

MAPACA



Mid-Atlantic Alpaca Association

September 2003

Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 9

MaPaca

Officers:

President:

Paul

Connor,

Vice

President:

Brandon

Boyd,

Treasurer:

Alan

Anderson,

Secretary:

Nick

Melfi,

Member at

Large:

Kim

DeVos.

M a P a c a

Newsletter

Editor:

Alice

Brown.

President's Message:

Sunday October 5

New Annual Meeting Date

Place: Melfi Farm Alpacas

74 Wertsville Road

Hillsborough, NJ

Lunch 12 Noon

Meeting to follow at 1PM

RSVP Nick or Cristy Melfi

908-369-3276

Melfifarm@aol.com

Fall is upon us and the grass is still green and growing. While the incredible amounts of rain made it very difficult to make hay – the alpacas enjoyed many months of grass filled pastures, an unusual site here in the Northeast for many of us, especially in New Jersey.

Well the elections are over and the new Board is ready to serve you. Unfortunately the Annual Meeting scheduled for September 21 had to be postponed for lack of a Board quorum and uncertainties caused by Hurricane Isabel. Due to the heavy fall schedules of shows and events, the first and only date that we could get a quorum between now and the middle of November was Sunday, October 5th. It's short notice but we must get this meeting in to seat the new Board. You will note the location has been changed to the Melfi Farm to accommodate the maximum number of respondents to the last meeting.

I have listed the Annual Meeting Agenda Items once again for the benefit of Board members and the membership. Hope we can see you at the meeting.

Paul Connor

Annual Meeting Agenda Items

The following items will be covered at the meeting:

President's Message: pg. 1

Editor's Ramblings: pg. 2

War on Worms: pgs. 3-4

Official seating of the new Board Members

Treasurer's Report

Discussion of items from preceding Board of Directors Meeting

Whatever other business that may be brought up for discussion.

Items to be discussed at BoD Meeting:

Election of officers

Treasurer's Report

2004 Jubilee – Nominations for Coordinator/Volunteer

Chairpersons

Auction parameters and policies

Pricing of Jubilee pens based upon desirability of location

Special pen pricing for state and local alpacas organizations

Promotion of alpaca fiber via representation at non-alpaca fiber events

Volunteer applications for PA Farm Show in January 2004

including requirements and parameters

Seminars at PA Farm Show in January/Regional Seminars

Suggestions for future MaPaca donations to worthy causes

Newsletter inserts – who is eligible, parameters

Telephone Board of Directors Meetings – by-laws

Replacement of BoD Members where applicable – by-laws

Member voting status – Lifetime members/Associates – by-laws

Representation of MaPaca at regional and national events

Dear MaPaca Board of Directors Candidates;

I'm sure you are all anxiously awaiting the results of the MaPaca election. I want to thank each and every candidate for your participation in the election. Well, the results are in. Votes were received from 120 farms and the five candidates chosen to serve on the MaPaca board are: Paul Connor; Nancy Johanson; Jovi Larsen; Nick Melfi; and Andy Schneider.

Congratulations to these five elected board members who will be serving along with Kim DeVos and Brandon Boyd, who still have one year left on their respective terms.

Due to circumstances beyond anyone's control, the Annual Meeting is rescheduled for October 5, at the home of Nick and Cristy Melfi. Even though not all ten candidates could be elected, this fact does not make the voice and attendance of those not elected any less important. It would be great if all ten candidates could attend the Annual Meeting. Again, congratulations to the elected MaPaca Board members and thank you all very much for your participation in this election.

Nominating Committee Chairperson, Alice Brown

Compatibility of Alpacas with Other Animals: pg. 5

The Power of Observation!: pg. 6

Calendar of Events: pg. 7

MaPaca Meeting: pg. 8

Editor's Ramblings:

Tired to the bone, I crept into bed late last night with my mind racing over the goings on of an exhausting, yet exhilarating day. At 3:30AM the morning before, I heard a commotion coming from the barn over our intercom and I went to investigate, knowing that one of our females, actually the first animal born on our farm, was due to give birth.

