

Regular Monthly Meeting of ALSA BOD Meeting Minutes: November 12, 2008

The regular monthly ALSA BOD meeting was called to order by President, Mary Beth McCormick, at 8:04 p.m. EST.

ROLL CALL:

Members present:

Mary Beth McCormick – President
Kay Sharpnack – Vice President
Marilyn Nenni – Secretary
Wayne Rankin – Treasurer
Julie Heggie – Board Member

Mary Alice Pilbin – Board Member
Cathie Kindler – Board Member
Bob LaMorte – Board Member
Cheryl Ryberg – Office Manager

PROCEEDINGS:

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at 8:00 p.m. EST

Approval Of Minutes: October 7, 2008

MaryAlice made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected.
Cathie seconded. Motion carried by a majority vote.

October 23, 2008

Bob made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected.
MaryAlice seconded. Motion carried by a majority vote.

REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION BY Kay:

Kay made a motion to enter Executive session at 10:55. Cathie seconded.
Kay made a motion to exit Executive session at 11:40. Cathie seconded.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Wayne Rankin, Treasurer

ALSA Balance Sheet
As of October 31, 2008

Oct. 31, 08

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

ALSA Cap 1 Investment Account	81,428.77
ALSA CC	7,173.02
ALSA Checking	24,937.41
ALSA Linda Pierce Memorial Fund	5,214.40
ALSA Memorial Youth Scholarship	<u>12,053.38</u>

Total Checking/Savings 130,806.98

Total Current Assets 130,806.98

TOTAL ASSETS 130,806.98

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity

Opening Bal Equity	49,204.42
Retained Earnings	109,932.98

Net Income	<u>-28,330.42</u>
Total Equity	<u>130,806.98</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>130,806.98</u>

- Wayne presented the 2008 Regional Report. Show income is accurate, total expenses are true as we have them so far. Regional Shows did fairly well despite the current economy and the losses were less than expected. Thank you Glen, Regional Chair, and Treasurer, Wayne.
- Two options for Grand National Premiums were presented. Kay made a motion to approve Option #2 that was the one that had the lesser loss to ALSA. Bob seconded. Motion approved by a unanimous vote. Premiums will be sent out to Grand National winners within the next couple of weeks.
- Wayne will set up a 2009 Budget to work with the new ALSA Treasurer.
- Wayne will request signature changes for the ALSA Bank accounts to add the new Treasurer.
- A request to reimburse the GN Alpaca Fleece Show Judge for expenses submitted was discussed. Kay made a motion to pay the bill submitted for the Alpaca Fleece Judging. MaryAlice seconded. Roll call vote: Kay, yes; Marilyn, abstain; Julie, yes; MaryAlice, yes; Cathie, yes; Bob, no. Motion carried by a majority vote.

OFFICE REPORT: Cheryl Ryberg, Office Manager

MONTHLY STATISTICS 2008 vs. 2007													
	Jan 12	Feb 6	Mar 11	Apr	May 14	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year Totals
2008 Sanctioned Shows	?	77	33	13	14	1	12	11	0	0	0		
2008 Total Year to Date		77	110	123	137	138	150	161	161	161	161		
2007 – Year to Date													161
Animal Entry in Shows	?	?	986	291	2494	1786	1175	1279	458	1750	899		
2008 Total Year to Date			986	1277	3771	5557	6732	8011	8469	10219	11118		
2007								10962					
Adult Memberships 2008	?	631	237	195		9	13	18	21	9	13		
2008 Total Year to Date		631	868	1063	1022	1031	1044	1062	1083	1092	1105		
2007													1,546
Youth Memberships 2008		175	104	112	84	4	20	19	17	33	4		
2008 Total Year to Date		175	279	391	475	479	499	518	535	568	572		
2007													564
Animal Recording # 2008					142	54	25	29	68	39	49		
2008 Total Year to Date	?	?		125	267	321	346	365	433	472	521		
2007									546				
2009 Sanctioned Shows			1				1		2	8	2		

OFFICE BUSINESS:

- Monthly Statistics (adult memberships, youth memberships, shows)
- Status of Superintendent's letter.
Letters will go out by Nov. 30, 2008
- Office Contract 2009 –
A copy of the 2009 Office Contract will be sent to all BOD members.
- Monthly reports Requested From Office
Marilyn requested that a monthly line-item report of income and expenses, each check & income listed separately with details, be presented to the BOD each month. In addition, comparison numbers of memberships, shows, animals in shows as appearing in the above

chart be reported each month as a means of a way for the BOD to ascertain the progress of our association.

