



#1 | JAN 2025

Newsletter

Farm Show Success!

A big thanks to all the volunteers and contributing farms who helped to make this year's Farm Show a spectacular success! Hauling in over \$79,000, this is our top fundraising event. Just in time for the polar vortex, the \$30,000 worth of alpaca socks, gloves, and boot insert sales helped keep lots of Pennsylvanians cozy and warm. We also moved an impressive 750 yarn skeins generating nearly \$15,000 in post discount sales. To that end, PAOBA members received over \$800 in yarn discounts. Farms contributing to the fiber sort received higher discounts so keep an eye on the PAOBA site for details on this summer's sort, and put that fiber to good use! Thanks to the 24 product contributing farms, the Farm Show also generated an additional \$32,000 from more than 1000 member farm products. A special thanks to the farms who brought additional items to help us keep up with the overwhelming demand. The money from these sales will go to the farms who submitted the products, less a commission that decreases to as low as \$0 depending on membership level and shifts volunteered. Last but not least, the shawl raffle brought in almost \$1400 to benefit youth activities. This was a major success for PAOBA and all our participating members. We look forward to sharing this success with more member farms in the future.



Photos by Marie Waltz

Jamboree Volunteers

Have we got an opportunity for you! If you want to learn the ins and outs of how a first class alpaca show operates, volunteer for this spring's Jamboree. For example, as a ring steward, you'll get invaluable insight into what the judge's are looking for and how to best handle your animals in the ring. PAOBA relies on the generous support of volunteers to make our shows the industry gold standard. If you'll have some time at the Jamboree and would like to volunteer, please sign up through the link below.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4FAAAD29A13-54585497-jamboree>

Youth Invitational

The PAOBA Youth committee is working to plan a Youth Invitational June 20-22, 2025. We have submitted our AOA Application and are firming up the other details. We know everyone's schedule fills up quickly, so we wanted to give you the information we have, so you can plan. The attached schedule is the draft of how the weekend will run. The purpose is to give the youth an opportunity to show and for education. We want to have a weekend of fun and education. We will have more updates in the coming weeks.

Show Schedule

Check in Friday, June 20 th noon-5pm	
5:30pm	Meeting
Saturday, June 21 st	
8:00am	Showmanship Etiquette
9:00am	Youth Halter
10:30am	Senior Showmanship
12:00 pm	Intermediate Showmanship
1:30pm	Jr Showmanship
2:30pm	Sub-Jr Showmanship
4:00pm	Senior Obstacle
6:00pm	Finish the day
Sunday, June 22 nd	
8:00am	Intermediate Obstacle
10:00am	Jr Obstacle
12:00pm	Sub-Jr Obstacle
2:00pm	Finish & Travel Home

Education Schedule

Saturday, June 21 st	
9am-10am	How to Administer Shots Age 12 & Above Taught by Linda Spahr, 4-H Educator
9am-11am	Felting Scarves or a bowl Taught by Laurel Shoumlin
12pm-1pm	Alpaca Fiber Taught by Laurel Shoumlin
12pm-1pm	How to Administer Shots Age 12 & Above Taught by Linda Spahr, 4-H Educator
1:30pm-3:30pm	Felting Scarves or a bowl Taught by Laurel Shoumlin
4pm-5pm	Alpaca Fiber Taught by Laurel Shoumlin

- Fee \$30/ Youth
- Food trucks!
- Straw Provided
- Bring your own panels
- Clean your own stall
- Stephanie Glyptis, Judge
- Showers in building
- Camper space/ no hookups
- No wifi
- Questions to:
Show.super.grove@gmail.com

Membership Update

It's that time again to renew your favorite alpaca association membership! We appreciate everyone who has already decided to take advantage of PAOBA's benefits for 2025. If you haven't had a chance to yet, please visit's PAOBA's website soon to ensure you don't miss out on any of the events and opportunities! Below are the current membership stats at time of this letter's distribution.

2024 Members: 83

2025 Members (to date): 49

2025 New Members (to date): 5

- Oma's Suri Alpacas
- Providence Meadow Farm LLC
- Ramsden Farm Alpacas
- The 17 Acre Ranch
- Black Barn Alpacas

Fall Survey Results

Here are the results from the Fall survey. We greatly appreciate everyone who took the time to help us ensure we continue to provide the best value to our members.

No.	Survey Question	Response Summary
1	Should the Fleece Show / Fiber Sort / Educational Seminar event continue to be held at a convention center hotel with an approximate cost of \$10,000 or at a lower cost venue such as a community center or fire hall?	88% said Hold the Fleece Show / Fiber Sort / Educational Seminar at a lower cost venue.
2	What is the best way for PAOBA to fulfill its mission to provide education to its members?	40% selected Face to Face instruction and 40% selected Zoom instruction. Based on comments, a combination of Face-to-Face instruction and Zoom seminars is preferred.
3	Is there a specific topic you would like to know more about?	Topics listed in order of interest: Marketing – 52% Breeding – 44% Husbandry (health/care of alpacas, nutrition, parasites, other care tips) – 28% Fiber – 28% Business – 28% Showing – 0% Other topics listed in comments: Agritourism Dying and death General Comments: Keep cost to members low, build a library.
4	When would be the best time of year to hold the educational seminar(s)?	Zoom seminars can be anytime. Summer – 43% Winter – 29% Spring – 14% Fall – 14% Early Notice is helpful.
5	At what frequency would you like to see PAOBA issue a newsletter to members?	56% said after the Farm Show, after the Breeder's Showcase, after the Fleece Show
6	Would you participate in workshops / demos or classes if offered during a show?	Likely or Very Likely – 48% Unlikely or Very Unlikely – 36%. Neither Likely nor Unlikely – 16%