As I got to the barn, flashlight in hand, most of the alpacas were up and milling around. I thought that was unusual for that time in the morning dark, so I investigated further. Scanning my light beam over the animals and past to the pasture perimeter, I saw nothing unusual. I stood there for a few seconds, flashlight still in hand, as I gazed up at the clear night sky and the myriad of stars shining in the night's blackness.

My peripheral vision noted that Joya was at the poop pile. Once finished, she sauntered up to me and stood right in front of me as she reached her back leg up to scratch a little itch. Since the flashlight was handy, I took the opportunity to check her back end as her tail came up when she lifted her back leg. In that instant, a plop of pinkish jelly slipped from her onto the ground. Cervical plug? Perhaps I thought. Joya may be in the early stages of labor.

It crossed my mind to remain, but my bed beckoned me to return to the warm covers. It was too early to have her baby and she was not in hard labor, if she was in labor at all, on this the 349th day of her pregnancy. As I climbed back into bed I just had to wake Fred to tell him I thought Joya may be in labor and for him to check her before leaving for work at 5:30AM.

The 5:30AM report from the barn came through as, "Alice, everything is OK in the barn, Joya is cushed chewing her cud." OK, I think so birth is not imminent, I can sleep a little longer. At 6:50AM the alarm clock rudely interrupts my rest as I struggle to gain consciousness and get things in order in my mind to face the morning.

I throw on the same clothes that I took off yesterday, thinking I'll come in and wash up after checking on Joya. A quick trip to the barn reveals that Joya seems to be in the early stages of labor, but nothing dramatic happening, a little rolling, a little cushioning, a little going to the poop pile, a little humming. After getting my daughter up and started for her job at the sheltered workshop, I head back out to the barn. The situation has changed dramatically, Joya is stretched out prone in pain of heavy labor. Baby is on it's way. I call to my daughter on the intercom to come to the barn, baby is on its way. Together we gather necessary things, towels, nolvasan, hair dryer to dry baby, water to wash hands in. Joya, in obvious discomfort seems to be having trouble getting baby out. We decide to phone the veterinarian to give her a heads up in case we need some help.

With a watch and see attitude, I set about feeding the rest of the herd who is looking at me with keen anticipation and thinking that I have forgotten something very important. I get the feed bucket, fill it, and put food out for all. Joya comes to one feed bin, eats a few bites of food, her favorite activity of all time, and proceeds to start choking. I now start to panic. Here is my first baby Joya choking while in hard labor. What to do? I

rub her throat a little, she goes down choking in the throws of another hard contraction. No progress.

Then a small something appears, a nose? No, a bubble of amniotic fluid, then no progress again. I make a few phone calls, again what to do? No one is around. Still no progress. I phone the veterinarian again requesting that she come ASAP for a possible dystocia. Still no progress.

With the vet on the way, two little feet finally emerge within the bubble. After a while a nose is just visible behind the feet. I break the bubble and the nose goes back in. Not good I think. I pull a little on the feet, nothing happens, Joya feels very tight, not unusual for a maiden. After another phone call we decide to message the peritineal area while putting some pulling pressure on the front feet. No progress, the nose keeps coming out a little then goes back in. The vet is on the way, it has been at least 45 minutes to an hour.

I wash and lubricate my hands and reach in just under the feet to check for elbow lock, I can feel both elbows, but why won't this baby come out? The vet arrives and while she gathers her necessary equipment I continue to message the peritineal area. With much effort more of the nose is visible. I keep working, apply steady pressure on the front legs, then pop, the eyes emerge and a little more message and out comes the forehead. The head emerges, as I cradled the little ones head in one hand the neck slips out, followed swiftly by the shoulders and the rest of the baby. It's a GIRL!!!! Forever Precious September's Sapphire made a dramatic entry on a beautiful September's day. The rest of the day was spent out side taking care of necessary chores, making sure baby's navel is dipped and baby and placenta weighed. Baby nursed well, teeth are erupted, ears upright, her still wet fleece shines like a copper penny in the sunlight streaming through the barn doors.

After last check at 10:30PM, baby Sapphire is cushed next her mama Joya, as mama contentedly chews her cud and hums her mother alpaca hum. In the darkness as I leave, baby hums her contented baby alpaca hum as she nozzles her nose into her mother's soft fleece. Another long tiring day well worth the effort!

