



# HIDDEN GEM NEWS

August 2010

An informational newsletter published by Hidden Gem Ranch

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Alpacas with show ribbons sell easier and for more money.

Showing at smaller shows can be less intimidating for newbies.

ALSA has many shows that include alpacas.

Small shows give judges more opportunity to give instruction and reasons for placement.

## Upcoming activities

## What Happened to Summer?

It's hard to believe that summer is almost over! Our kids start school August 11th, days are getting shorter, our fall crias will(should) start arriving this week, entries for the Royal Alpaca Challenge are due mid month, National Alpaca Farm Days is next month. It's time to finish all those summer chores and begin thinking about fall and winter. Soon it will be necessary to purchase hay for the winter.

Still, we are looking forward to the cooler temperatures as it has been hot for the last 2 months, with one more hot month to go. Soon winter will be here and we will be looking forward to spring (and the annual shearing ritual).

## Happening at the Ranch

Last month we participated in a 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and won a trophy for the most unique float! We are always trying to find ways to promote alpacas and parades are an easy way for people to get to know more about these animals. We took a few days "off the ranch" and visited relatives in Michigan. We have selected our entries for the Royal Alpaca Challenge which is held in Conyers, GA on November 20-21. We all have been busy processing fleece for 2 events planned for next month – Mountaineer Days Festival held in Tracy City September 11-12 and National Alpaca Farm Days held September 25-26.



## Featured alpaca(s)

This month's featured alpaca is Angelia (ARI 31986571). She will be of breeding age this fall and has good conformation and great fleece. We have

SeAA annual meeting  
August 14

Mountaineer Days Festival  
Tracy City, TN  
September 11-12

National Alpaca Farm Days  
September 25 & 26

SAFF (Southeast Animal Fiber  
Festival)  
October 22-24 Asheville, NC

Royal Alpaca Challenge  
November 20-21

### Next issue

Raising alpacas without breaking  
the bank

decided to enter her in the Royal Alpaca Challenge to see just how good she is. If you purchase her prior to the Royal Alpaca Challenge, we will still show her for you and you can choose who to have her bred to. Her price will go up after the show and once she is bred. Out of 8 crias, her dam has had 6 females.



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