



## NEWSLETTER-MAY 2016

Several members were interested in learning more about herd health. The **June 12 meeting** will feature a great vet, Dr. Brandy Fay, who will give us some good pointers on what we can do before calling the vet.



A Lewis County native, Dr. Brandy Mael Fay grew up in Chehalis where she attended W.F. West High School and Centralia Community College. She received both her bachelors and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (2007) from Washington State University in Pullman. After graduation, Dr. Fay immediately came back home to serve the community where she grew up. Dr. Fay's main interests in veterinary medicine are internal medicine and general surgery of small animals.

Her passion for animals has been strong since she was a small child. She always knew what she wanted to do when she grew up. It is apparent now to both animals and their owners by her gentle bedside manner. Dr. Fay makes all of her clients feel comfortable and at ease when they come in for care. In her free time, Brandy likes to read, work in her garden, scrapbook, and spend time with her husband, Ted, and their animal kids (Liberty, Justice, Bell, and Lola, a very energetic yellow lab). Her family and animals are very important to her.

**SO, MARK YOUR CALENDAR:**  
June 12, 2016 at MOON RIDGE  
ALPACAS-Bruce & Ginny Jory's  
Noon Pot Luck and short meeting  
1:00 Presentation  
Directions:  
From either direction on I-5  
take exit 88 then go west to  
Rochester. Continue straight

through Rochester about two miles to Moon Road (there is a hay field and a Laels sign on corner) turn right. Go  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile to 175<sup>th</sup>, take left and we are first house on right. Park anywhere-- you won't hurt the grass.

Confused? - Call Bruce at 360-402-3486 or Ginny at 360-402-6549

**SPEAKING OF MEETINGS—** the April meeting, Phenomenal Photography by Pete Caster was amazing. We learned so much in a very do-able manner on how to get the very best shot of your animals.



To summarize, WOWZER!!!!

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Barb & Gary Gehrkens

Silver Creek, WA 98585

bg\_gehrkens@sbcglobal.net

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**SOMETIMES, EXPERIENCE IS THE BEST TEACHER BUT a vet call should be first.** With that said, here is a **tip from Penny** and her many years of alpaca experience:

If you have an alpaca that is shaking its head or cocking one or both ears to the side, you should suspect ear mites, the inside of the ears will be very dry and flakey. There will also be a smell. I gently put a Q-tip in and try to get a sample out. If it looks black and has a smell it is probably ear mites. **If the animal is not pregnant you can give an Ivomec injection.** For the ear ointment, I do the following with pregnant and non-pregnant alpacas Mix 1/2 cc Ivomec with mineral oil and syringe into the ear. Do every 5 days for three treatments. Also clean daily with a long Q-tip until no black stuff (this is mites and eggs)

## BROCHURE/MEMBERSHIP FORM

For your convenience a copy of the updated AROW brochure is on our website for you to download and take with you to publicize our club.

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### HOE DOWN UPDATE:

Due to a schedule conflict our **hoe down** has been changed to **AUGUST 13, 2016**, still being held at Cross Creek Alpacas. We can pot luck at noon and have the caller begin at 1:00. **This is not limited to AROW members.** Bring a friend(s), a potential alpaca owner, anyone who is ready for some fun. **IF YOU CAN**, bring a bale of hay to sit on and then we'll leave it to Cross Creek to help then with feeding their rescue alpacas.

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### AROW WEB SITE

Instructions will soon be posted regarding how to easily navigate the site and have your farm information available to 'surfers'

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### ELMA SHOW UPDATE

We need help from AROW members; we are looking for members to enter their fiber in the spinoff. For a small fee, you can see how your fiber spins and get a valuable critique on how well the fiber handles. We will discuss this at our June meeting and hope everyone will commit to entering one or more samples. The Elma show is scheduled for October 7, 8, 9, 2016. Sandy Corbin is the expert coordinator for this event. Thanks, Sandy!



### A MESSAGE FROM THE PREZ

AROW members continue to step up and help others. The growing number of participants in our Mentor Program share their knowledge and experience with local alpaca owners who need advice. We always lend a hand to other members that have a situation and need advice or some help.

Thanks to Pete Castor whose presentation at our last meeting on photographing alpacas was really amazing. It is obvious why he has won several awards for his photos.

Shearing is almost over and now **what can you do with those sacks of fleece?** As more individuals acquire alpaca products, the quality will become apparent and this will promote the market for alpacas and alpaca products. If you do not have plans to process your clip, please consider participating in a co-op called NEAFP. They will take all of your clip (first, second and thirds) and process them into beautiful products. The cost to join is free, the cost for fiber pick up is free (Lone Tree Alpacas will be the drop-off point). You have to pay a very reasonable fee for great alpaca products. Check out their website at [www.neafp.com](http://www.neafp.com). **The cut-off date to bring your fiber here**

is July 31, 2016. Please let me know if you want to participate (360-864-2271). [alpacaman@toledotel.com](mailto:alpacaman@toledotel.com)

Jack

## CALENDAR OF REMAINING AROW ACTIVITIES

### JUNE 12

Noon Business Meeting/Pot Luck

1:00 Alpaca Health Presentation  
Dr. Brandy Fay at Moon Ridge  
Alpacas

### JULY 16

Noon Business Meeting  
1:00 Picnic Pot Luck at Trillium  
Lane  
(Bring a little cash. We're  
gonna have a raffle)

### AUGUST 13

It's time for having a good time  
at an old fashioned 'hoe down'.  
Pot luck at noon. Calling will  
start around 1:00. Open to  
AROW members and their  
friends, at Cross Creek Alpacas.

### SEPTEMBER 24

Farm Days/Open House at Lone  
Tree Alpacas, Toledo

### OCTOBER

2<sup>ND</sup> week in October—Alpaca  
Affaire in Elma

### NOVEMBER MAYBE

Noon Business Meeting/Pot  
Luck

1:00 Share your talents—  
crafts, yarn dyeing, weaving,  
etc. This is for our men  
members, too.

### DECEMBER 3

Noon-CHRISTMAS  
PARTY/POT LUCK AT  
BRUNER'S. (It could be; Santa  
will be back.)

## MARKETING ALPACAS

Marketing alpacas is a real challenge these days. One of the key factors in getting sales is exposure, by getting your alpaca's information to as many potential buyers as possible. Taking your prize animal to a show is an obvious choice to gain the spotlight. Another way to get the word out is through the Internet. I would like to recommend having a farm page on both Openherd and Livestock of America. Both sites offer free farm pages and have national exposure. Another good source for showcasing your alpacas is the **AROW WEBSITE**; this is also **free** and provides the opportunity to sell your alpacas and any alpaca products you may have. Your animals can be featured and given some good exposure.

Check it out: <http://arow.org>



