

The Journal

Educating, Entertaining and Connecting Cama Covers Since 1982

*March
2005*

RMLA



Rocky Mountain Llama and Alpaca Association



INDIAN PEAKS RANCH

Large, Lovely,
LANUDA LLAMAS
Since 1980

Indian Peaks Amore!
5th Generation Lanuda

Spring
Celebration
Llama Sale

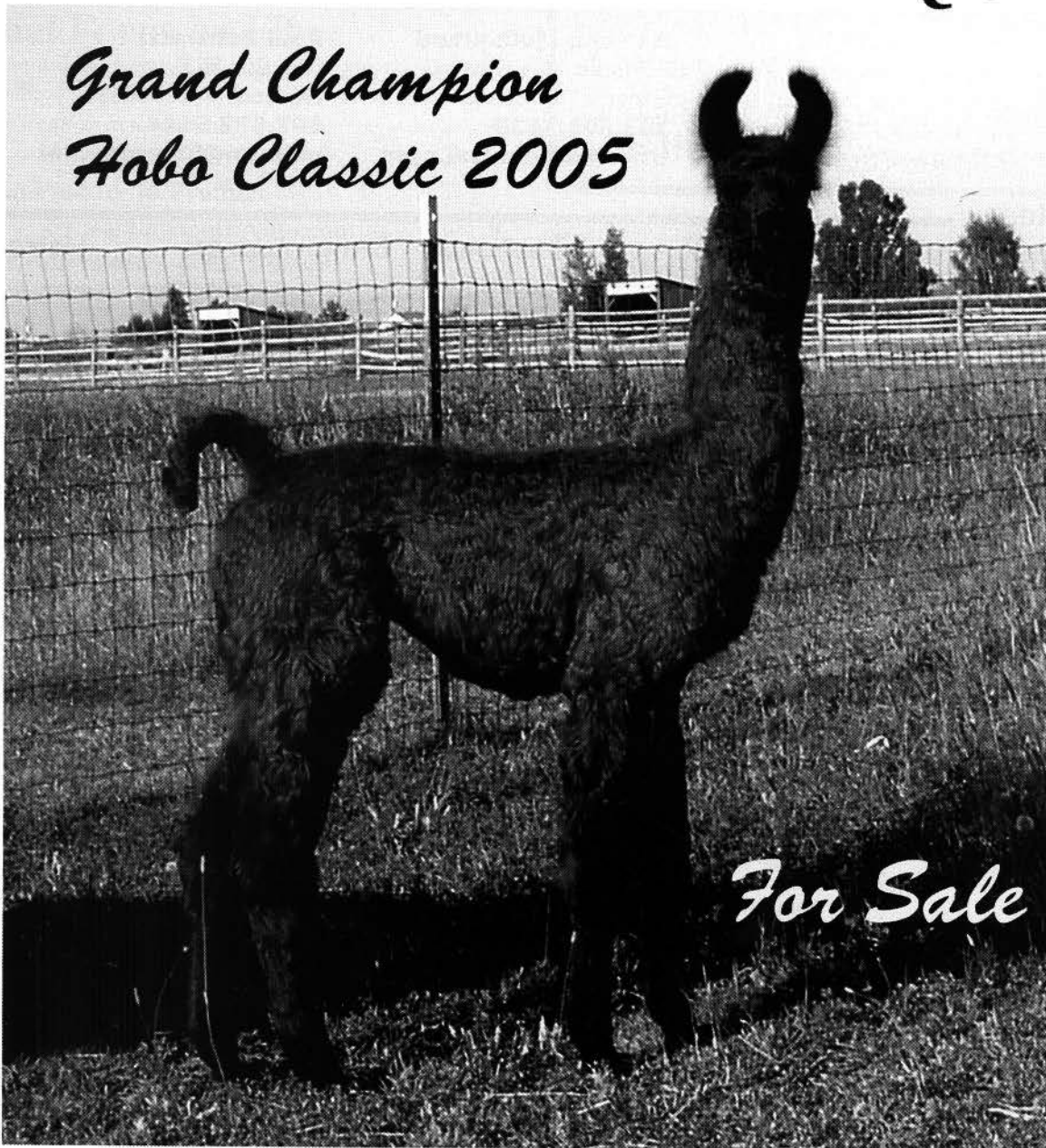
Alaine Byers LaVeta, Colorado
Allama202@aol.com 719-742-6126

LC LLAMAS

INTRODUCES

KOBRA'S DEJA MONIQUE

*Grand Champion
Hobo Classic 2005*



For Sale

ARGENTINE KOBRA X PIPER

DOB 6/23/2004

LARRY & LEILA CRUMRINE

4031 AIRPORT ROAD BELGRADE, MT

lcllamas@aol.com • www.lcllamas.com



Rocky Mountain Llama and Alpaca Association, Inc.

Board of Directors



President

Julie Heggie
P.O. Box 612
Laramie WY 82073
307.721.2919
307.742.9437 (fax)
jkheggie@aol.com

Vice President

Jerry Dunn
14550 W. 50th Ave.
Golden CO 80403
303.277.1129
(voice and fax)
beartrak@gte.net

Secretary

Patti Morgan
12120 282nd Rd.
Arkansas City KS 67005
620.442.4996
pmmorgan@skyerock.net

Treasurer

Larry Lewellyn
P.O. Box 62672
Littleton CO 80162
303.988.2395
llewellyn@bop.gov

Directors

Teri Nilson Baird
28825 County Rd. 5
Elizabeth CO 80107
303.646.4373
teri@brokenwindmill.com

Annette Mulholland
3145 Big Bear Drive
Sedalia CO 80135-4422
303.688.3538
trailrdg@ecentral.com

Paul Schwartz
P.O. Box 363
Big Horn WY 82833
307.672.5144
chantar@fiberpipe.net

Committees

Committee	Chairperson	Telephone	E-mail Address	Liaison
Bookstore	Jan Adamcyk	303.621.2960	adamcyk@earthlink.net	Larry Lewellyn
Calendar	Annette Mulholland	303.646.4373	trailrdg@ecentral.com	
Continuing Education	Cheryl Juntilla	970.640.8028	cajwdj@aol.com	Annette Mulholland
Elections & Nominations	Maggie Merrill-Brown	303.646.0568	blulin@earthlink.net	Teri Nilson Baird
Events	Jerry Dunn	303.277.1129	beartrak@gte.net	
Fiber	Judith Wolff-Mills	970.568.7463	jwmfibers@cs.com	Julie K. Heggie
4-H	Maureen Bergenfeld	719.522.0347	bergenfeld@aol.com	Paul Schwartz
Youth	Barb Harris	719.275.9457	wildcatllamas@aol.com	Paul Schwartz
Governmental Relations	Teri Nilson Baird	303.646.4373	teri@brokenwindmill.com	
Library	Sharon Herbold	719.495.3092	info@pikespeakwoolies.com	Patti Morgan
Pack	Wes Mauz	970.876.5070	timerlinellamas@willowwisp.net	Jerry Dunn
Membership/Website	Bob/Barb Hance	303.422.4681	hancelama@att.net	Jerry Dunn
Research	Ron Baird	303.688.5445	ronbaird@att.net	Teri Nilson Baird
Publishing/Journal	Gayle Woodsum	307.721.2919	RMLAJournal@aol.com	Julie Heggie
Bylaws	Lougene Baird	303.688.5445	lougene@comcast.net	Patti Morgan

Journal

Production Coordinator	Journal	Deadline	Projected Mailing Date
Gayle M. Woodsum	Spring '05	April 10	May 15, 2005
P.O. Box 536	Summer '05	July 5	August 15, 2005
Laramie, WY 82073	Autumn '05	September 12	October 24, 2005
307.721.2919	Winter '06	December 12	January 25, 2005
RMLAJournal@aol.com			

© 2005 The Rocky Mountain Llama and Alpaca Association The coordinator reserves the right to select and edit all articles and letters to the Journal, including for length and clarity. Reproduction of articles herein is authorized, subject to written permission being obtained from individual authors. Lama newsletter exchange editors may reproduce articles as desired so long as the author and RMLA are given credit for the original work. Exception: articles denoted with a © or "all rights reserved" must obtain approval from the author.

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.

The Journal

Special Features in this Issue

A Journal Focus on Fiber

This issue of the Journal features seven pages of fiber-related reports, instruction, projects and perspectives. While you're waiting for the weather to warm, start your fiber-use season with the help of these articles.

From Pasture to Product

by Barbara Coffman-Flinn

Learning about Locks, Luster and the Love of Llama Fiber

a photo essay by Sharon Beacham and Judy Wolff-Mills

RMLA Fiber Co-op:

Pay No Commission

Fiber Projects: from fleece to favorite

a Grace Gerber design

Does Money Grow on Llamas?

shearing to yarn; benefit & cost

9

11

13

14

15

On Llamas and Dogs

These natural enemies have a long history with each other, both good and bad. Take a look at three very different pieces exploring cross-species encounters.

Another Senseless Dog Attack

by Carol Lontine

Reggie and Bernice: Guards In Love

by Sandra Reynolds

Llama Rescue Work in the Wild, Wild West

by Kelly Hubbell

and Gayle M. Woodsum

16

19

20

When Crias Won't Nurse

A Tale of Two Llama Mamas

What happens when a dam does not have enough milk for her cria? This story has an unexpected answer.

by Karen Kinyon

Cria Feeding Hints

30

32

Llama fiber locks grace the cover of this issue of the Journal. The display was part of a llama fleece judging clinic held at the home of RMLA board member Patti Morgan. See the entire photo article on page 11. Photo by Judy Wolff-Mills.

Journal Departments

President's Message

6

RMLA Member Profile: Royal Ranch for Llamas

by Charles Quigley

29

Why Volunteer?

A long time RMLA volunteer seeks to prevail upon our more generous side.

by Sandra Lockwood

35

Did You Know?

History Lessons from RMLA Past

compiled by Larry Lewellyn

36

Youth Clubs - News and Announcements

submitted by Kayla Bish

36

The Business of RMLA

All-Star List of Speakers for 2005 Conference

by Cheryl Juntilla

28

Membership Report

36

Events Calendar

39

Advertising Details

Classified Ads and Rates

37

Advertisers Index

38

March 2005

President's Message

At my place this time of year, all the animals are shedding like crazy. Except the two sheep, two alpacas and 50 llamas, which means shearing is on my mind and making its way to the calendar.