So, to all you out there who love your alpacas, please send me your stories. I'm sure you all have plenty to share. I know it takes effort and time to write, but the hardest part is getting started. Make yourself a note, pick a favorable time slot, and then sit and type out your story. Once you've got words flowing it will all fall together for you. Then save the file and send it to me email. It would be much appreciated, not only by myself, but by other breeders who would love hear from you also. We all learn from each others experiences, so please share yours with us all.

As most of you know, due to a variety of circumstances, some precipitated by hurricane Isabel, the Annual Meeting was rescheduled. I hope you all came through the storm unscathed. I hope to see you at the meeting on October 5.

My Best to You All, Alice Brown

Feature Article:**War on Worms**

*By Ingrid Wood of Stormwind Alpacas,
in Columbus, New Jersey*

In *Worms 101*, Wes Laraway, a llama breeder from Middleburg, New York, candidly reports the heartbreaking deaths several of his animals suffered as the result of a “parasite overload.”

Laraway believes that the problem started with the introduction of a severely infested rescue animal to his herd. This unfortunate female llama was the first to die. Both Laraways are obviously caring owners. They left no stone unturned and spared no expense to pinpoint and correct the problem on their farm. Like many camelid owners, they discovered the hard way that parasite prevention and treatment are not all that simple.

Not surprisingly, a *Survey of Disease Issue Concerns on Alpaca and Llama Farms* listed parasites as the main concern among camelid owners. The authors, Stephanie J. Mirto and Dr. David E. Anderson, report that the survey yielded seventy-eight responses, including several owners and veterinarians abroad.

The Alpaca Research Foundation, sensitive to the needs of the alpaca community, approved a Grant Proposal Request submitted by Dr. Lora R. Ballweber (Mississippi State University) to research camelid parasitic issues. In collaboration with Dr. David G. Pugh and Dr. Christine Navarre (both of Auburn University), Ballweber’s study is entitled “Determination of a Periparturient Rise in the Excretion of Giardia Cysts and Nematode Eggs in South American Camelids.”

A Problem for Dams and Crias

Breeders of other species have long known that right around birthing, the dam experiences a temporary loss of acquired immunity to intestinal parasites. As the result of this loss, large numbers of larvae reach maturity. For example, the *Merck Veterinary Manual* talks about marked increases in strongyle eggs in sows during that time. The phenomenon is well known in sheep, where

lactating ewes lose their immune response to larvae. Likewise, many puppies become infected with roundworms during the fetal stage or in the whelping box.

Larvae develop through various stages. The first two are “free living,” meaning larvae can survive outside of a host. The third stage larvae are “infective when eaten by a llama or alpaca, they are the stage that ultimately develops into reproducing adults” (Ballweber).

Dr. Ballweber’s research is important to breeders who wish to utilize anthelmintics at times when they’re most effective. If her work establishes that a periparturient rise in parasite eggs occurs in camelids, breeders can judiciously target this specific parasitic population with appropriate treatments at the most advantageous times.

During a phone interview, Dr. Ballweber further defined the temporary loss of immunity as a “relaxation of immune response: caused by hormonal changes in the dam’s system.

“Why would the mother’s body create a harmful environment for the baby?” I questioned.

Dr. Ballweber’s response: “The fetus obtains its genetic material from both the mother and father. Because the material from the father is different from the mother, the mother would normally make an immune response against it. If that were to happen, the pregnancy would not go to completion. To avoid this problem, several mechanisms exist that allow the fetus to escape the mother’s immune response. One of these mechanisms is suppression of the mother’s overall immunity in later pregnancy. This suppression helps allow the pregnancy to go to term; however, a side effect of this suppression is that normal immune responses against other organisms are also suppressed.

Camelid gastrointestinal parasites, by the way, are not ingested through mother’s milk. They are picked up by crias grazing on contaminated pasture.

Prevention

While research is ongoing, Dr. Ballweber offers pertinent and practical advice to camelid breeders. She stressed that daily pick-up and disposal of fecal matter on pastures and in the barn remains the easiest and most effective prevention strategy.

Continued on page 4.

(Continue from page 3.)

“It’s not a bad idea,” Ballweber added, “to treat the dam with an anthelmintic the after she gives birth, when warranted.” Parasites thrive in a lush moist environment. Pastures, especially the grass around community dung piles, must be clipped short enough for sunlight to penetrate.

