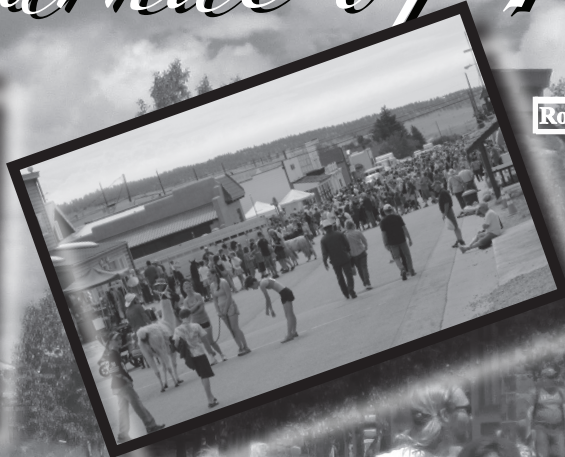


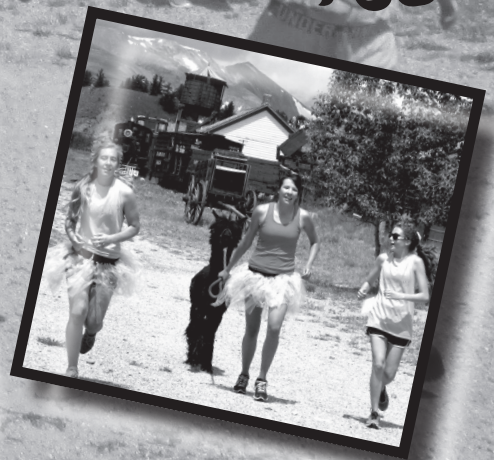
The Journal of RMLA

RMLA 

Rocky Mountain Llama and Alpaca Association



The 2014 Fairplay Llama Race - Fairplay, CO



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Journal Submission Dates, Ad Rates and Specifications

Issue	Submission Deadline	Mailing Date
Spring	February 20	March 20
Summer	May 20	June 20
Fall	August 20	September 20
Winter	November 20	December 20

Ad Type	Width x Height	Member	Non-Member
Business Card	3.5"x2"	\$15	\$18
1/4 Page Horz.	7.5" x 2"	\$24	\$36
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1/3 Page Vert.	2.5" x 10"	\$35	\$48
Half Page	7.5" x 5"	\$48	\$72
Full Page	7.5" x 10"	\$78	\$117
Back Cover	7.5" x 7.5"	\$60	\$90
Inside Cover Front or Back	7.5" x 10"	\$96	\$144
Two Page Spread	15" x 10"	\$200	\$300

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Whitewater, CO 81527-9605
You can reach Kathy at 970-256-7716 or via the email addresses below.
- **Email text and/or graphics content to:** RMLAEditor@gmail.com
- Payment and ad copy must be received prior to submission deadline. See the chart above for dates.

Journal Staff:

Content - Kathy Stanko
 Layout and Design - Ron Hinds } Co-Editors
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Hi all!

Are you thinking that you might want to write an article or submit a photo for the Journal, but you don't know how to get started? Well help is here! And, Ron and I guarantee to help you all the way through the process.



First, let's get a mindset that this is going to be easy and fun! Remember back in school when you were assigned to write articles, stories, & reports? "Who, What, Where, When, Why & How" was the mantra. Well, welcome back to the mantra! This is all the information you need for an article for the Journal.

So, just begin by writing down one or two ideas, phrases or sentences addressing each of these six items:

- **What:** name of the event or activity. You can get creative here if you choose.
- **Where:** location, such as your farm or ranch or city and state.
- **When:** just the month and date will do, or this summer, last fall, etc.
- **Who:** who attended. Just the total number of attendees or you can list names. This is your choice.
- **Why:** did you have a goal? Maybe it was to have FUN! That's just wonderful. Maybe it was to learn something or to teach others. Again, fantastic!
- **How:** this is optional. If you feel like describing a little more of what happened during the event, this is the place to do it. If not, that is 100% okay with us.

Now, you have a starting point for sharing your story. If you want, you can just send this basic information to rmlaeditor@gmail.com and we will put it in an appropriate format and send it back to you for your review and changes. We will work together, back and forth, until we are all satisfied. You do not need to worry about grammar or spelling as that is why we have a team in place. We check and double-check each other.

Another option for you is to take the basic information you wrote down and expand it into an article on your own and then send it to us. Again, we will work together until the article is print ready.

Length is not important. If you can say it all in just one paragraph, terrific! Or, if you can say it all with one photo and a caption, terrific again! What is important is sharing with other RMLA members what you are doing. Your articles and photos are really key to keeping our members, scattered across several states, informed. Your articles and photos give our members ideas of activities they can do with their llamas and alpacas and how they can care for them. Keep the good stuff coming!

Respectfully, Kathy & Ron

RMLA PRESIDENT'S LETTER by Lougene Baird



If you sometimes read my ramblings, you probably have a good understanding of my take on the value of RMLA volunteers. It is my profound belief that the RMLA is only as strong as its volunteers, regardless how small, or large, their contributions. This idea is apparent in all of the outstanding committee work accomplished by "volunteer" committee chairs and committee members.

In the preparation for this year's Fairplay event, Gary Carlton contacted me to help find a volunteer for a very special purpose. A gentle llama was needed for the Llama Lunacy - a very easy obstacle course put together just for kids to learn about llamas. We designed and sent an email news release to all members calling for additional help for the Fairplay Races.

The next day, I received the following email from Gary.

Hello Lougene,

I got a gentle PR llama for the llama lunacy race today. Her owner, Petra, is blind and tells me her animal loves kids and is extremely gentle.

Being blind, I am sure her llama is a special kind of girl. Petra has been up to the race the last few years. It is people like this who offer to bring me something that I did not expect, that makes me

change directions and get into the high-speed mode needed to make this race happen.

Every year I kind of drag my feet and then a small bit of magic happens when and where I least expect it and from then on to the finish line I know why I do this.

The volunteers who support what we do are the amazing people who give us the strength to continue and the RMLA is beyond fortunate to have such a great group of volunteers who ask for nothing in return... Gary

As Gary has pointed out, sometimes it is the smallest gesture that becomes largely important. The member who steps up to fill a special niche can make such a difference at the end the day.

It is an absolute delight to know that there are folks out there who are willing "to do" for their organization rather than expect the opposite.

Thank you to the caring volunteers who soundly weave together the fiber of RMLA.

Lougene



RMLA Special Mentions

- ▶ The 2015 RMLA Wall Calendar is available. Go to www.rmla.com to place an order.
- ▶ Denver National Western Stock Show - Llama Show, January 10-11, 2015. Contact info: Judy Glaser 303-646-6311 or judy.glaser@yahoo.com.
- ▶ Thank you to Bob and Barb Hance for their donation to the RMLA Library of many years of RMLA Newsletters/Journals. If you would like to donate to the RMLA Library, contact Dick Williams at bcllama@blackfoot.net.
- ▶ A nearly complete list of the 100+ past RMLA Newsletters/Journals are being scanned by Ron Hinds and will be available to our members on the web site in the near future.
- ▶ The Journal needs a Member(s) to help us generate advertisements. Contact rmlaeditor@gmail.com if you can help.
- ▶ Start thinking about who to nominate for the 2015 Bobra Goldsmith Memorial Award. Nominations are due December 20th. Details will be coming in November.



Ask The CSU VET Team

By Kathy Stanko & the Colorado State University Camelid Vets & Interns

Editors' Note: In the last issue of the Journal, we shared the story of RMLA members helping out the alpacas in New Zealand with urinary stone problems. Now we share this information with all of you.

