

**Board Minutes from Meeting January 10, 2007**

President called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM EST. The meeting is being recorded. Dan is testing new equipment for recording calls, if it works as it should we will be moving conference calls to a new host where we will be receiving a rate of .06 a minute.

**Members Present:**

- Kay Sharpnack - President
- Dan Milton - Vice President
- Julie Heggie - Secretary
- Lora Crawford - Board Member
- Penny Davidson - Board Member
- Ken Fenley - Board Member
- Wally Baker - Board Member
- Cheryl Ryberg - Administrative Manager
- Wayne Rankin - Treasurer

Next board meeting will be held at 8:00 PM EST on February 14, 2007.

**Lora moved and Ken seconded a motion that the December 6, 2006 BOD Minutes be approved. Motion passed.**

**Treasurer’s Report - Wayne Rankin**

Checking	-	\$33,606.86
Investment	-	98,307.38
Memorial Scholarship	-	8,723.22
Total Assets	-	\$140,637.46

When comparing 2005 and 2006, Wayne says the income is about the same, however, expenses were approximately \$13,000.00 higher in 2006. His recommendation is that we need to keep a very close eye on expenditures in this upcoming year.

The BOD along with Wayne discussed his Budget Draft for 2007.

Several good ideas regarding shows within ALSA were exchanged and it was felt that Show Management as well as promotions should be brought in on these.

Wayne along with Cheryl and Dan will be looking into ways to make the office accounts run more smoothly for posting purposes.

**ALSA Administrative Manager Report**

The year 2006 closed with 15,261 Animals and Adult Showmanship and 4,892 Youth being recorded by the ALSA Office for either earning points or qualifying. This does not include all animals that have been shown in sanctioned shows. My compiled DATA follows:

The office has by board instruction, kept tally and hard copies of problems that came up due to these recordings or the printings of certificates to these members.

1. Member Errors: 56 concerns of recording was reported to ALSA Office that after being researched turned out to be errors made by members. The biggest problem is that members do not understand that there must be 8 in a division in order to get a check mark in the Grand and Reserve columns and ultimately do not qualify for Halter Championships.

2. Superintendent Errors: There are a wide variety, the biggest being wrong name or gross misspelling of names or wrong youth ID numbers or lack of youth ID numbers. There were only 28.

3. Office Errors: We have kept tabs of 56 office errors. There is a wide range of reasons for this, I have added another 20 to make it 76 as we did corrections over the phone that were easy fixes that we may not have taken time to add to the "M" folder.

To put these numbers into a simple way to understand the impact of these errors compared to the total recording being done I would like to compare the 20,105 recordings as they are the "Product" of ALSA to the "Product" of a shoe store.

The store sells 20,105 pair of shoes. 56 come back because the purchaser has made a wrong decision in the purchase say size or color. The store then makes the correction and the customer is satisfied. (Member Errors) 76 come back because the management has sent out the wrong size or color. The store then makes the correction and the customer is satisfied (Office Errors). 28 come back because the salesman made a misjudgment in helping the customer to select his shoes. (Superintendent Errors) The store then makes the correction and the customer is satisfied.

Now to take a more in-depth look at what the office does in its record keeping of above. There are 10 fields in each Animals and Adult Showmanship and 11 fields to record in the Youth Data Base. This brings the actual recording information fields to a whopping 206,422 office filled fields. None of the errors falls into even .002% Of .01 % of the total office recordings.

As too why some results , fleece, youth judging for example have not made it up to the website is a matter of software and website development which I will be going over with Grant.

We now have 22,806 animals with Recording Numbers or NA (non - ALSA ) numbers.

### **Office/Website Issues**

At 2:00 PM on January 10, 2007, the BOD received a letter of resignation “with contingencies and conditions open for discussion” from Grand Miller, ALSA Webmaster. Discussion followed and it was decided that Dan would visit with Grant, Cheryl and the Website Committee Chair to see if the situation could be resolved.

### **Old Business**

BOD member questioned where he might look at ALSA Judging contracts. Cheryl conveyed that they could be found on the ALSA Website.

The ILR is proposing that they develop a show program, using ALSA input, entirely at their expense. If when finished ALSA likes the program they can use it for a minimal expense.