RMLA is a longtime leader in promoting the use of llama fiber as unique, exotic and easy to find in our members' back yards. Our award winning, highly regarded fiber co-op travels far and wide selling member products that started as natural coats on the backs of some of our favorite llamas. Many RMLA members manage small businesses that revolve around the use of llama fiber, and the rest of us prize the llama wool items we have bought from or had made by them.



Continuing in the tradition of leadership, it is RMLA members who are at the forefront of an increasing passion not just for the look of flowing fiber on llamas, but for all the potential it represents. RMLA members are training and apprenticing to become fleece judges at a rate never seen before. The Walking Fiber competition created at the Laramie Llama Festival nearly three years ago is taking the entire country by storm, with classes showing up in Nevada, Texas, Ohio and more.

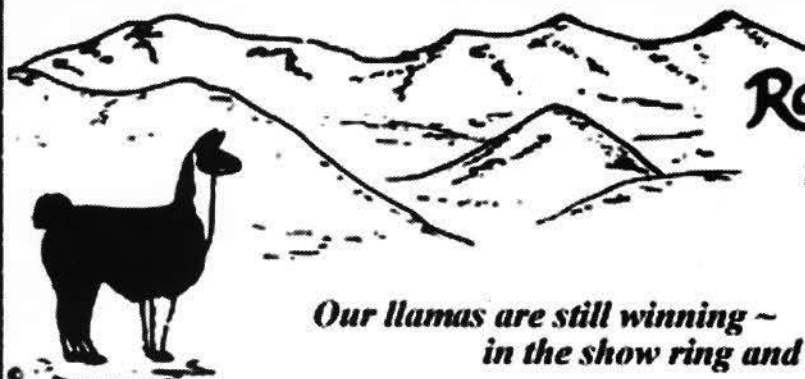
This issue of the *Journal* offers a look at the new enthusiasm that underscores what two of our favorite RMLA fiber experts, Sharon Beacham and Karen Kinyon, have always said: "Every type of llama fiber has a use."

The other thing that tends to be on the minds of those of us living in the Rocky Mountain region as spring slowly comes our way, is cria time. Enjoy the tale of a llama herd taking care of its own when one cria's mom came up short on milk, then take the time to learn about or refresh your thinking on interventions that may be necessary if you have a cria with nursing problems.

As usual, *Journal* contributors have given us more information and fascinating stories than I can possibly summarize here. Enjoy these pages as you plan your escape from cabin fever and look for the special Spring Promotional issue just around the corner.

Welcome to our newest RMLA members: Peg and Creighton Wood, Norwood CO; Patricia McMechen, Greeley CO; Heather and John Arenas, Wiggins CO; Tina and Charles Schinner, Windsor CO; Jim Rea, The Colorado Natural Horsemanship Center, Parker CO; Kathy and Steve Bright, Salida CO; Glenn and Lynn Amstutz, Silverthorne CO; Brenda R. and Russell W. Shea, II, Pine CO; Carol Dorsett, Meeker CO; Zippora Stahl, Meeker CO; Tim and Deb Sund, Lexington NE; Albert and Sondra Ellis, Boulder WY; Lana Cory Hall, Basalt CO; Masha Flinn (Youth), Story, WY; Patrick Smith, Parker, CO; Lori and Cappy Pruett, Rosanne Bashor (Youth), Wiggins CO; Joe and Sherry Reed, Deer Park WA; William J. Tregay Jr. and Thomas D. Tregay, Pinecliffe, CO.

— Julie K. Heggie



Rocky Mountain Llamas

Since 1978 ~ Raising, Training
and Loving Llamas

*Our llamas are still winning ~
in the show ring and on the trail*

Examples from 2004 National Western & Laramie Llama Festival:

High Spirits: Grand Champion Performance & 1st, Light Woolled Adult Male

Suprinca: Grand Champion Light Woolled Female

Jester's Grand Finale: 2nd Medium Woolled Female

Inca's Legacy: 3rd Juvenile Light Woolled Female

*What makes winners? Good breeding and good training are
essential for both performance and halter showing.*

Are your llamas and alpacas as easy to work with as you'd like?

Are they easy to catch and halter? Stand for grooming? Toenails?

Do they lead nicely on a loose lead? Load in vehicles?

Jump obstacles? Go up and down stairs? Back smoothly?

Can you brush their legs and pick up their feet?

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:

Basic: Training Llamas and Alpacas for Willing Cooperation ~ One-day class

Learn all the essentials for easy management as above, plus grooming, toenail trimming, obstacles, and loading in vehicles, including vans.

Packing with Llamas ~ Two-day clinic

First day: The practical method to teach your llamas to accept a pack saddle and panniers, and how to properly pack the panniers.

Second day: A lunch hike with your llamas lightly packed, learning to ford streams in various situations, cross bridges, other obstacles.

To receive clinic outlines and schedules, phone, write or
email us at llamas@rockymtllamas.com

For every llama and alpaca activity,
properly functioning equipment is essential!

See the best at our website at

<http://www.rockymtllamas.com>

Web Announcement!

Visit our new ranch website!

Links from catalog home page

<http://rockymtllamas.com>

We have llamas available for all purposes: potential studs, packers,
proven females, smaller males excellent for 4-H. Visitors always welcome!

Since 1980,
Innovations in
Llama Equipment

Halters & Leads for:

Everyday
Show
Trail
Driving
Weanlings
Alpacas



Baby Warm Coats
& Raincoats

Packing Equipment:

Packs
Saddlepads
Stakelines
Stake pins
Rainflies
Load scales
Trail bells
Water bags
String-along leads

Cart-driving tack:

True-Fit harness
Driving halters
Harness pads
Whips
Carts

Grooming Supplies

Books
Training Videos
First-Aid Items
Show Sheets

Free Catalog!
See on our website
or request by mail

Bobra Goldsmith ~ 7202 N. 45th Street ~ Longmont, CO 80503 ~ (303) 530-5575

Amigo de Peru

DOB: 11/30/94

Amigo is a very colorful full Peruvian male sired by The Peruvian Commodore.

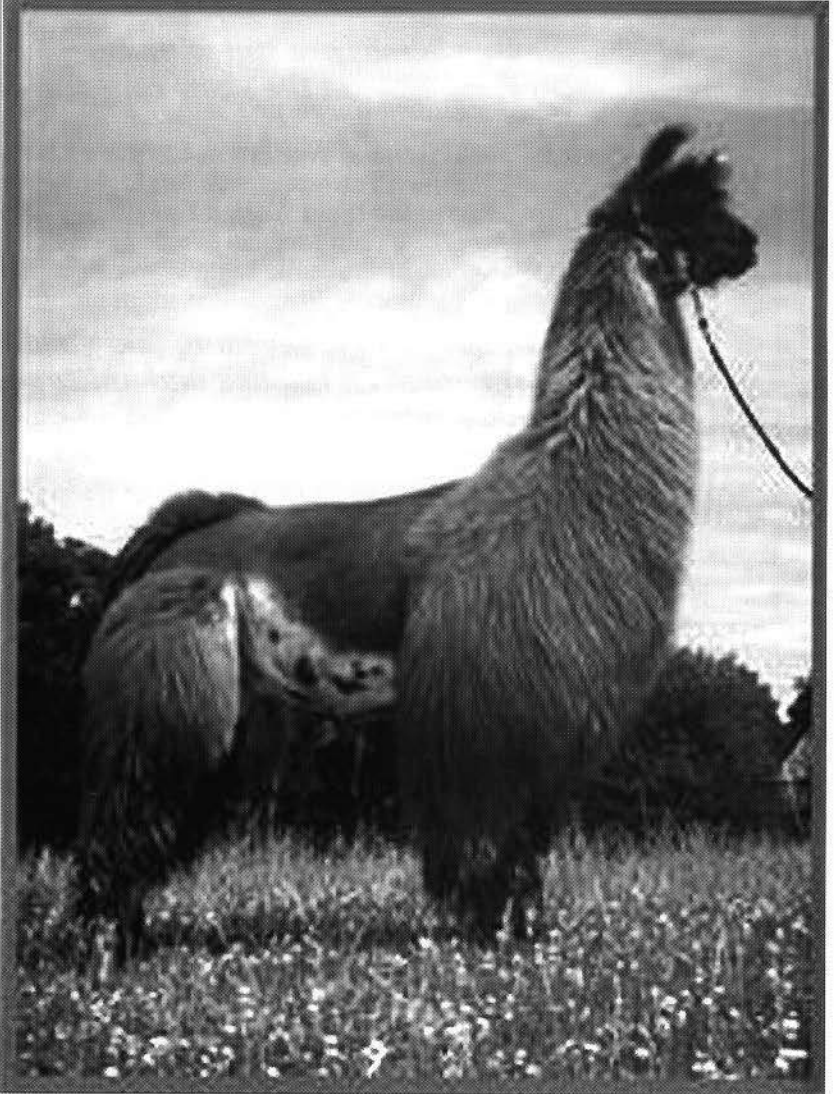
He has dense wool with excellent coverage.

Amigo was the 2001 National Grand Champion Heavy Wool Male.

Amigo's son, Riley's Legacy de Amigo, was the Reserve National Grand Champion Heavy Wool Male that same year.

Amigo is also an ALSA Halter Champion, an ALSA Get-of-Sire Champion, and was the Reserve National Champion Heavy Wool Male in 2000. He has produced winning babies, has a gentle disposition and is a good breeder.

He is a very tall stretchy llama with big bone and is passing all of these characteristics to his offspring. He has absolutely the best conformation.



Now standing at stud at the Golden R Heart Ranch in Palomino Valley, Nevada is Riley's Amigo de Peru. Amigo's stud fee is \$1000.

This offer includes the care and feeding of your prize female llamas while at the Golden R Heart Ranch.

Amigo is an outstanding breeding prospect and could very well be that breeding line that you are missing.

Also available are pure Peruvian females soon to be bred to Amigo. Prices for these females start at \$1000.

Contact the ranch through one of the following means. We're sure you'll be very pleased with the outcome.

**Rogon Haslem • Golden R Heart Ranch • 1905 Goodher Road • Reno, NV • 89510
775.475.0382 • rylite@gbis.com**

A Journal Focus on Fiber

From Pasture to Product

by Barbara Coffman - Flinn

I remember my first shearing demonstration sixteen years ago. I was at the International Llama Association's conference at the Little America Hotel in Salt Lake City. Tom Marino from Massachusetts skillfully performed the demonstration. For two days, he had asked the conference participants to volunteer their llamas for a shearing demonstration. At that time, no one wanted his or her llamas sheared. Finally, I gave in and volunteered one of my top pack llamas, Ollokot, for the demonstration.

