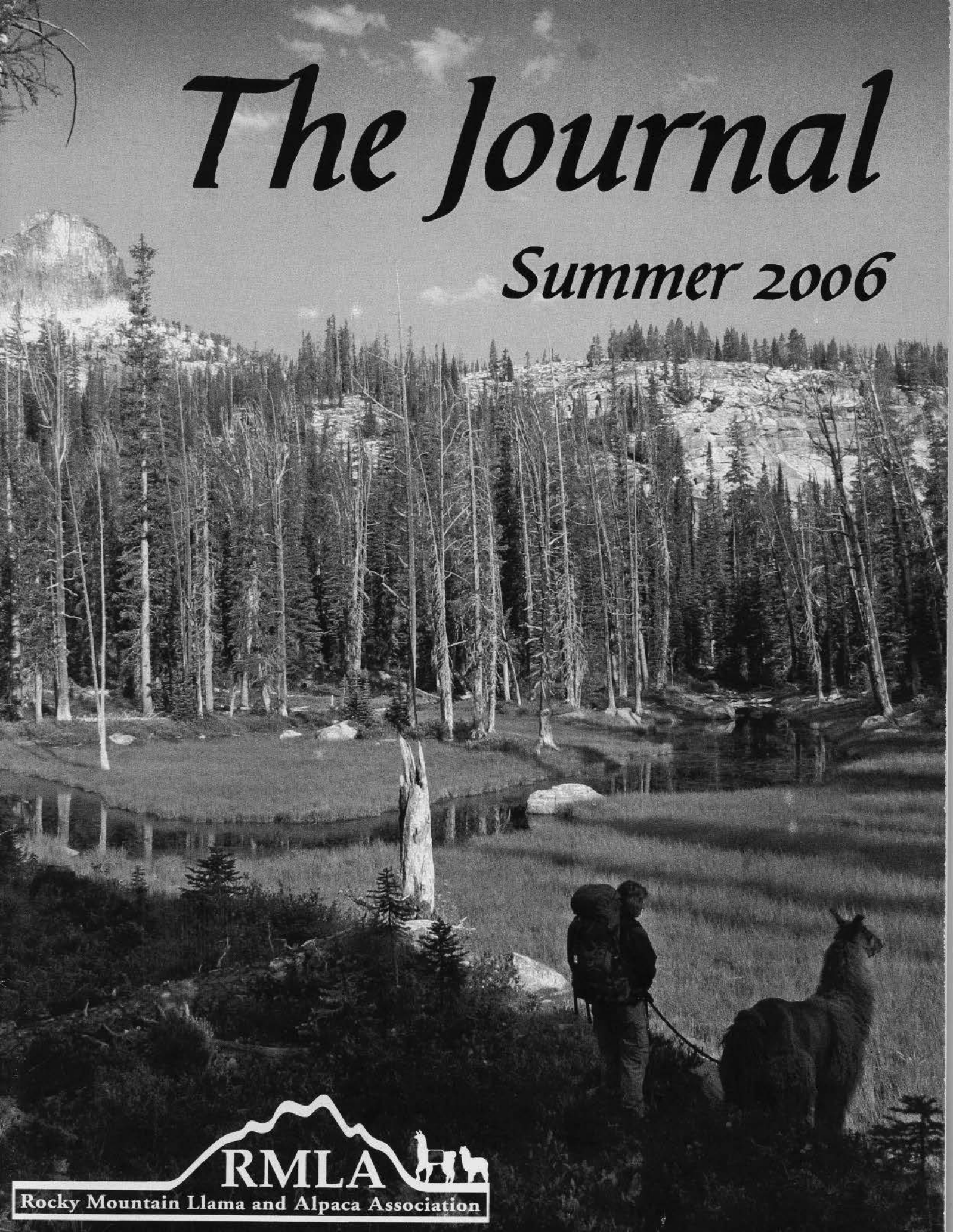


# *The Journal*

*Summer 2006*

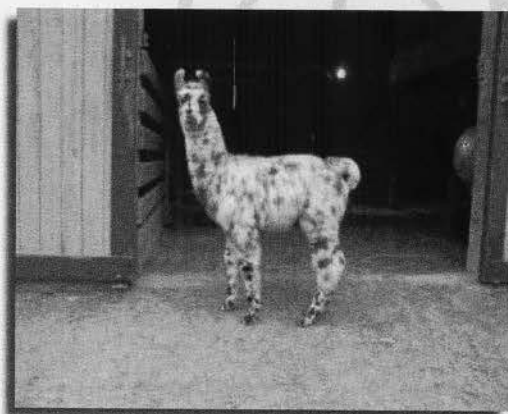


Rocky Mountain Llama and Alpaca Association

*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  
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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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## *Summer 2006*

### On the Cover:

Elstar a 4 year old llama and owner Teresa Loya, hike along the Sheafman Creek Trail outside of Victor, Montana.

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Continuing Education	---	---	---	Cheryl Juntilla
Elections & Nominations	Maggie Merrill-Brown	303.646.0568	mm@bluelinesite.com	Teri Nilson Baird
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Fiber	Patti Morgan	620.442.4996	pmmorgan@skyerock.net	---
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## Journal

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

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# RMLA

Rocky Mountain Llama and Alpaca Association

**JOIN TODAY!!** 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 ¼ 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Donation \_\_\_\_\_

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

We only accept:



<p><b>Circle Your Interest(s):</b></p> <p>Breeding      Research          Sales        Leasing          Fiber        Driving          Packing      Boarding          Commercial Judging          Packing      Brokering          Training     Other          Products</p>	<p><b>Circle if interested in working on these committees:</b></p> <p>Finance        Research          Continuing    Bylaws          Education     Fiber          Nominations/Elections    Membership          4-H            Publishing          Marketing     Library          Events        Packing</p>	<p>Number of Llamas owned:</p> <p>_____ Females          _____ Intact Males          _____ Geldings</p> <p>Number of Alpacas owned:</p> <p>_____ Females          _____ Intact Males          _____ Geldings</p>
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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

# President's Message

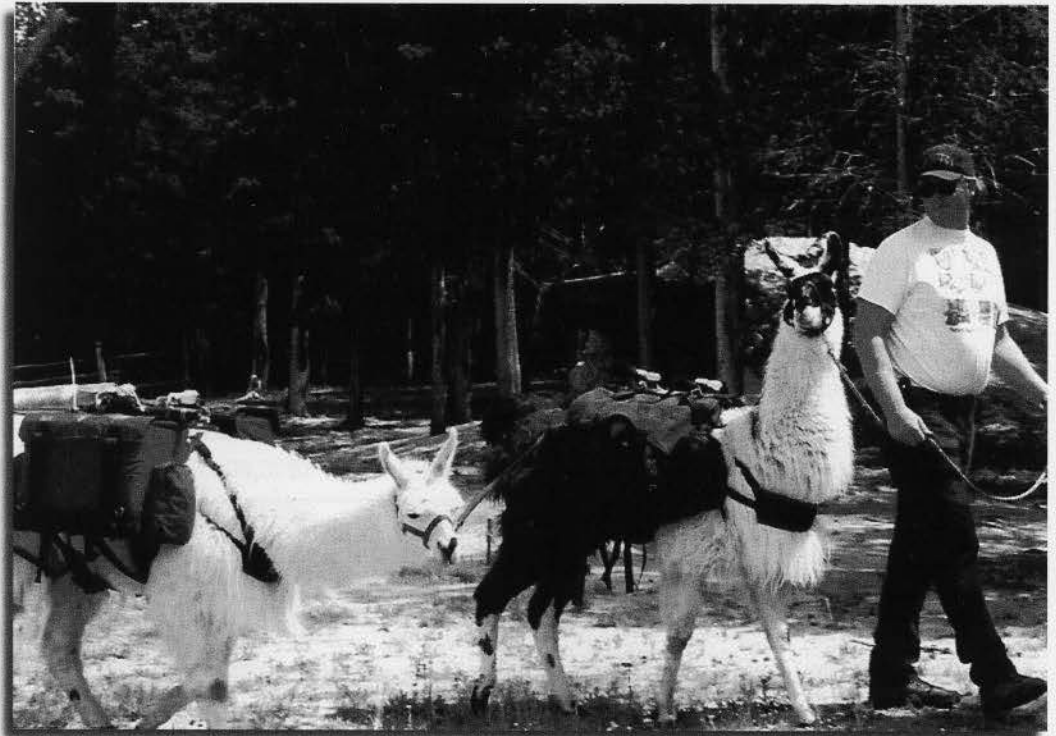
WOW. Thank you Shari and all the contributors to the Spring Journal. It was truly a spring special edition.

The RMLA Fiber Coop is off to a great start. New consignments are coming in and Taos and Nationals should be a great finish to the year. Thank you Patti for all your time and dedication to RMLA.

I would like to welcome our new members since my last letter, Karen and Mel Saunders, Brenda and Russel Shea, Hugo and Pat Sellers. Beatrice Bartle-Kasperek, Mary and Kenneth Able, Cindy and Scott Griffith, Jim and Barbara Bolin, Dick Moore and Sharon Riegel, and Roger and Lin Ridgley. Welcome back Judy and Larry Steffel. It is nice to have you back as members. I hope to meet you all soon.

Summer is over and I hope all of your chores are done. Remember, soon the snow will be falling (if it hasn't already) and our pasture friends need to be winterized also.

Paul Schwartz



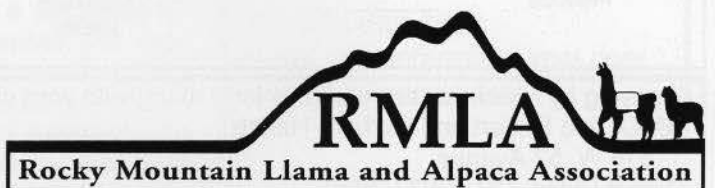
## *ChanTar Llamas*

Located at the foot of the  
Bighorn Mountains

Paul, Karen, Chandra, &  
Tara Schwartz

69 Gallatin Drive  
Sheridan, WY 82801

(307) 672-5144  
chantar@fiberpipe.net



# 2006 Spring Fiber Clinic

Wendy Dinzi

Sharon and John Beacham's Pheasant Hill Ranch in Salida, Colorado was the staging area for this year's 2006 Spring Fiber Clinic.

Sharon Beacham and Karen Kinyon ( Double K Diamond Llamas) served as our capable instructors, guiding participants through hand and electric shearing on Sharon's patient llamas. We learned skirting (selection of prime fleece, second cuts, discardable fiber), hand and drum carding and the highlight of the day, trying drop spindle and spinning wheel exercises. Sharon also demonstrated needle felting and the amazing results that could be produced by it.