The judges committee has asked for an Alpaca Fleece Clinic to be held on March 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at Deb Yeagle's. The instructors will be Mary Reed and Lavona Fercho as Assistant. Lora moved and Wally seconded the motion by email. Motion passed.

Lora moved and Julie seconded by email that a combined beginning and advanced judges clinic be scheduled for May 11, 12, and 13, 2007 at Hinterland Ranch in Sisters, Oregon. Motion passed.

There is currently no contract between Able Publishing and ALSA for the 2007 season. Kay has asked Doug Able once again, to update the old contract and email it to her with new ad rates and specials.

There was further discussion about forming a suri fiber group, at this time no group has been formed.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Alpaca Committee**

Chair: Debbie Shellabarger

The focus of the Alpaca Committee has been handbook changes. The most recent alpaca clinic brought to light some items that are in need of change. The committee has sent a final revision of recommendations for the alpaca section of the handbook to the BOD. The BOD wants to thank Debbie and the alpaca committee for a terrific job.

### **Election Committee**

Chair: Sherry Adamcyk

No Report

### **Ethics Committee**

Chair: Maryan Baker

The committee would like the BOD to approve a short conference call for committee members. Ken moved, Penny seconded. Motion passed.

### **Fiber Committee**

Chair: June Black

No Report

### **Finance & Budget Committee**

Chair: Craig Swindler

No formal report from committee, it is all funneled through the Treasurer.

### **Grand National Committee**

Chair: Norris Berg

The Chair of the committee requests board approval of George Clements as the Performance Superintendent. The committee is in the process of a national search for a halter superintendent and expects to present that request at your next BOD meeting.

Committee requests BOD approval for conference call to discuss judges for the 2007 show once a list of judges has been received from the Judges Committee. Estimate length of call to be approximately 90 minutes.

Letter from ALSA member requesting time at 2007 Grand Nationals to present awards to outstanding superintendents and well run llama shows. If the ALSA BOD and proper committees approve of this concept and wording of survey's the Grand National Committee will make time at the show banquet to present these awards.

Suggestion box note at 2006 Grand Nationals from unsigned exhibitor on llama eligibility in youth classes. Believe this is the same subject as addressed in the Youth Committee report in the minutes of December 6, 2006. Grand National Committee agrees with the board decision at that time.

Suggestion box note at 2006 Grand Nationals from unsigned exhibitor in reference to holding a silent auction during the show to support the youth scholarship program. This is the same type of suggestion as proposed by the Youth Committee report in the minutes of December 6, 2006. Grand National Committee agrees with the suggestion and further suggests the Youth Committee works through their committee and the Nebraska 4H Groups to work out this program. Point of Contact on the Grand National Committee is Dee January.

Ribbons for 2007 Grand Nationals. Once again Doris and Tom Schlemmer have agreed to be responsible for the care and control of ribbons. At this time we are not aware of any additional classes and were satisfied with both colors and style of the 2006 ribbons. Reference ALSA BOD minutes of May 31, 2006 item number 4 of the Grand National Committee report. That committee requested BOD approval to award National Class Champion and National Class Reserve Champion in addition to the traditional National Grand Champion and National Reserve Grand Champion ribbons. That committee report was approved by the BOD.

Letter from ALSA member concerning selection of judges for Grand Nationals. While our committee appreciates suggestions and ideas, the process suggested would be extended over a long period of time. Time in which the judge certification process, re-certifications, continuing education, long range commitments on the part of the judge and other factors present many conflicts. The Grand National Committee recommends the selection of judges in accordance with the current procedures in the ALSA Handbook, Section 7.

**Lora moved and Julie seconded a motion to accept the Grand National Committee requests. Motion passed.**

#### **Handbook Committee**

Chair: Helen Feick

Ken moved and Julie seconded a motion to add John McDougal to the Handbook Committee, Motion passed.

#### **Judges Committee**

Chair: Lavona Fercho

The following are items for consideration by the BOD current to approval of the New Judges' Committee and functioning in regard to paperwork.

