



**RMLA**

JANUARY  
1992

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## ROCKY MOUNTAIN LLAMA AND ALPACA ASSOCIATION

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### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### **January 7-19, 1992: National Western Stock Show**

RMLA Display at National Western Stock Show, Denver, Colorado.

#### **January 12-15, 1992: National Western Stock Show**

Llama Show at National Western Stock Show, Denver, Colorado.

#### **May 22-23, 1992: Team Clinic**

TEAM Clinic with Marty Mcgee at Overland Trail Llamas. Contact Dale or Mike Pettigrew for registration information: 303-493-2335.

#### **June 11-14, 1992: AOBA Conference**

1st Annual AOBA Conference Estes Park, Colorado. Veterinary speakers, marketing experts, workshops and fiber clinics. Peruvian Festival Dinner and ALSA sanctioned Alpaca Show. Alpaca Barn Day and "Wooly Wonders" contest. For more information:: Hobert's Office Services, 303-586-9519.

#### **July 2-4, 1992: Firecracker '92**

Firecracker '92, The West Coast Llama Sale. Oregon State Fairgrounds, Salem, Oregon. Featuring the Firecracker Futurity, , the Firecracker Open Sale and the Firecracker Challenge. For information or consignment forms, please contact Firecracker, Inc., Dick or Pat Wickum. 21325 Finn Road, Sheridan, OR 97378. 503-843-2765, FAX 503-843-3030, 800-876-8816.

#### **August 13-16, 1992: 1992 RMLA Conference**

It's not too soon to mark your calendar for the 1992 RMLA Conference to be hosted by Vic & Lori Breeden, MISTY MOON RANCH, Sheridan, Wyoming! More information will be available in the near future!

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## RESEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

*by Judi Lawson*

I. As you know, last summer RMLA committed matching funds with ILA to support research on the use of llamas for guarding sheep against predators being conducted by Dr. William Franklin and Ms. Kelly Powell at Iowa State University. To date, approximately 180 sheep ranchers using llamas have been identified in 11 states. About half of these ranchers were interviewed by phone in July and, from mid-July through mid-August, on-site interviews were conducted during which the researchers recorded responses as well as photographed and video-taped the llamas at work. Additional interviews and data analyses have yet to be completed. However in Dr. Franklin's words "The good news is that guard llamas are working! Ranch after ranch, losses had dramatically decreased after the introduction of their guard llama."

While tremendous progress has already been made on this study, there is considerable work left to do. Delay in completion was caused by circumstances beyond Dr. Franklin's control; that is, ISU assigned Ms. Powell to teach during the fall semester instead of enabling her to devote full time to the research. Dr. Franklin is trying again to obtain a research assistantship for Ms. Powell for the spring 1992 semester. When the results are in and analyzed, Dr. Franklin plans to write an Agricultural Extension Bulletin,

give presentations at state and national sheep conferences, and barrage the livestock media with the "good news" about our llama guardians. The RMLA Executive Board will soon be considering additional funding to help speed completion of the project, depending on availability of funds. Use of llamas as sheep guardian benefits us as well as the sheep industry. Anyone willing and able to make an individual contribution to RMLA for this project (or for any research through RMLA) is urged to do so.

II. RMLA has contributed all of the remaining 1991 research funds to Dr. LaRue Johnson's study, "Effect of Testicular Biopsy on Sperm Production in Normal Male Llamas; Utility of Testicular Biopsy for Evaluating Male Llama Fertility." Dr. Johnson will be using the males he already had available after termination of his nutrition study. Watch your newsletter for progress reports.

III. In the March issue of the newsletter, you will be asked to complete a questionnaire about RMLA's role in llama research and to submit your ideas regarding what research you feel should be undertaken. Please take the time to think about this. This committee and the Executive Board members feel that research funding should reflect the needs of the full membership.

## **SECOND ANNUAL WESTERN COLORADO CHAMPIONSHIP LLAMA AND ALPACA SHOW**

"The Western Colorado Peruvian Horse Club is excited to announce plans for its Second Annual Western Colorado Championship Llama and Alpaca Show. This year the dates will be June 19, 20, and 21, 1992, but we will again have fun events planned for Thursday the 18th, also, so plan to come early! Garfield County Fairgrounds in beautiful, charming and friendly Rifle, Colorado will again be our show site. This year our show will be even bigger and better, with more classes, harder obstacles (by popular demand!), a great barbeque party, and new, restructured stall fees.

The WCPHC was delighted at the number of llama and alpaca owners who took time from their busy schedules to give us much appreciated compliments and great suggestions. We have tried to be

responsive to all request, but we would like your continued input! Everyone is invited to our show committee meetings, which will be held the second and fourth Saturdays of each month starting in January, 8:00 a.m. at the Town and Country Restaurant in Fruita, Colorado (call me for directions, if needed, and to confirm time and place). Please remember, too, that you do not have to own a Peruvian Horse to be a WCPHC member. Aficionado memberships are only \$15.00 per year and included a bimonthly newsletter, inclusion in all social events, limited voting privileges, listing in all membership directories, and a listing in the show program.

We are working hard to make this the show you most look forward to!"

Eleanor Palmisano - 303-242-8759.