URINARY STONES AND URETHRAL OBSTRUCTION IN LLAMAS AND ALPACAS

By Robert J. Callan, DVM, PhD, MS, DACVIM
Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

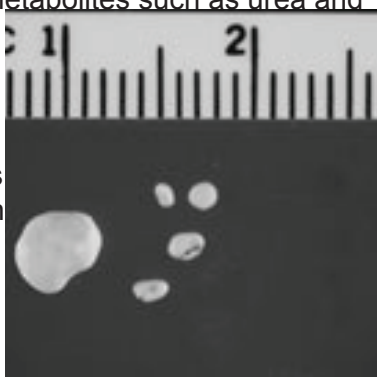
Llamas and alpacas can develop urinary stones, also known as urolithiasis, just like other domestic livestock, horses, cats, and dogs. Urolithiasis is a greater concern in male animals since their urethra becomes smaller than in females and the stones can become stuck in the urethra forming a urethral blockage or obstruction. When this happens, the animal cannot urinate. The bladder becomes distended and uncomfortable. The animal will show signs of discomfort, colic, and straining. As the condition progresses, metabolites such as urea and creatinine accumulate in the blood and the animals can also develop electrolyte abnormalities. If it goes too long, the animal can become severely ill, the bladder can rupture, and they can die.

The most common types of urinary stones observed in camelids and their characteristics are listed in the table below.

Struvite and calciStruvite and calcium phosphate stones are often considered the most common stones observed. However, in the Rocky Mountain region we

have observed several cases of calcium carbonate and silica urolithiasis as well. This is an important distinction because these other stones are very difficult to dissolve in order to clear the urethra. Thus, many medical and surgical procedures used to treat these animals fail to regain full patency of the urethra.

Predisposing factors for the formation of different types of urinary calculi are variable. Nutritional factors and water intake are major determinants of risk. This is another reason why it is so important to perform a forage analysis on your hay every year to help determine your possible risk factors for urolithiasis. Decreased water intake and concentrated urine is a predisposing factor for all four types of calculi. Other predisposing factors reported for urolith formation are:



Alpaca Urolithiasis

□ Struvite and Calcium Phosphate

- Pelleted Rations
- Dietary P > 0.30% DMI
- Ca:P < 1.5
- Dietary Mg > 0.20% DMI
- Dietary K⁺ > 2% DMI
- Increased grain in diet
- Alkaline Urine pH

CALCULI TYPE	APPEARANCE	pH Formed	ABILITY TO DIS-SOLVE
Struvite NH ₄ MgPO ₄	White or tan, chalky, irregular and gritty calculi. Often form and adhere to the hairs of the prepuce	Alkaline	Good
Calcium Phosphate	White, tan, chalky.	Alkaline	Fair to Good
Calcium Carbonate CaCO ₃	Round spherical gold or bronze BB like calculi	Neutral to Alkaline	Poor
Calcium Oxalate CaC ₂ O ₄	White or tan, flakey round calculi.	All, more common in acidic urine	Poor
Silica	White, spherical or irregular calculi.	All	Poor

continued on page 8



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 - Increased Oxalate intake
 - Moosee
 - Increased Protein intake

- **Silica**
 - Silica accumulating soils and plants
 - Mature forages
 - Ca:P > 2.8

Urolithiasis Prevention Recommendations:

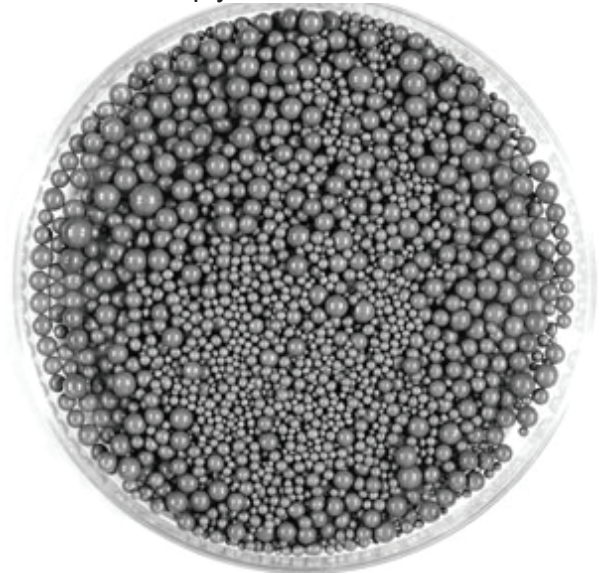
It is best to work with your veterinarian or nutritionist to help formulate specific recommendations to decrease the risk of urolithiasis based on your forage analysis. Some basic recommendations include:

- **Provide Fresh, Clean, Warm Water at ALL times**
 - Hot, stale water can decrease intake during the summer
 - Cold water can decrease intake during the winter
 - Make sure water does not freeze in the winter
- **Provide Free Choice Electrolyte Water along with fresh water**
 - Use a commercial electrolyte mix
 - As a substitute for a commercial electrolyte mix, you can use a combination of non-iodized table salt and lite salt
 - 15g table salt and 5g lite salt per gallon of water
- **Increase salt (NaCl) Intake:**
 - Helps for all forms of urolithiasis
 - Use non-iodized salt
 - Free choice White Salt block
 - Mixed with feed pellets or dissolved in water and sprayed on the hay
 - Up to 2-5% Dry Matter Intake (DMI)
 - 0.4 to 1 g/kg BW/dy
- **Decrease Phosphorus, Magnesium, and Potassium Intake**
 - Most important for struvite urolithiasis
 - Phosphorus, No More than
 - 0.30% DMI
 - 50 to 60 mg/kg BW/dy
 - More likely to be high in grain

- Magnesium
 - No More than 0.18% DMI
 - 25 to 36 mg/kg BW/dy
 - More likely to be high in hay
 - Potassium
 - No More than 2% DMI
 - 0.4 g/kg BW/dy
 - More likely to be high in hay
 - You will need to have a feed analysis for minerals done on all of your feeds to determine if these are in the appropriate level
- **Restrict Excessive Grain feeding**
 - Decreases phosphorus intake and may help control struvite crystals

What About Alfalfa?

Limiting alfalfa in the diet is often recommended to help prevent calcium containing urolithiasis because of the higher calcium content of alfalfa hay. Unfortunately, it does not appear to be that simple. In our experience, cases of calcium carbonate urolithiasis seem to occur sporadically in individual animals rather than in multiple animals on a specific diet. These stones are seen in animals on grass hay as well as alfalfa hay. This suggests that other individual metabolic factors may be more important than simply the concentration of calcium



Goat-Ca-Carbonate-Stones

in alfalfa. Feeding alfalfa may be appropriate for certain production animals. At this time, we have no specific recommendation to restrict alfalfa in cases of urolithiasis but rather recommend a full evaluation of all of the feeds relative to the preventive measures above.

continued on next page...

How About Urine Acidifiers?

In cases of struvite or calcium phosphate urolithiasis, it is most important to follow the recommendations above for prevention. Urine acidifiers can be used to treat clinical cases of struvite or calcium phosphate urolithiasis, or when forage options are limited and phosphorus, magnesium, or potassium exceed the limits set above. It is very important to work closely with your veterinarian or nutritionist when feeding urine acidifiers. Too little will not help and too much can be detrimental or even fatal. We generally pulse urine acidifiers, treating for 1 or 2 weeks and then off for 2 to 3 weeks. Some important points about urine acidification are:

- Urine acidification can help dissolve struvite and calcium phosphate crystals and stones but NOT calcium carbonate, calcium oxalate, or silica stones
- The salts used in urine acidification also increase water consumption. That can help dilute the urine and decrease all types of crystal and stone formation
- Ammonium Chloride (NH₄Cl), Bio-Chlor and SoyChlor are the most commonly available urine acidifiers. Work closely with your veterinarian or nutritionist when using these products. You can have your veterinarian contact CSU for further recommendations on dosages for these urine acidifiers
- Monitor Urine pH
 - Goal between 5.5-6.5 while on the acidifier
 - This pH will help dissolve struvite and calcium phosphate stones. It will have little or no effect on dissolving other stones. That is one reason why the mineral analysis of the stones can be helpful
 - Severe metabolic acidosis and death can occur when the urine pH approaches 5
 - Purchase some pH paper that will read in the 5 to 8 range or wider to check urine pH while the animal is on treatment. The urine pH should fall below 6.5 but remain above 5.0. If the pH is >6.5, increase the amount administered. If the pH is near 5 or <5, decrease the amount of acidifier



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Teresa Dew Heavens Little Critters

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Cheryl Keydel Ancient Treasures Alpaca Ranch

10250 W. 84th Pl Arvada, CO 80005
303-882-9778 ckeydel@comcast.net

Congratulations to Geri Rutledge Proud Recipient of the 2014 Sharon Beacham Fiber Award

Gerri Rutledge is the honored recipient of the Sharon Beacham Fiber Award. The award was presented to Gerri during the 2014 Estes Park Wool Market Llama Show. The award was created to honor Sharon Beacham for her dedication in promoting the many uses of llama fiber, her continuous education about fiber, the need to shear our llamas and the importance of quality fiber.



