

Regular Monthly Meeting of ALSA

BOD Meeting Minutes: December 9, 2008

The ALSA BOD meeting was called to order by President, Mary Beth McCormick, at 8:08 p.m. EST.

ROLL CALL:

Members present:

Mary Beth McCormick – President
Kay Sharpnack – Vice President
Marilyn Nenni – Secretary
Cathie Kindler – Treasurer

Mary Alice Pilbin – Board Member
Julie Heggie – Board Member
Bob LaMorte – Board Member
Cheryl Ryberg – Office Manager

PROCEEDINGS:

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, January 6, 2008 at 8:00 p.m. EST

Approval Of Minutes: November 20, 2008

Minutes were approved by email vote on November 23, 2008.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Cathie Kindler

Balance Sheet as of November 30, 2008

Nov 30, 2008

ASSETS:

Current Assets
Checking/Savings
ALSA Cap 1 Investment Account 81,646.31
ALSA CC 25,789.77
ALSA Checking 27,830.64
ALSA Linda Pierce Memorial Fund 5,228.33
ALSA Memorial Youth Scholarship 12,085.58
Total Checking/Savings 152,580.63
Total Current Assets 152,580.63
TOTAL ASSETS: 152,580.63

LIABILITIES & EQUITY:

Equity
Opening Bal Equity 49,204.42
Retained Earnings 108,798.35
Net Income -5,422.14
Total Equity 152,580.63
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY: 152,580.63

COMPARISON: November, 2007 – Total Current Assets 141,884.37

OFFICE REPORT: Cheryl Ryberg, Office Manager

	Jan 12	Feb 6	Mar 11	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year Totals
2008 Sanctioned Shows	6	18	16	7	12	7	8	1	6	1	8		
2008 Total Year to Date													
2007	20	23	9	8	20	4	16	9	4	4	8	11	136
2006	9	20	38	25	31	16	7	9	11	4	0	12	182
Animal Entry in Shows													
2008 Total Year to Date	10	482	643	750	2962	1630	1206	368	1634	1257	572		
2007	195	453	1762	1098	3143	1432	1257	1271	2285	1936	2725	76	17633
2006	282	515	1552	1250	2905	2719	724	170	2972	2566	961	222	16838
Adult Memberships 2008	304	148	82	64	33	13	7	17	23	11	114		
2008 Total Year to Date													
2007	366	141	113	61	36	5	38	17	12	4	13	271	1077
2006	339	103	218	48	62	24	18	22	24	10	2	272	1142
Youth Memberships 2008	102	90	58	56	61	15	11	12	19	7	29		
2008 Total Year to Date													
2007	120	65	55	93	66	10	33	37	7	3	4	55	548
2006	118	33	164	22	38	14	31	42	23	4	1	54	544
Animals Recorded 2008													
2008	49	28	41	56	154	29	9	49	80	48	14		
2007	51	59	50	61	142	79	69	83	59	93	20	6	772
2006	42	43	146	28	86	40	43	66	120	97	16	37	764
2009 Sanctioned Shows													

Paid animal entry in shows, the monthly money that we receive does not necessarily reflect the actual animals entry in shows in that particular month, what we have is PAID Animal Fees, suggest a change in that category.

Same with Paid Membership does not reflect totals of members for one particular year but what was paid for membership on a per monthly basis.

Sanctioning show fees paid would be the same so we know how much sanctioning came in per month, we can total 2009 shows but it should be 2008 Sanctioning Fees Received as we do not receive some 2009 fees in 2008. Or I can change the way of receiving Sanctioning Fees for 2009 so we can clearly note which fees are for 2010 Sanctioning and add that field.

I would also suggest that you delete the total year to date on all years, we can keep a running total if you like for current year, this will make it easier to read.

Note:

1. Because show fees and membership dues do not always reflect in the year which they are charted in there may or may not be more/less animals and members in any given year.
2. We keep track of dollar amounts of sanctioned shows so there will be additional shows that did not pay sanctioning fees such as new shows and there are several shows that pay \$25 sanctioning fees. We can also change our 2009 accounting to more accurately reflect how many sanctioned shows occurred every month.

OFFICE BUSINESS:

1. Monthly Statistics (adult memberships, youth memberships, shows)
2. Monthly line-item financial report requested by Marilyn

Discussion: A monthly line-item financial report will be provided to the BOD monthly.

3. Office has been requested to provide a BOD member of information for database website. (ISP address) – Request is months old with no response to date!

Discussion: Office Manager is again requested to provide this information for ALSA records.

4. Marilyn's letter of 11-14 regarding Office back-ups with Carbonite.

Discussion: An account with Carbonite has now been set up with ALSA. Backups of the entire ALSA database computer are being done constantly throughout each 24 hours. The Finance & Budget Committee will make a recommendation to the BOD as to whether the financial records should also be backed up by Carbonite.

5. Recent erroneous items sent out from Office.

Discussion: Items going out from the ALSA Office must have a professional look and be free of errors.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. BOD Action Item List – *tabled*
2. 2008 Grand National Wrap Up – *premium list (see attached Grand National Payouts, item #1)*
3. Results posted for 2008 GN and 2008 Regionals

Discussion: 2008 Regional show results have been posted. Results from the Grand National Show are being posted with judge's scorecards.

4. ALSA/ILR Joint Meeting

Discussion: Mary Beth will make contacts to set up a conference call. BOD members are asked to contribute agenda items.

5. Lawsuit from ALSA Member, Malinda Norman

Discussion: Letter from ALSA attorney in response to Mary Beth's letter, sent on Dec. 2, 2008, requesting advice on the recent lawsuit (letter attached below #2) situation was discussed. Bob introduced a letter (12-2-08) from Kathy Peterson, CLR Registrar, requesting that the Certified Llama Registry (CLR) be included as one of the llama registries ALSA recognized for participation in ALSA-sanctioned shows. (letter attached below #3). Bob made a motion to accept the CLR as another recognized and legitimate registry for ALSA shows in addition to other recognized registries. Several members of the BOD expressed the desire to not have ALSA involved in a lawsuit as discussion continued with regards to adding the CLR registry as another option for the membership to register animals. It was clearly stated that only double LL llamas would be allowed to participate in ALSA shows. One member requested more details about the CLR registry before proceeding with the motion already on the floor. Motion was not seconded. (according to Robert's Rules, motions made within a small BOD or committee of less than 12 do not need a second) Roll call vote: Kay, no; Marilyn, abstain; Cathies, yes; Julie, yes; MaryAlice, no; Bob, yes. Motion carried by a majority vote. Marilyn requested that more details were needed about the CLR Registry and that this issue be added to the agenda of the next meeting to investigate unanswered questions.