The conference attendees gathered around Ollie's stall. It was a 10' by 10' stall that was six feet high. There were people everywhere hanging on to the bars to see what was then a very new thing.

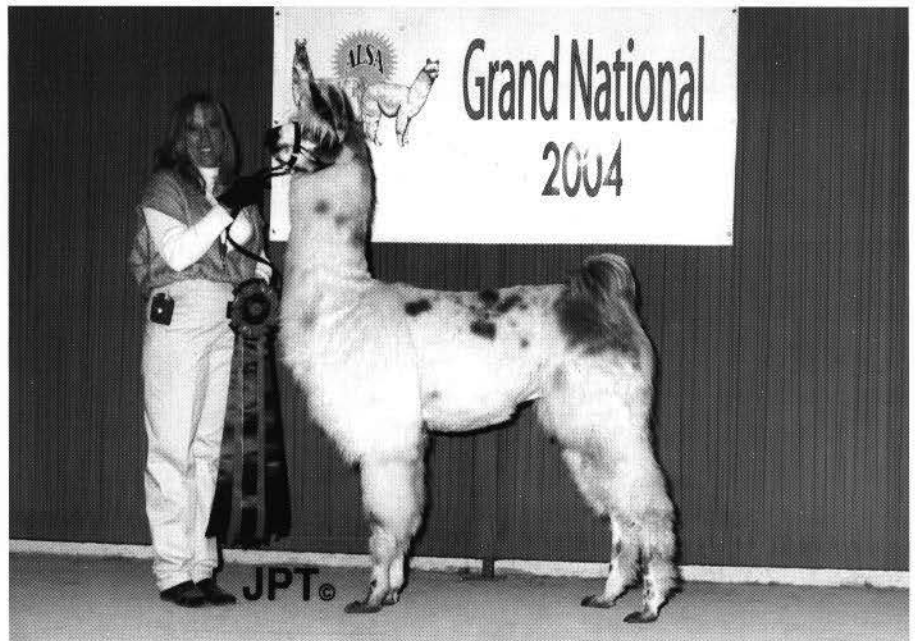
Tom took hand shears and clipped away the precious fiber from my llama. He didn't do a barrel shear then but removed inches from Ollie's back to his hocks. We wanted to be careful not to take "too" much since Ollie was a working llama and we wanted to protect him from the sun and the rain. Ollie stood there and didn't even move a muscle. Everyone who watched the demonstration commented on what a good, well trained llama he was. But what we didn't realize then was how much he probably was enjoying getting his wool cut. Boy, have we come along way baby!

Today we take it all off. We start at the back hocks and take it clear to the neck. Those llamas stand in the chute without even a flinch and think, "man does that feel good." Get that fleece off! What started as one fleece at a time has gone to a major shearing event for our ranch each year. My good friend and professional shearer, Mary Pendergast, arrives at the ranch each year. We all look forward to her coming. We invite family and friends out for a two-day event in which we all roll up our sleeves and get busy. Everyone looks forward to it. It is a lot of hard work, but we make it into a two-day festival filled with food, drink and fun.

My cattle friends have their brandings and I have my shearing. We work in an assembly line and bring the llamas in one by one and remove their fleece. My husband Dwayne built me a wonderful skirting table in which I take charge of each fleece as it is removed from the llama. I have developed a good technique as I learn more and more with each shearing session. I know now what the mills want, what is usable fleece and what isn't. I have learned how to prepare my fleeces, and how to bag it for the mill.

We dropped our fleece off at the mill this fall and weighed in each bag. I was amazed to find out I had over 200 pounds of usable wool that will be cleaned, carded and spun into yarn. My most precious fleeces I sent to be hand spun and some of my more "exotic" fleeces I bagged up and send out to the various fiber classes that are now available through ALSA.

And now, here I am, starting a lama fiber fashion business. I am waiting anxiously for the 2004 yarn to come. I have already talked to my designers and I am ready to go into production for 2006 fashions. I am



Above: Barbara Coffman-Flinn models one of the lama fiber fashions from her new company, along with one of her winning llamas at the ALSA Grand Nationals.

A Journal Focus on Fiber

learning you must plan ahead, and it's not just me and my fleeces; the mills are so busy that they are booking a year in advance. Looking back now at our industry today, we really have come along way.

I know that I have personally come full circle. I started as a commercial llama packer, started breeding llamas, I had small children at the beginning so I worked to develop a lot of the youth programs that we see today, ran a successful 4-H llama program for ten years and now I have gone into the fiber business.

My number one reason to come full circle is because if I am going to raise them, then I need to be able to sell them and sell the end product. The product on my mind today is the wool. The fleece on today's llamas, both yours and mine, is just fabulous. It is soft and silky, a very pliable product. Since the late 90's I have been importing llamas with incredible fiber. It was finally time to take it from pasture to product.

Since the start of RMLA, there have always been some wonderful fiber artists in our industry who have worked to get the llama wool fleece off and onto the shelf. My first time of really taking the time to learn about llama wool was at the RMLA conference in 1992 that I hosted in Sheridan. I spent the day working with artists Chris Switzer and Karla Goodman, who were patiently teaching me the technique of Australian Locker Hooking.

Back then they had yarns, sweaters, scarves, hats and gloves for sale and I remember thinking that if I just had more time I would try to do something with my wool.

Well, the time has come for not just me but for all of us. Today there is really no excuse not to take that fleece your llama is producing and not just bag it but also plan it. There are numerous classes being taught not just through the llama industry, but everywhere. Knitting and weaving are back. They are hot, and so is wool. Look at the fashions coming from Fifth Avenue. Scarves are in and why not have them made out of llama wool? Especially your llama wool. The possibilities are unlimited.

I joined forces last year with friends Mary Beth Hartsough, a longtime RMLA member from Longmont, Colorado, and her sister Colleen Conlon from North Massaquipa, Long Island.

We began a new venture called Lama Luxuries. We are selling top end llama and alpaca products. Some of the items are made from the yarns of Cloud Peak Llamas, my ranch, and some items are top quality products

produced in South America. It is amazing to see the quality in the wool clothing today. Each piece is so well handcrafted that each stitch is finished in both the inside of the piece and the outside.

Our goal is to carry clothing that is suitable for the show ring, office and for evening wear. You pay for top quality clothing, so why not wear it and wear it often? We opened our booth at the 2004 ALSA Grand National where it was well received. We are now planning to attend upcoming shows and sales. It really is just the beginning for us and we are especially grateful to our llama friends who have been so wonderful, helpful and supportive of our new business. It is the beginning of what we hope to be a long and prosperous road ahead. We have taken a step, maybe to some a big step, to put our llama fiber out there. And we will be the first to admit that in all the years we have been working with llamas we still have so much more to learn.

This year, while it is cold and you wait each day for spring to arrive, plan your fleeces. Go online and learn more about wool and wool end products. Talk to one of RMLA's great fiber artists. Come by and visit our booth at Celebrity; we would love to show you one of our fashions and talk wool with you. Plan to attend the Estes Park Wool Market. Plan to attend the RMLA conference. If you haven't visited the RMLA Fiber Co-op booth, then you're missing out. It is incredible! There is no end to what's out there and it really does start with one fleece at a time.

Llama Shearing and Fiber Preparation Day

at
Double J Llamas • Laramie, Wyoming

May 13 - 15, 2005

- Learn about skirting, sorting, evaluating fiber for use.
 - Get tips on pre-shearing grooming methods.
 - Get your llama shorn; skirt the fleece right then.
 - Enjoy an inspiring, casual weekend,
good food and great company,
with or without a llama in tow.

Call for information, reservations and price ranges,
depending on how you want to participate in the weekend.

Gayle Woodsum or Julie Heggie
307.721.2919 • dbjlillamas@aol.com

A *Journal* Focus on Fiber

Learning about Locks, Luster and the Love of Llama Fiber

text by Sharon Beacham

photos by Judy Wolff-Mills

Rocky Mountain enthusiasts recently began training as future ALSA llama fiber judges at the home of RMLA board member, Patti Morgan.

Right: Sample locks were removed from different places in the fleece and placed on a contrasting surface. This facilitated the evaluation of the criteria for Fineness and Hand, Style and Architecture, Luster, Overall Impression and Uniformity, Tensile Strength and Condition.



Left: Patti Morgan organized and hosted the clinic at her summer ranch near Buena Vista, Colorado. Thunder storms caused us to use her kitchen to practice evaluating shorn fleeces.

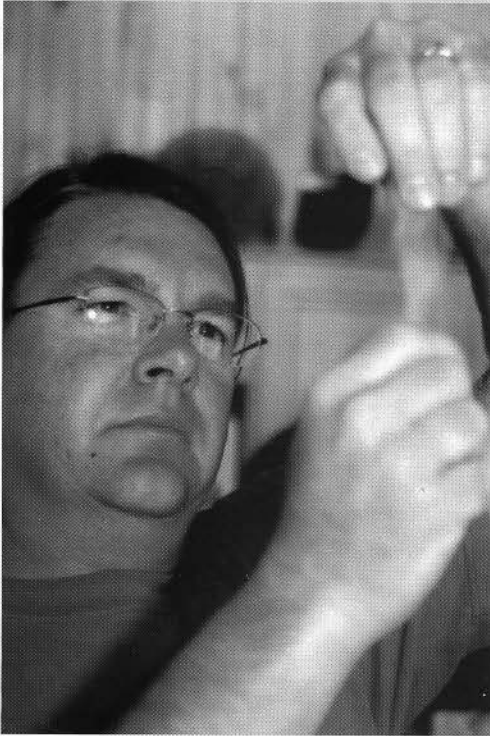
Right: Judy leans in for a closer look.



Bottom Right: Sharon Beacham, clinic instructor, shows how to remove sample locks without disturbing the rest of the fleece. Careful handling is essential since the owner has spent many hours preparing the fleece and may plan to enter it in other shows.



A *Journal* Focus on Fiber



Above: Rob Knuckles evaluates the fineness, crimp and staple length of a sample lock from a shorn llama fleece.

Below: There are seven criteria used when judging a shorn fleece. Sally Rucker checks her notes while evaluating and placing a class.



Below: Ann Bruhn checks a lock for tensile strength by pulling on it and listening for the crackling sound made by breaking fibers. Fiber that is in good condition will not make any noise.



Above: The most enjoyable aspect of judging is handling all the shorn fleeces. Sharon admires a lock from an exceptionally clean and well prepared fleece.



