans rev up for a bigger and better Southern Select in 2008. A smoothly run show depends on volunteers, so don't hesitate to get involved. Co-chairs for the silent auction, Peggy Gamblin and Carrie Gamblin, will be requesting donations starting in December. Charlotte Goldston is again heading up the Live Auction of Herd Sire Breedings which promises to have impressive offerings. Don't forget, live blue grass music has been added to the agenda for Southern Select 2008.

Southern Select Sponsors

The deadline for sponsoring an event is **January 4, 2008**. Fees are as follows:

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

Remember, there will be no fleece and fiber sponsors this year.

Q. What's the best way to get good stalling at Southern Select?

A. VOLUNTEER & SPONSOR!

www.SouthernSelectAlpacaShow.org

It's Volunteer Time

Volunteers are needed for show events at the Southern Select. **An immediate volunteer is needed for ribbon orders.** Ribbons on hand need to be counted and the present stock supplemented with additional ribbons for the upcoming event. Someone who lives in the Middle Tennessee area and could pick up the current stock on hand from Kay Kemp would be ideal. To insure a smooth process, volunteers are needed to help with the gate check-in on March 1. E-mail Kay at kkemp@stoneyridgealpaca.com to assist with ribbons and other show related events, or John Richard at hunt4der@aol.com for check in duty.

New for 2008

Southern Select

Registration will be done on line and will open in early December. Forms are available at :

www.sealpaca.org

Or go to the Southern Select show web site at

www.SouthernSelectAlpacaShow.org

for the registration form.

Room Service, Please

A block of 30 rooms has been reserved at Best Western for Southern Select attendees. Mention "alpaca" or "Kay Kemp" for the lowest rate available. In addition, the majority of rooms at the Country Hearth are reserved. Book accommodations now. After February 15, 2008, rooms not booked will be released to the general public.

Silent Auction

Although the show ring is the real deal at Southern Select, the silent auction attracts a lot of attention. Southern Select traditionally has the largest and best silent auction of all shows, and, with your help, we certainly intend to continue that tradition. The goal is to make this year's silent auction the best yet. Donation descriptions and pledges can be e-mailed to Peggy Gamblin at

peggy@alpacaalabama.com.

Southern Select Show

Registration

Show information for Southern Select 2008 is posted on the new web site. Very shortly entrants will be able to register on line. However, all paperwork, including ARI certificates, the new disclaimer form (for everyone), and the permission to show form (if applicable) must still be mailed to Peg Stephens. When Peg receives your paperwork along with your check and determines everything is accounted for, she will confirm your registration.

Herd Sire Auction

In late December start looking for those emails announcing that we're taking nominations for those wonderful herd sires for our Live Auction. This is such a great opportunity to offer exceptional values and bloodlines to our members. Look for more information about the Saturday night dinner as well.

We're pleased to have live entertainment this year, and bluegrass fans will recognize the name Ronnie Reno and his distinguished career. There's more information to come from Southern Select on the auction, dinner and entertainment, but for now start planning which of those wonderful boys on your farm should be nominated for the Live Herd Sire Auction.