6. Database Project Update

Discussion: The database project is progressing very well and on schedule.

7. Youth Annual Awards

Discussion: Youth Committee had requested input from the Office as to any problems with figuring annual youth awards. Cheryl responded that with the new database, these awards will be easily computed. Marilyn made a motion to reinstate the Annual

National Top Ten List youth awards. Kay seconded. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Permission for Royall Awards to make TT Grand National ribbons early winter.

Discussion: Kay informed the BOD that ribbon prices are increasing 6-7% as of 1-1-09. Questions were brought up as to whether it would be a good financial decision to put out ribbon money in January if Royall Awards made ribbons early (at the 2008 price). BOD member requested comparative pricing for ribbons. Additional pricings will be acquired and decision will be on hold until prices can be compared.

2. 2008 GN Fleece Show Report & 2009 Request

Discussion: The Llama Fleece Committee requested that it made sense to have the alpaca fleece classes as a part of the "GN Fleece Show". The GN Fleece Show would include both a llama fleece show and an alpaca fleece show, both with separate representatives to do the coordination for the shows and for securing sponsorships. Walking fleece classes are being considered for the 2009 GN Fleece Show. Financial Report from the GN Llama Fleece Show is attached below, Item #4.

3. Scholarship Fund/Memorial Postings

Discussion: Youth scholarship fund is being referred to with two different names in different documents. The correct name is the ALSA Memorial Youth Scholarship Fund. The name was changed to accommodate donations in memory of many ALSA members. Marilyn suggested a Memorial Page on the ALSA website where fond remembrances and contributions in honor of past ALSA members may be posted and contributed to the Scholarship Fun or to the GN Show. Kay made a motion to put up a memorial website page for donations made in remembrance of an ALSA member. Donations will go into the Youth Memorial Scholarship Fund. Julie seconded the motion. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

4. Approval of new Oregon Show.

Discussion: Board approved sanctioning for a new quad show, Glen Pfefferkorn show superintendent, by email on November 26, 2008. New quad show is the Western Oregon Llama Invitational to be held June 27-28, 2009.

5. New Membership Directory

Discussion: A request was made by the ALSA Taskforce 2008 for a new membership directory. The printing of a new membership directory is being considered in the 2009 budget. Kay made a motion to approve the printing and mailing of a new Membership Directory no later than May 1, 2009 subject to the recommendation and approval of the Finance & Budget Committee. Bob seconded. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

6. Support for Celebrity and LFA Events

Discussion: Marilyn made a proposal for ALSA to show support of marketing events in the llama community, since ALSA is not involved with auctions or sales, by offering double points at the two main spring and fall marketing events – Celebrity and the LFA event which both offer ALSA Shows. It would also be reciprocal support for the LFA who has been a special sponsor for the ALSA Grand National. Through further discussion it was decided that free advertising would be offered to these events in the upcoming Membership Directory and/or on the ALSA website.

7. International Year of Fiber

Discussion: An international day at the 2009 New York Sheep & Wool Festival. “Keep the Fleece” is looking for participants, announcements and sponsors. Contact Linda Cortright, editor & publisher of Wild Fibers Magazine.

8. Camelid Community Press Packet

Discussion: The Camelid Community information will be posted on the ALSA website to help educate people outside of our llama community.

9. Suggestion for Lifetime Member Cards

Discussion: A special card without a dated year will be sent to ALSA Lifetime Members.

10. Response from Grand National Committee to question, “How did relaxation of qualifying rules affect the GN in numbers and monetarily?”

Discussion: Comments from all committee members were reviewed. It is impossible to determine accurate results of the 2008 change. While numbers were down for the 2008 GN show, many favorable comments were heard throughout the weekend. Gas/diesel prices and the economy were undoubtedly a major concern for the 2008 show. Other considerations for a lower attendance is that a review of memberships shows a decline since 2005 and our current membership is not nearly as affluent as it once was. A survey will be put out to the membership for their views on qualifying rules for the Regional Shows and the Grand National Show.

11. Notification of Qualifying

Discussion: Qualifying cards, lists, or honor system? Tracking show qualifiers will be reviewed for the new database system.

12. Hal Koenig - Survey – tabled from November 12 meeting.

Discussion: BOD appreciated input regarding the preparation of a survey, but felt that ALSA could not justify the cost at this time.

13. Concerns of the 15th Edition of Handbook and for ALSA Performance Manual

Discussion: Changes to obstacle specifications were made in 2006. No mention in the 15th edition of the Handbook was made to address these changes for any of the Youth

Classes. Specifications are currently not correct in the Performance Manual. Corrections to the Handbook will be made for the next printing, corrections will be noted on the Handbook page, the What's New page, and the Judge's page of the ALSA website, and stickers will be made and attached to the front of the Performance Manual indicating changes. Attention to these changes will also be noted in the show sanctioning packets.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Alpaca Committee: (liaison: Kay)

Chair: Mary Reed

Nothing to report – National Champion Alpaca Show this week.

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

Chair: Dawn Moore

Hi Mary Beth,

I'm so sorry, but I need to resign from being the committee chair. At this time, I just don't have the time it would take to try to keep everyone motivated and to recruit new members effectively. I would like to continue to be a part of the committee and assist in any way that I can.

