

# *The Journal*

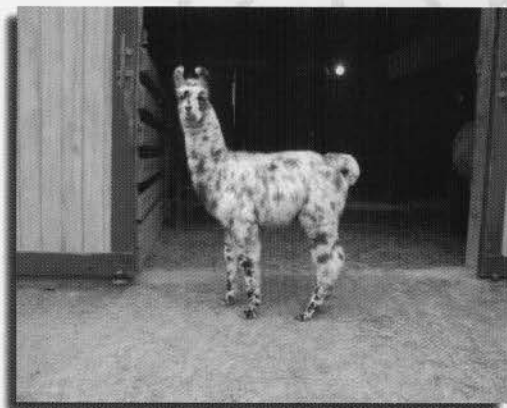
*Spring 2006*



*Conformation, Personality, and  
Fiber.  
Momento's got it all!*



*Now you  
can,  
too.*



*Oh, Appy Day  
Contact Dan Goodyear  
at baldan@aol.com*

*Teri and Phil Baird  
Broken Windmill Ranch  
Elizabeth, Colorado  
303-646-4373*



*BAL Manner  
Contact Dan Goodyear  
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*We will be offering a limited number of outside breedings to this very special male.  
Call for details!!*

# *The Journal*

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*Spring 2006*

**On the Cover:**

Llamas and Alpacas can quickly learn to live together and need not be separated on a farm or ranch.

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## Journal

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# RMLA



## Rocky Mountain Llama and Alpaca Association

**JOIN TODAY!! It's not too late for 2006!!**  
**Membership runs from April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007**

RENEW your membership or join RMLA now! See what membership offers you on the following page (over). Also consider joining as a **LIFE MEMBER** or making a donation to the **RMLA Foundation** for Youth Scholarships.

- \* \* \* \* \*
- Junior Membership:** \$10.00 per year (must be 18 years or under and have adult RMLA member sponsor). Youth membership is non-voting but are eligible for scholarships and grants from the RMLA Foundation.
- Youth Membership:** \$10.00 per year (must have previously been a Junior member and/or have continued their education beyond High School. Must have an adult RMLA member sponsor).
- Annual Membership:** \$40.00 per year, up to 2 people per membership.
- Life Membership:** \$500.00 one time only! Same as Annual plus: Special Directory recognition; one time free 1/4 page Journal ad and other benefits. See RMLA web site for more details.  
**May be paid in 4 equal quarterly installments of \$125.00 each.**

*If you prefer, you may join or renew on the web site at [www.rmla.com](http://www.rmla.com) (Click on Membership)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (2nd name or jr. sponsor): \_\_\_\_\_

Ranch: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Page/Site: \_\_\_\_\_

Life: \$500.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Annual: \$40.00 \_\_\_\_\_


Junior: \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Youth: \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Donation \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

We only accept:

**VISA** 

Visa / MC Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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				<p>Number of Alpacas owned:</p> <p>____ Females ____ Intact Males ____ Geldings</p>

If paying by check, please mail this form along with your check payable to RMLA to:  
 RMLA, c/o Robert and Barbara Hance  
 11818 W. 52 Avenue  
 Wheat Ridge, CO 80033-2032

# PRICELESS!

By Cheryl Juntilla

## Benefits of belonging to the RMLA.....

Belonging to an association that provides the event insurance which makes it possible to participate in llama shows, pack trials and other events - **\$40 per year.**

Receiving e-mail announcements about upcoming events as well as alerts about health issues and other useful information - **\$40 per year.**



Having free access to a large and varied collection of llama related books, videos and publications - **\$40 per year.**



Having the opportunity to attend conferences, socialize with and learn from people like Eileen Sullivan, Robert Callan, Murray Fowler, Chris Switzer, Shirley Weathers, Bill Walsh, Bobra Goldsmith, Jerry Dunn, Sharon Beacham, Charlie Hackbarth, Karen Kinyon and Stan Ebel (to name just a few) - **\$250 to \$350 per year.**



Being able to advertise animals, goods and services for sale at a reasonable cost in the Service Directory and the Journal - **\$40 per year.**



Receiving a quarterly magazine with interesting articles on a wide variety of topics relating to llamas and information about llama events in the Rocky Mountain region on a regular and timely basis - yeah, that would be worth **\$40 per year.**



Being able to sell fiber products at the Fiber Coop Booth without having to spend any money to advertise or purchase my own display equipment - **\$40 per year**



Belonging to an association which exists for the purposes of networking with other llama owners, sharing information, learning from each other and having fun instead of just competing against each other or trying to sell animals - - - - **PRICELESS!**



# President's Message

With spring in full bloom and the rain and snow still coming down it gives us time inside to prepare for the season ahead. We also have time to think about what we can do for RMLA. With the membership drive winding down, new committees will be formed with those of you who have volunteered. Also, we are starting up a new Rescue Committee to address rescue issues and we are starting up the Marketing Committee again due to the increase of interest by our membership. So, as you can see, it is never too late to volunteer.

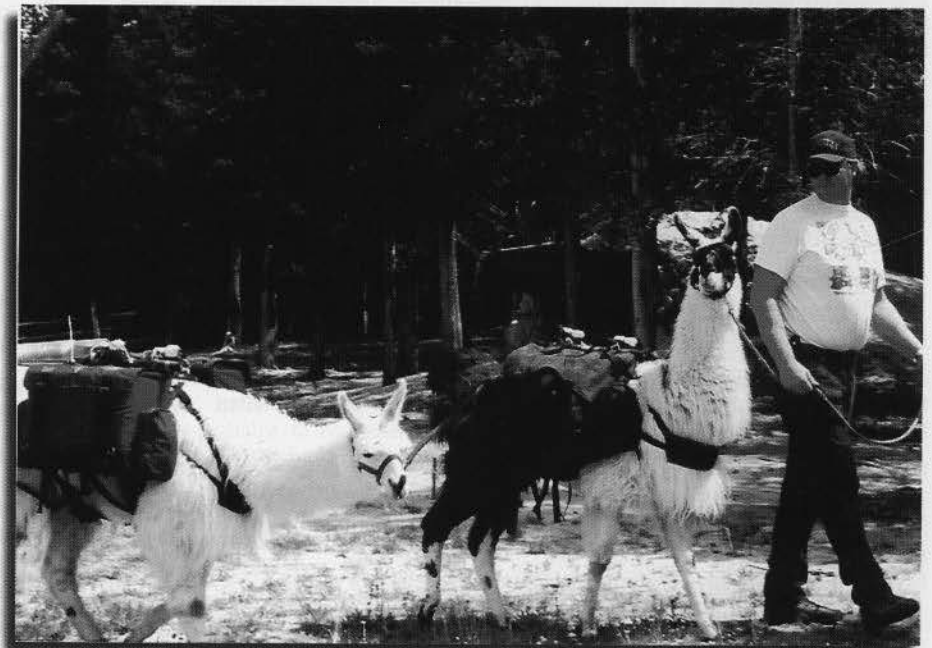
I would like to welcome these new Adult Members to RMLA: Judy Braham, Carrie Gardner, Leslie R. Carlson, Ted Christman, Becky Dakin, Clar Gross, Eugene Gross, Amy Hatch, Sarah Hoover, Alex Hoover, Joanne Kohnen, Marianne Landers, Linda Little, Dale Matsuda, Gretchen Matsuda, Charlee Myers, Susa Myers, John Myers, Nancy John, Brad Newman, Judy B. LaLonde, Dr. John Onufrak, Mary Ann Onufrak, John Pippin-Mandley, Shannon Pippin-Mandley, Sharilyn Ramsey, Do Ramséy, Linda Rogers, Li Rogers, Michael C. Schmutz, Beverly E. Schmutz, Bill Schwan, Lorrie Andrews, Glenn Stanko, Kathy Stanko, Sage Thomas, Jerry White, and Cathleen White.

I would also like to welcome these new Youth Members to RMLA: Emy DiNatalé, Neve Douglas, Ben Kohnen, Mariko Matsuda, Midori Matsuda, Isaiah Nolan-Hewitt, and Stephanie Steele.

Thank you for joining RMLA and I look forward to meeting all of you at one of our meetings or events in the very near future. Please remember if you have any questions, concerns or input please feel free to call or email any board member. We look forward to hearing from you.

With all the work ahead of us just remember why we have llamas and alpacas and take the time to enjoy what these animals have to offer us.

Paul Schwartz



## Minutes of RMLA Board of Directors Conference Call December 14, 2005

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Schwartz at 7:02 pm. All members of the Board participated in the call.

Motion (Cheryl Juntilla): To use money from the Marketing bank account to reimburse Paul Schwartz for sending the money for RMLA's sponsorship toward the National Fleece Trophy at the ALSA Grand National. Motion passed unanimously.

The Treasurer's report was read. Discussion followed about future bills to be paid and how the money would be moved. Lougene Baird has submitted her resignation as paid bookkeeper to Paul Schwartz effective January 15, 2006.

### Committee Reports

#### Bookstore

Bob Hance will assume liaison responsibility for this committee.

#### Calendar

One hundred eight calendars have been sold to date. RMLA needs to sell 150 to break even on the project. Fifteen advertisements were sold for revenue of \$300. Patti Morgan is hoping to sell the remaining calendars at the National Western Stock Show in January 2006. She has received some nice comments on this years' calendar and would like for RMLA to be able to continue the project.

#### Continuing Education

There have been several volunteers to work with a committee on the next conference although none are interested in chairing the committee.

#### Events

Packets were sent in mid-November to all standing shows. To date, none have been returned.

#### Fiber

Patti Morgan, liaison, would like to keep the fiber booth going. However, she felt that the commission structure should be re-vamped to cost members 15% and non-members 30%. There would no longer be a discounted commission available to booth volunteers. No one has offered to manage the booth for the coming year, although several volunteers are willing to help at several different shows. Patti proposed the booth go to four shows in 2006: National Western Stock Show, Estes Park Wool Market, Taos Wool Festival, and the ALSA Grand National. The consignment package should be updated to reflect the new information and will be available via the RMLA website.

Motion (Larry Lewellyn): Accept the proposal by Patti Morgan for the fiber booth changes for the coming year. None opposed.

#### Youth

An outline of a proposal to create an RMLA Youth Award was submitted by Barb Harris. The Board will review when it is passed along to all members.

#### Membership

We have processed 49 New Memberships -14 of these are Youth Memberships. (Process= add info to the Data base, Add adult members to the Web, Print letters of welcome, gather one or more Journals, Service Directory, Membership Directory, a copy of the quad folded brochure, a note asking for their input into the Journal [articles and/or pix -why RMLA - Why lamas, etc.], package and mail)

12-14-05 we have 230 adult memberships, 42 life members, 29 youth members, 4 young adult members, and 11 honorary members. We have members in 23 States. We will soon start preparing mail for Membership renewals.(After mid-January)

On the Web we have either created new pages or added/changed info on 107 pages. These stats are since 1-1-05

Barb Hance, Membership Chair

#### Government Relations

Motion (Teri Nilson Baird) Disband the Government Relations Committee. Discussion followed and the motion was tabled.

#### Pack

Jerry Dunn was invited to become chair by Paul Schwartz with the resignation of Wes Mauz. No response has yet been received.

#### Research

Ron Baird did not receive any proposals from the LMRG this year.

#### Journal

The Journal is going to press in December. Shari Quackenbush has taken over as editor.

Motion (Cheryl Juntilla) Accept the bid from a local printer based on 450 copies at \$1800, including mailing. None opposed.

#### Old Business

Discussion on various cost estimates received informally from several auditors and potential scope of work. Discussed a potential Code of Conduct for Officers and Committee Chairs. A short meeting will be held in January at NWSS.

#### New Business

Discussion of policy and procedures which may be updated to include mileage rates reimbursed.

The Board adjourned to executive session and returned.

There was no other new business.

Motion to adjourn was made by Cheryl Juntilla. The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 pm.

*Respectfully Submitted, Teri Nilson Baird, Secretary*



## Minutes of RMLA Board of Directors Meeting January 14, 2006

Meeting was called to order by President Paul Schwartz at 2:00 pm.

The minutes of the December conference call were read. MOTION: Accept the minutes as read. (Patti Morgan). None opposed, Larry Lewellyn abstained.

The Treasurer's report from December was read as follows:

RMLA BALANCES For 2005	1/1/05	12/12/05
General Operating	\$4,400.14	\$1,172.49
Liquid Asset	\$63,075.60	\$59,615.04
Life Member Escrow	\$7,418.90	\$8,597.51
Marketing Research Savings	\$3,680.65	\$4,078.18
Medical Research Savings	\$6,068.37	\$6,518.23
Special Production CFL&A	\$20,058.25	\$20,260.20
Total Bank Balances	\$104,701.91	
	\$100,241.65	

Excess Bookstore monies have not been transferred yet for 2005.

Received some bills today from Lougene and Sharon Herbold.

One large bill for calendar printing of \$1738.

Will be transferring money from Liquid Asset Account to General Operating Account to cover these outstanding bills.

Motion (Cheryl Juntilla) That the Treasurer's report be accepted as the current totals to date pending completion of the audit. In favor: Juntilla, Morgan, Baird Not voting: Lewellyn, Quackenbush Abstain: Hance

**Membership Report** (submitted by Barb Hance): Since December 1, 2005, Membership has received 3 New Youth Membership, 5 New Adult Memberships and 1 Membership Renewal has been received for the 2006-2007 year. All of these have come to us thru the Web page.

All of the New Memberships we receive from about November 1 are all given memberships thru the following year. We have 9 new memberships since the election ballots were sent.

**Treasury:** The treasurer's report was read as follows:

RMLA Balances	1/14/06	1/1/05
CFLA-Special Production	20,335.20	20,058.25
General Operations	3,110.98	2,368.79
Life Member Escrow	8,626.95	7,418.90
Liquid Asset	56,780.65	63,075.60
Marketing Research Savings	3,003.04	3,680.65
Medical Research Savings	6,585.73	6,068.37
TOTAL Bank Accounts	98,442.55	102,670.56

I have not yet rec'd a copy of the Year End Statement from the Bookstore



The November Balance was **\$15,715.39**. We determined that with income from December sales the Bookstore would be able to pay Jan's contract fee, the Royalties to both authors, the cost of the reprinting (\$13,523.12) and still have a large enough reserve Balance to start the new year.

The Royalties were paid on time and Jan's Check and the Printing Check are ready for mailing now.

Since the Bookstore account paid the bills due, there is a large balance in the "Production" account. Some of this should probably be Transferred into the Liquid Asset account, where it can earn interest??

Discussion followed. Some members of the Board would like to see an assets/liabilities report showing what bills were paid; Bob Hance will provide. A scope of work was received from Bruce Fosdick, CPA, to perform an audit of the 2005 Financial Statements and a Review of the 2004 Financial Statements to determine a baseline account balance. Several questions were raised and Paul will get clarification.

**MOTION:** That the Treasurer's report be accepted as the current totals to date pending completion of the audit. (Cheryl Juntilla). None opposed.

**Calendars:** Including sales at National Western, the calendar sales have netted \$200 profit. There are still some copies left.

**Bookstore:** The new edition of Caring for Llamas and Alpacas has arrived and is being inventoried.

#### **Old Business:**

**Virginia Christensen Classic:** The possibility of advertising in the show program will be referred to the Bookstore to determine their interest.

**Journal:** The latest issue is at the printer. There have been some problems requiring resolution before the issue could be printed. Shari Quackenbush would like to have an e-mail sent to the membership asking for ideas for themes of each issue.

#### **New Business:**

Bob Hance brought a proposal to the Board for Organizational Liability Insurance. The company offered a \$1,000,000 policy with three different deductible premiums.

**MOTION:** Accept the proposal with \$1000 deductible at a rate of \$908. (Patti Morgan) None opposed.

**MOTION:** To adjourn the meeting. (Patti Morgan) All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm.

**Respectfully Submitted: Teri Nilson Baird, Secretary RMLA**

**MOTION:** Sponsor the Virginia Christensen Classic Llama Show in Reno, Nevada by providing event insurance. (Baird) None opposed.

**Fiber:** The fiber coop booth sales made at the National Western Stock Show were \$1,302 and the consignors' commissions covered all expenses so the booth broke even at this event.

**4-H:** Larry reported on his progress in gathering material for an updated project book. We will probably need to re-print another group of old project books while the new one is being put together. Bob will talk with Jan Adamcyk.

**Youth:** A youth award is still under discussion.

**Government Relations:** The ID survey will be on-line until March 7, 2006.

**Pack:** Patti reported briefly regarding an e-mail from Tony Gross with information about hiking in the Maroon Bells.

**Library:** Sharon Herbold is working on an article to submit for the next issue of the Journal.

**Membership:** We have sent out 12 new member packets.

**Journal:** The latest issue should be in everyone's mailbox. Total cost was \$1,927.21 including postage and there was more than \$600 in advertising sold. 350 copies were printed, which worked out to about \$5.50 per copy. Committee and liaison page will be updated in the next issue. We will send Shari the minutes to be published.

**By-Laws:** The by-laws need to be revised again. Steve has distributed proposed revisions and all Board members should respond to him with their comments within 30 days. Paul will then run the proposed revisions by the attorney for her comments before presenting them to the membership for a vote. Timing should coincide with the annual election to save money.

**Research:** No report.

#### **Old Business:**

**Policy and Position updates:** Patti has revised the position duties for the Vice President. She read the new description to change the following: the Vice President should be selected annually, support the goals of the organization, and fill in for the President when unavailable. **MOTION:** Accept the changes (Juntilla). None opposed.

All description of duties for the officers should be filed with the President and Secretary and signed by both. The fiber booth description will be updated for the web page and we will print copies for the policy handbooks.

Cheryl Juntilla has proposed revisions to the financial procedures and would like to have comments submitted by mid-March. Teri suggested we hold off and solicit suggestions from the auditor on any revisions. No vote was taken.

Paul was able to join the meeting at 8:13 pm. Bob Hance stated he will pay the general liability insurance this coming week. No bids were solicited.

#### **New Business:**

**Llama Rescue:** RMLA has been invited to sit on a board, formed by Sheila Fugina of LANA, tasked with developing policies for llama rescue organizations. This is a temporary assignment to develop policy only. No vote was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm.

**As amended by Cheryl Juntilla**

## **Minutes of RMLA Board of Directors Teleconference March 8, 2006**

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Schwartz at 7:09 p.m. MST. Directors present were Paul Schwartz, Patti Morgan, Bob Hance, Larry Lewellyn, Steve Quackenbush and Cheryl Juntilla. Teri Baird was unable to participate because she had to work late and was excused. Cheryl Juntilla acted as recording secretary for the meeting.

The first order of business was to clean up the voting record on a number of pending motions. While working on proposed revisions to the Bylaws, Steve had learned of a provision in the Colorado Revised Nonprofit Corporation Act that requires all directors to vote on any matters raised during electronic communications, such as telephone conferences or e-mail. The existing practice has been to follow the provision of Roberts' Rules of

## **Minutes of RMLA Board of Directors Conference Call February 8, 2006:**

The conference call in lieu of meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Vice President Patti Morgan. Joining late, Paul Schwartz. All other board members were present.

