



# MAPACA

Mid-Atlantic Alpaca Association

*Newsletter*

**September 2006**

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## Jubilee 2007 Update!

*By Anne Hallinan, Jubilee  
Show Manager*

If you haven't already done so, please mark **April 26-29, 2007** on your calendar for the next spectacular MAPACA Jubilee! Check-in will be Thursday the 26<sup>th</sup> with the show taking place Friday – Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>.

Planning has already started in order to continue to improve this premier event. We want to make it first on your list of shows to attend. So, thank you to everyone who completed and returned the evaluation forms from this year's show. Please be assured that each and every one was read and your comments shared with your Board of Directors.

One of the most notable changes is that due to many factors, the MAPACA Board has decided not to have an auction as part of the 2007 Jubilee.

There will, however, be an Art Contest to determine the show logo. Be thinking of your design, as the deadline for entries will be sometime in November. Watch your email and this newsletter for details and entry information.

And of course, it is never too early to volunteer. If you are interested in helping with the 2007 show, please be sure to let me know. Email or fax your name, contact information (mailing address, phone, email) and preferred job. I'll compile and forward to the appropriate coordinator.

Looking forward to another great show!

Anne Hallinan, CMP  
Jubilee Show Manager  
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**Eric Hoffman and Ingrid Wood at the MAPACA  
Type Conference 8/12/06**

*Photo by Janet Boas, Lilac Lane Alpacas, Ridley  
Park, PA*

## Table of Contents

**Jubilee 2007 Update!:** pg. 1  
**Editor's Ramblings:** pg. 2  
**AOBA Affiliate Congress:** pg. 3  
**Camelid Veterinarian Continuing Education Grant Program:** pg. 3  
**LDGs—Ya Gotta Love 'Em:** pg. 4  
**Bright Ideas!:** pg. 5  
**Camelid Humor:** pg. 5  
**Classified:** pg. 5  
**Calendar of Events:** pg. 6 & 7  
**New Release: AFCNA Spirit of the Fiber Industry Award:** pg. 8

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## Editor's Ramblings:

Although the results have not yet been tabulated from the MAPACA Type Conference, the general consensus of the vast majority of those who attended was that there should not be a Breed Standard developed at this time. I'd like to say that I attended the MAPACA Type Conference and I was impressed by the quality of the presentations of each speaker. I learned a lot. Also, I much appreciated the respectful atmosphere that prevailed at the event. There was absolutely no arguing or bickering or name calling. The Conference was very educational and allowed all who wanted to, to speak while everyone listened.

I would like to thank Carol Pfister, Frieda Goodrich, Nancy Johanson and Bob Ciszewski for a job well done. All their hard work resulted in a great event for all who attended.

Everyone that attended the Conference received a 100 page book with all kinds of notes from each speaker. A great reference tool. The speakers were great, the food was great, and the Marriott provided a comfortable and elegant room for the conference.

After such a wonderful day, each participant was encouraged to fill out a survey to express exactly how they felt about Breed Standards. Currently these surveys are being tabulated and the results will be shared with AOBA and will be placed on the MAPACA website at [www.mapaca.org](http://www.mapaca.org), for all to read.

Currently the Board of Directors is looking for a place to hold the October 15th Annual meeting. I believe Bob Ciszewski is looking for a host farm in Pennsylvania. If you would like to volunteer your farm, please give Bob a call if he hasn't found someone yet to volunteer.

Hopefully all of you filled out your election ballot and mailed it in to be counted on time. I filled mine out. The results of the election will be announced at the October 15th Annual Meeting. Please save that day and attend if at all possible. Watch the MAPACA website for the exact location, which will also be announced in the next Newsletter. Hope to see you there.

Best, Alice Brown

## **AOBA Affiliate Congress**

### **Held August 12, 2006**

The 1st Affiliate Congress meeting was awesome – a true coming together of many people representing a diverse group of individuals and farms. The groundwork that was laid at this meeting will enable us to communicate better with, and receive help and information from, the AOBA BOD and each other.

