

The Journal

RMLA



Rocky Mountain Llama and Alpaca Association

*Educating our members
and the public
for a third decade*

*August, 2002
Volume 20, Issue 3*



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Animal Assisted Therapy	Carol Lontine	303.650.5113	cllontine@prodigy.net	Robert Thompkins
Bookstore	Keith and Katie Wegner	303.273.9445	k2dWegner@attglobal.net	Lougene Baird
Calendar	Carol Lontine/Chas. Quigley	303.650.5113	cllontine@prodigy.net	Tompkins
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Elections	Teri Baird	303.646.4373	brokenwddindmill@bwn.net	Jerry Dunn
Events	Jerry Dunn	303.277.1129	beartrak@gte.net	
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Library	Sharon Herbold	719.495.3092	ppwoolies@earthlink.com	Jill Knuckles
Membership	Bob/Barb Hance	303.422.4681	hancelama@att.net	Lougene Baird
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Journal

<u>Editor</u>	<u>Advertising Manager</u>	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Journal</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
To Be Announced	Marilyn Arnold 11483 E. Ponderosa Lane Franktown, CO 80116-9319 303.841.5126 (voice and fax) arnoldhm@earthlink.net	Bobra Goldsmith Diane Tompkins Katie Wegner Jill Knuckles Terry Lynch	November, 2002 February, 2003 May, 2003 August, 2003 Advertising information and rates are found on page 34.	October 1st January 2nd April 1st July 1st

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NOTES: the information in this *Journal* is not intended to be a substitute for qualified professional advice. Readers are encouraged to consult with their own veterinarian, accountant, or attorney regarding any questions concerning their animals or business operations. RMLA is not responsible for any losses resulting from readers' failure to heed this caution. The views expressed by the article writers herein are not necessarily those of the Rocky Mountain Llama and Alpaca Association, its board, and/or its members.

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To my fellow RMLA members:

Being privileged to be Editor of the greatest llama publication in the world has been a BLAST! Now, it is time for other things. Your new Editor will serve the organization well.

You should know as members —the Journal of the RMLA is the absolutely best llama publication there is. The quality standards it has set, the originality of the articles (such as that dealing with CWD in this issue), and the willingness of RMLA members to contribute to it are truly unparalleled.

Keep it up.

RMLA is a phenomenal organization. It is the strongest financially, due to hard working Boards of Directors over the years. The services available to members are unique. Its members are truly concerned about the quality of their animals as well as the quality of life those animals enjoy.

Keep it up.

With the strengths that RMLA possesses, it is a leader in the llama industry. All us members should hope that the standards and traditions set over the past 21 years by RMLA are maintained in the future. RMLA has the opportunity to continue its growth and expand its services to others in the industry during these times. Ten years ago, many

Letter to the Editor...

Many people were so helpful during the Hayman fire - this is just to thank the people I was involved with. Wanted to write something about sneakers—but as usual - didn't get it done!

Thanks for all your hard work.

Mary Wickman
Woodland Park, CO

A Special Thanks to our Advertisers!!

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more llama organizations were in existence than are today. RMLA is a unique family of people who love what they are doing — whether it is packing, hiking, pet therapy, showing, whatever. That "family" feeling has served RMLA well for over two decades.

Keep it up!

Best regards for the future

Ron

President's Letter ...



Summer is drawing to a close. Gardens fertilized with llama "beans" are producing bountiful crops. Show schedules are winding down toward regional and national competition. And, we will soon be voting on Board of Director vacancies.

Diane and I have had an affinity for landscaping and gardening for many years. Our gardens are organic. We enrich our soils with llama beans and we nourish our trees with degraded mulch from the stalls of our llamas. Our passion for organic gardening rivals that of our passion for our llamas. Little did I know when we bought our first llamas that we would no longer need to look elsewhere for sources of organic fertilizer. This is another dimension of llama ownership beyond fiber, packing and shows.

Speaking of shows, the summer of 2002 has been a whirlwind of show activity. The RMLA calendar of events has been full of ALSA shows and fun activities. Congratulations to all who participated and to all who have qualified for regional and national competition. Best wishes to regional and national qualifiers for continued success as you head into these fall shows.

My term as President ends in October. Thus, the positions of President, President-Elect, Vice-President and Treasurer are open for nominations. Remember — RMLA is a volunteer organization and it depends on its membership to step forward to serve. The process starts by tossing your felted hat into the ring. If you are interested in serving or nominating someone to serve please contact the

Nominations Committee Chairperson Mary Beth Hartsough at (303)776-4933 or by e-mail: Llamarage@msn.com,

Lastly, have you ever noticed how in the midst of adversity some people find a way to turn a negative into a positive? During the Colorado wildfire season of 2002, RMLA Vice-President Jerry Dunn was just such a person. Through all of the devastation and property destruction, Jerry effectively networked with governmental resources and RMLA members to ensure the safety of alpacas and llamas. For those that found themselves in harm's way, Jerry found a way to ensure the safety of their animals. Jerry did not act alone, she coordinated her efforts with other RMLA members and through the RMLA e-mail news line.

Continuing in this regard.....Barb and Bob Hance, who run the RMLA e-mail network, are due some very special recognition for their efforts during the fires. They did a lot of extra work to get messages out to llama owners in the fire areas. They created a list of volunteers who were willing to house animals evacuated from the fire areas and help out at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds while evacuees were housed there.

Jerry, Bob and Barb — my felted hat is off to you and our fellow RMLA members for their caring and devoted efforts.

Yours for the betterment of RMLA,

Rob
*

WE PROUDLY ANNOUNCE
THESE NEW
RMLA LIFE MEMBERS!

**Sondra Grumbein,
Tres Aguas Alpacas**

**Julie K. Heggie, &
Gayle M. Woodsum,
Double J Llamas**

Minutes of the RMLA Board of Directors' Meeting

RMLA BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2002

Conference Call - 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Secretary's Report: All previous minutes have been approved and submitted to the RMLA Journal.

Treasury Report:

General Operations	\$ 12,302.00
Life Member Escrow	7,217.00
Liquid Assets	25,210.00
Research Savings	3,078.00
Special Production CFL&A	32,225.00
Bookstore General Operations	6,668.00
Total:	\$86,700.00

During the 1st quarter, General Operations borrowed \$2,000 from the Liquid Asset account. These dollars covered the cost of the insurance, which had come due at that time. The Treasurer will be transferring 10% of the Life Membership Savings to General Operations, 10% of Membership 2002 dues paid as of date of transfer will be transferred to Research Savings and 10% of net Bookstore profit will be transferred to Research.

Motion: Return \$2,000 from the General Operations accounts to the Liquid Asset account to replenish the Insurance Premium payment due back in February.

Motion: Robert, 2nd: Jill, Motion Carried.

Motion: Move \$20,000 from the net profits of the CFL & A Production savings to the RMLA Liquid Asset Account. The purpose of the CFL & A Production Savings account is to set aside funds for the next printing of Caring for Llamas and Alpacas. The \$20,000 is profit above the amount needed for the next publication.

Motion: Lougene, 2nd Jerry, Motion Carried.

General Business:

Fundraiser: Julie Heggie and Gayle Woodsum want to donate a llama for a raffle to raise money to help cover the cost of the RMLA Insurance. As a board, we felt we need to look into the laws on "Bingo / Raffle Licenses" for the State of Colorado. Jerry will contact the Secretary of State.

President Elect Vacancy: Larry Lewellyn has resigned from the President Elect position. Robert Tompkins will put out a letter via email notifying the membership. According to the Bylaws, if the President Elect position is vacated, it will be filled by the Vice President or with 2 nominations and a vote by mail. The Vice President does not wish to step into the President Elect position, so the Board will solicit nominations and send ballots via mail to fill the position. Deadline for nominations is June 1, 2002.

Nomination Committee: Jerry recommends that we create a Nominations Committee separate from the Elections Committee. We need at least 3 people for this committee with their main responsibility being to solicit members to run for open Board positions. Jerry will send a message to the Hance's to put onto email.

Motion: To form a Nominations Committee for RMLA.

Motion: Robert, 2nd Lougene, Motion Carried.

Fairplay Budget: Roger has submitted a budget for the Fairplay Race. He estimates that he will received \$1,648 in entry fees, have \$1,465 in expenses, leaving a profit of \$183.

Motion: To approve the budget submitted by Roger for the Fairplay Race.

Motion: Jill, 2nd: Jerry, Motion Carried.

Board Meeting Schedule: The next Board meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2002. The meeting will be held via conference call.

Committee Reports:

Membership Report: To date, we have 275 membership renewals. The membership renewals have been non-stop since February.

Bookstore: First quarter results from the Bookstore are looking good. We are beginning to work on the next printing of the current edition of Caring for Llamas and Alpacas. One item to remember is that we must print the bar code on the next publication of the CFL&A.

Liaisons:

The following are new liaison to the various committees:

Journal – Lougene Baird

Pet Assisted Therapy – Robert Tompkins

Elections – Jerry Dunn
Nominations Committee – No liaison at this time.

Motion to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.

Motion: Jerry, 2nd Lougene, Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted
Jill Knuckles
RMLA Secretary

RMLA BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, MAY 20, 2002

Conference Call 7:00 p.m.

Secretary Report: The minutes from the April 2 Board meeting were reviewed and amended to clarify a few things.

Motion: Approve the April 2, 2002 minutes as amended and clarified.

Motion: Jerry 2nd: Jill. Motion Carried.

Treasury Report:

General Operations	\$ 9,685.00
Life Member Escrow	6,966.00
Liquid Assets	45,255.00
Research Savings	5,459.00
Special Production CFL&A	10,930.00
Bookstore General Operations	<u>7,228.00</u>
Total	\$85,523.00

All bills have been paid. All deposits have been made.

NM State Income Tax – Due to the sales at the Taos Wool Market, the New Mexico State Department of Revenue asked that we file State Income Tax Return. After consulting with the Department, since we are non-profit, we do not have to file. We were informed of this by the State of New Mexico Revenue Department via email, which is on file.

IRS Tax Filing – postmarked May 14, 2002. Due May 15, the RMLA return reflected a net asset balance of \$89,351. Documented that no director profited.

RMLA Asset Location List – Complete. Purpose is to show location of items purchased by RMLA treasury. Need to track any assets with a value of greater than \$10.00.

Committee Reports:

Journal - Ron has resigned as editor of the Journal as he agreed to complete four issues, and has agreed to continue through the August Journal. Robert will contact Ron and ask him if he would like to stay on as Editor.

The May Journal costs -- \$3,088 printing, \$257 bulk mail, which is a total cost of \$3,345 for printing 1100 copies. We received \$2,200 in income from ads. We ended up printing the Journal at \$1.00 per copy.

Due to changes in the Bulk Mail Standards, Lougene is reapplying for the Bulk Mail Permit. This needs to be complete by the August Journal.

Membership -- Total membership is at 284. 106 have not rejoined. Barb believes we do not need to continue to contact those who have not rejoined since they have been contacted via email many times.