For those of you who have the curiosity to experience the entire process of harvesting the fiber from the llama to its final transformation to yarn for innumerable projects, this clinic is for you!

If you catch the bug to create your own handmade treasures, Karen teaches classes and has all the necessary equipment ( carders, spinning wheels, looms) available for you to purchase so you can get going on your project immediately.

If you want inspiration and expert instruction as to what to do with all that fiber you've been holding onto, attend a fiber clinic. Your fiber is destined for great things if you do!



## Packing Weird Loads

Larry Lewellyn

I found this in an article by Bobra Goldsmith, Rocky Mountain Llamas in the 1992 RMLA Journal. For the 1992 conference they had a hands-on panel for packers on how to best pack weird loads on their llamas. Bobra has been assisting the Forest Service for many years and has had many members assist her. The challenges.....How would you pack on your llamas?

Llamas are really good packers, we all know. Let's explore how versatile they can be for packing weird loads.

1. Two bales of straw weighing 40 lbs each.
2. One bale of straw or mulch hay.
3. Tools such as Forest Service digging bar (This is longer than a llamas's body, and heavy).
4. Two old-tome rusty springs, fairly light.
5. Six or eight "Designated Campsite Markers" (These are fiberglass, not very light)
6. Bundles of T-Posts, 5' foot long. These had to be carried up a gulch where there had been a forest fire and used for sediment barrier netting. The distance was only about a quarter of a mile, was fairly steep in spots, had some trees but not too dense. Also, I only had two days notice to get prepared for this operation.



Bobra Goldsmith's Greyfeather with erosion control mats for trail maintenance.

## Minutes of the RMLA Board Conference Call May 10, 2006

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

**MOTION:** Approve minutes of February and April board conference calls as changed.

In favor of approving February minutes: Juntilla, Lewellyn, Morgan, Quackenbush, Hance. Abstained: Schwartz Opposed: Baird Motion carried.

In favor of approving April minutes: Juntilla, Lewellyn, Morgan, Schwartz, Quackenbush, Hance. Opposed: Baird. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** The auditor has drafted a review of the 2004 books and will send to us when complete. This is the baseline year which needed to be established prior to an audit of the 2005 records. There are about two more billable hours of work to be done on the 2004 records before the review can be considered complete. The auditor's bill for April was \$1004.20.

RMLA Net Worth Report as of 5-8-06

CFLA Special Production	5,404.42
General Operations	9,284.86
Life Member Escrow	8,667.22
Liquid Asset	69,556.21
Marketing Research Savings	3,014.40
Medical Research Savings	6,605.60
RMLA Bookstore	* 4,964.01

TOTAL Cash and Bank Acct 107,496.72

**MOTION:** Accept Treasurer's Report subject to audit.

In favor: Juntilla, Lewellyn, Morgan, Schwartz, Quackenbush, Baird. Abstained: Hance

### Committee Reports:

**Membership:** Adult memberships, 194; Youth, 24; Young Adult, 4. There are two new adult and one new youth memberships today.

**Library Committee** – The names of people who volunteered for this committee were provided to Sharon Herbold and they were sent e-mails thanking them for their interest.

**Education Committee** – Still no volunteer to serve as chairperson. One person has volunteered to help with RMLA display at Estes Park.

Several board members have received unsolicited marketing materials for hotel facilities in Laramie, Wyoming and Albuquerque, New Mexico. A member has suggested that the 2007 conference be held in conjunction with a show. Cheryl presented an idea about a particular show that might work well, but has not had an opportunity to discuss the possibility with the show superintendent.

### Old Business:

Camelid Community meeting in Kansas City in August, 2006. Discussion followed about sending a board member or opening the opportunity up to the membership at large to represent RMLA. Paul Schwartz is unable to attend this meeting, and Patti Morgan is willing to go in his place, which is consistent with RMLA policies.

**MOTION:** Send Patti Morgan to the Camelid Community meeting as RMLA's official representative and pay her expenses.

None opposed, motion carried.

**Rescue Committee** : L'illette Vasquez has volunteered to be chairperson. Other volunteers include F. E. Baxter, Laura McNamara and Helene Charles. L'illette has submitted an article titled "Why Rescue?" for the next Journal. The Committee has drafted a written statement of its goals and responsibilities for Board approval. The Committee members have been sent copies of the information about the IRC and asked to give their opinions on whether RMLA should accept a seat on this council.

**MOTION:** Accept proposal from the newly-formed rescue committee. (Morgan)

**AMENDED MOTION:** Adopt Rescue Committee's goals and objectives and add to Policy and Procedures Manual.

None opposed. Motion carried.

**Marketing Committee:** Paul has received an e-mail from interested members to help with Marketing. The committee will consist of Rob and Jill Knuckles, Dawn Moore, Helen Fieck, Marta Haas, Shari Quackenbush, Jan Cummer, Sandra Reynolds and Sara Spoerri.

### New Business:

An e-mail was received from Cindy Ross asking if RMLA would be interested in re-publishing her book, Scraping Heaven. Paul will contact Cindy to ask for particulars and a copy of the book.

Lewellyn raised questions again about the Journal and his concerns that not enough members are involved in helping with the publication. Another concern raised was lack of communication between the publication committee and the Board. Shari Quackenbush joined the call and addressed these concerns.

It was noted that all meeting minutes need to be provided to the Journal editor for publication. The board voted in March that the minutes of the 2005 annual meeting which have not been approved pending the next annual meeting should be published in the Journal to give people an opportunity to review them. Patti Morgan will send the minutes to the current secretary. The board also voted that the September 2005 Treasurer's Report should be published with a note that it is accepted subject to audit. Bob Hance will look in the records for this and send a copy to the editor.

The board discussed the upcoming issue of the Journal and Shari Quackenbush's written proposal to print the issue in color. Shari reported that she has already received 14 articles. Most advertisements have been submitted in color format and have previously been converted to black and white.

**MOTION:** Approve the proposal to print 1000 copies of the next issue of the Journal in four-color at an approximate cost of \$5.56 per copy and extend the submission deadline to Friday, May 12, 2006. (Morgan)

None opposed. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held in conjunction with the Estes Park Wool Market on Friday, June 16, at 3:00 p.m. A notice will be e-mailed to the membership.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 pm. (Morgan)

Respectfully Submitted,  
Teri Nilson Baird, Secretary



## Minutes of the RMLA Board Conference Call June 16, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 3:29 pm by President Paul Schwartz.

Motions approved via e-mail:

**MOTION:** Increase the amount of special edition Journals to 1200. Motion carried.

The minutes of the previous meeting and the need to have minutes prepared within a reasonable time were discussed at length. Larry Lewellyn pointed out that the Board of Directors cannot function or inform the membership about RMLA business because we are not receiving meeting minutes in a timely manner. New minutes will be sent to Paul Schwartz the weekend of June 24.

**Treasurer's Report:** Bob Hance reported the following via e-mail:

RMLA NET WORTH 6-15-06



ASSETS		balances 1-1-06
FLA Special Production	5,404.42	20,335.20
General Operations	132.92	2,661.98
Life Member Escrow	8,676.62	8,626.95
Liquid Asset	69,820.96	56,780.65
Marketing Research Savings	3,016.95	3,377.54
Medical Research Savings	6,605.60	6,540.23
RMLA Bookstore	8,934.49	17,495.17
	-----	-----
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>102,591.96</b>	<b>115,817.72</b>

MOTION: Approve Treasurer's Report subject to audit. (Juntilla) Motion carried, Hance abstained.

Two bills from the Journal publisher are pending and have not been paid. Paul Schwartz presented another invoice from the auditor in the amount of \$351.70 to finish the review of the 2004 base period prior to beginning the audit of the 2005 books. Because of the computer difficulties experienced by the Hances, they are re-creating files which had been corrupted. Paul Schwartz presented another invoice in the amount of \$20 for address information purchased from the ILR.

Paul Schwartz would like to return to the former policy of having only one signature on a check. He suggested that the Treasurer send a monthly list of bills to be paid to the board for approval.

MOTION: Change procedures of paying the bills to: The Treasurer will e-mail lists of pending bills to all board members, who will then have four days to object to or approve of the amounts to be paid. If 75% of the board members approve or fail to object, the amount shall be paid and only the Treasurer's signature will be required on checks. Motion carried.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership: (Barb Hance) Current Members: 24 Youth; 200 Adult Memberships; Life memberships remain the same at 27; & 4 Young Adults. We have had 7 New Memberships added since 3-31-06.

I am working as diligently as possible to get the Directories ready to go to the printer - probably another 4-6 hours of work.

I have not yet updated the 2006-07 memberships or the Service Directory ads on the web, but I think all other aspects of the web are current.

Pack: Tony Gross is trying to put together hikes for interested parties.

Events: The Poker Hike event was previously approved by the Board.

Calendar: Patti Morgan is planning on having the 2007 calendar out by the Rocky Mountain Regional Championship. Between 15 and 20 photographs have been submitted; the remainder are due by July 31. Patti is seeking a new printer.

MOTION: That hard copies of official RMLA broadcast e-mail messages be sent to all members who do not have e-mail. (Morgan) Motion carried.

Old Business: Paul Schwartz brought a copy of the book Scraping Heaven sent to him by the author, Cindy Ross. We need to determine costs to print in paperback. The treasury records do not contain a copy of the written agreement with the authors of Caring for Llamas and Alpacas. Larry Lewellyn will discuss with Clare Hoffman-Hayes.

4-H Manual: Larry Lewellyn has not received any feedback from CSU/Cooperative Extension Services. Cheryl Juntilla has offered to type the new manual. Glen Pfefferkorn will send updated information from the Oregon program.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Regional Championship Show: Ann Bruhn would like assistance in finding a new superintendent for the Regional show. She will take that person on as an assistant this year. The request will be forwarded to the membership via e-mail.

The board received a solicitation from Western Farm and Ranch magazine to run an article.

Ag Fest: Larry Lewellyn would like to explore the interest in renting a table at the CSU AgFest to be held in conjunction with a football game on Labor Day weekend. Tables cost \$150 and no animals would be permitted. There is also a Farm Days festival in Greeley in January.

Journal: Shari Quackenbush will furnish to the Board pricing for adding some color pages to each edition of the Journal.

Motion to adjourn (Baird). Meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Teri Nilson Baird  
Secretary

As amended by Cheryl Juntilla



### Minutes of the RMLA Board Conference Call July 20, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm. Director Lewellyn was absent, so no formal business was conducted.