The presidents met on Friday evening, starting with a social hour where the AOBA BOD was invited to come meet everyone. After introductions and some socializing, the AOBA BOD left and the Affiliate Congress spent the next four hours discussing the issues of our groups. Issues were presented very matter-of-factly and honestly and laid out to use as an aid in moving forward.

It became obvious that what we needed was better communication between the affiliate boards and their members, the affiliates among themselves, and the affiliates and the AOBA BOD. While this sounds simple, we also discovered that while everyone thought they were doing what was necessary to "send out information", the perception of the receivers was to the contrary, on all sides and each wondered why the other didn't communicate. It was also obvious that among the affiliates, we were often "reinventing the wheel", whereas there is a great deal of assistance to be had if we just had a forum to find the sources. Some of the affiliates have been functioning for several years, and could assist those who are brand new.

On Saturday morning, we met with the AOBA BOD. They made their presentations and were very open to our needs and helped to finalize a plan of action. It was a very forthright exchange of issues and ideas.

If you have not received the full minutes of the meeting you may request a copy by contacting Alice Brown at 856-697-8127 or fpalpacas@aol.com. However, one of the highlights of the meeting is the use of the Affiliate Congress to give feed back to the AOBA board from their members. The Congress will work on special issues either proposed by the AOBA BOD or through our memberships. When we receive a task from the AOBA BOD we

will research it and email the issue to our memberships requesting their input within 5 days. This input will be collated and given to the AOBA BOD.

We already have 2 issues from AOBA that we will be sending out shortly to our membership for their input.

Frieda Goodrich attended the AOBA Affiliate Congress, as Nancy Johanson was moderating the Type Conference. However, Nancy will be attending any future Affiliate Congress meetings. Please feel free to contact Nancy via email if you have any questions at [nancy@johansonmfg.com](mailto:nancy@johansonmfg.com).

### **Camelid Veterinarian Continuing Education Grant Program**

The Board of Directors of MAPACA is delighted to announce the establishment of an annual program to support continuing education for camelid veterinarians serving alpaca owners in the MAPACA region. Grants will be available up to \$500 per session to attend camelid educational programs. Grants are limited to one per year for each veterinarian. In the case of veterinary practices, only one grant per practice per program. Feel free to contact Alice Brown, Recording Secretary, with any questions you may have.

Funds will be available retroactively for programs already attended in 2006. The Camelid Veterinarian Continuing Education Grant Application is available on the MAPACA website. Please submit the completed application to Alice Brown. The applications will then be reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors. MAPACA requests that all recipients prepare a brief summary of the program, within 2 weeks of attending, to be shared with the MAPACA membership on the MAPACA website. These summaries will be archived and kept on the website for future reference as well.

## LDGs—Ya Gotta Love ‘Em

*By Camille DeSando, Pleasant View Farm  
Suri Alpacas, Gilbert, PA*

I’ve had three Great Pyrenees dogs in my lifetime. The first was named Moses, and he was one of the best dogs I’ve ever had. When I moved from Oregon to Pennsylvania, I sold Moses to another alpaca rancher. I wasn’t sure how long it would take me to find a suitable place to set up ranching again.

I now have two Great Pyres named Misha and Molly. They are just wonderful! Misha knew from day one that he had a job to do. He settled in to that job immediately. Molly, on the other hand, decided that since she was still a puppy, she would enjoy life, enjoy the alpacas, and she’d leave the guarding up to Misha. Molly has since become a good guardian herself, having one day discovered her voice and her reason for being here.

A marvelous thing happened not too long ago. Barn swallows had set up housekeeping in the girls’ shelter, and one day the baby birds went for their maiden flight. One of the chicks landed on the ground in the pasture where Misha immediately ran to see what it was. I thought he was going to harm it perhaps by playing too hard or by biting it. I kept yelling at Misha, but he was on a “mission.” Finally, I remember to say, “Misha, leave it!” Misha immediately put the little bird down and sat by it.

I got a bucket and scooped the chick into it. It looked as if Misha had broken the wing, but I was not about to give up. I took the little guy out of the pasture and put him on the ground under a tree. I knew it was up to its parents to find him and decide if he could make it back home.