Bookstore – We are working on a projected date for reprint. Sold 1,883, which averaged 300 per quarter. Will need to reprint in 3rd quarter 2003. Our re-order point will be 2nd quarter 2002. Have contacted Clare Hoffman to send edits and corrections by 1st quarter 2003.

Fiber Co-Op - Sharon Beacham and Karen Kinyon have resigned. Their resignations are as of the end of this calendar year (2002). Karen has sent a list to Robert of possible new committee chairs. Six year financials –total sales since existence: \$51,752. To date expenses have equaled \$54,452.00, which gives us a current net loss of \$2,700. Most of the expenses are consignment fees paid to RMLA members. The cost of the trailer was \$3,931. We had originally projected we could pay off the trailer in five years using profits from the co-op. This does not look as if it will happen. Bought trailer in 1999 with a residual of \$2,700 left owed to General Operations.

Nominations Committee - Mary Beth is the new Chair for the Nominations Committee. Alaine Byers is helping Mary Beth with the current election process. The goal is for 3 nominations for the current opening of the President Elect position. The committee is also beginning to gather individuals for the Annual Elections. Open position for 2003 will be President Elect, Vice President and Treasurer. For the current President Elect elections, we need to mail the ballots to the membership the first week of June. Ballots

(Continued on page 8)

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must be returned to Teri Baird by three weeks from the date of mailing. Mary Beth will send the information to Jill by the first week of June.

General Business

Camelid Kids – Annette Mulholland called Lougene to provide an update on Camelid Kids. Based on the information we received from Annette Mulholland, Camelid Kids will not be published at this time.

Status of Calendar Project – Robert has taken an action item to contact Carol and get an update on the status. Deanna Lewellyn, Carol and Sandy Lockwood have had one meeting and are moving forward. The plan was for the calendar to go to print by August 15, 2002 and delivered for sale by September 1, 2002. We need to follow up on the budget and if they will be offering advertising in the calendar.

Open Board Meetings - The board has reviewed the Bylaws and they do not require that we have open board meetings. It does require an Annual Business Meeting and notice of "Special Membership Meetings". The board has been meeting via conference calls due to logistics. The conference calls will be posted on the e-mail newswire, but will not typically be open to membership due to the conference call cost being prohibitive. In order to inform the membership of a pending meeting two weeks prior to each Board Meeting, the Secretary will contact Barb and Bob Hance to announce the meeting on the e-mail newswire. The time and date of the meeting will be announced and whether or not the meeting will be face-to-face and open to the membership. We will also provide a due date and to whom questions or issues can be submitted to the Board to add to the agenda for the meeting.

Compliance Expectations of the RMLA Events Packet – There have been continued discussions in reference to the RMLA Events Packet and who must sign the Liability Release forms. Mary Ewing formulated the original Liability Release. Since there are still a lot of questions and confusion, Lougene is going to talk with the attorney:

- Do we really need it?
- What if someone refuses to sign?
- Does it matter as to what events need to

have it signed... i.e. Events using the RMLA Insurance vs. events not using the Insurance.

- What is the difference between an event "Sponsored" by RMLA or "Sanctioned" by RMLA?
- Are there other terms we can use?

Status of Plans for Open Executive Committee Meeting and the Pack Trip in July - Butler Gulch, July 13 and 14. Jerry will send information to Robert in reference to location and directions. Robert is going to put out an announcement via the email newswire.

Status of the Annual Business Meeting / Festival - We are waiting for information from CarolAnn Evans about available dates at the proposed site and we do not have an up to date status.

Robert will get in touch with CarolAnn for an update. The suggested dates are October 19 and 20.

Governmental Relations Committee – Chaired by Teri Baird, Liaison – Jerry Dunn

Motion: To form a Governmental Relations Committee to be chaired by Teri Baird.

Motion: Robert. 2nd: Jerry. Motion Carried.

Volunteer list for Aid and Assistance on the Front Range - Bob and Barb Hance and Jerry Dunn are doing a wonderful job !!

Raffle FundRaiser – To date, the fundraiser for money to help pay for additional cost for the RMLA Liability insurance is going well. There is some question as to whether or not we need to have a "Raffle License" to make sure we do not run into any legal issues, even though Julie and Gayle are doing the raffle on their own and will donate the monies to RMLA.

Jerry will contact the Secretary of State to research the correct approach in this fund raising effort.

Motion to adjourn at 10:25 p.m.

Motion: Lougene, 2nd: Jill. Motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,
Jill Knuckles
RMLA Secretary



LARAMIE COUNTY FAIR

Wyoming's Oldest & Largest Fair

Thank You!

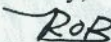
To the Laramie County Fair Board, exhibitors, sponsors and volunteers please accept my sincere thanks for your support of the 2002 Laramie County Fair Llama Show. It is a privilege to work with a Fair Board and staff that are so helpful. The Laramie County Fair Board members are Gary Smith, President; Mike Clark, Secretary; Bert Macy, Board Member; Hjalma Williams, Vice President; and Debie Child, Treasurer. The Fair Board is supported by Yvonne Ware, Fair Manager and Brenda Turner, Office Manager.

There would not be a show without exhibitors. Three years ago I asked exhibitors to return to Cheyenne. You did so at that time and you reaffirmed your commitment in 2002. I am honored that you chose to make the Laramie County Fair Llama Show one of your stops on the show circuit. I am well aware that you have a choice. I will continue to listen to your suggestions to improve the show. I will work with my Fair Board to implement your suggestions. I pledge I will raise the bar each year to provide you a show that was better than the last.

There would also not be show without sponsors. I express my grateful appreciation to the following sponsors: Tony and Amy Lucero of A & C Feed Company, Cheyenne, WY; Cheryl Rafferty and crew with Albertsons, Cheyenne, WY; Bob and Karen Kinyon, Double K Diamond Llamas, Wellington, CO; Susan Allen of McIntyre's Lawn and Garden Center, Cheyenne, WY; Betty Robertson, Englewood, CO and Jane Sheppard, Happy J Farms, Beasley, TX and the Rocky Mountain Llama and Alpaca Association for its approval of the show and public education materials. Thanks to each of you for your contributions to the llama show!

Last, but never ever least, to my VIP volunteers you are the greatest! To my wife Diane for her tireless behind the scenes work to make sure everything is in order and runs smoothly. To Bob Sherard, Rob Sherard, Gary Norwood, DVM, Bob Aue, Jaci Aue, Lee McCoole, Kathy McCoole, Kay Anthony, Debie Child and Kevin Anderson you are the greatest! You folks are the glue that holds this thing together. I hope to see y'all again at the next Laramie County Fair Llama Show *tentatively* set for August 2 & 3, 2003.

Sincerely,


Robert Tompkins, Superintendent
Laramie County Fair Llama Show

Physical Address: 310 West 19th Street • Cheyenne, WY 82001, 4th Floor
Mailing Address: 309 West 20th Street • Cheyenne, WY 82001
(307) 633-4534 • Fax (307) 633-4511

RMLA Committee Reports

Fiber Committee:

By: Karen Kinyon, Co-Chair

Since the last RMLA Journal issue, the Fiber committee has been busy with the RMLA Fiber Co-op Booth. The booth was set up in the Vendor Barn of the Estes Park Wool Market and had a very successful weekend of sales. We had 11 consignors participating and total sales were close to \$2,400. Many thanks are extended to the following RMLA members who volunteered throughout the weekend. Without these wonderful people, the booth would not be the great success that it is. Many thanks go to Judy Cox-Sample, Judy Wolff-Mills, Elaine Sipes, Sharon Beacham, Christy Herr, Tanya Swegler (and husband) and Cheri Paxson for all their help at Estes Park.

We have upcoming events that include the Taos Wool Festival; the first weekend in October and the Grand Nationals in Lincoln, Nebraska the second weekend in November. Volunteers are always needed, so plan now to help out.

Don't forget the Fiber Committee is currently seeking new chairpersons for 2003. Both Karen and Sharon are stepping down after seven great years with this committee. Contact Rob Tompkins, the Fiber Committee Board Liaison if you are interested in helping provide new leadership for the Fiber Committee. If you have questions or want to volunteer to help with the Fiber Co-op Booth, call Karen Kinyon at (970) 568-3747 or Sharon Beacham at (303) 666-9437.

Library:

By: Sharon Herbold, Chair

The RMLA library contains many articles, books and videos for those members new to RMLA and llamas. Use of the materials in the library is a great benefit of your membership. The current listing for the library is available in the current membership directory or on the RMLA website.

I am happy to answer any questions or discuss different materials if you call or email. However, the easiest method for requesting materials is at the library listing on the website. This request comes directly to me and I have a printout of your request along with valuable information that enables me to get in touch with you if it is necessary.

With postage rates increasing again, I will send in-state materials by media mail unless you

request faster delivery. Out-of-state deliveries are usually sent by priority mail. The check out system allows up to 5 items checked out at one time if all requests are available. Books and articles may be checked out for one month and videos are checked out for 2 weeks. Please return all materials by the due date!

If you have questions or need help with the library, please contact me.

Membership Committee:

By: Bob and Barb Hance, Co-Chairs

RMLA on July 1, 2002 has 283 members living in 22 States and one member in Italy. Our members own 5685 Llamas and 504 Alpacas.

Following are some of the "Stats" from the web site: rmla.com "hits for the week of June 23 - June 29 2002"

Server Activity Totals for Period:

Total sessions served : 812
Total hits made on server : 2438
Total page view hits : 916
Total non page view hits : 1522
Total time spent by all sessions : 32851

seconds

Session Origins for Period:

Total sessions served : 812
Total engine referred sessions : 14 (1.72%)
Total referred session : 524 (64.53%)
Total blind (no referrer) sessions : 274

(33.74%)

Page Views per Session Breakdown:

708 (87.19%) sessions made 1 page view
79 (9.73%) sessions made 2-5 page views
12 (1.48%) sessions made 6-10 page views
3 (0.37%) sessions made 11-20 page views
4 (0.49%) sessions made 21-50 page views

Time Spent per Session Breakdown:

747 (92.00%) sessions lasted 1 minute
30 (3.69%) sessions lasted 2-5 minutes
26 (3.20%) sessions lasted 6-15 minutes
3 (0.37%) sessions lasted 16-30 minutes

Top 10 most commonly accessed pages during period:

/index.htm with 195 page views (21.62% of all traffic), /health.htm with 36 views (3.99%), /wool_basics.htm with 34 views (3.77%), /events.htm with 32 views (3.55%), /hotnews.htm with 29 views (3.22%), /rchA.

New! Lama Chews™

**The right size
for Lama health.**

**The right ingredients
for Lama nutrition.**

Size does matter. Especially when you're feeding aggressive eaters like llamas and alpacas. That's why, we've invested years of research and testing to reformulate our easy-feed supplement...Mazuri® Lama Chews™.