### **ARE LLAMAS TAXABLE?**

Sally German, our President, has received a copy of a letter dated May 7, 1991 from Sid W. Vandenacre, Tax Examiner II Taxpayer Service written to Senator Tilman M. Bishop of Grand Junction, Colorado stating, "The State of Colorado considers the raising of llamas as an agriculture product. As such there is no sales tax."

If you are interested in a copy of the letter, send a stamped, self addressed envelope to Jo Riley, Post Office Box 1189, Lyons, CO 80540 and I will send it to you.

### **ARTICLES AND PICTURES FOR THE NEWSLETTER!**

We need to share information among our members. If you have any information about any of the following topics, please sent to Jo Riley, Post Office Box 1189, Lyons, CO 80540.

- Llama activities in the community
- Pictures of special barns, shed or fences
- Marketing ideas
- Special pictures of llama activities
- Temporary watering systems, etc.

Hopefully, you get my point. We basically are doing the same thing and we can help each other! Thanks!

## ILL THRIFT IN JUVENILE LLAMAS

by Dr. Jenny Hutchison, BVSc(Hons), BVetBiol  
Graduate Student, Dept. Clinical Sciences, CSU

This information sheet has been put together to update our llama clients and referring veterinarians about Colorado State University's Veterinary Teaching Hospital's involvement with the "ill thrift" or "failure to thrive" syndrome seen in juvenile llamas.

Over the last 2-3 years, the clinicians of the Food Animal Medicine Section have seen an increasing number of young llamas which follow the same pattern of sickness and which all ultimately die. A typical case is as follows: The llama (male or female) was probably normal at birth and grew well until around weaning time. After that, the owners may notice that, although the llama doesn't really seem to be sick and appears to have a good appetite, it doesn't gain weight as well as its herdmates. This probably isn't enough to really alarm anyone at first, but sooner or later the llama "just isn't right" - by this time it may have developed a snotty nose, or may be lame, or show other signs of disease. A closer examination may show that the llama is really skinny, and it may be running a temperature. If a veterinarian is consulted at this time, results from the laboratory data may be fairly unrewarding. Everyone may agree that there's something wrong, but it can be hard to pinpoint exactly what! Often, the llama is infected with eperythrozoonosis (a blood parasite), and is mildly anemic. The llama may respond very well to antibiotic treatment initially, but sooner or later it either gets acutely sick (they can "crash" in just a few days) or the owners get fed up with the repeated "minor" sicknesses. This is

when we usually see them at CSU. Sometimes, the llamas are in such a precarious state that transporting them is stressful enough to precipitate a crisis, and their disease (whatever it is - pneumonia, peritonitis, arthritis) really takes a grip on them and they fail to respond to vigorous treatment and die within several days. The clinical course in others is not so dramatic, but the end result is inevitably death.

The necropsy results are very consistent. No matter what the disease process was which finally killed the llama (pneumonia, pleuritis, pericarditis, peritonitis, arthritis - the list goes on) it seems that the reason that the disease could overwhelm the llama was because the organs involved in immune responses were not functioning normally.

The problems facing us ("us" includes the veterinarians, llama owners, breeders and buyers, and llama insurers) are:

How can we make a definitive diagnosis before death? Necropsy is diagnostic, but we need to be able to rule out other conditions before we take the step of euthanizing the llama!

What is causing this condition? Immunodeficiency conditions affect other animals and man, and there are several possibilities. The two most likely are that an infectious agent (possibly a virus) is responsible, or that the condition is inherited. Other factors causing immunosuppression that need investigation include toxins, nutritional deficiencies, and other infectious agents.

Can the condition be treated in any

## ILL THRIFT IN JUVENILE LLAMAS (con't)

way? How can it be prevented?

The team at CSU decided to address these issues. The first problem was money - any tests performed have to be paid for! A grant proposal was written and submitted to the Morris Animal Foundation, and money was made available through the International Llama Association, Llama Association of North America and the Greater Appalachian Llama Association to investigate the problem. We gratefully acknowledge the support of these organizations. Most of the money is needed to test "normal" young llamas as controls. After all, how can we say what is abnormal if we don't know what normal is? Healthy young llamas don't usually come to the vet school! We will be doing mainly blood sampling on these animals and of course they will not be euthanized! We hope to test 20 controls, and hope our llama clients will allow some of their young llamas to "volunteer."

The remainder of the money will be used to pursue specific immunologic testing of the suspected cases. Much of the initial work-up will need to be paid for by the owners. This is because another problem may be responsible for the llamas' condition (not all sick young llamas are immunodeficient) and the testing required to rule out the other possibilities cannot be paid for by the Morris grant money.

At the end of one year, we hope to have been able to define a test or tests which will allow us to say, with reasonable confidence, that yes, your llama has an immunodeficiency problem, or no, this is not what is affecting your animal. In addition, we may have information on the likely

cause of the problem and so be able to address prevention of further cases.

So what can you, the llama owner or veterinarian, do?

If you suspect you have a problem animal, let us know. Some of the laboratory work can be done by your veterinarian in the field. Contact us, and we can discuss what samples should be taken, and where they should be submitted, and then we can discuss the results as they become available. Then, if the results look suspicious, we can arrange for the llama to be further evaluated at CSU. Advance notice allows us to schedule the immunologic testing procedures on the day it arrives, so reducing the board bill. Total cost to you, the owner, depends on how much lab work has already been done, and how sick your llama is on arrival. If little testing has been done at home, then your bill would typically range from \$300 to \$600. We cover an additional \$250 to \$500 of advanced testing per llama. It will be very helpful to us, if on arrival, you bring with you as complete a life history on your llama as possible. Pedigree information is needed, if available.