The minutes and the treasurer's report were tabled. Discussion was held about when to pay a bill: Was it 72 hours from the e-mail notification sent to the directors or upon receipt? A question was raised about the treasury entry to the Youth Foundation. This donation was made from the check-off on the membership form.

In June, there was a vacancy for an assistant superintendent at the Rocky Mountain Regionals. It is believed this position is now filled.

Discussion was held regarding royalties paid to the authors of CFL and how we might work with the Scraping Heaven project. The authors currently receive 30% of the cost of each book, split 60/40.

The membership and service directories will use the previous printer although the Hances are willing to look for a closer printer next year.

There has been no update on the audit. The last information was sent in early July.

Paul Schwartz read a request he had received for donations from RMLA to the national Future Farmers of America convention. We talked about sending a number of brochures that were printed in 2004 but they need to be located. Paul suggested we use money from the marketing fund and send a cash amount plus brochures. A formal motion will be made via e-mail.

We may have had two new members join as a result of mailing the special issue of the RMLA Journal to ILR's mailing list. There were 13 copies returned for incorrect addresses, and this costs RMLA each time.

The election process was discussed and debated. Since there are three vacancies and only two candidates, should write-in ballots be encouraged? The issue of the by-laws was discussed and Steve Quackenbush will try again to contact the attorney for her review.

Calendar update: The process is basically finished. Patti had assistance this year in pulling it together and it seemed to work better with help.

Fiber Coop: Patti asked about the location of the title to the trailer. She had the trailer serviced at a cost of \$204.30 and requests reimbursement.

Journal: Shari Quackenbush submitted a request to the printer to find out how much doing a limited color issue would cost, but those numbers are not back yet. We determined the cost per page for the publication was about \$136 based on 1200 copies but will be higher with a smaller number printed.

Motions to be made via e-mail:  
Support financially the FFA National Convention booth.  
Approve May and June minutes.  
Approve treasurer's report.  
Approve write-in space on election ballots.  
Reimburse Patti Morgan for fiber coop trailer expenses.

Cheryl Juntilla moved to adjourn at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Teri Nilson Baird  
Secretary

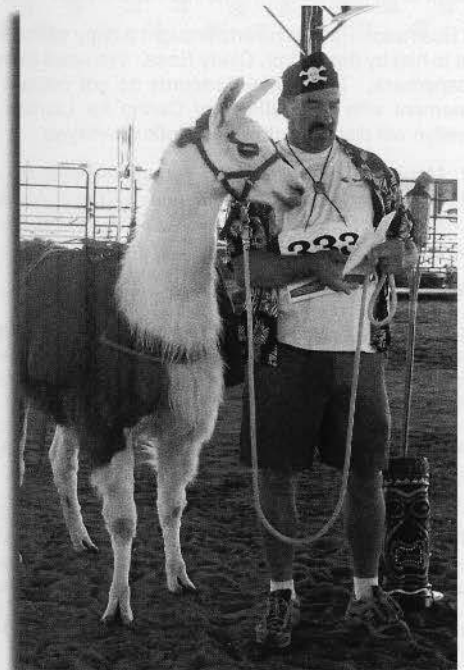
# Tropical Paradise in Grand Junction Grand Mesa and Kokopelli Llama Classic

Jill Knuckles

The 5th Annual Grand Mesa and Kokopelli Llama Classic was held under beautiful sunny skies this past April in Grand Junction, Colorado. With the traditional tropical theme, participants are encouraged to wear their Hawaiian attire, enjoy the beginning of spring and have a Fun Filled Llama Weekend. Our wonderful judges, Judie Moser and Danielle Wagoner judging halter and performance and Geri Rutledge, our fiber judge, along with several apprentice judges, Mary Summers, Mary Wickman and MaryAn Baker, also got into the spirit as they sported their Hawaiian dress.

The llamas and participants in performance were able to stroll through the Tropical Paradise of palm trees, tide pools and dolphins on Saturday. However, to their surprise, they were met by bloodthirsty pirates and shark infested waters on Sunday. It seems that some may have even been lured into the Pirates way of life.

With Sunday coming to a close, fun was had by all and the 5th Annual Grand Mesa and Kokopelli Llama Classic was a success. We would like to "THANK" all of our exhibitors coming from 35 ranches across eight different states. We truly hope that you have a Wonderful and Fun Filled time at our show and hope to see you in 2007. A Huge "THANK YOU" to all of our Incredible Sponsors... Your support is Greatly Appreciated. And of course... "THANK YOU" to the OUSTANDING group of Volunteers who make this show happen and are the key to it's success!!!!!! A Band of Pirates... AAAARRRRRRR...





# Get on the Divide

Ann Bruhn



This was my second year to lead a day trek for the Continental Divide Trail Alliance Trailfest Day. In 2005 the trailfest was the same weekend as our RMLA Conference at Sunlight in Glenwood Springs. On Thursday I hauled the llamas from home in Guffey, CO to Glenwood Springs. On Saturday I hauled from Glenwood Springs to Breckenridge for the trailfest hike. I had twelve people on the hike and brought 4 llamas to carry in their lunch. We hiked 3 ½ miles, had lunch and hiked back out. The hike was rated easy and was in the trees and cool and very pleasant. Afterwards I hauled us back to Glenwood Springs to the conference.

This year the trailfest was held in Buena Vista, CO. I wrangled Patti Morgan to help with this year's hike and told the CDTA people we would take 15 trekkers. The CDTA advertises on the Internet and sent out notices to all their members. The week before the event CDTA already had 20



people signed up to take our trek. They had 12 other treks lined up for the event. Some were bicycle rides, and treks with goats.

When our trek went over 20 the CDTA contacted Bill Gardiner of Antero Llamas to help out. Jim Osmun called me and offered to help. Jim brought two llamas, Bill brought seven and Patti brought two llamas and one alpaca.

Patti and I got to Columbine Park in Buena Vista at 7:00 am and the Rotary Pancake Breakfast was in full swing. At 7:30 we started meeting with our trekkers. I was in charge of getting the car pools organized. The hike was to be on Cottonwood Pass, about half an hour away. We left the park around 9am and all met at the trailhead.



Bill and Jim were to meet us at the trailhead. Jim never showed up. We found out afterwards that he was at the wrong trailhead, a few miles away. Our trail was the South Texas Creek Trail. We planned to go in two miles and back out. The travel was rated moderate, but started at 12,100 feet and down to 11,500 ft. I thought it was more difficult than moderate. Patti and I hiked it the weekend before, in the rain, and I had a hard time. This day the sun was out and perfect hiking weather.

Patti and I took all the families and 2 CDTA Job Corp workers on our trek and Bill took the rest. The Forest Service only allows 15 trekkers

on a hike at a time. Patti and I let first with our group of 15 and Bill left about half an hour later with his 14.

We had a family of four from Florida, a grandmother from Texas with her 11 year old twin granddaughters, another grandfather from Texas with his grandson, a father from Denver with his son, the two Job Corp girls and Patti and I.



The six year old girl from Florida was throwing up on the way in. I assumed from altitude sickness. We let her take rests and recommended lots of water. The grandson from Texas was plagued with the same on the way out.

The hike was a lot more pleasant without the rain of the week before. The wild flowers were incredible. We saw fuchsia Paint Brush, which color I had never seen before. The kids mostly led the llamas and the alpaca and loved them. The girls from Texas wanted to take Eddy home. Eddy was not available for the move.

We stopped in a beautiful stand of trees with downed logs to sit on, for lunch. Just as we started eating, Bill's group joined us. After lunch our group, plus one of Bill's ladies started back out. Bill's group decided to hike another half hour in, to a lake.

Coming back out, Matthew, from Texas was sick a lot and then we started hearing thunder. We decided to up the pace in case of lightning. Matthew was real slow so the Job Corp girls, Kate and Jen (who are First Aid certified) told us to go on and they would come out more slowly with Matthew and his grandfather.

We made it to the trailhead and just got the llamas in the trailer and we got hit with hail and hard rain. Everyone ran for their cars. It hailed 15 minutes or so and was letting up when we saw Matthew and his grandfather get in their car.

We were just getting ready to leave for the park when who shows up, but Jim Osman. That's when he told us he had been at the wrong trailhead.

We drove back to the park in Buena Vista and the party was in full swing. Four bands played at 5pm and a great dinner was served. We had heard that morning that 350 people had signed up for the dinner. The Continental Trail goes through five states and the menu reflected those states. We had Colorado Trout, Idaho Potatoes, Montana Blackberry Cobbler, Wyoming Moose and New Mexico Chicken.

A long day, lots of fun and we made lots of new friends from all over the USA. Great way to spend a summer day on the trail.



# RMLA Briefs

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

## Elections & Nominations Committee

Contact: Teri Nilson Baird

Elections are complete for 2006 and your new RMLA Board is **Paul Schwartz, Cheryl Juntilla, Larry Lewellyn, Bob Hance, Teri Baird and Stephen Quackenbush.**

If you're interested in serving on the board of the RMLA, it's never too late to submit your request. To do so, you must be a current member of RMLA. The next election will be in 2007, but why wait? Send in your candidate statement today. Contact Teri Nilson Baird at 303-646-4373 or [teri@brokenwindmill.com](mailto:teri@brokenwindmill.com).

Another way you can help RMLA is on one or more of our various committees. And we're always looking committee chairpersons. Refer to page 4 in this edition of the Journal for a list of the RMLA committees. Contact the chairperson or any of the RMLA board members to volunteer or if you have questions. Thank you.

## Government Relations

Contact: Teri Nilson Baird

You will find in this issue a number of news briefs 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)

## Bylaws Committee

Contact: Stephen Quackenbush

The Board and bylaws committee are still working on updating the RMLA Bylaws. Why, you ask didn't they appear in the mail ballot in August? Our audit was just recently completed and we are carefully reviewing those results to make sure any recommendations out of that audit are addressed in the amended bylaws. When complete, we will submit the amended bylaws to the membership for ratification.

## Fiber Committee

Contact: Patti Morgan

The Fiber Booth will be at the ALSA Grand Nationals on November 9-12, 2006. Stop by and shop!! Tickets for the yarn / shawl / day packs will be available that weekend with the big drawing on November 11.

We are always looking for new consignments. Please submit your wonderful products by contacting Patti Morgan at:

[pmmorgan@skyerock.net](mailto:pmmorgan@skyerock.net).