The feed is twice as big as a traditional pellet, so it encourages llamas to chew before swallowing. Instead of gulping down feed, animals pause, lift their heads, and spend more time chewing. According to trial participants, Mazuri Lama Chews can help reduce the risk of choke.

It's Not Only Bigger, It's Better.

Whether your animals are on hay or pasture, Lama Chews has all the nutrients, minerals and natural vitamins essential for proper nutrition. To promote strong skeletal structure, the feed contains just the right levels of calcium, phosphorus and vitamin D. We've also added natural vitamin E and selenium, so no extra supplements or injections are needed. But the big news is we boosted selected mineral levels to enhance the feed's nutritional value even more.

So for a supplement that's easier on your llamas...and better for their health and nutrition... be sure to choose the easy-feed supplement. [Mazuri Lama Chews.](#)

Mazuri available at Purina Dealerships.



Good News About Lama Chews™!

Across the country, Lama Chews has been tested under a variety of conditions. Feeding participants experienced excellent results in animal performance, as well as controlling choke problems.

"I'm pleased with the new product size and lack of choke. It's a very good choice for controlling choke."

Nel Vickers, Maplewood Farm
Charlevoix, MI

"I'm getting more consistent and appropriate levels of minerals and vitamins in my blood work. That gives me peace of mind the animals are getting the nutrition they need."

Norma Stevens, Mountain Oaks Ranch
Valley Center, CA

For further information
about Mazuri Lama Chews,
call us toll-free at:

1-800-227-8941

or visit our website at:

www.mazuri.com.

Mazuri.



(Continued from page 10)

htm with 26 views (2.88%), /library.htm with 26 page views (2.88%), /fire_flood.htm with 25 views (2.77%), /guard_llamas.htm with 25 views (2.77%) /education.htm with 24 views (2.66%) .

Where "Hits" Came From:

United States with 452 sessions. (55.67 % of traffic)
Virginia (33.13 %)
California (11.95 %)
Colorado (2.83 %)
unknown USA. (1.72 %)
New Jersey (0.86 %)
Minnesota (0.49 %)
New York, North Carolina and Texas (0.37 % each)
Nebraska, Arizona, Utah, Michigan, Missouri, Iowa, Oregon, and Arkansas, (0.25 % each);
Washington, Massachusetts, Georgia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Tennessee, Connecticut, New Mexico, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Idaho, Washington DC, and Ohio (0.12 % each).

Total Canadian Traffic (2.34 %)

Breakdown of Traffic by Continent

North America with 471 sessions. (58.00 % of traffic)
South America with 0.00 sessions. (0.00 % of traffic)
Europe with 61 sessions. (7.51 % of traffic)
Asia with 6 sessions. (0.74 % of traffic)
Australia & Oceania with 5 sessions. (0.62 % of traffic)
Africa with 0.00 sessions. (0.00 % of traffic) .

*

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/guard_llamas.htm

2002 RMLA Sponsored Schedule of Events

AUGUST

Laramie County Fair Llama Show,
Cheyenne, WY, August 3-4,
Contact: Robert Tompkins, 307.635.2168.

Boulder County Youth Show, Longmont,
CO, August 9,
Contact: Mary Beth Hartsough 303.776.4933

Wyoming State Fair Llama Show,
Douglas, WY, August 10-11, Contact: Gayle Woodsum or Julie Heggie 307.742.0042.

Kiowa Youth Show, Kiowa, CO, August 17,
Contact: Dani Varela, 303.621.9021.

SEPTEMBER

LOCC Fall Classic Llama Show, Colorado
Springs, CO, September 7-8,
Contact: Mike Shealy 719.495.3757.

Drive in the Park, Golden, CO, September 8,
Contact: Jerry Dunn 303.277.1129.

Sangre de Cristo Llama Youth Show,
Westcliffe, CO, September 14,
Contact: Rhonda Livengood, 719.783.9238.

OCTOBER

ALSA Rocky Mountain Regional Llama Show, Denver, CO, October 13-14,
Contact: Larry Lewellyn 720.733.2775 or Lougene Baird 303.688.5445.

Taos Wool Festival, RMLA Fiber Co-Op
October 4-6, 2002, Taos, N.M.
Contact Sharon Beacham 303.666.9437.

RMLA Annual Meeting and Fall Festival, Longmont, CO, October 26-27,
Contact: Carolann Evans 303.682.8221 or Terry Lynch 303.651.3022.

NOVEMBER

ALSA Grand Nationals, RMLA Fiber Co-Op, November 1-10, 2002, Lincoln, Nebraska.
Contact Sharon Beacham 303.666.6437.

JANUARY, 2003

National Western Stock Show, Denver,
CO., January 11-12,
Contact: Jerry Dunn 303.277.1129.

**INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING OR
ORGANIZING AN EVENT?**

**CONTACT: JERRY DUNN
303.277.1129 E-mail: beartrak@gte.net**

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DOUGLAS COUNTY SUMMER CLASSIC
"An ALSA Youth Show produced by kids...for kids"
 By: Lougene Baird, Superintendent

June 29, 2002 was a fun day in the sun for 26 youth, their family and friends. This year, the show was moved from the Douglas County Fairgrounds to Whispering Pines Park in Franktown. The fairgrounds was home to 2,500 Firefighters from all over the west as they were nearby fighting the Haymen fire.

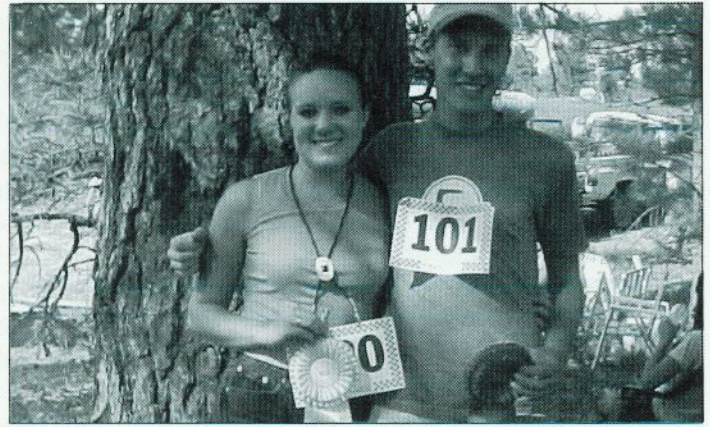
The show is hosted by the Douglas County Llofty Llamas 4H club, Scott McHenry leader. All the performance courses were run in a very natural setting through bushes, trees, creek bottom, sun and shade.

Jordan was the 'Youth Superintendent' this year. Jordan designed the performance courses, received and processed all registrations, wrote letters requesting sponsorships and managed all of the pre-show activity. Good going, Jordan!

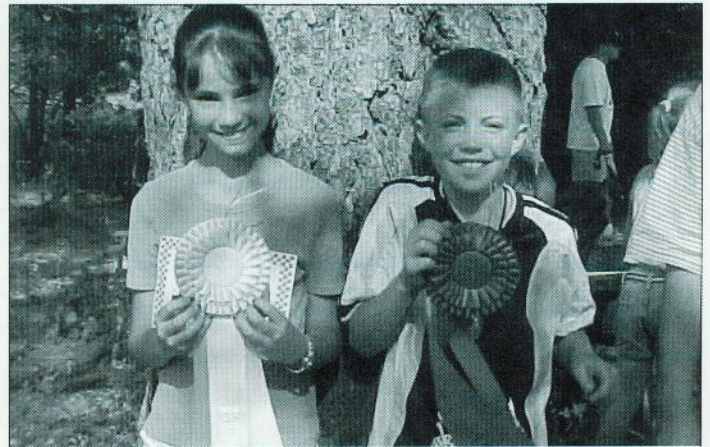
The show clerks were Maureen Bergenfeld and Nancy Jamnik.



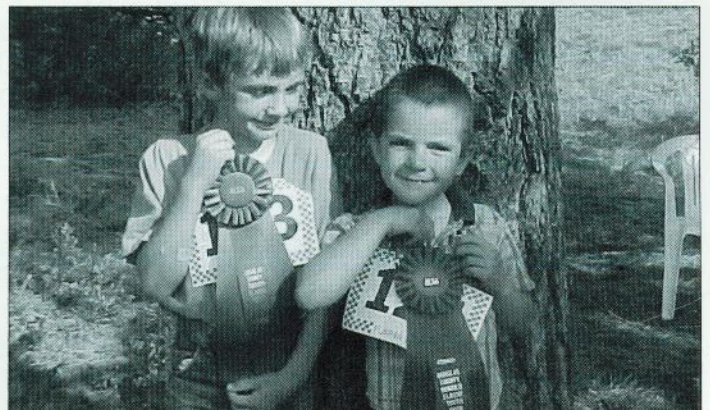
Youth attending the show, in no special order:
 Kaylea Ault, Deidre Baird, A.J. Biggs, Ian Biggs, Jennifer Camp, Ben Chambers, Jessica Connelly, Stephanie Connelly, Rachel Gross, Bethany Henninger, Chris Henninger, Carrie Howard, Cody Howard, Dylan Howard, Levi Kauffman, Brianna Livengood, Taylor McHenry, Bailey McHenry, Jordan McHenry, Amy McMahan, James Moore, Shane Northern, Summer Northern, Melissa Nylund, Sarah Onle and Mikaela Welch.



Intermediate Performance Champions:
 Levi Kauffman, Grand Champion
 Brianna Livengood, Reserve Grand Champion



Junior Performance Champions:
 J.J. Moore, Grand Champion
 Bailey McHenry, Reserve Grand Champion



Sub Junior Champions:
 Cody Howard and Dylan Howard

MAYBE "PERTURBED", BUT NOT "MAD" LLAMAS

By: Clare Hoffman Hays, D.V.M.

Interim Associate Dean of Letters, Arts and Sciences,
Metropolitan State College of Denver, author of
"Caring for Llamas and Alpacas"



Mad Cow Disease",
"Foot-and-Mouth
Disease",
"Eradication".

These are all terms that surfaced in the media when the United Kingdom's tragic outbreak of Foot-and-Mouth Disease occurred about February 2001.

The media often covered all of the "cow" diseases together, making it difficult to distinguish one from the other. This article explains the prion-caused diseases, and whether llamas are at risk.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease is not amongst the prion-caused diseases because it is caused by a virus. Since much has been written about this disease as it relates to llamas, this article will focus on the prion-caused diseases. However, a brief recap of Foot-and-Mouth disease is that it is of grave concern because it is highly contagious. It is easily spread through the air and through ingestion. Although the disease itself does not cause a high death rate, it causes huge economic losses. It is seen most commonly in cloven-hooved animals such as deer, elk, bison, sheep, goats and cattle. It has been seen in llamas and alpacas, but is uncommon. Currently, North America is free from Foot-and-Mouth disease, that is, it has been eradicated from United States.