A routine checking of fresh fecal samples is helpful. Ballweber pointed out that sample results can be presented in two different ways:

1. A qualitative count simply verifies the presence or absence of parasites.
2. A quantitative count includes the count of eggs per gram of feces (a gram is roughly the weight of a paper clip).

Unfortunately, parasites can develop resistance to treatment. Both under dosing as well as too frequent dosing can result in “survival of the fittest” - worms, that is! Although it takes time for the resistant population to numerically surpass the non-resistant parasites, this phenomenon should nevertheless be of concern to all breeders. Resistance in camelids has not been documented at the present time. Breeders also need to be aware that individual animals differ in their response to parasitic infestation. When asked about tapeworm in camelids, Ballweber quickly pointed out that the tapeworm found in llamas and alpacas is not the same as the flea-transmitted parasite found in canines. The former is transmitted by mites living in pastures.

As indicated earlier, Ballweber's research also addresses the extent of a “Periparturient Rise in the Excretion of Giardia Cysts in South American Camelids.”

According to information found in Ballweber’s Grant Proposal Request, this “protozoan parasite is transmitted by the fecal-oral route primarily through contaminated feed and/or water.” Signs of giardia infection are diarrhea, ill thrift, and retarded growth, although Ballweber points out that some infected animals show no “detrimental effect.”

People and Parasites

The bad news is that people can also become infected by this parasite, suffering from similar symptoms as their animals. There is presently no approved treatment for the parasite in camelids, although some anthelmintics do have an effect. The

good news is that the giardia cysts cannot survive long on dry ground. Good management practices such as preventing contact with contaminated water (pond, stream, or water trough) and feed, aid in controlling the spread of giardia. Ballweber pointed out that, in affected populations, high numbers of crias and high turnover of animals contributes to spreading the infection.

The presence of giardia cysts is hard to diagnose. Experts recommend three fecal tests within a 10-day period. As with other parasitic infestations, fecal samples may give false negative results. The take-home message for camelid owners here is not to rule out parasites if a sample comes back negative. Be aware that the very young, old, or debilitated animals are always more compromised by a parasite problem.

Ballweber’s research population consists of two llama herds (approximately 130 animals and 30 alpacas. A sheep flock serves as a control group.

Dr. Lori R. Ballweber, who was born and raised in Wyoming, brings two Masters Degrees (Parasitology and Veterinary Science/ Epidemiology) and a Doctorate from the Oregon Veterinary School to her project. She teaches classes in parasitology and wildlife diseases in addition to taking on consulting work. After working with wild turkeys in Florida, a chance meeting with Oregon llama owners peaked her curiosity about camelids. Dr. Ballweber can be contacted at Ballweber@cvm.msstate.edu.

Ingrid Wood can be reached at (609) 261-0696 or alpacas@uscom.com.

Compatibility of Alpacas With Other Animals

By Bob Ciszewski of Almost Heaven Alpacas, in Augusta West Virginia

I had been thinking about this topic, and the potential problems associated with mixing alpacas with other animals, when an event occurred that forced me to stop procrastinating. The event was the fatal goring of a very nice white huacaya male. “Lucky’s” luck ran out when his owners innocently moved him into a pasture that he was to share with short and long horn cattle.

As I put this article together, I know that there will be individuals who will be unhappy as I point out the dangers of mixing alpacas with other breeds. I can’t help that because the dangers are real and must be considered in order to make an informed decision about your herd. I am not the last word in alpaca safety, but I am the last word where the safety of my animals is concerned.

First of all, let’s look at large animals like horses (including donkeys, mules and even ponies) and cattle. I’ll start with a short vignette. When our local vet (small and large animals) paid his first visit to our farm, and to camelids, he observed one of our guard llamas kick me in the upper leg. This llama is a big guy well over 350 pounds. The vet heard the “whack”, looked at me and said, “If that had been a horse or a cow you would now have a broken leg”. Not only do horses and cattle have significant kicking power they usually out weigh alpacas by 10 to 1 or more. To use baseball terminology, these big animals have 3 strikes against them before they even enter the pasture. Strike 1 – their kick can be lethal or cause severe injury. Strike 2 – accidental contact with an animal 10 times an alpacas weight can lead to serious injury. Strike 3 – cattle with horns offer an even deadlier consequence (Lucky). I guess there is no strike 3 for horses, but 2 are enough for me.