## 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@barq-diamond.com](mailto:shari@barq-diamond.com).

## Calendar Committee

Contact: Patti Morgan

**2007 RMLA Calendars are now available!!**

See order form on [www.rmla.com](http://www.rmla.com) or contact Patti Morgan at [pmmorgan@skyerock.net](mailto:pmmorgan@skyerock.net) or 620-442-4996

\$10 each (discount of 5% on orders of 10 or more). Postage is \$2 each (\$3 for 2-4 calendars; \$5 for 5-8 calendars). Order yours today before they are gone.



## Editor's Note:

Thank you all so much for your overwhelmingly positive feedback on the color issue of the RMLA Journal. It appears we actually gained a few new members based on our expanded distribution of the Spring issue. So, a big welcome to our new RMLA members!! We will strive to provide you with a quality publication and value for your membership.

I hope that you find some interesting information in the packing, hiking and camping articles in this issue. As a family, and a 4-H club, we had several opportunities to hike and camp with our llamas this summer and have really enjoyed doing so. We intend to expand the hiking and camping activities through the fall, during the nice days in winter and especially next summer.

We are still working out color ad rates, and potential placement within the journal. Look for an email within the next few weeks.

Our Fall Issue will focus on the show season. The deadline for articles, photos and ads, is Friday, December 1. That should allow everyone time to make your submissions after the Grand National show in Lincoln, Nebraska, November 10 – 12. I hope to see you all at the show.

Shari Quackenbush  
 Editor@rmlajournal.com



### Ad Specifications

- No Bleeds -

	Height	Width		Height	Width
Business Card	2"	3"	1/3 page Vert	10"	2.5"
1/4 Page Horizontal	2"	7.5"	Half Page	4.5"	7.5"
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### RMLA Journal - Advertising Information

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All ads and articles should be camera ready. For assistance on getting your submission ready for publication, contact Shari Quackenbush (see contact information on page 4). Additional charges will be incurred for ads to be run that are not camera ready.

Camera ready submissions may be sent electronically in: TIFF, JPEG, BMP formats. Text may be submitted in Microsoft Word, Word Perfect or plain text files. Documents containing both text and graphics/photos pose problems when rendering for printing. If submitting both, please separate the text from the graphic/photos and submit as separate files. Submissions may also be sent in though the RMLA Journal web site. Ads may also be submitted through the mail on high quality photo paper. Photos will be scanned in color or grayscale (black & white), at 300dpi or higher.

Ads must be paid for by the time of publication. Checks should be made out to RMLA. Ads and payments should be sent to Shari Quackenbush, RMLA Journal, 5555 E. Willow Creek Road, Castle Rock, CO 80104. Ads can be electronically submitted via email (editor@rmlajournal.com) or at www.rmlajournal.com.

# Camelid Working Group

## PRESS RELEASES

Sept. 5, 2006

### Camelid ID Working Group Gives Updated Status Report to USDA, Asks for Universal Microchip Scanner

The Camelid ID Working Group (CWG) has sent an updated status report to the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) Subcommittee of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Foreign Animal and Poultry Diseases. A previous report was sent to the NAIS subcommittee in September of 2004.

The CWG reported the following accomplishments:

- Established a web site devoted to providing information to and communication with the camelid industry (the CWG is the only species working group to have a stand-alone web site).
- Conducted an online survey regarding industry preferences for specific methods and locations of permanent camelid identification and for management and financing of an animal tracking database.
- Issued frequent press releases to keep the camelid industry updated on NAIS developments.
- Voted to approve the first ID recommendation in July 2006 and submitted it to industry members for comment. The first recommendation submitted to the USDA is:

"For participation in the NAIS, we recommend the implanted microchip as the preferred method for identification of camelids."

- Formed several new subcommittees to address:
  - details of the method of ID (microchips)
  - movement tracking within the industry and how that can most efficiently be handled
  - review diseases of concern (e.g. USDA program diseases) that occur in camelids

The status report also included updated llama and alpaca population statistics, including growth of the industry since 1985 and the current level of microchipping by camelid owners. A list of concerns that have been voiced to the CWG by camelid owners was also included, such as:

- How will confidentiality of owners' information be assured?
- Will the NAIS place undue financial burden on owners?
- Will the NAIS have a negative impact on show attendance?
- Will the NAIS negatively impact the rate of growth of the camelid industry?

The full text of the status report is available on the CWG web site under 'Status Reports':

[http://www.camelidid.org/status\\_reports/index.html](http://www.camelidid.org/status_reports/index.html)

The CWG also submitted a comment to USDA/APHIS docket 2006-0012 (Animal Welfare—Animal Identification Standards). This docket sought input on the need for a true universal microchip scanner for use in the U.S. Currently not all scanners can read all manufacturers' microchips. Although USDA has very limited regulatory authority in this area, they were asked by a Congressional conference committee to develop regulations that would allow the widespread distribution of a scanner that can read (not just detect) microchips of all frequencies, encrypted and open. The response submitted by the CWG reviews the prevalence of microchip use in U.S. camelids and briefly summarizes the findings of the March online survey. The comment states in part:

"Camelids are included in the National Animal Identification System (NAIS), and the Camelid ID Working Group has recommended implanted microchips as the preferred method of permanent ID for camelids. Before any move to mandate the use of ISO microchips, a true universal scanner base must be pre-installed in



the U.S. at markets, exhibition sites, veterinary clinics, and such scanners must be readily available for purchase by owners."

The full text of the docket comment is available on the CWG web site under 'Federal Register Docket Comments':

[http://www.camelidid.org/docket\\_comments/index.html](http://www.camelidid.org/docket_comments/index.html)

The CWG will continue to develop recommendations for a camelid ID plan, and all recommendations approved by the CWG will be announced and circulated within the camelid community for comment prior to being finalized for submission to USDA.

Please submit your comments and questions to any of the following CWG members:

Teri Nilson Baird at [teri@brokenwindmill.com](mailto:teri@brokenwindmill.com)  
Karen Conyngham at [72040.3361@compuserve.com](mailto:72040.3361@compuserve.com)  
Sheila Fugina at [bsfugina@presenter.com](mailto:bsfugina@presenter.com)  
Dr. Julie Ann Jarvinen at [jarvinen@iastate.edu](mailto:jarvinen@iastate.edu)  
Marsharee Wilcox at [evllamas@bellatlantic.net](mailto:evllamas@bellatlantic.net) or [mwilcox@spt.com](mailto:mwilcox@spt.com)

Website: [www.camelidid.org](http://www.camelidid.org)



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## Summer Photos

These are some additional photos that were sent in for this edition. We wanted to share these with our readers. All were great. Thanks to everyone for sharing your photos with our readers. *The Editor*



Abbey Casey (age 9) and Sugarbear lend a hand doing trail maintenance on the Colorado Trail [July 2006 outside Creede at 12,000 ft elevation].



Elstar cooling off in a stream, Larry Creek Trail, Stevensville, Montana



Sam and Astral practicing for the costume competition at fair. They won 1st place. They were the "Llama Boys" taking each other out for a stroll. (You can guess which is the boy and which is the llama?). From Tracy duCharme & Richard Gotthoffer



Elstar and Victor Loya taking a break. The Bitterroot Valley, Montana

# ALSA President's Bulletin

## August, 2006

Kay Sharpnack

This message is a particularly important one as it gives me the opportunity to initiate a "first" by providing an open line of communication on a monthly basis to all of you.

I am pleased to report that you have an energetic, enthusiastic Team working hard together, along with Cheryl Ryberg in the ALSA Office, for you and your llamas. From July 12 – July 31 the following things have already happened:

1. Board members no longer have to sign the Confidentiality Agreement, which never was a written policy. The new bylaw, passed on the Election Ballot June 28, 2006 in essence replaces that general issue.
2. For the first time the BOD has elected a Treasurer outside of the Board. ALSA member, Wayne Rankin, is our new volunteer Treasurer. We thank Wayne for coming on as a non-board member, corporate officer.
3. A Steering Group, OK'd by the Old Board early in the year for the purpose of addressing dates and venues for the 2007 and 2008 Grand Nationals was contacted by email letter with a mission, goal and deadline for the first time on July 20th. Their first and only conference call took place on July 26th and resulted in a "Mission Accomplished" answer to the Board.

Prior to the call, Norris Berg did an exhaustive demographics study of member participation and venues in the Central Corridor from Fort Worth on north. He also contacted the President of GALA to see if their annual GALA Conference date could be changed, were the Grand National moved back two weeks. The answer was affirmative. Dates of venues were also checked for availability.

By unanimous decision, our Steering Group, composed of one member representing each of the 8 Regions, responded with the following recommendation to the Board:

- a. Venue for the 2007 and 2008 Grand National will remain in Lincoln, Nebraska.
- b. The 2007 and 2008 Grand National Show will be held on the last weekend of October.

On 7/31/06, the ALSA BOD, via email vote, unanimously approved the above recommendation of The Steering Group.

My heartfelt thanks to Carol Ann Tallmon (Chair), Susan Raven (Secretary), Norris Berg, (phenomenal "Go-Fur"), Ken Austin, Erwin Ditsler, Phil Feiner, Darrell Anderson, and Jerry Dunn for beating their stated timeline by more than two months!

4. The Board has voted to give each of the eight Regions \$5100 in prize monies for their Regional Show rather than splitting the 2005 total 8 ways. We are excited about the hard work and creative planning being done for the 2006 Regional Shows by Chair Betty Moe and her Regional Supers.

There will be newly designed, colorful, fun ribbons for ALL of the Regional shows, thanks to Wayne Rankin. Wayne picked up the additional tab for the difference between what we got last year and the "new" 2006 version. Both the Regional and National ribbons are once more being made by one company, Royall Awards, owned by Mary Ann Morrison and Carl Schwenke, in Grants Pass, OR.

5. The Grand National Committee, with Terry Duespohl as Chair, is working equally hard to make the 2006 GN the very best ever. Thanks to the super local GN volunteers, things are already moving along in grand style!

If you know Vendors in your region, please encourage them to contact Terry and join us and the GN festivities. They will find a warm welcome this year!

6. And, last but not least, on 7/25/06, the Board unanimously approved my request to write a short monthly report to tell you what is happening "from the inside" for you. The President's Bulletin will be posted on the ALSA website and distributed to all of our trade journals.

We want each of you to feel part of ALSA. ALSA is your organization. We cannot know what you want or need if we do not hear from you. Meanwhile, know that we are addressing and working on many issues to make ALSA better in every way.