The proposed members of the Judges' Committee are:

Chair: Lavona Fercho, Llama/Alpaca - Canada  
Heather Bamford, Breeder Non-Judge - Oregon  
Deb Yeagle, Alpaca/Llama - Ohio  
Judie Moser, Llama - Oregon  
Gayle Woodsum, Llama - Wyoming  
Geri Rutledge, Fleece - Nebraska  
Tony Knie, Llama - Tennessee

**Lora moved and Ken seconded a motion to accept new Judge's Committee. Motion passed.**

Could the Board make an informed decision on how long it is essential to keep all the Judges files. Currently there are 10 boxes of files dating back at least 15 years. Many judges are not even with ALSA anymore. Judges have to certify every three years, through tests from clinics, or Continuing Education Credits. Once a Judge has recertified, for three years, the new scores or accumulated credits become the recertifying factor. The old exams and reports become redundant. Also, all that need be required from the Clinic Instructor should be tests and scores. The performance cards, personal notes etc. do not have any relevant scores on, so do not add any value to any file.

**Penny is to talk to Lavona and make a recommendation to the BOD at our next meeting.**

### **Membership Committee**

Chair - Pam Jensen

The first two Membership Spotlight articles should be coming out in the Showring publication that is due out in January, 2007. Two more members will be featured in the next issue of Showring. The committee is busy Getting nominees for the Special Recognition (grand awards) for the Grand National show in late October, 2007. The committee will be working to gather donations for this gift basket for each winner of the award. The ALSA booklets That were published last spring are moving out well. Lots of good comments.

### **Nomination Committee**

Chair - Trish Brandt-Robuck

The committee is working on finding ALSA members who would be interested in running for the ALSA BOD.

### **Performance Committee**

Chair - Melanie McMurray, MD

As the Special Needs performance classes are now in the Regional shows and at Grand Nationals, and the committee would like to see an expansion of these classes in all shows, we ask the BOD to reconsider

adding the following section be added to the next addition of the Handbook under Optional Classes.

**The BOD stands by its original decision that while Special Needs classes will be considered optional classes they will not be included in the next printing of the handbook. The BOD will continue to support Special Needs classes at both Regional and National levels and encourages local shows to do the same.**

**The committee asks that the BOD consider the following addition of a Separate ALSA Cart Driving Division:**

Effective January 2007, a Cart Driving Championship (Pleasure Driving and Obstacle Driving) will be added at Grand National Show and Regional Shows. A separate Cart Driving Championship may also be added at other ALSA Shows on an optional basis as determined by each show curriculum. The Performance championship will consist of Obstacle, Pack and Public Relation Classes. In order for the Cart Driving championship to be counted as a Separate performance division, both Pleasure Driving and Obstacle Driving Must be offered. If a cart driving division is established, ROM points earned During competition will be calculated as a separate division.

**Julie so moved and Lora seconded. Motion passed.**

#### **Policy and Planning Committee**

No Report

Julie as liaison has been asked to go to committee and ask them to re define what Policy and Planning's role is.

#### **Promotion Committee**

Chair - Mandy Gerken

There has not been a lot going on in our committee. I have contacted all my Committee members requesting them to put their thinking caps on for 2007.

#### **Protest Committee**

Chair - Jim Nenni

Have been gathering data on Protest #2, #3, and #4. Have compiled over 80 emails and they are now in the hands of the Committee for their review, analysis, and recommendation. Hopefully will have our recommendation to the BOD in time for the February meeting.

#### **Publications Committee**

Chair - David Armer

The Publications Committee is working diligently to find articles and information for the Spring "Grand National" Issue of Showring. The following topics will be featured in the GN issue:

Tony Rollins Youth Scholarship Winners  
Wilkins Youth Award Recipients  
Grooming Llamas for Show  
Guidelines for Selecting Stock Trailers/Transporting  
Importance of Insuring Llamas and Alpacas  
ALSA Special Needs  
Delta Society/PR Work  
Training Alpacas for Performance

As with the last issue, there will be selected articles for the "Youth Spotlight" Section, as well as another article featuring an Historical Show Winner that started showing when ALSA was established.

The GN issue will also include the list of all halter/performance/youth winners, as well as the Top Youth Points for the 2006 year as soon as such lists are available from the ALSA Office.

