COS Speakers Series presents

Alpacas

with Cindy Shipley

Thursday, September 22, 2011, from 7:30 – 8:30 PM
in room Life Science 9 on the Weed campus

Come and learn more about one of Mother Nature’s favorite farm animals – the alpaca! Though they’ve been domesticated in South America for over 4,000 years, they came to the U.S. not quite 30 years ago. A smaller, and so much nicer, cousin to the llama and the camel, alpacas are eco-friendly in that they utilize feed very efficiently, have soft padded feet that don’t damage the soil, bite rather than pull up the grass, and leave their droppings in convenient communal piles to be easily gathered for use in the garden. They give beautifully soft, warm, nearly hypo-allergenic fiber for sweaters, and can be used as therapy animals. Alpacas can also be used in performance trials and go over obstacle courses, and you’ll see a video of Benji, the kissing alpaca, who lives on our ranch. We’ll talk about everything from history to histograms and have several items for you to see and touch. Join us!