God Bless,  
Kay



# Rocky Mountain Llamas

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*Jester's Grand Finale*: 2nd Medium Woolled Female  
*Inca's Legacy*: 3rd Juvenile Light Woolled Female

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If you'd like to learn more about training your llamas, making them more  
manageable and fun to work with and show, consider our training clinics:

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# Hauling a Hiker Uphill

Bobra Goldsmith

Packing with our llamas in the mountains is one of our great delights. We get to enjoy both the scenery and the company of our llamas, who carry all our gear. They truly do seem like companions to me, as they are alert and observant and really seem to enjoy seeing new areas and browsing on several tasty greens they don't have at home, things like pine needles and vaccinium, plus sometimes very lush grass. Fortunately in our area, llamas are not prone to eat any poisonous plants.

As some of us hikers get older, or for those of us who may go on a hike only to discover that we are not really in good enough shape to make it up the steeper parts of the trail comfortably, a llama can provide easy help, which is truly a blessing and keeps the outing both possible and pleasant. The solution I've used is simple. We take one of the stake lines we use to tie a llama out to graze. These are a flat-weave strap, one inch wide and 24 feet long, with a snap on one end and a hand loop on the other. (It's known to some as a type of horse lunge line.) We put the middle of the stake line around the base of the llama's neck and bring the ends up, either crossing them over the top of a frame pack or threading them through top straps on our Ollie pack. Then the person who needs help walking uphill just holds the two lines evenly in one hand about five feet behind the llama. As the llama walks uphill with the person holding the straps, the hiker feels so little strain that it literally feels like walking on flat ground. It seems that all the person's weight is "lifted" by the llama. The excess length of the stake line can just be held in a loop, and the length can be flexible. When the trail is flat or goes downhill, the hiker can just walk along loosely holding

the line. There may always be a place on the trail, such as a stream crossing with a narrow log for the hikers to use, where the hiker can just drop the stake line and pick it up again when the area is crossed. The line will just drag on the ground, making no problem for the leading llama or its handler.

Another useful aspect of this procedure is that the person being pulled by the llama in front of him can also lead a pack llama behind him/her. By holding the second llama's lead rope in the same hand with the stake line, an occasional forward command can be transferred to the second llama when necessary. However, a well-trained pack llama generally just follows along on a loose line, so there is no effect when the front llama is pulling the hiker uphill.

In recent years, I have still been able to enjoy packing and hiking in our mountains, using this method when needed. The most recent was a 7.5-mile hike to a favorite meadow at a 10,470 feet elevation. Without my llama hauling me on the steeper, uphill sections of the trail, I could not have done that in one day. Even on the hike out the next day, there were some uphill sections of trail that my llama made easy. Thank heavens for pack llamas!



# Tales of the Trail

## Charlie Hackbarth

Charlie Hackbarth introduces readers to the world of packing with llamas in Tales of the Trail, now available from Mt. Sopris Llamas, Unltd.

Charlie Hackbarth has compiled his twenty-four years of llama packing stories and lessons into Tales of the Trail: An Entertaining and Educational Guide to Using Llamas in the Backcountry, and the book is as informative as it is entertaining.

Tales of the Trail: An Entertaining and Educational Guide to Using Llamas in the Backcountry is a compilation of true (albeit slightly embellished) stories about backcountry llama packing written by Charlie Hackbarth, the president of Mt. Sopris Llamas. The book's 184 pages contain stories first published in Llamas Magazine, and 48 wax sketches to illustrate the action. In addition to being an entertaining read, Tales of the Trail is an excellent guide to llama packing. Hackbarth covers everything from buying and training a new llama to what to expect in the backcountry. From trekking through Colorado's Big Blue Wilderness (now the Uncompahgre Wilderness) to manning the Hope Pass aid station for the Leadville 100 race, Hackbarth reveals his well-developed sense of humor as well as the respect and admiration he has for his animals.

"I get so many questions about llamas and llama packing, both from those new to llamas and from those who have owned llamas for years," said

Charlie Hackbarth. "This book addresses these questions and, I hope, also inspires people to take the next step to learn more about packing with llamas."

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR


Charlie Hackbarth began raising llamas in 1982 as a way to get his family of four into the wilderness. After being dissatisfied with the few llama saddle designs on the market at the time, Charlie and his Uncle Tant, an eighty-two-year old inventor, designed the Sopris pack saddle. From this sprang Mt. Sopris Llamas Unltd., a llama pack equipment manufacturing and mail order business that has become one of the best in the business.

Charlie has been involved with various llama organizations throughout the years, from the Rocky Mountain Llama Association to the International Llama Association. He has also taught llama management, training, and packing classes at the Colorado Mountain College in Glenwood Springs, Colorado and served as an advisor to Llamas Magazine. He is currently directing the affairs of Mt. Sopris Llamas Unltd. (<http://www.soprisllamas.com>), raising and training pack llamas, conducting pack clinics, and hiking the great outdoors with family and friends.

For more information contact Charlie Hackbarth, [charlie@soprisllamas.com](mailto:charlie@soprisllamas.com) or 719-742-5156



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1988 RMLA September Newsletter  
Larry Lewellyn

I found this interesting quote which the RMLA BOD sent in their message to the membership. I hope this brings RMLA to light for the old and the new members. We need your involvement.

**“Organizations are formed by good people for all the right reasons but such is the nature of the organization that within a short time they often are forgotten and survival of the organizations becomes paramount.”** *Allan Savory*



## The 2007 RMLA Calendar is now available!!

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## Farm and Ranch Tips

Larry Lewellyn

In the early RMLA newsletters of 1988, it had 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.

Members we need your help, if you have a ranch or farm tip which can help members, please submit to me.

Before you dig up your Frost Free Outdoor Faucet that's not draining, put a cap on the outlet and turn it on full blast for a brief period. Most of the time the water pressure will unplug the small drain hole. If you do not have to dig it up, put on heat tape for the next time. *RMLA Newsletter March 6, 1989*

Insulating stock tanks allows the use of safe, small wattage, submersible heaters. A 250 watt heater setting on the bottom keeps an 80 gallon round tank open even at 30 degrees below zero. Those 1500 watt floating heaters are expensive to operate and unsafe. *RMLA Newsletter March 6, 1989*

When giving Ivomec or Dectomax injections in cold weather, store the bottle in a cooler lined with a heating pad or a towel-covered hot water bottle until its time to draw it up, in order to keep the liquid from becoming too thick. *RMLA 2005 Calender*

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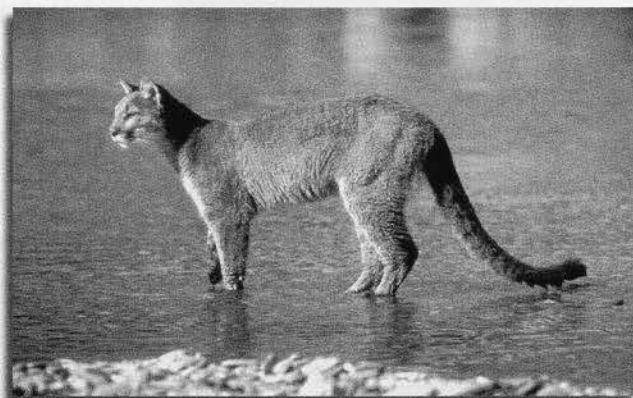
Diet consists of: Spring or irrigated pasture; feeding alfalfa or grass hay low in phosphorus. Contains additional phosphorus and recommended basic level of Vitamin E.

Owners of *Serendipity Farm*

## Mountain Lion Tips

If you are concerned about the possibility of encountering mountain lions, please keep the following tips in mind (provided by the Colorado Division of Wildlife):

- ❑ When hiking make noises and talk to hiking partners. Making noise reduces the possibility of surprising a lion and increases the chances that they will move away.
- ❑ Keep children in front of you and within sight.
- ❑ Carry a walking stick or a hiking pole to use in case of a confrontation. Pepper spray is also recommended.
- ❑ If you see a mountain lion, do not try to get closer for a better look.
- ❑ If you come face-to-face with a lion, stop and stay calm. Raise your arms above your head to appear large and threatening. Pull a jacket or a pack above your head. Back up slowly and talk in a loud voice to the lion. Do not run.
- ❑ If you are attacked, fight back aggressively to scare the animal away. Stay on your feet.
- ❑ Explain these tips to your children and practice with them.
- ❑ Keep dogs on a leash. Confrontations between dogs and mountain lions are common. Most dogs will run away from a lion, but that could mean that as they return to their owner a lion might be in pursuit.
- ❑ Keep yards clean. Don't leave pet food outside. Don't put meat scraps in compost piles.



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## Happy Trails Tips

Larry Lewellyn

These tips were published in past RMLA newsletters.

Freezing those boxed fruit drinks before you leave will help keep your lunch or other perishables cold and taste great on a hot afternoon. *RMLA Newsletter October 1988*

Allow a nice long lunch period and a couple of other stops during the day, for your llamas to graze and chew their cud. They will go that extra mile for you if you do that for them. *RMLA Newsletter October 1988*

Trouble with your llama leaping over creeks on the trail, but can't find a wider rivers to practice on. Try immediately turning the animal and walking

up and downstream for at least a dozen feet before crossing to the other side. *RMLA 2005 Calendar*

### Bread Sticks Dessert:

Buy bread sticks at the store. In a shaker container, mix cinnamon, and raw brown sugar to fit your taste buds. Wrap the bread sticks around skewers and stick the end of the bread stick on the point of the skewer. Sprinkle with that sweet mixture and slowly turn over a fire. Make it better by spreading Squeezable Margarine on it. You will burn a few but you will become the Master.

Please submit your special pack tips for the trail to the me or the Editor.