4. 2009 Membership Campaign & Letter

Notices of 2009 membership renewals are being prepared for mailing.

The issue of the Associate Youth Membership (March 2007 minutes) will be reviewed by the Youth Committee.

Bonus! All new memberships or renewed memberships received by Wed. December 24, 2008, will be included in a drawing to win FREE full year ALSA membership. Two separate drawings are planned – one for an Adult Membership and one for a Youth Membership.

5. Show Calendar for 2009 shows.

Office reported that 2009 shows are on the website show calendar.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. BOD Action Item List

2. Database/Show System Project

Discussion: *The new database project is progressing very efficiently. The committee, consisting of very experienced show superintendents, show clerks, and those with detailed clerical experience, are working hard on the Requirements and Flow Plans. The company is very experienced and detailed and has put forth a plan more than anyone can imagine. This is a great membership benefit with no cost to the members to use. All show results and points will be posted. One committee member has adequately described it as “a slam dunk, member pleasing system!!”*

3. New Award Certificates

Discussion: *New designs have been approved and pricing will be reported.*

4. 2008 Regional Wrap Up

a. Regional Sponsorships

Discussion: *It was suggested that sponsors for Regional Show be given National Recognition in the future for added visibility. The majority of the BOD did not feel this was necessary.*

b. Kay reported that the Regional financial sheet is not yet complete. Some expenses are very slow coming in. Glen is wrapping up the 2008 Regional Shows and providing ribbon counts to Kay for the 2009 orders. At this point, it appears that 7 of the 8 Regionals lost money, but that the losses will not be a great as anticipated by the Regional Chair, the ALSA Treasurer, and the Finance & Budget Chair. Julie will be appointing a new Regional Chair.

5. 2008 Grand National Wrap Up

Discussion: *Norris, Grand National Committee Chair, reported a current income of \$83,039.17 (includes \$22,500 sponsor money) and \$70,733.16 in expenses. \$10,000.00 of the expenses are for ribbons and trophies. That means the 2008 show itself broke even. A profit of \$12,306 however, that does not include any premiums. Two options for premiums are discussed above in the Treasurer’s Report. (note: these*

figures are unofficial at this time. A final GN Show Financial Report should be ready for the December BOD meeting) Thanks to the Grand National and his committee for a super job!

6. ALSA Taskforce 2008

The ALSA taskforce has not submitted any reports or contributions to the ALSA BOD since its inception last spring. At this time, they are in the progress of possibly re-organizing. They are asking permission to be listed as an ALSA Committee as our other committees are. Also they are requesting information on a new Membership Directory.

Discussion: *The BOD approved the continuation of the ALSA Taskforce 2009. The Taskforce provides an opportunity for any ALSA member to join for the purpose of discussing new programs and ideas. It is not one of the ALSA Committees as listed in the Handbook, but an additional group that would like to offer discussion for benefits to ALSA. A new Membership Book is on the priority list for the ALSA BOD, but funds are a definite issue with this project at this time.*

7. Youth Committee Wrap Ups

- a. Has the new youth membership rule, which was to go into effect in 2008, ever been passed on to the Office to include in membership information?

Discussion: *The issue of Associate Youth Memberships will be reviewed by the Youth Committee.*

- b. A final ruling has never been made as to the continuation of the Youth Annual Top Ten Listings. Many members would like to see these awards continued.