Would you be willing to "volunteer" a healthy llama? All testing would be paid for. Blood samples and possibly a skin sample would be taken. Life history and pedigree information would be needed.

Some of you will already have lost a llama to this condition and to these people we extend our deepest sympathy. It is only through the support of you and people like you that we will be able to get to the bottom of this problem and help prevent further losses.

## ILL THRIFT IN JUVENILE LLAMAS (con't)

Contact people at CSU: 303-484-9151  
or 303-221-4535

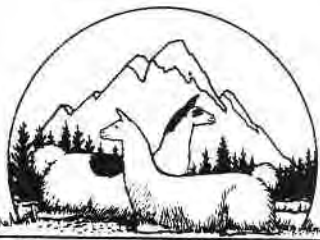
Dr. Jenny Hutchison: Coordinator of project. Sometimes elusive, but will return all phone messages usually on same day, but always within 24 hours.

Dr. LaRue Johnson: Primary field service llama clinician and coordinator of llama research efforts at CSU.

Drs. Frank Garry and Ellen Belknap:

These are the senior clinicians who are responsible for the care and treatment of your llama while it is in the clinic.

Dr David Getzy: Project pathologist. He performs all necropsies of affected animal. Should be contacted if a suspicious animal dies at home and you or the veterinarian have questions about necropsy procedures for this condition.



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**The Next Newsletter  
Deadline is  
February 14th!**

*PAINTED SKY LLAMAS*

Bert & Holly Vicars  
Diana Vicars

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Ridgway, CO 81432  
303-626-5806

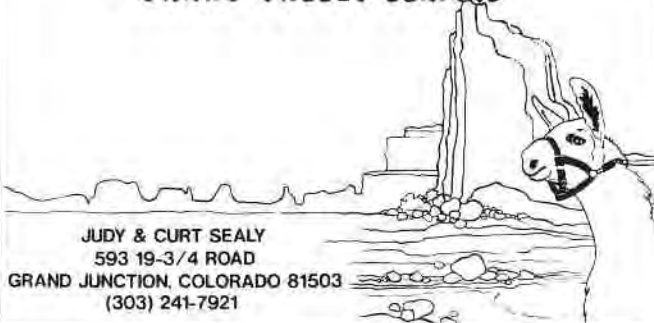


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## AOBA NEWS AND CONFERENCE PREVIEW

*by Marilyn Moon*

The Alpaca Owners and Breeders Association, AOBA, is the national organization of alpaca owners in the Northern Hemisphere. With 200+ members and approximately 2,000 alpacas registered in the ILR, the organization is experiencing a positive and steady growth. Many breeders are discovering the alpaca to be the most interesting and rewarding animal to recently enter into the livestock market.

AOBA, a nonprofit corporation, has an elected Board of Directors, governed by By-Laws, and six very active committees, that assist in carrying out the goals of this growing organization. The Marketing and Public Relations Committee has been busy researching marketing strategies and keeps the membership abreast of new ideas and techniques. The Show Committee has been successful in establishing ALSA sanctioned Alpaca Shows. The Publication Committee has been successful in producing and publishing the informative quarterly Alpaca Magazine, an industry wide publication that has received great acclaims from AOBA members and others interested in learning more about alpacas. The Publication Committee is also responsible for a quarterly Newsletter and annual Membership Directory for all AOBA members. Other AOBA Committees, The Election Committee, The Fund Raising Committee and The Fiber Committee, are all necessary and integral components of AOBA.

The alpaca is primarily a fiber producing animal. The uniform softness of alpaca, due to a lack of guard hair, is

creating a new popularity for garments woven from this precious fiber. Several breeders are becoming more involved in the spinning and weaving of this fine quality wool and have been experiencing positive returns from their endeavors. One of the goals of AOBA is to provide the members with available Wool Markets and a Fiber Directory. A few AOBA members have established cottage industries to process alpaca fiber.

AOBA has an ongoing commitment to its members to provide opportunities to educate the breeder, as well as the public, about the alpaca. Two Alpaca Clinics have been offered in past months, fall 1990 and summer 1991, to further educate breeders on soundness and conformation, judging criteria, alpaca fiber, showmanship and grooming. To further this commitment, the 1st ANNUAL AOBA CONFERENCE will be held next summer in Estes Park, Colorado. From June 11-14, 1992, alpaca breeders from across the nation will gather to hear speakers on veterinary care and marketing ideas, participate in workshops and fiber clinics, and compete in an ALSA sanctioned Alpaca Show. The 1st ANNUAL AOBA CONFERENCE, held at the Estes Park Wool Market, will provide limitless opportunities for alpacas and their breeders. The theme for the Conference: EDUCATION, ENTERTAINMENT and EXPOSURE, promises to offer something for everyone. (Please see ad in this Newsletter.) For more information about AOBA or the Conference contact: Hobert's Office Services, Post Office Box 1992, Estes Park, CO 80517 or phone 303-586-9519.

