



AUSTRALIAN ALPACA

Australian Alpaca Association Inc.

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Central Coast & Hunter Region

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Unconfirmed Minutes

Central Coast Hunter Region Ordinary General Meeting – Sunday 26th November 2006

At the home of Catherine & Kevin Mead, Armidale

1. Emma Griffith welcomed all the members who were in attendance. Frances Carleton introduced our guest speaker Katherine Morton. Katherine is researching AI in alpacas at Sydney University. This was a very interesting discussion and one, which all in attendance would like to hear more of.

Present

Kevin & Catherine Mead, Frances and Les Carleton, Emma Griffith, Sandra & Charlie Vella, Bronwyn & David Mitchell, Eric Brown, Alan & Dawn Bricknell, Karen & John Gilbert, Kerrie Rapley, Peggy McClenaghan, Marjorie Clarke, Ann & Vince Henderson, Rick Hodgson, Judy Peterson, Shirley & Peter Berry, Ken Dobson.

Visitors

Maree Brown, Lindsay Rapley, Margaret Morton, Katherine Morton, Ross Buerckner, Gail & Tony Spillane.

Apologies

Pamela Hart, Paul & Deanne Thibault, Pat & Charlie Mashman, Alan & Helen Lyness, Sherry Stumm, Ron & Judi Austin, Madeleine & Peter Kinloch & Louise Kerr, Susan Roberts, Peter & Lyn Walsh, Josy Kennedy, Narelle & Peter Tulip, Sue Forster, Kay Littlejohn, Cathy & Noel Reid, Julienne & Frank Gelber, Brian, Jill & Alex Ross, Robin & Richard Wirth, Pippa & Ben Smith, Marion & Michael Jack, Helen Sorby, Wayne McCauley, Evelyn Thrift, Phil & Roma Lahey, Gary Sheen, Wayne & Carol Cannon, Peter & Jackie Fullard, Peter Feldman, Adrian & Betty Whitten, Andrew & Pat Johns, Denise & Dennis Burden.

2. **Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

Motion: To confirm that minutes from the OGM 27th August.

Moved: David Mitchell

Seconded: Les Carleton

Carried: Unanimously

3. **Correspondence**

In

Newsletters

Email from AAA Matthew McAninly (AAFL Fleece Manager) introducing himself

An Alpaca Alphabet (order)

McGregors Marketing CD

New Members List

Email from Wayne McCauley re Newsletter Issues

Email from AAA Matthew McAninly re fleeces from CCHR

Report from Helen Sorby re Flora Festival Display
Letter from Wayne McCauley re Treasurers Report
Preliminary Notice of Council Meeting
Email from Scott Condous re National Fleece Photographic Identification Project
Email from Central Western Region advising of Fleece Competition
Statement from Blaydon Management re Alpaca alphabet order
Letter from Wayne McCauley & Helen Sorby re Spring Show/Alpacas on Parade
Updated listing of members
New Members and Enquirers listing
Updated AAA Rules
Email from AAFT re 'Superfine Bale'
Media Release from McGregors
Maitland Hunter Valley Calendar of Events Letter
New Members & Enquirers Listings
Email from Anne Whiteman re advising all members of shows etc.
Email from Marilyn & Tony Kidd – enquiry
1st edition of Shearing shed & Pre Classing Code of Practise from AAA
Thankyou Letter from Frank & Maria Ogilvie
Change of address notice from the Berry's
Email from Narelle & Peter Tulip (to be discussed in Treasurers Report and General Business)
Email from the Ross Family (to be discussed in line with the Tulips Letter)
Email from Ron & Judi Austin re Calendar
Email from Michael Jack re AAFL & fleece collection
Email from Frank & Julienne Gelber in praise of the new calendar.

Local Areas

Minutes from New England Group (attached)
Minutes from Mid North Coast Breeders Group (attached)

Out

Agendas for August, September and November
Minutes from August 27th OGM
Letter to Narelle Tulip thanking her for her tireless work with Alpacas on Parade
Email to AAA re Insurance Enquiries
New Members Welcome Letters
Enquirers Welcome Letters

Business Arising from Correspondence.

There was no business arising.

4. Committee Reports

President – please see attachment

Vice President – Kevin described again the roll of the local areas that this is a network dealing with the needs of members within each local area and feeds between the committee and local area members. Kevin is preparing an article for the summer edition of the newsletter which will hopefully assist both the coordinators and members fully understand the concept and how these networks work for them.

Treasurer – a copy of the treasurer's report is attached. Les explained that the "balance sheet" and "profit and loss" reports as shown wouldn't balance as the balance sheet only

shows balances at the end of the month and some things that were invoiced in the last financial year would have been paid in during July so they wouldn't show up on the "profit and loss" sheet. He will try to make a clearer report next time that shows the balances at the start of the financial year. The statements are balanced once every month through MYOB's reconciliation feature, and the reconciliation will next take place in mid-December once the statement comes in.

He said that whilst he is the bookkeeper, the committee and the membership (as represented by the OGMs) are responsible for determining what the Region's money is spent on.

He also explained that committee members had been assigned nominal budgets at the October committee meeting for the year so enable them to track their portfolios more accurately. The budget for "meeting expenses" covers food (when the committee decides to cover it) and has previously included any expenses for the educational speakers, this was discussed at the committee meeting and it was decided that these expenses were more appropriately listed as "education" and the next report will reflect that.

