

AOBA BOARD NOMINATION APPLICATION – 2008

Ian Watt
1540 San Bernardo Creek Road, Morro Bay CA 93442
ph/fax 805 772 1774
email: alpacaconsult@earthlink.net
website: www.alpacaconsultingusa.com

Current:

Member and president SOCALPACA Affiliate

Chair SOCALPACA Education Committee

Past:

President of the South Australian region of the Australian Alpaca Association

National Committee member of the Australian Alpaca Association

National President of the Australian Alpaca Association for four years

Immediate Past National President of the Australian Alpaca Association

Association representative to the Australian Alpaca Co-operative, Australia's only alpaca fiber marketing organization at the time

Self employed for most of my life with a period in the building industry as Marketing Manager for the third biggest residential home-builder in Australia and General Manager for a small mobile home manufacturer.

Writer and Editor of the International Alpaca Handbook

Experience in agriculture includes a degree in agriculture, manager of a merino sheep ram station, certified wool-classer, lecturer in sheep, beef and dairy cattle and pigs, specialist animal production officer in Papua New Guinea, consultancy work with The Freedom From Hunger (UN) Campaign and World Bank in South-East Asia and work with farmer production and marketing networks in South Australia.

Owner and Editor of an Australian weekly rural newspaper.

First purchased alpacas in 1991 and have owned alpacas in the US since 2005.

AOBA membership since 2005.

ARI voting member for 2 years.

SOCALPACA President 2008 -

I have assisted in the operation of the SOCALPACA AlpacaFest West Show, exhibited (for my wife) at AlpacaFest West, Monterey Pronk and National Show at Sandy. I have spoken at alpaca shows in various parts of the US including the National Show and Fiber to Fashion. I conduct breeding seminars for both affiliates and private sponsors and participate regularly on several public websites devoted to matters alpaca. I also provide a national fiber testing service as well as follicle testing.

I am not so sure that I am able to talk about accomplishments *per se* and would suggest that others would be better positioned and more objective about my contributions to the Australian alpaca industry (in particular) and the US industry. I do bring organizational, strategic development and management skills with a strong emphasis on member participation and responsibility focus.

I have never been censured or disciplined by AOBA or related entity.

I believe that I can bring some industry relevant experience to the US alpaca industry through active, pro-active and leadership roles in the pre-eminent industry organisation. My experience in bringing together a divided industry in Australia, the consolidation of that membership base and an emphasis on strategic planning initiatives for both the industry and individual breeders through the recruiting of a pro-active and member responsive equivalent to the AOBA Board through some creative and goal-oriented leadership, resulted in an Association that owned its own office and investment property, a focused fiber industry and an energetic and active subcommittee and regional management system and structure during the time of my President terms.

I am driven to provide good, open and transparent governance combined with the delivery of quality and relevant membership services through leadership and administration, that promotes, and relies, upon members stepping up to delegated responsibilities and roles for the betterment of both the organisation and the industry at large.

Ian Watt
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