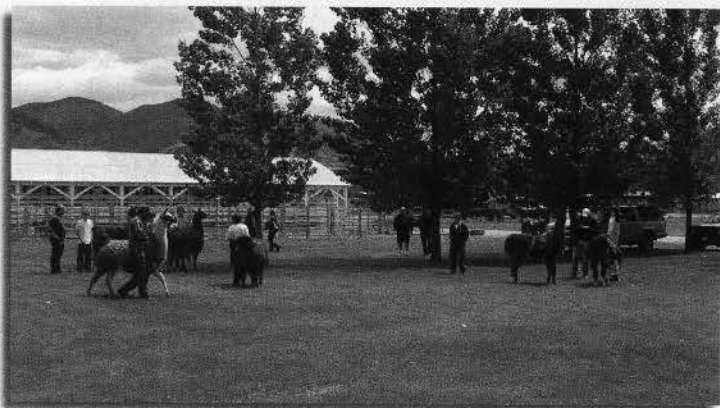
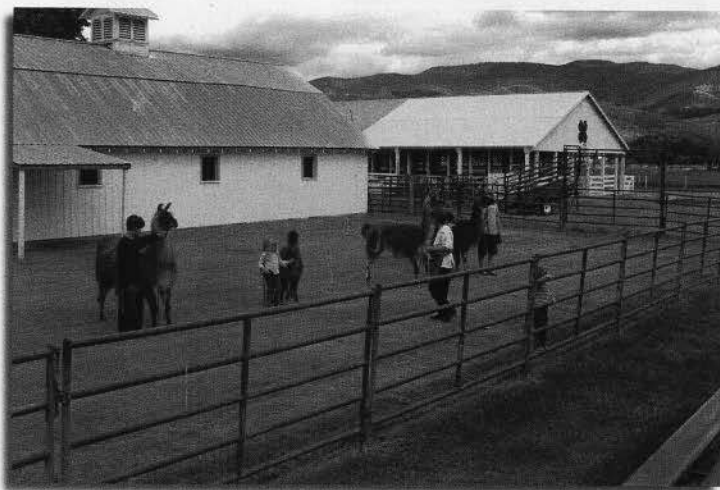
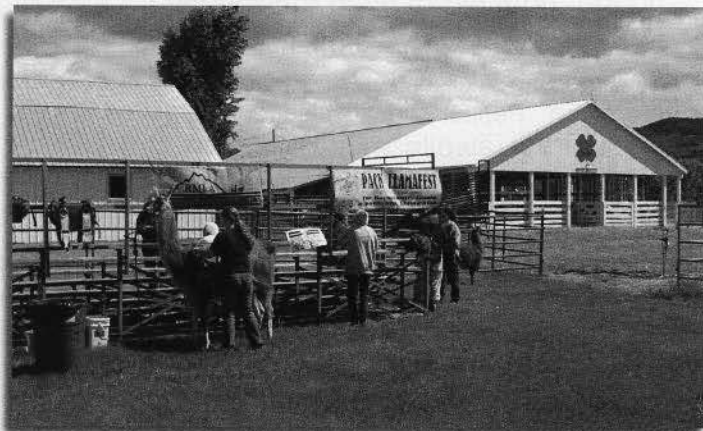
# Pack Llamafest

Dick Williams

On Saturday, June 17th we held our first annual Pack Llamafest in Plains, MT at the Sanders County fairgrounds. In addition to local llama owners and our 4H llama project members, we had packing enthusiasts attend from Bigfork and Bozeman, MT, for a total of 36 participants and 16 llamas.

There were folks new to llama packing and some people who have 20+ years of experience and llamas from 6 months to 14 years. So we had a great time exchanging training tips, comparing equipment and trading packing stories.

After a picnic lunch at the fairgrounds most of us went for a hike along the Clark Fork River with one of the reporters from the local paper who came out for a few minutes to get some pictures and info for a story and spent almost three hours talking to people and learning about the joys of

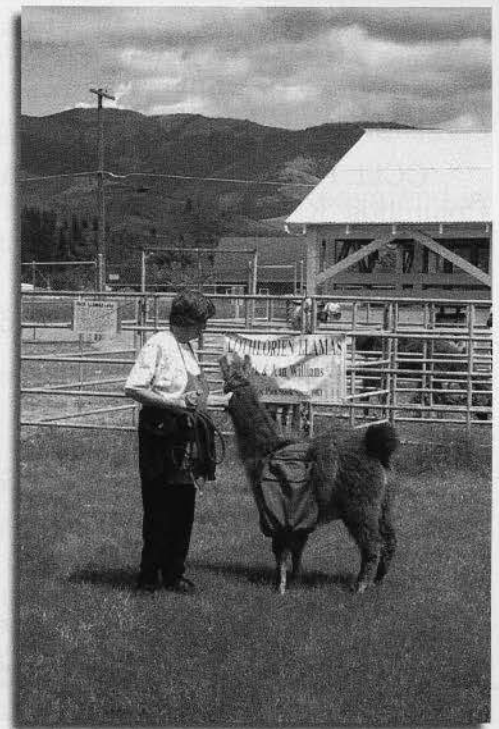
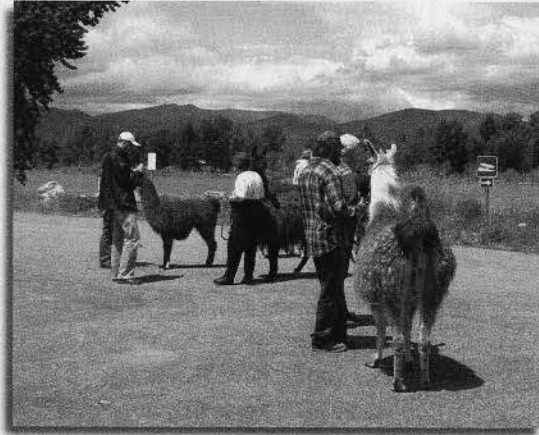


packing with llamas. When we got back to the fairgrounds a practice show was held for the kids from the 4H club to prepare them for the county fair in August. Six year old Melaina Goodman stole the show with her 6 month old llama Zipper.

In the evening the 4H club held a spaghetti supper fund raiser at the fair pavilion and we discussed forming an informal pack/hiking club, holding a chipping clinic and plans for a similar event next year.



## More Pack Llamafest Pictures



## Camelid Community 2006 Meeting

### Patti Morgan

I attended the Camelid Community 2006 Meeting in Kansas City on August 4-6, 2006 as the RMLA representative. The meeting was a worthwhile endeavor and would recommend that the RMLA send a representative each year. The meeting was packed with presentations and events for the two days of the conference. It was great to get together with over 30 other llamas/alpaca enthusiasts representing organizations from throughout the country to swap information and ideas as well as get an update on what's happening within the camelid industry.

From the Research perspective, there's a number of activities going on with the MAF (Morris Animal Foundation), LMRG (Llama Medical Research Group) and the ARF (Alpaca Research Foundation). There's some very good projects from the LMRG and I am especially fond of Project #3 (Development of a Quantitative Method of Assessing Insulin Sensitivity in Camelids).

RMLA can donate to LMRG (thus MAF) without designating a project or sponsoring a whole project. If the RMLA donates over \$3000 we then receive reports and updates on a certain designated project. While that committee is pretty

much defunct, I think we should still consider donating to some of the more worthwhile research projects.

The ICI (International Camelid Institute) is also doing a great job; the director has been replaced and they are moving on. A donation to this group would also qualify under the RMLA's "Research Fund".

I will be making recommendations to the RMLA board on where and how we should be investing the RMLA's research fund which will benefit our membership the most. I will also recommend that the RMLA budget a specific amount each year to donate to various research efforts

The rest of the conference meetings were also interesting; especially the work on Emergency Response / Evacuation, where there's lots of work is going on in this area, even surpassing the work on Camelid ID. For a complete list of the meeting agenda and reports that were presented, please visit: <http://www.icinfo.org/Pages/Reports06.html>

Thanks for allowing me to attend.

## Upcoming Events:

### NOVEMBER

CCLL Pack Trails- Double Trails  
Columbus, KS November 18 & 19, 2006  
Contact: Joyce Johnson 620.674.3662  
denjohn@columbus-KS.com or  
Patti Morgan 620.442.4996  
pmmorgan@skyerock.net

### JANUARY

101st National Western Stock Show  
Denver, CO  
January 12-13, 2007

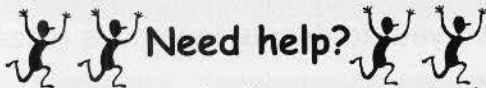
**Do you have an upcoming event?  
Contact the Editor to list in the Journal**

## Journal Classifieds:

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See Page 15 for advertising opportunities and rates.



## And The Winner Is.....

The mystery animal in the Spring 2006 edition of the Journal was a Gerenuk. The name means "giraffe-necked" in the Somali language. It is also called "swala twiga" or giraffe gazelle in Swahili.

Though normally shy, these graceful animals are easily observed in reserves in Kenya and in various other semi-arid areas of East Africa, including parts of Tanzania, Somalia and Ethiopia.

The Gerenuk shares some striking similarities with camelids, including a long neck, large ears and eyes and two toes. While both species are in the same Order (Artiodactyla; meaning even-toed ungulates) the Gerenuk is in the Bovidae Family and Camelids are in the Camelidae Family.

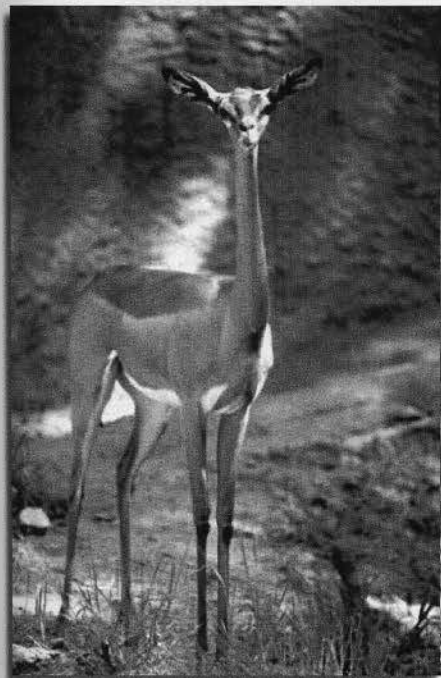
As mentioned their name is derived from their exceptionally long neck. The gerenuk's head is small for its size, but its eyes and ears are large. Only the males have horns, which are stout and heavily ringed with a more heavily muscled neck than the females. They are brown on the upper back and lighter on the sides. The short tail looks longer as it ends in a tuft of black hair.



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Like many other gazelles, gerenuks have preorbital glands in front of the eyes that emit a tarlike, scent-bearing substance they deposit on twigs and bushes to mark their territory. They also have scent glands on their knees that are covered by tufts of hair and between their split hooves.

Gerenuks are found in habitats with woody vegetation, especially dry, flat thornbush in eastern Africa. The Gerenuk is very selective about their food. They eat only the juiciest most nutritious plants. This allows the Gerenuk to go for long periods without water. Unlike other antelope, the Gerenuk can stand on its hind legs for a long periods of time, allowing them to feed on higher leaves. Adaptations in the skeleton and muscles of the limbs and vertebral columns enable this behavior.