Prion-caused diseases include Scrapie, Mad Cow Disease, Chronic Wasting Disease, and Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD) and a variety of other degenerative brain diseases (Kuru, mink encephalopathy....). These are a group of diseases that result in sponge-like holes in the brain and ultimately lead to death. Therefore, this group of is called **Transmissible Spongiform encephalopathies** or **TSEs**. The "transmissible" refers to transmitting the disease from one animal to another, "spongiform" refers to the appearance of the brain lesions and "encephalopathies" means brain diseases. The TSEs are believed to be

caused by a protein particle called a prion. While all scientists are not yet convinced about the prion-causing theory of TSEs, most believe that prions are indeed responsible for this group of diseases.

Prion is a relatively new term. A prion is a tiny protein particle named in 1981, by a scientist trying to determine the causative agent for lethal brain diseases, referred to as TSEs. Prions appear to exist in both a normal and an abnormal form. Normal prion proteins are found in healthy brain tissue, although their role is unknown. The disease-causing prions contain abnormal prion proteins. In infected brains, the prion proteins change to a different and abnormally shaped form. Although details are unclear, this change has something to do with making the prion particle infectious. The result is that the abnormal prions then cause the normal proteins to convert to the abnormal form¹ These abnormal proteins then accumulate in the brain, resulting in the sponge-like holes and diminishing levels of normal brain tissue.

While these prion particles are infectious, they are unlike other forms of infectious microorganisms currently known to science. Unlike other disease-causing organisms such as viruses and bacteria, prions do not contain the typical or recognizable genetic blueprint material - DNA (or a similar compound called RNA). Second, prions are not inactivated or killed by antiseptics or sterilization techniques (boiling, radiation) used for other organisms. Third, the prions do not elicit an immune response in the infected host to attempt to fight off the offender which is what typically occurs with other microorganism-caused infections. The progression of prion-caused diseases is very slow. Signs and symptoms of the disease can take years to manifest, but they always gradually progress to the same end result, death.

Scrapie is a disease that has been recognized for over 250 years, but the causative agent was not known. It is a disease of sheep and goats. It is believed that some sheep may be more susceptible to Scrapie than others, implying a genetic susceptibility. It has occurred sporadically in the United States since 1947 and has resulted in infection in more than a thousand sheep flocks². Infection is believed to be caused by ingesting a disease-causing prion but the exact scenario is not known. Signs of this slowly progressing disease are associated with deterioration of the brain and include dementia, abnormal behavior such as aggression, intense itchiness resulting in wool pulling, incoordination and muscle tremor, emaciation

and death. Aside from these general signs and symptoms indicating neurologic disease, the precise diagnosis is made upon autopsy. The brains from infected sheep demonstrate spongy lesions in the brain which are characteristic of prion-caused diseases (TSEs). An effort is currently underway to try to eradicate Scrapie from the United States. This effort involves the required tagging of sheep and goats as a part of an identification and surveillance program. Breeding sheep and goats that are sent to slaughter will be tested for Scrapie and can be traced to their herd of origin by the ear tag. All records on purchased goats and sheep need to be maintained for at least five years in case one of those animals is diagnosed with Scrapie.

Mad Cow Disease, which is also called **Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE)**, is a more recently described disease. First recognized in cattle in the United Kingdom in the mid-1980s, BSE has now been seen in other European countries and has affected more than 180,000 cattle³. More than 4.5 million cattle were destroyed in the United Kingdom and Europe in order to contain the epidemic. There have been no diagnosed cases in the United States or in South

America. BSE is believed to have originated from cattle eating feed containing Scrapie prions from dead sheep. The number of cases rapidly increased as these "Mad Cows" were subsequently fed to other cattle. Signs of BSE include typical neurologic abnormalities, such as incoordination and abnormal behavior which ultimately lead to weight loss and death. Unfortunately, diagnosis of Mad Cow Disease is usually only possible after death. However, research is well-underway to get a test approved to detect BSE in a blood test of a live animal.

Since the spread of BSE has been linked to the practice of feeding slaughtered animal parts to other animals, many preventative measures have been put in place. These preventative measures include: 1) The United States has not imported beef from the United Kingdom since before 1985; 2) Feeding slaughtered ruminant (i.e. cud-chewing animals such as deer, cattle, sheep and llamas) parts to other animals was banned in the United Kingdom in 1988 resulting in a rapid decline of new cases in the UK⁴; 3) The US banned the importation of live ruminants and at-risk ruminant products from any country with BSE in 1989, with this ban expanding to all of Europe in 1997; 4)

Continued on page 16

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(Continued from page 15)

The US Food and Drug Administration banned the use of any at-risk ruminant by-product in cattle, goat and sheep feed in 1997; 5) The United States Department of Agriculture banned imports of animal protein products from slaughter from Europe regardless of the species⁵; 6) The USDA also tests possible BSE cases in the US, such as dead animals who suffered from neurologic diseases of unknown cause.

However, with all of these precautionary measures, mistakes can occur. In January 2001, you recall that there was a possibility that cattle in Texas may have eaten other cattle products which were present in their feed. Caught in time, Purina Mills, owner of the mill that made the mistake of putting cattle products into the feed, traced the tainted feed and bought the more than 1000 cattle to prevent them from becoming beef.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is another TSE disease affecting deer and elk. It is found in the wild deer populations in Canada and five states in the US, including Colorado and Wyoming. It is also found in domestic elk ranches in several states. In Colorado, CWD has been discovered on both sides of the Rockies and could devastate the hunting economy in Colorado and neighboring states. It has led to the slaughter of thousands of animals in an attempt to eliminate the disease. CWD is spread from animal to animal, but the mechanism is unknown. Therefore, it is uncertain as to whether the affected domestic elk could spread the disease to the wild populations, or, for that matter, to other species. Chronic Wasting Disease, like all spongiform encephalopathies causes neurologic changes, such as abnormal behavior, incoordination, weakness, salivation, and results in weight loss and ultimate death.

This disease is currently having a tremendous economic impact on domestic elk

ranchers. In an attempt to control the disease, ranches linked to positive cases are placed under quarantine. Then the State typically tests any animals which have had exposure to the positive animals, but are not already included in the quarantine.

Unfortunately, since the only way to diagnose the disease in early stages is with a post-mortem brain sample, testing requires killing. (Diagnosis in a live animal is impractical, as it involves a tonsil biopsy.)

Other preventative measures include stricter importation guidelines with thorough checking of the incidence of CWD in the herd of origin, strict licensing procedures for any new elk facility and the testing of deceased animals. Locally, the Colorado Department of Agriculture requires mandatory surveillance of all domestic elk herds for CWD. Ranchers must identify and inventory all of their elk. Testing is mandatory for all elk deaths.

Creutzfeldt-Jacob Disease (CJD) is a degenerative brain disease that affects humans. It is uncommon, occurring sporadically across the world with only a couple of cases per million people each year. It was first described by Dr. Hans Gerhard Creutzfeldt and Alphons Maria Jakob in the 1920's⁶. Although quite difficult to diagnose, this fatal disease has been seen in the United States with about 250 cases diagnosed per year. The cause is unknown and it typically occurs in older people. Signs reflect the gradual deterioration of the brain and include dementia, uncontrolled movements, and death.

Recently, a new form or strain of CJD has appeared that is called **new variant CJD (nvCJD)**. It is believed to be a form of Mad Cow Disease in humans and its occurrence has been associated with the recent outbreak of Mad Cow Disease in the United Kingdom. First recognized in 1996, nvCJD has killed more than 100 people primarily in the UK and some from Europe. This variant form of CJD has not been seen in the United States. While the cause of these nvCJD is not precisely known, research does support the link to BSE. It may be due to people consuming beef contaminated with BSE-infected nervous tissue, but this is not precisely known. Unlike the typical CJD, the new variant form has been seen mainly in younger people.

What is interesting about the biology of nvCJD is that it was previously believed that prions could not "jump" across species, like from cattle to humans. New variant CJD, like its counterpart, is fatal.

Kuru is another human TSE. It was first described in the 1950's, in people of New Guinea. Like other TSEs, it leads to gradual brain degeneration

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resulting in incoordination, trembling and death. In fact, the word "kuru" translates to trembling. Brains of deceased victims show the classic spongiform holes in the brain. Until recently, it was thought that this must be some type of a viral disease, but it is now classified as a prion disease. The origin and perpetuation of the disease of the people of New Guinea is unknown, but the incidence has recently declined significantly. Speculation has occurred that these people may have engaged in cannibalism, thus causing the spread of the infection⁷. Another explanation is that infection resulted from contact with contaminated neural tissue as a result of some other cultural ritual. With the discovery of a possible relationship between cannibalism and Kuru, the practice has stopped and thus, so has the incidence of Kuru declined.

Prion-caused diseases, or TSEs, have never been diagnosed in llamas or alpacas. Llamas and alpacas are vegetarians, with pasture forage and hay making up the bulk of their diet. Grains do not contain slaughter by-products. Vitamin and mineral supplements do not contain slaughter by-products. Complete pelleted feeds fed to llamas typically derive their protein from vegetable products (alfalfa, soy). While it is true that llamas and alpacas

haven't been targeted for testing post-mortem, it would be very surprising if any cases were found. So rest easy, as your llama pins his ears back and spits in your face, he is perturbed but not "mad"!

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2. Machen, MR: Scrapie: Deciphering its pathophysiology and cause. *Compendium* 23(4):S52-S58, April 2001.
3. Editor: Scrapie-infected meat under suspicion for U. K.'s mad cow outbreak. *DVM Newsmagazine* 4F, September 2001.
4. Henahan (1996). An interview with Dr. Frederick A. Murphy, Dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California Davis. *Mad Cow Disease, The BSE Epidemic in Great Britain*. <http://www.accessscience.org/WN/NM/madcow96.html> (5 December 2001).
5. Editor: Questions and answers about Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE). *Newsroom*. <http://www.beef.org/newsroom/bse/harvard/External%20Q&A%20for%20Harvard%20Report.htm> (6 December 2001).
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7. Baumbach, G (2001). Parenchymal infections: Prions. *Infectious Diseases of the Central Nervous System*. <http://www.vh.org/Providers/TeachingFiles/CNSInfDisR2/Text/PIInf.CDE.html> (5 December 2001).