Next, sheep and goats are probably not a major concern? Goats do have horns and both of these breeds like to butt. Probably not a good idea for a pregnant alpaca.

Lastly, how about guard animals? As we were getting into the business, and since we live in an area where there are predators, I did a lot of research on guard dogs. These are magnificent animals and any number of breeds have provided guard services for centuries, but are they safe? Remember, these dogs live with your alpacas 24/7. I have 2 examples where serious problems have occurred. A large breeder had used a guard breed for some time. One day, the owner/breeder discovered that a few animals had been injured when the dog decided to move the herd and the herd did not want to move. The guard dog merely started dragging alpacas to where the dog wanted them. Those dogs are now used for external patrol only. Another breeder had a German Shepherd who had been with the alpacas for years. One day the owner can home to find 2 animals that had been killed and partially consumed.

Because of these instances, we elected to use guard llamas. Our alpacas actually intimidate the llamas unless there is perceived danger and then the llama will place himself between the herd and the danger. We only have 2 llamas, and we don’t raise or breed llamas so this is not a pitch to buy llamas.

So, that is my story. I’m sure that for each of my bad tales there are hundreds if not thousands of good stories. But I’m very conservative where it comes to the safety of our herd and the significant investment we have made. What you do as an owner/breeder is obviously your choice.

Bright Ideas!

The Power of Observation

By Alice Brown

At the age of 15, something most would consider inconsequential occurred that has affected my view of things even 40 years down the road of life. On an excursion into New York City with my Grandmother to see the Rockettes at Radio City Music Hall, as we walked through the city I spotted a beautiful burgundy colored butterfly with gold-yellow markings on its outer wing tips. I was enthralled to see such a beautiful creature in the midst of the what I thought was a rather dirty city (no offense to any New Yorkers). As I watched, the butterfly landed on the shoulder of a working man with a white uniform on. I quickly thought, "Oh, how I would love that beautiful butterfly to land on me!"

The man quickly, in one movement, squashed the butterfly against the wall as I watched in horror! Inconsequential? Maybe to some. To me it spoke volumes!

I remember thinking at that time: 1. Cities are not for me. 2. People, including myself should take better note of the wonderful things around them, no matter how busy they might be. and 3. I vowed to always take time to appreciate the wonders of nature and be observant!

Those thoughts eventually led to my involvement with alpacas and to the realization of the power of observation. Tying the two together can be a real life saver for our alpacas.

As breeders we have been encouraged to know our individual alpacas. Thus observing our animals on an individual basis will give us a knowledge foundation about what is normal for each animal in our herd. After all, just as we humans are all human, we are still each unique in our own way. The same is true of our alpacas, they are all alpacas, yes, but they each have their own personality. Get to know these personalities.

When doing chores, I make an effort to be observant, especially at feeding time. I know of one large farm in Maryland that knows the importance of this and so they have assigned workers to observe all the animals closely at feeding time. Nothing else takes precedence.

Greeting my alpacas in the morning, I like to look at each one, taking note of their demeanor and their eyes. When cleaning poop piles, I don't just blindly rake it up. I take note of anything out of the usual, such as pudding poop, or evidence of tapeworm. If such is found, I then watch the ones that use that poop pile to determine from whence comes the problem.

No matter how busy we may be, keep life enjoyable by taking note of our surroundings. Notice that bird, that butterfly, that cria, that dam, that herdsire! Take note of details that we may tend to overlook, such as the color and patterns of the iris in each animal's eyes, or the place a particular animal likes to crouch and when and how often they like to lay and chew their cud. Remembering details about each of our animals may be a knowledge base that we will need later if we notice this animal changing its normal routine. Failure to be observant could result in a poor ability to remember and if we only partially see our animals because we don't focus our attention on what we are looking at, we may fail to impress on our minds some important details that we may need later.

In being observant, we will build a clear image of each animal in our herd that we can later draw on, just as I remember so clearly that day 40 years ago in New York City, down to the color clothes the man wore and the pattern on the butterfly's wings. By the way, I years later sought to identify that butterfly. It was a Mourning Cloak, not often seen as far south as New York City.