3. Election Committee: (liaison: Cathie)

Chair: Lougene Baird

No Report

4. Ethics Committee: (liaison: Kay)

Chair: Margaret Henry

I have asked Ellen Goldsmith to join our ethics committee and she has agreed to become a member. Ellen raises Alpacas and trains for performance. I think she will be a great addition to the committee. If Ellen is approved by the BOD, our committee will be ready to start work on several projects. Our members are: Allen Davis, New Castle, IN, Tonie Strassburg-Pearce, Chilcoat, CA, Jim Doyle, Krum TX, Ellen Goldsmith Gardnerville, NV, Margaret Henry Brookston, TX. I would like to ask that Jim Doyle and Ellen Goldsmith be added to the Ethics Committee list on the ALSA web site.

Kay made a motion to approve the Ethics Committee report. Marilyn seconded. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

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

Chair: Tom Parsons

No Report

6. Grand National Committee: (liaison: Julie)

Chair: Norris Berg

2008 December Grand National Report

The Grand National Committee serves the ALSA BOD and it's members annually between December 1st and November 30th. I was asked by the new GNC liaison Julie Heggie via a phone conversation to serve as Chair

for another year. Request ALSA BOD approve the current committee members to serve with me the coming year. They all work together as a team and are truly great ALSA volunteers.

I have one remaining bill for the 2008 show which needs to be verified and then a final report will be provided to the BOD. As of now, my records indicate expenses as \$70,771.16 with an income of \$83,039.17 prior to the distribution of premiums which was an additional \$13,855.00. This equates to a loss of \$1,587.99 for the 2008 show with the one remaining bill to be confirmed. Final financial numbers will be provided when available. It should be noted exhibitors received a combined total of \$25,065.24 in premiums, trophies, awards and ribbons. The GNC thanks Wayne Rankin for his extra work in the distribution of premiums to exhibitors. A statistical summary of the show will be provided to the BOD in the very near future.

Total number of exhibitor llamas, classes, etc were down approximately 25% for the year. Considering the economy at show time we were satisfied and appreciated the extra effort of everyone supporting the show and making it successful. Many positive comments were received on the show and the remodeled Lancaster Event Center.

A major concern for 2009 and future years is to find volunteers to supply the performance classes. Anyone who would like to volunteer or knows someone who would "fit the bill" please contact me at 715-273-5230 for further details.

The process has already started in the selection of judges for the 2009 show. Per the ALSA handbook the GNC selection of judges will be available to the ALSA BOD prior to their February meeting.

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

Chair: Wally Baker

Last month, Handbook Committee completed mailing the ALSA 2008 15th Edition handbooks to the membership. All remaining handbooks in surplus for future distribution will be bulk mailed to the ALSA office via UPS during the first week of December 2008. Handbook processing invoices have been submitted to the ALSA office for payment to the printer and mailing service.
(Costs: Set up, ; Printing, : Shipping to membership, \$256.00; Shipping extras to ALSA office \$401.00)

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

Chair: Lavona Fercho

It is a busy time of year for the Judges' Committee. I am submitting activities we are currently working on.

The Judges' Committee is currently working on three major Judges' disciplines, those being Llama halter, Llama and Alpaca fleece, and Alpaca halter.

1. We are currently notifying Judges of any 2008 show or Judges evaluations received in their files, of required CEC or annual judges reports for 2008, and the status and requirements for certification or recertification with clinics for those certifying in 2009. This is very time consuming as we wait to hear back from those without reports, to confirm all Judges status on the Approved List is current.
2. As we are hearing back from Judges of their requirements, and assessing needs, we are also planning clinics for 2009 in both the east and west, making sure we have alternate Instructors each year so participants have the benefit of different instructors for their Beginning and Advanced clinics.
3. We currently have three clinics planned, two for Llama Fleece Judges one in Kentucky March 6,7,8, 2009, and in Nevada, June 19, 20, 21, 2009, and a Llama Halter Clinic in Oregon, May 8, 9, 10, 2009. We are planning a Llama Halter Clinic in the Mid-west as well but details are not available yet. We will be planning one Alpaca Halter Judges Clinic in 2009 as well. We will be seeking BOD approval for all clinics in January as soon as we have final details confirmed and Instructors designated.
4. We are reviewing all Alpaca Judges files, and determining Judges required for major alpaca shows for 2009. We were fortunate to have Shannon McConnell, a former experienced ALSA alpaca halter judge recertify at a clinic, as an ALSA Senior Halter Alpaca Judge. With the demand once more for Senior Alpaca

Judges, and with ever increasing Alpaca halter show numbers, we have a necessity for former Senior ALSA Alpaca Judges to attend Alpaca clinics to update and recertify as needed. We will be making formal a request, with further dates and Judges names to the BOD for approval in January.

5. The Education Committee is currently working on the Llama Halter clinic manual, however, Instructors have been using PowerPoint presentations which has been very successful in Llama and Alpaca Halter, and Llama and Alpaca fleece clinics. Portions within each PowerPoint can be printed for Handouts for participants. They are easily adaptable for additional focus where required, recently in Driving and Youth Judging, and keeping current with Handbook changes.

6. Several Instructors used the PowerPoint in 2007 and 2008. With more clinics being offered now, additional Instructors will be using it in 2009. A list of all current Instructors will be submitted to the BOD when this is complete.

6. As our Judges update files on current status, with Annual or CEC reports, we will soon be supplying the list to Norris and the Grand National show committee for Judge selection in 2009.