**MOTION:** Approve minutes of the January meeting as amended (Juntilla). All in favor.

**Treasurer's Report:** Due to illness, Bob Hance did not read a report.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Bookstore:** We still have 60 copies of the last printing of Caring for Llamas and Alpacas. These issues will be sold first and the new edition priced after that time.

**Calendar:** There are still more than 40 calendars remaining. Later in February Patti would like to see us decrease the price in hopes of selling all that remain. We may be able to bring the price down for next year.

**Continuing Education:** There is still no Chairperson for the Continuing Education Committee. Another e-mail will be sent to the membership to solicit a volunteer for this position.

**Elections:** No report.

**Events:** Patti reported there are currently 17 events posted on the website and also reported on her communications with Linda Hinze regarding the Estes Park Wool Market show.

**MOTION:** Sponsor the Estes Park Wool Market for \$500, which will include the fiber booth registration fee of \$175. (Lewellyn) None opposed.

Order in both face-to-face meetings and electronic communications. Under that system, a motion could be passed with a simple majority voting in favor and the president voting only if needed to break a tie. It was agreed that we should not go back and vote again on sponsorships and approvals of events that have already taken place, but that from now on we will make sure our voting procedures conform with the Colorado statute.

The first motion addressed was to approve the cost of an audit. As noted in the January minutes, a proposal had been submitted by Bruce Fosdick, CPA, to perform an audit of the RMLA 2005 financial records and a review of the 2004 financial records. Mr. Fosdick had been found after an extensive search by Teri, Paul, Bob and Steve to find a CPA who was both qualified and willing to perform the audit at a reasonable price. After the Board meeting on January 6, 2006, Paul had contacted Mr. Fosdick to get clarification on a couple of questions about his proposals, then e-mailed the answers to other board members with a request for approval of the cost.

**MOTION:** That RMLA accept the proposals of Bruce Fosdick, CPA, to perform an audit of the 2005 financial records and a review of the 2004 financial records, with the total cost not to exceed \$5,250.00. Voting in favor: Paul, Patti, Cheryl, Bob, Steve, Teri Abstaining: Larry

Bob stated he will contact Mr. Fosdick directly about delivering general financial records to him. All of the financial records from the 2005 Conference account have already been delivered to Mr. Fosdick, as has a copy of proposed revisions to the General Financial Procedures for Committees, Events, Conferences, Projects. Paul will confirm that Mr. Fosdick has received copies of all RMLA policies and procedures.

There was a brief discussion about the proposed revisions to the Bylaws that were prepared by Steve with input from the Bylaw Committee. He has received comments from Cheryl and Larry, but not from other board members. Since he is leaving town on a family emergency, he will contact us when he gets back with a deadline for other board members to submit their comments.

There was an informal discussion about establishing a policy to require members to submit requests for reimbursement of expenses within a reasonable amount of time. Paul had discussed this with Linda Easton, CPA, who stated that anything beyond 90 days was not reasonable. It was suggested that it would be reasonable to require expenses be presented in the same fiscal quarter in which they are incurred.

The following pending motions were then passed with the voting clarified for the record:

**MOTION:** That the Board of Directors take no further action to attempt to collect the amount of \$20.00 owed by Julie Heggie for a business card advertisement in the 2006 RMLA Calendar for which she refuses to pay and that the amount be written off as a bad debt. Voting in favor: Cheryl, Larry, Patti, Steve, Paul Opposed: Teri Abstaining: Bob

**MOTION:** That the Board of Directors take no further action to attempt to collect the amount of \$51.40 owed by Julie Heggie for mailing labels for which she refuses to pay and that the amount be written off as a bad debt. Voting in favor: Cheryl, Larry, Patti, Steve, Paul Opposed: Teri Abstaining: Bob

**MOTION:** That the Board approve the Youth Committee's proposal to establish an annual award to be presented to an outstanding RMLA youth member, with the general criteria for the award to be published in the next issue of the RMLA Journal and details about the entry form and a plan on how judges will be selected to be submitted to the Board of Directors by March 3, 2006. Voting in favor: Cheryl, Larry, Patti, Paul, Steve, Teri and Bob Opposed: None

**MOTION:** That the Board approve a request from the Events Committee for the purchase of two more RMLA banners costing \$60.00 each, for a total cost of \$120.00. Voting in favor: Cheryl, Larry, Teri, Bob, Steve, Paul Opposed: None Abstaining: Patti

**MOTION:** That the Annual Treasurer's Report that had been prepared for the 2005 Annual Membership Meeting be accepted subject to audit, and that it be published in the Journal with the notation that it was accepted as the correct totals as of September 21, 2005, pending completion of the audit. Voting in favor: Cheryl, Larry, Patti, Steve, Paul Abstaining: Bob Not voting: Teri

In a related discussion it was agreed that the minutes from the 2005 Annual Membership Meeting should be published in the same issue of the Journal with a notation that they had not yet been approved and were being published to allow members an opportunity to review them and submit any corrections. Prior practice has been to not publish the minutes until they

have been voted on at the next annual meeting, but it was agreed it would be better to allow people to review them as soon as possible after a meeting while their memories were still fresh. It was also noted that prompt publication would better serve the purpose of keeping members informed.

A motion had been made by Teri that RMLA accept a seat on the National Intervention & Rescue Coordination Council. Discussion on that motion was postponed until the next meeting so that Teri will be able to participate. However, Paul will contact Sheila Fugina to let her know the Board is considering the matter and not just ignoring

the invitation to join this Council.

**Treasurer's Report** – Bob was unable to prepare a report in February because he was sick, but e-mailed the March report to all Board members prior to this meeting. The vote on whether to accept the report will be made after everyone has a chance to review it. Bob and Paul also reported that the current policy of requiring two signatures on all checks is proving to be impractical. There are logistical problems, especially with time-sensitive payments, and the bank will not enforce the requirement without charging additional fees. Paul had spoken with Linda Easton, CPA, about this situation and proposed an alternative to eliminate the need for two signatures. His proposal is that the Treasurer send all other board members a list of payments to be made and allow a limited time period for any objections to be made. A draft of this policy will be prepared as soon as possible.

**Treasury:** The treasurer's report was read as follows:

NET WORTH REPORT	3/8/2006
Cash and Bank Accounts	
CFLA Special Production	20,387.04
General Operations	1,266.37
Life Member Escro	8,648.23
Liquid Asset	54,122.98
Marketing Research Savings	3,009.13
Medical Research Savings	6,585.73
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	94,019.48
TOTAL ASSETS	94,019.48
LIABILITIES	0
OVERALL TOTAL	94,019.48
RMLA Bookstore	3,283.59

There was a brief discussion regarding the cost of events insurance. It appears that RMLA's cost per event is much lower than that being paid by SCLA. The current policy runs until February, 2007, so if anyone wants to shop around for a better deal, they should complete their investigation by December, 2006.

#### Committee Reports:

**Calendar Committee** – There are only about 29 calendars left. Patti received ten orders this week. She has found a flaw in one calendar and is saving an additional ten back in case there are more that she did not catch. The project has more than paid for itself and we did not lose any money.

**4-H Committee** – Larry reported that he has been in contact with both Connie Cecil and Maureen Bergenfeld and is expecting to receive a bunch of information. He needs to contact Mary Gross about material she developed on fiber projects and has spoken with Mary Beth Hartsough for stuff about showmanship and performance. The goal is to get the revised manual done this year and he has recruited a foolish, gullible and unsuspecting volunteer to do the typing.

**Youth Committee** – Larry reported that he had been in contact with Barb Harris regarding the procedure for selecting judges for the annual youth award. The proposal would be to pick a panel to serve for a three-year period and to make sure they are not related to any of the youth who enter. It was also noted that the judges should not be members of the Board of Directors. The Youth Committee will work out the exact details and be responsible for picking the judges.

**Membership Committee** – Bob reported that membership renewals were mailed out last week and are starting to come back already. Barb Hance sent an e-mail to about 284 former members to try to find out why they had not renewed. About 120 were returned as bad e-mail addresses, but she has received a few responses and will report their contents to the Board.

**Bookstore Committee** – Bob reported that there are just a few copies left of the prior printing of Caring for Llamas and Alpacas, so the RMLA website has been updated to show the new price.

Website Committee – It was noted that the conference information needs to be updated or deleted. Bob will investigate the feasibility of posting meeting minutes on the website.

Finance Committee – Current members are Bob and Barb Hance. The budget for this year needs to be drafted.

Education Committee – There is still no chairperson for this committee.

Library Committee – Sharon Herbold is going to submit an article for the Journal to remind people about the Library.

Publication Committee – We need to e-mail Shari whatever corrections need to be made to the Committee list that appears in each Journal. It was mentioned that Shari should be commended for the Journal website links which are very user-friendly and make it really easy for people to submit material.

Pack Committee – Patti stated that Jerry Dunn and Wes Mauz are discussing the idea of splitting the state of Colorado into sections for purposes of organizing pack activities. She will report further when she knows more about this.

Old Business – All old business had been covered at the beginning of meeting. Steve had to leave the meeting at 8:30 to catch a plane.

New Business – Larry suggested that a tape recorder be purchased for the purpose of recording meetings to ensure the accuracy of the minutes and that the secretary be required to provide the minutes to other board members within a reasonable amount of time. He made a motion that meeting minutes be drafted for review within three days of a meeting. Cheryl seconded the motion, which was tabled for discussion until the next meeting. Paul stated that Teri had indicated she was going to work on the minutes of the February 8, 2006, meeting this weekend.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. MST.

*Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Juntilla, acting Secretary*



## Minutes of RMLA Board of Directors Conference Call April 12, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by President Paul Schwartz. All board members were present.

Unfinished Business: Discussion of the offer by the IRC to hold a seat for an RMLA representative. The question was raised as to other members: are the other regional organizations participating? Sheila Fugina will be asked to submit an article for the membership.

MOTION: RMLA to accept a seat on this council. (Baird) Motion failed for lack of a second.

MOTION: Poll the membership and create a standing committee of interested volunteers to work with rescue issues. (Baird). All in favor. A call for volunteers will be e-mailed to the membership with the article from Sheila Fugina. Cheryl Juntilla will serve as liaison to a rescue committee.

MOTION: That the Profit and Loss Statement for 2005, the Profit and Loss Report for the General Operation Account from 1-1-06 to 3-8-06 and the Net Worth Report dated 3-8-2006 be accepted subject to the results of the audit, and that the 3-8-2006 Net Worth Report be attached to the minutes of the board teleconference of that date for publication with a note that the Profit and Loss reports are available for inspection by any RMLA member upon reasonable notice. (Juntilla). In favor: Quackenbush, Morgan, Schwartz, Lewellyn Abstain: Baird, Hance

MOTION: Publish dates of Board conference calls to the membership. (Lewellen). Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Print 300 copies of the 4H manual at a cost of \$1.74 each. (Hance) In favor: Schwartz, Quackenbush, Morgan, Juntilla, Baird, Hance. Lewellyn abstained.

MOTION: Approve February minutes as amended. (If this vote actually took place, then I meant to abstain because I've not yet seen the final version.) Motion passed, Schwartz abstained due to absence for large parts of the call.

Motion: Approve March minutes (Morgan). Motion carried, Baird and Quackenbush abstained due to absence.

### New Business:

**Elections:** The following dates were established for the next election:

June 15<sup>th</sup> call for candidates

July 15<sup>th</sup> candidate statements due

July 30<sup>th</sup> ballots mailed

August 15<sup>th</sup> ballots must be postmarked and received by August 22<sup>nd</sup> The new board will be announced at the annual meeting in September. No questions will be asked of the candidates due to membership complaints.

**By-Laws:** Revisions will be sent to the attorney to review for compliance with Colorado statutes. There were three volunteers to work on the committee: Wally and Marianne Baker and Teri Nilson Baird. The ballots for the revisions will be sent with the election ballots in July. Results will be announced at the annual meeting in September; Steve Quackenbush will procure a meeting room.

**Events:** There are 22 events on the calendar for the year, with a possibility of five more.

**Journal:** The journal is at the printer and should be mailed next week. Only RMLA-sponsored events should be listed in the Journal unless the sponsoring organization buys an ad. MOTION: Teri Nilson Baird should be replaced as liaison to the Publications Committee by Steve Quackenbush. (Lewellyn, seconded by Juntilla. Steve Quackenbush declined. No vote was taken on the motion because Larry Lewellyn left the call.

Discussion followed. Shari Quackenbush has asked to be able to print part of the Journal in color. The board asked for pricing per page for 1000 copies in order to make a decision.

**Calendar:** Patti Morgan is coordinating publication of the 2007 calendar. Photos should be sent to Patti.

Comments received from members for discussion on the call:

Will RMLA drop the event insurance? The board would like to reassure the membership we will retain the event insurance.

Concern was expressed by one member about having addresses and telephone numbers on the website. The board would like to reassure the members that no sensitive information such as credit card numbers or other information not in the public domain is stored on the website. If a member would like to have their information removed, they should notify Barb Hance, membership chair.

One member indicated an interest in RMLA re-establishing a marketing effort. The board would like to see this discussed at Camelid Community in August in the hope that other organizations would be willing to explore a marketing effort. Teri will research prior board minutes to determine the history of the marketing committee.

### Old Business:

**Bookstore:** The Bookstore has already ordered copies of the 4H manual.

**Audit:** The audit should start sometime after April 15<sup>th</sup>. The CPA has all organization records.

There was discussion of someone taking over as Secretary as several board members would like to see minutes produced within a few days of the meeting. No motion was made.

There being no further business which could be conducted, a motion was made to adjourn. (Juntilla)

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 pm.

*As amended by Cheryl Juntilla*



# RMLA Briefs

Information & Announcements from the RMLA Board & Committees....

## Elections & Nominations Committee

Contact: Teri Nilson Baird

### ELECTION TIME!!

It's that time of year again for the membership to elect representatives to the RMLA Board. Are you interested in being a candidate? If so, you must be a current member of RMLA and must submit your candidate application (postmarked) by July 15 2006. Contact Teri Nilson Baird at 303-646-4373 or [teri@brokenwindmill.com](mailto:teri@brokenwindmill.com) to submit your candidate application.

Look for your ballot, in August via postal mail. It's important that everyone express their opinion and vote for your representative(s). This year's ballot will also include proposed Bylaw changes. So please be sure to send in your vote!!!!

## Marketing Committee

Contact: Paul Schwartz

The Board is resurrecting the Marketing committee based on input and feedback from the membership. The Board heard that it's important that the RMLA focus on ways to help members market and promote their ranch and the llama / alpaca industry. Are you interested in helping? If so, please contact Shari Quackenbush at 303-688-6662 or [shari@bar-q-diamond.com](mailto:shari@bar-q-diamond.com).

## Bylaws Committee

Contact: Stephen Quackenbush

In the past six months, the Board and bylaws committee have been working on revisions to the RMLA Bylaws. These changes are based on input from the membership, changes in laws and other issues that needed addressing within the organization. We hope these proposed changes will make the RMLA organization stronger and work harder for the membership.

**Vote on these proposed changes in the upcoming ballot in August!!**

## Fiber Committee

Contact: Patti Morgan

**We need your help with the Fiber booth!!**  
The fiber booth will be at Estes Park Wool Market (June 15-17). Next show is Taos Wool Festival (October 6-8) and then ALSA Grand Nationals in November. Please submit your consignments and/or volunteer to man the booth. Please contact Patti Morgan at [pmmorgan@skyerock.net](mailto:pmmorgan@skyerock.net) for details or to help.

## Government Relations

Contact: Teri Nilson Baird

You will find in this issue a news brief on the Camelid Working group and the progress being made with Animal ID. If anyone has specific questions on Animal ID or other government animal related programs, please contact Teri Nilson Baird at 303-646-4373 or [teri@brokenwindmill.com](mailto:teri@brokenwindmill.com)

## Continuing Education Committee

Contact: Cheryl Juntilla

Members of the Education Committee will be taking turns manning the RMLA display at the Estes Park Wool Market on June 17 and 18, 2006. If you'd like to help out, please contact Cheryl Juntilla at [cajwdj@aol.com](mailto:cajwdj@aol.com) or (970) 640-8028.

## Calendar Committee

Contact: Patti Morgan

The 2007 RMLA Calendar is in the works! Please submit photos to Patti Morgan by July 31, 2006. Mail to PO Box 933, Buena Vista, CO 81211 or email [pmmorgan@skyerock.net](mailto:pmmorgan@skyerock.net).

Limited number of business card ads are available at \$20 / each. Please send cards with \$20 to above address. If desired, specify month you would like to see your ad in.

The 2007 calendars will be available at Rocky Mountain Regionals & ALSA Grand Nationals and through the internet and via postal orders.

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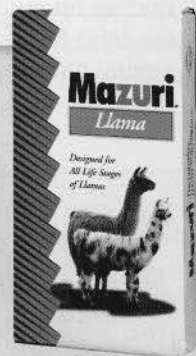


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# Why Rescue?

Susan Gawarecki ( Southeast Llama Rescue Board of Advisors )

L'illette Vasquez ( SELR/SWLR Volunteer Coordinator & RMLA Rescue Committee )

For whatever reasons, llama rescue has gotten a bad rap over the past few years. Even the owners, when faced with dispersing their herds, feel a sense of failure at having to turn their llamas over to a "rescue" group. But as a member of two extraordinary rescue organizations and a friend of our local group, I can honestly tell you that there's no stigma in rescue!

Did you know that almost 90% of our intakes come from folks that just can't keep them any more? These are conscientious breeders and owners who have had drastic life changes: death or divorce in the family, health problems, aging, moving, and recently, military deployment. Rather than risk putting their llamas on the market, they can release them to a rescue group for fostering and eventual re-homing. No shame in that! They love their llamas and want the best for them. And some of our rescue groups provide just that.

Additionally, although the majority of intakes are from owner difficulties and life changes, these groups have also taken in many animals that were abused or neglected. These animals would inevitably end up euthanized or further abused as they are passed around to unknowledgeable new owners often looking for a cheap or free "yard ornament" or livestock guardian. In cases of abuse, the rescue organizations work with local law enforcement and animal control authorities who can legally remove the llamas from difficult situations.

Another reason that llamas and alpacas are turned over to a rescue organization is due to behavior problems. You've heard, I'm sure, of the dreaded "Aberrant Behavior Syndrome (ABS)" or of "berserk llamas. In these rare cases, this results from the over-handling of young animals, especially males, which causes them to be disrespectful of humans. If normal boundaries are not established early in life, then males tend to become aggressive with people at the onset of sexual maturity. Females may become prone to spit on humans. Llamas and alpacas with true

aggression towards humans are given sanctuary at **SELR** and undergo training to diminish their unwanted behaviors. These animals are a small proportion of rescues and are not offered for adoption. Surprisingly to most people, **SELR** has a quite high rate of success with these animals. They may not ever be the sort of llama you'd want to turn your back on, but they *can* live long and productive, happy lives. They don't have to die.