Salt and Pepper crias. (If you recognize these babies, please email me at fpalpacas@aol.com. I lost the identifying info.)



Members Events Calendar

October 4, 2003. **Third Annual Alpaca Heritage Sale and Seminars.** 10 AM-4 PM. Bromm's Lullaby Farm, Route 313, Fountainville, PA. Visit 20 alpaca breeders, see animals for sale, herdsires, and enjoy free seminars on **"Basic Alpaca Care," "Introduction to Alpaca Color Genetics," "Fiber Facts," "Guard Llamas," and "Obstacle Course."** For more information call Alice Brown 856-697-8127 or visit our web site at www.AlpacaHeritage.com.

October 11-12, 2003. As part of the New York state-wide celebration of the 2nd annual **"NYS Llama and Alpaca Days"**, The Alpaca Network of the Western Fingerlakes is celebrating by having OPEN BARNS. We will introduce you to the finest alpacas, fleece, and alpaca products. Find out all you can about the lifestyle and raising these child friendly, gentle, and beautiful animals. Columbus Day Weekend, rain or shine, 10AM-4PM. For more information www.wnyalpacas.com.

November 8, 2003 10:30AM-2:00PM Alpaca Heritage Events Presents: **Common Sense Approach to Camelid Breeding, Birthing, and Cria Care.** Speaker: **Dr. Karen Baum, DVM, Board Member of the Alpaca Research Foundation.** Location: Columbus, NJ. Cost: \$45 per person (lunch included). Mail checks payable to Ingrid Wood, 1862 Jacksonville-Jobstown Road, Columbus, NJ 08022. For more information call 609-261-0696 or Alice Brown at 856-697-8127. Directions will be mailed upon receipt of check. After the seminar participate in a fun mystery auction - proceeds will benefit the Alpaca Research Foundation. Send your checks in soon as space is limited and is filling up quickly.



Members Events Calendar

November 14-16, 2003.

Alpacarama Show 'N' Sell. Upper Marlboro, MD. Visit www.alpacarama.com for details. All alpacas registered will be for sale and priced in prearranged categories so there will be no need for negotiating. Low stress, fun environment for the whole family. Seminars, sales, and shows both days. Featured speaker: Dr. David Pugh. Performance and Halter Judge: Shannon McConnell. Fleece and Halter Judge: Amanda VandenBosch. Show Superintendent: Peg Stephens. For more information contact Glen Cook at info@blueribbonalpacas.com or (301) 519-

Classified Ads:

- (It was suggested that we offer a classified ad section in the MaPaca Newsletter for members ONLY! So, here you have it, the new MaPaca Newsletter Classified Ads. Any member may post an ad for alpaca and/or alpaca farm related equipment and items. The ad should include a one sentence description and contact information such as phone number and email. We will run your ad for one month, if you do not sell the item and wish to run it again, let me know. If we have the room we will run it again. This will be a free service to current MaPaca members ONLY. Please send your one line ads to Alice Brown 458 Main Road, Vineland, NJ, 08360 or fpalpacas@aol.com or call 856-697-8127.)
1. **Cut firewood for sale. \$50.00/pickup truck load. Contact Alice or Fred Brown. 856-697-8127. While supply lasts!**
 2. **About 100 locust fence posts, 4x4x8, \$8 each, chemical free, long lasting. Call 609-261-0960.**

Do You Want to Advertise in the MaPaca Newsletter?

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.

NEW!!! 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 Lifetime 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. Any questions, email Alice Brown at **fpalpacas@aol.com**. Thank you!

Comments
about the
Newsletter,
any
contribution
s, send to
Alice Brown
458 Main
Road,
Vineland,
New Jersey
08360.

Food for Thought:

A poor life this is,
full of care,
We have no time to
stand and stare.

— W. H. Davies, *Leisure*

IMPORTANT NOTICE! Annual MaPaca Meeting:

October 5, 2003

Place: Melfi Farm Alpacas

74 Wertsville Road

Hillsborough, NJ

Lunch 12 Noon

Meeting to follow at 1PM

RSVP Nick or Cristy Melfi

908-369-3276

Melfifarm@aol.com