### **Regional Committee**

Chair - Betty Moe

The location for the Southwestern Regional Show has been approved to be held in conjunction with the Harvest Fair at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds in Santa Rosa, CA. The dates are October 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. Combining the Southwestern Regional with Harvest Fair, will save the large fee paid for the 2006 facility. Additionally, it enables the show to be held in a more central location that should encourage more exhibitors from a wider geographical range.

Glen Pfefferkorn, superintendent of the Northwestern Regional Show has contracted Adrienne Hochee to judge that show.

Annie Higgenbotham, superintendent of the Eastern Region has finalized her negotiations for the facility for her Regional show to be held October 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> at the Berkley County Fairgrounds at Martinsburg, WV. Annie's extensive research has led her to believe this will be a more popular and easily accessed facility for exhibitors.

With this report I am including the latest up-date of the Regional Show information, and a suggested schedule for Regional Show superintendents to use. This will be a work in progress as I get feedback from my more experienced superintendents.

### **Show Management Committee**

Chair - Phil Feiner

While we believe there is a place for the minis in the show ring, the expenses associated with offering various mini halter and performance classes are high, and until we have an idea of the level of participation, we do not feel the expenses are justified at this time.



For the moment, we can leave the mini classes as optional classes at local shows as the show superintendent would have an idea if the participation is there.

**Penny moved and Ken seconded that ALSA accepts the American Miniature Llama Association (AMLA) Proposal on a trial basis for a period of two years beginning January 2007 through December 2008, after which the decision will be re-evaluated. The decision for inclusion as a Regional and Grand National Division will likewise be made at that time. Inclusion of Halter and Performance Classes as outlined will be solely at the discretion of ALSA show superintendents. Performance Classes will fall under the Alpaca Performance Guidelines. Motion passed.**

**Proposal follows:**

The American Miniature Llama Association Board of Directors and members would like to officially propose to the ALSA that the miniature llama be recognized and welcomed into ALSA sanctioned shows by awarding miniature llamas their own halter classes and performance allowances. We would like minis that place in these classes at normal ALSA sanctioned shows and also ALSA sanctioned mini shows to be awarded ALSA points and titles just like Standard and Suri llamas. Here is an outline of what the AMLA is proposing:

**1. Halter Classes for the following Male and Female Miniatures:**

- A. **Immature Class** – these minis are under the age of three.
- B. **Mature Class** – these minis are 3 years of age or older and have matured at a wither height of no more than 38 inches.
- C. **Foundation Class** – these minis are 3 years of age or older and have matured at a wither height of 38-40 inches.

- These classes could be divided by suri, light, medium and heavy wool when enough entries or combined as needed.

**2. Performance Classes**

- A. Performance allowances with consideration for the miniature llama.  
Example: 20 lb. weight limit in pack classes  
Example: Shorter height for jumps

**3. AMLA Qualifications for ALSA Sanctioned Miniature Classes**

**A. Participants must be AMLA members**

- An AMLA membership card, similar to the ALSA card, would need to be sent in with entry fees for miniature classes to show superintendents.

- Participants who are not AMLA members may pay an additional fee to show in ALSA miniature classes as long as their llama is an AMLA registered mini.

### **B. Llamas must be registered with the AMLA**

The AMLA seal is located on the ILR registration papers that already must be sent in to show superintendents. Each AMLA seal states whether the mini is immature, mature or foundation registered.

### **Website Committee**

Chair - Marilyn Nenni

We are moving along with our “Improve The Technology” project. We have arrived at what is needed and now are working on priorities. We hope to have a completed presentation very soon.

The entire ALSA website has been updated for 2007 for the most part.

Recently we have had numerous ongoing concerns from frustrated members regarding errors in posted show dates, missing show postings, errors in results from the National Show (no yearling classes posted), and misc. errors on the website resulting from items in the ALSA database that the website pulls data from.