Left: The total points earned by high quality fleeces are often close. Linda Hayes checks her judging card for accuracy.

A Journal Focus on Fiber



RMLA Fiber Co-op: Pay No Commission

by Judy Wolff-Mills

A unanimous vote of support by the RMLA Board of Directors has given the RMLA Fiber Co-op new life. Julie Heggie, RMLA President, proposed booth costs be underwritten by RMLA and that the booth travel to four shows in 2005: National Western Stock Show, January 8 – 9; Estes Park Wool Market, June 18 – 19; Taos Wool Festival in early October, and ALSA National Championship Lama Show in November.

For RMLA consignors, the proposal is very attractive. By working a minimum of a half-day at any given show, the member pays no commission on sales. RMLA members who do not work in the booth at a show pay 15% commission on sales, and non-RMLA members pay 50% commission. The hotel and gas expenses of the booth manager are reimbursed.

For RMLA members, the proposal ensures that one of the most visible, attractive marketing tools in the industry is active. Volunteers in the booth are experts in lama fiber and also are knowledgeable about all aspects of lama breeding and husbandry. Visitors receive a broad range of lama information and are regularly referred to others in RMLA for information and assistance.

New and returning consignors can access the 2005 Booth Guidelines on line at RMLA.com or can contact the Fiber Co-op chair, Judy Wolff-Mills, at jwmfibers@cs.com or 970.568.7463

Photo Above: A customer browses through the booth at Estes Park Wool Market

Ready to get *serious* about your business?

Blue Line
Design



303-840-1568

www.bluelinesite.com

mm@bluelinesite.com

Logos/Business Identity Development

Stationery	Postcards	Show Fliers
Brochures	Posters	Promo Items
Advertising	Banners	Web Design

Photography/Scanning/Expert Enhancement

*Silver Sheek
Lamas*

RMLA Member
since 1996

Maggie Merrill Brown
10 Years Experience
FREE Consultation

A Journal Focus on Fiber

FIBER PROJECTS

from fleece to favorite

edited by Judy Wolff-Mills

Grace C. Gerber, designer

EYE CANDY a purse embellished with needle felting

Made with natural fibers, this delightful project can be completed with a felted purse that you have made yourself. Grace purchased a felt purse emblazoned with roses and leaves then let her imagination and her fibers do the rest. Eye candy at its best.



PROJECT SUMMARY Needle Felted Embellished Purse

Equipment:

- #36 and #40 felting needles •
- foam pad at least 2" thick •
- 5 metal thimbles, rubbing alcohol & cotton balls •
- non-alcohol based moisture resistant hair spray – the cheaper the better •

Materials:

a felted purse made of natural fibers
natural and dyed fibers—
llama, alpaca, mohair or others
assorted beads, buttons, and designer yarns

NEEDLE FELTING NOTES

Gather your materials and work at a table with good lighting. This is not a project that you will do on your lap while watching TV! For safety, place all the thimbles on the hand that will hold the purse as you work. Clean the needles with rubbing alcohol before you begin.

NEEDLE FELTING INSTRUCTIONS

• To embellish existing flowers:

Place a piece of foam inside your purse.

Begin by filling in the rose with a lock of suri, llama or mohair. Start at the center of the rose with the cut side of the lock pointed in. Anchor the lock with pokes of the needle. Moving in a spiral, gently poke every 1/4 - 1/2 inch to form full rose petals. Repeat with additional fiber until you have finished your rose.

• To create additional flowers, work on a piece of 2" thick foam.

Select a long lock of fiber and, cut side between thumb and index finger, needle felt a small loop using about 1/3 of the lock. Holding that petal down, poke at the base of the loop to fuse the fibers. Repeat to create the desired number of petals.

Hold the petals together on their sides. Use the needle to hard felt them at the base. Turn the mass of petals and felt from all sides to keep the flower together while you apply it to the purse.

• Repeat for the desired number of flowers.

• Repeat the process for leaves:

Fold the fiber to make a leaf, tack the base with a series of strokes.

Lay the leaf on the foam pad and work down the

A Journal Focus on Fiber

length to form a spine and veins. Make needle felt strokes very close together to resemble tiny stitches.

• **To attach your flowers and leaves to the purse:**
Position the flowers and carefully needle felt the base of the flowers and leaves to the purse, working at a 45-degree angle.

• **To add additional interest:**
Using textured yarn—Grace chose handspun alpaca boucle—anchor the yarn under a flower holding your needle at a 45° angle. Twist the yarn to resemble a vine and anchor it every 1/2 inch. Embellish to your heart's content!

• **Securing the needle felting:**
Use the #40 needle to reinforce your needle felting and to close the larger holes.
Remove the foam from inside the purse. With the #40 needle and 45-degree angle, carefully poke fibers back into the purse.

• **Finishing:**
Lightly mist needle felted areas with hairspray. Let dry. Repeat with a second misting.
Line the purse as desired.



Grace Gerber has been passionate about animals for as long as she can remember. Owner of Larkspur Funny Farm and Fiber Art Studio since 1994, she lives out her passion every day with her two sons and 80 animals. She raises llamas, alpacas, angora and cashmere goats, Icelandic and Southdown sheep. Grace offers

a variety of classes: spinning, felting, crocheting, Locker Hooking, and Organic Animal Management. When you visit the Funny Farm, you will find the products Graces produces, the materials you need for your special projects and a patient, lighthearted teacher. You can reach Grace at 303.814.0047 or at ggerberlff@aol.com

Does Money Grow on Llamas?

Is it worth hanging on to that fiber as it falls away from your llama, or is the dumpster still the most sensible place for it as you prepare for showing, hiking or just some summer cooling?

Fiber artists, fiber festivals and discriminating shoppers will all tell you there is a growing demand for exotic fiber and its products.

But like any other business endeavor, realistic success requires careful planning in preparing your product and marketing it.

Following is a sample financial statement for fiber to yarn processing taken from the shearing of a small herd of llamas (various fiber types), with minimal advance cleaning done on the animals.

The figures include the cost of a professional shearer, along with professional fiber mill processing. For every piece of processing you do yourself, your profit margin goes up.

As you can see, even with the luxury of outsourcing nearly all the work required to turn this herd's fiber into a saleable product, the end result is far more beneficial to a bank account than it is to the local landfill.

Shearing Cost:	\$1000.00
Mill Processing (includes 10% large batch discount)	\$1396.90
Retail Value of Finished Yarn (27.2 lbs. 100% llama @ \$5/oz.) (10.5 lbs. 20% soy silk, 80% llama @ \$5.50/oz.) (1.25 lbs. 100% llama roving @ \$4.00/ounce)	\$3180.00
Profit	\$ 783.10

On Llamas and Dogs

Llamas and dogs are natural enemies. Llamas recognize canines as predators, and the members of their own herd as potential prey. To help even out the odds, llamas are also instinctive sentinels and guards, known for intimidating, chasing off and even killing canine intruders.

As with all domesticated animals, the entrance of the human element in containing, caring for and training animals to serve human needs, interests, desires, throws natural instincts and mother nature's sense of fair play all out of whack.

There are llama-dog interactions every day in this country. Some are positive, with good relationships between pet or working dogs and the llamas they share homes with. Some are heartbreaking or infuriating with untended dogs attacking a llama herd or packing llamas, neighbor dogs being killed by llamas, and perhaps the most heartbreaking cases of llama owners' own dogs harming or killing their llamas.

When facing dog and llama relationships, the reality of their basic instincts must be respected and continuously watched. Following are three separate stories that give just a taste of the broad spectrum of exchanges that can occur between these divergent and well loved species.

Another Senseless Dog Attack

by Carol Lontine

At about 7:00 o'clock the morning of January 3, two Husky dogs were turned loose from their house for "outdoor activities." The two of them jumped a fence and went into a field where three llamas were grazing, one of which was a two-month old cria. The two dogs immediately attacked the cria and did serious injury to its neck, stomach and hind quarters.

The attack was witnessed by a resident of the nearby Willow Glen Senior Residence home, who called to an employee. The residents of this home had become so interested in those llamas, they watched them constantly.



dogs and the llamas to separate them. Police and Animal Control arrived shortly and took the dogs into custody.

Had it not been for the resident observing this attack, the cria (named Sam-E, who is owned by Alan and Nancy Carter) would have been killed by the dogs. With the generous support of RMLA members in the surrounding area and the good work of the veterinarian who was called in, the cria was saved.

The ever increasing number of large dogs running uncontrolled in populated areas continues to endanger the lives of llamas, alpacas and other animals as well.

Is it not time for RMLA to make itself heard to mayors, city councilmen and county commissioners that something must be done to seriously penalize people for allowing these dogs to run loose? Isn't stronger control needed?

Carol Lontine is an RMLA member who lives in Denver, Colorado. She spends much of her time doing volunteer work with her therapy llama, Pisco.



The employee immediately ran to rescue the llamas. She found a chair sitting outside and threw it at the dogs. Then, at considerable risk to herself, went between the

WHEN IT COMES TO
GREAT NUTRITION...



WE MAKE EVERY BITE COUNT

Working in partnership with veterinarians, breeders and owners, MAZURI® PhD nutritionists develop industry leading products—like MAZURI® Alpaca Chews™ and Llama Chews™.

Our diets are specifically designed for llamas and alpacas that are fed hay or grass pasture. Formulated with natural vitamin E and selenium for healthy coats, each diet contains balanced calcium and phosphorus levels for strong bones and better milk production.

Best of all, each bite is loaded with nutrition so you don't have to use as much as other supplements. For more information on MAZURI® alpaca and llama products—including nutritional analyses and research findings—visit us at www.mazuri.com. Call 1-800-227-8941 for the location of your nearest dealer.

Mazuri
The Exotic Animal Feeding Resource

www.mazuri.com

Mazuri® Alpaca and Llama Products:

Llama Chews™ - 5M17

Llama Diet High Fiber - 5631

Llama Diet Coarse HF - 5202

Alpaca Chews™ - 56BU

Alpaca Growth & Repr Diet - 56CD

Alpaca Vitamin / Mineral Blend E™ - 25 lb. 56CB

Alpaca Vitamin / Mineral Blend E™ - 50 lb. 56CA

Fiber Nutrients™ - 50 lb. 56CC



MINERALS

Marie & Richard Hoover

Call To Order

or to receive a brochure

800-758-0825

303-646-2665

Supplement #1

Diet consists of: Late or non-irrigated summer, fall or winter pasture; feeding grass hay. Supplement #1 contains a 2:1 calcium/phosphorus ratio and additional Vitamin E.