The Sharon Beacham Fiber Award is meant to recognize the “Best of Show in Fiber” during the event. The selection of the award is at the sole discretion of the fiber judge. Joy Bishop-Forshey, the fiber judge for the 2014 Estes Park Llama Show, expressed that she felt Gerri Rutledge was well deserving of the award based on her overall presentation in all fiber divisions. This included walking fiber, shorn fleece, handspinners choice and products made from llama fiber, such as hand knit, woven and felted items.



Fantastic Fun in Fairplay.....

By Gary Carlton
Comanche Creek Llamas
Strasburg, CO

The 2014 Fairplay Race was another amazing success. Just take a look at the awesome photos on this page and the front cover!

We want to thank those who helped to make it a fun day for all, as well as another outstanding financial success.

The net proceeds from this event are reserved to pay the RMLA liability insurance premiums.

To function safely the event needs at least twice as many volunteers. Please consider helping next year. This is an important event that needs your help. We have been going for more than 30 years and we want to keep going!

But we couldn't have a race without llamas. A tremendous thank you to the following ranches that generously brought llamas for the event:

- Stage Stop Llamas,**
- 2 Bit 2 Llamas,**
- Comanche Creek Llamas,**
- Corral Creek Llamas,**
- Lightning Ridge Llamas,**
- Rock-n-M Llamas and Alpacas,**
- Stargazer Llamas,**
- Clearwater Llamas, and**
- Petra Janes who brought a PR llama for the new lunacy race.**

RMLA volunteers who went above and beyond were Jeff & Sally Rucker, Vicky Foster, Ann Bruhn, Mary Wickman and Ron Hinds & Elizabeth Cline. Non-RMLA members also making an incredible contribution were Gail Davidson, Steve Jenkins and Kevin and Robin Kaltenbaugh.



continued on next page



Special thanks to Fairplay local merchants who donated prizes:

- Calamity's Cabin,
- Java Moose,
- South Park Pottery,
- Hand Hotel,
- The Salt Licking Goat Co,
- The Silver Scoop Creamery.

Timed in minutes, this year's top three finishers in each race were:

Men's Division

1. Ryan Haight 31.44
2. Tanner Kemp 31.54
3. Jerrod Cooper 34.13

Women's Division

1. Amy Nordhagen 45.46
2. Aurora Edington 45.48
3. Molly Erdle 46.01

Team Pack Race

1. Dan Fitch, Andrew & Kelsie Kellogg 34.10
2. Deedra Mayers, Rachel Riokert 36.02
3. unknown



Also see the photos on the front page! Fairplay photos taken by Ron Hinds and Elizabeth Cline.



RESEARCH UPDATE: C3 ULCERS IN CAMELIDS

In 2013, Drs. Stacey Byers and Rob Callan started a research project to find a diagnostic method to detect Compartment 3 ulcers in camelids. Unfortunately, the preliminary laboratory assays have not been successful, resulting in the project being put on hold.

CSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital is extremely appreciative of the donations from camelid owners and veterinarians to help support the project. At this time, the project is not "cancelled", but temporarily delayed as other diagnostic methods are assessed. All funds and donations for the project are being held in a designated account until the project can move forward again.

Rescue in a Snowstorm, Part 2

By Susi Hülsmeier-Sinay
Rescue Committee Chair

Editors' note: Part 1 of this rescue was printed in the Summer issue of the RMLA Journal. Part 2 picks up where Susi had just observed that there were 3 female llamas in need of rescuing the next day.

A snowstorm moves in that night. In the morning, we fight our way back to neighbor Dan's cow pasture through the swirling snow. I have two



male llamas with me in the trailer. Maybe they can help. Dan meets us and reports that the llamas walked into the panel corral he and his helpers set up at first light. He had thoughtfully put hay in there for them.

We leave the trailer at the bottom and struggle uphill with our two llamas in tow. At the top of the snowy hill, inside the corral are the three llamas munching on hay. I feel proud of the girls. They made it on their own and then mingled with a herd of cattle when there was nothing else to eat.

But wait a minute...how, when, why did all this happen? Then it dawns on me! I am starting to understand the story. The male that was misidentified as an elk and shot last fall must have been the sire of the little llama girl in the corral and possibly also of the white cria that was killed by the mountain lion and – can it be? - maybe of the second adult female. How long have these llamas been roaming? Where did they come from?

My anger rises and my heart feels for the llamas. It all falls into place. Somebody somewhere left a gate open, an easy fix for low prices in a crashing market or a way to relieve the burden of responsibility that had gotten too heavy for whatever reason. I imagine the llamas fending for themselves during the brutal Montana winters.

One baby falls prey to a cougar and then the male gets shot by, well, a moron! By then, the one female is pregnant again, gives birth in October and the threesome make it through another winter including the tiny cria. Unbelievable! Well, I think, you llamas are in luck. I am here to take you home to a warm stall, lots of hay and a few boys who will be delighted to see you.



The llamas look at me apprehensively as I climb into the corral. The heifers draw close for a good look. Time for a rodeo! The wind is picking up. My fingers are frozen. No time to lose! Dan has brought two "cowboys" and they all settle on the fence to watch the woman from Germany wrangle the llamas. I want to be gentle but the sky is turning dark with icy intent, so we don't have all day. We shrink the corral more and more and I move in slowly to halter the girls talking to them soothingly. The mother llama gives in soon. She obviously has done this before. The other adult is a handful



but she too is wearing a halter before long. The cowboys are applauding. My husband has moved the trailer closer and the females load after some encouragement. The wind is whipping now. Finally,

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Have You Given A Death Sentence To The Llama You Love?

By Linda Hayes - Southwest Llama Rescue - Glenwood Springs, CO

We love our llamas. We make sure they have shelter and plenty of food but is that enough? NO! If we haven't taken the time to halter break them and teach them to lead, we are creating a potential disaster.

I do lots of rescue and have first hand experience on how not halter breaking your llama can hurt. When disaster hits, be it mud slide, flood, forest fire or whatever, a llama that can not be handled will not have much chance of survival. People who are trying to help don't have time to deal with unruly animals. They will leave them to die and concentrate on gentle ones that they can actually do something with.

Have you ever seen a llama with burns all over its body? I have and it's not pretty. Could this have been avoided? Probably, if it could have been haltered and led to safety.

I know of a llama that got washed down the river for several miles. It was only able to be rescued because the owner had it so gentle that the llama actually helped the rescuer and got the two of them safely back to shore.

But let's say that your llama is rescued and taken to a facility where he is safe. The vet coming in to help will not be able to medicate him if he can't be handled. Volunteers just don't have the time to deal with uncooperative animals.

I get many llamas from loving homes who just let them live as well fed pasture

ornaments. They give them food and shelter but nothing else. They have not been worked with in years, usually need shearing and toes trimmed. How can this be done if the llama can't be caught and goes into a panic when you try to halter him?



But even if I manage to get a halter on him and take care of his physical needs, will he be adoptable? Most people want a llama that is at least halter broken. They want one they can take on walks or train to do other things. Who do you think gets the great home? It's not the ones who have never been handled.

So many owners say "Oh, he's real gentle. He will eat out of my hand and follow me around." This means nothing if I can't get a halter on him to keep him safe and healthy.