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

Chair: Cindy Ruckman

I am pleased to inform you of the ALSA Llama Fiber Committee's current discussion points:

New Business

1. The Llama Fiber Committee respectfully accepts the resignation of June Black. June has been a long standing member of our committee. We appreciate her hard work and dedication.
2. In an effort to create a consistent and effective criteria for creating and regulating the classes at an ALSA Llama Fleece Show, our committee believes that it would be helpful to have a clearly stated goal for ALSA llama fleece shows. With the permission of the BOD, we would like our goal to be: *To help members evaluate their animals' fleece while promoting llama fiber as a marketable end product.* With this goal we will hope to better communicate our reasoning and decision making process as it relates to classes and judging criteria at Llama Fleece Shows.
3. Regarding the 2009 GN Fleece Show, we recommend the following:
 - a. The Llama Fiber Committee will continue to coordinate the GN Llama Fleece Show as through a sub-committee, the GN Llama Fleece Show Committee;
 - b. Continue with no pre-qualification for shorn fleece;
 - c. Ages for all classes should be broken down according to the 15th Edition Handbook;
 - d. The addition of Llama Walking Fleece Classes as a part of the show. These classes will have the following criteria:
 - i. No pre-qualification for juveniles (5-12 mo);
 - ii. Animals over 12mo must pre-qualify as follows: Grand Champion, Reserve Champion, or a placing of 1-3rd, 4th place in classes of at least 15, 5th place in classes of 25 or more entries at any ALSA Certified Llama Fleece Show.
 - e. The Llama Fiber Committee and the GN Llama Fleece Show Committee is willing to add the approved Alpaca Fleece Classes to our list of responsibilities with the following criteria met
 - i. An "alpaca representative" will work with the committee to ensure that the proper classes and protocol are followed;
 - ii. An "alpaca representative" will be at the GN to work in an effort to ensure that everything runs according to the ALSA Handbook;
 - iii. The Alpaca Committee will work with the Llama Fiber Committee to promote the GN Fleece Show and to secure show sponsors;
 - iv. The show would then become the "Grand National Fleece Show" and the committee would be the "Grand National Fleece Show Committee".
 - f. With the permission of the BOD, we would like to consider purchasing our GN Fleece Show ribbons from a different supplier in 2009. There is a long-time ALSA member in Ohio who has a trophy shop. For a similar ribbon, her initial estimate is 25-30% less than the cost of this year's ribbons. With the addition of classes and a tightening economy, we would like to pursue a change in ribbon vendors.

- g. If the layout of the 2009 Grand Nationals is going to be the same as 2008, we respectfully request the same location as we had this year. It worked very well for everyone involved.
- h. With the addition of Walking Fleece and the Alpaca Classes, the GN Fleece Show will require one additional judge (for Walking Fleece) and a minimum of 3 additional volunteers. We are always appreciative of our volunteers and are looking forward to adding some new people to our team.
- i. Regarding 2009 Grand Nationals, we recommend the addition of a "Versatility Grand Champion" Award. The GN Fleece Clerk will report the final placings to the GN Show Clerk for the fleece portion of the point tabulation for this award. *(this item will be referred to the GN Committee)*

Old Business

1. Along with the Judges Committee, we continue to finalize plans for two Llama Fleece Judges Clinics in 2009;
2. We continue to work with Board Member and Web-Master Marilyn Nenni to keep the Llama Fiber related forms up to date and easily accessible for the membership. Thank you Marilyn for your patience and diligence as you work to create the ALSA website.

We all wish each you a very merry Christmas and we look forward to working along side of you in 2009.

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

Chair: Pam Jensen

Nothing to Report

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

Chair: Carolyn Myers

Nothing to Report

12. Performance Committee *(liaison: Marilyn)*

Chair: Niki Kuklenski

The ALSA Performance Committee has added two new members Bob Woodbridge, Washington bob@wooldridge.com and Brian Patterson, WI tvffarm@dishup.us

George Clements has resigned and this committee would like to thank him for all his support and hard work on this committee in the past. We appreciate his contributions and experience.

The committee is actively working on a proposal for novice performance titles and/or points. Master level classes are also being discussed. Because of the complicated nature of this addition, we are trying to think through every angle and consider any and all implications prior to just submitting a proposal. The committee is open to input and suggestions from members. We hope to have a finished product in the next two months.

The issue of including Novice and Masters classes as repeatedly requested by members had already been approved in November. Since the Performance Committee has been unable to complete the details, the BOD review whether to move forward with some previous considerations, which had no objections raised, from the Performance Committee. Details must be completed in order to put into place for 2009 shows and to include in the new database workup. Further input from this committee is requested. Julie made a motion to move forward with the informal proposal from the Performance Committee. Bob seconded. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

13. Policy & Planning Committee: *(liaison: Mary Alice)*

Chair: Lora Crawford (2 attachments – ALSA Standing Rules & ALSA Bylaws)

Dear Committee Chairs,

My sincere apologies. Please disregard the email sent 11-21-08. I have saved too many change documents regarding ALSA Bylaws and Standing rules, so I have attached the most current. The changes are in red.

Please get back to me by December 15, 2008 if you have any suggested changes.
I have heard back from:
Barb Harris - not changes
Wally baker - who discovered my errors

14. Promotion Committee: (*liaison: Board – Bob?*)

Chair:

Nothing to Report

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

Chair: Ken Austin

The Chair submitted committee members for approval. The Protest Committee will consist of: Lavona Fercho, Margaret Henry, Lora Crawford, Pam Jensen, Celia Taylor, and Hal Koenig.

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

Chair: Gayle Woodsum

I plan to take time this weekend to sketch out a timeline, start assembling the committee, and to draft an email blast for Marilyn.

I will also be making a list of potential start-up advertisers, so if you could have the board be thinking about their own advertising possibilities as well as to have them send me any names at all they can think of for people who might be interested in advertising.

It would probably behoove us to offer a special deal for anyone placing ads in the early come-back issues.

You can also ask the board to send me any thoughts they have at all for things they would like to see (or not see) in the new Showing, for names of people they think might be interested in being on the committee or in writing articles. Also, anyone on the board who might be willing to jot down a few paragraphs that I could fashion into news pieces or articles would also be great. People don't have to write finished pieces - I can do that through the editing process. And finally, photos can start coming my way.

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

Chair: Glen Pfefferkorn

Attached is the November Report and an updated summary of the 2008 Regional shows. I think all is included in the financial report except the cost to replace the stolen sign at Great Lakes and the clerk, obstacle and program printing costs for Central. The supers assured me yesterday they would get those costs pulled together soon.

With this I think my work is done. I will send all the records I have to my replacement as soon as I'm directed where to mail them.

Thanks to the Regional Chair and Committee members, the regions show losses were less than expected during this year of high gas prices and stressed economy.

18. Show Management Committee: (*liaison: Mary Alice*)

Chair: Bill Schultz

This report was tabled from the November meeting.