The baby bird was gone from the spot under the tree within a short period of time. He’s just fine.

It took a while for me to realize what had actually gone on that day. The entire Misha was carrying that little baby swallow in his mouth, he was walking toward the girls’ shelter. Misha was taking the chick back to his home and his parents.

LDGs, ya gotta love ‘em!

## MaPaca Annual Meeting—2006

### October 15, 2006

\*Please mark your calendars for this date and plan to attend. Watch the Newsletter and the web site for announcement of the meeting location.



**Eric Hoffman and Wini Labrecque at the  
MAPACA Type Conference 8/12/06**

*Photo by Janet Boas, Lilac Lane Alpacas, Ridley  
Park, PA*

# Bright Ideas!

This bright idea was sent to me by Ann Connor of Big Sky Alpacas in Mullica Hill, New Jersey. With the awful heat this summer Ann felt her alpacas needed some additional cooling. Ann's barn has a concrete floor which is cool, but the heat was extreme. Ann said what she bought was a soaker hose that she ran right down the middle of her barn. She has drains in the floor so the water was able to drain away without flooding the barn, but the fine spray of water kept the alpacas nice and comfortable. Ann said the temperature in her barn never rose over 85 degrees. The combination of the fans, concrete floor and soaker hose did the trick!

## Camelid Humor:

*By Alice Brown, Forever Precious Alpacas, Vine-land, New Jersey*

Working around the farm in the sun and heat of summer you will generally always find me wearing my straw cowboy hat. It cost me all of \$6.00 at Wal-Mart. It is very light and comfortable and I love that hat. I think the alpacas love it too as very often one will come up and start nibbling on it. I mean even alpacas who are not "people pacas" can't resist an occasional nibble on my hat. So far the hat has escaped unscathed. No teeth marks to speak of.

So, picture me, short, not as slim as I used to be kind of pudgy "50 something" female with the straw cowboy hat and a hose. The hat is on my head, the hose is in my hand to cool down the alpacas. Yup, I'm all set, or set up, whichever way you want to look at it. I lean over to get a sip of cool water from the hose as I'm hosing off the alpacas when one grabs hold of the end of the hose and won't let go. Water is spraying all over the place, including on me and on my hat. I must say I was a tad cooler! My hat, well it needed a little reshaping, but it survived and once dry it is as good as new.

# C lassified Ads:

Any member may post an ad for alpaca and/or alpaca farm related equipment and items. The ad may include a short description and contact information. This will be a free service to current MAPACA members ONLY. Please send your ads to Alice Brown, fpalpacas@aol.com or call 856-697-8127.

1. **Alpaca Cria Sweaters**—Made of 100% alpaca. Warm, durable, lightweight, soft! Small to 25lbs. Large to 35 lbs. Assorted colors. \$50.00 each + tax, S&H. Free shipping with purchase of 3 or more. **Mountain Meadows Alpaca Farm. 540-586-1745.**
2. **Manure Spreader.** Pequea Model 70, ground driven, excellent condition (used 10 hours total), paint faded. 70 bushel capacity. If new \$2,900—asking \$1,500 or reasonable best offer. Pictures available. Contact: **Paul at Big Sky Alpacas—856-223-0570.**
3. **New Alpaca Photos Website-** [www.alpacaphotosonline.com](http://www.alpacaphotosonline.com) 100s, soon to be 1000s of photos of alpacas and products. No charge to submit photos. Contact: **Nancy Lake, info@alpacaphotosonline.com or 301-393-5878.**
4. **Wanted. Long term boarders** (one or two Huacaya females) fair rates, excellent pastures, spacious barn, and plenty of TLC, **call 609-261-0696 or visit [www.stormwindalpacas.com](http://www.stormwindalpacas.com)**
5. **Alpaca Equipment:** chutes, scales, hay saver feeders, Tooth-A-Matic, shearing tables, Pro-Tie & mats, panels & gates See our insert in this month's Newsletter or visit us on-line at **[www.lightlivestockequipment.com](http://www.lightlivestockequipment.com) or call Jay Ward of AuSable Valley Alpacas at 518-524-0545.**



## Calendar of Events

### **September 9, 2006—Eastern Extreme Alpaca Auction**

Join us for the Premier Alpaca Auction of the Fall! We are proud to offer an elite selection of Huacaya Alpacas and thrilled to hold this year's auction at MOUNTAINEER RACE TRACK & GAMING RESORT!

