



NEWSLETTER SPRING 2009

Hello Everyone! Hope this finds you all busy with growing lambs, piles of freshly shorn wool or fiber ready to be made into all kinds of great value-added items!

The board members are working hard on getting things in line for the summer show season~ our next show is Garden Days at Geneva. A new event, the first year, so it will be an adventure! Judy Maierhofer is the show coordinator, but she is gone right now so please contact Deb Rock if you would like to volunteer or have inventory to take to the show.

As we are going to these shows to help promote and sell our members fiber, we will need some help on these shows from our members. There is some work involved with set up and tear down of the booth but it is a lot of fun to meet and get to know the members and board members of the Illinois Green Pastures Co-op. It gives you a chance to talk about what sells, what the new trends are and to get a different perspective on fiber, shows and demonstrations. It is fun to go see all of the different items for sale at these shows. If no volunteers are available, then we will be calling for recruits.....We hope we can count on you for support!!!

Inventory Request

When sending your inventory to a show, you need to include an inventory list, AND EACH individual item needs to be tagged, or it will not be put out for sale! It is to confusing and difficult for the show workers to try to keep track of what sells at what price or if the paper it is written on gets lost then there is no way to know how much it was. Some shows will be outside where the wind may carry signs away. Help us help you sell your product by tagging all items with your name, price, size and color if applicable!!

**Attention:
New Mailing Address**

**Illinois Green Pastures Fiber Co-op
PO BOX 111
Waterman, IL 60550**

Review of By-laws for Fiber Sales

The By-laws of the Illinois Green Pastures Fiber Co-op state that the fiber sold under Illinois Green Pastures label MUST be produced by a member of the Co-op. If any one has any questions about this, please contact one of the board members to help you clarify ...blends with another co op member are OK... members can not market fiber blended with a non-co op member as an Illinois Green Pastures product even if it is produced in IL.

2009 Grant application

Our grant money was approved for 2009 from the Illinois Wool Marketing Board! We applied for a grant to help us pay for booths at a few fiber shows and to help with some advertising towards these shows. Please thank the members of that board if you see them.

We are working on an education box to take to events where we are there for education purposes. We would like for each fiber in our co-op to be represented - with raw fiber, a roving (or sliver, top...) and some finished product like yarn, crochet, knitting, felting...so that we can better represent to the public what it is that we are marketing. Most people are eager to learn about fibers, and what can be done with them. We need to show them!!! It should help with our product sales! You can help by volunteering to knit, crochet or felt some of the members fiber or your own fiber to put in the kit.

Garfield Farms Rare Breed Show is May 17th. **THEY DO NOT REQUIRE VET CHECKS** so it is not known how healthy the animals next to yours may be.....should anyone wish to bring any animals to the show. Please let us know so that we may inform Garfield Farms ...but be **AWARE** of the potential health hazards!

We are trying to save money on postage and checks due to the economy. **Please note that we will not be mailing out checks that amount to less than \$5.** They will be included in the next monthly check to you unless it is a problem for you. Let us know if we are taking care of your needs.

The Fiber Event in Greencastle Indiana was a success! Julie Barr, Connie Gustafson, Steve and Tracy Riddle manned the event. Julie and Connie took all the co-op items down and set the booth up on Friday morning. It was **REALLY** cold over the weekend and they liked to froze but there were lots of people passing thru looking **AND** most importantly~~**BUYING** fiber! It was fun getting to know each other plus finding out what our customers are most interested in buying and what they are making with their purchases.



Pictures at the Fiber Event in Greencastle Indiana. People shopping in our Illinois Green Pastures booth.



Connie(on right) and Julie(on left) in the booth

2009 Show Schedule and Show Coordinators

March 26 th noon	informational meeting at Anawan II for the Friendly Citizens Deb Rock will travel there	
April 10-11 th	The Fiber Event in Greencastle Indiana	Connie Gustafson & Julie Barr
April 18-19 th	Kline Creek Farms Shearing Day	Sandy Schrader
April 18 th	Stephenson Co Fiber Arts Fair	Judy Maierhofer & Jane Zeien
May 9 th	Garden Day	Deb Rock
May 17 th	Garfield Farms	Deb Rock
May 17 th	Dixon-Murst Spring at the Farm	Judy Maierhofer
May 16-17 th	Greenfest Chicago	Esther's Place
June 20-21	Cantigny	Connie Gustafson
July 17-18-19	Midwest Fiber Festival Crystal Lake	Jane Zeien
Sept 11-13 th	Wisconsin Fiber Festival	Jane Zeien & Connie Gustafson
Sept 19 th	Fiber in the Park, Earlville, IL	Sandy Schrader
Oct 17 th	Bishop Hill Fiber Show	Judy Maierhofer & Sandy Schrader

Show coordinators---person and/or persons that will be in charge of the show, taking the products to the show and running the booth with the help of other members.

All fiber or products need to be to the show coordinators 7 days prior to the event. Members are responsible for their own products.

Illinois Green Pastures Fiber Co-op is not responsible for any damage, loss or stolen fibers will in the Show Coordinators care.

We have decided to offer classifieds in our newsletters! Please get them into Deb Rock as soon as possible, remember that this is an APPROXIMATELY quarterly letter. We will include them in the next one.

As always, please feel free to contact any board member to bring up any concerns or ideas that you might have in order to help us make the Illinois Green Pastures Fiber Co-op work better for all its members.

CLASSIFIEDS:

Plant Swap~~~~~

Connie Gustafson has Hostas and many colors of iris: contact Connie to work out a deal

Deb Rock will have Resurrection Lilies (pink): contact Deb for those in the late summer

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