Supplement #2

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

Supplement #3

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*

Insure Your Llama and Alpacas' Health for Just Pennies per Day!

Cache La Poudre Minerals are free choice Vitamin and Mineral supplements formulated specifically to balance your llama and alpacas' diet.

- ✓ Supplements do not add unnecessary calories or protein to the animals' diet
- ✓ Tailored to meet different feeding situations
- ✓ Palatable so the animals will consume them willingly
- ✓ Safer than pellets, which may cause them to choke

On the web at: www.CLPMinerals.com

Zinpro® 100 also available.

Caring for Llamas and Alpacas

A world reknowned RMLA publication. Orders shipped around the planet... (and elsewhere!)

To Order:

www.rmla.com

or

Send your name, address, city, state and zip and

\$24.95 plus \$4.00 S & H

(CO residents add 3% sales tax) to:

Jan Adamcyk

RMLA Bookstore

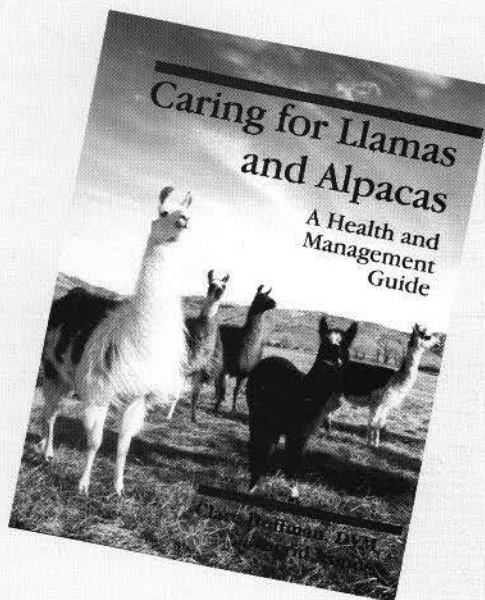
39420 Olson Court

Kiowa CO 80117

303.621.2960

e-mail: adamcyk@earthlink.net

ISBN:0-9622768-2-0



Reggie and Bernice: Guards In Love

by Sandra Reynolds

When you see these two in the fields, you can't help but wonder what they could possibly have in common. Although canines are natural born enemies of llamas, they will usually tolerate the family dog. Our experiences with Reggie and Bernice go way beyond tolerance.

Bernice, a Great Pyrenees, and Reginald, a guard llama, not only share a very special bond, they also share the hefty task of guarding each other as well as other llamas and livestock at the Lone Star Llama Ranch in Oklahoma. The two are always on alert, never tolerating other dogs or coyotes on their land.

But after working all night, they run to greet each other the moment the sun comes up as if to say thank you for a job well done. Only Reggie and Bernice truly know how difficult their job really was the night before,



while their humans and other llama friends enjoyed a peaceful, safe night's rest.

For that, we are forever grateful. Always faithful, always loyal. A lesson for us all. Thank you, Reggie and Bernice.



Sandra Reynolds lives with her unusually close guard team on Lone Star Ranch in Durant, Oklahoma.



On Llamas and Dogs

Llama Rescue Work in the Wild, Wild West

Evening Star made her media debut in a 2003 issue of the RMLA Journal. Julie Heggie wrote a heartfelt and heartwarming tale of Star's difficult but successful entry into the world. Apparently, adventures and miracles were to become common fare for this tall, curly fibered, black and white female llama. At the age of about 8 months, she moved across Laramie to the home of Kelly and Larry Hubbell where, this February, she defied the odds on survival once again.

The Shock of Discovery

by Kelly Hubbell

"Star is gone" I yelled to my husband.

"What do you mean, 'gone'?"

"She isn't in the pen with the other girls. There's a sag in the wire fence. Those dogs we found must have attacked her last night and dragged her off."

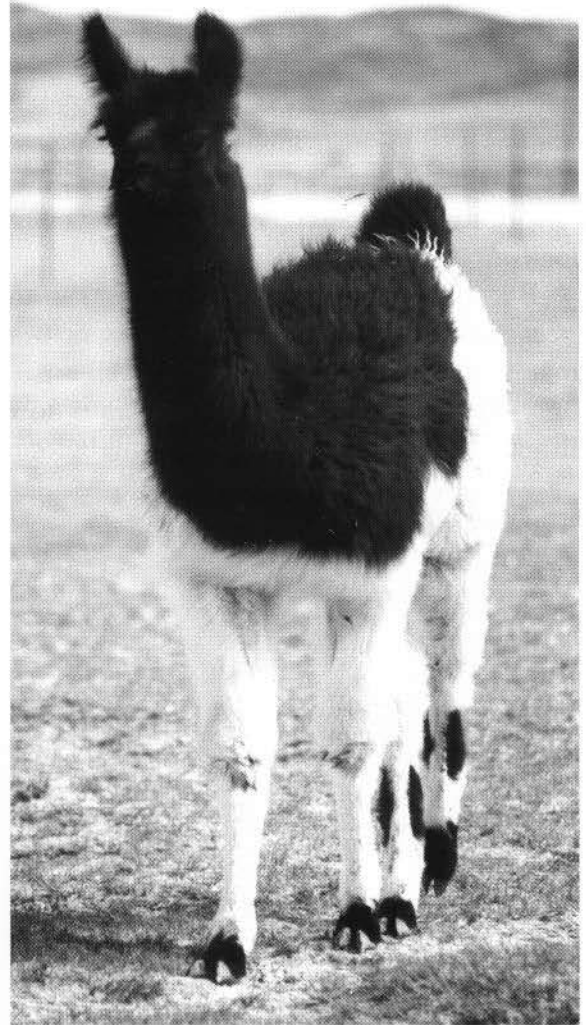
We are new to llamas. My husband has wanted llamas for 22 years, but we only just bought our first animals last year. We have lived in Laramie, Wyoming for 15 years, and recently moved outside of town to a house with a barn. We had seen some of the Double J llamas at a local fair, called, and immediately connected with owners Julie Heggie and Gayle Woodsum. We bought five of their most beautiful female llamas. Since then we have relied on Julie and Gayle for help, advice and llama insight.

"Call Julie and Gayle. They'll know what to do. My guess is the dogs didn't kill her, just scared her. Julie and Gayle will know what to look for."

Julie agreed with Larry. She thought Star had probably been separated from the rest of the herd and scared into running off. When she offered to come out and help us look for Star I was overwhelmed and relieved. It was Saturday morning. The Llama Rescue Mission officially began at 8:30 AM.

Our land is bordered by Warren Livestock land. We almost never walk to the fenced border—there usually isn't a reason to. But after looking at the llamas' pasture fencing and tracks in their pen, Julie's first question was, "Did you see anywhere she might have gotten through the fence onto Warren Livestock land?"

I had to admit it hadn't occurred to me. We walked the outer fenceline and Julie found Star's fiber stuck in some barbs. Then we found tracks in the snow going up the bluff. I headed off following the tracks, got farther up the mountain than I believed myself capable



Evening Star as a weanling

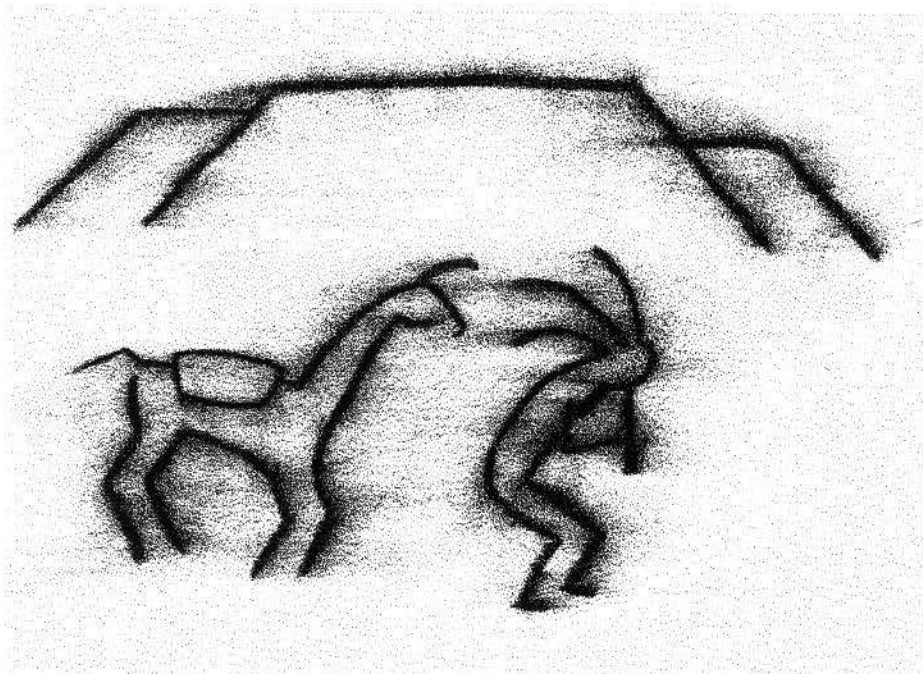
of, only to lose her tracks when they mixed in with deer and antelope.

No one said it, but we all knew that coyotes and mountain lions also roam those hills....

Continued on next page

On Llamas and Dogs

2005 Grand Mesa and
Kokopelli Llama Classic



Two ALSA Sanctioned Shows
in Grand Junction, Colorado
April 23 & 24, 2005.

Thank You to all of our 2004 Sponsors,
Volunteers and Participants!!!
We hope to see you in April of 2005.

Jill Knuckles (970) 241-4112
email: talltaillamas@bigplanet.com

Larry Lewellyn (303) 988-2395

Search and Rescue, Day One

by Gayle M. Woodsum

continued from previous page

When Julie and I got the call that Evening Star had been chased off, there was no option other than to go looking for her. It's the kind of thing all llama people do who tend to love these animals to the point of desperation.

What I didn't know as I pulled on polypropylene long johns, a layer of wool, a gortex shell and gators over hiking boots, was that I was about to embark on a two-day adventure that would lead me not only deeper into my dedication to llamas, but deeper into a view of the world through a llama's sense of devotion.

Experience had told Julie and me that as much as llamas may appear to love us humans, we cannot begin to compete with the magnetic pull of the herd. We knew from the start that creating a well reasoned, organized plan for finding Evening Star would have to include the assistance of a herd mate.

My choices were limited. This was a small herd of primarily young llamas and one older guard llama. They were show string, breeding and fiber animals, all females. The guard llama had been outwitted by a pair of dogs late at night, who separated Star from the safety of her herd and ran her into a wilderness hard for most people in this day and age to even imagine. Fortunately, the dogs had returned to the Hubell's house and announced their presence by looking in their darkened windows. They were sent back to their owners nine miles away.