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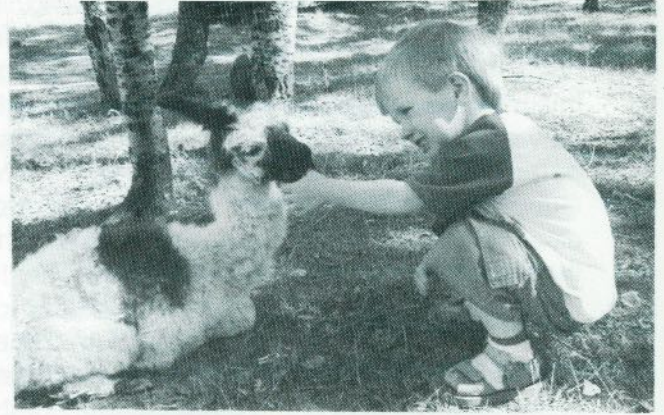


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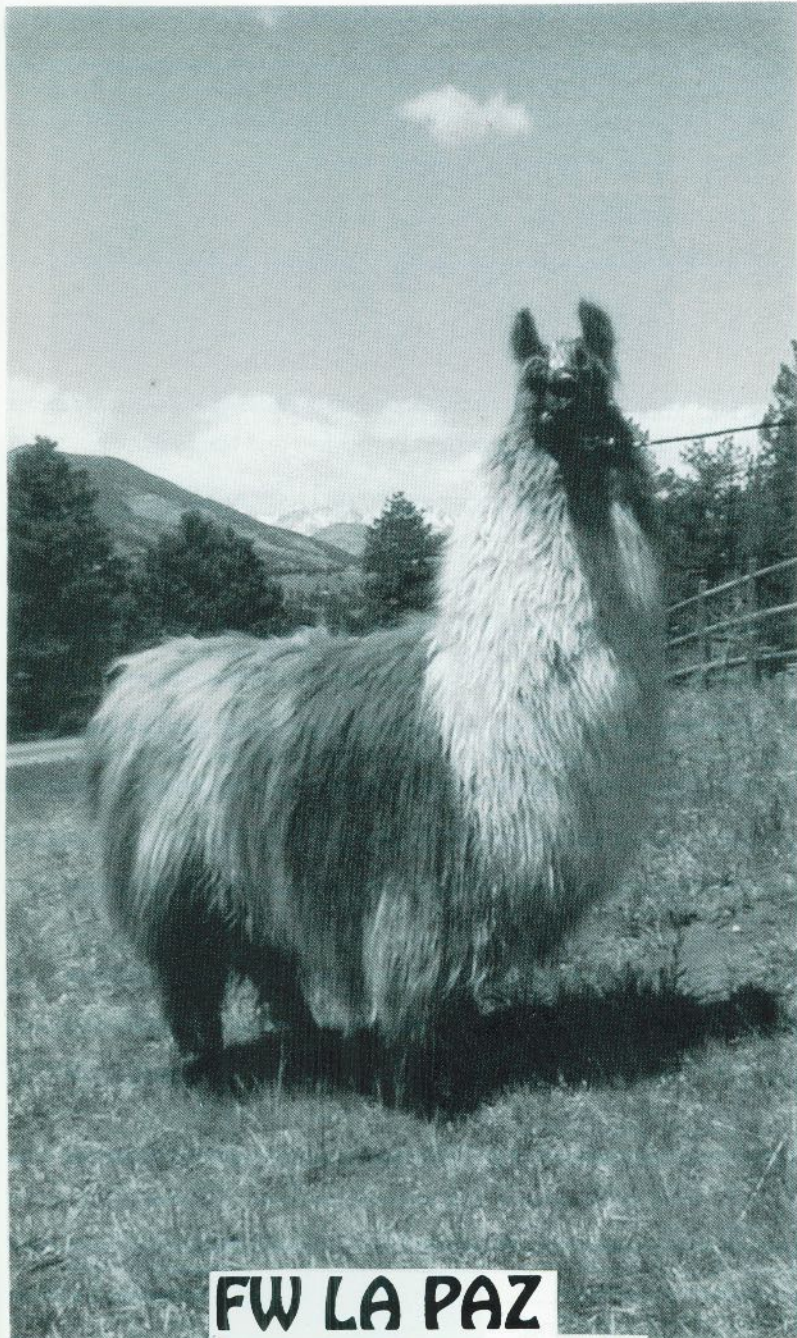
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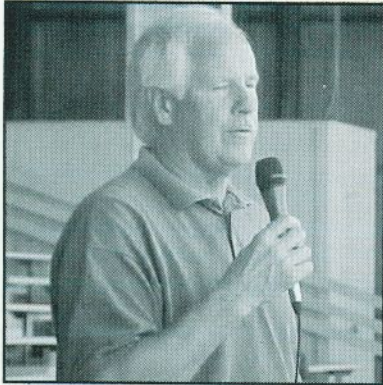
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Wool Market

By: Lougene A. Baird, Superintendent
Plum Valley Llamas, Sedalia, Colorado



The Show Announcer — Bill Lillie
Eustes, Florida

Congratulations! To all of the exhibitors attending the 2002 EPWM Llama Show. The weather for the weekend was perfect and the show went off without a hitch, save for a goat that escaped from the goat tent and ran through the obstacle course.

Thanks to Jill Knuckles and Deidre Baird for chasing the little critter

to the far corner of the fairgrounds where it was cornered and then retrieved by its owner.

Families from 74 farms and ranches traveled from fourteen states to show, visit with friends and enjoy a weekend with their llamas. The Youth show was attended by 42 Youth showing their llamas and alpacas. 265 llamas registered in over 650 entries. 30 entries were received and judged in the Llama Fiber Show.



Judge Penny Davidson, Germantown, Ohio and Ring Steward Bob Lyons, San Antonio, Texas

The Judges this year were Penny Davidson, Germantown Ohio, Donley Gardner and Dolores Gardner, Daingerfield, Texas and Sharon Beacham, Boulder and Salida, Colorado.



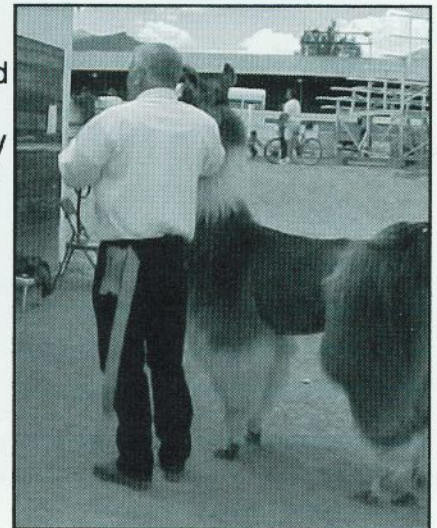
Show clerks — Maurene Bergenfeld and Nancy Jamnik

The RMLA Fiber Co-op was set up in the commercial area. Operations were chaired by Karen Kinyon and other RMLA members assisted in the co-op over the weekend. Eleven RMLA members shared the \$2,392 in total sales for the weekend!

RMLA Journal, Service Directories and other information on llamas were available during the weekend. Over 200 items were picked up by the general public.

David and Willow Kauffman and family chaired the Saturday night family dinner with over 100 attending the pizza dinner. Thanks to the Kauffmans for a wonderful evening with family and friends.

A special thanks to each exhibitor attending. We hope to see you again next year.... and bring a new llama owner with you!



Not a bad reward! Mr. Ulin Andrews, Log Cabin Llamas — Oakwood, Illinois. A long trip, lots of grooming and successful showing — Ulin awaits his turn with the photographer with llama, trophy and Grand Champion banner waiving from his pocket!

RATTLESNAKE BITE; A PRAIRIE EXPERIENCE

BY KAREN KINYON, DOUBLE K DIAMOND LLAMAS, WINDSOR, CO



This is a true experience that happened on Wednesday, April 24, 2002. We moved to 35 acres on the prairie last July from our cozy, safe little residential acreage in Fort Collins. We knew there would be challenges for ourselves

and our llamas, but that fact was really brought to the forefront when Feather, a 4 1/2 year old female, was struck by a rattlesnake. We really weren't expecting them to be out yet, as it was still very cool and usually windy out here northwest of Wellington, Colorado.

It was a sunny, breezy day and about 60 degrees. I was calling the females in off the dry land pasture where they had been hunting for anything green to nibble on. As they came in, I stepped into the tack room to get Feather's grain. She had a five week old cria and was nursing so I had been supplementing her with a little extra feed. As she came into the tack room with me, I looked at her and her face was completely swollen like a huge, ugly football. She had no definition of bone structure and her eyes were like little slits. Her lips were huge and bulbous. She didn't even appear to be a llama any more. Surprisingly, she was in no obvious distress and still had an open airway.

Judy Wolff-Mills was with me and I sent her to get Bob because "something was wrong with Feather's face". Bob, (who usually isn't home during the day) and Judy hooked up the trailer while I haltered Feather and caught her cria, Picabo. Feather's own medium sized

halter would not go over her face. I happened to have an extra large halter with the criss-cross construction under the chin and put that over her swollen lips. Our barn is about 400 yards from the house so I kept Feather with me and Bob and Judy brought the trailer down to us. Bob drove, Judy rode shotgun and I got into the trailer with Feather and Picabo. Dr. Johnson had given me a length of hard plastic tubing in case we had this kind of emergency and I had it with me in the event that Feather stopped being able to breathe. With the tubing, I would have been able to insert it into her nostril to keep an open airway.

We live 30-40 minutes north of Fort Collins and the C.S.U. Veterinary Teaching Hospital is on the south part of town. It was about 5:00 p.m. so we were contending with rush hour traffic. Bob drove as fast as was safe and took the least traveled route into the hospital. I had my cell phone so I called the Vet Hospital to alert them to our arrival and Feather's condition. I also could communicate with Judy and Bob in the truck if necessary. Feather was very calm and just kushed quietly in the trailer. Picabo was with her and I think that was very helpful in keeping Feather as relaxed as possible. It was a long ride and I was very grateful when upon our arrival, Feather just stood up and walked out of the trailer.

The emergency staff was on hand to treat Feather. Dr. Lucy Tan was the clinician and in charge of the decisions. Feather was taken into a treatment room and tied to a chute. She stood quietly while Dr. Tan examined her. Picabo was close by, but very curious about all the new things she was seeing. Dr. Tan determined that Feather was not getting enough oxygen and her heart rate was extremely erratic. Feather was still not showing any distress. I think one of the scariest things about this experience is that there was very little obvious sign of a problem except for her horribly swollen face. At this time, Dr. Tan did a tracheotomy to establish an airway and started an I.V. Feather is a medium to heavy fleeced llama so they shaved her neck to the skin and she stood quietly while they did their work. Bob held her head up and Judy

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e-mail talltailllamas@bigplanet.com.

and a student intern stood near Feather's hips to steady her. She never went down and that was a very encouraging sign. Her face did continue to swell and Dr. Tan recommended that we give her the antivenin immediately. We stayed with Feather until all of this was accomplished and she was placed in a stall. As we drove home, I was very afraid that would be the last time we saw her alive.

The staff at the C.S.U. Vet Hospital was incredible. Dr. Tan called me later that night to tell me that Feather was responding well to the antivenin and that they had started her on fluids and an anti-inflammatory. It was a matter of time to see what would happen next. On Thursday morning, the news was even better — Feather's swelling was down and I could come see her in the afternoon. We visited daily and Feather was in the hospital for five days. Her swelling continued to go down and she began to look normal. Feather has a very delicate, pretty face and I was happy to see it again. The first two days she was eating and doing quite well, but on the third day, she stopped eating and her blood work was showing that she was fighting the toxins, but burning too much fat. The staff was tempting her with everything they could think of. When I went into her stall it looked like a buffet line with pans of all different kinds of feed. Alfalfa, grass hay, a warm mash, grain, even hand picked green grass.