## Legit Rescues: SELR / SWLR

Although there are many "real" rescues across the country, I'm going to focus on the ones I know best: **SELR** and **SWLR**.

I suspect a very real reason for the distrust of llama rescue in general is the inevitable rise of scam artists, even in our world. These folks are looking to make a buck, not to improve the well-being of the animals. And sometimes it's difficult to tell if an organization is truly legit. Not every group is "official" and sanctioned. But organizations like Southeast Llama Rescue (**SELR**), their new offspring Southwest Llamas Rescue (**SWLR**) are registered non-profits with board members, reports... the whole shebang!

Llama rescue organizations do not compete with reputable breeders. These organizations require that males are gelded and females are placed with a non-breeding contract. In some cases, an adoptive owner may only want a single animal as a guard for sheep or goats or a couple of non-breeders for packing or wool production. However, people with rescue animals often decide to begin breeding or showing after finding that they have fallen in love with llamas, at which point they can be referred to reputable farms providing registered breeding stock. Llama and alpaca breeders know that someone with a rescue llama from the organizations is already pre-screened and mentored, so they can sell a valuable animal with confidence that it will be properly cared for.

## Southeast Llama Rescue (SELR)

**SELR** is a non-profit located in Marshall, North Carolina, with foster homes and volunteers spread out across the country. **SELR** takes in all llamas in need, regardless of behavior, health, or condition. Those with special health needs who are considered unadoptable are sent to live out the remainder of their lives at Indian Creek Llama Sanctuary, or **ICLS**, in Oliver Springs, Tennessee. **ICLS** has ready access to the large-animal practice at the University of Tennessee veterinary college and can provide customized feeding or treatment regimes for special-needs animals. While alpacas are occasionally surrendered to these rescue organization, most of the animals in need are llamas.



## Southwest Llama Rescue (SWLR)

Sometime around 2001, there became an obvious need for llama rescue efforts in the southwest region. L'illette Vasquez initially volunteered to coordinate that effort as a "sister" organization of **SELR**. Unfortunately, a move to Colorado interrupted plans to expand the **SELR** base to the southwest.

The official **SWLR** began in New Mexico in the fall of 2002, when 14 llamas from an Animal Control rescue needed a place to live while awaiting new homes. In July of 2004, we received 15 malnourished llamas from an owner who could no longer take care of them. All but 3 have been adopted as alpaca guards, sheep guards, or pets. We were happy to find loving homes for these wonderful llamas. In December of 2004, they received 25 females and babies. Some of the females were pregnant, so they went to a foster care facility for their special needs. **SWLR** has foster homes in Silver City, Hatch, Tularosa, and Ruidoso.

### Why Adopt?

Why should you consider adopting a rescue llama? Geldings are easier to care for without the confounding influence of hormones and the resulting fighting carried on between intact males. Geldings and females can be kept together without concern for the risks associated with pregnancy. Especially for a first-time owner, the advice offered by mentors is a big help in understanding and meeting the needs of the llamas. **SELR** llamas have sufficient training so they will tolerate being vaccinated, having their toenails trimmed, and being sheared; they will lead easily and load for transport. Additionally all animals are vetted and any health problems are treated.

All the rescue groups mentioned in this article are funded solely by private donations and adoption fees. They also happily accept tax-deductible contributions of money, tack, feed, or other equipment to assist maintain the llamas in their care.

### What About Fostering?

If you have extra pasture and shelter space, you are needed! Lots of times, llamas come from one part of the country, but available foster homes are states away. Each of these groups need more folks to offer long- or short-term temporary sanctuary to llamas awaiting adoption. Unlike with adoption, the rescues do reimburse veterinary costs, though the day-to-day maintenance falls upon the foster caretaker. It's critical that we have approved locations to take surrendered llamas, and there are never enough available.

Transportation is also a huge issue. It's not uncommon to have individual llamas, and even herds, ready for immediate delivery to a foster or adoptive home; but no one available to help transport cross-country. Such transport is also reimbursable, though not at the rates professional haulers charge.



### How Can You Help?

As mentioned above, we need foster homes, transport, donations... and sometimes just folks to come out and help shear, do toenails and vaccinations, and spend some time with the animals. Each of the rescue organizations has more information available for you; or you can contact me, and I'll help get you connected with the groups in your area.

Perhaps as important is spreading the word. Llama rescue *helps* save lives. Too many llama are discarded, unnecessarily euthanized, or abandoned. It just doesn't have to happen, and you can help!

### Links

Here are links to the organizations mentioned in this article. There are lots more across the country. You can contact any of us to find out about rescue groups in your region. You can also do a Web search for llama rescue to find additional information online.

**SELR** <http://southeastllamarescue.org>

**SWLR** <http://southwestllamarescue.org>

### Colorado Llama Rescue

I also want to give you the link to our own Colorado Llama Rescue (**CLR**), run by Lynley Nichols. She does amazing work, taking in individuals and herds; and was the drop-off point for many of the Bureau of Land Management rescued llamas from a couple of years ago. Like **SELR** and **SWLR**, **CLR** is completely legit and has a great reputation. You can email Lynley directly at: [patchofheaven@earthlink.net](mailto:patchofheaven@earthlink.net)

Paco-Vicuñas  
Linda Hayes  
www.paco-vicunas.com  
hayestees@scpric.net Carbondale, CO 800-815-0488

# And when he was bad, he was so very, very bad!

## “Using TIME OUT to change negative behavior”

Jerry Dunn

In the past few years the llama community has experienced more and more people finding it necessary to disperse their present llama herd or cull out the animals who are time consuming management challenges. This article presents ideas for managing a male who is a bully and is unfamiliar with living in a herd setting peacefully.

Meet John Smith, the llama. John's name sake was instrumental in the colonization of Jamestown, Virginia in the 1600's. As a leader he was tough, harsh and as a result created uneasy relations within the colony. John Smith, the llama,

has moved to Bear Track Farm with a similar behavioral history. John, a five year old intact male, arrived at Bear Track Farm in May of 2005 tough, ornery and insistent on proving he was going to be the boss of the farm. His manners were appropriate with humans; he just had a problem with other llamas.



Upon his arrival we placed him in the training arena located between the girls pasture and the rest of the male herd. This was to be a temporary arrangement until he was castrated. A month before he was castrated, John jumped a 5 foot fence attacking visiting llamas...TIME OUT...and jumped the fence again a few days later to go after Chakote', the herd boss. TIME OUT. John was intent on proving his point. I had never experienced this kind of behavior from a llama before.

As a diversion I loaded John into the trailer with Jurni and Chakote' and took them all on a day hike with some friends in hopes of relieving some of the pressure. John proved to be well mannered and very good on the trail. All was going smoothly until one of my friends leading John stumbled and dropped his lead rope. John looked downhill with those big brown eyes, turned and took off down the trail on his own. He first started at a walk then quickly accelerated into a lope. It looked like the end of our relationship. I checked to make sure my friend was okay and took off running after John. I caught up with him only by running through the trees and cutting across switchbacks. Finally after about a mile I found him in the middle of the trail standing on his lead rope looking confused. This was just to be the beginning with John Smith.

John jumped the fence again shortly after that trip. TIME OUT. I figured it was time to try and integrate him with the rest of the male herd. Maybe he was lonely! I separated

out all of the old llamas and kept five of my toughest llamas in a separate pasture. I put John in with the tough guys. They all lined up and took John on one at a time. No biting or chasing, just tough crashing, grunting and pushing. One after another they attempted to force John to submit to the herd order. John never gave in. He wore out all five of the "tough guys" that day. I pulled him out and returned him to the arena where he could rest physically and mentally. TIME OUT. After this demonstration I decided he was not to be trusted in with the old llamas.

A few weeks went by and I put him back in with the herd. The time out seemed to help alter his way of thinking. He would get along fine in the herd for about a day or so then would start harassing and terrorizing different llamas. TIME OUT. He developed an interesting habit of herding and cutting out llamas he wanted to abuse. Following each one of these episodes I would put him back into TIME OUT for a few days. John would also use this technique of herding to move all the llamas out of a pasture in order to have it all to himself. Recently I returned from the grocery store to find that John had moved all of the male llamas into one paddock and he was sitting out in front of the gate chewing his cud. One day he used



the same technique to herd several Canadian geese from one end of the pasture to the other so he could have it to himself.

An interesting relationship developed between one of the younger llamas and John. JB, a four year old llama, moves in between John and any potential aggressors. JB would be submissive and flip his tail up over his back and schmooze John. This behavior seemed to help John forget what mean thing he was about to do. After many attempts to befriend John, JB became a behavior cushion for John and the terrorizing decreased. Gradually I was able to increase the days John could be in with the herd.

Even today when John finds the pressure of being sociable too much he voluntarily puts himself in the timeout paddock and waits for me to close the gate. We are now up to 14 days and counting without an incident. He may learn to be one of the good guys after all. It has taken time, patience and practice for the llama to modify the negative tough guy behavior. It has also taken consistency on my part to identify the undesirable behavior and be willing to move him in and out of TIME OUT to make the change happen.

The location and the size of the time out area is very important. It is used as a learning tool. The animal in question needs to be placed in a paddock where he can see the other animals move around and observe their behavior. The 20' X 20' paddock is attached to the barn and allows the herd to move around all three sides of the area allowing them observe his behavior and body language. While living in that designated area, the naughty llama can lead a fairly normal existence, he just can't get close enough to any animal to terrorize them. There are times when an hour is enough and other times 2 weeks or more is just about right. The length of TIME OUT needs to fit the seriousness of the negative behavior.

I have found John to be a useful packer and a pleasant guy for school visits with children. Recently we have presented him with the challenge of becoming a driver. He seemed to find the prospect of pulling a cart down the road an interesting activity.



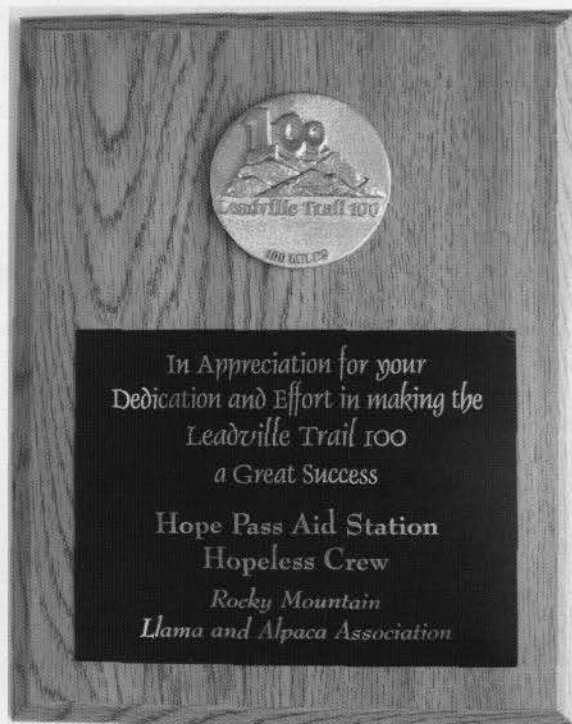
## Hope Pass Aid Station Honored

Jim Osmun

RMLA received this plaque for the Hopeless Crews' participation at the Leadville Trail 100 in August of 2005. Forty llamas and thirty-one crew members did an outstanding job. The aid station at 12,000 ft., a view of Leadville forty miles away, and a meadow full of llamas, is worth the effort. It is also the best place to understand what these great athletes can achieve. The LT-100 provides support for the community, the schools and a Christmas party for children who may not have any other gifts.

Many crew members are old hands at this adventure. New hands are always welcome.

Put Thursday thru Sunday, August 17th-20th 2006, on your calendar. Watch for information on the RMLA e-mail or contact Jim Osmun at 303 457-2787.





# ROCK-N-M LLAMAS

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# Youth Corner: My First and Truest Love

Midori Matsuda

My first year of llama ownership was quite an adventure. It all began innocently enough but throughout the year the plot matured and intensified into a deep love and wild adventure that enticed me into the world of llama love. When we first were offered the two llamas I never in a million years dreamed that I would be sitting here a year and a half later pondering what to write for a llama magazine. At that time I thought it was amazing that we even got mom to agree to go and see these animals. I knew as well as she did that as soon as we saw them we would fall in love, but little did I know that there was a sweet four year old male out there that would capture my heart and be the center of my world.

From the moment I first laid eyes on Corey there was no doubt in my mind that he was the one, only and perfect llama for me. Thankfully mom and dad agreed and Corey and I were made a pair. However there were some times that I seriously debated over if he was worth the effort, having just been gelded recently he still had some definite hormone surges where he just needed to push something around for the fun of it. There was no way that I could stay mad at him for very long though, because as soon as he was done with his hormone surge he would go back to being the sweetest thing ever. I recall one time when one of the barn cats came over and rolled onto it's back; Corey stuck his nose down there and poked that cat in the tummy and what do know the cat enjoyed it and started to purr.

Another time he wasn't so loveable though was at county fair. As we entered the ring for showmanship he decide that he had to go to the bathroom, but before he could start he turned his back to the judge and crowd, spread his legs as far apart as he physically could, and cranked his neck around to be sure that



everyone was watching and finally went for what seemed like an eternity. When he finally finished, it took two shovel loads to remove his dirty deed.

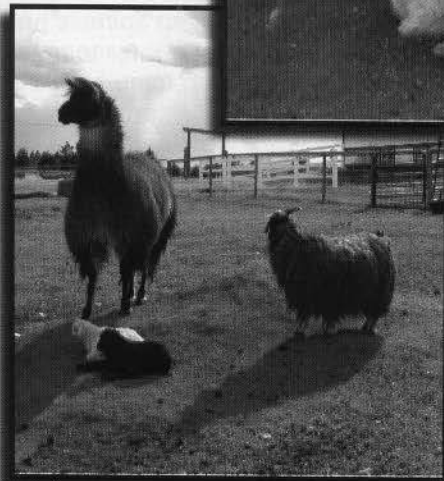
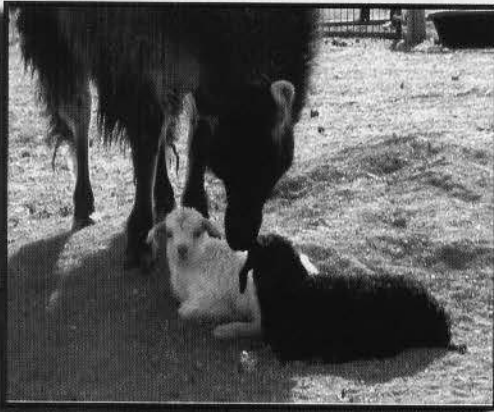
But Corey always provides some entertainment even if he is in a bad mood. After he has been in a small enclosed space for a while he gets quite grumpy and acts just like a two year old would. He sticks his nose into a corner and pouts and if you try to get near him you better watch out because he will kick you. However we learned just to take my sister, Mariko's, llama out first and he snaps out of his mood very quickly.

During Stock Show this year I learned something very interesting about Corey. He is highly attached to Shadow (Mariko's llama). When we took them out for a walk he would become frantic if he couldn't see Shadow and would desperately search for her until he found her making high pitched worried little noises.

Possibly what is most astounding about my sweet not so little boy is his love for his goats and sheep that he guards. This spring three of the goats had kids and they are the most rambunctious little things on earth. They love nothing more than to climb on top of anything that will stand still and will try to eat everything. One day when we were ranch sitting I walked over to the pasture to say hi to Corey when I noticed that he was cushed right by the kids and to my amazement

the goats thought that he would make a perfect jungle gym and began to jump on his back and try to climb his neck. He tolerated this for about five minutes before slowly and cautiously getting up. Even after he got up the little goats were all around his legs biting his fiber and trying to climb back on. Unfortunately he didn't oblige, but he did bend down and allowed them to sniff his face.

Now a year and a half after I first laid eyes on Corey his pictures decorate my binder and his name is doodled all over my scrap papers. It is amazing how quickly his sweet affection and anecdotes have consumed me. I can't go an hour without referencing him because he is my first and truest love.



# Understanding the Implications of BVD To the Camelid Industry

Kristy J. Brown, D.V.M. - Leon Valley Veterinary Services, Sparta, WI

There is a big scare currently in the camelid world regarding BVD, Bovine Viral Diarrhea. This is a hot-button issue now, and my hope with this article is to dispel some of your fears, and through better understanding of the disease as it affects its primary species vs. its impact in camelids, help you to understand how best to manage this threat in your own herd.

## Biology of the Disease:

In Cattle: BVD is a life-threatening disease in cattle causing any combination of severe diarrhea, pneumonia and/or abortions. The virus is shed in all body secretions and aerosolized. In unvaccinated herds of cattle, the morbidity (percentage of animals that become sick) is over 90% and the mortality (percentage of animals that die) typically exceeds 60%. The disease can literally run a farm out of business. There are two strains of BVD in cattle, Type I and Type II, and most new vaccines protect against both strains. This disease is very contagious and very prevalent in the cattle population, and the vast majority of cattle herds vaccinate to prevent/control the disease. Vaccinated cattle may still have mild symptoms of disease, but the mortality is minimized.

## In Other Species:

BVD exposure to pregnant sheep yields a syndrome called "Hairy Shaker Lambs", lambs where the fiber is abnormal and the brain development is impaired causing the lambs to have tremors and shake. It has been documented in the early 1980's that camelids exposed to BVD develop a titer, but camelids exhibit no or only mild signs of disease (fever, lethargy, depression) that is quite transient and the virus is then cleared from their body.

## Affects of the Disease in Pregnant Animals:

The effect of infection with BVD on the fetus of the pregnant cow varies with the stage of pregnancy that the female is infected. Mid to late pregnancy infection will lead to either abortion of the fetus or in fetuses that survive, deformities of the cerebellar system of the brain (area responsible for balance) and microphthalmia (small eyes) and congenital cataracts (opacity of the lens) and the Hairy Shaker Syndrome described above in sheep. Early pregnancy infection can lead to either abortion of the fetus or the development of a PI (persistently infected) fetus, one that doesn't recognize the virus as foreign and accepts it as self, allowing the virus to replicate in the fetus without stimulating an immune response against it. These animals shed enormous amounts of virus into the environment and become an asymptomatic source of infection for the herd. Some PI animals are "poor doers" or less productive than their herd mates, but many appear normal.

## Testing for BVD:

When we start trying to make a diagnosis for any disease, it is first important to understand the appropriate test to use, and then to be able to accurately interpret the results. By referring to the Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory reference manual, and there are four types of samples that can be submitted for testing (milk, serum, whole blood and an ear notch - remove a wedge of ear), and a total of nine different tests that can be run. Different types of tests identify exposure to the virus, the presence of circulating virus (infection or PI) and identification of PI animals. Your veterinarian can explain the possible tests available and which is most appropriate for your situation.