When I arrived at the Hubell's, the herd was visibly distraught. They hung together at the far end of their pasture, pacing and gazing in the direction of Star's exit, reluctant to seek shelter or to eat. The guard and matriarch needed to remain with her charges. I selected the oldest of those, a two-year-old light wool paint who appeared to be the most naturally athletic in spite of the fact that "working animal" was not a descriptor for any of them.

Caught and haltered, Dewey was handed over to me. We eyed each other through the distant recognition of her beginnings on our ranch. She was halter trained and pleasant, but hiking was not in her vocabulary and initial attempts to lead her away from a traumatized herd were almost laughable. She ducked, pulled, planted and refused to step onto even the tiniest patches of snow.

There was no time for that kind of struggle. I surveyed the landscape we needed to explore. We stood in a wide canyon, the rocky wall of which rose 500' straight up about a quarter of a mile behind the house and outbuildings. The terrain leading to it was a steady incline dotted with snow, rock and sagebrush. We had tracked Star far enough to know that at least initially she had escaped her attackers by climbing out of the canyon. I was going up, and Dewey was coming with me.

"Here's the deal," I told her, loosening my lead and taking a deep breath, "Star is out there and I need you to help me find her."

On Llamas and Dogs



Sharon Beacham in her JWMfibers custom jacket with *The Muffin* (Peruvian Picacco x Argentine Morin)

Look as good as your llama: from fleece to fashion!

Classic or modern styles designed especially for you. Expert handspinning, handweaving, handknitting and tailoring. Use our fleece or yours and enjoy:

- jackets & capes
- vests & show wear
- sweaters & tunics
- shawls & scarves
- mittens & gauntlets
- hats & socks



Turn llama fiber into the garment of your dreams—Call today: (970)568-7463.

Judy Wolff-Mills - jwmfibers@cs.com

I turned in the direction that seemed most likely to give us a way up, and moved off. The struggle was over.

On Llamas and Dogs



The small herd that remained behind was restless and visibly stressed throughout the weekend.

Dewey followed slowly, gazed hesitantly at the first 20-yard swath of crusty snow, and stepped into her new role.

Light snow in the canyon floor quickly became solid coverage on its wall, varying from one to three feet in depth, broken by enormous bunches of sagebrush and dangerous clusters of boulders. Finding a route to the top involved not only seeking out a path that could be negotiated without the use of hands for pulling upward, but to also avoid deadly holes within the rocks that could easily snap a llama leg in two.

The higher Dewey and I climbed, the crustier and more treacherous the snow became, requiring that we traverse wide icy expanses with exposure to sliding, falling or breaking through. From the start, I asked this young llama to follow and negotiate natural obstacles I would never have approached with her, or any llama, under different circumstances. Whatever communication had flowed between the two of us, whatever "click" had occurred in Dewey's brain, we had become an instant search and rescue team in a way that provided us with strength, endurance and focus to push

us forward without question. Rest stops were frequent as we eyed snow-covered rocks suspiciously, Dewey checked back on the herd growing smaller by the minute, and I took a moment to catch my breath. With every step, I envisioned what the young Star had been facing in the middle of the night before with charging dogs driving her on.

At the top of the canyon wall, we met up with the rest of the rescue team of the day, who had managed to find and negotiate a hazardous jeep trail at the opening of the canyon, where the ridge sloped into its high priced housing development of 5 - 40 acre tracts. We quickly planned a grid-type pattern of searching that was based on a neighbor's reported sighting of the lost Star, and separated into pairs.

Dewey and I headed off into the near wilderness expanse of Southeast Wyoming. We had less than five hours of daylight remaining. Stretching out before us were hundreds of square miles of high plains, mountain and canyon lands devoid of human structure, averaging 9000 feet in elevation. Gazing across it, I immediately fought for perspective. In this kind of landscape, the human eye is gazing at a horizon as much as 60 miles in the distance. What can look like a small black llama standing on a nearby ridge turns out to be a 40-foot pine tree several miles away.

We started the search with two high hopes. First of all, we knew that Warren Livestock, private owners of thousands and thousands of acres, had a complex system of fencing to protect their land and their livestock from the increasing encroachment of ATVs and other trespassing methods.

One such line of fencing that marked the beginning of their property and separated it from the Laramie development, ran very close to where Star had escaped. We started out with the assumption that she was very likely contained to the north of that fencing and that once she had reached the top of the canyon and the dogs were no longer in pursuit, she most likely would respect the fencing. A half hour of hiking revealed the reality that the fencing was ancient, loose and literally down



Ears to you!
Llama Ranch

Tom Tsakopoulos
Larkspur, Colorado
303-660-5313
TomT@ureach.com
www.EARS-TO-YOU.com



ChanTar Llamas

Located at the foot of the
Bighorn Mountains

Paul, Karen, Chandra, &
Tara Schwartz

PO Box 363
Big Horn, WY 82833

(307) 672-5144
chantar@fiberpipe.net

On Llamas and Dogs

familiar territory at the age of 18 months. It was unlikely she had the skills to find her own way home or to survive nighttime predation.

in most places. There was no containment factor.

Four more hours of hiking to plateaus and flushing deer herds from willow-laden gultches gradually let the air out of the second hope. There was no llama sign where any of us were searching. We had to face the fact that the crucial first day of searching had been used up on a false sighting report.

Retracing our steps just before the sun went down, we went back to the start of Star's escape, followed Kelly's initial tracking and continued beyond it onto a now impassable sheer sheet of ice near the top of the canyon. From there we determined that where she miraculously reached the top of the canyon, she had most likely turned south rather than north. The only positive fact remaining to us was that there had been no sign of blood anywhere.

Hope Springs Eternal

—Kelly

"She very well may show up here tonight," I said. But I didn't really believe it. "There's a 50-50 chance she will be outside the gate when we get up in the morning."

Then, to get through the night, I concocted a whole scenario of Star wandering onto a herd of sheep with a Basque shepherd thrilled by his good luck of finding a llama in the middle of nowhere. She would tend to his sheep and he would take care of her. And, maybe in a couple of months someone would say something, he would realize she was the lost llama, and he would show up on our doorstep, llama in tow.

Search and Rescue, Day Two

—Gayle

In spite of exhaustion, rest did not come easily that night knowing it would be Star's second one alone in the wilderness. She had been chased late at night into completely un-



A piece of the prairie along the canyon floor.

I was more prepared for my second day of hiking with Dewey. I added heavier wool socks and carried water, a high energy snack, foot and hand warmers, and binoculars. The land Dewey and I would be exploring this day had deeper snow and steeper canyons. I carbo-loaded on a huge breakfast and we were at the top of the canyon wall by 9:30. We had nearly eight hours of light, complicated only by the freezing fog that first greeted us, followed by heavy black clouds rolling across the horizon.

The eternal Wyoming winds held their breath for us that weekend. An extreme rarity in this part of the world, it left us with a palpable silence and a chance to preserve our energy for the demanding hiking.

It was day two, but my llama companion remained attached to her own sense of purpose. Periodically, she would stop and slowly do 360° turns of surveillance. This was

Reach Farther, Dream Bigger, Smile More

Drive a Llama

Bear Track Farm • Golden, Colorado

Llama Driving Clinic • April 17 & 18, 2005

Contact Jerry Dunn • 303.277.1129 • beartrak@gte.net

For the Time of Your Life

llama land. Genetic memory or pure instinct, this animal radiated comfort in the land around her. Following my lead with a loose leadrope between us, she showed pure determination in a clear eye of searching and tall ears of alertness.

The farther southeast we traveled the higher we climbed, bringing with it now enormous snow fields that had to be crossed. We would inch our way along, dreading the inevitable crash through the softening crust, frequently finding ourselves with me thigh high and Dewey belly deep in snow.

Several hours into the day, I could feel my resolve being poisoned with dying hope. My eyes were strained by the distance they were continuously scanning, seeing nothing but an occasional herd of deer or a frightened jack rabbit. It became Dewey's unflinching trust and energy that kept me going.

I decided to head back toward the edge of the canyon. This day, we had rounded up several ATVs and the assistance of Julie's brother and sister-in-law. The three of them were searching the prairie of the canyon floor, heading in the same direction Dewey and I were taking. Kelly and Larry were sweeping the western fencelines. We were applying every

On Llamas and Dogs

possible strategy to a dimming potential for success.

Dewey and I scrambled out of yet another rocky gully onto one more collapsing snow field, headed upward again, and suddenly stumbled across a neatly dropped pile of llama scat. Darker and rounder than the deer scat spread far and wide, it looked to be maybe half a day old. Dewey sniffed it eagerly, added her own marker to it and began pulling me through the snow.

We were soon rewarded with the distinct, well-spread prints of a young llama. They caught my eye and once again the super scenting capabilities of Dewey. The prints too appeared to be maybe a half day old, but they confirmed our suspicions of the direction Star had taken.

Energy flooded back to both of us. I put out of my mind the fact that lots of coyote and a few lion tracks also dotted the area.

Reaching the highest point yet of the canyon's edge, we eased our way to where it dropped precipitously about 800 feet. The two of us scanned the wide meadow far below



Tall Tail Ranch

Quality Llamas
Exotic Peafowl & Black Swans



National Grand Champion Bloodlines!!

For Sale: Well trained weanlings to adults for show, fiber production, packing and companions.

Visitors Welcome !!!

Robert and Jill Knuckles

(970) 241-4112

email: talltaillamas@bigplanet.com

2970 A 1/2 Road

Grand Junction, CO 81503



On Llamas and Dogs

for a moment. Just as I was about to back away from the nervewracking exposure, Dewey's gazed locked as only a llama's can when movement is spotted.

Julie's truck was inching along the canyon floor. I whipped out the walkie talkie that had not surprisingly been silent for hours, and called out.

It was Kelly's voice that crackled back up to me. The visions of a mangled body that had begun to plague my brain, rose ominously in the delay of radio communication. Then I heard the miraculous announcement that Star had been found alive and well where the northern ridge sloped down into a wide meadow at the end of the canyon.

One of the ATV's had returned to fetch Kelly and the truck. With a little digging here and there, together with packing done by the ATV's, the pickup was able to make its way to within a half mile of the found llama. The problem was, as we had predicted, she may have been happy for the human company, but catching her was out of the question and she showed no sign of being willing to follow even the loudest shaking can of treats in the right direction. She needed Dewey.