Come on, folks, if you love your llamas, train them! It's a lot easier to train a weanling than a ten year old. It's easier for the llama and much easier for the handler. Put a halter on them and tie them up once a month. Let them learn how to be comfortable on a tether. Teach them to pick up their feet and load in a trailer. You are not being fair to your llama if you don't do at least this much.

If you love your llamas, do something to make sure they will be safe and healthy no matter where they are. You owe it to them.



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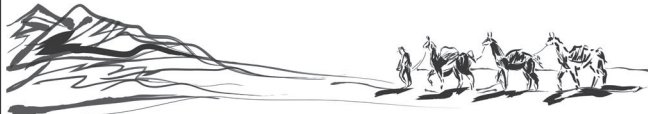


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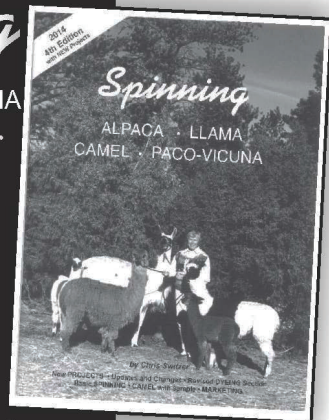
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Rescue in a Snowstorm, Part 2, continued from page 13

the little llama hops in behind the females and the two boys get back in to comfort the ladies during the ride home. They get spit at as a 'thank you'.

This is a story with a good ending. But that is not the reason for writing it. What most probably happened to those llamas is that they were



discarded. They were pushed aside because they were not needed or wanted anymore. Just like the many cats that I have taken in over the years. For

these three llamas that we rescued in a snowstorm and gave a home again, there are hundreds or more that did not fare as well as we all know. The stories with sad endings are plenty. The numbers of llamas and alpacas in need of rescuing are rising.

These llamas found a new home at a friend's ranch where they became surrogate mothers, together with other females that folks brought there because they had no use for them anymore — possibly a better solution than leaving the gate open. They found a new home and a new purpose. From their new home, Manzanita, Momma and baby Tulip can see the slope where they once roamed through the seasons with the brown male, where they possibly saw him die and where two crias were born and one didn't make it. For Tulip, it must have been a time of intense hardship and yet she turned out to be a gentle sweet llama. I will always remember when this little wild llama touched my nose with hers. Like they say: all you need is love!

From my porch, I look over to the far pasture of Dan Miles, the neighbor I now know. On the slope above it and where we often observe elk, llama tracks slowly blow away in the wind.



THE 'DREADED' RMLA EVENT APPLICATION

By Mary Wickman - RMLA Event Coordinator - Woodland Park, CO

You have decided to have an RMLA-sponsored event. Wonderful! Don't let the RMLA Event Application intimidate you. It is very easy to complete. But first just give me a call and we can discuss how to get started. 719-651-8871. The application takes only about 15 minutes to complete.

1. Go to RMLA.com. On Home page, left side, hover over Events tab and select Event Planning.
2. Read the 1-page Event Planning Packet/Checklist. There is a wealth of information here that may or may not be applicable to your event.
3. At the bottom of this page, select the appropriate MS Word document to download and save it to your computer.
4. Please read this application/contract completely. If you need help, call me.
5. Once you have read the instructions and the agreement, you can just fill in the application right on your computer!
6. Save the application/contract and email to mwickman1@gmail.com to get the process started.
7. Last step: print, sign and mail hard copy of your application to Mary Wickman, PO BOX 216, Woodland Park, CO 80866.

When I receive your e-mailed application, I forward it on to the RMLA Board of Directors who, in turn, vote to approve your event. This takes a couple of days for the e-mailing back and forth. I notify you of approval and you are on your way. Very simple!

Problems, questions?
Call me!
719-651-8871

Now you may be asking 'why do I need to send a signed paper copy'? The signed 'event' paperwork is considered a contract between RMLA and an event coordinator. Among other things, this contract is to show good intent on RMLA's behalf that the event will be conducted in a safe, low-risk way for all participants. Putting on safe events is something we all do normally, but the company that underwrites the RMLA liability insurance still requires an original signature. Having RMLA liability insurance is a great benefit to you and your event for just a bit of additional paperwork.

Another benefit of an RMLA sponsored event, is that your event is listed on the RMLA website calendar and included in the e-mail blasts that go out. What a great way for everyone to learn of your event!

The contract you agree to and submit requires you to post in a highly visible location the RMLA banner and 2 or 3 liability signs. These are also provided to you by RMLA. I can help you get these from one of our three members who keep them handy for others to use.

The final part of the contract asks that the event sponsor (that's you) send 'something' to the Journal. This 'something' can be just a photo with a caption or a couple of paragraphs or a more complete description of your event. It is your choice. We know that after preparing and having the event, the last thing you may want to do is write an article and send photos. But, did you know that is a great way to share the fun you are having with your llamas?

Have fun and sponsor an RMLA event.



2014 Grand Mesa and Kokopelli Classics

by Cheryl Juntilla - Photos by Mary Sievers and Wally Juntilla

“Peace, Love and Lamas” was the perfect theme for the 2014 Grand Mesa and Kokopelli Classics. Even the weather was peaceful as friends gathered to share their love of camelids and enjoy each other’s company. There were close friends who work together to make the event possible, loyal friends who have supported the shows for many years, old friends returning and



Mary and friend

new friends attending for the first time. It was a weekend of harmony, fun, and good sportsmanship. We did miss seeing some friends who weren’t able to attend because of late spring snow storms, but it is hard to travel to a show when your trailer is covered in snow and you have to wear snowshoes to feed your animals.

The big question this year was how the addition of alpaca halter and performance classes might impact the Shows and the answer is that it made them even better. The Shows have always had llama halter and performance classes running simultaneously in two separate rings, which invariably led to some exhibitors having to try to be in two places at one time. That problem was actually alleviated by running alpaca halter classes in one ring while llama performance classes were happening in the other ring, and vice versa. More importantly, it brought in new exhibitors and volunteers and gave everyone a chance to meet new people and learn from each other.

The performance crew did an outstanding job in creating new and colorful obstacles to fit with this year’s theme. Fun and good sportsmanship were very evident in the performance ring, with several truly experienced llamas competing in the Advanced Division and very close competition in the Novice and Alpaca Divisions. Everybody got to cheer for each other when the performance awards for the Grand Mesa Show were announced during the exhibitors’ dinner on Saturday evening. The dinner this year was an Italian buffet sponsored by the Grand Mesa Llama and Alpaca Club with garlic bread donated by Nick N’ Willy’s Pizza and brownies for dessert.

Also announced during the dinner were the annual special awards which are made to show our appreciation of the exhibitors. The award for First Entry Received went to Judy Glaser, Rockwood



Adryce and Patti

Llamas of Kiowa, Colorado. The award for Furthest Traveled was given to Laurel Snider, Star Girl Llamas of Laramie, Wyoming. The awards for Most Animals Entered and Most Classes Entered went to Rob and Jill Knuckles, Tall Tail Llamas of Collbran, Colorado. There was a special Llama Viejo Award this year for the oldest llama entered in performance classes, which went to Cloud Peak’s Top Banana, owned by Barb and Dwayne Flinn, Cloud Peak Llamas of Kamas, Utah. Top Banana is going on 19 years old and still showing

continued on next page

the youngsters how it's done.

One of the highlights on Sunday was the announcement of the results of the Grand Mesa Fiber Show. The Show has always had high quality shorn fleece entries and large walking fiber classes. The



Dwayne & Sundae

addition of shorn alpaca fleeces increased the entries to the point where we could have used a larger space to display all the fleeces and the wide variety of beautiful knitted, woven and felted items entered in the Fiber Showcase. This year the Fiber Showcase Peoples' Choice Award went to Judy Glaser for a really unique woven shawl that incorporated actual locks of llama fiber. After the Fiber Show results were announced, the trophies for the Grand Mesa Versatility Champions were presented. These awards went to the animals earning the highest total points in halter, performance and fiber classes. This year's Llama Versatility Champion was Tall Tail's Grayson owned by Rob and Jill Knuckles and the Alpaca Versatility Champion was Dreamcatcher Peruvian Anuja owned by Charlie and Patty Jensen of Dreamcatcher Alpacas.