## Testing for Exposure:

The typical test run in camelids for determining exposure to BVD is the SN, serum neutralization test. Your veterinarian submits a blood sample to be tested for the presence of antibodies to BVD. A negative SN test means that the animal has not been exposed to BVD or has been exposed very recently and has not yet developed a measurable antibody response. A positive SN test means that the animal has been exposed and developed an immune response to BVD either through natural exposure or vaccination (cattle).

## Testing for PI:

PI animals have circulating virus in their system and do not make an immune response against it, so a PI will have no or a very low titer on the SN test. When testing for PI we can run an IPMA, ELISA (ear notch sample), PCR or a virus isolation test. The PCR, virus isolation and ELISA test can be run on any age animal and the IPMA test requires different blood samples depending on the age of the animal. The PCR or virus isolation is the recommended test for camelids. Have your veterinarian submit a single sample for each animal. Some labs pool the samples (combine a specific amount from five different animals and run one test) and some do not, but the labs prefer to make their own pools.

## Interpretation of Test Results:

Does a positive SN mean that the animal was infected a while ago or recently or was it vaccinated? Or more over, does a negative SN mean the animal was never exposed? These cannot be answered by a single test. If we are concerned about a recent exposure or get a positive sample, then it is recommended that we run "paired samples" or "acute-convalescent" samples. This means drawing two samples 14 - 21 days apart, running a SN on both and comparing the results. If both are negative, then

we have not had a recent exposure (last 30 days) and if both positives are the nearly the same, then it was not a recent exposure. If there is a fourfold difference in the titers from the acute to convalescent, then we know we have had an active infection. This is basically a test done to monitor for exposure to BVD. A negative test in February 12, 2006 means that there has been no exposure up until this point in time. If you are monitoring your herd for exposure, the SN test would be repeated at a prescribed interval to be significant for the current status of your herd in the future.

Does a negative PI mean the animal is not persistently infected and positive PI mean that it is? This one is easy - YES - these animals are infected in utero and their status does not change. They either are or they are not persistently infected. This is one of the few once in a lifetime tests.

Does a positive virus isolation mean the animal is a PI? No, an animal with an acute infection and circulating virus will test positive (not PI) or it may be persistently infected.

### **Prevention:**

Preventing BVD exposure in your herd and minimizing the effects if you have been exposed basically comes down to good management and biosecurity on your farm. BVD, TB, and Brucellosis are common diseases of cattle, but the disease seen is different in camelids than they do in other species. While vaccination for BVD is an essential part of managing BVD in cattle, at this time, I do not recommend routine vaccination of llamas and alpacas. BVD is a life threatening and economically devastating disease to cattle producers, but the actual disease seen in camelids is minimal. Secondly, once we start vaccinating, we cannot do SN testing to monitor natural exposure; vaccinated animals will all test positive. Thirdly, there are several vaccine formulations and protocols for cattle, and we don't know what will be best in camelids, so until some research is done, I don't recommend routine vaccination. There may be specific farms where your veterinarian may determine it necessary to control the disease on your farm, but these cases are few and far between as we understand the disease now.

The greatest threat, as we currently understand it, is the possibility of developing a PI cria by exposure to the pregnant female. It is currently theorized that greatest threat of PI fetus development is between day 40 and 110 of pregnancy. We need to minimize the risk of exposure to this group of animals. Again, this goes back to good biosecurity on your farm.

### **Isolation:**

Isolate new arrivals or animals returning to your farm (shows, outside breeding, etc) for 14-30 days. If they have been exposed to BVD while off your farm, the infection should be cleared by day 30 and risk of shedding the virus is minimal.

### **Sanitation:**

This includes all transport vehicles and trailers that are hauling your animals or in and out of your facility. You should also consider your shoes as a source of transmission; wear separate boots or sanitize your boots between groups or when visiting other farms. Also, use separate feed and water containers for the isolated animals. Keep a separate group of halters and leads for the isolation group. Ideally, do your chores for the main herd first and the isolation group last to minimize the chance of tracking between groups. Bleach or other disinfectants effective against BVD can be used to treat surfaces.

### **Pregnant females:**

You may want to consider keeping those first trimester females away from the rest of the herd to minimize their risk of exposure.

### **Diagnostics:**

Test aborted fetuses, poor doing crias and problem breeding females for BVD. BVD is one of the standard tests run on abortion cases and for "odd" cases (neurological crias, ocular lesions) and failure to thrive, and as a side note, in 17 years of practice, I have tested many of these for BVD and have not had a positive. Even though we've had no positives, it is still part of the standard battery of test we run.

### **Testing Individuals or Whole Herds:**

This is a tough one to comment on. BVD has been around for many years, it is not something new and it has a very low morbidity and mortality in camelids, with the greatest area of concern being the development PI animals. It is not terribly stable in the environment and good sanitation (bleach or appropriate disinfectant) can eliminate it from surfaces. Some alpaca shows are requiring negative PI tests before they can show; does this mean you have no chance of exposure to BVD at the show? No, but at least we know the PI animals are not there shedding, but it does not rule out the acutely infected, asymptomatic animals. So, even with negative PI testing, it is still important to isolate the animals when you get back home.

Is whole herd testing necessary? Again, this is hard to comment on without knowing your situation. If you are committed to monitoring annually or biannually, then a random sampling of 20% of the herd tested for exposure (SN) should give you an estimate for the exposure status of your herd. If this is negative, and you are doing good biosecurity, your risk is minimal and you more than likely do not have any PI animals in your herd. If your SN is positive, then you know you have had exposure to BVD and you and your veterinarian need to decide if you want to test the herd for PI or do a comparative SN on the test group. This would be where pooled PCR tests are most economical - the lab sets up groups of five. If a pooled sample is positive, then each individual in the group can be tested. Now, the tough part, if you get a positive PI, you need to commit to euthanizing this animal. It is a point source of infection for

## Understanding BVD

continued from page 21

your herd - PI animals shed far more virus than acutely infected do and if you are truly committed to minimizing risk to your herd, these animals need to be euthanized, not sold as pets to non-camelid folks or be sent to a sale. This is my fear with the testing - PI animals should be destroyed and I fear people won't. At present there are a few research projects going that may take the animal as a donation, but please do not keep it in the population at large.


Again folks, it all boils down to good biosecurity -do all the right things at home (good nutrition, appropriate vaccination and parasite control for your area to keep the immune system of your animals strong and healthy),

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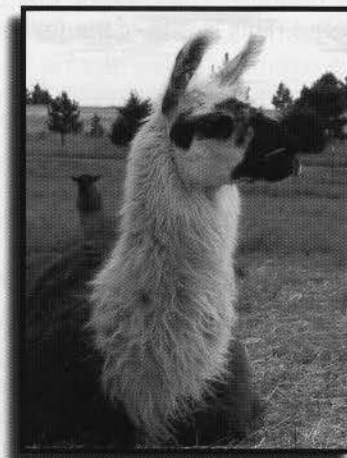
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minimize exposure (sanitation and isolation) and if you decide to pursue it, monitoring of the exposure of your herd with a commitment to the test and cull philosophy. There is no need to panic and avoid going to shows or doing outside breedings. There is a whole other list of risks by these management choices that are equally or more likely to cause a problem for you, but again, diligent management and biosecurity will minimize the problems presented to your herd.

*Reprinted with permission from The Llama Futurity Association Newsletter, March 2006. Full text of the LFA Newsletter is available online: <http://www.thelfa.org/include/pods/documents/LFANewsletter.pdf>*



## Camelid Working Group Press Release

April 16th 2006

**Contact: Sheila Fugina**  
**Tel: 715-246-5837**

### Camelid ID Survey Shows Microchips Preferred by Vast Majority

Camelid owners completing a survey conducted by the Camelid Working Group (CWG) overwhelmingly chose microchips as the preferred method of identification for their animals. Of the more than 1,500 responding, 93 percent chose microchips over RFID ear tags or tattoos.

To assist the CWG in developing a camelid identification plan for use in the USDA National Animal Identification System (NAIS), a survey of camelid owners was conducted from February 7 through March 10, 2006, to determine preferences for management and financing of a database for tracking animal movements. Results of the survey will be used by the CWG to draft a recommended camelid ID plan to be submitted to USDA.

A total of 1,756 replies to the survey were received (1,620 complete responses and 136 partial). Almost 60 percent of those indicating a preference for a microchip location site on camelids selected the base of the left ear. Complete results of the survey, which included 15 questions, are posted on the CWG web site. The camelid ID plan is still

under development by the CWG, and camelid owners will have ample time to comment on a draft plan before it is submitted to USDA.

USDA has indicated the NAIS will remain voluntary until 2009, and benchmarks for progress will be announced periodically. Up-to-date information on the NAIS is available on the CWG web site listed above and on the USDA web site <http://www.usda.gov/nais>. Camelid owners are advised to remain aware of ID program activities specific to their state, since they do vary both in requirements and timeframe. Please continue to submit your comments or questions to the following CWG members.

Teri Nilson Baird: [teri@brokenwindmill.com](mailto:teri@brokenwindmill.com)

Karen Conyngham: [72040.3361@compuserve.com](mailto:72040.3361@compuserve.com)

Sheila Fugina: [bsfugina@presenter.com](mailto:bsfugina@presenter.com)

Dr. Julie Ann Jarvinen: [jarvinen@iastate.edu](mailto:jarvinen@iastate.edu)

Marsharee Wilcox: [mwilcox@stpaultravelers.com](mailto:mwilcox@stpaultravelers.com) or [evllamas@bellatlantic.net](mailto:evllamas@bellatlantic.net)

CWG: <http://www.camelidid.org/surveys.html>

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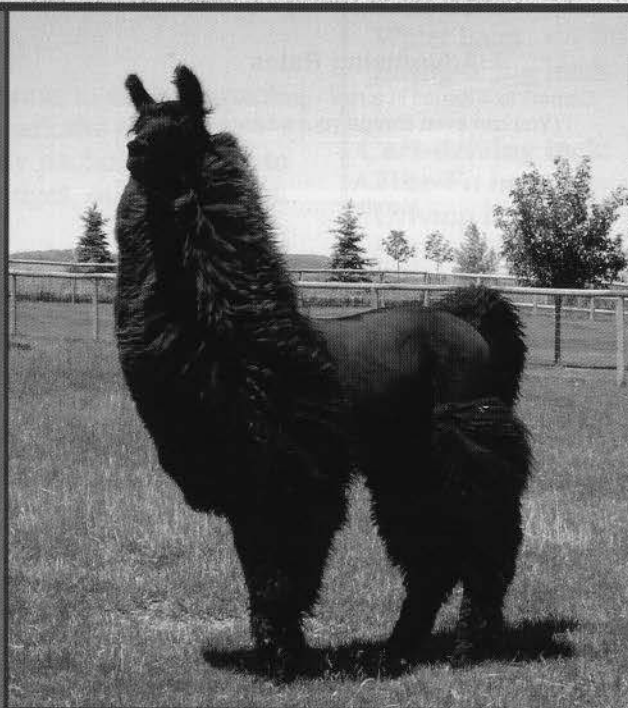
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## Editor's Note:

I hope that you have enjoyed this special color issue of the journal. I would love to hear your feedback. I'd like to thank the RMLA Board of Directors for allowing me to publish this special issue completely in color. Once again I would also like to thank my husband Steve and journal liaison Teri Nilson Baird for all of their hard work. It would be impossible to put this journal together without them. And most of all, I want to thank everyone that was kind enough to submit articles, advertisements and photos. Only with the help of you, the membership, can we make this a successful and quality publication.

It is great that spring is finally here and we can spend more time outside working with our animals and making improvements to our ranch. I really enjoy the warm weather and extra daylight. Of course there is always a project at hand that needs completing.

I look forward to seeing you at the Estes Park Wool Market, June 16 - 18.

Look for the next issue in early September. In that issue I would like to see some articles on packing, hiking and camping with llamas. However, I welcome any article, photos or advertisements that are submitted. Keep those submissions coming and we'll get them published.

Shari Quackenbush  
Editor@rmlajournal.com

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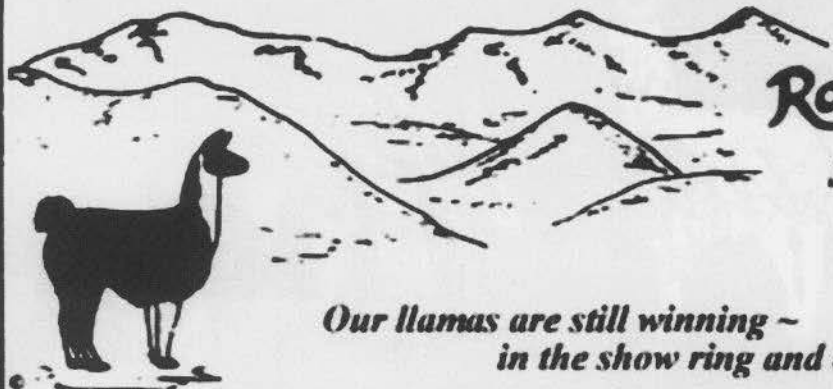
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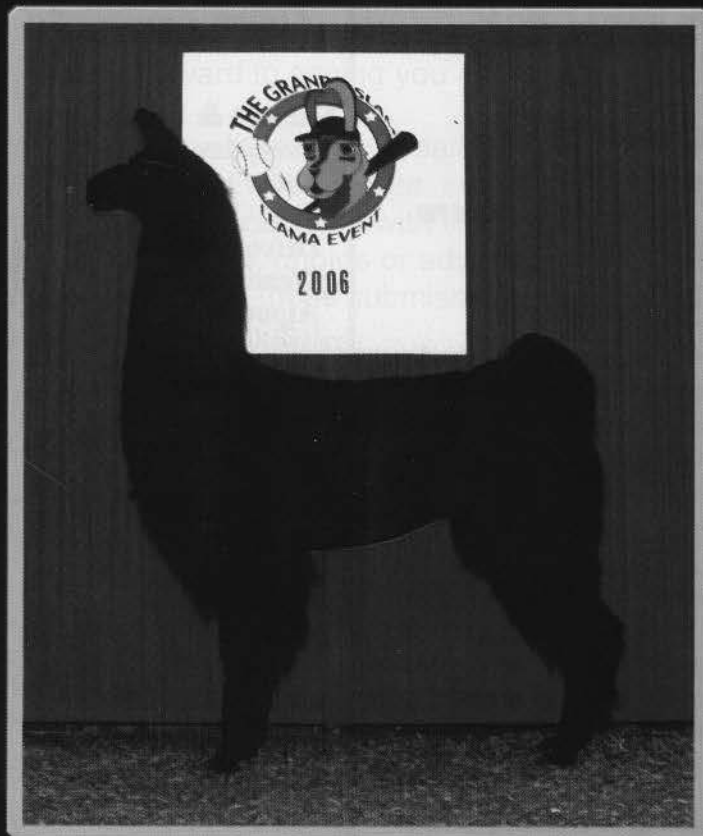
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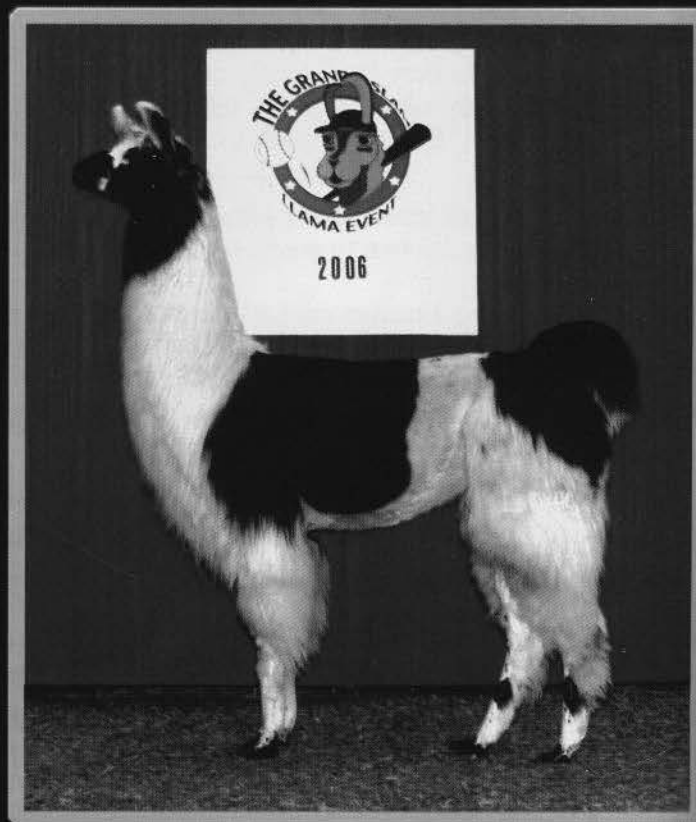
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Grand Slam MWY (M): 4 First Place,  
2 Grand Champion, 2 Reserve Champion  
Celebrity Futurity Class 3: Second Place