It was a far more dangerous descent at that point in the canyon, but retracing our steps would have taken too long. As it was, Dewey and I were nearly two hours away from joining Evening Star.

I am a high altitude, strong endurance hiker, not a brave one. But once again, there was no time for that kind of struggle. My llama partner and I descended through three-feet of snow, in and out of ice shelving, around rocking boulders and through massive amounts of sagebrush. On several occasions I fell and was pulled to safety by grabbing onto Dewey's withers and leaving it to her to hoist me up. Twice we started across avalanche-prone screes covered with snow. Halfway across, Dewey would recognize my mistake and pull me up to a higher, slightly more secure route.

For me, Dewey's sure-footedness and the knowledge that Star was waiting, kept me going. Something more elemental and wise kept Dewey going.

Only once did Dewey balk. When we reached the faint,

snow-covered jeep trail and turned south toward where I knew Star waited, Dewey laid down. We were both physically drained, the snow remained knee deep in many places, and I was asking her to go in the opposite direction from home. We had left signs of the lost herd mate up above. It was Dewey's turn to suggest packing it in.

I got her up and pulled. She laid down. We repeated the dance for about ten minutes, me trying to put every ounce of trustworthy tone into my voice I could imagine might reach her understanding. Finally, her brain clicked again. For some reason unfathomable to me, Dewey decided to follow my lead one last time.

Another hour of stumbling along and we joined the rest of the rescue team. Just beyond them, stood Evening Star. In the middle of the brown, craggy harshness of this Wyoming land, bounced a fancy, silly young female llama who by every right should have been someone's dinner the night before.

Dewey spotted Star first, unleashing an nonstop song of urgent llama humming. The tune was soon added to by Star. I had to race to keep up with Dewey's bounding. Within minutes, the two were nose-to-nose. Instantaneously, Dewey became the posturing, clucking, scolding mother. Star ignored five minutes worth of reprimanding, and we all turned around for the three-mile hike straight home.

There's No Place Like Home

— Kelly

The ATV's and truck went on ahead. The rest of us hiked back to the house, a llama rescue mission procession; Gayle followed by Dewey, followed by Star, followed by Larry and me. The other llamas were jubilant when they saw Dewey and Star come into view. There were nose kisses through the fence even before Star was able to find her way to the gate and into the pen.

Now Larry and I are left with the impossibility of adequately thanking Julie and Gayle, who gave up their entire weekend to help us, and two complete strangers who gave up their Sunday. We don't have family out here. We don't know about hunting, or tracking, or animal instincts. We never would have found our pretty girl without Julie, Gayle, Jerry and Tammy—four people who just love llamas.

Kelly Hubbell teaches at the University of Wyoming.

Gayle Woodsum is a writer, llama breeder and judge.

Bar Q Diamond Ranch



Stephen & Shari Quackenbush

5555 E. Willow Creek Road
Castle Rock, CO 80104
Tel. 303-688-6662

Internet
llamas@bar-q-diamond.com
www.bar-q-diamond.com



Marie & Richard Hoover
Starter Herd Specialists

EXPERIENCE
QUALITY
VALUE

303-646-2665
alpucas@serendipityfarm.com
www.serendipityfarm.com

38620 County Road 29
Elizabeth, CO 80107-8702

www.rock-n-llamas.com



ROCK-N-M LLAMAS

MIKE & PATTI MORGAN

Arkansas City, KS (620) 442-4996

Buena Vista, CO (719) 836-4510

All-Star List of Speakers Lined Up For 2005 Conference

by Cheryl Juntilla

The Conference Committee has been hard at work, making plans and lining up speakers for the RMLA Conference to take place at Sunlight Mountain Resort in Glenwood Springs, Colorado, on July 15 through 17. While the schedule is still far from complete, more than a dozen speakers have already agreed to give presentations on a wide range of topics. The conference is being designed to include something of value for all llama and alpaca owners and enthusiasts, regardless of whether they are experienced owners, novices or wannabes. We are relying to a great extent on the acknowledged expertise of many RMLA members, but have also arranged for some special guest speakers.

Information about camelid health issues should be of interest to everyone and a trio of respected veterinarians will be giving three different presentations on health topics. Colorado State University veterinarians Robert J. Callan, DVM and Eileen Sullivan, DVM will be talking about West Nile Virus and impactions, respectively.

We are also extremely pleased to say that Murray Fowler, DVM, has agreed to speak at the conference. Dr. Fowler is a true pioneer in the field of non-traditional animal medicine. At the University of California-Davis School of Veterinary Medicine he established the first university course in the United States dedicated solely to the study and care of non-domestic or "exotic" animals.

Dr. Fowler has authored, co-authored or edited 18 books, including a major book on the restraint and handling of animals. He also conducted a pace-setting veterinary workshop on llama and alpaca medicine in North America and has authored 93 articles on llamas, alpacas and camelids, along with the textbook *Medicine and Surgery of South American Camelids*. Dr. Fowler has received numerous awards for his work, including the prestigious Marlin Perkins

Award, which is the highest award for professional excellence given by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association, and the American Veterinary Medical Association's Animal Welfare Award.

Another session about which we are very excited is a slide presentation by Andy Tillman. Mr. Tillman began raising llamas in the spring of 1975, and in 1980 was invited to study llamas and alpacas at the Agency for International Development Small Ruminant Project in La Raya, Peru. While there he worked with more than 10,000 alpacas, 500 llamas and 100 vicunas. Since then he has made many other trips to South America and in 1992 visited most of the llama and alpaca breeders in Australia.

In 1981, Mr. Tillman wrote the book *Speechless Brothers*, which influenced many people to become involved with llamas. He has taught numerous clinics, published many articles and was named as one of the ten most influential people in the llama business by *Llamas Magazine*. His presentation will include photographs of all types of llamas taken over nearly 30 years and should be very entertaining as well informative. In addition to the slide show, Mr. Tillman will conduct sessions identifying and comparing different fleece types on actual animals.

Presentations and hands-on sessions relating to various areas of interest are also being planned. Those interested in learning about packing with llamas can attend sessions presented by experienced commercial outfitters, including Stan Ebel and Charlie Hackbarth. Also of interest to hikers and packers will be a GPS class. Both packers and non-packers may want to attend the class to be given by Shirley Weathers, author of the *Field Guide to Plants Poisonous to Livestock*, Western U. S.

Several sessions are being planned for fiber enthusiasts, including fiber judging with Sharon Beacham, dying and felting with Karen Kinyon and carding and spin-

ning with Chris Switzer. We would have to go a long way to find fiber instructors with more impressive credentials than these three ladies.

Ms. Beacham is an ALSA Certified Llama Fleece Judge, has taught many fiber judging clinics and helped write the ALSA Handbook section relating to llama fleece.

Ms. Kinyon is also an ALSA Certified Llama Fleece Judge, writes a regular column called "The Felter's Forum" for *Alpacas Magazine*, and has taught dying and felting for more than seven years.

Ms. Switzer has raised llamas and alpacas for more than 20 years, is author of *Spinning Llama and Alpaca*, and for six years wrote a column "Woolly Tidbits" for *Llamas Magazine*.

But wait, there's more. Jerry Dunn will give a cart driving demonstration for those who would like to learn how to participate in that activity. Phil Switzer is going to bring paco-vicunas and tell us all about them.

If you want to improve your alpaca showing techniques, plan to attend Linda Hayes' class on how to show alpacas. If you enjoy showing llamas, you will also want to attend Rob Knuckles' presentation about grooming and shearing.

We haven't forgotten the kids. Since we want the conference to be a family-friendly event, activities are being planned specifically for younger conference attendees, including a youth judging class with Barbara Harris, a craft class and hike.

And we're not done yet. Other sessions and speakers are still in the works. The Llama to Shawl contest being organized by Mary Mauz should be a lot of fun and with several months to go before the conference there is no telling what other just-for-fun activities we will come up with. Please stay tuned for future developments, and check the RMLA web site (www.rmla.com) regularly for updated information.

RMLA Members Get Things Done!

RMLA Member Profile

Royal Ranch for Llamas

by Charles Quigley

Judy Jeute is one busy person. She is a full time homemaker and llama ranch manager. The herd she cares for includes six llamas, five cats, four dogs, three kids—Thomas, 11; Nathan, 8; Isabella, 5—one husband, Tom, one rabbit, one bird and one turtle.

Her start in llamas was in 1986 through a mutual friend who had her help with the Robinson's herd at Green Valley Ranch. One week of feeding and caring for them and she was hooked.

Judy does things differently than most llama owners. She first studied about them, then went to the National Western Stock Show where she met several breeders who gave her pointers on care and handling as well as llama personalities.

She started with two that she bought. The rest of her herd has either been given to her or were rescued from people who didn't care for them or didn't know how to take care of them. The herd dropped out at nine and has now settled to six, where it will probably stay.

Judy and her husband Tom use their llamas for taking guests on day hikes from their private trailhead into the National Forest behind their home, which is near Bailey. They report that both as day packers as well as hunting packers, llamas are much easier to work with than most horses.



Judy also uses them for preschool shows and birthday parties, and is now working to train one of them for pet therapy work.

Photo: taken near the Jeute home are Hunter and Jasper, Judy and Isabella.

Looking for a llama?



Helping you
find the
perfect fit!

Bill, Jan, & Sherry Adamcyk

Kiowa, Colorado

303 - 621- 2960

adamcyk@earthlink.net

A Tale of Two Llama Mamas

by Karen Kinyon

I know we've all shared some amazing miracles with our llamas and last fall I got to experience one myself. It was Monday, October 4, a busy day for me with lots to do and a trip to town. Since I moved to the prairie, I make lists when I have to go to town and am usually gone most of the day. I arrived back home about 4:30 and noticed that one of my female llamas seemed to be in labor.