Proposal for Rule Change:

In an effort to provide a more stable and predictable show format for show superintendent's, exhibitors and performance course designers, the SMC is proposing the following change to the handbook and ALSA website:

The SMC proposes the following:

All ALSA Board approved rules and amendments made between January 1 and Sept 30th will go into effect on the first of January of the following year.

The SMC proposes that all rules changes or amendments be made and approved by the ALSA Board from January 1 through Sept 30th. The SMC proposes that all changes made during that time would be submitted to the handbook committee for inclusion into the handbook for the following year. This would allow the handbook committee from Oct. 1 thru Dec. 31 to make the changes and publish the handbook for the following year.

This proposal would insure better compliance by all show personal and ALSA exhibitors, ALSA members would be clear on what rules they are to follow and it will serve to keep them from being confused or from missing a change that may have taken place in the middle of the show season.

The SMC believes the appropriate place for the proposed statement based on the current hand book would be following the published statement on page 22, Section A, item 9.

Proposal: Regional Award Program

In an effort to enhance the current show format of the ALSA show program, we the Show Management Committee would like to propose a Regional Award Program - a Regional Top Ten award program. This program will recognize the top ten show llamas and their owners and the top ten youth in each region. Since many ALSA members enjoy their Regional Shows and are looking for ways to encourage participation, our belief is that his program will provide ALSA members with much needed recognition on the Regional level and will benefit Regional Show attendance. Also having it be an annual award with the equal opportunities for achievement, many members will be encouraged to compete at additional shows bringing more enthusiasm, attendance, and monies to local shows.

Here is our proposal for the Regional Award Program:

1. The basis for this program will be the current ALSA point system.
2. The points for this program will accumulate with current ALSA standards, but will break out llamas and youth per their respective region.
3. Awards will be given to the animal or youth with the top ten points, in the categories listed below, in each Region.
4. The program will include all ALSA shows during a 12 month time period – starting on Sept. 1 and ending on Aug. 31 of the following year. By using this time period, this will enable the Office time to tally all awards in time to award them at the annual Regional Shows.
5. Like all other ALSA awards, only animals with ALSA Show Numbers will be eligible to participate in the Regional Award Program.
6. We hope to be able to provide the accumulated points on the ALSA website and update monthly as data is reported to the site. This will enable members to see ongoing placements within their region and encourage participation.
7. If there are ties within the list, more than one (eg.) 3rd place may be awarded.
8. Proper Certificates of Achievement will be awarded to each animal or youth achieving enough points to be on the Top Ten Listing. The awards will be presented at the Regional Shows. Further acknowledgement and recognition will be given through the ALSA website and the Showing. (it would be nice if in the future the 1st place could be awarded something more substantial).
9. Awards will be given in the following categories:

Top Ten Regional Suri Female	Top Ten Novice Performance (total points of obstacle, pr, & pack)
Top Ten Regional Suri Male	Top Ten Advanced Performance
Top Ten Light Wool Female	Top Ten Masters Performance
Top Ten Light Wool Male	Top Ten Driving Animals (total points of pleasure driving & obstacle driving)
Top Ten Medium Wool Female	Top Ten Beginner Youth Performance (total points of obstacle, pr, & pack)
Top Ten Medium Wool Male	Top Ten Intermediate Youth Performance
Top Ten Heavy Wool Female	Top Ten Senior Youth Performance
Top Ten Heavy Wool Male	Top Ten Beginner Youth Showmanship
Top Ten Produce of Dam	Top Ten Intermediate Youth Showmanship
Top Ten Get of Sire	Top Ten Senior Youth Showmanship
	Top Ten Adult Showmanship
	Top Ten Beginner Youth Judging
	Top Ten Intermediate Youth Judging
	Top Ten Senior Youth Judging

10. This Award Program is being offered to give ALSA members more for their membership. Our committee believes we need to approach this project as an *Extra Perk* to members and hopefully, down the road, build and improve the program.

Benefits: This annual High Point Regional Award would make more use of ALSA points, encourage competitive members to attend more shows, build attendance numbers and income at local shows, give additional recognition to animals and owners, bring in attendance at Regionals, and give everyone an equal chance to make the Top Ten List since we're going by points and not just a first place or Grand or Reserve Champion place. A good animal consistently in 3rd or 4th place could easily gain recognition with this award. This would also benefit those farms and youth who for whatever reason, time off work, money, or travel distance, will most likely never feel they can attend a National Show. This award will give added importance to our Regional Shows, hopefully bring in more attendance and income, and make our Regional Shows more fun.

Discussion from the BOD resulted in approval of the Regional Top Ten Awards for Youth Classes only at this time. This had also been proposed and approved by the Youth Committee. If membership input shows a desire for Regional Top Ten Awards for all classes, this issue can be revisited.

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

Chair: Mike Hoopengardner

I have been recruiting committee members and will have a committee ready for approval by the January BOD meeting.

The website can and should be the source for everything ALSA related. From the new llama/alpaca owner to the experienced veteran, there needs to be something for everyone. The following are things that this committee would like to implement.

1. Marketplace

The marketplace can include a farm locator, animals for sale, fleece and crafts, and equipment/services just to name a few. This addition to the website should bring additional income to ALSA. We are currently charging 20.00 for a website listing that is nearly impossible to access. By creating the marketplace this will provide value for this charge. We have attached a basic plan for BOD approval – we would like to launch this early in 2009.

2. Education

This area can give articles on showing basics, links for healthcare, the ALSA Handbook as well as schedules for clinics and seminars. This would be a great help to new llama and alpaca owners.

3. Fleece

This area will give more importance to Fleece shows and information.

Proposed Committee Goals 2009

1. Review every page on the website
2. Make recommendations to the webmaster for editing of these pages
3. Assist the webmaster in the creation of a website that is easy to use with current and useful information

With the addition of the ALSA Database, it is important that the website meets the need of the members as well as meeting the purpose of ALSA to promote Llamas and Alpacas.

Proposal: ALSA Marketplace

We would like approval to add an ALSA Marketplace to the ALSA website. Since the ALSA website is one of the most visited sites in the llama community with approximately 3,500 successful requests each day, a Marketplace to offer sales and services will be an excellent offering to ALSA members.