## DO YOU HAVE YOUNG MALES FOR SALE?

The Youth/4-H Committee would like to compile a Resource List of owners/breeders who have young males or geldings available for sale, at reasonable prices, to young people for 4-H or other youth projects. The list will be provided free of charge to all inquiries received by the Youth/4-H Committee for project animals.

The Committee also is compiling a Resource List of anyone interested in assisting our youth in getting off on the right foot with their new charges. We need volunteers who would be available to present or assist with mini-seminars or workshops for 4-H or other youth groups requesting help with their projects. We would like to be able to offer assistance to the kids in the basics of llama halter training, grooming, feeding and general care, obstacle and pack training, and showmanship.

Please consider giving a few hours of your time to help the next generation of llama owners. Volunteers are needed in all geographic areas of RMLA membership. As inquiries are received from youth groups, they will be provided the list of

RMLA "helpers" in their area for them to contact and arrange for a workshop.

If you wish to be included on either list, please send your name, address, and telephone number and 1) list of animals for sale; and/or 2) areas of interest for youth workshops. Send your information to Mary Beth Hartsough ('92 chairman of Youth/4-H Committee), or for further inquiry, feel free to contact any of the committee members.

### 1992 Youth-4-H Committee:

**Mary Beth Hartsough**, Chairman  
P.O. Box 574, Platteville, CO 80651,  
303-785-2463

**Karen Kinyon**, 2933 E. Mulberry, Ft.  
Collins, CO 80524, 303-484-6241

**Pat & Maury Cox**, 23905 Rd. 42, La  
Salle, CO 80645-9516, 303-284-6420;

**Joan Price**, 439 Cambridge, Brush, CO  
80723, 303-842-4919;

**Margaret Sonnie**, H.C. 67, Box 15A,  
Harrisburg, NE 69345, 308-254-7229

### For Youth Project book requests:

**Karla Goodman**, 41930 County Rd.  
AA, Akron, CO 80720, 303-345-2927

## A THANK YOU!

Dear RMLA Members,

Thank you so much for the scholarship money. Currently I am a prelaw student at CSU not only am enjoying my classes immensely but also gaining immense amounts of knowledge. I look forward to seeing you all at the National Western Stock Show this year and intend to remain active and in contact with the llama industry. Llamas have been a big

part of my preparation for life and college. Being a junior member of RMLA taught me a lot and helped me to grow in many ways. Thank you again for the scholarship and encouragement.

Sincerely,

Joy L. Hernbrode



## LIBRARY NOTES

by Chris Switzer

It's been a good year for the library! From our membership 93 have checked out items. We have 78 books (not counting 2nd copies), 30 articles, 7 handouts, 7 magazines, 1 set of ILA pamphlets, 3 research papers, 2 wool samples, 9 veterinarian papers and 21 video tapes (not counting 2nd copies) with a GRAND TOTAL of 58 items! (This number includes the new things mentioned below.)

My challenge is to get even more members to check-out. A New's Year's Resolution is "in the works" -- color cards for several categories: articles, children's, videos and wool. My card file will be better organize and checking-in will be easier.

I'm always looking for new (& old) things -- do make suggestions and send me things. Special thanks to Ellen & Dan Schreiner and Erma Hast for their donations and also to Erma for records of minutes and newsletters from the past. (I promise they'll be safe in the library.)

### NEW:

**Alpacas Magazine**, Fall 1991

**Hands On Weaving** by Barbara Liebler, Interweave Press, 1986

### ARTICLES:

#### "Archeology Makes Edible

**Impact**" by James Painter, Christian Science Monitor, Oct. 9, 1991 (raising potatoes the ancient way)

"**The Moche of Peru**" - New Tomb of Royal Splendor by Walter Alva, National Geographic, June 1990.

**Masterworks of Art Reveal a Remarkable PreInca World** by Christopher B. Donnan

**Enduring Echoes of Peru's Past** by Michael E. Long

"**WOOL - Fabric of History**" by Nina Hyde, National Geographic, May, 1988

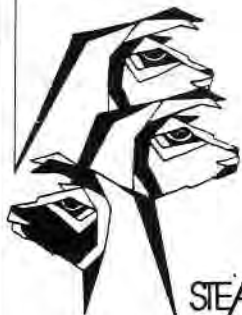
"**Working with Alpaca**" by Julie Owens, Threads magazine, December, 1991 and January, 1992

For the first time, I'm going to take something **OFF** the list. After viewing myself, I feel the sound is so poor that I shouldn't be circulating these 2 videos:

**Look Before You Leap** - Prepurchase Examination & Agreements

**Special Care of the Newborn** - Special Problems

*Remember, it's your library, so check it out!*



Neal F. Callsen  
Kathryn O. Callsen

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## FOR SALE

- **I PROVIDE UNIQUE SERVICE TO MY CUSTOMERS.** If you buy a female from me, you may rebreed her to any of my studs free for as long as you own her. Free delivery to anywhere in the continental U.S. Guaranteed live birth on pregnant females. Female prices range from \$8,000 to \$35,000 depending on the quality. Sally German, Stage Stop Llamas, 719-68-3063.
- **FREE CATALOG:** Formerly manufacturing exclusively for the nation's leading supplier of llama equipment, expanded facilities offer great discounts to quantity buyers. Halter, leads, collard, packs, blankets, feed and bale bags, plus for llamas, miniature donkeys, potbellied pigs, and goats, KB Manufacturing, PO Box 86105, Portland, OR 97286, 503-775-8305.
- **GUYS & GALS** conformationally correct. Suitable for breeding or packing. Possible outcross lines, we have selected our breeding stock for conformation and disposition, regardless of ancestry, the results of this selection process speak for themselves. See some of the results at the NWSS in Denver or Call Mystical Critters 307-473-1625.
- **A GROOMING BRUSH** that's kind to your llama. This brush, combination pin and bristle, does an excellent job of grooming and does not pull your llama's hair. If your llama hates to be brushed, it's probably because the tools you're using hurt. Try this brush. \$11 ppd. Overland Trail Llamas, 168 Emerald Mtn. Ct., Livermore, CO 80536, 303-493-2335.
- **LOOKING FOR A GREAT INVESTMENT:** Call Llamas of Aspen home of the largest breeding herd of reindeer in lower 48 states. They are rare, lovable, no high fences needed, many marketable aspects to these animals. They get along great with llamas! 2567 Snowmass Creek Road, Snowmass CO 81654, 303-927-4621.
- **OVERLAND TRAIL'S ROSEBUD:** a sound addition to your breeding program. DOB 12/10/90, breedable this spring. Excellent conformation; strong maternal background; dense, medium wool the color of pink champagne. Gildersleeve/Eclipse bloodlines. Guaranteed. WILL FINANCE. Stud service included. \$7500. Other colorful young males, females, bred females, packers. Overland Trail Llamas, 303-493-2335.

## BREEDING

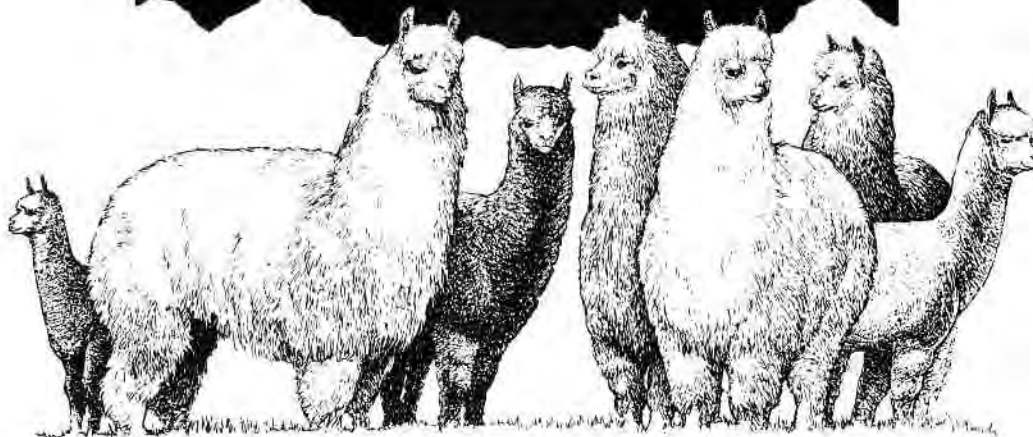
- **GANDY DANCER:** '89 Overall Grand Champion-National Western Stock Show & '90 National Res. Grand Champion; Offspring captured 6 Champion & 4 Res. Champion honors, & 2 Champion Get-of-Sire. Gandy's conformation, bone, balance & presence in the ring are passed on to his babies. \$1500. Live birth. Llamarage, 303-785-2463.
- **STUD SERVICE GUARANTEED FEMALE:** Full Bolivian, Che; El Stucco, son of Clark Kent; Hopi, son of Chief Sitting Bull are available for \$500.00, guaranteed live female birth. Call Bob Riley, Boulder Ridge Ranch, *Home of Sull's Llamas*, Post Office Box 1189, Lyons, Colorado, 303-823-5409.
- **GUMBY BEAR:** Multi-Champion, including Reserve Grand Champion at both the Llama Classic in Bozeman and the Western Colorado Llama Show. Son of Magic Macho (black) Dam is Gumby (bay). Both are from the Huff herd. He is a beautiful black-brown with grey undercoat. \$1,500. Live birth. Llamas of Aspen, 303-927-4621
- **RASPUTIN:** Gorgeous black beauty; entered the stud pool this past fall. He's got bone, ears and wool that won't quit. Combined with his very correct carriage and disposition, this three year old will be a winner. Introductory fee through September '92, \$500 live birth guaranteed. Will travel. Call Serenity Lane Llamas 719-687-1224