Discussion: *Julie, Youth Committee liaison, will discuss this with Youth Committee Chair.*

- c. New Elite Youth Award for 2009: The current Youth Ultimate Award requires 6 Showmanship 1sts, 6 Obstacle 1sts, 2 PR 1sts, and 2 Pack 1sts. The new Elite Award requires 6 Showmanship 1sts, 6 Obstacle 1sts, 6 PR 1sts, 6 Pack 1sts, and 6 Youth Judging 1sts. The new Elite requires no additional Showmanship or Obstacle placings over the requirements for the Ultimate and I've been told that some Jr.'s already have completed these requirements. The first proposal was for 10 1sts of each of these classes. If 10 is not acceptable, could there be a meeting of at least 8 1sts in all of these classes? At least it would add more for Showmanship & Obstacle.

Discussion: *Liaison will check with committee Chair for clarification on requirements.*

8. Judge's Committee Report

The following report from the Judge's Committee was tabled from the Oct. 7 meeting.

1. On the strength of Wally Baker and Maryan Baker auditing the May Llama Halter Clinic, recommendation of clinic instructor, and further documentation of shows each judged in 2008, the Judges Committee would like to request both be approved as Senior Llama Halter Judges for three years.

2. Resulting from the Alpaca Halter Breeders and Judges Halter Clinic. September 12, 13, 14 at Sullivans, with attendees Linda Hayes (Senior recertifying) Shannon McConnell (Senior recertifying) Mary Jo Miller (certifying) Jo Ballard, (Begining judge), Beth Myers (Auditing) Bonnie Van Meter (Auditing) Susie Smithers (Apprenticing) Kevin Sullivan (Apprenticing) Brenda Burns (Breeder) Scott Eber (Breeder) we make the following recommendations:

i. Linda Hayes and Shannon McConnell be recertified as Senior Judge with qualifying scores.

ii. Mary Jo Miller completed the Advanced clinic with qualifying scores, but due to size of shows apprenticed at, we are recommending she complete another Apprenticeship at an alpaca show with

sufficient fleeced Huacaya for additional experience, at the December 5/6 Alpaca National Show. Upon successful completion of the additional apprenticeship, she be certified as Level Judge for Alpaca Halter

iii. Beth Myers and Bonnie Van Meter be recognized for auditing this Alpaca Halter Judges Clinic.

iv. Jo Ballard with qualifying scores, be approved as Beginning Alpaca Halter Judge apprentice.

v. Kevin Sullivan and Susie Smithers credit this clinic as one apprenticeship, as numbers or fleeced suri and huacaya are guaranteed for experience.

3. The Judges' Committee and Llama Fleece committee are currently arranging for Llama Fleece Clinics for 2008 and 2009. One hosted at LANA EXPO June 17- 20, 2009, one hosted by Niki Kuklenski in Washington state, and one hosted in the midwest. There are currently approximately 24 people requesting llama fleece clinics as breeders, beginning and advanced judges. The Judges' Committee will seek BOD approval for planned clinics as soon as all information regarding Instructors, location and dates are confirmed.

4. The Judges' Committee is currently working on the agenda for the Annual Judges Meeting at the Grand Nationals on Thursday, October 23 at 6:00 p.m. The following tentative agenda will be sent in a JSIT email to all Judges and Apprentices.

i. Handbook - Ethics - Professionalism: discussion and observations.

ii. Introduction of optional Classic llama class - Selection criteria in pdf format, and demonstration with live llamas

iii. Showmanship - Continuity in Judges expectations on handbook criteria.

iv. Other items from the floor

1. The Judges' Committee has had a very busy and successful year. Each month the Board has received a report updating them on the work of the committee. This includes all requests or directives from the Board, rewriting and reviewing sections of the Handbook, writing rules and regulations for fleece classes, program and PowerPoint editing for training of Halter and Fleece Judges (both llama and alpaca) and supervising the apprentice programs. The Judges' Committee also has the responsibility of reviewing Judges' certifications and the paper work this entails. We are fortunate to have members that have worked so well together for the good of our Association.

