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|  | **LANA** |

Llama Association of North America

Annual Membership Meeting:

January 28, 2023

**Location**: Meeting conducted at the LANA Classic Hobo Show, Merced County Fairgrounds, Merced, California

Members present: Lee Beringsmith, Clara Brown, Margaret Drew, Eileen Ditsler, Jana Kane, Emily Muirhead, Crystal Myers, Kathy Nichols, Patti Oxenham, Pamela Parker, Joy Pedroni, Stephanie Pedroni, and Susan Rich (as both designated Sierra 4H voter and individual ranch member).

President Kathy Nichols called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

**Introduction of LANA Board of Directors**

Kathy Nichols introduced the current slate of officers, at-large directors, and the advisor on the current Board:

* Kathy Nichols, President
* Stephanie Pedroni, Vice President
* Joy Pedroni, Treasurer
* Susan Rich, Secretary
* Members at Large: Lee Beringsmith, Margaret Drew, Emily Muirhead , and Rondi Smith (acknowledged but not present)
* Cathy Spalding, Advisor to LANA (acknowledged but not present)

**Hobo Show Superintendent’s Comments:**

Hobo Show Superintendent Kathy Nichols began by thanking everyone present for attending. She provided gifts for: longest travel, first entries submitted, most entries, best average performance score, sponsors of the show, and other supporters, including those members who opted for the Friends of LANA membership. She requested that anyone with ideas for articles or for republishing of older articles contact her via text. She also asked that anyone taking pictures send them to her for the upcoming newsletter focused on the Hobo Show.

**Treasurer’s report:**

LANA Treasurer Joy Pedroni directed members and attendees to the budget information provided in the show program, that included the year-end report compiled for September, which is the end of LANA’s budgetary year. The LANA general fund was reported to stand at $11,037.70, and the LANA Lama Lifeline account was reported to stand at $6,829.92.

**Secretary’s report:**

LANA Secretary Susan Rich reported on the Board’s revisions to the bylaws, indicating the overall, the bylaws were simplified and reworded to reflect the current membership. The draft bylaws were provided by email prior to the meeting. **Action taken**: Joy Pedroni moved to accept the bylaws as presented, and Stephanie seconded the motion. No discussion ensued, and the revised bylaws were ratified by a unanimous vote of the members present, having first been approved by the LANA Board in December. It should be noted that absentee members were provided a copy of the revised bylaws with an invitation to vote by proxy, and none did so.

**Presentation of the Annual LANA Awards:**

* Susan Rich and Margaret Drew announced that **Lee and Linda Beringsmith** had been awarded the **Adult Follow Me Award** and spoke to their commitment to the llama community, including: providing security at the State Fair barns, enthusiastically participating in the Walk a Llama Event at State Fair, annually providing a Hiking the Buttes experience, organizing community service through the American River clean ups, serving on both the Cal-ILA and LANA Boards, and recently involving libraries with hands-on llama experiences when reading llama themed books. Lee was in attendance to receive the award.
* Joy Pedroni announced that **Jerry and Kim Kimbro** had been awarded the **Humdinger Award**. They were applauded for their efforts with LANA’s Lama Lifeline and their generosity at Hobo Show auctions. They were not in attendance to receive the award.
* Additional fun awards:
  + Early Bird entry went to Lee Beringsmith and Kira Vessels
  + Most entries went to Four R Llamas
  + Longest distance traveled to show went to Patti Oxenham
  + Best Average Performance Score went to Hawaii Five-O shown by Crystal Myers
  + Best Hobo Costume - Saturday went to Crystal Myers
  + Best Hobo Costume - Sunday went to Patti Oxenham
  + Dirtiest Camelid went to Dolly shown by Lee Beringsmith

**Upcoming LANA Events:**

* Kids and Camelids Show: April 22nd. Superintendent Susan Rich spoke about this event. It is a no-groom, performance with lots of learning opportunities. The judge will confer with each youth handler before s/he leaves the course to point out strengths and offer opportunities to better performance. She announced that Margaret Drew would be the judge, and that Kathy Nichols would be hosting the event at her parents’ ranch in Wilton. She referenced the flyer in the program.
* Hike the Buttes: April 1. Lee Beringsmith invited interested hikers to this unique opportunity to access the Sutter Buttes land, held by private landowners, acquired by the family sometime around 1850, who graciously allow this annual event to take place. Lee indicated that the hike was somewhat strenuous and recommended preparing for hike. Typically, UC Davis vet students, members of the Camelid Club, participated. He asked that he be contacted if interested and he would then provide specific information about location, which is 15-20 miles from Yuba City.
* State Fair: July 27-30. Kathy Nichols shared that llamas and alpacas would again be in the State Fair barns for the last four day of the State Fair.
* American River Clean Up: September 16. Lee Beringsmith indicated that there was a section of river identified for clean-up that was well away from homeless encampments. He indicated that lining the panniers of packs with bags and collecting trash along the way was great practice for animal patience with getting in and out of panniers.

*And with dates to be determined:*

* May performance clinic and show: Stephanie Pedroni shared that the tentative dates for the show were May 20-21 at Kathy’s parents’ ranch in Wilton, CA.
* Llamping with LANA: Joy Pedroni shared that there would be an opportunity to go camping with llamas – llamping – again this year. We are targeting the second weekend in June and thinking about a new place: an equestrian park on Lake Oroville. The terrain is flat and swimming is a possibility. There are corrals at each site. More information will follow, including the price of the event, and that price will include a communal BBQ on Saturday night.
* Summer Fiber Clinic: Margaret Drew indicated that she had fielded requests for some new projects that include new vessels (like Joy’s cat house) and needle felting. As before, Margaret and Ralph will provide morning snacks and lunch. The date is to be announced at a later time.

LANA President Kathy Nichols adjourned the meeting at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Susan Rich, LANA Secretary