## FOR SALE

- **TWO ADULT FEMALES** - confirmed pregnant with Andean Spirit babies SUNDAR - 8/83, Dilute Appy, due 6/92, @ \$12,000. NINERA - 6/80, Seal Bay, due 8/92, @ \$10,000. Both large, excellent milking mothers. No breeding or birthing difficulties. Computerized data and Video on request. Howard Kerstetter 719-495-3469.
- **COMPARE OUR LLAMAS** to those costing \$12,000 & more. Our customers have. Our llamas have good wool, bone, ears and bloodlines. Lots of color. Pregnant Montezuma-line female \$9,000. Flashy black and white yearling female \$8,000. Free delivery within continental US. Call Andrea at 512-856-2746 for more information.
- **DAUGHTER OF OUR APPALOOSA STUD.** She has good wool and a wonderful personality. Hope will be ready to be bred in the spring. She is ILR registered. Her price is \$6,000 with free delivery anywhere in the Continental USA. For pictures and complete details, call Andrea at 512-856-2746.
- **3 FEMALES 3 MALES** 1 female confirmed pregnant due 5/92. 2 ready to breed in the spring. 6 year old gelding. 2 1/2 year old stud prospect, dark bay, excellent wool, beautiful head and bone. Yearling pack prospect excellent bone. MYSTICAL CRITTERS Casper, WY, 307-473-1625.
- **FOUR FEMALES:** all sired by the fabulous ANDEAN SPIRIT. All are structurally correct with size, all with quality blood lines, all with fabulous color and silky fleece. A reproductive capacity guarantee is provided. From \$10,000. Computerized data and video on request. Howard Kerstetter 719-495-3469.
- **STUD QUALITY MALES AT PET PRICES.** Many trained as golf caddies and PR animals. I breed for wool quality, so you spinners may want samples. Prices from \$800. Sally German, Stage Stop Llamas, 719-689-3063.
- **REGISTERED WEANLING FEMALE,** 3 year old pack-trained male, and 2 year old male. All full siblings out of Orly bloodline. Parents on our farm. \$6000, \$1000, \$750 respectively. 2 weanling females starting at \$4,500. Call Dee or Karla Goodman, at 303-345-2927.
- **BEAUTIFUL GANDY DANCER BABIES** available April 15, 1 male, 1 female; also, Sadie, 3-yr old, very correct, bred to Gandy for April '92 baby, \$9,000; Nicholas (Peter Ustinov), proven stud, beautiful conformation, 7 of 9 offspring female, \$2,000. Lllamarage, P. O. Box 574, Platteville, CO 80651; Mary Beth and Joe Hartsough, 303-785-2463.
- **INSURED FEMALES:** Just getting started or expanding your herd? We have quality breeding stock sired by well known names, priced right. All llamas are insured for 1 year after purchase, guaranteed to reproduce. Financing available with 50% down and no interest. Call Bob Riley, Boulder Ridge Ranch, Lyons, CO. 303-823-5409.
- **MOUNTAIN GROWN BEAUTIES** from domestic and imported bloodlines. Females and males. Bred females, yearlings and weanlings starting as low as \$8,000. All are trained, registered and guaranteed. Deliveries available. Bill or Donna of Serenity Lane Llamas, Woodland Park, CO, 719-687-1224.
- **EAGLE VALLEY LLAMAS** has moved from Durango to Florissant, CO. We are now residing at Stage Stop Llamas with Sally German, as her ranch managers. We have breeding females and males for sale. Eagle Valley Llamas, Gary And Karen George, 8918 Teller #1B, Florissant, CO, 80816 719-689-3063.
- **FEMALE BRED TO "NORTH STAR LEGEND"** (Black Full-Canadian) D.O.B. 2/2/90, Due 4/92, \$11,500. Weanling Female D.O.B. 7-15-91. Large Grey Appy from good producing dam. \$7,500. Males, pet to stud quality from \$1,000 to \$5,000. All guaranteed. Ellen Sloan, Llumpy Ridge Llamas, 303-586-2684. Visitors always welcome.
- **LAMAHERD(tm)SOFTWARE** System for efficient management of llama/alpaca herds, Detailed animal, breeding, health, show, owner information. Pedigree, progeny charts. Many reports: Herd Inventory, Breeding/Health Treatment Calendars, Breeding/Health/Show History, more. Fast, efficient data entry. Requires IBM/DOS compatible computer. \$200-\$350. SWCS, 65711 Twin Bridges, Bend, OR 97701. 503-389-1913.

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# AOBA



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Estes Park Wool Market, Estes Park, CO

June 11-14, 1992

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The Estes Park Wool Market, along with their famous Bar-B-Q, will add to the Conference with numerous Workshops, Contests and Shows.

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### SPECIAL EVENTS

- **Alpaca Show:** An official sanctioned ALSA show.
- **Fiber Show and Sale:** Buy, view and sell alpaca fiber.
- **Sales:** Alpacas available for viewing and private sales.
- **Workshops include:**
  - Grooming Procedures and Techniques
  - Shearing Demonstrations
  - Fiber Care, Cleaning & Marketing
  - Weaving & Spinning and much more.
- **Barn Day:** Alpaca Owners and Breeders to present alpaca demonstrations & mini-clinics.
- **Peruvian Festival Dinner:** Attend what is sure to become an annual tradition. Entertainment, South American music, prizes, and an authentically prepared meal from South America will enhance your evening.

For more information or registration packets contact:

Robert Office Service LTD., P.O. Box 1992, Estes Park, CO 80517-1992

Phone (303) 586-9519 Fax (303) 586-6685

## STORING LLAMA AND ALPACA WOOL

by Chris Switzer

When you brush or shear, how do you store your llama and alpaca wool?

First of all, please clean and groom your animal before brushing or shearing. Pick off hay, pine cones and debris. Light brushing of the surface may also help. Some people also use a blower. (I wouldn't use high power - it may tangle the fibers.)

A brush with flexible wire teeth (dog brush) seems to work best. I like a two-sided brush with bristles on one side for cleaning off surface and wire teeth on the other side to gather wool.