Discussion: Bob made a motion to accept the Oct. 7th Judge's Committee Report. Cathie seconded. Roll Call vote: Kay, yes; Marilyn, yes; Julie, no; Cathie, yes; Bob, yes. Motion was carried by a majority vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Input from Regional Meetings

Discussion: Issues reported from the Regional Membership meetings will be reviewed by the BOD and then passed on to the appropriate committees for review and recommendations.

2. Discussion on false rumors and Board Unity

3. Judge's Committee Support

Discussion: The Judge's Committee and its Chair has the complete support of the ALSA BOD. This Committee brought many positive changes to 2008 and the BOD is very appreciative of the committee's work.

4. Discussion Board Monitoring

Discussion: The BOD realizes the need for answers to questions posted on the ALSA Discussion Board. The current policy of not posting BOD replies was reviewed. In a

further attempt to keep communication open, in the future, if a particular discussion merits a reply from the BOD, a BOD approved response will be posted by the Moderator. The ALSA Discussion Board has been very helpful to many who benefit from suggestions and helpful hints.

5. Attendance of Grand National Judges at the Membership Meeting & the Judge's Meeting.

Discussion: *Attendance of National Judges at the Annual Membership Meeting has been addressed in the past. At the Grand National Show, the national judge's must uphold the highest degree of integrity. The BOD will support the Grand National Chair if he feels that the National Judges should not attend the National Membership Meeting. Cathie made a motion that it should be a rule that the Grand National judges not be permitted to attend the Grand National Membership Meeting. Julie seconded. Roll Call vote: Marilyn, yes; Julie, yes; Bob, yes; MaryAlice, yes; Kay, no; Cathie, yes. Motion carried by a majority vote.*

6. Liaison to the Grand National Committee.

Discussion: *Julie will be the new liaison to the Grand National Committee and to the Regional Committee.*

7. Qualifying for the 2009 Regional Shows and Grand National.

Discussion: *Regional Show Superintendents will be contacted for input and review.*

8. Terms of Committees –

There are some concerns regarding continuing consistency of committees and of member's feelings when their committee term expires. The Handbook states a Committee term is for only one year. More discussion next meeting.

9. Promotion of Alpacas for 2009.

Discussion: *The Alpaca Committee is in the process of preparing a long range 3 - 5 year strategic plan to increase both ALSA alpaca membership and ALSA sanctioned halter shows. The Committee feels that the time is right to implement alpaca halter shows in a number of ALSA regions in 2009. There are currently 3-4 shows already set up with several more in process.*

The Alpaca Committee is excited and optimistic about 2009 and asks the ALSA Board and members to find a way to encourage yet more organizations to put on ALSA sanctioned Alpaca Shows. Mary and Kay will continue to work closely together to come up with new ideas for the promotion of the Alpaca part of ALSA from coast to coast.

10. Letter from Hal Koenig re: ALSA Survey

Discussion: *Tabled until the December meeting.*

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Alpaca Committee: *(liaison: Kay)*

Chair: Mary Reed

The December National Alpaca Show is looking good with over 300 alpacas entered and more than 60 ALSA member farms participating and another 30 who have paid the non-member fee to show. 150 animals are already entered in the Walking Fiber Show. This show has a \$35,000 budget and should bring in \$3000+ for ALSA

2. Education & Show Clinic Committee: *(liaison: Mary Beth)*

Chair: Dawn Moore

1. Over the summer, this committee was relatively inactive. As it stands currently, the judge's manual has been converted from a PDF file into a Word document via OCR. However, this leaves the manual requiring major re-working to bring it back into a legible format. The committee has started tackling this project and has a rough draft of the first chapter completed. Additional sections will be handed out to committee members who are still interested in participating.
2. At this time, the committee's goal for the next year is to finish the conversion of the judge's manual and then incorporate the updates into the manual.
3. The committee is in need of a Level II judge to participate as well as additional committee members.
4. Current committee members who have opted to continue are:
Terry Spekreijse (apprentice judge), New Zealand
Katie White, Pear Tree Farm, UT
Roger & Penny Thomas, Bluestem Llamas, OK

