

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Rocky Mountain Llama and Alpaca, Inc.

September 2, 2011 – Castle Rock, Colorado

Note: These minutes were presented at the 2012 Annual Meeting
Motion: Approve minutes for the 2011 Annual Meeting.
Motion by Paul Schwartz. 2nd by Ron Baird. Motion passed August 31, 2012

Call meeting to order – 6:37 P.M. A quorum was established.

Welcome to all members.

Motion to approve minutes of 2010 Annual Meeting. Motion by Susan Procter. 2nd by Karen Schwartz.
Motion Passed.

Treasury Report – The Balance Sheet was circulated for member's review. There was no discussion. Motion to approve treasury report as presented. Motion by Sandy Nolan. 2nd by Kathy Stanko. Motion passed.

Bookstore – Jan Adamcyk - CFL&A sales have been steady with repeat orders from our distributors throughout the United States, Canada, England and New Zealand. The bookstore also continues to fill orders for single copies of CFLA from people who own llamas and/or alpacas as well as potential owners who have question and are interested in learning more about these animals. There are also 7 copies of the 4H Youth Manual remaining in inventory.

Bylaws – Lougene. Committee has not received any suggestions for Bylaws changes. Bylaws will be review by committee and any suggested changes will be presented on the General Election Ballot.

Calendar- - Patti Morgan The 2011 RMLA Calender was a success; we came out ahead. The 2012 Calendar is now available at the same price as in previous years - \$10.00. It included pictures submitted by members including: Jerry Dunn, Cheryl Juntilla, Laurie Carson, Mary Alice Snider, Carol Lontine, Ann Bruhn, Loren Munger, Judy Glaser, Pem Dorjee Sherpa (friend of Dick Williams) and me. Thank you to all submitters; we have some great photos. Prices are \$10 or by 9 and get one free. They will be available Labor Day weekend at the LOCC/ALSA Regional show then through RMLA.com or directly from me. Shipping will be \$2 for 1, \$3 for 2-3, \$5 for 46. More, contact me. I will be collecting pictures and ad money money for the 2013 calendar in late March 2012.

Events/Marketing-Jerry Dunn RMLA sponsored 20 events for the year. A revision in Event Planning Packet was made by removing service directories from requested materials. The Fairplay Race generated \$2700 to be set aside for partial payment of \$3300 premium for liability insurance for RMLA sponsored events.

Fiber – Patti Morgan – The RMLA Fiber Booth has experienced a good 2011 so far. In early 2011, the guidelines were changed to reflec the need to try to break even. A fiber booth committee was asked to recommend guidelines and the BOD approved these in early February. They included raising the commission paid for members from 15% to 20% and for non-members from 30% to 40%. It also changed the reimbursement policy for the booth manager from expenses paid to a 10% commission charged with no expenses paid. One exception is for fuel to be paid to the person who takes the trailer to events. The Fiber Co-op ws not allowed to attend the NWSS. So our first show was EPWM in June. We had good weather andn good sales. We sold \$987 for our consignors with a new loss of \$181. Vendor fees are high at EPWM-\$350. We then attended the Fairplay, CO, Burro Days in July. We sold \$860 for our consignors with a net profit of \$54. Thank you to all t he volunteers who helped at EPWM. A special thanks to Mary Wickm,an for hauling the trailer there at the last minute. Also, a special thank you to Wally and Cheryl Juntilla for managing the

booth at Fairplay. RMLA does have the greatest volunteers! Our next show is Taos the first weekend of October. Jill Knuckles is the manager. As our consignors know, it is a struggle to break even. To that end, we are conducting the 'SECOND ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION' to help defray costs of the fiber booth and maintain the booth. We have lots of beautiful and fun items to be auctioned off the weekend of the LOCC/ALSA Regionsl shows. So bid high and bid often!! The cutoff time is 11AM on Sunday. For 2012, the following is the proposed events to attend: Fiberfest in February (new venue), EPWM in June, Fairplay Burro Days in July and Taos Wool Market in October. We are always looking for new shows that are close enough and have reasonable vendor fees.