Common Name: Gerenuk or Giraffe Gazelle  
Swahili Name: Swala twiga  
Scientific Name: *Litocranius walleri*  
Size: 35 to 40 inches at the shoulder  
Weight: 80 to 115 pounds  
Lifespan: 20 years  
Habitat: Woodland forest to open plains  
Diet: Herbivorous browser  
Gestation: About 7 months  
Predators: Humans, wild dogs, cheetahs, lions, jackals

**Thanks to everyone that entered their guesses. We had two correct entries. And our winner, selected at random was Alex and Sarah Hoover of Indian Hills, CO. They will get a free business card ad in the next Journal.**

# PACKING FOR LOTS OF REASONS

## Hope Pass, LT-100 Aid Station, August 2005

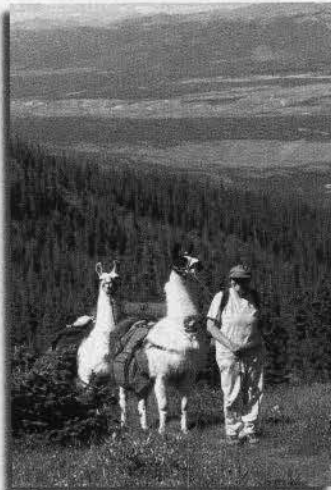
Jim Osmun

The Hopeless Crew did it again. Cooperation works when the crew, weather, llamas, and runners all do their very best. Put it all together and the experience is always worth the effort.

There are two unique reasons for this event. Only a few humans want to run 100 miles over mountain trails, at elevations from 10,000 – 12,600 ft., in less than 30 hours. The reward is a silver buckle and a huge amount of pride. Some who have pack llamas can't quite understand why it is fun to haul over 1,500 lbs. of supplies and equipment for 3.8 miles while climbing 2,800 feet. Just ask those who have been there. Ask any runner which aid station they remember. Some of the crew and some of the runners just keep coming back. They must have good reasons.



“The Llama Packing Event Like No Other” and the companion article, “Being a Part of the 2004 Hopeless Crew” by Sandy Lockwood, contained background information and described activities at the station. Those articles were in the Autumn 2004 issue of this journal. This time crew members and photographers, Russ Schissler and John Robinette (jr), provided lots of photos for us. I saved this article since it fits the theme, “hiking, packing, and camping.” You will see that a picture is worth a whole bunch of words. I hope you enjoy what Russ and John captured.

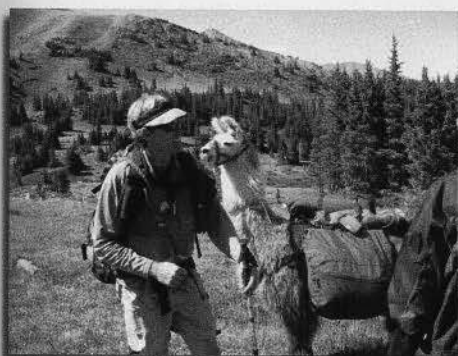
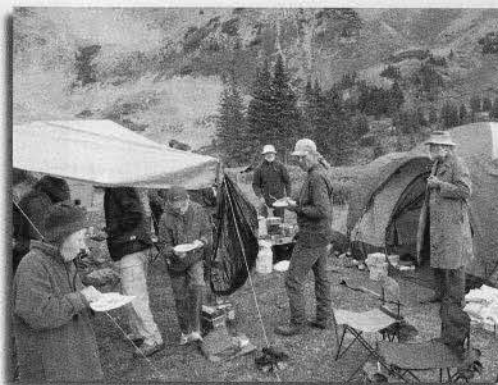


The captions are intended to give you a little tour of the schedule. I pick up the supplies Wednesday PM. in Leadville. I bring the shelters, stoves, water-supply system, batteries and fuel that Woody stores for us in Golden. On Thursday, we pack in as much as we can. Thursday PM and Friday AM, the main crew shows up at the Base Camp to pack in the rest of the equipment and supplies. We continue setting up the aid station on Friday and Saturday AM. The first runners show up late Saturday morning. Runners come from the Twin Lakes side of the pass all day. By afternoon runners are also coming back from the Winfield side of the pass. They must leave Winfield (the 50 mile mark) by 6:00 PM. We see the headlamps glow on the pass until almost midnight. The trail is checked to be sure everyone is accounted for. Several runners stayed in the



medical tent Saturday night. We get some rest and pack up Sunday morning.

Thanks to the crew members: Stuart Travis & his scouts--Erik Travis, Dale Baker, David Schoenecker & Michael Schoenecker-- Russ Schissler, Vicky Foster, John Robinette, Alison Fisher, Lauren Munger, Gary Carlton, Vivian Johnson, Dewain (Woody) Wood, Rick Ponszek, Roger Miller, Tony Gross, Russ Schissler, Karla Goodman, Thomas Goodman, David Goodman, Donald Wyan, Steven Cearley, Patti Morgan, Rod Zeman, Cathy Wittrup, and Ann Bruhn and about 40 llamas ( not sure of the names).



A special thanks to Sarah Savage, the LT-100 Volunteer Coordinator who gets all our supplies ready two days in advance of the other stations. They have never said "no" to any request. This effort goes beyond the race and the added business for Leadville. Funds also go to the schools, the hospital, and a Christmas party for the children who may not have any other gifts. This gives us a few more reasons to go packing.

If you would like to participate and can think of any reason this is worth doing, just set aside the third weekend of August in 2007. We will be glad to see you and your favorite packing llamas.

# Youth Corner: Fabulous Fall Florissant Retreat

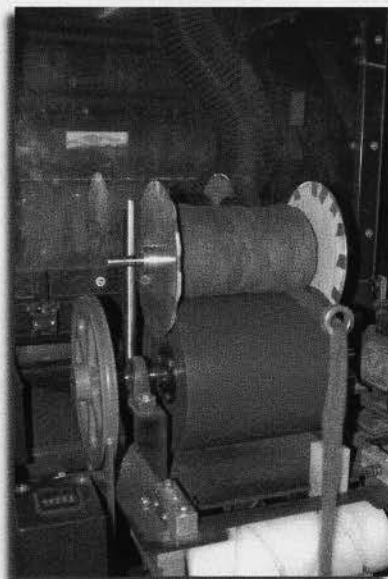
Megan, Steffany and Denise Wambolt

On September 9, our Llofty Llama 4-H group headed out for a weekend trip to Florissant, CO. Jill and Jim Durham kindly invited us to stay in their beautiful loft and cabin. However, us kids roughed it and slept out in a tent. When we arrived we quickly unpacked so we could get off to a great start on a day hike. The weather was perfect – we couldn't have asked for a better day. There were some neat natural obstacles for the llamas as well. We found a great spot for a picnic lunch with beautiful scenery surrounding us from every side. We then headed back because of the time and per Denise's request. Her little legs couldn't take much more. The hike lasted about three hours. But we weren't done yet!



After our hike, our group then drove to Sally and Jeff Rucker's for training demonstrations. We learned techniques on how to start training a young llama as well as an older problem llama. Demonstrations were also done on pulling fighting teeth and trimming toe nails. We then took a walk to the female pens and visited with all the new crias. In fact, one had been born just four hours before we had arrived.

Beware new potential llama owners – this is what will sucker you in – seeing all of those crias!! It happened to us.



We then headed back to the cabin to settle down for a fantastic dinner with friends and family and the best part was roasting marshmallows for S'mores after dinner. It was a fun-filled day for all.

On Sunday we awoke to another gorgeous day and Steve's fantastic breakfast burritos! We then headed out again on a different trail for a short hike. We were able to get some great family photos as well as our group photo. We hated to leave but were expected to be in Victor by mid-day for a tour of the Leighton Farms Fiber mill. It was so interesting to see how the fiber is processed

and all the steps involved to accomplish such beautiful products. Our favorite part of the process was the dying of the fiber. So many colors!!

Thanks to The Quackenbush family for setting up such a wonderful trip and a big thank you to The Durhams', Rucker's and Kathleen Leighton Bugbee for providing a great learning experience and a wonderful place to stay overnight. We are looking forward to returning next year!!

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Wyoming Livestock Board**

**Wyoming RMLA Members.** You may be affected if taking camelids from Wyoming to other states. Check latest on VS in WY <http://wlsb.state.wy.us/animalhealth/WyomingVS.htm>

\*\*\*\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\*\*\*\*

Thursday, August 17, 2006

Wyoming Livestock Board  
2020 Carey Avenue 4th Floor  
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

For more information contact: Dwayne Oldham, Wyoming State Veterinarian, at The Wyoming Livestock Board, 307.777.6443.

On August 17, 2006, the National Veterinary Services Lab, in Ames Iowa confirmed the first case in the nation for 2006 of Vesicular Stomatitis Virus (VSV). The disease was found in a 10-year-old Quarter Horse mare on a ranch east of Casper, Wyoming near the Natrona/Converse county lines.

Vesicular Stomatitis is a viral disease that can affect horses, cattle, pigs, sheep, and goats. Typically the disease causes blisters (vesicles) or ulcers in and around the mouth or feet. While caused by a different virus, the lesions are similar to those caused by Foot and Mouth Disease. All diseases that cause blisters and sores of the mouth and/or feet are potentially serious and need to be reported to the State Veterinarian's office, or the USDA/APHIS office. Sick animals should not be moved unless proven not to be infected with a transmissible disease. Insects that breed in water are primarily responsible for transmitting VSV. Providing good insect control may prevent the disease. Insect control is particularly important for animals kept near rivers and creeks.

At this time, all animals going to Wyoming State Fair & Rodeo from Natrona and Converse counties should have a Certificate of Health Inspection issued within five (5) days of arrival at the fair. A statement is also needed stating that the animals have been examined and no signs of VSV exist. Animals from these counties that arrive at the state fair with health certificates written before the disease was known to exist in Wyoming will be examined for VSV on site.

Last year other states and countries imposed movement restrictions on livestock leaving Wyoming once the disease was confirmed in the state and we expect this to occur again. State animal health office phone numbers can be accessed from the Wyoming Livestock Board web site or by calling the WLSB office at 307-777-7515, option 1. Our web site address is <http://wlsb.state.wy.us>.

It is critical for veterinarians and livestock owners to be aware of the symptoms of VSV as the viral disease can have major implications to the livestock industry. Additionally, it is necessary that animals showing clinical signs be immediately tested to differentiate between VSV and Foot-and Mouth Disease, an extremely contagious infection affecting cloven-hooved animals.

Detailed information regarding VSV is available on the U.S. Department of Agriculture home page [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov).

If you have any questions or concerns, contact the Wyoming Livestock Board, Animal Health Division, (307) 777-7515 option 1, after hours (307) 214-1532.

