



Greater Appalachian
Llama and Alpaca Association
October 24, 2014

Portland Marriott at Sable Oaks, Maine
GALA's Annual Membership Meeting

Kelly Ralph called the meeting to order at 5:25 p.m. with a Thank You to Terry Beal and Hilary Ware and the entire 2014 conference committee.

Introduction of the current and new board members with the following present:

New board member Tom Hudgin, Kelly Ralph, Terry Beal, Carol Millard, Bob Wolfe, Jane Hamilton-Merritt, Barb Baker, Chuck Leach and Carol Reigh.

Absent: Josh Meador

Secretary's Report: Chuck Leach made a motion to accept the minutes of November 8, 2013 with a second by Terry Beal. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Carol Millard made available the financial report to the membership, explained some particulars and asked for any questions of which there were none.

Conference Report: Terry Beal reported all was going fine!!

Corporate Sponsors: Kelly Ralph said she has had no luck so far.

Library: Kelly gave a report from Cynthia Rossi. Library usage dropped dramatically this year, following the cost saving based decision by the board 2013 to eliminate the listing of library materials in the Membership Directory. There were only two shipments (totaling 9 items) borrowed in 2014 whereas there were 11 shipments in 2013. No monies are requested at this time for the Library's Operation. Cynthia thanked the GALA members who have supported and utilized the library over the past two decades. (side note: the BOD did vote to include the library listing in the 2015 directory)

Membership Drive will start Oct 24 and run through the next year's conference. Each new membership you get earns you a coupon to possibly win a nontransferable, single registration to the conference. A drawing will be held to determine the winner so the more memberships you acquire, the more coupons you have to put in for the drawing. A healthy discussion followed on how to increase membership.

Mentoring Project: Barb Baker reported on the Mentoring Project. On the website there will be a new section entitled Mentoring under the Education tab. Presently we do have a nice list of potential mentors.

Nominations/Elections: Out of 263 members, 104 voted. Congratulations to Jane Hamilton-Merritt, Terry Beal, and Josh Meador.

Website: Carol Millard reported on the website and Ron Caruso is the GALA web master. Bob Wolfe reminded people to check out the photo contest winners from the previous years.

New Business:

2015 Photo Calendar: Jane Hamilton-Merritt thanked Bev Vienchowski for her design for the 2015 calendar. The proceeds go to the GALA general fund.

Photo Contest: Bob Wolfe reminded us to pick a People's Choice in the photo contest.

Camelid Community: Barb Baker explained the focus of the Camelid Community and its origin. CC, over the years, has developed numerous educational brochures. In Aug 9-10 of 2014, the CC put on a "Fiber as Business" conference. The conference was a huge success. It was a joint effort for both the alpaca and llama owners. One of the most important outcomes is that camelid fiber co-ops, pools and several mills are working together with the USDA to establish consistent, useful criteria that will allow for reporting of actual, provable sales transactions of camelid fiber by the USDA Livestock, Wool and Grain Service. This will bring credibility to our fiber industry." CC is planning a Camelid Jamboree Sept 19-20, 2015 in Ellsworth, Wis focusing to get new people involved with camelids.

Llama Medical Research: "Hilary reports that the LMRG reviewed 4 camelid proposals in Fall 2014, of which only one was approved for funding through Morris Animal Foundation. Once she receives the details on that project - as well as the possibility of a Tufts Vet School study furthering information on a long-acting avermectin dewormer through Dr. Daniela Bedenice - both studies will be brought before the Board for discussion of GALA support.

Also, Dr. Chris Cebra, Professor of Large Animal Internal Medicine and Head of the Department of Clinical Sciences, has been chosen for the Glen Pfefferkorn and Morris Wendorf Endowed Professorship of Camelid Medicine. It is the first endowed professorship in the OSU College of Veterinary Medicine, and the only endowed professorship of camelid medicine in the country. Dr. Cebra is a very well respected investigator whose camelid research GALA has supported in the past. Glen is Chair of the LMRG."

New Board Re-organized:

President: Kelly Ralph

VP: Terry Beal

Sec: Carol Reigh

Treasurer: Carol Millard (stays on as Treasurer)

Adjournment: Jane Hamilton-Merritt made a motion to adjourn with a second from Don Hines. Motion passed and meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Reigh