Finance – Lougene. In 2010, the BOD requested the Finance Committee, Chaired by Barb Hance, to analyze the 3-year profit and loss reports and make recommendations on operational changes for the purpose of protecting RMLA assets. The BOD has taken into consideration this report and has been diligently working toward restructuring the way RMLA funds are spent. The BOD appreciates the diligent work of this committee.

4-H – Geri – New Committee Chair Diana Blair - Montana

Government Relations – Teri Baird is the new Chair. Teri reported that llamas and alpacas are not included in the National ID plan.

Library-Dick – Library usage continues to decline. In the past year we have had 5 requests for a total of 22 items. Lougene reported that with the ease of obtaining information via the internet the membership is rarely using the library. In the future, the membership will have to consider what to do with the RMLA Library content. Many old, valuable items are in its inventory and must be preserved.

Membership- Barb Hance. Your 2011-2012 Membership Directory was created and published by **Jane Levene**, she deserves a huge thank you for doing a great job. I hope Jane is willing to handle this again for 2012-2013 – Thank You Jane! As you know, membership runs from April 1, through March 31 of each year. Some of you may not know the reason for these dates. After I had the membership duties (Jan. 1, through Dec. 31) for a couple of years, it seemed renewals were getting lost in the mail, mislaid or forgotten during the holiday rush of Thanksgiving/Christmas/New Year. With the Board approval we moved the membership year to the current dates, April 1, through March 31, (a bit of RMLA history). We find this is not ideal with TAX day to close. This year, so far, the good news is we have received 9 new regular memberships, 8 new youth members 1 new young adult, and 2 new honorary members, the bad news is we had 2 young adults move on; 6 youth members did not renew; and we had a whopping 33 regular adult memberships (22%) that did not renew from 2010. The previous year, we lost 23 adult memberships (14%) and 5 youths. Maybe our timing is still bad, or maybe the Membership Committee needs help in reaching Lama owners, and encouraging membership. RMLA depends on dues to pay most of its expenses and provide the benefits it offers, as membership drops, RMLA has had to dig deeper & deeper into its reserves to cover costs. Please forward your ideas and suggestions on increasing membership to me. Or become a committee member.

Pack –Dick Williams - The committee has tried to ensure at least one pack related item in each issue of the Journal. Helped to sponsor the 2011 Pack Llama Festival in Silverton, CO September 22nd - 25th. By the way, Charlie said that he really hoped that RMLA would be able to set up a booth if anyone is going that could bring the stuff down.

Publication – Lougene. Coordinator

1. Membership Directory – Jane Levene.
2. Service Directory - Now on Web
3. Journal – Sue Grimm – Sue called for volunteers to help with the Journal and all members to contribute articles -.
4. Youth Manual – Linda Hayes, Karen Schwartz, Gayle Woodsum, Lougene Baird-The revision is ready to go to press.

Website – Lougene – The new Co-Chairs for the Website Committee are Katy and Ron Hinds. Ron Hinds was present to report the new RMLA.com is almost ready to release.

Youth- Dick - Outstanding Youth Award was presented to Wyatt Mayo of Evergreen, CO and was presented by Jerry Dunn at the Estes Park event. Wyatt was present and expressed to the membership his appreciation in receiving this award.

New Business:

1. **RMLA Foundation** – Jerry Dunn reported that she (once again!) is a Director of the RMLA Foundation. The Foundation needs at least one more member to round off the Board. Several RMLA members showed interest in doing this. Lougene reviewed with members that RMLA and RMLA Foundation are two separate Corporations and that one cannot make demands to the other. However, each organization has a strong interest in youth and should work together to support youth involvement in llamas and alpacas.
2. **Motion:** The Fiber Co-op and the Board will work together to create an Sharon Beachum Fiber Award. Motion by Teri Baird. 2nd by Patti Morgan. Motion passed.
3. Jerry show the membership gift that will be presented to Bob and Barb Hance for their service to RMLA.
4. Per the RMLA Bylaws, newly elected Directors take office as a last matter of business at the Annual Meeting. Ann Bruhn is now a Director. Bob Hance's has completed his term.

Motion to adjourn: Motion by Kathy Stanko. 2nd by Sue Grimm. Motion Passed.

Time of adjournment: 7:45 PM