# Skinny Fish and McGinnis Lake Hike

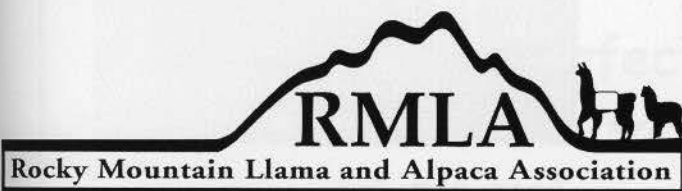
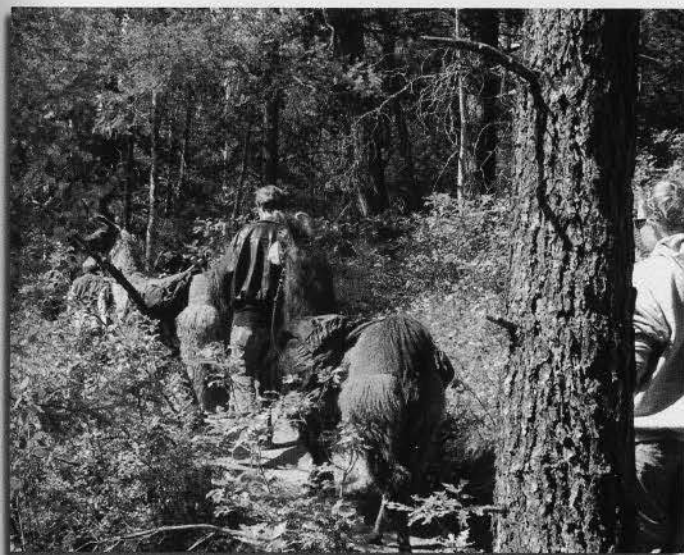
Larry Lewellyn



These lakes are located in the Flat Tops Wilderness. This area was my hunting and fishing spot for many years. A great place to take that special someone. If ya fish bring a gun, they are that big. These lakes hold cutthroat and rainbow trout. The stream behind Skinny Fish hold some of the largest brookies you will ever catch any where. These lakes rest below volcanic cliffs that is called the China Wall that rise upward to the sky. If you have been on any of the trails in the Flat Tops they all pass through aspen, beetle killed trees and open meadows. What's really nice it approximately three miles. The first hill is kinda tuff..... If you have time hike, hike to the top of the China Wall from McGinnis Lake to see the Devils Causeway.

Take State Highway 13 east of Meeker for 1 mile, turn right onto County Road 8 for 39 miles, then turn left on the Trappers Lake Road for 8 miles to the Skinny Fish-McGinnis Trailhead parking area on the left side of the road. Please obey all wilderness regulations.

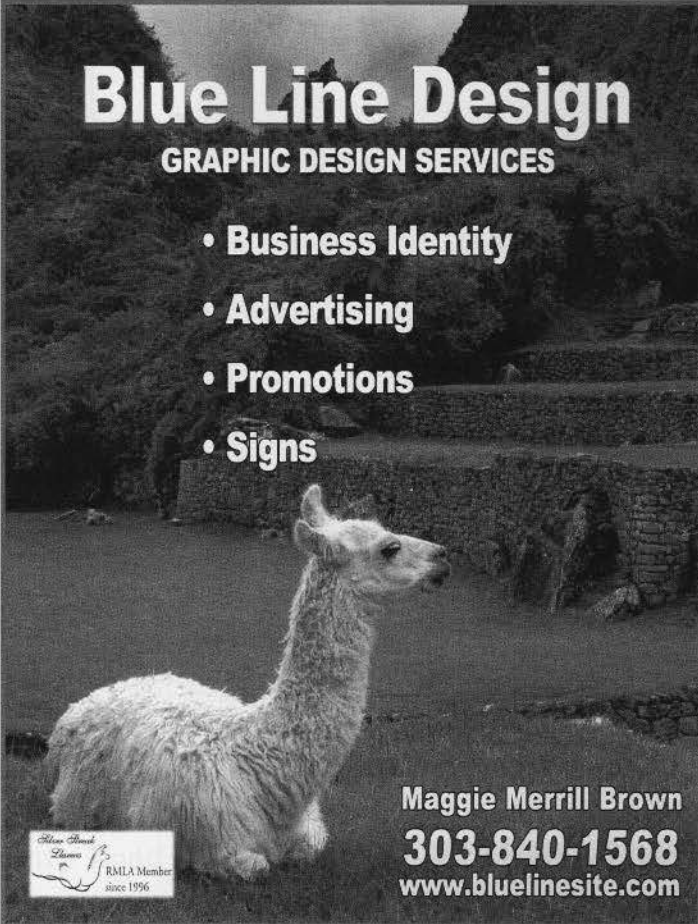
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## Did Ya Know- 1983 RMLA History

Larry Lewellyn

The first ever pack llama race was held on a Saturday, July 30th in Fairplay, which ran in conjunction to the Burro Day Celebration. The race was organized by Luanne Johnson and Jim Hook of Ft. Collins after Jim was told he couldn't run with a llama in the 20 mile Pack Burro Race. He figured a three mile race limited to llamas and their partners was more suited to him anyway. There were fifteen entrants and their llamas, some who had been training for months. Wally White, Past RMLA President and Member.

Llamas packed water for the Pikes Peak Marathon up Pike Peak. This was promoted as

America's "Ultimate Challenge" and was the second oldest race in America. The race started in 1956 as a challenge among the Colorado Springs YMCA smokers and non-smokers in 1956. Howard Kerstetter llamas carried about 106 pounds of water a piece, for the water stations along the run. Each llama was outfitted with a Pikes Peak Pivot Pack frame and normal packing bags.

If you have any old RMLA history send it in for the next Journal issue.



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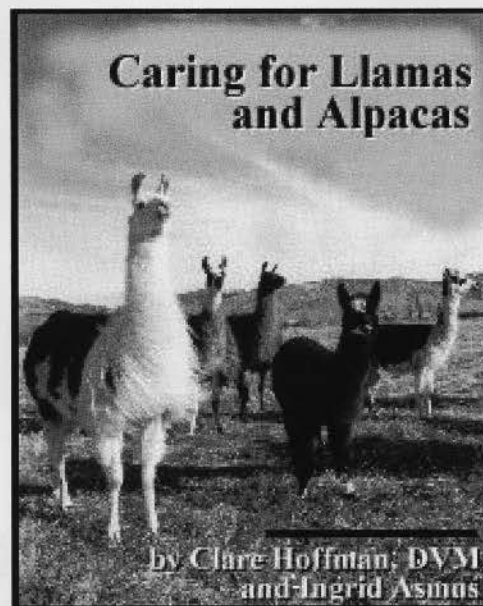
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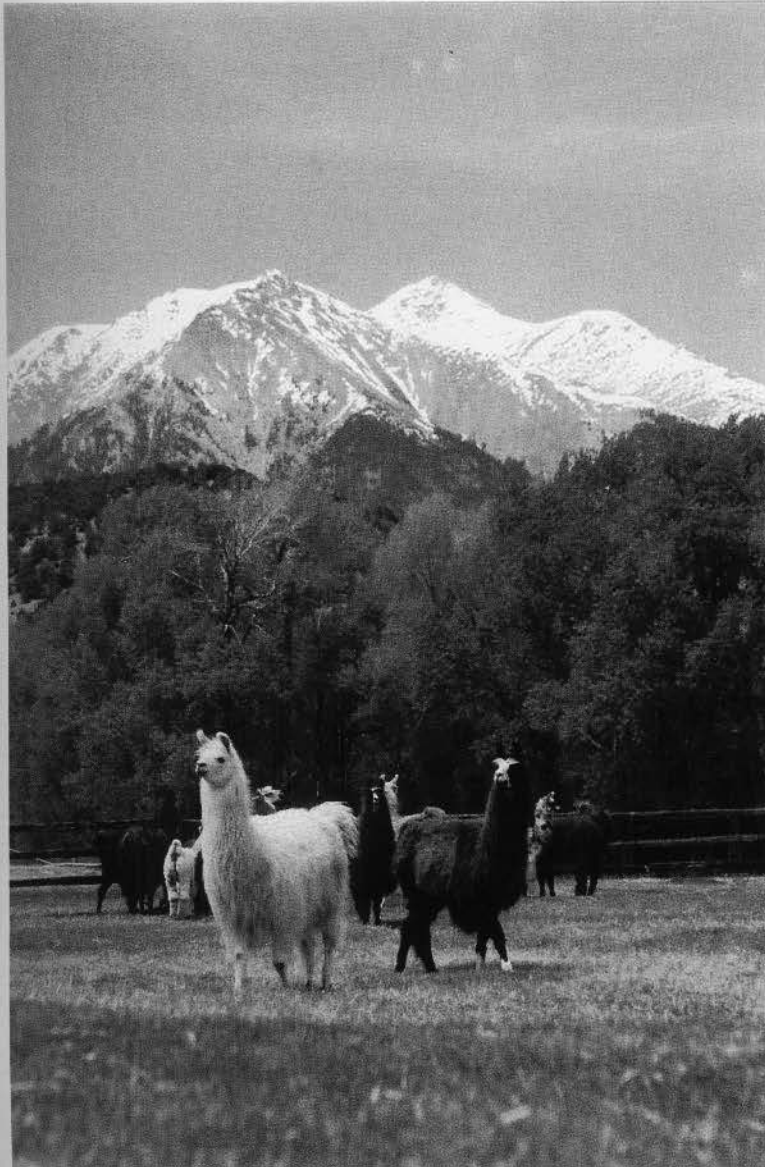


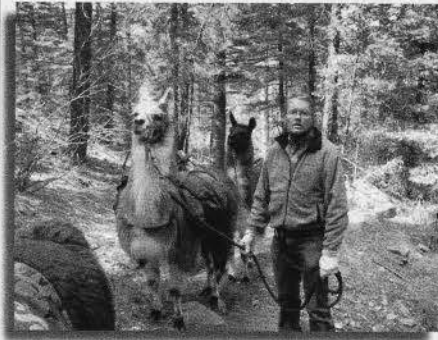
Photo by Judy Wolff-Mills



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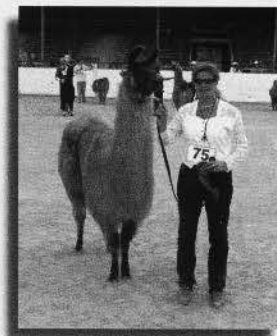
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