Picabo thought she was at the Hilton and was eating everything in sight. She actually managed to gain two pounds while staying with her Mom in the hospital. On the fourth day when Feather still wasn't eating, I took her mother, Doe-A Dear in to be with her and Picabo. I also took her own hay and grain mix as well.

We stayed and watched her try to eat and she would take a big mouthful and cry when she tried to swallow. After seeing this, I asked if she could be put on some pain medication to see if that would help. Evidently, because of the tracheotomy and all the swelling, she had a major sore throat and the pain medication worked like a miracle. In just a few minutes Feather was eating effectively and she continued to do so through the night. They ran her blood work again in the morning and all the numbers were normal, so Feather, Picabo and Doe were ready to come home.

On Monday, April 29, 2002, we brought her home. She still had two bandages and pain medication, but it was determined that she would continue to improve with her own herd. She has done very well. She didn't want to be confined away from everyone, so I let her out and fed normally. Every morning, for three days, I gave her pain medication and let her and Picabo eat by themselves in a small pen before letting them out with everyone else. As of this writing, she is looking and acting just like herself. We will watch her because there is still some concern about permanent heart damage, but hopefully because we all reacted quickly, she will continue

to heal.

What did we learn from this experience and how can it help someone else?

1. Quick response!! We think Feather was struck 15-30 minutes before we found her and headed for the Vet Hospital.

2. On Monday, April 22, 2002 I had just had Dr. Johnson and students out to update vaccinations and de-worm the herd. At his recommendation, we had used a 6-Way vaccination. They were protected from Clostridia, C., D and T as well as Black Leg and Malignant Edema. Dr. Johnson recommended these last two because of the two rattlesnakes that we had seen last Fall. We think because Feather had just had this vaccination, her symptoms were less severe.

3. Know where your nearest veterinary clinic is and know the quickest route to get there.

4. Administer the ANTIVENIN: This is expensive, costing nearly \$250 per vial and Feather had two of them but it is instrumental in fighting the toxins in rattlesnake venom. It has to be administered directly into a vein, so it is not something we can normally keep on hand unless we have had training in giving intravenous injections. We also started fluids to flush the toxins from her system. The longer they stay in, the more damage to major organs they do so it is very important to flush them out as quickly as possible. The anti-inflammatory medication was helpful in reducing her swelling so she could breathe normally again.

5. Keep a snake bite kit handy in your tack room or medical bag. It should consist of some kind of plastic tubing, 4-5 inches long. An empty syringe tube works well with the tip cut off. The tubing is useful to keep an airway open. The soft structure in the front part of a llamas' nose will swell completely shut unless something is there to keep it open during the swelling. I have duct tape with mine in case I have to keep it in place while I drive them to the hospital.

6. Try to get rid of the rattlesnakes. Because this is a drought year, they are out early and in abundance. Get rid of any old lumber, wood or rock piles as these are perfect places for them to sun themselves. They like hot, dry areas and will usually stay away from wet, irrigated areas. Eradicate their food sources such as gophers, ground squirrels, rats, mice, any small rodent. (We got a good tip from one of our feed store owners. Juicy Fruit gum

(Continued on page 24)

**Are you NOT getting the
RMLA news?
Get on the e-mail List!
Contact Bob or Barb
Hancelama@att.net**

(Continued from page 23)

kills rodents. They eat it because it is very sweet but they can't digest it so they die.) For three days while Feather was in the hospital, Bob, D.J. and I along with Judy and Stan Wolff-Mills covered our 35 acres, stuffing sticks of Juicy Fruit in holes and covering them up. The rodents can dig out, but the snakes can't, so hopefully we have buried a few of them. Be very careful when doing this. As D.J. placed gum in a hole, a rattlesnake slithered out. He and Bob were ready with their 22 gauge pistols and that snake is no longer a problem. A 22 magnum pistol with bird shot is a very effective deterrent.

7. Guinea Fowl can help with rattlesnakes. They are very noisy and can actually kill a rattler. They will also warn you as to where one may be so you can get out and deal with it. Needless to say, Judy and I have ordered 24 of them and they will be on the job all summer.

8. Bull snakes deter rattlers, so if you have bull

snakes, keep them very happy so they will stay on your property.

It's going to be a long, hot summer and I hope our experience will help someone else in this situation. There are many things that I am grateful for as I sit here and watch Feather as Picabo nurses. That my wonderful husband was home to help me; that my friend Judy was here working with her llamas but was ready to jump in and help; that the Vet Hospital was so close and so full of considerate and competent staff that knew exactly what to do; that I had listened to Dr. Johnson's advice about vaccinations and to Dr. Tan about the antivenin; and especially for all the prayers and good wishes expressed from the RMLA membership when they heard the news. All of this contributed to Feather's speedy recovery and to my peace of mind about continuing to live on the prairie.

A huge thank you to all!!

(and get rid of those rattlers!!)

*

RMLA ELECTION TIME 2002

This is the moment you have been waiting for.....an opportunity to serve on the RMLA Board of Directors for 2002-2003. Positions open for nominations are, President, President-elect, Vice President and Treasurer. This fall's elections have presented us with a different look to the ballot.

Due to an unexpected resignation, which created a vacancy in the President-elect position, nominations and voting will be for both the President's position and President-elect along with the regular term positions.

Following are the duties and responsibilities for the officers serving on the Board of Directors.

President: The position of President is a one year term. The President serves as Chief Executive and chairman of the Executive Committee. The President will preside over meetings of the Board and have general supervision of the affairs of the RMLA that support the goals and policies of RMLA.

President-Elect: The position of President-elect is for one year serving as an intern for the office of President. The position offers opportunities to chair committees and support the overall function of RMLA and the executive committee.

Vice President: The position of Vice President is for one year and supports the goals and policies of RMLA and the activities therein. The Vice President will also serve as the RMLA Events Chair.

Treasurer: The office of Treasurer is a two year term supporting the policies and goals of RMLA and manages the fiscal activities of RMLA. The Treasurer must have an understanding of non-profit 501(C)5 policies and a strong background in accounting. The Treasurer works hand in hand with several committees that contribute to the education of the membership.

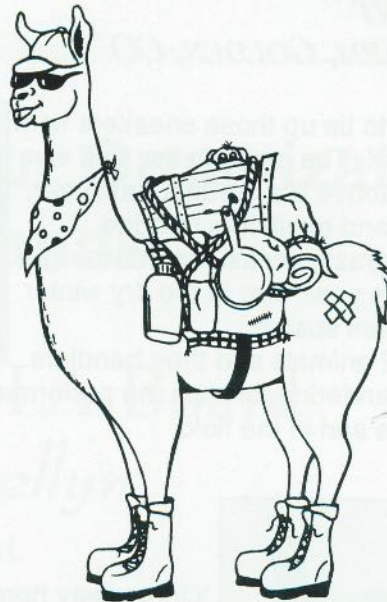
If you are interested in running for an office, or know of someone who would be a great candidate, please send your nominations to Mary Beth Hartsough, 303-776-4933 or Llamarage@msn.com before September 1.

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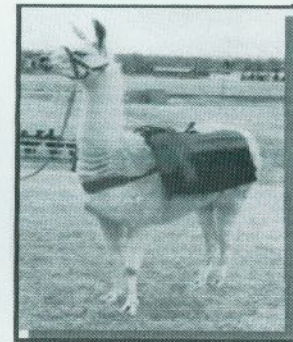
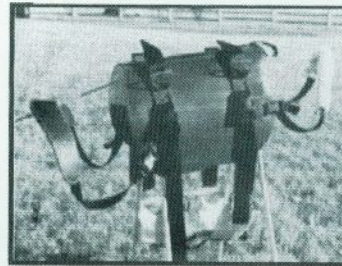
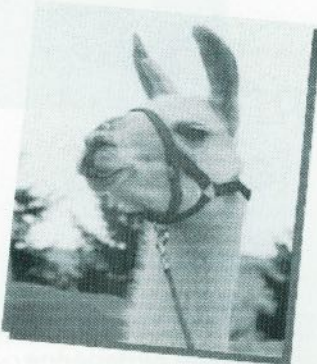
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SPRING SNEAKERS IN THE FIELD
BY JERRY DUNN, RMLA VICE-PRESIDENT
SUPERINTENDENT
BEAR TRACK FARM, GOLDEN, CO

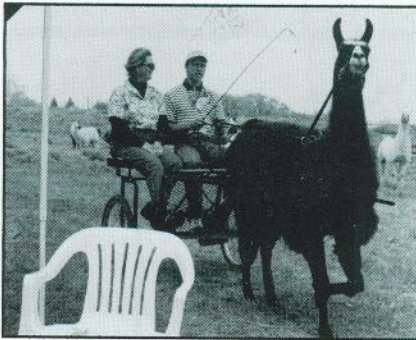
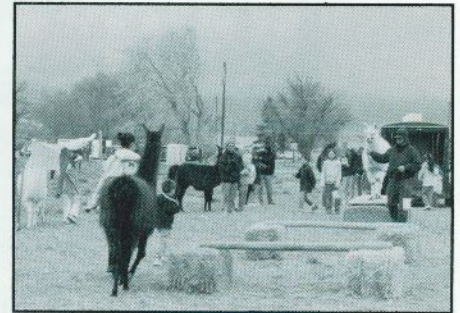
THE JELLY BEAN CLASSIC
BY JERRY DUNN, RMLA VICE-PRESIDENT
SUPERINTENDENT
BEAR TRACK FARM, GOLDEN, CO

No need to tie up those sneakers tight this year! The grass in the field was barely above the ground. Last year, judges and exhibitors trodded through knee high grass, occasionally loosing a sneaker or two. This year, due to the dry winter and spring, grass was sparse.

A total of 32 animals and their handlers had a great time wandering through the performance courses in the trees and in the field.



Cold!
But,
what
FUN!

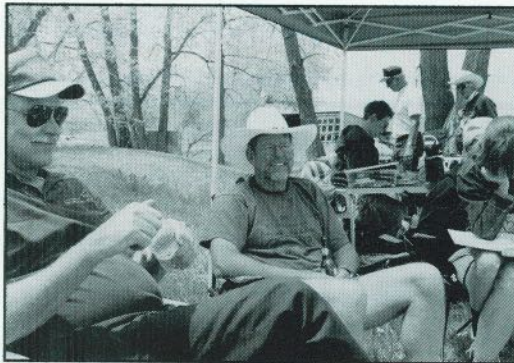


"On my way home"
Judge Lougene Baird, BATU, and Lloyd Wamsley

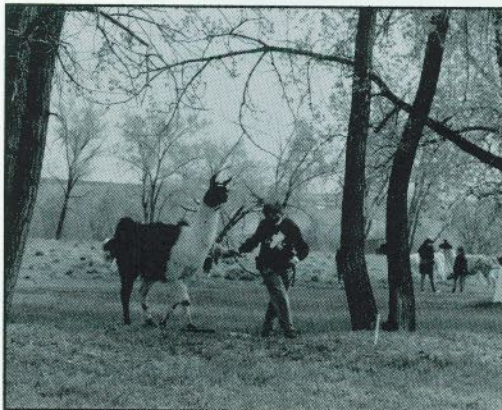


Some of the participants — still able to stand after all the jelly beans they ate! Report: they tasted better than ribbons!