Trade debtors are high at the moment due to the calendar sponsorships and newsletter advertising only having been invoiced just before the report was printed and hence the payments haven't come in yet (this is about \$4,500 of the outstanding amount). He's chasing some of the older debts and will get debt collectors involved as appropriate. Les asked that anyone organising events that needed financial assistance please contact the committee with a projected report for consideration.

Newsletter

Frances asked that anyone wishing to advertise or submit articles in the summer edition please contact her a.s.a.p. to reserve a position. Frances also advised that the website is updated regularly with all the regional information. Frances also wished to thank everyone who responded to the newsletter survey and that the full results are available on the website or a hard copy is also available to non-email users by request.

Education

David Mitchell has spoken to Jane Vaughan and she had agreed to visit next year as a guest speaker. This will most probably be around July. The subject will be alpaca fertility, nutrition and husbandry. At least 20 people will be required to make this viable with cost around \$90 - \$100 and the venue will be Armidale at Jane request. David also suggested fleece skirting educational days to assist members achieve a better return from their fleeces, he suggested this would best be conducted through the local areas to keep numbers at a manageable size. There was a suggestion that we do steward training within the local areas, as it has been some time since one was conducted. David would love to hear from anyone with any ideas they may have for education.

5. Calendar

The CCH Regional calendar has been sent to all members and further copies are now for sale.

6. Spring Show & Alpacas on Parade.

Alpacas on Parade – Gary Sheen has stepped forward as coordinator and has been asked to put forward a program. Anyone who wishes to enter animals into the auction is asked to contact the committee a.s.a.p.

Spring Show – previously the Spring Show has been held at Flora Fest but due to lack of space last year was held at Wyong Race Course. There has been some feedback that not

holding the show at Flora Fest meant that the general public were not there. Tony Collette from Flora Fest has offered an expanded site and in return would like us to have a display for the 4 days with some activity every few hours.

Rick said that previous years space and access was a problem plus there were issues in regard to entry fees and that the problems previously reported were due to the fact that the info did not go out early enough. Rick also feels it is too hard to organize a display plus a show then back to a display again to fit into Flora Fests' agenda.

Frances said that the committee discussed having two convenors.

Bronwyn suggested we make sure that we have the man power before we go any further and that we had in writing exactly what were the terms of our having more space at Flora Fest.

Motion: This year we run a bigger display area at Flora Fest and a separate show at an alternate venue, possibly Wyong and to book a venue for the Spring Show.

Moved: Vince Henderson Seconded: Peter Berry Carried: Unanimously

Motion: For the committee to draw up a strategic plan for events for the next three years.

Moved: Les Carleton Seconded: Ann Henderson Carried Unanimously

7. General Business

- Marge Clarke, from Taree Spinners & Weavers, brought along a beautiful felted hat that one of the ladies from the group – Julie Woodland, that won first prize.

- Michael Jack has sent along some of the new product to show what happens to the fleeces you send into AAFL.

Michael is also holding a fleece collection evening on 7th December. For further details please see the attached flyer. He hopes that CC/H Region members will take the opportunity to bring their fleece with them to the Promotional/Fleece Collection Evening. It is critical that a significant proportion of the clip reaches Sunshine before Christmas in order that AAFL can meet the seasonal demand for next years' production.

All fleece for collection must have a Fleece Bag Slip in each bag and be accompanied by a Fleece Consignment Form. If any member does not have these documents (a personalised version was sent to all breeders a couple of years ago) would they please either ring or fax the farm 4938 5707 or the shop 4933 5787 and leave their:

- Name
- Property name
- Address
- Phone number
- ABN (if applicable)
- Grower number (if known)
- Name of recipient for cheque - if they wish to be paid for fleece

.....and I will send them a new personalised copy. Please note we will not be able to accept any fleece that does not have these documents.

For members unable to attend the Promotional/Fleece Collection evening, Fleece can be dropped off at the Australian Alpaca Barn, Morpeth (5 mins off the New England Highway) between 10am and 5pm, 7 days a week, all year round, or at our two Collection points by appointment (Evelyn Thrift in Branxton 4938 1513 and Ian Jackson in Lorne near Kendall NSW 6556 9777). However, due to the high cost of small deliveries to Sunshine, there are usually only two deliveries per year in mid-December and mid-February. The New Fleece Manual is available for downloading

from the AAFL website, but if any member would like a copy posted to them please leave a message on one of the above numbers.

- There were a couple of letters in correspondence that were questioning the new calendar advertising value and stated that the pictures were not appropriate in showing what these studs were breeding. Please find below the reference to the description of the calendar as per the minutes of 27th August OGM.
The dates that are missing are the National Show and Sale and the regional Spring Show- there were no dates available at the time of printing.
There were no advertisers only sponsors for each month.

Frances has proposed to produce a CCH Regional Calendar. This will show all show dates and venues and meetings, demonstration days etc. The calendar will be A4 glossy format with lovely photos of alpacas for each month and there will be space for a sponsor for each month at a cost of \$120 per month. Each financial member will receive a complimentary copy and there will be supplies for sale at a cost of \$10 each.

Moved: Louise Kerr Seconded: Madeleine Kinloch Carried: Unanimously

There was no further general business.

The meeting closed at 1.30pm

Next meeting 4th February at Luskintyre
The Committee would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year