3. Election Committee: *(liaison: Cathie)*

Chair: Lougene Baird

No Report

4. Ethics Committee: *(liaison: Kay)*

Chair: Margaret Henry

No Report

5. Finance & Budget Committee: *(liaison: Cathie)*

Chair: Tom Parsons

***Discussion:** Request for Tom Parsons to serve as Chair of this Committee was approved by email vote. Request approved by majority vote as of 11-7-08
Request for approval of Malcolm Tallmon and Craig Swindler as committee members was approved.*

6. Grand National Committee: *(liaison: Kay)*

Chair: Norris Berg

1. The 2008 GN show was held in October in the newly remodeled Lancaster Event Center. Income and expenses are currently being finalized with a report to the BOD when completed but not later than November 10, 2008. GNC will make recommendations for premiums to the BOD for final approval at that time.
2. The GNC thanks all the exhibitors, sponsors, vendors, BOD and volunteers for making it a successful show despite the current economic conditions.

The dates of October 23, 24, 25, 2009 have been blocked by the Lancaster Event Center. A show of hands at the general membership meeting overwhelming favored those dates. I have spoke with the event center and they have also blocked the arena we have used in the past if the alpaca owners and ALSA BOD decide to have a joint national show.

Report accepted as written.

7. Handbook Committee: (*liaison: Bob*)

Chair: Wally Baker

The 2008 ALSA 15th Edition Handbook has been printed and the current handbook has been posted on the ALSA website. 149 copies of the handbook were given to members at the Grand National Show. The ALSA office has prepared mailing addresses for the mail processing company handling remaining distribution. Mass mailing of the handbooks to the ALSA membership will be done during the first week of November 2008.

8. Judge's Committee: (*liaison: Cathie*)

Chair: Lavona Fercho

Nothing New To Report

9. Llama Fiber Committee: (*liaison: Julie*)

Chair: Cindy Ruckman

No Report

10. Membership Committee: (*liaison: Marilyn*)

Chair: Pam Jensen

We are proposing and requesting approval for the following:

1. Membership Spotlight – on the ALSA website.
We would propose that every 3 months an ALSA member be featured with a small article and photographs of that person with their llamas. The article would tell something about the person, what they do with their llamas, how they decided to get involved with llamas, their showing experiences, etc. This would be posted for a 3 month period and then a new member would be spotlighted. The membership committee would pick people from various regions of ALSA, a difference region every 3 months, and obtain pictures of that person and contribute information for the article to the membership chair, who would write the article and submit the article and pictures to be posted on the internet.

This is aimed at getting members involved and rewarding their accomplishments in a very public way on the ALSA website. We want to involve members of all levels of ownership and showing, small farm and large farms. Everyone needs a pat on the back for their hard work and love of the llamas and the llama industry.

2. Our second project would better be labeled – Youth of the Month. Each month we want to spotlight a youth for around the country that we feel has earned the “spotlight” of the ALSA website. We would vary the regions each month, with a picture of the youth and a small article about the young person, any groups they belong to, e.g. 4-H, etc. and what they do with their llamas/alpacas. Youth are the future of the llama industry and showing and need this attention directed their way. The chair of the membership committee would pick the region to draw the featured youth from each month and the committee member from that region would pick the youth, get the picture and submit information to the chair for an article on the youth. The picture and article would be then submitted to post on the ALSA website for a one month period.

We are asking Board approval of both of these proposed projects for the membership committee.

We wanted to mention that all of us are more than pleased that the 15th edition of the ALSA rule book is now out and will be mailed to all members that did not get theirs at the 2008 Grand National show. This is

absolutely essential for all members. It is something that the membership dues pay for and should be forthcoming each year. Thank you to the Board for recognizing the importance of this matter and to the Rule Book Committee for getting the project completed.