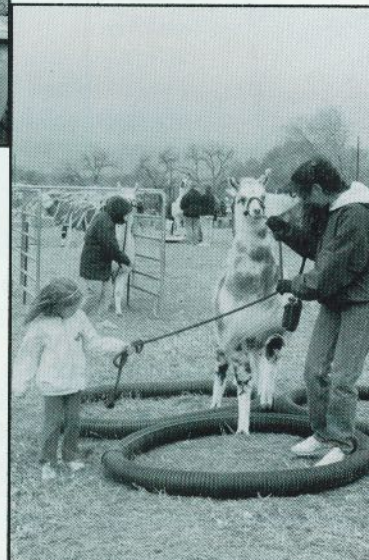
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LLAMAS, ALPACAS AND ART

BY: MARTA MOORE,

ALLEY WINDS, LLC LA VETA, COLORADO

It might be hard for some to put animals and art together in our minds - but it's being done in La Veta this August. Our animals are the source of inspiration for a variety of art works. Their delightful presence, grand stature, graceful lines makes the photographer grab his camera for some pastoral shots against Colorado's mountain backdrop. Or the metal artist to work out the line in metal. The variety of colors and fleece patterns sends the artist to the color pallet, and the cartoon artist to his pencil box for a set of sketches. And then we have the fiber artists - and art it is. Weavings and tapestries - in natural and dyed colors. Knitted garments in patterns and color combinations that surprise and delight the eyes and with a touch that sends you back for more. Felted pieces - hats and wall hangings - How do they get those felt leaves into the hat brim?

This year for the second time the Spanish Peaks Art Council of Huerfano County will host the Alpaca and Llama Arts Festival during August and September. The art show itself runs from August 20 through September 21 at the SPACe Gallery on Ryus Street in La Veta, Colorado on Tuesday - Saturday 10-2. The special Artists' Opening

Reception held on Saturday, August 24th, 1-4PM is an outdoor and indoor event - and fun for the whole family. The art works will be on display in the Gallery (with many available for purchase) AND you'll be able to step out the front door and into the Festival in the park.

Our gentle animals will be in the "Hands-On" Arena for the kids to touch and maybe even feed. We'll have an Obstacle Course set-up for the kids to demonstrate animals skills and their own, and a packing demonstration will remind folks of what a great companions the llamas make on a long day's hike. Fiber will be everywhere - we'll have raw fleece to feel - llama and alpaca - and rovings. We'll do skirting, carding and spinning demonstrations. Our animals and their unique beauty will shine on this (as on every other) day in the park.

Join us for a lovely experience - and a side of these animals we don't always think about - ART. That's August 20 - September 21, 2002 SPACe Gallery, Ryus Street, La Veta, CO Tuesday - Saturday 10-2PM Artist's Opening Reception and Festival Saturday August 24th 1-4 at the Gallery and in the Park.

For details: call Judy Sims-Barlow 719-742-6014
or email at wjbarlowspks@webcoast2coast.net

*



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*WHERE THERE'S SMOKE, THERE'S AN
RMLA MEMBER VOLUNTEERING*
BY: JERRY DUNN, RMLA VICE PRESIDENT,
BEAR TRACK FARM, GOLDEN, CO



The summer of 2002 has presented the Rocky Mountain region with weeks of energy sapping heat and smoke from grassland and forest

fires. RMLA members have hooked up their trailers and driven out and help their neighbors and friends move precious animals and belongings away from threatening fires. Some members offered a safe haven for animals, some offered feed during this tough time or their shoveling skills at fairgrounds where animals were temporarily housed.

RMLA vets assisted at holding areas for animals, making sure all were healthy.

Hances maintained a list of the volunteers and kept the news line cookin' with helpful information and guidelines for evacuations.

A special salute goes out to all of you who stepped up to help.

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SUMMER FIBER CLINIC: Saturday, August 17, Stargazer Alpacas, Loveland, Colorado 9-3 p.m. Call Cynthia Fronk at 970-635-2322 for additional information.

BEGINNING SPINNING: Saturday, August 24, Double K Diamond Llamas, 10-4 p.m. Call Karen at 970-568-3747 to register. Class fee is \$45 per person, includes lunch and beverages.

BEGINNING RIGID HEDDLE WEAVING: Saturday, August 31, Lonesome Stone Gift Shop, Fraser, Colorado 9-4 p.m. Contact Linda Dewey at 970-726-8554 for additional information.

SPINNING SOFTLY: Saturday, September 21, Double K Diamond Llamas, 10-4 pm. Call Karen at 970-568-3747 to register. Class fee is \$45 per person, includes lunch and beverages. Materials fee \$15.

FELT FOR FEET: Sunday, October 6, Stargazer Alpacas, Loveland, Colorado 9-4 p.m. Call Cynthia Fronk at 970-635-2322 for additional information.

DYEING LLAMA AND ALPACA: Saturday, October 12, Lonesome Stone Gift Shop, Fraser, Colorado, 9-4 p.m. Call Linda Dewey at 970-726-8554 for additional information.

BEGINNING KNITTING: Saturday, October 19, Double K Diamond Llamas, 10-4 p.m. Call Karen at 970-568-3747 to register. Class fee is \$45 per person, includes lunch and beverages.

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WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO WIN IN THE SHOW RING?

*DONLEY GARDNER,
DIAMOND OAKS LLAMAS,
DAINGERFIELD., TX*

Winning in the show ring is what most of us who show strive for. What does it take to win? The most obvious answer is having good llamas. By good, I mean conformationally correct. That is only the start, however, because other people also have good llamas and therefore, you need an edge. Winning is a result of a combination of things. Besides a conformationally correct llama, the presentation is equally important.

If you remember that there is no perfect llama, then you have to learn to show each llama so as to minimize its faults and accentuate its positive attributes. Your presentation to the judge is all-important and can make the difference in winning a blue ribbon or no ribbon at all. Unfortunately, it is not always the best llama that wins; rather it may be the llama that was best shown.

The best combination, having good llamas and showing them correctly, should be the goal of any breeder who uses the show ring to market their breeding program. Whether you enter the ring with a llama you have bought from another breeder or one that you have bred yourself is immaterial because either one represents your breeding program. I will say, however, that there are few thrills greater than getting that first blue ribbon with a llama that you have bred.

Getting to that blue ribbon starts with planning. Decide what direction you want for your llama program and set goals in writing. Once you have your goals, develop a plan as to how to achieve them. I am a strong believer developing a mentor relationship – it is what we did and we feel it kept us from making a lot of expensive mistakes.

The llama world is full of knowledgeable people who are eager to share their experience and knowledge. Take advantage of these folks' willingness to share and you can avoid a lot of costly errors.

Selecting a mentor is relatively simple. Find someone who has achieved what you want to achieve and ask them for help. Then spend time with them at their farm observing what they do and how and why they do it. We were fortunate to have had one of the leading llama breeders in the country take us under his wing. It did not matter that we had to drive 1600 miles to spend time with him. We did it every year because we had our eye on the prize and were willing to do whatever it took to get it. I would caution you that when selecting a mentor, look closely at their record. After all, if you wanted to learn to fly, you would get someone who just landed a plane safely, not someone who just crashed one, to teach you.

Once you have your breeding program going in the right direction and you have the good llamas to take to the show ring, then you need to polish your skills in showing them. Developing skills comes with experience and direction. Personal training from experienced handlers is excellent. There is valuable available from attending the ALSA Show Clinic. Read the ALSA Handbook and learn the rules. Going into the show ring relaxed and prepared to have fun is also important. All of these steps are part of the preparation for having a winning program.

It is also important to remember that winning is not going to happen overnight – it takes time. Some of the success we are achieving is a result of planning that took place five years ago. The important thing is that we had a plan, we stuck to it (although we adapted as situations changed) and we did not allow setbacks to discourage us.

Finally, we enjoy our llamas and can not really imagine our life without them. We have never regretted our decision to do it right. Once you realize that you can have flashy, pretty llamas that are also correct conformationally, you will be on the right path for the winning formula.

★

Do you Know?

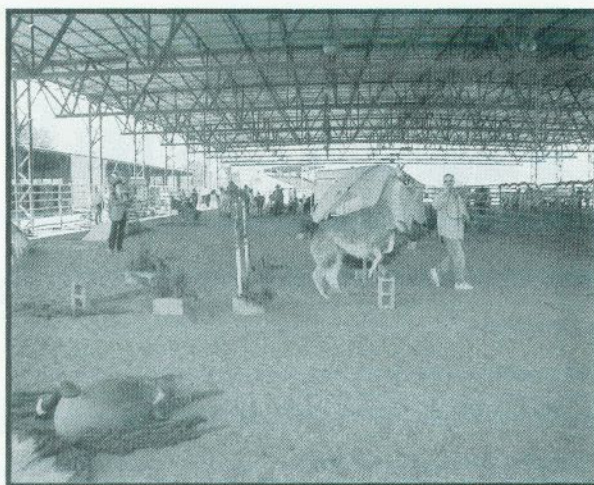
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**1ST ANNUAL GRAND MESA AND
KOKOPELLI LLAMA SHOW**
BY: JILL KNUCKLES, RMLA SECRETARY
TALL TAIL RANCH, GRAND JUNCTION, CO
& LARRY LEWELLYN, FOOTHILLS LLAMAS,
SEDALIA, CO, SUPERINTENDENTS

This grand event was held in Grand Junction, Colorado on April 27 and 28, 2002, at the Mesa County Fairgrounds. These were two separate ALSA sanctioned shows with the halter and



performance classes held in a large covered arena with plenty of room to make it "Bigger and Better".... Yes, it will grow. Our Halter and Performance judges were Sandi Wilson from California and Basil-Marshall Inman from Canada and our own Karen Kinyon judged fiber (Handspinners Choice and Fleece).