Bulk Email Program – Submitted at the previous BOD meeting, we await a decision from the BOD. Pricing would be approximately \$30 a month for 2500 names in the address book. There is a discount for non-profit organizations. Once this program is set up, any member who has the password can use it to send out reminders, messages, new rules, clinic news, or newsletters to committees, all members, all youth, all judges, or members of a specific region. There is no limit as to how many messages go out each month. For those who are not “computer oriented” a post card template, a newsletter template, and/or a letter template can be formatted and one can just pull up that template, insert the message, and send it out to the appropriate formatted email list. **The BOD is in favor of the bulk email program and has asked Dan to discuss various programs with Website Committee Chair before moving forward.**

Bulletin Board – Grant has posted a sample Bulletin Board on the ALSA website so you can see more what we’re referring to. This would allow ALSA members to post comments on various subjects, discuss show hints, or issues before the BOD. There would be no “ranting” allowed. This Bulletin Board posted has no charge. The first one that I proposed did have a fee, but after investigation, this free one seems to offer just as much of what we want. The thoughts are that this would give the membership an easy opportunity for input and for the sharing of ideas. If approved, we will proceed with approved topics. **The BOD has approved the free bulletin board.**

On the Website Page where members can list their internet address to be added to the website it states: "As a member, you can have your Internet Information (E-mail and Home Page) linked directly to the ALSA web site for a nominal set up fee of \$20. The internet listing which includes your name, farm name, address and telephone number is one of the numerous benefits you receive free with your membership." I am somewhat confused by this statement. When you pay a fee of \$20.00, then it is not a free benefit of the membership. Please define whether there should be a \$20.00 additional fee for a email and internet listing or not. This can be found here [https://ssl20.mysecureserver.com/alsashoworg/secure/memb\\_internet.htm](https://ssl20.mysecureserver.com/alsashoworg/secure/memb_internet.htm)

We would like input from the BOD as to how the backups for the Website are now being handled since our last discussion on this issue from last fall. Are database backups being sent offsite on a weekly basis?

One member of our Website Committee has again pointed out that he feels that our forms and credit cards are not being processed by a secure server. Our concern here is that possibly the information taken by the website is going to a Secure Server and then being sent on to the ALSA office. But that the information from the Secure Server to the office is not encrypted and therefore not secure. The office would need a program that would interpret the encrypted message. Is this the way it is being done? We suggest that this issue be investigated again just so we can be sure of the security we are offering our membership.

#### **Youth Committee**

Chair - Barb Harris

No Report

#### **New Business**

##### **1. Emergency Meeting**

December 21, 2006

**Time 8:02 pm EST**

**Roll Call:** Kay, Penny, Lora, Wally, Dan

The Emergency Meeting was called by the President to address the request for ALSA to sponsor the flowers for the LASC (Llama Association of Southern California) llama unit in the 2007 Rose Parade. This is the first time llamas have ever been invited to the Rose Parade. The cost of the flowers per Maryan Baker, coordinator is \$1000.

After discussion, Lora moved and Penny seconded the motion that ALSA donate \$1000 to LASC to cover the cost of the roses and other flowers that will adorn the llamas, packs, and carts of the LASC 2007 Rose Parade Unit of 18 llamas. Motion passed.

Penny moved and Lora seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion passed.

**Adjourned 8:45 pm EST**

2. Discussion of reinstating the Education Committee has taken place by the BOD. **We are sending this to the Judge's Committee for input.**
3. There will be a change in liaison to the Website Committee: Dan Milton is the new liaison. Also a change to the Publications Committee: Lora Crawford is the new liaison.
4. We received a member letter with concerns about Pleasure Driving Classes at Grand National. **Wally will look into this matter at get back to member.**
5. We received a letter from a member (past chair) who suggests her removal as chair from one of the ALSA Committees was unjust. Her issue is Board treatment of volunteers. **The BOD has noted her concerns.**
6. Letter received from member asking if a Special Needs person could also show in open classes. **The BOD has no problems with special needs classes and open classes both being entered.**
7. Member letter complaining about the date of the Rocky Mountain Regionals as well as other ALSA show dates. **BOD feels the RM Regional Chair has adequately answered member.**
8. Member letter to the BOD concerning fiber issues. **BOD has tabled this issue pending the chance for all BOD members being able to look through materials.**
9. **BOD is encouraging members to have their llamas listed with the ILR in anticipation of the new show program.**

**Dan moved and Ken seconded a motion to adjourn meeting at 2:54 AM on January 11, 2007. Motion passed.**