Categories available to post to will be: (additions may be added later as needed)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| ALSA Champions – Halter & Performance | Stud Services |
| ALSA ROMs – Halter & Performance | Llamas Wanted |
| Male Llamas | Services Offered (transport, shearing, etc) |
| Female Llamas | Supplies, Equipment, & Gifts |
| Male Alpacas | The Classifieds |
| Female Alpacas | Breeder’s Directory |
| Non-Breeders | ALSA Brochures, Booklets, & Videos |

Breeder’s Directory:

Will be offered at the current price of \$20.00 per year. In addition to listings being available in the new database, listings will also be in the ALSA Marketplace arranged by state. Listing will include name, address, phone, email, and website URL. Breeder may send a few lines of text to be included as well as a small picture sized to the following specifications. (?? x ?? pixels at 72 dpi*)

Sales Listings:

Ads may be posted in the above categories (with the exception of Supplies, Equipment, & Gifts) for \$10.00 a year. Vendors may post in the Supplies, Equipment, & Gifts category for \$20.00 a year. The Website Committee will help the webmaster monitor the length of times on the ads. As an additional Bonus to those who have achieved an ALSA Champion or ALSA ROM award, those ads will also be placed in those special award categories at no additional charge. Sales listings will contain a photo (?? x ?? at 72 dpi*), farm, animal, and contact information, and a link to a larger photo.

Classified Ads:

Short classified ads consisting only of text may be posted for only \$5.00 a year.

Rotating Banner Ad:

A rotating banner ad is available on the front page of the ALSA Marketplace for \$50.00 per year. These ads will appear at random and constantly rotate and have an active link to the farm’s website. Ads must be ?? x ?? pixels at 72 dpi*. If you need help in creating your banner, there is no charge.

Small Banner Ads:

Small banner ads are available on the front page of the ALSA Marketplace for only \$10.00 for a period of 3 months. The banner will have a link to the farm’s website.

Featured Sales Ads:

Featured sales ads are available on the front page of the ALSA Marketplace for only \$25.00 for 6 months. This ad will consist of a photo, farm listing, owner, and link to more information. Ad specifications are ?? x ?? at 72 dpi.*

*Actual specific sizes will be defined when the page is being developed.

We project that this very affordable ALSA Marketplace will bring additional revenue to ALSA as well as giving members more benefits for their ALSA membership.

We plan to start work on the development of this area of the website as soon as approval is given. As soon as we have something up on the website, we plan to begin a promotional campaign to notify the membership of the new benefits offered to them.

Kay made a motion to approve the website Marketplace as proposed by the Website Committee. Cathie seconded. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

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

Chair: Barb Harris

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.

Further action on the proposed National Youth Association, sponsored by ALSA, is postponed until requested feedback (requested in Sept., 2008) is received from Policy & Planning Committee.

MEMBER'S LETTERS TO THE BOD:

1. Letter from Kathy Peterson, CLR Registrar, regarding use of CLR Registry.
President will respond.
2. Letter from Member regarding change of award certificate design.
President will respond.
3. Letter from Member regarding ILR petition to start new show association circulating at a recent show.
Reviewed and discussed.

MEETING ADJOURNED: **Motion:** Kay made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cathie seconded. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Time: 2:39 a.m. EST

MINUTES APPROVED: **December 23, 2008**

Marilyn Nenni, Secretary

Attachment #1 2008 Grand National Premiums

Old Business #2. GRAND NATIONAL PAYOUTS, from Wayne

2008 Grand National Premiums					
Class	1st (100)	2nd (75)	3rd (50)	4th (25)	Class Name
1	100	50	25		Pleasure Driving
2	100	50			Special Needs Showmanship
3	100	50			Special Needs Obstacle
4	100	50	25		Obstacle Driving
5	100	50	25		Adult Showmanship
6	100	50	25		Intermediate Youth Showmanship
7	100	50	25		Junior Youth Showmanship
8	100	50	25		Senior Youth Showmanship
9	100	50	25		Junior Youth Judging
10	100	50	25		Intermediate Youth Judging
11	100	50	25		Senior Youth Judging
12	100	50	25		Suri Juvenile Female
13	100	50	25		Suri Yearling Female
14	100	50	25		Suri Two Year Old Female
15	100	50			Suri Adult Female
16	100				Grand Champion Suri Female
17		50			Reserve Grand Champion Suri Female
18	100	50	25		Suri Juvenile Male
19	100	50	25		Suri Yearling Male
20	100	50	25		Suri 2 Year Old Male
21	100	50	25		Suri Adult Male
22	100				Grand Champion Suri Male
23		50			Reserve Grand Champion Suri Male
24	100	50	25		Yearling Non Breeder
25	100	50	25		2 Year Old Non Breeder
26	100	50	25		Adult Non Breeder
27	100				Grand Champion Non Breeder
28		50			Reserve Grand Champion Non Breeder
29	100	50			LW Juvenile Female
30	100	50	25		LW Yearling Female
31	100	50	25		LW 2 Year Old Female
32	100	50	25		LW Adult Female
33	100				Grand Champion LW Female
34		50			Reserve Champion LW Female
35	100				LW Juvenile Male
36	100	50	25		LW Yearling Male
37	100				LW 2 Year Old Male
38	100	50	25		LW Adult Male
39	100				Grand Champion LW Male
40		50			Reserve Champion LW Male
41	100	50	25		MW Juvenile Female
42	100	50	25		MW Yearling Female
43	100	50	25		MW 2 Year Old Female
44	100	50	25		MW Adult Female
45	100				Grand Champion MW Female
46		50			Reserve Grand Champion MW Female
47	100	50	25		MW Juvenile Male
48	100	50	25		MW Yearling Male