Visit the resort at [www.mtrgaming.com](http://www.mtrgaming.com). Join us Friday afternoon for a Meet & Greet and Alpaca Viewing. Friday Evening we invite you to a night out at the Race Track. On Saturday morning our guests will have the opportunity to attend seminars with featured speakers AOBA certified judge Ruth Evalstead & Dr. Wayne Jarvis. Visit us at [www.easternextremeauction.com](http://www.easternextremeauction.com) to preview auction lots. For more information contact **1-877-MY ALPACA** or [info@easternextremeauction.com](mailto:info@easternextremeauction.com)

**September 16-17, 2006—Discover Alpacas 2006—New Jersey Alpaca Community**—Hunderdon County Fairgrounds in Flemington, NJ. Free seminars will be offered on various facets of raising alpacas. Alpaca fiber products and crafts. A great way to visit many alpaca farms all under one roof. For more information contact **Melissa Hoff** or go to <http://www.njalpacas.org/index.htm> for more information.



## Calendar of Events

**September 23, 2006—9AM-4PM Columbus, NJ, Camelidynamics Workshop with Dorothy Hunt**, the first Camelidynamics Practitioner certified by Marty McGee Bennett. Learn a kinder, gentler, and more effective way of handling alpacas and llamas. Limited to 20 participants—\$150 per person—lunch included. Reserve your space by mailing a check to: Stormwind Alpacas, 1862 Jacksonville-Jobstown Road, Columbus, NJ 08022. **For information call 609-261-0696, or [stormwindalpacas@comcast.net](mailto:stormwindalpacas@comcast.net).**

**September 30, 2006—9:00AM-5:00PM Silvercloud Farm Seminar with Ruth Evalstad AOBA certified Judge**—Knowing your fleeces to maximizing your return & improve the overall quality of your end-products. This one day seminar will take your fleece from start to finish. Fee \$79.00, continental breakfast and lunch provided. **Contact—Helen Humphreys at 1-877-MY ALPACA or helen @silvercloudfarm.com.**

**September 30-October 1, 2006—Autumn Alpacafest—Blankstone Farm, Coopersburg, PA.— 10AM-4PM.** Open house for holiday shopping/alpacas for sale from many farms/free seminars on alpaca husbandry, taxes, fleece, veterinary care, fashion show, alpaca blessing, demonstrations. **Go to [www.blankstonealpacas.com](http://www.blankstonealpacas.com).**

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**September 30-October 1, 2006—I Love NY Alpacas Autumn Celebration— Ballston Spa, NY—** ((Just 30 minutes North of Albany) Sponsored by Spa Alpacas. Saturday and Sunday from 10AM-4PM (rain or shine). Fun, educational, relaxing event in the midst of pastures full of friendly, fleecy alpacas. Weekend activities include farm and facility tours, fleece spinning demonstrations, free mini-seminars, hands-on alpaca handling and agility training, shopping at “The Fiber Nook” farm store. Contact: **Kelly & Paul at 518-885-0585 or pjzanella@aol.com.**



**Dr. Stacey Byers, Bob Ciszewski and Eric Hoffman at the MAPACA Type Conference.**

*Photo by Janet Boas, Lilac Lane Alpacas, Ridley Park, PA*

## Calendar of Events

**October 14, 2006—Alpaca Heritage Sale—10AM-4PM—**Mullica Hill, New Jersey 08062, at the Gloucester County 4H Fairgrounds. Twenty Breeders all in one place! Private treaty sales, free fiber seminars, free admission to the public, visit: [www.alpacaheritage.com](http://www.alpacaheritage.com) . For more information call **Ingrid Wood: 609-261-0696.**