## Dazzl

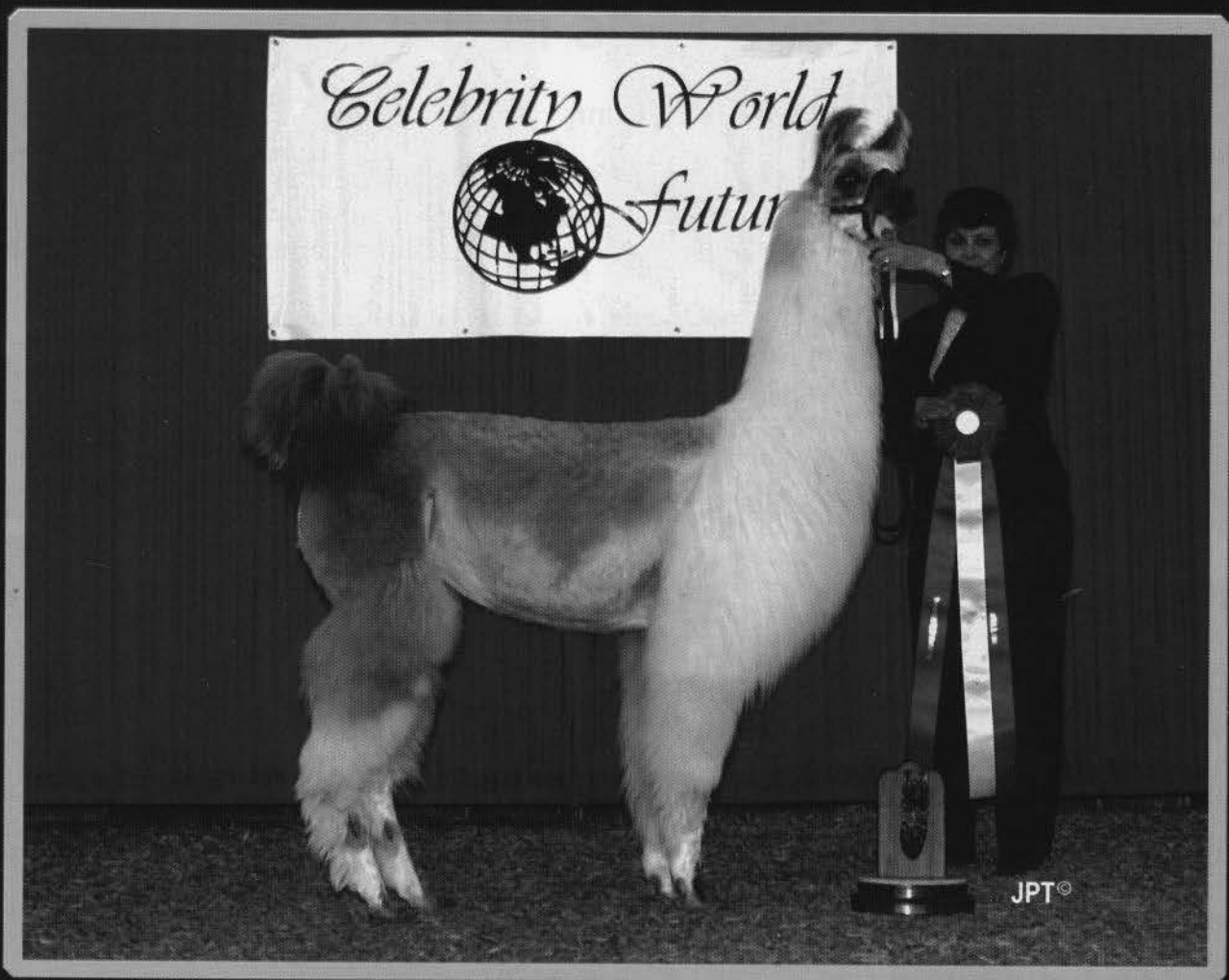
Fivestarr x Desa

Grand Slam MWY (F): 2 First Place,  
1 Fourth Place, 1 Sixth Place,  
Grand Champion, 1 Reserve Champion  
Celebrity Futurity Class 4: Seventh Place

Carlos Mendoza, M.D.    Mary Beth McCormick  
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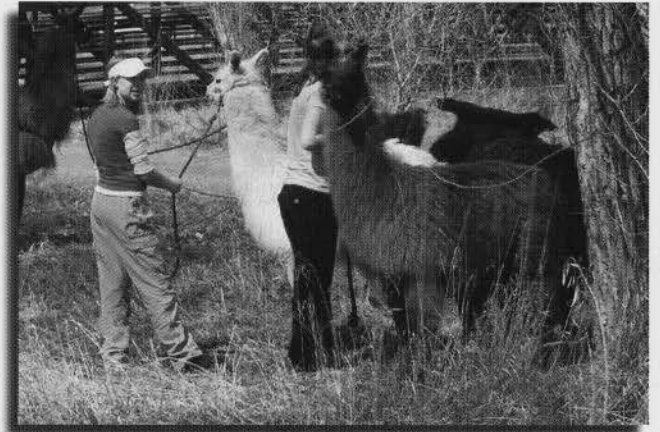
# Llamas and Kids in the Park

Jerry Dunn

Llamas and kids everywhere! On March 25, thirty eight kids and adults arrived with their llamas at the Wheat Ridge Greenbelt trailhead for our annual get together. In addition to the great kid groups from the Indian Hills 4-H and the Boulder Leaping Llamas 4-H were their sponsors and other friends of llamas.

We divided into 3 groups led by Debbie Rothwell, Mike Jensen, and myself.

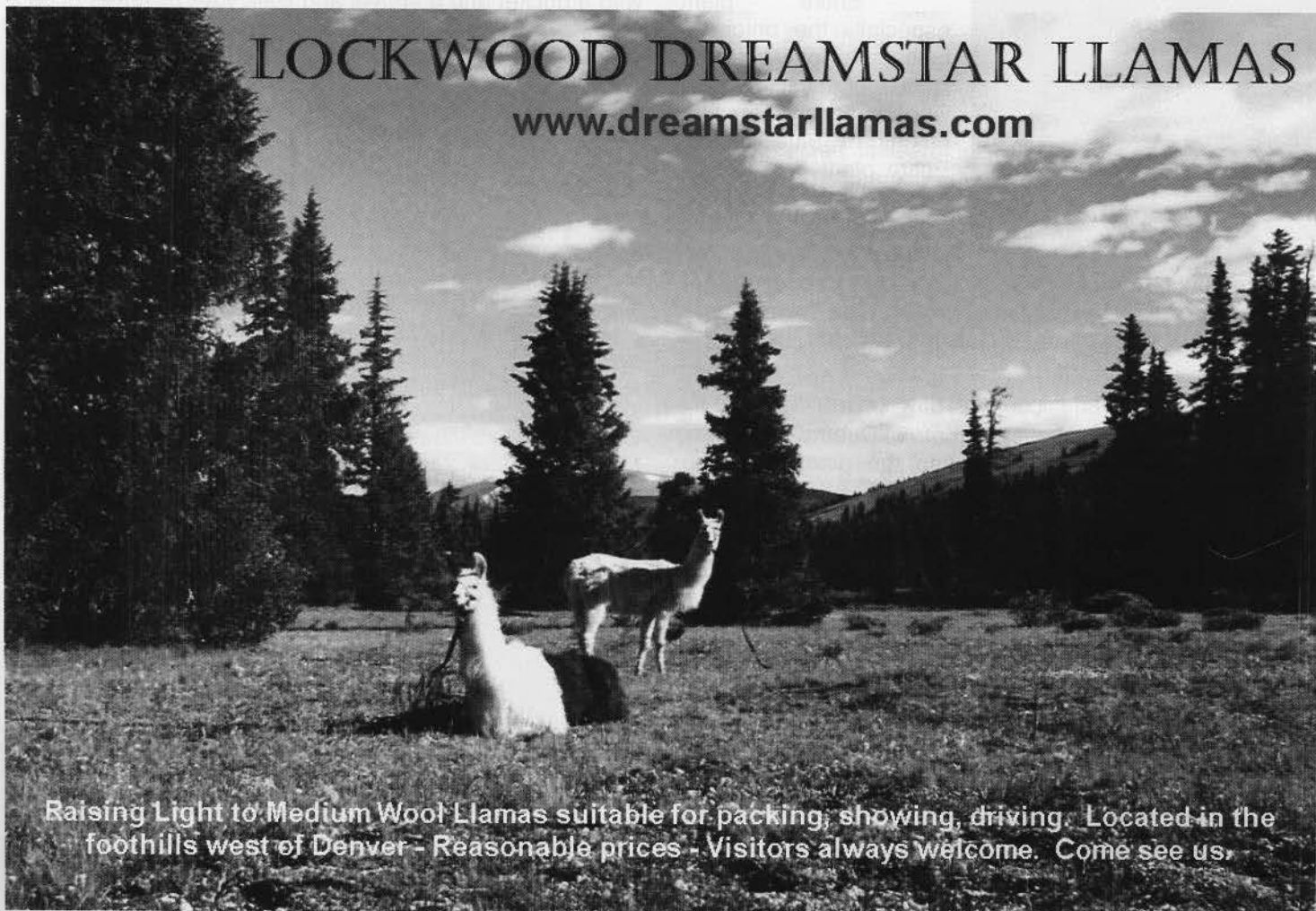
Each group wandered off onto the trails next to Clear Creek ducking under trees, jumping logs and crossing small stream crossings. We all met for lunch at the far end of the park where we staked out the llamas and enjoyed the warm sunny day. We later returned to the trailhead parking lot by mid afternoon using different trails.





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# Death Camas

Jamie Tharp

This plant is not found as often as possibly in other geographic locations. But when it appears here on the Colorado eastern plains you need to get rid of it, NOW! Again, an adult animal may have to eat a lot of it before suffering results, but it's best if it does not exist at all. A neonate wouldn't take much to become ill if they consumed a small amount. It's not known if it causes adverse conditions on pregnant alpacas.

Here is a short lesson on Death Camas: a.k.a. Meadow Deathcamas, Foothill Deathcamas, Black Snakeroot, Poison Onion, White Camas, Alkali grass, Poison sego, Crow Poison, Sandcorn, *Zigadenus* (or *Zygadenus*), *venenosus*.

## General:

A perennial lily with a single bulb, with 3-6 basal, thickened, V-creased leaves, and snowy cream-colored flowers in a dense, terminal cluster. Found mainly in the western US from 4,500 to 8,000 feet elevation. The underground bulbs are scaly. The plant emerges in early spring. Usually 13-60 cm (0.5 - 2 ft) high, growing from a bulb which resembles a small onion, but lacks any onion odor.



Entire plant, especially the onion-like bulbs, are highly toxic and is quite fatal to humans who mistake it for wild onions or Blue Camas. Entire plant is extremely toxic to grazing livestock. Respiratory problems occur after eating a very

small amount of the plant - as little as 0.6% of body weight. The plant is toxic at all stages of growth. The flower cluster does not have to appear for the plant to be toxic.

## Symptoms:

Human and animal symptoms of Death Camas may appear from 1-8 hours after eating the plant. Recovery usually occurs within 24 hours if caught in the early stages. Symptoms include: excessive watering (foaming) of the mouth, burning following by numbness of the lips and mouth, thirst, headache, dizziness, nausea, stomach pain, persistent vomiting, diarrhea, muscular weakness, confusion, slow and irregular heartbeat, low blood pressure, subnormal body temperature. May result in difficulty in breathing, convulsions and coma followed by death.

## Treatment:

No know antidote, treat symptomatically. Induce vomiting



(except in alpacas), or perform gastric lavage; follow with activated charcoal and saline cathartic; general supportive treatment for symptoms; maintain fluid and electrolyte balance; monitor breathing and heart rate, blood pressure; subcutaneous application of atropine, repeated as needed, will alleviate slow heart rate; for persistent low blood pressure, ephedrine or dopamine may be given; control convulsions with i.v. diazepam. Contact you alpaca vet.

## Control:

Dispose of the entire plant including the entire bulb. Take care you do not disturb the flower cluster, as it will distribute the seeds for next year's growth. Spraying in early spring is also a suggested in controlling the plant.

NOTE: Take a picture of this plant with you along with a bucket and a shovel and walk your pastures once a week in mid to late April and May. When you find it dig it up along with the bulb and dispose of it - underground bulb, flowers and leaves. If you don't get the bulb, it will come up again next year.

I have heard of the local Extension Service say that this is not a problem in Colorado or Wyoming. It's not a problem so long as humans or animals do not eat it but it does exist.

## Sources:

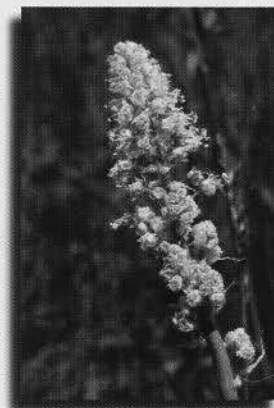
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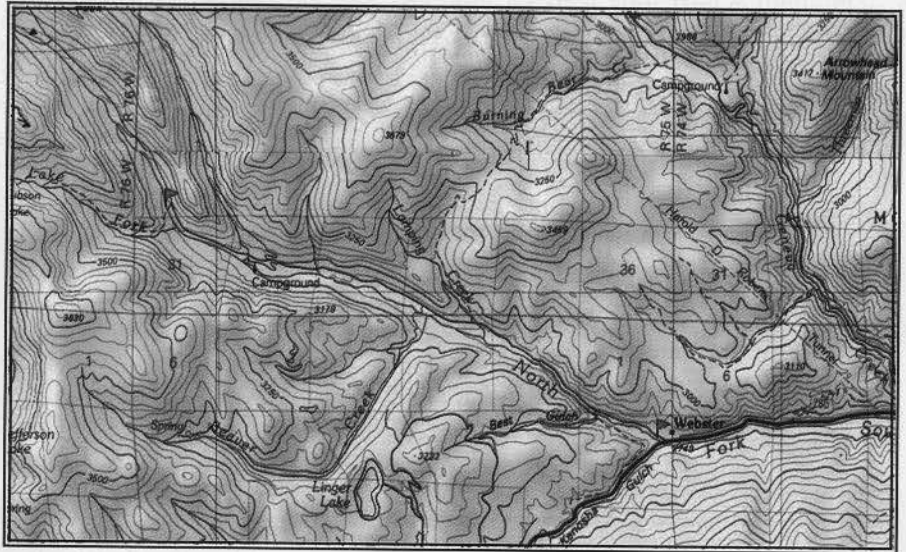


# Back Country Hikes: Gibson Lake

Larry Lewellyn

As we approach summer its time to start conditioning your pack llamas for packing and hiking. This hike is a fun hike for all. You head South on Hwy 285, to Webster. Webster is three (3) miles south of Grant on Hwy 285. At Webster, you turn North and drive (seven) 7 miles Northwest on Hall Valley Road (FR 120) to Gibson Lake trail head at Gibson Lake Picnic Ground. The road up to the trail head is a bit bumpy, so drive slowly for the animal's sake. The hike to the lake is 2.5 miles south, then west. There is an old remains of a mine and the fishing is good. Be safe and have fun.

Please share your special hikes by submitted to them to the RMLA Journal.



## Bear Track Farm Driving Clinic

Jerry Dunn



It was typical April weather for the Bear Track Farm Driving Clinic held in mid April in Golden, Colorado. Saturday was cool and windy; Sunday was a beautiful sunny day. People attending were interested in learning the techniques of driving and training a llama to drive. The clinic regularly supports 8 or more people each year. Some of the participants were first time attendees and others returned for a refresher course.

The first day was spent learning the techniques of ground driving and putting a llama to cart. The second day we all enjoyed a drive around the neighborhood with trained llamas provided by Bear Track Farm, Mary Wickman and Gerald Losasso.





# 2006 St. Patrick's Day Parade



## Wendy Dinzl

Nippy, thirty degree temperatures didn't deter enthusiastic RMLA participants from costuming their llamas and alpacas in their St. Patrick's best to march proudly in the Denver LoDo parade on March 11, 2006. Llamas and alpacas sported a range of decorations and accessories, such as shamrock scarves, shamrock blankets, headbands with shamrocks sprouting out of them, green bow ties and green top hats.

The owners of these wonderful animals donned their own version of St. Pat's merriment as well. Many green stovepipe hats were to be seen bobbing up and down in front of the camelid entourage.

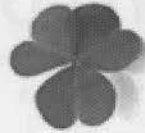
Approximately 15 RMLA members and marchers spread good cheer down the 1.7 mile long parade route which began at 29<sup>th</sup> Street, proceeded down Blake Street and concluded at Coors Field. We were especially fortunate to have some RMLA members bring two alpacas which helped demystify the difference between a llama and an alpaca to the crowds of parade observers.

Our four legged marchers brought wide smiles, squeals of joy from children, waves of acknowledgement from adults and that feeling of magic only llamas and alpacas can convey to the public unaccustomed to glimpsing them.

Below, Wendy Dinzl with Hiker and Tomave



Right, Craig, Dawn and Emily Jones with their two alpacas and young llama...



Below, Jerry Dunn with Banners Bocelli



Left, Keegan Sheard and Jonathan Haaas spreading St. Patrick's Day cheer



Below, Kathleen Peterson with Tomave



Above, Carol Lontine with Ned

Jim Haas (Soda Creek Llamas), Coordinator of the RMLA segment of the Denver St. Pat's parade with Mystique Noir





Below, at last! A white alpaca to compare against a llama!

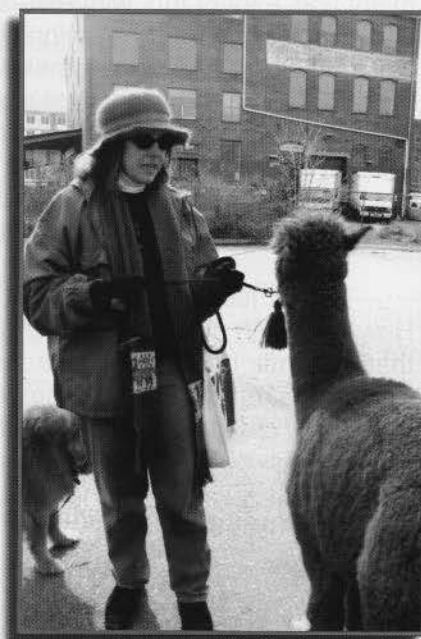


Jim Haas, Owner of Soda Creek Llamas in Evergreen, Coordinator for the RMLA segment of the St. Patrick's Day parade thrilled onlookers by bringing his Llama Mystique Noir to the curb during parade stalls or stops for people to observe closely.

Put the St. Patrick's parade on your calendar for next year RMLA members! A Large turnout shows the pride and commitment we make as camelid owners and breeders! You'll meet wonderful people and see some terrific llamas and alpacas!



Above, alpaca and llamas during a stop in the parade route



Above, a needle felted alpaca hat and the back end of an alpaca - two different ways to display fiber!



Left, waving to the crowds during the parade



Below, Rick Ponczek (left) and Jerry Kuner (right) with their llamas anticipating a great parade.



Above, Wyatt Warner, proud flagbearer for the RMLA contingent



Left, RMLA members and llamas marching during the parade

Amy Haas (left) and Cindy Haas (right) practicing their smiles prior to the parade's start



# 2006 Santa Fe Spring Fling & Green Chile Classic

Melanie McMurry

May 13-14 found us once again at the Santa Fe Horse Park for the third annual Santa Fe Spring Fling & Green Chile Classic. This event was a lot of fun, with extras such as t-shirts and champagne for those winning Grands and Reserve Grands. It was somewhat bittersweet for me, given it is my last time superintending the show. It was great to have so many friends present at the shows, wishing us well (for those who have not heard, my husband and I, and the whole farm, are moving to Morgantown, WV).

The judges were Toni Knie and Ray Howard. Both did an excellent job, and I thank them for their hard work. I also want to thank Maryan Baker and Mary Summers for their help clerking. I could not have done it without you!