Leg wool, belly wool and around the tail should be trimmed and discarded - yes, I said, "throw away!" You may also want to trim on the head if there is a wooly area. We have a good pair of scissors just for skirting. (Blunt end scissors are less dangerous than sharp hand shears.)

Skirting the fleece before shearing seems easier than laying out a fleece on a table and removing the really dirty/weathered/coarse fibers later.


Neck wool and upper leg wool is certainly usable. I put it in a separate brown grocery bag.

Back to storage. Cardboard boxes, heavy paper sacks, old pillow cases or even paper feed bags work well. AVOID PLAS-


TIC! Why? Because moisture is retained and that can cause mold, mildew, and bugs and ruin your fleece! Also, moths do not eat through paper/cellulose products. Yes, they do chew through plastic! Another deterrent for moths is newspaper print. Line shelves with it and place in trash cans on the bottom, around the sides, and in between the paper sacks. I have a trash can for each color of llama/alpaca wool. Cedar blocks are helpful along with herbs. Replenish them every couple of months. Lavender oil in a rinse helps too.

I am selling quite a few half fleeces and find that a pillow case holds one side of a shorn animal quite nicely. (2-1/2 to 3 pounds with an alpaca) A matching pair tells me that I have both sides of the animal to sell, or only one side left. The brown paper bag of the same fleece has fiber from other places, usually sold in smaller quantities.

LABEL each bag or box with color, weight, date, which shearing plus the animal's name. Remember CLEAN, CLEAN CLEAN whether it's for your own use, to sell to handspinners, or when working with a mill. You'll get top dollar if you take care.



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## TAKE A LLAMA OUT TO LUNCH ON FEB. 8TH AND 9TH

by Dee and Karla Goodman

Have you ever thought what it would be like to load your llama in the back of your car, van, or whatever and take him out to lunch at the drive-up at your favorite fast food restaurant? Order him a salad and make sure to have the person at the window serve your llama direct.

Well, being the strange people that we are, we thought this would be a fun way to take a llama out to lunch. So, one day in November, Karla and I and "Rudy" all loaded in Karla's Jeep Cherokee and headed for McDonald's but first we stopped at the drive-up window at the local bank.

Here we were asked in more explicit terms if we knew we had a llama in our back seat and would he like a sucker? From here, off to McDonald's in Sterling Co. for our lunch adventure. After we

ordered Rudy's garden salad, we asked if the salad could be put in the back seat for "Rudy". Without hesitation, the lady at the window fed our hungry llama in the back; meanwhile employees came outside to see if there really was a live llama in our car. A fun day for all!

So on the weekend of Feb. 8th and 9th we would like to declare these days, Take a Llama Out To Lunch Days. Load up your llama and head for your favorite drive-thru for lunch. Then write a short article for the newsletter telling about your "Lunch" adventure.

**Editor's Note:** We will print as many stories as possible. A small committee will chose the cutest story and Stillwater Minerals will give a free bucket of minerals to the winner. Let's hear from all of you!

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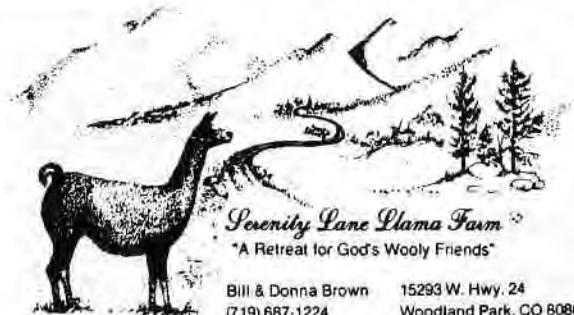
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## **“L’IL AL:” ALPACA EXTRAORDINAIRE**

*by Judi Lawson*

My husband Jim and I are llama breeders; that’s what we feel we do best. But, since I’m a hand spinner also, when I had an opportunity to get a gelded male alpaca in part trade for a female llama, I just couldn’t resist. At the time, Jim said I was being frivolous; I think he’s eaten his words since then.

• “Al” had a rather high-sounding name when we got him, a name that (to us) just didn’t fit his high-energy personality. After a few days, we agreed that he reminded us of Al Deutsch and, to the amusement of Terry Deutsch, the nickname “L’il Al” was born.

“Al” was sheared when we got him, so our first harvest of wool was delayed until last fall. When the word got out to the local hand spinners, I was barely able to save some for myself. However, “Al’s” versatility beyond wool was well established by then. The first “use” for “Al” that we found was for weaning baby llamas. He’s wonderful at it! The llama babies accept him as one of them and he adopts a protective attitude toward them, as well as joining them in play. When the weaning periods are over, we turn him out in the mother and baby pasture where he continues to play with and “look after” his young charges.

Last summer, we began to see coyotes in that pasture. The day the first pair appeared, our female llamas immediately bunched and stood at alert. Spotting the llamas, the coyotes froze momentarily.

Then, one of them thought better of his proposed route and turned back, while the other opted to run across the pasture. Who was in hot pursuit? “L’il Al,” of course.

Finally, a few months ago, we discovered the best “use” of all for our “Al.” Like most breeders, over the years we’ve gotten our fair share of baby males, several of whom at that point were either too young or too good to geld.