The success of the Grand Mesa and Kokopelli Shows is thanks to the efforts of many people. First, there are the exhibitors who travel from near and far to engage in friendly competition. Their good sportsmanship and camaraderie made it a fun and relaxing weekend for everyone. It also helps to have judges like Karen Kinyon, Patti Morgan, Linda Hayes

and apprentice judge Adryce Matthews who aren't afraid to smile while doing their jobs. We have a great team of volunteers who work together well, most of whom are members of the Grand Mesa Llama and Alpaca Club. Many exhibitors jump in to help whenever they can. Special thanks to Masha Flinn for serving as gatekeeper, to Glen and Sue Troutt, Rob and Jill Knuckles and Janine Fausone for all they do every year. Thanks to newcomers Patty and Charlie Jensen who were a huge help before, during and after the shows. Mary Sievers, John Hilker and Wally Juntilla did a great job of keeping the performance courses running smoothly and even made the work day for building obstacles fun. Thanks to Mary Mauz and Paula Casey for taking on the responsibility of serving as clerks, to Abbey for assisting with those duties, to Tim Casey for announcing and to Erin Casey for running score cards and helping with presenting ribbons. A huge thank you goes to everyone who worked on setting up the Sagebrush Room for lunch and dinner and stuck around to clean it up on Sunday.

We are extremely fortunate to have the support of wonderfully generous sponsors like Purina Mills and Ranchway Feeds, as well as many local businesses including Commercial Specialists, Inc., Religious Experience Salsa, Enstrom's Candy, Grand Valley Power, Nick N' Willy's Pizza, Amigo Animal Hospital, Footprints Animal Hospital, Kitty Condos, Muellers Auto Service, Orchard Mesa True Value Hardware, and Valley Ranch Supply. We especially appreciate the members of the llama community who support the shows not only as sponsors, but as exhibitors and



Jr & Jake

continued on next page

2014 Grand Mesa and Kokopelli Classics - continued

volunteers as well: Rob & Jill Knuckles of Tall Tail Ranch, La Chiripada, Steve and Leslie Schubert of Cedar Cliff Ranch, Carlos Mendoza of Rancho Linda Vista, Wes and Mary Mauz of Timberline Llamas, Mary Sievers, Paul and Karen Schwartz of ChanTar Llamas, Charlie and Patty Jensen of Dreamcatcher Alpacas, Kurt and Judy Glaser of Rockwood Llamas



Jr Youth Showman

Alpacas and Petra Janes who added to the fun by providing opportunities to shop for wonderful fiber products, jewelry, handmade soaps and delicious flavored salts.

We are already looking forward to another



Patti & Anuja

and Sonja Beoff of Zander Farms. We also appreciate our vendors Brent and Donna Holt of Sunrise Ridge

weekend of Peace, Love and Lamas in May, 2015 and hope to see you all there. In the meantime, keep on trucking.



Gaining Confidence

By Linda Hayes
Llama Linda Ranch
Carbondale, CO



A student who was afraid to even touch the llama finally conquers the obstacle course.

Every year Llama Linda Ranch near Carbondale hosts a class of special needs students. The teenagers work with the llamas -brushing, leading and taking them through the obstacle course.



The llamas seem to know to be extra calm around the kids and it doesn't take long for the most timid teen to gain the confidence needed to work with the llamas. The outing is one of the highlights of the summer school program.

LLAMA CAMP 2014

By Geri Rutledge
Bucks Hollow Ranch
Waco, NE

Llama camp at Bucks Hollow Ranch continues to grow! This was our 4th year, with 75 kids and adults participating. Campers began arriving on Thursday night June 19th to pitch camp and were ready to begin at 9 am Friday

to act as a resist. The scarves were dyed, the stitches clipped and pulled to display a white llama on the dyed background. Sally Brandon from Shepherds Mill in Kansas was our hands on teacher for this activity.



- Wool Dying, Carding, Felted Eggs — At this station, a little bit of everything occurred. Campers learned how to use a drum carder, how to dye wool and how to make felted eggs that finish getting felted in the dryer. They did a great job and even the windstorm that tossed about the wool and eggs didn't stop this craft. The helpers here were Jillian Boden, Ralph Doubrava and family, and the Winter girls.

- Fashion Felt Wear — Campers made a bracelet using yarn on a round cardboard cut-out and braided the yarn so it came out the center. Catherine Steele was our leader out under the tent, and kept everyone busy.

morning. Campers could bring their own animals, or if not, there were plenty to 'borrow' for all of the activities.

Speaking of activities, who comes up with all of these fantastic ideas?

- Pool Felting — yes, in a baby pool filled with raw fiber, warm water, soap, and lots of dancing kids. The kids really liked this. Holly helped on this project.

- Bamboo Felting — campers used llama/alpaca fiber to felt a round piece and use this in the bowls that were melted during the Christmas Party using old record albums melted with a heat gun into various bowl shapes. They used bamboo placemats, the carded wool created earlier and their strong muscles. Geri Rutledge led this activity. This project is entered at NE State Fair.

- Shibori Scarf Dying — We used a llama profile drawn on a silk scarf. The campers sewed a running stitch around the llama then pulled the stitches tight

We want to give a special thank you to Robin Buettenback. She was at camp to help everyone get their entries ready for the Nebraska State Fair. Then she did a demo under the tent with her spinning



continued on next page

wheel. The kids gathered, the parents watched and the process of raising a llama/alpaca, to shearing, to carding, to making roving, to spinning the fiber into yarn put it all together for the campers. Again those not as familiar with the animals are now believers! They all want to own animals.

Llama camp would not be llama camp without learning about llamas and alpacas. The first lesson for campers: human and animal behavior and safety. And always be kind to all animals. After that, campers learned how to teach animals to back up, load up, steps, show foot, show teeth, and much more.

Then it was showmanship to learn about quadrants, spacing, and anatomy. And practice, practice and more practice.

Finally, the entire group took a pasture walk. No matter where you were in the group, watching the trail ahead, or the middle or bringing up the rear, you would see about 75 people with animals all walking the trail. There are Kodak moments for all to enjoy.

Now camp wouldn't be camp if we didn't turn them all loose and let them have fun. There were many games, water fights, mud expositions, tag, hide 'n seek, etc. And who will forget the glow of the electronic devices at night in the tents. Camping is not like the good old days when a flashlight is all you had.

Throughout the weekend, campers learned about Team Work, Sportsmanship, Herdsmanship, and even though they competed against each other, everyone was friends at the end of the day. Everyone learned and shared knowledge about raising llamas and alpacas. We thank all our teachers, volunteers, parents who pitched in to help, cooks, people who donated, construction crew, and tear down help. These kids are the best group ever. They all got along, they all help each other; it's just great. We have many to thank:

- We want to give a huge 'thank you' to our sponsors: the Nebraska Llama Association and the Rocky Mountain Llama & Alpaca Association

- Gordon and Shelia Gulbrandson for the bringing the draft horses and wagon. Everyone enjoyed the rides!

- Jeff Sorenson and Jim Rutledge for the new obstacles.

- To all the families who brought food to contribute, especially the root beer floats.

- To Holly Jensen for the packets.

- To Ang Jensen, Camp Photographer. She documented the camp through photos and loaded it all on Facebook.

- Shelia Gulbrandson, the artist for the Camp T-Shirts 2014. Sales were made in advance so the bright green shirts could be worn all weekend.

- Llama Camp Patches: Award Presentation was held on Saturday. All those who attend camp get a badge, for the Scouts, or other programs they are in. We have an official patch.