## Santa Fe Spring Fling Results:

ADULT SHOWMANSHIP	1	2 Bit 2's Sportster	Terry Miller
OPEN PACK	1	HLM Chop Sticks	Indian Hills Llamas
	2	Spectacular Knockout	Indian Hills Llamas
	3	Raisin Spots	Killballyowen Ranch
OPEN PR	1	Spectacular Knockout	Indian Hills Llamas
	2	HLM Chop Sticks	Indian Hills Llamas
	3	Raisin Spots	Killballyowen Ranch
OPEN OBSTACLE	1	Spectacular Knockout	Indian Hills Llamas
	2	HLM Chop Sticks	Indian Hills Llamas
	3	Raisin Spots	Killballyowen Ranch
PERF GRAND	-	Spectacular Knockout	Indian Hills Llamas
PERF RESERVE	-	HLM Chop Sticks	Indian Hills Llamas
ADULT NONBREEDER	1	HLM Chop Sticks	Indian Hills Llamas
	2	Raisin Spots	Killballyowen Ranch
	3	Taos Eddie	Kokopelli Llamas
NONBREEDER GRAND	-	HLM Chop Sticks	Indian Hills Llamas
NONBREEDER RESERVE	-	Raisin Spots	Killballyowen Ranch
LW JUV MALE	1	DM Good To Go	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
	2	Big Rich	Kokopelli Llamas
LW YEAR MALE	1	2 Bit 2's Sportster	2 Bit 2 Llamas
	2	Stage Stop Chilean Zapata	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
LW ADULT MALE	1	Ruger's Desperado	La Chiripada
	2	Salsa's Red Hot Chili Pepper	Kokopelli Llamas
	3	The Incredible Huck	La Chiripada
LW MALE GRAND	-	Ruger's Desperado	La Chiripada
LW MALE RESERVE	-	2 Bit 2's Sportster	2 Bit 2 Llamas
MW JUV MALE	1	Indian Peaks Mach One	Indian Peaks Ranch
	2	DM Chilean La Paz	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
	3	Kastizo's Kamakazi	Flightless Farms
MW YEAR MALE	1	X-Ception	2 Bit 2 Llamas
	2	Jazz Mann's Blackjack	Kokopelli Llamas
	3	DM Valdosta	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
MW TWO-YEAR MALE	1	Stage Stop Chilean Summer	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
MW MALE GRAND	-	Indian Peaks Mach One	Indian Peaks Ranch
MW MALE RESERVE	-	X-Ception	2 Bit 2 Llamas
HW JUV MALE	1	Silver Smith	Flightless Farms
	2	Indian Peaks Trident	Indian Peaks Ranch
	3	Wheatfield's Hummer	Wheatfield Llamas
HW YEAR MALE	1	DM Atlas	Dorsey Mansion Llamas

## Santa Fe Spring Fling Results (continued):

HW ADULT MALE	1	Desert Heart's Hudson	2 Bit 2 Llamas
	2	Spectacular Knockout	Indian Hills Llamas
	3	MGF Argentine Lucero	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
HW MALE GRAND	-	Silver Smith	Flightless Farms
HW MALE RESERVE	-	DM Atlas	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
LW YEAR FEMALE	1	DM Goldy	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
	2	DM Qing Dynasty	2 Bit 2 Llamas
	3	2 Bit 2's Scottie	2 Bit 2 Llamas
LW ADULT FEMALE	1	Empress Zoe	Kokopelli Llamas
	2	Ella Belle	Kokopelli Llamas
LW FEMALE GRAND	-	DM Goldy	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
LW FEMALE RESERVE	-	DM Qing Dynasty	2 Bit 2 Llamas
MW JUV FEMALE	1	Wheatfield's Mariah	Wheatfield Llamas
	2	Cacique's Cache'	Flightless Farms
	3	DM Bolivian Dona Marta	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
MW YEAR FEMALE	1	DM Xi Lin	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
	2	DM X-treme Measures	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
MW TWO-YEAR FEMALE	1	Miss Bev's Calico Babe	LCB
MW ADULT FEMALE	1	Roy-Dee's Petea	Killballyowen Ranch
MW FEMALE GRAND	-	Wheatfield's Mariah	Wheatfield Llamas
MW FEMALE RESERVE	-	Roy-Dee's Petea	Killballyowen Ranch
HW JUV FEMALE	1	Cuchara	Flightless Farms
	2	DM Lakota	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
	3	Wheatfield's Firefly	Wheatfield Llamas
HW YEAR FEMALE	1	DM Kocina	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
HW ADULT FEMALE	1	Meissa	Kokopelli Llamas
	2	Brickelle	Kokopelli Llamas
HW FEMALE GRAND	-	Cuchara	Flightless Farms
HW FEMALE RESERVE	-	DM Lakota	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
GET OF SIRE	1	White Heat's Trilogy	Wheatfield Llamas
	2	Desert Heart's Hudson	2 Bit 2 Llamas
	3	Hayhook's Jazz Mann	Kokopelli Llamas

## Green Chile Classic Results:

ADULT SHOWMANSHIP	1	2 Bit 2's Sportster	Terry Miller
OPEN PACK	1	Spectacular Knockout	Indian Hills Llamas
	2	Raisin Spots	Killballyowen Ranch
	3	HLM Chop Sticks	Indian Hills Llamas

**Green Chile Classic Results (continued):**

OPEN PR	1	Spectacular Knockout	Indian Hills Llamas
	2	HLM Chop Sticks	Indian Hills Llamas
	3	Raisin Spots	Killballyowen Ranch
OPEN OBSTACLE	1	HLM Chop Sticks	Indian Hills Llamas
	2	Spectacular Knockout	Indian Hills Llamas
	3	Raisin Spots	Killballyowen Ranch
PERF GRAND	-	Spectacular Knockout	Indian Hills Llamas
PERF RESERVE	-	HLM Chop Sticks	Indian Hills Llamas
ADULT NONBREEDER	1	HLM Chop Sticks	Indian Hills Llamas
	2	Raisin Spots	Killballyowen Ranch
	3	Taos Eddie	Kokopelli Llamas
NONBREEDER GRAND	-	HLM Chop Sticks	Indian Hills Llamas
NONBREEDER RESERVE	-	Raisin Spots	Killballyowen Ranch
LW JUV MALE	1	DM Good To Go	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
	2	Big Rich	Kokopelli Llamas
LW YEAR MALE	1	Stage Stop Chilean Zapata	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
	2	2 Bit 2's Sportster	2 Bit 2 Llamas
LW ADULT MALE	1	The Incredible Huck	La Chiripada
	2	Ruger's Desperado	La Chiripada
	3	Salsa's Red Hot Chili Pepper	Kokopelli Llamas
LW MALE GRAND	-	DM Good To Go	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
LW MALE RESERVE	-	The Incredible Huck	La Chiripada
MW JUV MALE	1	Kastizo's Kamakazi	Flightless Farms
	2	DM Chilean La Paz	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
	3	Indian Peaks Mach One	Indian Peaks Ranch
MW YEAR MALE	1	DM Valdosta	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
	2	Jazz Mann's Blackjack	Kokopelli Llamas
	3	X-Ception	2 Bit 2 Llamas
MW TWO-YEAR MALE	1	Stage Stop Chilean Summer	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
MW MALE GRAND	-	Kastizo's Kamakazi	Flightless Farms
MW MALE RESERVE	-	Stage Stop Chilean Summer	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
HW JUV MALE	1	Wheatfield's Hummer	Wheatfield Llamas
	2	Silver Smith	Flightless Farms
	3	DM Kartouche	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
HW YEAR MALE	1	DM Atlas	Dorsey Mansion Llamas

**Green Chile Classic Results (continued):**

HW ADULT MALE	1	Desert Heart's Hudson	2 Bit 2 Llamas
	2	Spectacular Knockout	Indian Hills Llamas
	3	Mr Dabney	Rainbow Valley Llamas
HW MALE GRAND	-	Desert Heart's Hudson	2 Bit 2 Llamas
HW MALE RESERVE	-	Wheatfield's Hummer	Wheatfield Llamas
LW YEAR FEMALE	1	DM Qing Dynasty	2 Bit 2 Llamas
	2	2 Bit 2's Scottie	2 Bit 2 Llamas
	3	DM Goldy	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
LW ADULT FEMALE	1	Ella Belle	Kokopelli Llamas
	2	Empress Zoe	Kokopelli Llamas
LW FEMALE GRAND	-	DM Qing Dynasty	2 Bit 2 Llamas
LW FEMALE RESERVE	-	2 Bit 2's Scottie	2 Bit 2 Llamas
MW JUV FEMALE	1	Wheatfield's Mariah	Wheatfield Llamas
	2	DM Bolivian Dona Marta	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
	3	Cacique's Cache'	Flightless Farms
MW YEAR FEMALE	1	DM X-treme Measures	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
	2	DM Xi Lin	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
MW TWO-YEAR FEMALE	1	Miss Bev's Calico Babe	LCB
MW ADULT FEMALE	1	Roy-Dee's Petea	Killballyowen Ranch
MW FEMALE GRAND	-	Wheatfield's Mariah	Wheatfield Llamas
MW FEMALE RESERVE	-	DM X-treme Measures	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
HW JUV FEMALE	1	Cuchara	Flightless Farms
	2	Wheatfield's Firefly	Wheatfield Llamas
	3	DM Lakota	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
HW YEAR FEMALE	1	DM Kocina	Dorsey Mansion Llamas
HW ADULT FEMALE	1	Brickelle	Kokopelli Llamas
	2	Meissa	Kokopelli Llamas
HW FEMALE GRAND	-	Cuchara	Flightless Farms
HW FEMALE RESERVE	-	Wheatfield's Firefly	Wheatfield Llamas
GET OF SIRE	1	White Heat's Trilogy	Wheatfield Llamas
	2	Desert Heart's Hudson	2 Bit 2 Llamas
	3	Hayhook's Jazz Mann	Kokopelli Llamas



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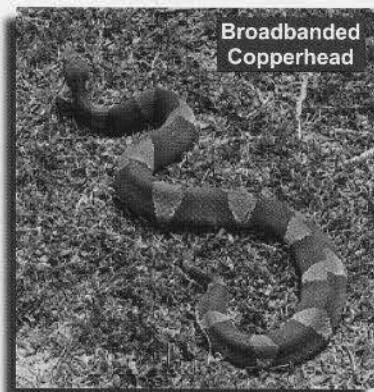
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# Rattlesnakes!!

Stephen Quackenbush



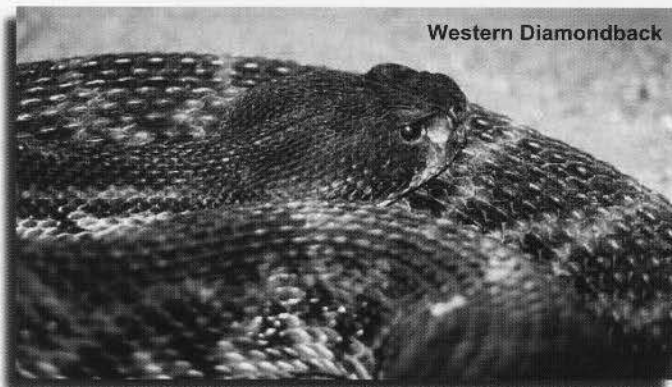
It's that time of year again. As the air warms, snakes start to venture out from their winter dens. Now is the time to pay particular attention to your llama and alpaca herds; where they're grazing, potential hiding places for snakes and frequent checks of your animals to catch any bites early. Since llamas and alpacas are curious

creatures, they will sometimes venture too close to a Rattlesnake or Copperhead that may be passing through. In the past three years, we've had a llama bitten by a rattler each year, between July and September. Unfortunately we lost one, but have been able to save the other two.

While we cannot seem to locate their wintering den in our area, we do know they venture out in early summer to start their migrations. We usually get a few on the road, so we know there's probably a lot more out in the grasses and rocks, that we don't see. We've tried Guinea hens and moth balls/flakes; some of the many remedies that we've been told are supposed to keep them away. We've also tried importing bull snakes whenever the neighbors catch them, but the rattlers still seem to come along every year.

So we just try to live with them the best we can. As far as humans are concerned, there's several things you can do to avoid snakebites, whether in your backyard, pasture or out camping or hiking (with or without your llamas):

1. Wear appropriate footwear such as boots, chaps or high-top hiking shoes with long pants.
2. Step up onto logs or rocks rather than over.
3. Don't place hands on unseen ledges or into animal holes.
4. Don't turn rocks or boards over with bare hands. Use a tool.
5. Don't try to kill, catch or molest a venomous snake. Leave them alone.
6. Don't hike by yourself, even in your own pasture.
7. Learn what dangerous snakes in your area look like.
8. Watch where you're walking and stay alert to your surroundings. Most snakebites occur when people are not watching where they're going and step on the snake.



If bitten, there are some initial steps that you can take to minimize the effects of the bite of a venomous snake. Very few snakebite kits on the market offer much in the way of first aid. A kit with a strong suction device has some merit in the field. Many hikers and campers carry these devices with them. No snakebite first aid kit provides a cure. Hospital treatment should always be sought immediately. When dealing with a snakebite:

1. Remain calm and inactive.
2. Don't make incisions over the snakebite.
3. Don't constrict the flow of blood.
4. Don't immerse a limb in ice water.
5. Use suction device to extract some venom. If performed within the first couple of minutes, this may help reduce the effects of the bite. It is not recommended doing this by mouth because if the person has ulcers or cuts of the mouth or stomach, the venom can attack those areas.
6. Have another individual drive to medical care for treatment.
7. If you spend a lot of time in "snake country", locate a snakebite treatment center before hand, just in case.

Treatment at a hospital or other medical facility to counter the effects of snake venom includes the injection of an antivenin (or antivenom). Antivenin is created by injecting small amounts of venom into a horse. The horse's immune system provides a defense against the venom. The horse's blood serum is then used in antivenin and given to human bite victims to counteract the effects of the bite. Only qualified medical personnel should administer antivenin. There are often side effects to be considered.



Treatment may also involve care given to relieve swelling, tetanus or local tissue damage. North American pit viper venom (rattlesnake, water moccasin, copperhead) are primarily hemotoxic; acting to destroy blood and muscle tissue

For llama and alpaca treatment, it is important to discover the bite early. Frequent observation and checks of your herd will help. Since most llama bites will occur in the face area, once bitten the animal will experience swelling and bloating around the face, eyes and neck. In most cases the risk of death is not from the venom itself, but from the tissue damage, infection and bloating that accompanies it, which can cut off circulation and breathing.

An aggressive treatment of Steroids (such as dexamethasone), administered intramuscular with antibiotics (Penicillin or Newflor) and anti-inflammatory (banamine) administered subcutaneously at the intervals prescribed by a veterinarian is the best way to combat a bite. Antivenin, if available can also be used, although it was never around

in Colorado when our llamas were bit and it is supposedly very expensive. If possible, it is best to transport the llama/ alpaca to a large animal hospital where more intense treatment with intravenous fluids can be administered. With aggressive treatment, the animal can survive a venomous snake bite, even without antivenin.

Humans being bitten by venomous snakes in the United States are very rare. There are about 8000 such occurrences each year. A large number of those occur to those that work with snakes on a daily basis, such as zoo keepers, research workers and hobbyists who choose to keep venomous snakes at home. Another large portion of those bitten were trying to catch, tease, or kill a snake in the wild. Most other bites occur when someone steps on a snake and the snake bites in its own defense. Death occurs in less than 1% of the snakebites in this country, about 10 to 15 per year. One third of the rattlesnake bites are "dry" bites, in which no venom is injected.

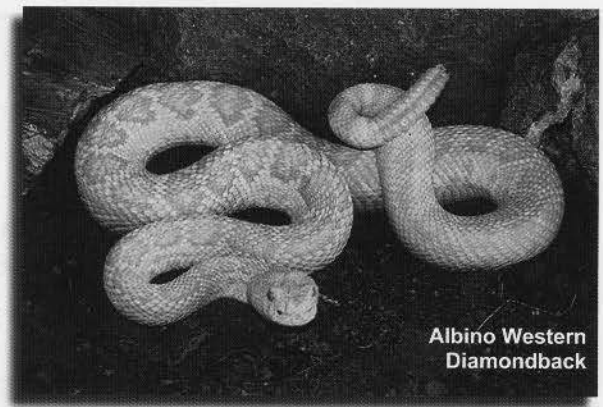
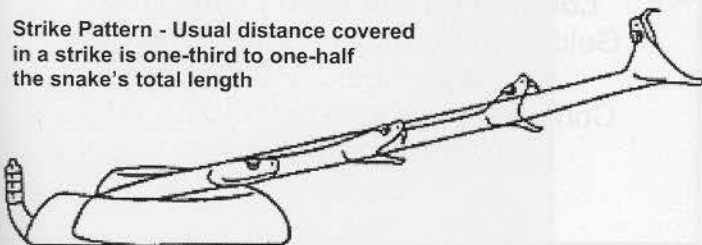
The two most common venous snakes in our area are the Western Diamondback Rattlesnake and the Broadbanded Copperhead. The Diamondbacks are of concern in this country because of their wide distribution, their relatively large size (giving a greater striking distance - about one-third to one-half their body length), the deep puncture wounds they inflict, and their large amounts of venom. Rattlesnakes will make every effort to avoid contact with people. We are far more dangerous to this secretive animal than it is to us. In almost every case, we are treading on the snakes' home territory when we encounter them, and in almost every case, the rattlesnake loses its life.

### The Western Diamondback Rattlesnake (*Crotelus atrox*)

One of the larger species of rattlesnake common to the arid Southwest United States. It ranges in size from 3-feet to as long as 7-feet! Like all rattlesnakes, this species has a triangular shaped head, keeled scales, and heat seeking "pits" just below their nostrils. A new segment to the rattle is added during each shed of the skin. The coloration of the Western Diamondback can vary from gray, brown, pink, or yellowish above, with light brown to blackish diamond shaped blotches which tend to fade towards the tail. The tail is ringed with black and white or light gray. A light stripe behind the eye meets the corner of the mouth.

This species ranges throughout southwestern United States and northeastern México. In our region it can be found in mountain and desert areas, rocky canyons, and vegetated rocky foothills. This species ranks as one of the world's largest and most dangerous snakes. The Diamondback primarily feeds on small rodents, rabbits,

Strike Pattern - Usual distance covered in a strike is one-third to one-half the snake's total length



Albino Western Diamondback

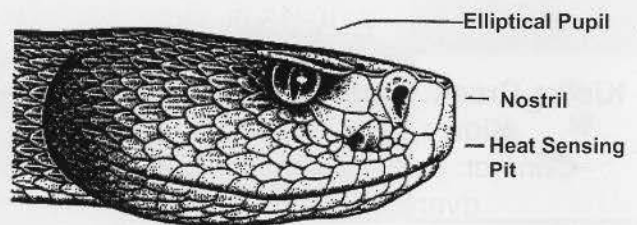
birds, and almost anything alive that can be swallowed whole. Partly because of its wide distribution, this snake accounts for more serious and fatal snake bites than any other North American reptile. They are largely defensive and stubborn and tend to stand their ground if provoked.

### The Broadbanded Copperhead (*Agkistrodon contortrix laticinctus*)

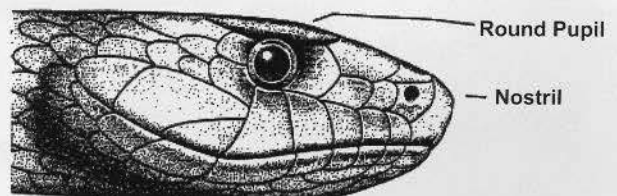
The copperhead is a small hemotoxic reptile classed closely with the water moccasin. The Broad-Banded subspecies is found in western/central Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas living in both lowlands and hilly areas. Due to their usual small size, the copperhead's bite is rarely fatal. Most adults of this type range in size from about 18 to 26 inches in length. Specimens in excess of 36 inches are rare.