49	100	50	25	MW 2 Year Old Male
50	100	50	25	MW Adult Male
51	100			Grand Champion MW Male
52		50		Reserve Champion MW Male
53	100	50	25	Advanced Llama Obstacle
54	100	50	25	Advanced Alpaca Obstacle
55	100	50	25	Senior Youth Obstacle
56	100	50	25	Youth Alpaca Obstacle
57	100	50	25	Intermediate Youth Obstacle
58	100	50	25	Junior Youth Obstacle
59	100	50	25	Advanced Llama Pack
60	100	50	25	Advanced Alpaca Pack
61	100	50	25	Senior Youth Obstacle
62	100	50	25	Youth Alpaca Pack
63	100	50	25	Intermediate Youth Pack
64	100	50	25	Junior Youth Pack
65	100	50	25	HW Juvenile Female
66	100	50	25	HW Yearling Female
67	100	50	25	HW 2 Year Old Female
68	100	50	25	HW Adult Female
69	100			Grand Champion HW Female
70		50		Reserve Grand Champion HW Female
71	100	50	25	HW Juvenile Male
72	100	50	25	HW Yearling Male
73	100	50	25	HW 2 Year Old Male
74	100	50	25	HW Adult Male
75	100			Grand Champion HW Male
76		50		Reserve Grand Champion HW Male
77	100	50	25	Produce of Dam
78	100	50	25	Get of Sire
79	100	50	25	Senior Youth Public Relations
80	100	50	25	Youth Alpaca Public Relations
81	100	50	25	Intermediate Youth Public Relations
82	100	50	25	Junior Youth Public Relations
83	100	50	25	Advanced Llama Public Relations
84	100	50	25	Advanced Alpaca Public Relations
85	100			Senior Performance Champion
86		50		Senior Reserve Performance Champion
87	100			Youth Alpaca Performance Champion
				Youth Alpaca Reserve Performance
88		50		Champion
89	100			Intermediate Performance Champion
				Intermediate Reserve Performance
90		50		Champion
91	100			Junior Performance Champion
92		50		Junior Reserve Performance Champion
93	100			Performance Champion
94		50		Reserve Performance Champion
95	100			Alpaca Performance Champion
				Alpaca Reserve Performance
96		50		Champion
	8100	3950	1500	13550

Attachment #2 Letter from Attorney:

Robert L. Smith
Attorney At Law
P. O. Box 2452
Henderson, TX 75653-2452

Date: October 1, 2008

To: Mary Beth McCormick, President
Alpaca and Llama Association
607 California Ave.
Pittsburg, PA 15202

From: Robert L. Smith
Attorney At Law
Post Office Box 2452
Henderson, TX 75653-2452

Subject: Mandatory Requirement of ILR and CLAA (Canadian Registry) Certificates

My firm represents Malinda Norman, a member in good standing of the Alpaca and Llama Show Association (herein referred to as ALSA) and other ALSA and non-ALSA members (herein referred to as clients), who object to ALSA's exclusionary and discriminatory requirement that certain llamas must be registered with the International Llama Association (herein referred to as the ILR) before they are allowed participation in ALSA sanctioned shows.

Please reference Ms. Norman's letter, dated August 11, 2008, to the ALSA Board of Directors (herein referred to as the BOD), requesting clarification of the need for and the legitimacy of the requirement that certain llamas be registered with the ILR as a prerequisite for participation in certain llama classes of ALSA sanctioned shows and your subsequent response dated September 22, 2008.

My clients take exception to your reference of "other livestock show organizations" and view it as irrelevant to our primary question of why ALSA requires certain llamas be registered with the ILR before these llamas are allowed to participate in certain llama classes at ALSA sanctioned shows. My clients are not interested in what other livestock organizations do. My clients are only interested in what llama show organizations, and in particular ALSA, do. As a matter of record, there are existing llama show organizations that do not require a registration from the ILR or any other registry to participate in all aspects of their shows.

In your response you attempt to justify your answer to my client's question by stating that a certificate of registration is required to facilitate proper classification with regard to age; however, you then admit the system ALSA uses is flawed and imperfect. You admit that some owners lie about the date of birth shown on the ILR registration and that the ILR cannot prove the dates of birth on the certificates of registration they issue are correct. Furthermore, you state ALSA will continue to enforce the exclusionary and discriminatory requirement that certain llamas must be registered with the ILR, although you know and say you know that it is common knowledge within the llama industry that ILR certificates of registration are inaccurate.

Ms. McCormick, it is not my clients' desire to ask for court intervention in this matter; however, my clients will not sit idly by while this exclusionary and discriminatory requirement continues to prevent ALSA members in good standing and non-ALSA members from enjoying all the benefits ALSA has to offer. My clients highly recommend that the BOD immediately remove this exclusionary and discriminatory requirement.

Yours truly,

Robert L. Smith

cc: ALSA Board of Directors: Julie Heggie, Cathie Kindler, Bob LaMorte, Marilyn Nenni, MaryAlice Pilbin, Kay Sharpnack

Attachment #3: Letter from CLR Registrar

Certified Llama Registry (CLR)

P. O. Box 360717
Birmingham, AL 35236

December 2, 2008

ALSA Board of Directors
Alpaca and Llama Show Association
607 California Avenue
Pittsburg, PA 15202

Dear ALSA Board of Directors:

Please accept this letter as a formal request by the Certified Llama Registry (CLR) to be included as one of the llama registries ALSA recognizes for participation in ALSA-sanctioned shows. The CLR was created in 2005 and currently registers llamas in the United States.

Since the introduction of llamas into the United States and before the existence of the CLR, verified registrations of llama pedigree were not required. Therefore, purity of llamas within the United States was and is to this day impossible to prove. With a history of over 20 years of llama registrations, the United States still does not have a basis from which to determine llama purity.

The CLR recognized the need for accuracy of pedigrees within the llama registration process and has from its inception required matching DNA that ties back to the parents of every llama it registers. Although this process verifies pedigree, the CLR does not declare purity. It is the CLR's belief that declaration of purity has to come from CLR's sub-registries, but only after a verifiable starting point has been determined. Sub-registries can then apply their unique requirements specific to that sub-registry's determination of what they may or may not consider pure within their sub-registry. The CLR's function in this process is to maintain an accurate database (hub on a wheel) that verifies pedigrees from which sub-registries (spokes of the wheel) have a verifiable starting point.