And on a side note: due to all the hail storms and tornadoes we have had here in Nebraska, the insurance adjuster arrived during this event! He was here from Florida and

had never seen such a thing, not the hail damage, but the amount of people, trucks, trailers, kids, llamas, alpacas, dogs, cats, all having so much fun. He shared that he did take pictures of hail damage, but has more pictures of the animals and kids!

hw

Raising Money for Rescued Llamas

- By Linda Hayes, Llama Linda Ranch, Glenwood Springs, CO
- Photos by Joanne Richardson, Basalt, CO

I've been running a facility for rescued llamas for about 3 years. Over that time my numbers had grown to 18 and I was beginning to think that I would never find homes for them or bring in money to feed them. An idea was formed to solve these problems.

I held a Christmas "Open Barn" over the holidays. I had 50 to 60 people come by. I let them know it was a fund raiser for Southwest Llama Rescue. The donations



totaled \$185.00. I was shocked! I figured people would just donate a couple of dollars but there were several \$20.00 bills in the donation can.

We had a tree in the barn and most of the llamas were covered in Xmas decorations. There was a fire pit for roasting marshmallows and a heated stall for warmth as it was in the teens all day. One of my gentlest llamas gave rides to the little tykes and another llama owner came and took professional grade photos. Kids were leading llamas all over the place.

I had a couple of volunteers who were wonderful as I was suffering from the flu. Debbie Nelson of New Castle, CO helped me all weekend. She had just adopted a rescued llama and cria for her Christmas present and she was anxious to learn all she could about llamas. She came on Saturday and spent the



day helping me set up for Sunday's event. There were several other friends and students who helped as well. I couldn't have done it without them.

The only thing I would have changed is "NO DOGS PLEASE". I never dreamed people would come leading dogs nearly as big as a full grown llama. Not a good thing when you've got kids leading llamas and a baby sitting on the llama giving rides.

I'm pretty sure the photographer is going to adopt a couple of the rescues. How do I know? By the number of photographs she took of certain ones. She already has 3, one of which was a SWLR cria. So I'm keeping my fingers crossed.

When I try to find homes for rescue llamas, I get a lot of people saying they have all the animals that they



can handle. If that is you, how about doing an open house or fun day for a way to raise money for Llama Rescue? You will have a good time and maybe even sell a couple of your own. If nothing else, you'd take in a little money for the SWLR coffers. Every dollar goes for llama care; we don't have administration fees.



Letters from Members

I enjoyed James Firor's article in the last issue. He talked about how the correct Spanish pronunciation of "Llama" is "Yama". I thought your readers might like to know why we in North America are calling them "llamas".

Back in the early days of llamas in the US, there was an outstanding organization called the International Llama Association. Membership numbered in the hundreds and their annual conferences included just about as many attendees. Everyone was eager to learn about these new animals and the speakers were among the most knowledgeable in the animal world. The Atlanta conference had a silent auction that brought in over \$100,000, all of which went to medical research.

How to pronounce "llama" was a frequent topic in those days. Finally, at one convention a vote was taken on how the industry wanted to say the word. "Yama" lost and now every Spanish speaking person who hears about our "llamas" thinks we are nuts.

But that, as Paul Harvey would say, is the rest of the story.

Llama Linda
aka Linda Hayes
Glenwood Springs, CO



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Estes Park Wool Market Llama Show

By Jill Knuckles
Tall Tail Ranch
Collbran, CO

It was once again another beautiful June weekend in the Colorado Rockies for the Estes Park Wool Market Llama Show. A bit of wind and a typical afternoon shower, letting us all know, that “yes”, this is Estes Park. As the new superintendent, along with a group of awesome llama friends and volunteers to help, I felt the show was a wonderful success. I hope that all exhibitors share in my overall excitement and are ready to attend again in 2015.

There was a lot of “New” at the festival this year. It was the “grand opening” for two new



buildings at the fairgrounds. One was the new exhibit hall for all of the fiber vendors. For the Llama Show we had a new format offering the Gold show with both halter and performance on Saturday and the Silver show, including both halter and performance on Sunday.

The fiber show, including shorn fleece, walking fiber, hand spinners choice and a fiber showcase was held on Saturday. A new venue was set up for the Fiber Show, which provided more space for judging and gave us a wonderful space to display the fiber results for all to see.

The llama shows were very well attended with exhibitors joining us from Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska and the longest haul being from Illinois. With just under 90 llamas showing, we had an

outstanding Get of Sire class to include 7 entries and we had 26 entries competing in the novice performance division each day.

The fiber show was exceptional with 30 shorn fleece entries, 46 walking fiber entries and close to 30 fiber specialty entries.

Our judges were Margaret Henry and Mike Swanson, both judging performance and halter, Joy Bishop-Forshey judged fiber, Cheryl Juntilla judged the model packer and Jens Rudibaugh apprenticing with Mike Swanson.

We had many Champions:

- The Youth Versatility Champion was awarded to Hunter Snow as the youth earning the most points in the youth division for both shows.
- The Llama Best of Show was awarded to Nastaza’s Raphael, owned by Carlos Mendoza. The Best of Show was chosen from all Halter Grand Champions.
- The Llama Versatility Champion was awarded to Tall Tail’s Grayson, owned by Robert Knuckles. The Versatility Champion was awarded to the llama earning the most points in halter, performance and fiber.
- Fiber Showcase Grand Champion was awarded to Cheryl Juntilla for a beautiful hand knit shawl.



A very special ‘Thank You’ to Cheryl and Wally Juntilla, Larry Lewellyn, Karen and Paul Schwartz and Rob Knuckles for their help in planning the show, developing and bringing all of the obstacles

for the performance courses and overall support. And a very special ‘Thank You’ also to Gayle



continued on next page

The 2014 RMLA Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting was held at the Community Center in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. After the 11:00 A.M. meeting, members enjoyed a light lunch.

At 1:00 P.M. an educational seminar was held. Karen Kinyon, co-founder of the RMLA Fiber Co-op, was the guest speaker. Her topic was "Can Llama & Alpaca Fleece Production Offset Your Hay Bill? Members present heard good information shared by Karen.

The Board and Membership wish to thank Ann Bruhn for three years of service to the Board. Ann was a strong and talented contributing member bringing sounds ideas to RMLA.

The membership elected Dick Williams and Geri Rutledge to the Board. Member Ron Hinds received write-in votes and will be the first alternate should a current Director step down.

Thank you to Linda Hayes, Educational Chair, who put the event together. A fun day was had by all.




Annual meeting participants wearing Karen Kinyon's lama creations.

Estes Park Wool Market Llama Show continued

Woodsum for providing me the help, support and encouragement to follow in her footsteps as superintendent!!

We all know that our volunteers keep the show running! Thank You to all of the wonderful volunteers helping throughout the weekend to ensure the show ran smoothly: Sandy Nolan did an exceptional job as our fiber show clerk; Rhonda Livengood and Nancy Jamnick were our outstanding and dedicated announcer and clerk; Ann Bruhn was our wonderful ring steward... along with a few other hats that she wore that weekend: Jim Rutledge, Karen Schwartz, Chris and Sonja Boeff and Christian Atkins were all incredible help wherever they were needed.

My greatest appreciation and gratitude to all of the sponsors and their much-needed support. And, of course, Thank You to all of the exhibitors; without you, we would have no show.

2015 will be the 25 year anniversary for the Estes Park Wool Market!!! We hope to plan some special events for all to celebrate the anniversary. 



Tracking Rescues: Not a Piece of Cake

By Kathy Stanko - Iron Horse Ranch - Whitewater, CO

A number of months ago when I first decided that I wanted to track and share the numbers of llamas being rescued, I thought to myself “piece of cake; why has this not been done?” Well, it is not a piece of cake and it is not real straightforward.

The SWLR volunteers move fast and a lot goes on through a ‘bazillion’ e-mails. UPS® does not have the corner on the logistics market! Rescue, be it llamas, dogs or cats, is mostly about communication and logistics.

I sit here at my computer reading all the e-mails coming through from SWLR on the llamas and alpacas in need of re-homing and rescuing. In the past 3 months there have been 13 situations involving llamas and alpacas, multiple animals often going to multiple new homes. Many are emergencies, some are not.