**November 4-5, 2006—The Great American Alpaca Yarn & Fiber Festival—**York, PA—Small Alpaca Farms of the Northeast Association—an event for all alpaca owners and breeders to showcase and sell their American grown, processed and produced alpaca fiber, rovings, yarn and products. Participate in the fiber related classes: enter skein, fiber arts and fleece competitions; donate to and enter silent raffle/auctions; see the alpaca to shawl demonstration and then bid on the shawl during the live auction. **For details: [www.safona.org/events.html](http://www.safona.org/events.html) or contact Naomi Fenstermacher, at 610-273-0220.**

**November 11, 2006—Eric Hoffman, Author of *The Complete Alpaca Book—”Alpacas from A-Z”* - 10:00AM-2:00PM** –Mr. Hoffman will present several topics including 1) Andean Pastoralism, 2) Understanding Camelid Behavior for Better Management, and 3) Unique Aspects of Fiber and New Technology. \$75.00 per person includes lunch. Please see flyer in this months MAPACA Newsletter to sign up for this event. For more information go to [www.AlpacaHeritage.com](http://www.AlpacaHeritage.com) or contact **Ingrid Wood at 609-261-0696 or [stormwindalpacas@comcast.net](mailto:stormwindalpacas@comcast.net).**

# NEWS RELEASE:

## 2006 AFCNA "Spirit Of The Fiber Industry" Award

Decatur, TN:

The Alpaca Fiber Cooperative of North America (AFCNA), Inc. presented its 2006 AFCNA "Spirit Of The Fiber Industry" Award on May 21 at the oral reasonings for the 2006 AOBA National Conference Fleece Show in Louisville, KY. AFCNA is proud to have been part of this AOBA Conference.

The Award was presented to the suri and the huacaya fleece entry that best meets the needs of the U.S. fiber industry. AFCNA Vice President and Director, Freda McGill, looked at fineness and handle, staple length, yield, tensile strength, cleanliness, brightness/luster, and character and style when selecting the winning fleeces. She was particularly impressed with the huacaya winning fleece, which had maintained fineness and staple length over time, thus maximizing the lifetime fiber value of that alpaca to the owner.

The suri fleece winner was Patti & Alan Anderson of Wild Rose Suri Ranch in Havre de Grace, MD. The huacaya fleece winner was David & Laurye Feller of Sunset Hills Farm Alpacas in Butler, PA. AFCNA applauds these two farms for their success in producing alpaca fiber that furthers the important fiber industry aspect of the North American alpaca adventure.

## **Advertise in the MAPACA Newsletter!**

*No ads will be accepted that include the PRICE of animals for sale. Stud Service prices are acceptable.*

We will insert one-page ads for members in MAPACA Newsletters. Ads cost **\$40.00** for one 8 ½" by 11" ad, on 24 pound paper or less, if you supply ALL the copies (they can be in color and two sided if you like). If your ad is on heavier paper than 24 pound, the cost will be **\$60.00**. If you would like us to copy your ad, supply us one copy and we will have it copied in black & white, one sided, for **\$70.00** total.

If you know any business that sells products or services relating to alpacas or farming in general that would benefit alpaca farmers, that would like to place an insert AD in the MAPACA Newsletter, you can recommend them if you are an existing MAPACA Member. The costs for businesses would be an additional **\$100.00** added on to the regular member fee for an insert AD. Thus it would be either **\$140.00, \$160.00, or \$170.00**. Please send copies, along with payment, to Alice Brown, 458 Main Road, Vineland, NJ 08360 by the 20th of the month you want your ad inserted. Make check payable to **MAPACA** and include check with inserts. Please, when you send inserts, do not require that I have to sign for them! **Any questions, email Alice Brown: [fpalpacas@aol.com](mailto:fpalpacas@aol.com) or call: 856-697-8127.**

Please send your comments, articles, or submissions to  
Alice Brown at:  
[Fpalpacas@aol.com](mailto:Fpalpacas@aol.com).