It is characterized by the rich "new penny" copper colors with wide alternating bands that extend completely around even the underside. They exhibit a tenacious personality when approached and are extremely well camouflaged in nature so that they are usually quite close at hand when finally spotted by those in the field.

Statistics, graphics and pictures used with permission from the American International Rattlesnake Museum, Albuquerque, NM



(Venomous) Profile of typical Crotalid rattlesnake showing scale formation and head configuration



(Non-Venomous) Profile of typical Colubrid snake showing scale formation and head configuration

## *Upcoming Events:*

### JUNE

#### **Estes Park Wool Market Llama Show**

Estes Park, CO. June 16-18, 2006

Contact: Gayle Woodsum at 307.399.3815  
Llama Festivals@aol.com .

#### **Pack Llamafest '06**

Plains, MT., June 24, 2006

Contact: Dick Williams at 406.826.2201  
drdrjhw@hotmail.com

### JULY

#### **Llofty Llamas 4-H Summer Classic**

Franktown, CO., July 15, 2006

Contact: Scott McHenry at 303.688.6642  
cr\_smch@yahoo.com

#### **Out on the Prairie Youth Show**

Calhan, CO. July 23, 2006

Contact: Maureen Bergenfeld at 719.522.0347  
bergenfeld@earthlink.net

#### **Fairplay Pack/Walk Llama Race**

Fairplay, CO. July 29, 2006

Contact: Gary Carlton at 303.622.6306  
Gary@JmhFarm.com .

#### **Fairplay Llama Camp Performance Show**

Fairplay, CO., July 30, 2006

Contact: Sandra Lockwood at 303.838.9554  
dslockwood@Juno.com

### AUGUST

#### **Kiowa Creek Youth Llama & Alpaca Show**

Kiowa, CO., August 1, 2006

Contact: Dani Varela at 303.621.9021  
dvarela@esdk12.org or  
Sherry Adamcyk at 303.621.9021  
sadamcyk@d20.co.edu

#### **Hope Pass Aid Station**

Leadville, CO., August 18-20, 2006

Contact: Jim Osmun at 303.457.2787  
osmunj@att.net

## *Journal Classifieds:*

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## *Upcoming Events (continued)*

### SEPTEMBER

#### **LOCC Fall Classic Llama Show**

Castle Rock, CO., September 2-3, 2006

Contact: Barbara Harris at 719.275.9457  
wildcatllamas@aol.com .

#### **Rocky Mountain Regional Show**

Castel Rock, CO., September 23-24, 20006

Contact: Ann Bruhn at 719.689.4026,  
KaNeeGa@aol.com

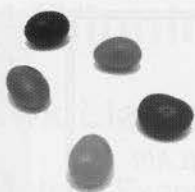
#### **Looking for the Gold Llama Hike**

Golden Gate Canyon State Park, CO.

September 30, 2006

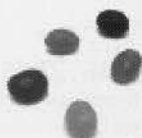
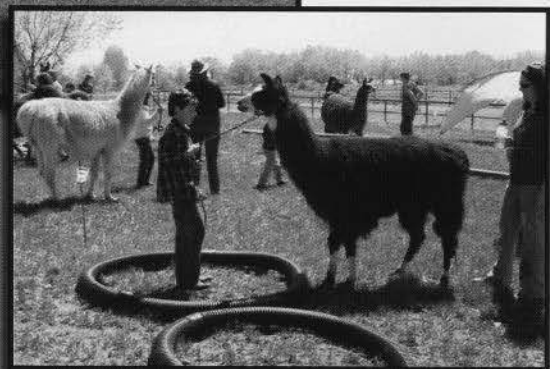
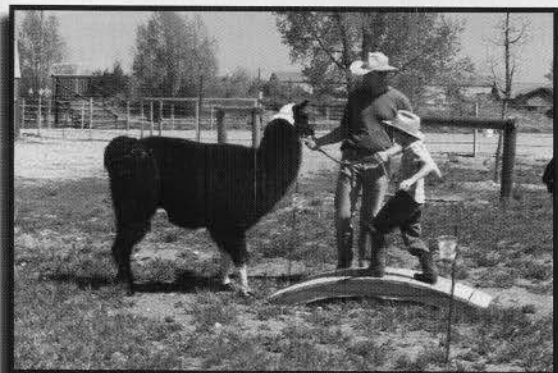
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# Jelly Bean Classic



May 6th 2006  
Indiana Equestrian Center  
Arvada, Colorado

Event Organizer:  
Jerry Dunn

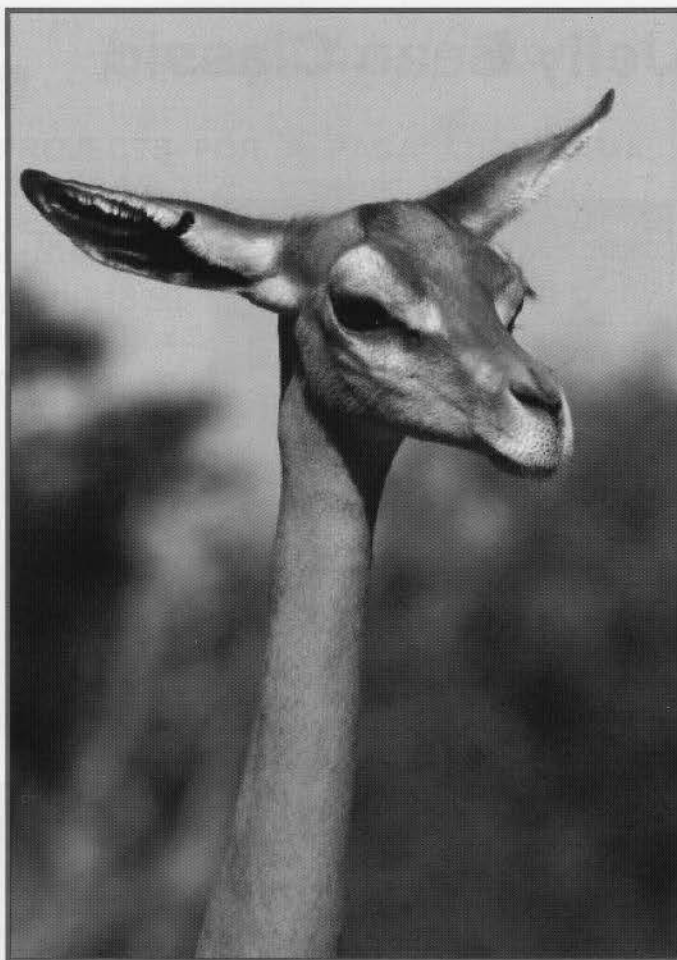


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If you can name the species and its habitat (geographic area), send us your guess and we'll put correct entries in a drawing for a free business card ad in the next Journal. Send your guesses to: [editor@rmlajournal.com](mailto:editor@rmlajournal.com)

--Deadline for submissions: July 21st 2006--  
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# “Alaine Byers” Winning Edge Clinic

Hosted by Lladyhawk Llamas, Longmont, CO

Carolann Evans

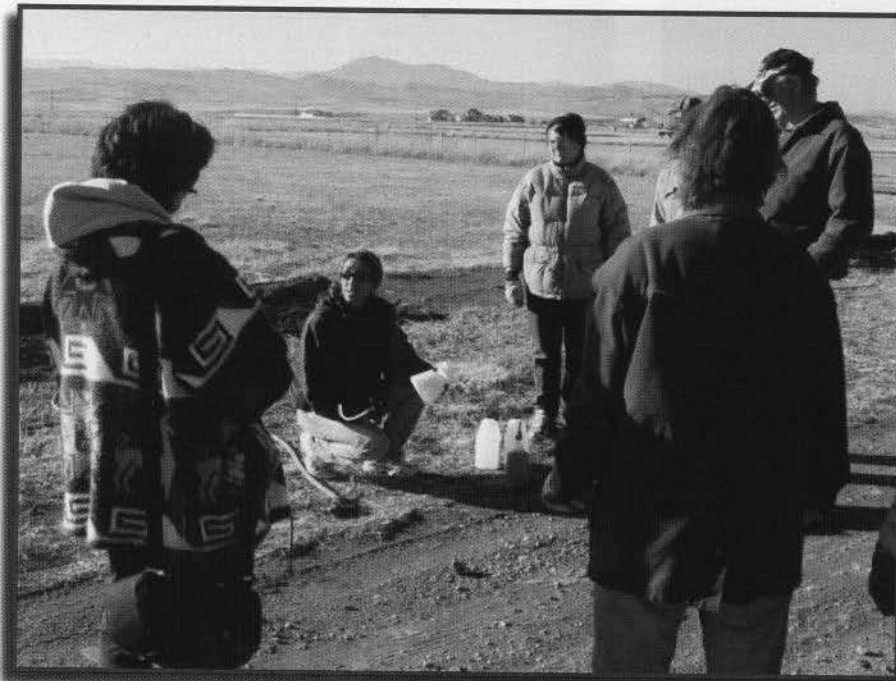
The hardest part is finding the perfect date to host a clinic. I didn't want to compete with the show season, spring break, holidays, or other local clinics / events. And then I had to count on the weather co-operating. After agonizing for weeks, and tormenting Alaine with my indecision, I decided on February 25 & 26. Colorado weather can be iffy at best in February, but I trusted that it would all work out.

Everyone got into town Friday – Paul & Karen Schwartz from Wyoming; Ulla Kauffman from Utah; and Gerald LoSasso, Judy Glaser, Annette Mulholland, and Sandy Lockwood all from Colorado. Alaine and her helper,

Sunny, also arrived for a quick walk-around to discuss setup and which animals would be suitable for demonstration purposes. Saturday morning dawned gray, cloudy and quite cold. We started with lots of hot coffee, coffee cake and discussion on fiber and fiber types. Alaine had set up a great display for visual and hands -on learning. By 11:30 the sun was peeking out and we all bundled up to head outside for the beginning of learning how to actually groom! We chose “Mystic” a large, gray suri llama and “Joey” a VERY wooly Argentine llama for our first victims. These two would be groomed in their entirety, weather and time permitting. We had 3 chutes set up and several folks had brought their own llamas to practice on or to ask questions about problem areas. We started with blower-work and then broke for lunch.

After lunch was more blowing, with emphasis on techniques to manage cleaning an animal without brushing the lock structure out of the fiber. We also learned techniques for the animals that DO require some brushing. Next came washing.....and it was really quite cold, so we learned the invaluable procedure for cold-weather washing. We washed just half the suri llama and 2 opposing quarters of the wooly (one to the skin, one topically). The llamas were then put to bed for the evening as we adjourned for a warm chili supper.

Sunday was warmer and sunny, so after an indoor discussion on marketing and past trends in the industry, we headed



Wash Time!

Fiber Display

outside to have our own little “show.” We took 5 llamas of varying ages (to demonstrate different stages of development) and wool types into the “ring” for discussions on conformation and movement and just what the judges are looking at! WOW. We all learned a lot about strengths and faults and how to choose a breeding llama – more discussion on marketing and breeding for the best possible conformation, regardless of wool type. We all had the opportunity to individually assess each animal and ask questions about what we were seeing and what we weren't seeing, but should be looking for! We all know how difficult it is to be objective and critical of our own animals that we've fallen in love with. “Barn blindness” is a common affliction and learning to



overcome it and why we NEED to (in order to also be responsible breeders) was an invaluable part of this clinic.

After our time in the ring, it was time to put the finishing touches on Mystic and Joey. They looked wonderful when we were done, and we all left feeling like grooming was a much more manageable task. We also now know better how to choose the right animals to take to shows.....and we're all VERY ready for the upcoming show season!

Watch for us!



Class Time!



Finishing Touches!

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2004 Green Chile Classic Reserve Grand Champion

We are moving to Morgantown, West Virginia, this summer.  
We will miss all the RMLA friends we have made over the years.  
You can still find us at [www.kokopellillamas.com](http://www.kokopellillamas.com).

# Llama Ownership has Completely Changed our Lives

Gretchen Matsuda

My daughter, Mariko, jumped into the car as I picked her up from high school, darting glances at me to measure my mood, and screwed up her courage. "So, guess what? My friend Amber asked if we wanted two llamas - for free - they'll even throw in a trailer if we want it." Younger sister, Midori, shook the car as she bounced up and down in ecstasy as I launched into the most obvious reason we couldn't accept Amber's generous offer - llamas were not acceptable pets in our tidy covenant controlled neighborhood. Not a problem, Mariko informed me, the llamas were boarded less than ten minutes from our house.

Due to allergies, nothing with fur is allowed to pass through our door, but our girls dreamed of someday having a pet that didn't eat crickets or shed it's skin. Dogs, cats, hamsters, even hedgehogs were outlawed by the allergist. Despite the ban, Mariko and Midori longed for a fuzzy critter to love and call their own.

Llamas have flitted in and out of our consciousness ever since Midori's preschool took a field trip to a llama ranch. It was love at first sight. So when a couple classmates started showing borrowed llamas for 4-H we went to the National Western Stock Show to watch. The fire was fueled by a particularly personable and fuzzy eared llama named "Clyde" and we started going to local llama shows in hopes of seeing Clyde again.



It couldn't hurt to look at Amber's llamas, we reasoned, knowing that llama ownership wasn't in the cards for us. Well a few llama kisses and some very fuzzy hugs later, we struck a bargain. We'd pay the board for three month for Encore and Tahoe, two recently gelded males, and at the end of three months we'd make a decision. Steve and Shari Quackenbush, owners of the ranch where the llamas were boarded agreed to help us get started, and so the journey began.

Four days later Shari called - Encore (already lovingly called "Corey") had been bitten on the lip by a rattlesnake. They had found him right away and had already started treating him, but Corey might not survive. He would need shots twice a day for a week, if he made it through the night. And there was a \$175 vet bill. Ok, this was not part of the bargain! One look at poor Corey's lip, swollen to the size of a prairie dog, and we knew we were in it for the duration. Steve and Shari brought Corey back from the brink, but Corey has never forgiven Steve for his ministrations.

Several days into the snake bite, the Quackenbushes couldn't be there to give Corey his evening shot, so we picked up Amber and set out to do the dirty deed ourselves. Now Amber had given a few llama shots, but was no expert. I had given plenty of people shots, but a four year old kid who doesn't want a shot is no match for a 4 year old llama who has an aversion to needles. Looking back it's amazing that Amber and I didn't end up shot full of antibiotics and steroids ourselves. With no chute, Corey's rear end was a battering ram, swinging in rapid 180 degree arcs as his head was secured to a stall gate. Just as Amber would find a spot to stick the needle, amid 6 inch fiber, Corey would slam us both into the wall in his frantic dance. Steve refused payment for the multitude of injections he gave Corey over the next few days, but I would have gladly paid just about anything not to play that little game again.

The upside of Corey's brush with death is that (according to Shari) he is "much calmer." He also bonded quickly with Midori, as she never carried needles, and usually had a pocket full of llama treats. Tahoe was another story. He



sensed our inexperience and took full advantage of it at every opportunity. "Leading" Tahoe involved great pain on our part as he very carefully let his hoofs slide down the back of our heel with every step. He also spit great green globs of the most revolting substance we had ever seen - at Mariko - who he was supposed to be devotedly attached to. Not helping matters was loveable Pavarati, another of Amber's llamas, who delighted in torturing Corey and Tahoe as the girls lead them around the pasture. He would poke shaggy bottoms, squeeze in between person and llama, threaten to spit - and then get out of the way as one of us got a faceful. We had several rides home from the Bar Q Diamond Ranch with our heads hanging out the windows. The stench, we discovered, is greatly intensified in the steamy heat of a shower.

Mariko ended up returning Tahoe to Amber. With the help of Annette Mulholland, we purchased a skittish, but sweet, girl from Mississippi, that we call Shadow. Nine years old and rather set in her ways, Shadow was (and is) very vocal when on lead, or suspects she is about to be haltered. She has a whole range of vocalizations that mostly mean "I'm bored" or "I don't like this activity." Shadow's noises more closely resemble a lawn mower, angry dog or unhappy cow than any llama. She's not above stamping her feet when in a snit.

Thus, we were shocked, when at our first show, the Estes Park Wool Market, Shadow turned into a regal princess who didn't utter one complaint the entire weekend. She held her head high and daintily lifted her feet as we walked around, acting as if the entire event was being held in her honor. Waiting for her turn to enter the show ring, Shadow adamantly refused to watch what was happening on the obstacle course - turning her back completely to the proceedings or gazing off in the distance. Apparently she thought that if she didn't look, she wouldn't have to do it.

Llama ownership has completely changed our lives. My husband, Dale, a confirmed city boy with an aversion to anything that comes out of an animal's backside can now choke down lunch in a barn stall. He's also discovered, thanks to a few cracked ribs, that hanging on to a running llama is not a good idea. Mariko shocked her grandparents by saving her Christmas and birthday money for stud fees. She's learned to give a llama eye drops and do a decent barrel cut, along with spinning fiber. Corey has helped Midori recover from some tough medical problems and she is in tune with his every tail flick, ear movement and wild neck run. While Shadow is the princess, Corey is our cocky comedian. Dinner conversations are much more animated at our house, and we have a wonderful common passion with our teenage daughters.



Ultimately, though, it is the people that llamas have brought into our lives that have been the greatest blessing. The Quackenbushes have allowed us to board our llamas, mentor us, take care of the vet issues that are beyond our abilities, are loaning us a llama while Shadow is breeding, lead our Llofty Llamas 4-H club, and have pulled us into the llama community. Their kids, along with the McHenry girls have generously shared their show knowledge with our girls, despite the fact that they compete in the ring. Annette Mulholland has provided a wealth of information, support and has given us insider tips leading to our Shadow and a deal on a trailer. Sally Rucker enabled Mariko to breed Shadow with her prized Narcissis at a price within her Christmas and birthday money budget. At shows, complete strangers have helped us when our ignorance has gotten the best of us. Without the support of all these folks, we probably would have given up on llama ownership during that three month trial period.



Our llama enterprise has been christened "Little Backyard Llamas" (LBY for short). It is only possible because folks in the llama community were willing to take us on, share their pastures, their breeding stock and their expertise. Someday we hope to have a ranch of our own, but for now we are so happy that our girls finally have their fuzzy animals to love and hug. For ranch owners who have the space and inclination, I would encourage you to adopt some "city folk" and give them the opportunity to love llamas as much as you do.

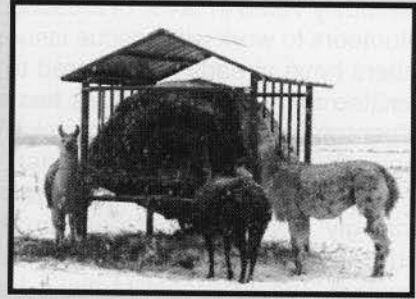
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## Things we have learned while Ranch Sitting.....