The CLR maintains only one sub-registry at this time, which is for Suri llamas. Other examples of sub-registries could be Mini, Ccara, Appaloosa and various others, depending upon what criteria sub-registries may choose to use. In each case, a sub-registry would have an established breed standard, as does the CLR Suri sub-registry.

All llamas enter the CLR registration process through the Primary category, which is considered the hub of the database. The sub-registries will draw their DNA verified and microchip identified seed stock from the CLR's Primary category. All offspring within a particular sub-registry must first be registered in the CLR's Primary category. This requirement assures accuracy of records of any sub-registry going forward.

The CLR is the only llama registry in the United States that requires DNA proof of parentage and microchip identification for every llama it registers. The CLR is the only registry in the United States which strongly recommends veterinarian certification of date of birth and provides an indicator on its certificate of registration for that purpose.

The CLR recognizes the need for verification and understands that this verification costs more than what some have been accustomed to paying. The CLR also recognizes that all llamas may not need the extensive CLI verification and understands that clients tend to register with the CLR those llamas they believe will contribute most positively to their breeding and marketing programs.

The CLR would consider it a privilege to be accepted by ALSA as one of the registries it recognizes. For this privilege, the CLR would be open to discussion on various topics such as CLR participation with other sponsors of ALSA events. Although the CLR does not carry the bank account other registries do, we would work with ALSA to create and maintain a long-term mutually beneficial relationship.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,
Kathy Peterson, CLR Registrar
ContactCLR@aol.com
205-369-3111

12-8-08

The catalyst for the current situation is threefold: the desire of the ILR to increase revenue sources by merger with ALSA, managing ALSA or competing with ALSA through development of a show module; the desire of a few breeders to have a show association that they can control; and the request by CLR for acceptance as a handbook listed registry with a revenue share back to ALSA, (something the other registries should have been providing all along).

Historically ALSA has accepted animals from two registries – the ILR (predominantly in USA) and the CLRC (predominantly in Canada). There is a third registry (CLR) that has operated for several years and meets more rigorous standards (DNA, phenotypic screening and microchip) than the above mentioned registries. The CLR registry has requested acceptance from ALSA.

There are four actions that the Board can consider:

1. Do nothing – continue to accept llamas only from ILR and CLRC
2. Start its own registry and only accept animals that are members of that registry ,
3. Drop registry requirements entirely and accept all “llamas”, or
4. Add the new registry to the list.

The outcome of the first action most likely will result in legal action, an unnecessary expense and distraction.

The second action requires significant cost and effort, but is the direction seen in other livestock and companion animal industries.

The third action removes all controls (that artificially exist as ILR does not require DNA or Microchip) and phenotype will be the only tool to use to prove that the animal is a llama of a specific age, as required in the ALSA handbook. This decision probably is the least desirable. It requires adoption of a llama phenotypic breed standard, and oversight by show management.

The fourth action, adding the CLR as a registry, removes the situation of discrimination and has further positive ramifications, if simultaneously the CLI show division is folded into ALSA.

1. ALSA eliminates a perceived competitor
2. ALSA gains income from the transaction

Placing decisions in the show ring and economic considerations will sort out which llamas attend shows. Those that never place will not be able to justify the expense of attending shows. This has already happened with ILR registered, “sub-standard” llamas.

We can't prove the purity or historical lineage of any llama in the US. At some point all ancestors were imported from South America. There, any proven breeding records evaporate. There are none. If we start with an animal that has unknown genetics and track its offspring from importation forward, bloodlines that meet the desired breed standard, successfully reproduce themselves, and are prepotent will survive. Those that do not, eventually fail.

There is a myth that CLR promotes crossbreeds. That myth was started by SLA, now defunct, and simply is NOT REALITY! CLR was never about creating cross breeds. CLR is about defining a breed standard for the llama, establishing permanent identification – microchip, and requiring DNA testing in every instance to confirm parentage in the registration of llamas. It is about giving value and legitimacy to the registration paper for each llama. It differs significantly from the ILR, which does not require DNA or microchip and uses only the phenotype determined import/screening to register animals as llamas.

If we are worried about crossbreeds, there is little we can do about them. They have been imported for years from South America. The ILR is full of them, as they passed screening, but then have produced little Huacaya offspring. Some added genetically to the llama gene pool, some did not. We know that the llama is a hybridized animal. We actually have breeds of llamas, but have only just started to recognize breeds in this country. (They are recognized in South America.) Ultimately, as mentioned above, the show ring sorts out the hybridized animals that do not add to the gene pool.

In addition CLR recognized the llama as a fiber producing animal, apart from a companion animal. Its show format, CLI, differs from ALSA by combining a fiber component into the judging of breeds of llamas that, through selective breeding, have developed usable fleeces. The CLI/CLR goes further to define a breed standard for the identified breeds, for use in judging and breeding decisions. The creation of a standard has enabled breeders to measure their success in achieving the phenotype desirable for each breed. Because CLR only registers animals that phenotypically meet the criteria of the llama breed standard, uses DNA in every instance to confirm parentage, identifies animals accurately through required Microchip, the CLR is the only llama registry in North America that will eventually achieve “purity” of the breed.

Kathy Peterson

Attachment #4: Grand National Llama Fleece Show Financial Report

**2008 ALSA Grand National Llama Fleece Show
Income & Expense Report
Lee Ann King, Superintendent**

2008 Income

Sponsor Contributions	\$ 2,200.00
Entry Fees	2,020.00
Return Shipping Fees	135.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 4,355.00

2008 Expenses

Ribbons – original order	\$ 283.83
Ribbons – additional 10 ordered	158.99
Judge Fee, flat rate	800.00
14 skirted tables \$15 each	210.00
Pipe & Drape 60' @ \$1.50 a foot	90.00
Show Program Publishing – 8 pages	327.32
Premiums (paid with sponsor contributions)	2,045.00
General Show Expenses, copies, card stock, postage, etc. (used remainder of sponsor contributions)	155.00
UPS and USPS return fleece shipping	135.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 4,205.14

BALANCE = \$149.86