I have learned that re-homing is a huge part of what SWLR does on a daily basis. When llamas are adopted, the new owner pays a \$150.00 adoption fee. This covers expenses incurred while keeping these animals until an adoption could take place. With “re-homes” no money

changes hands since the llama’s present owner and the potential new owner make the exchange without going through the adoption process. This keeps expenses down for the rescue organization and lets exchanges take place without all the paperwork and site visits required with an adoption. Putting people together takes numerous phone calls and e-mails to locate and set up transportation to new homes.

Check out www.facebook.com/rescue. llamas and www.facebook.com/rescue.alpacas. Owners, who are not in an emergency situation, can put information about their situation and location plus photos for potential new llama and alpaca owners to see. It is a great service of SWLR.

On a final note, I may never be able to get an accurate count of the number of rescues, because so much goes on behind the scenes. Quoting Linda Hayes: “sometimes even SWLR doesn’t know when the re-homes take place. And it can get really confusing because I think I have someone to take an animal and then find out the owner already found a place for it.” Maybe more e-mails and phone calls are needed!



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Diet consists of: Late or non-irrigated summer, fall or winter pasture; feeding alfalfa or grass hay low in phosphorus. Contains additional phosphorus and Vitamin E.

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ESTES PARK WOOL MARKET LLAMA SHOW Youth Awards Silent Auction

By Lougene Baird - Waikoloa, HI

The cute little critter in the photo was donated to the Youth Silent Auction. As I recall, he stands about 7 inches tall. He spent the morning on the Silent Auction tables at the Estes Park Wool Market Llama Show. Bids started off slow and then picked up as the morning went along.

My sister and I remarked several times that he looked so mournful. We encouraged bidders to consider taking him home to put him in the barn with the other animals. At noon, my sister just couldn't leave him there. She put in a bid feeling he surely was worth \$1.

At 12:45 a bidding frenzy took place. With no warning everyone wanted to take him home. Seems to me he actually sold for \$30! I am not too sure who the wonderful buyer was, but we thank you for offering the little guy a new home. But even more important... We want to thank every person who donated to the auction and every one of you who bought the treasures of all kinds.

All the money that was received goes into the Youth Award Program reserves. These funds will help pay for this year's youth awards. Thank you everyone!



Where Are They Now?

By Lougene Baird - Waikoloa, HI



Bottom, L to R: Lloyd Wamsley, Tara Schwartz and Ben Riggs.
Top, L to R: Brianna Livengood, Deidre Baird, Tiffany Coffman, Chandra Schwartz, Halley Coffman and Adrienne Bergenfeld.

This is the third article in the series updating the current membership about what the 2000 RMLA Youth are doing in their lives. It has been a delightful experience and great fun catching up with these 'kids' again. It is especially interesting to learn what each gained from being involved in llamas and RMLA.

Tara (Schwartz) Bower

After graduating high school, Tara attended Sheridan College and earned an Associate of Arts Degree. Last year, she earned a second Associate Degree in Science and Physical Therapist Assistant from San Juan College. Early in 2014 she passed the National Boards and received her Certificate from the State of Wyoming and is now a fulltime Physical Therapy Assistant in Sheridan, Wyoming.

Tara is an avid outdoor enthusiast in Wyoming and enjoys hiking and camping. This summer, she trained and completed a 30K trail run in the Big Horn Mountains of Wyoming. Since graduation she has continued to play volleyball in recreation leagues to keep in shape.

In 2008, Tara and Jeff were married. They reside in Sheridan, Wyoming. This summer they began ballroom dancing lessons and love it.

As Tara remembers her growing up days, she recalls the excitement of llama shows and all of the preparation and grooming associated with showing. Tara said, "The competitiveness we all had as Youth

was special and you never knew who would win at any given show. . . and who could forget Brianna having the announcer play Shania Twain towards the end of every show!"

She continues, "I remember the support RMLA gave me as a Youth showman to continue on to



compete at the National level. Being an RMLA Youth developed my sportsmanship, social skills, responsibilities, sense of community and helping others."

continued on next page

Chandra (Schwartz) Moomey

After graduation from high school, Chandra traveled with a choir group to various countries in Europe and sang in cathedrals. She also took several college classes on topics of interest to her.

Chandra and Brandon were married in Story, WY. They have three beautiful children. Connor is 11, Aiden is 6, and Ava is 3. Connor and Aiden play hockey and softball. Ava takes dance classes and just finished her first recital.

Chandra's career has several facets. She works as property manager for the mall in Havre, MT and also provides business services to other businesses. Her hobbies are golf and fund raising. She is on the Montana State Tourism Board and the Havre Chamber of Commerce. Brandon owns a furniture rental store in Havre.

Chandra recalls looking forward to going to the shows and seeing friends at each one. She said, "when I showed at the event, we had such a large group of



kids to hang out with at every show. We all enjoyed the friendship". She also enjoyed the llamas and hopes one day to again be involved showing llamas. Like many of the other youth of 2000, she said "I think that being involved with llamas and going to shows instilled a strong work ethic."



A HANDSOME GIFT

I was out earlier this morning watching Niarada out in the field running and bucking with a few of his buddies. I thought of Dick Williams (RMLA member) and smiled. As a result of the evacuation of the Montana Large Animal Sanctuary (near Niarada, MT) in 2010, Niarada is one of the llamas Dick & Jeanne Williams held for Southeast Lama Rescue until we could clear out the females that shipped first.

Niarada was so young and small when he got here - and that was months after evacuation. I will always wonder about his story. He has a knot on his side where a broken rib never healed right. Who would EVER have thought that a little llama born in the middle of a Montana winter, separated from his mom at obviously a very early age and then shipped hundreds of miles to Indiana would be romping around in Georgia pastures? Life can be amazing.

He is a sweetie and was from the start. He is performance and pack trained and has probably

been in more public relations events and parades than most. I am always glad when people ask about his name so I can tell them the story of how literally hundreds of people across the nation worked together to pull off a miracle. Thank you to all those who helped on that side of the world for this gift!



Foster Kids Learn About Llamas

By Glenn & Kathy Stanko - Whitewater, CO

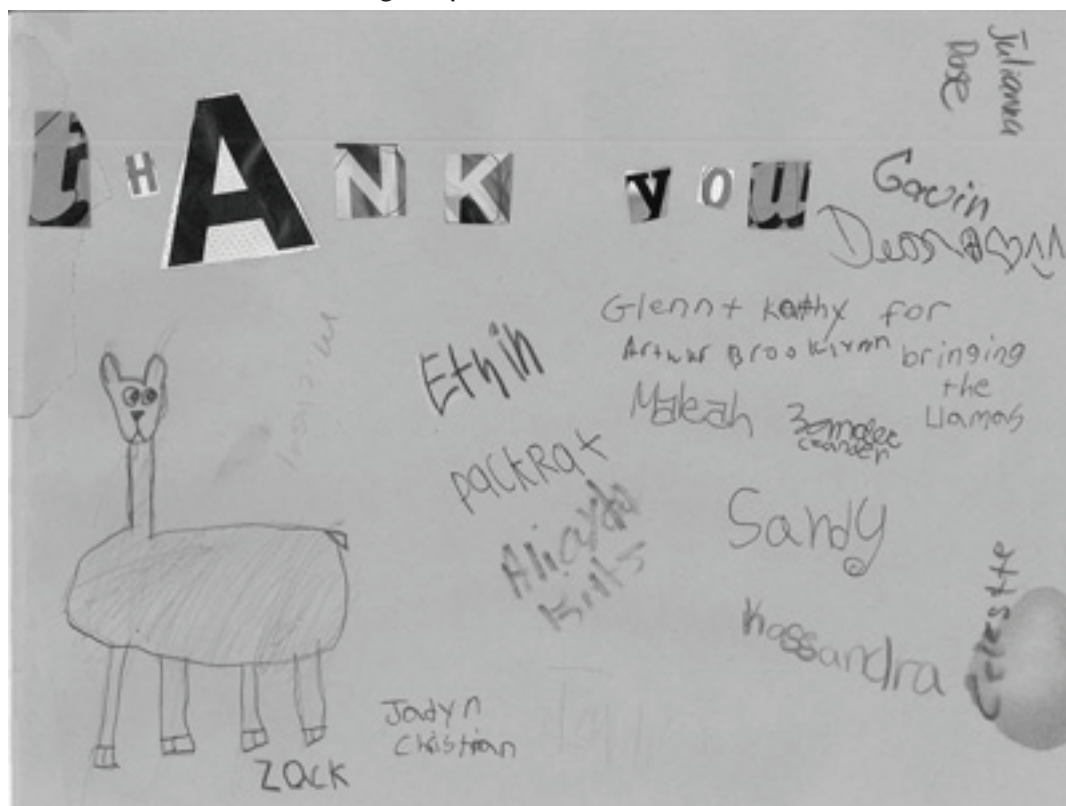
Kids are just amazing. Who would have thought to use llama roving to drape over your ears, down under your chin and voilà, a great beard!