*(Observations shared with us from the Matsuda's while ranch sitting. Shari Q., Editor)*

1. Chicks really do come out of eggs.
2. Chicks do not nurse.
3. Chicks must bounce - at least once when leaping off the hay bale they were born on.
4. Oliver (a barn cat) doesn't eat chicks, even when chick(ens) eat all of his food.
5. Sally (a border collie) doesn't like it when you go to Singapore - she goes wild.
6. Lambs can't find their way out of a shelter - unless a llama sticks it's head in to show them the way.
7. Magic (a llama) prefers her water cold & directly from the hose.
8. Magic loves to be squirted with the hose on a hot day and could model for Llamas Illustrated.
9. Cookie (a llama) occasionally goes bowling for goats.
10. Encore (a llama) makes a good goat umbrella (sun or rain).
11. Getting a llama out of the pasture without losing any goats is VERY hard.
12. Mariko's arms stretch when she's got a goat by the tail with each hand and they go in opposite directions.
13. Goats have very sharp hoofs, especially when planted in your back.
14. Goats don't like it when you give llamas attention.
15. Lambs do not enjoy being dunked in the water by goats.
16. Just because a llama lays down does not mean it is going into labor or dying.
17. Cody (a horse) has a lot of kick (literally) in him when food is involved.
18. The horses now gallop to the gate and whinny in expectation when they see me.
19. Shadow selectively eats weeds in the lawn with little yellow flowers. She's volunteered to mow the lawn anytime.
20. Llamas look pitiful in the rain (especially Starr) but do not seek shelter even when it's available.

# RMLA'S NEWEST COMMITTEE

by Laura McNamara and Cheryl Juntilla

In April, 2006, the RMLA Board of Directors unanimously voted in favor of creating a standing committee of volunteers to work with rescue issues. A number of RMLA members have already volunteered to serve on this Rescue Committee and L'illette Vasquez has agreed to serve as its Chairperson.

Llama, alpaca, and general camelid rescue is a surprisingly controversial topic in the llama community. Breeders may be afraid that publicity about rescues will "hurt the market," which would make it harder for them to sell animals, or that giving llamas away for free reduces the value of all llamas. There are stories about people's llamas being 'rescued' – i.e., kidnapped – by individuals who felt that the animals were not receiving proper care. Others have accused rescuers of fraudulently gathering llamas as 'rescues' to sell for profit at an auction or livestock sale yard.

However, there are many legitimate rescue situations that the llama community should be able to address. People who have unexpected health or financial problems, and don't have a contingency plan for their animals, may suddenly find themselves in need of a sanctuary for their herd. Irresponsible owners who no longer want to care for their herd may abandon or 'set free' their animals. Municipal animal shelters or livestock boards do

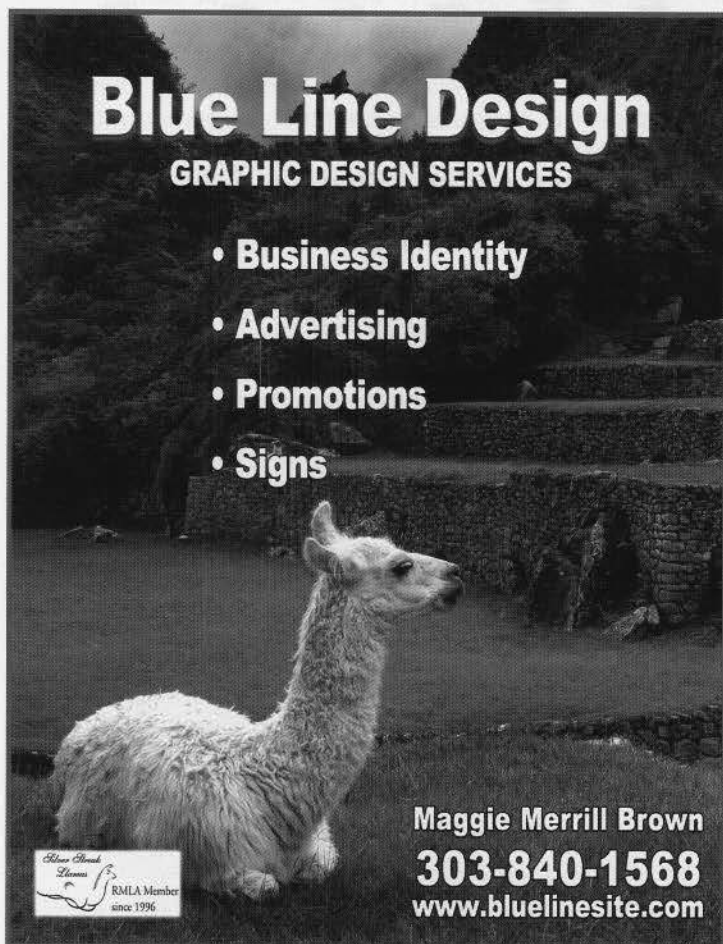
occasionally intervene in cases of severe animal maltreatment, but don't always have facilities or experience for llama care. In cases like these, a reputable llama rescue organization is a benefit to the entire camelid community.

The RMLA Rescue Committee does not comprise a rescue organization in and of itself; rather, its goals center around awareness and networking. More specifically, the committee will pursue the following goals:

- To raise awareness about the problem of llama rescue and develop a stronger community understanding about what rescue entails
- To educate all llama owners to recognize what 'legitimate' rescuers do, so that fraudulent rescues become an exception and not a rule
- To provide llama owners in need of foster and care services with resources and information about legitimate sanctuaries
- To connect with llama rescue organizations across the country to strengthen resources and develop a stronger network for rescue activities.

The committee will communicate via e-mail and telephone and meet in person on an as-needed basis. Committee members will work with established llama rescue organizations to compile data about rescue, foster, and adoption activities. The committee will issue a yearly report to RMLA members detailing the committee's activities, including data on rescue activities for the previous year, and describe the major issues that rescue organizations are encountering. This yearly report will be presented during the RMLA Annual Business Meeting and published in the RMLA Journal. It will also compile and provide members with information about, and connections to, legitimate rescue organizations through the RMLA Journal and website.

If you would like to join this Committee, please contact L'illette at [lillette@veevee.com](mailto:lillette@veevee.com).



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# CALLING ALL LLAMAS

## The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual RMLA FairPlay Llama Race/Walk and Colorado Donor Alliance

Gary Carlton

When the sun rises on race day over this scenic old gold mining town hundreds of participants and thousands of spectators will gather on front street to find out who will be first to cross the finish line. Three different events take place on this three mile course that covers blacktop, rivers, rocks, willows, tunnels, jumps, bridges and hills.

In the first heat participants try to run, walk or jog with a llama carrying a saddle and panniers, with 30 lbs. of gear. This race is really more llamas than human if he wants to run that day you may win, if he would rather eat grass you might come in last.

The second heat is the Colorado Donor Alliance Llama Rama, where medical professionals from across the country come to compete in teams of four with one llama to try and win the Llama Rama trophy to display in their office for one year, and promote the need for organ and tissue donation awareness. 2005 featured 40 teams or 160 participants ranging from nurses to surgeons making it the safest race course in America.

The third heat is the walking event for those who prefer a slower pace or would just like to get acquainted with a llama for the first time.

The entry fee is sixteen dollars and includes a t-shirt this event is open to the public and we will provide a llama for those who need them. We had more than 100 to loan out last year.

2005 featured a total of 236 participants making it another record year. We are expecting 250 or more in 2006. I ran out of llamas last year so if you have a field full of boys that could use a little exercise please bring them up.

Due to issues with the forest service the llama camp performance show will be held at the Fairplay swim beach area approximately one half mile southwest of the race course starting line where it was held four years ago. Llama camp will remain in the same place along Beaver Creek in the National Forest.

Plan on showing up on Friday afternoon for the llama camp pot luck dinner. Vivian and I will provide chili for the main course, bring along a side dish and catch up on what everyone has been up to for the last year. Check the RMLA website in June for information on camping and show location. I will have registration forms on the website also.

I would like to extend a very special thank you to the llama ranches, volunteers, and merchants who make this entire weekend possible.

### Llama Ranches

Stage Stop, Escarpment, cardinal oaks, Jim Osmun, Clearwater, Mary Wickman, Ann Brawm, Falcon Crest, Rockin-m, Split Rock Ranch, Kevin Kaltenbaugh, Comanche Creek, Lockwood Dreamster, and Ceder Cliff Llamas.

### Volunteers

Roger and Betty Miller, Etein Miller, Jeff and Sally Rucker, Mary Wickman, Steve and Leslie Schubert, Ann Brawm, Mark Smith, Niles Wayland, Vivian Johnson, Bob Welsh, Jill Duram, Mark and Kathy Wittrup, Jim Osmun, Mike Fridel and Dave and Sandra Lockwood.

A special thank you to John Hess for all of your computer help.

### Fairplay Merchants who donated prizes:

Clamitys Cabin, Old Red Barn, Hand Hotel, Dr Charles Gordon DDS, Brown Burro Café, The Haircut Shop, South Park Historical Foundation, Chocolate Moose, Front Street Antiques, Even in the End Liquor, Imaginations, South Park Bar, Silver Scoop Creamery, The Pizza Shop and Bob Welsh for donating a picture. Sorry if I left anyone out.

### Top three finishers in the running event 2005

1. Chris Kemp 33.7 with Elvis from Falcon Crest Llamas
2. Jason Hudson 33.48 with Sunfisher from Comanche Creek Llamas
3. Three man team Shane Bergman, Chris Wilson and Mike LaSale 36.48 with Lucky from Kaltenbaugh Llamas

Hope to see you in Fairplay this July.

For information, suggestions or to volunteer contact Gary Carlton (Event Coordinator) at 303-622-6306 or 303-503-1324. E-mail [Gary@JMHfarm.com](mailto:Gary@JMHfarm.com)

Or fill out an entry form (next page) and turn in your application today to participate in this exciting event.



# Fairplay Pack/Walk Llama Race

Fairplay, CO  
 Saturday, July 29, 2006  
 Contact: Gary Carlton 303/622-6306

Join in the fun of the 24<sup>th</sup> running of this annual event, held in conjunction with Fairplay Burro Days!  
 There will be activities for all ages and abilities.

- ∨ Llama Lunacy obstacle course and fun for the kids and public on Front Street after the races.
- ∨ If you can, bring extra llamas for "loaners" for other non-llama people to use (what a great way to get your llamas seen by the public).
- ∨ Camp (free-tents/campers) Friday and Saturday nights at the "Llama Camp." Check In will be Saturday morning, July 29, starting at 9:00 a.m. Race starts at 11:00 a.m.
- ∨ Stay around for the RMLA/LOCC Performance Show (sanctioned by ALSA) at the Swim Beach on Sunday, July 30, 2006, at 8:00 a.m., contact Sandra Lockwood for information.

If Pre-registering, make *checks payable to RMLA*

Mail registration and check to: **Gary Carlton**  
**P.O. Box 27**  
**Strasburg, CO 80136**

Registration includes a T-shirt; please specify size when registering.

First Name	Last Name	Division (circle one)		Gender (Circle)	Age	Shirt Size (Circle)
		Run \$16	Walker \$16	Male Female		Small, Med, Large, X-Large
		Run \$16	Walker \$16	Male Female		Small, Med, Large, X-Large
		Run \$16	Walker \$16	Male Female		Small, Med, Large, X-Large
		Run \$16	Walker \$16	Male Female		Small, Med, Large, X-Large

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If you know of someone who is interested in volunteering to assist with: registration, timing, spotters, and Lunacy setup; please list their name and phone number. Volunteers will receive a T-shirt for their assistance!

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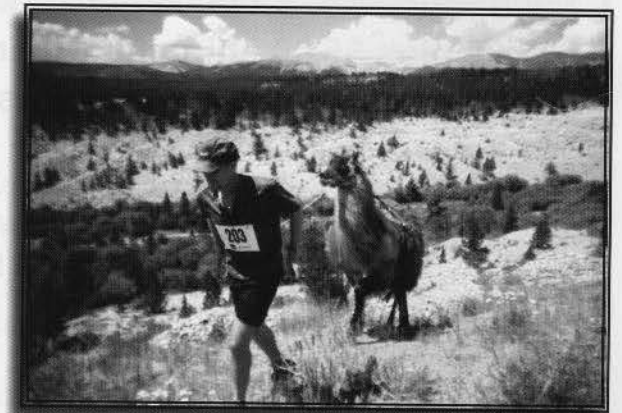




# CALLING ALL LLAMAS

We have

Pictures from the 2005 Fairplay Llama Race / Walk



# Farm and Ranch Tips

Larry Lewellyn

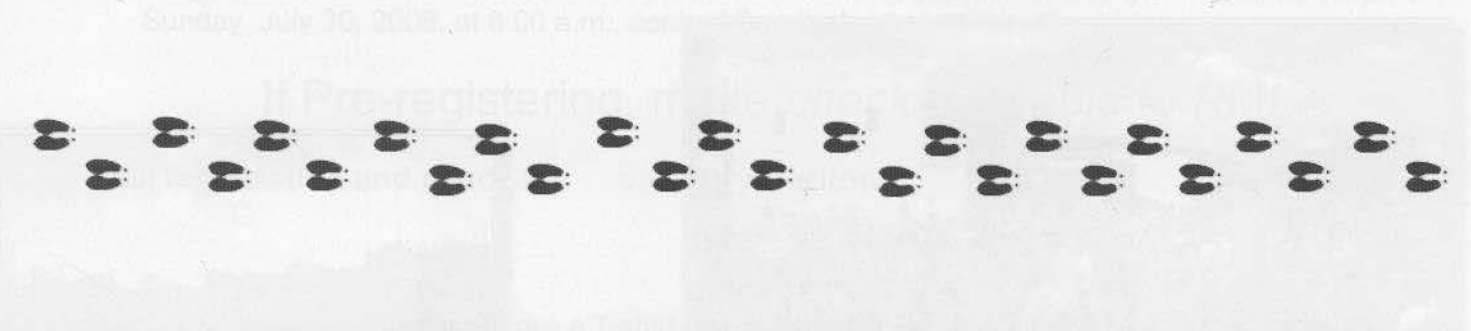
In the early RMLA newsletter of 1988, it had a section for helpful hints for llama and alpaca owners which were submitted by members. I will be putting past and present hints in all the upcoming Journals. We need your help, if you have a ranch or farm tip which can help members, please submit to me.

## RMLA No. 40 May 9, 1989

The Central Oregon Llama Association newsletter passes on this tip from Cheryl Tillman, DVM. To check for lice, wrap some cellophane tape around your fingers with the sticky side out. Part the llama's wool down to the skin, then dab the skin and examine the tape against the light for the presence of lice.

## RMLA January 2005 Calendar

Early tying lessons should be closely monitored. Always have company for youngsters during their first training session, preferably with an older, more experienced animal. Tie the lead rope at about the llama's chin level, too short for a leg to get over the rope even if there is jumping or rearing involved. Be sure to use a safety release knot and tie to a post or ring that cannot be pulled out.

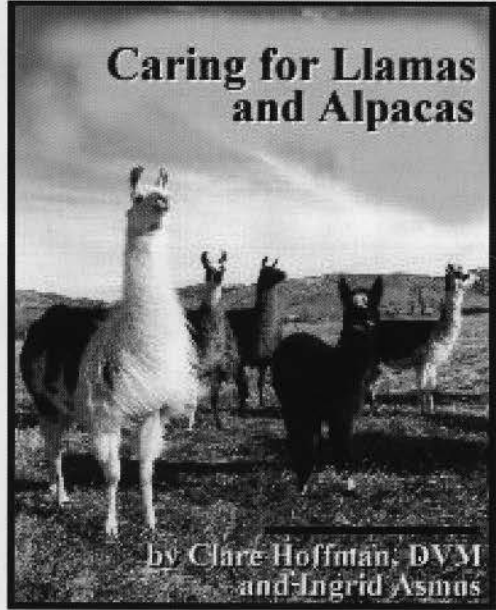


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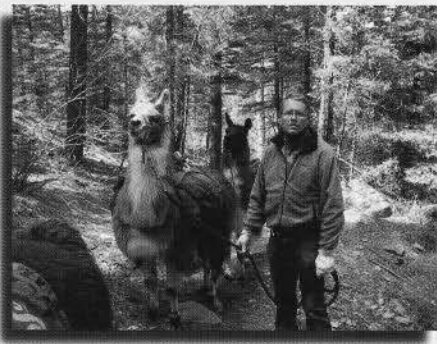
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**You'll find the perfect addition to your herd!**

John and Sharon Beacham - 15760 County Road 220 - Salida, CO 81201

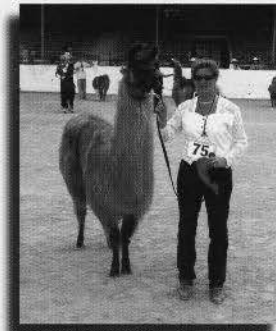
719-539-7185 - beachams@phf-llamas.com



**Our goal is to raise llamas and angora goats for excellent confirmation, temperament and fiber**



**Enjoying all aspects of our versatile llamas...  
Showing, educating new owners, packing,  
supporting 4-H and FFA organizations,  
marketing and community service**



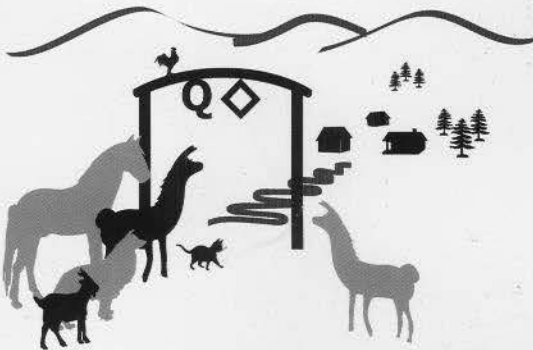
*We offer limited outside breedings*

*Boarding space available on a first-come, first-served basis*

*If you're in the neighborhood, stop by and say hello. Or visit us on our web site at:*

*[www.bar-q-diamond.com](http://www.bar-q-diamond.com)  
Contact us at 303-688-6662  
or [llamas@bar-q-diamond.com](mailto:llamas@bar-q-diamond.com)*

## Bar Q Diamond Ranch



**RMLA**  
11818 W. 52nd Avenue  
Wheat Ridge, Colorado  
80033-2032

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473
- Post 6-13-06
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- Unable To Forward
- Insufficient Address \*\*\*\*\*AUTO\*\*ALL FOR ADC 590
  - Moved, Left No Address
  - Unclaimed  Refused Gordon Hudson
  - Attempted - Not Known Bridger Vista Llamas
  - No Such Street  Number 40 Springhill School Rd
  - Vacant  Illegible Belgrade, MT 59714-8437
  - No Mail Receptacle
  - Box Closed - No Order
  - Returned For Better Address
  - Postage Due

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