This idea was placed in our heads (Jill Knuckles and Larry Lewellyn) back in January 2002 at the NWSS. I won't mention any names of the people but one lives in Divide (Kim) and Grand Lake, Colorado (Spike). :) This was quite the challenge for us both and was a bit insane at

(Continued on page 32)



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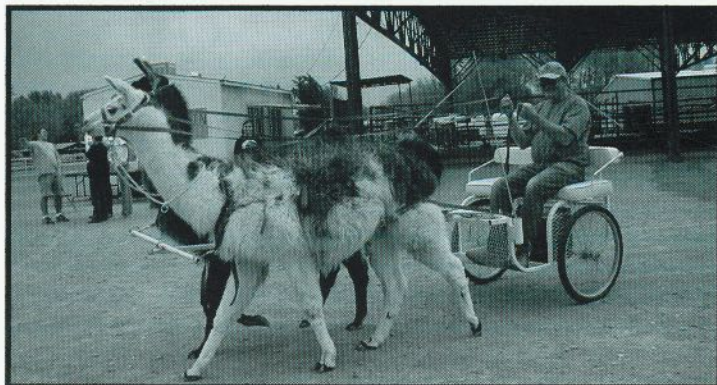
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Eco-partners and Interns – Hannah-Leigh Bull of Llama Deara Ranch, in Abiquiu, New Mexico, seeks an eco-partner to create a sustainable living environment and develop a center focusing on ecotourism, interspecies communication and animal-assisted therapy, multiculturalism, and earth restoration.

Eco-partnership in Llama Deara Ranch entails joint rights and responsibilities, financial and otherwise, for the property and center. A beautiful two-room adobe apartment on the property is available to the potential eco-partner for rent or as part of the terms of the partnership.

Hannah-Leigh also seeks interns or students interested in llama husbandry and environmentally sound building and crop-production practices. Accommodations and compensation are negotiable.

For more information and the Llama Deara Ranch project statement or brochure, call 505-685-9416, fax 505-685-4197, or send email to hlbull@cybermesa.com.



times. Even with the distance between Jill and I, in three months it all came together.

We could not have put on the shows with out the outstanding help of our volunteers, the incredible financial support of our sponsors from all over the country, great judges and wonderful exhibitors..... Not to mention our very supportive spouses. We both "Thank You" all very much.

This weekend show was filled not only with llamas exhibiting in both halter and performances classes, we also

Up to 18 open female llamas available for sale. Looking for situation where they can stay as a group on open range. Prices/terms negotiable, located in Ft. Collins, CO. area. Serious inquiries to 970.484.1306

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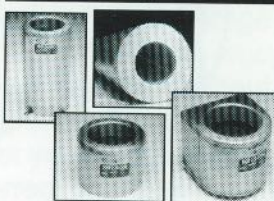
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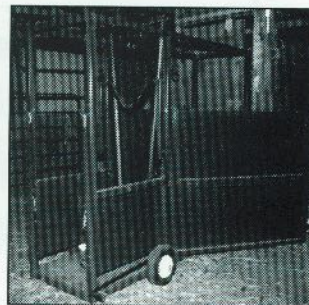
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enjoy a Saturday night BBQ, vendors displaying jewelry, lawn ornaments, wool mill, Avon products and great food.

Saturday was a bit cold for the exhibitors but the llamas loved it and Sunday was a perfect day. These were fun filled shows with fun and challenging performance courses. Speaking of the performance, I have worked with this crew at Regionals and Estes and they are the best around. There were a lot of smiles and good times by all, especially from the sub-juniors for the Grands and Reserves.

I need to brag a little here. The logo was designed by Rob Knuckles and it is the best I have ever seen. Yes, we will order more shirts next year.

The shows were so good that Jill and I have booked the fairgrounds for April 26 and 27, 2003. So start making your plans now. Please contact us if you would like to assist in these shows for 2003.

*



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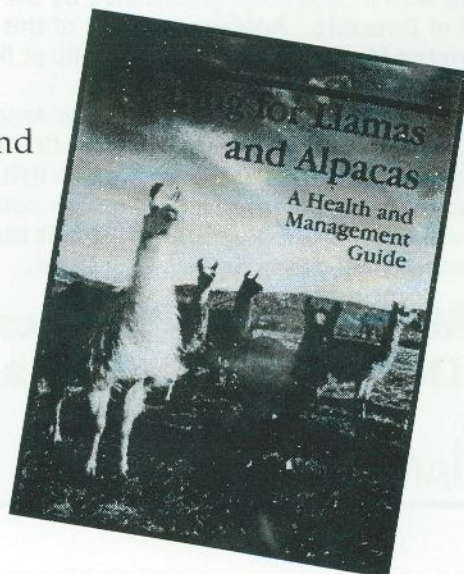
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For Sale – Patrick Green Paula's Rover Carding Machine. Able to do coarse to fine fibers into roving. Have this as an extra in my shop and don't need it, so would like to move it out for more room. If interested,

please call 970.669.6106. It is 7 drums, machine is 4 feet long, 2 feet wide and 1 ½ feet high, weighs about 300#. ½ HP motor, wired 110 volts with a switch at each end.
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Like Appys? – Kids are all leaving for college. Selling our favorite 2 females (Tabernash and King Solomon daughters). Also have a newborn and yearling appy for sale plus a flashy brown yearling female with white boots and bandana. Starting \$600. Call Dusty Britches Ranch 303.660.1827.



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Journal of the RMLA—Advertising Information—effective August 2001

- **All art must be camera-ready.** Ad design cost is \$30 per hour, 1 hour minimum. Contact Marilyn Arnold at 303.841.5126 for more information.
- Color photographs are preferred. Electronic images should be on disk.
- This publication is printed in black and white. Line screen is 115 lines per inch.
- Each May, a promotional issue is published. The outside covers and centerfold advertisement are printed with a base color determined by the RMLA Board of Directors. Additional copies of this edition are printed for distribution to the public at llama and alpaca events.
- Mail all advertising materials to Marilyn Arnold, 11483 E. Ponderosa Lane, Franktown, CO 80116-9319. Include check payable to RMLA for the amount of the ad plus estimated design costs for art that is not camera-ready. **Full payment must accompany all advertising submitted.**

**Advertising Deadlines:
 October 1, January 2,
 April 1, July 1**

Advertising Rates

All rates per issue	RMLA Member	RMLA Member	Non-Member	Non-Member
Ad sizes	1—2 issues	Same ad 3 or more issues	1—2 issues	Same ad 3 or more issues
Business card	\$12	\$12	\$18	\$18
1/4 page	\$24	\$21.60	\$36	\$32.40
1/2 page	\$48	\$43.20	\$72	\$64.80
2/3 page	\$66	\$59.40	\$99	\$89.10
Back cover	\$60	\$53.80	\$90	\$81
Full page	\$78	\$70.20	\$117	\$105.30
Inside cover Front or back	\$96	\$86.40	\$144	\$129.60
Promotional Issue Rates: Same color as Journal cover				
Full page per page (centerfold)	\$162	Different color add \$85	\$243	Different color add \$85
Back cover	\$130		\$207	

Classified Ad rates:
 Members \$5 for up to 50 words per ad.
 Non-members \$10 for up to 50 words per ad.
 Additional words at \$0.15 for each word over 50.

Trout Creek Llamas

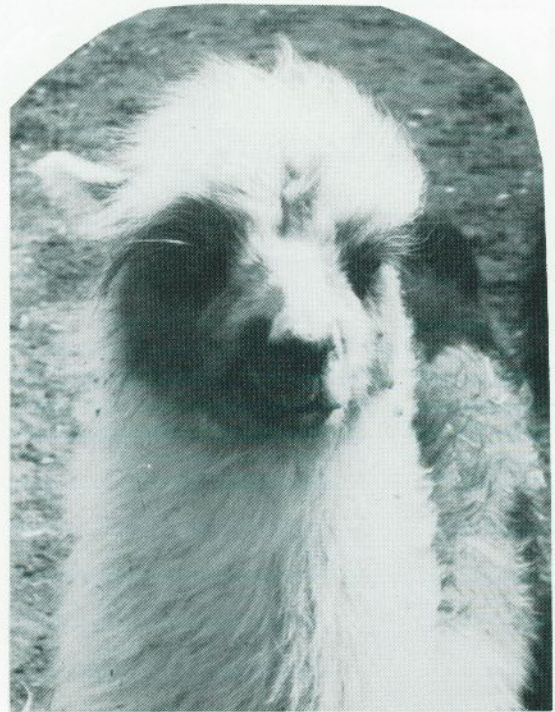
BOLIVIAN, CHILEAN, CANADIAN
AND DOMESTIC BLOODLINES

YOUR TYPE OF ANIMAL –
FROM PET TO SHOW QUALITY

GUARD ANIMALS

MANAGEABLE AND GENTLE
DISPOSITIONS

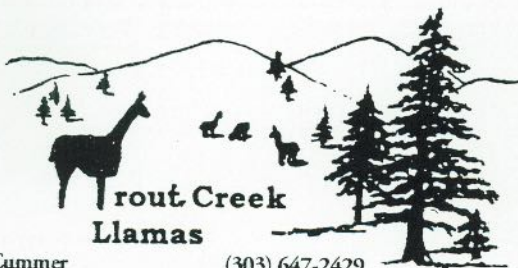
CORRECT CONFORMATIONS
VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME!



AM I CUTE OR WHAT?

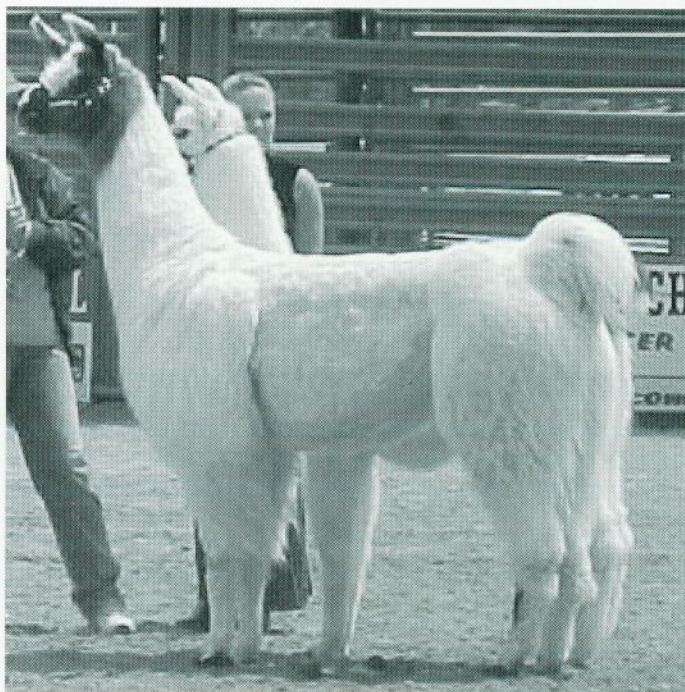
BOARDING
IN THE
COOL ROCKIES

COMFORTABLE
ACCOMODATIONS
FOR YOUR
MALES AND FEMALES



Trout Creek
Llamas
Jan Cummer (303) 647-2429
P.O. Box 6848 • Woodland Park • CO 80866
rjcummer@interfold.com

Plum Valley Llamas



Estes Park Wool Market 2002
Produce of Dam Champion — Stirlings' Shaylyn
Daughters: Shay Blanc and Shay Skye

Lougene and Ron Baird
Sedalia, Colorado

RMLA
11818 W. 52nd Avenue
Wheat Ridge, Colorado
80033.2032

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