Unfortunately, we do not have a photo of this great event. At the request of Ariel, a Foster Care Placement Agency, we took a

couple of llamas to summer camp. (Photos of faces were not permitted because of the HIPPA law.)

We were there all morning talking with these very special youngsters (ages 6 to 16 years) about all aspects of llamas. They asked as many great questions as adults.

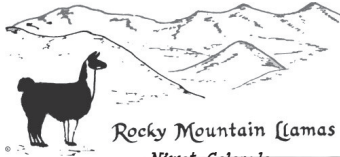
It seemed that a couple of kids had even studied up on llamas as they knew llamas came from South America and could spit! This was a wonderful learning experience for everyone.



Got a story to tell? Something interesting? Comment on a past (or future!) story? Perhaps something that you do well that others may benefit from the knowledge?

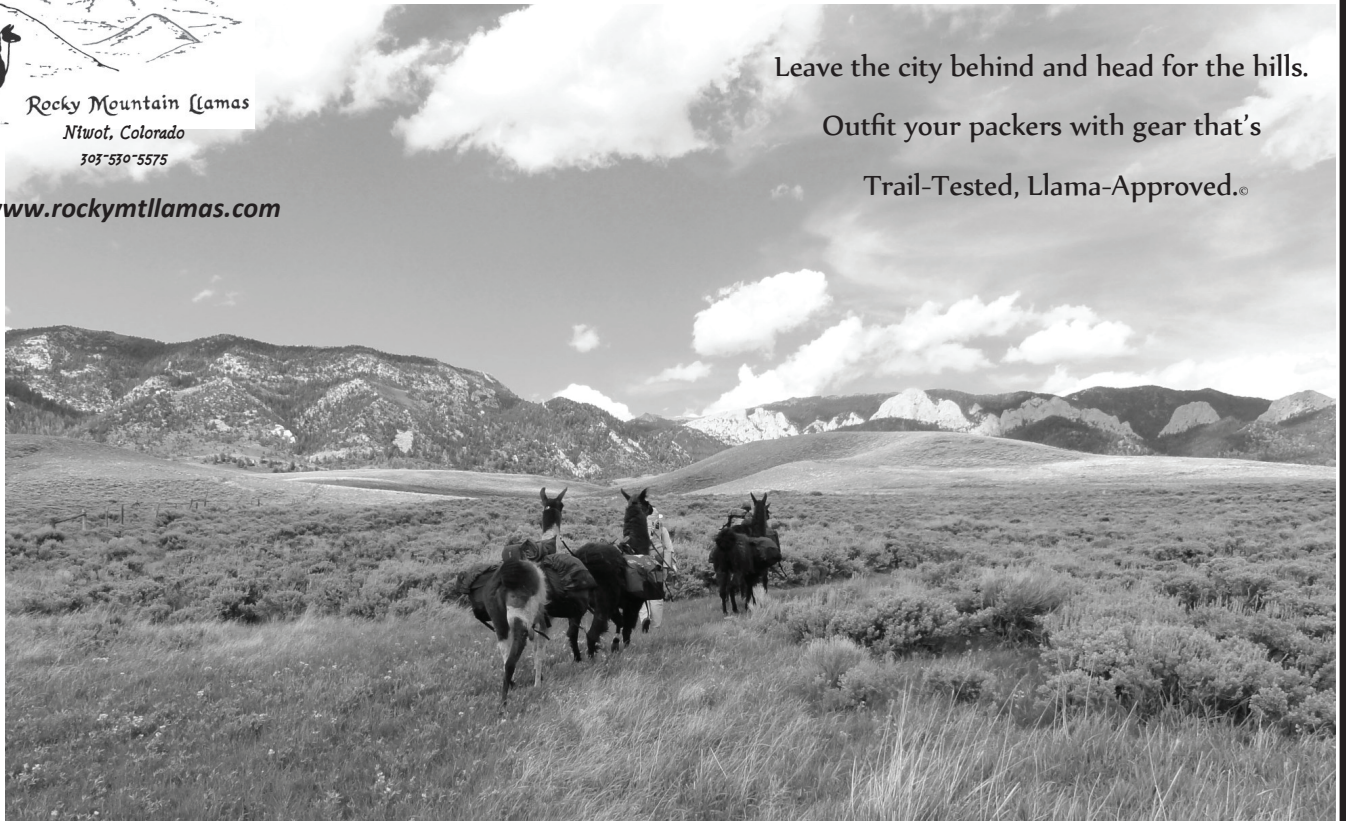
You don't have to be a Board or a Committee member to get in here... just a member will do. Take your time, put it into words for all the members. See the Editors' Corner on page 2 for more information.

... and everybody loves pictures!



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Is this for you?

We have received piles of past RMLA newsletters and journals. Ron is scanning them to make a permanent record on the website. (see 'Special Mentions' on page 5) Now, we believe it would be of use to everyone if an index of all the stories, articles, etc. was created. Is indexing your cup of tea? The Newsletters/Journals are being scanned now. There is no deadline! Yippy Skippy.

A big job? Perhaps for one person. But we believe the job could easily be split up among 2 or 3 special members. Want to do it? Just think what you will learn....and the memories. Send a note to rmlaeditor@gmail.com. Thank you, Ron and Kathy

A Postscript From The Editors

From the immortal words of President John F. Kennedy's 1961 Inaugural Address:

Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country.

Thank you to everyone who 'does' for the RMLA Journal. We love your stories! And continuing the thread of Lougene's President's Letter, each of you has contributed to RMLA and the success of the Journal by submitting a story. We are working together as a team for the betterment of RMLA and all its members. You are impressive! You are appreciated! Again, thank you!

Rocky Mountain Llama and Alpaca Association
P O Box 1070
Plains, MT 59859-1070



EVENT CALENDAR

BY MARY WICKMAN
(EVENTS CHAIR)

Check out the RMLA website for more details on each event.

● **September 27, 2014 Looking for the Gold**

Hike with llamas in Golden Gate Canyon State Park, Golden, CO Four-mile round trip with lunch; stop to enjoy the golden aspen. Contact Jerry Dunn [Beartrak@q.net](mailto: Beartrak@q.net) 303-277-1129

● **September 27 & 28 Sneffels Fiber Festival**

Ridgeway, CO Contact the RMLA Fiber Co-op. Cheryl Juntilla [cajwdj@aol.com](mailto: cajwdj@aol.com) or Jill Knuckles [talltaillamas@bigplanet.com](mailto: talltaillamas@bigplanet.com)

● **October 4 & 5 Taos Wool Festival**

Taos, NM Contact the RMLA Fiber Co-op. Cheryl Juntilla [cajwdj@aol.com](mailto: cajwdj@aol.com) or Jill Knuckles [talltaillamas@bigplanet.com](mailto: talltaillamas@bigplanet.com)

● **October 11 & 12 Palisade Quilt & Fiber Arts Festival**

Palisade, CO Contact the RMLA Fiber Co-op. Cheryl Juntilla [cajwdj@aol.com](mailto: cajwdj@aol.com) or Jill Knuckles [talltaillamas@bigplanet.com](mailto: talltaillamas@bigplanet.com)