Discussion: *Proposal was approved.*

11. Nomination Committee: *(liaison: Bob)*

Chair: Carolyn Myers

No Report

12. Performance Committee: *(liaison: Marilyn)*

Chair: Niki Kuklenski

Discussion: *Chair requested approval of the addition of two members to the Performance Committee: Brian Patterson – Wisconsin and Bob Woolbridge - Washington .*

Request approved by majority vote as of 11-7-08

13. Policy & Planning Committee: *(liaison: MaryAlice)*

Chair: Lora Crawford

Discussion: *Request for Larry Lewellyn to serve as a member of this committee was approved by email vote 11-8-08.*

14. Promotion Committee: *(liaison:BOD)*

Chair:

No Report

15. Protest Committee: *(liaison: Mary Beth)*

Chair: Ken Austin

No Report

16. Publications Committee: *(liaison:Mary Beth)*

Chair:

Discussion: *Kay made a motion to approve Gayle Woodsum as Chair. Marilyn seconded. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.*

17. Regional Committee: *(liaison: Julie)*

Chair:

No Report

18. Show Management Committee: *(liaison: MaryAlice)*

Chair: Bill Schultz

Discussion: *Proposals for two rule changes was tabled until the December meeting.*

19. Website Committee: (*liaison: Marilyn*)

Discussion: *Kay moved to approve Mike Hoopengardner as the Chair. Julie seconded. Motion approved unanimously.*

20. Youth Committee: (*liaison: Julie*)

Chair: Barb Harris

Youth Committee Report regarding the new National Youth Llama Association sponsored by ALSA.

Previously the Youth Committee had been asked to look over a proposal for an ALSA Youth Association. The committee liked the idea but as it was presented to us the Youth Association would have its own governing board made up of youth members.

At this time our only hesitation on proceeding with creating an ALSA Youth Association is it having its governing board made up solely of youth members. Instead we would like to offer an alternative during the initial start up and fledgling time and that would be that the Youth Association's board would be a sub-committee of the Youth Committee. Their president would be a representative on the Youth Committee with a voice and vote. They would be able to present their ideas and proposal to the Youth Committee who would then be able to provide input and discussion before passing it on to the ALSA BOD. Once the Youth Association has had sufficient time to demonstrate their ability to govern themselves they could then be made autonomous. It would be suggested that they would possibly spun off as a sub-association with a board liaison to whom their president would report to.

MEMBER'S LETTERS TO THE BOD:

1. Letter from Member (tabled from Oct. meeting)
Letter of response has been sent.
2. Letter from Member re: Eastern Regional - Oct. 7 (tabled from Oct. meeting)
Letter of response will be sent.
3. Letter from Member re: area shows (tabled from Oct. meeting)
Response has been sent.
4. Letter from Pastor Jim Wining:
Dear Ms. Ryberg:

Our church for years has sponsored the kid group known as "Show Time Llamas" and their activities at Three Muile Ranch. My wife (Pam) began this mission with our autistic son in mind fifteen years ago. This past show you demonstrated that same compassionate love of children for the entire country. You have praised God !

We thank you so very much for the "special needs" classes, the "youth showmanship" and "performance classes." These young children grow mentally and spiritually clearer through the cooperative experience of llama activities. We realize of course each class has competition in presence; however, first and foremost is the relationship connection each child has with his/her/shy and loving llama. Fellowship among the children is naturally enhanced through their mutual love and appreciation of their llama buddies!

Our world today needs more organizations like yours.

Also I am copying this letter for the host llama club, The Nebraska Llama Association. They are always the absolute best hosts for all of the shows they sponsor. They have been there for my wife when I was committed to a church event or service. Truly they demonstrate the humble service God asks of us each and every day. May God continue his blessings upon you and your

wonderful representatives in Nebraska, I remain,

In Christ

Senior Pastor Jim Wining

5. Letter from Member re: ALSA achievements, support of “novice friendly” performance, and llama recognition. - 10-7-08

Letter of response has been sent.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

Bob made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Marilyn seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 2:53 a.m. EST

Minutes Approved:

November 20, 2008

Marilyn Nenni

Secretary