Meanwhile, our primary breeding male, “Bramble,” had gotten a bit fat and quite lazy living in his exclusive quarters. So ... Jim said it was time to “throw the bums out,” that is, to turn Bramble and some other intact males out together. I crossed my fingers and agreed to the plan, on the condition that “Al” go with them.

Sure enough, “Al” immediately instituted the “pasture patrol!” Although he does tolerate some chasing (good exercise for the bums), overall he maintains the peace and never lets things get out of hand. He does this primarily by insinuating himself between the warring llamas and spitting in their faces. It’s very effective. “Al” does his job so well that now he and his llama companions eat together from a single feeder and rest together in their favorite spots (under a tree or inside a stall in the barn).

I don’t know if just any alpaca would be as versatile as “L’il Al,” but I hope to find out as soon as I can figure a way to get another one.

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(303) 242-8759

## FINAL REMINDERS

### YOUR 1992 MEMBERSHIP DUES MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 31ST FOR YOUR NAME TO APPEAR IN THE 1992 DIRECTORY

- The original deadline of December 31 is being extended to January 31st because of the holidays. Dues remain the same as last year - \$50.00 for two names, \$30.00 for one, \$10.00 for junior members (18 or under, must have an adult member sponsor).
- There will be NO supplementary directory this year!
- The membership form was mailed inside your November newsletter. If you have lost or mislaid it, please either let me know and I'll mail you a new form
- OR jot down the information published in last years directory and send it to me with your dues check (i.e., name(s), address, ranch name, phone number, number of females, intact males, geldings).
- Also, please let me know if your interests/activities include any of the following: breeding, sales, wool, packing, commercial packing, training, products, research, leasing, driving, boarding, judging, brokering or other (specify). Judy Sealy, RMLA Secretary, 593 19-3/4 Road, Grand Junction, CO, 81503, 303-241-7921

### ENTRY (OR ENTRIES) IN THE SERVICE DIRECTORY ALSO MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 31ST TO APPEAR IN THAT DIRECTORY

- The cost is \$20.00 per entry under each classification that you choose (1-3 lines describing your activity). The classifications are: Breeders, Commercial Packing, Stud Service, Training, Equipment and Supplies, Leasing, Boarding, Special Services, Publications, and Other.
- Remember, this directory is enclosed in EVERY RMLA brochure that is mailed or given out. It's an excellent, affordable means of getting your name in the hands of prospective llama and alpaca owners.
- The Service Directory form also was mailed inside your November newsletter. If you have lost or mislaid it, contact: Erma Hast, 15251 - 6100 Road, Montrose, CO 81401, 303-249-3083

## NEW MEMBERS

Frank R. & Eleanor Paimisano  
LIVING ART, INC.  
2309 J Road  
Grand Junction, CO 81505  
303-242-8759

Michele Abbott  
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675 So. Forty Rd.  
Woodland Park, CO 80863  
719-687-3508

Tom Weber  
325 Sherwood Road  
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Rifle, CO 81605  
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Martin J. Lucero  
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5204 Easley Way  
Golden, CO 80403  
303-277-9250

Neal Drago  
Martie Anspach  
ST. Box 888  
Sandia Park, NM 87047  
505-281-9427

## NEW MEMBER NEWS

*By Fay Earley*

JEFF MOORE is originally from California, moved to Colorado and now lives in the Wallowa Mountains in the NE corner of Oregon. He is an outfitter/guide and has a horse packing business in Hells Canyon and the Eagle Gap Wilderness.

He purchased his first llama in 1989 as an alternative to horses and mules for packing. His plans are to develop a herd of good performance llamas and continue to breed and train pack llamas. He also offers "Learn to Pack" clinics from his ranch.

CORRIE COOPERMAN, a RN/Myofascial therapist and her husband, a psychiatrist, have a small ranch just south of

Steamboat Springs. Originally from the San Francisco Bay area, they made their move to rural living 3 years ago.

They have backpacked for 20 years, mostly in the Wind River Range of Wyoming, and wanted to be able to take a larger tent, bigger sleeping bags, better food, etc ... and thought llamas would do the trick.

Corrie and her husband now have 4 gelding llamas and enjoy backpacking with them. They have plans to start a small "Lease-A-Llama" business to give well selected people an opportunity to enjoy backpacking with llamas as much as they do.

**DEADLINES: February 14th, April 10th,  
June 12th and August 14th.**

## NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING INFORMATION

Full Page: 9" X 6-1/2" ..... \$65.00

1/2 Page: 4-1/2" X 6-1/2" ..... \$40.00

1/4 Page: 4-1/2" X 3-1/4" ..... \$20.00

Business  
Card: 2" X 3-1/2" ..... \$10.00

(Anything larger qualifies as a display ad above.)

**Call for ad information sheet.**

**All ads must be camera-ready.**

Member Classified: ..... Free  
(Limit of 2 can be listed each issue)

Non-member Classified: ..... \$5.00  
(All classified ads are limited to 50 words)

*All classified ads and articles must be typed double-spaced and  
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*Please make checks  
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**Deadline for next issue is February 14th.**

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## Rocky Mountain Llama and Alpaca Association

593 19-3/4 Road  
Grand Junction, Colorado 81503



Address Correction Requested

Bob & Barbara Hance  
HANCE RANCH  
11818 W. 52nd Ave  
Wheat Ridge, CO 80033-2032