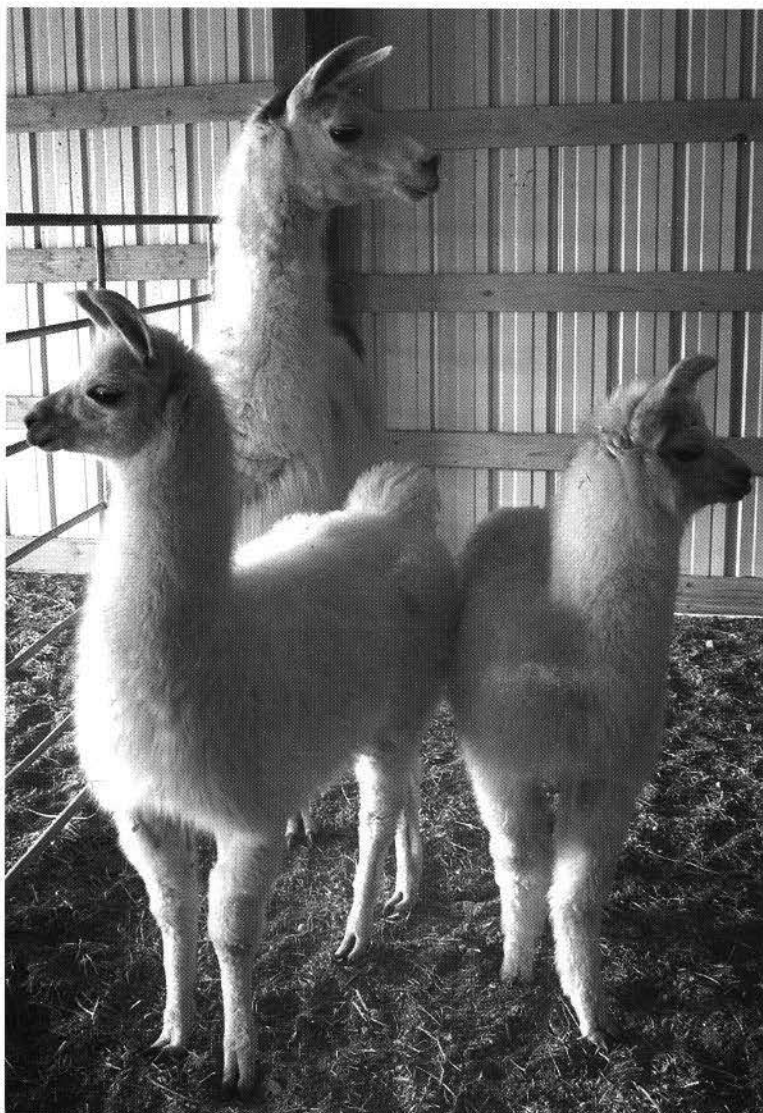
Seda was a first time mom, so I started watching her, thinking this was pretty late in the day and maybe she was just positioning for the next day's birth. She rolled, moved back and forth to the bean pile and exhibited all the signs, but no baby parts were showing. I waited patiently, but by 7:00 in the evening, called the vet.

Seda was calm, but still straining when the vet started his exam. He was thorough and took his time but let me know we had a severe dystosia. The baby was presenting crosswise with the head, neck and front legs in the left horn of the uterus and the back and hind legs in the right. The head was also turned back. Tough news, but he sent me for warm water while he gave Seda a shot so she wouldn't push. He used lots of lubricant, then put warm soapy water inside because he wanted "everything as slippery as possible."

The vet was in up to his shoulder, pushing and pulling when he got a big smile on his face and said he felt the baby move. He got the head turned around and everything else in the right order and pulled out a baby girl. I was waiting with a sleeping bag to catch her. Soon the vet was rubbing her hard and she was starting to hold up her head and shake those long ears. We took Seda out of the chute and put them together in a small pen in the barn to bond.

The little girl, Silver Miracle, was 27 pounds and soon up on her legs and trying to nurse. She was strong and vigorous and working hard at Seda's udder. I watched Seda and Miri for a couple of days and weighed the baby, noticing that she wasn't gaining much.

On day four when she was down to 26 pounds, I called the vet again. He said Seda had been through a lot with that hard birth and may not be making much milk just yet. He suggested that I supplement Miri with



goat's milk.

I have a neighbor who raises goats so I called her, bought a gallon of goat milk and a Prichard's nipple attached to a wine cooler bottle. I caught Miri, who was very able to run all around the corral and avoid me like the plague. Finally, the two of us went into a corner of the barn where I could hold her and try to give her wonderful, warm goat's milk.

One would have thought I was trying to poison her. She fought, bucked, scrambled and completely avoided that bottle. I had goat's milk all over me and Miri had it running down her neck and front legs so much that I don't think a drop went down her throat. I decided if she was that tough, maybe I shouldn't worry about her so much.

I kept weighing her and at one week of age, she was still 26 pounds, no more, no less. At nine days of age I weighed her and she had gained four pounds. I was amazed and wondered what had happened, so I started watching Miri much closer.

Enter Tasha. She is a tall, strong seven-year-old,

The Laramie



Llama Festival

August 12 ~ 14, 2005

Albany County Fairgrounds Laramie, Wyoming

A Celebration of Llamas and the People Who Love Them

Tri-Level Youth Show

Double Performance Show Extravaganza

Model Packer and Over-the-Hill Obstacle

Llama Fleece Show & Walking Fiber (Where it all began!)

Dam and Cria Class

Double Point Halter Show

Extraordinary Prizes, Awards and Vendors

ALSA Certified Judges:

Patti Fischer, Ohio • Halter, Youth, Performance

Phil Feiner, New York • Halter and Performance

To Be Announced • Fleece and Walking Fiber

PLUS! Don't Miss This Year's Special Event!

*A Free-for-Exhibitors Gala Saturday Evening Dinner followed by a
Herdsire Breeding Auction Fundraiser to Benefit the RMLA Fiber Co-Op*

*Take advantage of an amazing opportunity to bid on a breeding to one of ten magnificent sires,
and keep an eye out for photographs and more information to come.*

The Males on Herdsire Row and in the Auction Include:

PHF Doc Martin

Bolivian Innovations Silver Lining

Kobra's Phantom

Cadfael

Beto

Argentine Isidro

GNLC Ripcurl

TSX Independence

WL Laces Sand Dollar

Soqouma

Contact Gayle Woodsum, Superintendent

307.721.2919 • dblllamas@aol.com

For more information on the Laramie area, contact the Albany County Tourism Board at 1.800.445.5303

light wool female who had her own two-week-old cria, Cheyenne Autumn, at the time Miri was born. Cheyenne Autumn had been gaining nearly two pounds a day and growing like a weed. Tasha milks like a Jersey cow and is a wonderful mother. Miri had figured that out as well, so when Cheyenne Autumn nursed, Miri snuck in on his other side and settled in for her milk, too.

I think this had only been going on at night, because I didn't actually see it happening for a few more days. Miri started gaining weight rapidly and I finally saw the two babies nursing on Tasha with my own eyes. I would often see Seda and Miri laying close to Tasha and Autumn and figured out that Miri was nursing on both Moms.

I ended up watching them a great deal, and it was an amazing sight. Both babies would nurse at the same time, sometimes on the same side and sometimes one on each side. Tasha stood quietly while a little battle raged beneath her.

Llama crias typically nurse by sucking on all four teats in a rotating fashion. Miri and Autumn each had two teats, then would argue with each other when they started rotating. They finally settled down and got their milk.

I would see Miri be across the corral munching hay when Autumn started nursing. She would jump up and head over to Tasha's other side to join in. Both babies continued to thrive. I supplemented them with a little grain every morning just to help out. Tasha was trim, but not thin, and seemed to enjoy having two babies. Miri continued to nurse on Seda too, and all four were content and strong.



It's been an extraordinary thing to watch and a great lesson in sharing, giving and persistence.

Karen Kinyon is a lama fiber artist, judge and instructor, who lives in Wellington, Colorado.

Cria Feeding Hints

It is always a fine balance between intrusion and appropriate intervention when it comes to newborn crias. The best possible birth is watched by humans from a distance, allowing nature and the llamas to do what they know best, including time following birth for uninterrupted bonding between dam and cria. Nature does not always cooperate, however, such as times when optimal nursing does not occur.

It's All in the Timing

Crias must eat within 12 hours of birth in order to get the vital colostrum their dam provides when she first comes into her milk. That colostrum jump starts their immune systems and is vital to survival. Crias that have not become successful at nursing within six hours of birth can often be helped to start the process.

Additionally, crias typically do not gain weight in the first 24 hours and may actually drop a pound (half a pound for alpacas), but should gain between a half and a full pound a day after that (1/4 - 1/2 pound for alpacas). All newborns should be weighed within 24 hours of birth and at least once a few days after that. If the cria is energetic and obviously growing and gaining in skills, weekly weighing will suffice for your record keeping after that. If there is any concern that gaining is not occurring however, daily weighing is essential, done with an accurate cria scale at the same time each day.

Most crias will double their birth weight within their first month of life.

What Keeps a Cria from Nursing?

There are many reasons crias do not begin nursing right away, some of which can include the following:

Maiden moms are not always sure how to encourage their offspring, and might even push the cria away. In this case, haltering the dam to keep her still may be helpful, or even placing her in a chute with the side open and guiding the cria to the right spot can get things started. If you must hold a cria under its dam, be prepared to do so for some minutes while searching takes place.

Crias may appear to be finding and grabbing onto a teat, but letting go quickly. This may be happening because the cria is not strong enough to suck off the waxy coating that exists on the yet-to-be-used nipples. A little hand milking can release the coating, as well as give you an idea of how much milk is actually present.

Crias kept in a dark or shadowy stall or barn

with their dam may not easily find the dark underbelly where the udder is, and instead root around in the barn's corners looking in vain for sustenance. To help prevent "wall babies" when the weather indicates baby and mom need to be inside for a while, turn on as much lighting as possible, with careful attention to getting the corners well lit.

Some crias may be too cold or too weak to nurse early on. Assistance with thorough drying and heating, use of a cria coat, along with a little sugar dissolved in warm water and administered by a syringe can often do wonders.

Cria Feeding Hints

When Human Help is Needed

In the worst case scenarios, some dams may not have enough milk the first few days, or at all. In these situations, the cria must be supplemented and the following suggestions may be helpful in dealing with that particular problem:

1. Be sure the cria gets the vital colostrum within 12 hours of birth. Part of your birthing kit should include a couple of packages of cow colostrum powder available at most lama retail vendors. The powder lasts a very long time and can be mixed with warm water when it is needed. For crias that may not get enough colostrum, have on hand frozen plasma (good for several years in the freezer) that can be thawed and given intravenously to the cria by your vet. Testing should be done on the cria if there is any question about the amount of colostrum absorbed.

2. Powdered lamb or goat milk is available after the colostrum phase as well, but fresh or frozen-and-thawed goat milk is excellent for long term feeding. (Or milk that is taken from the dam herself if it is a bonding issue at hand.)

3. Bottle feeding crias.

Bottle feeding crias is an option, but seriously consider preparing yourself for this not to be your solution of choice. For one thing, many crias such as the one in Karen Kinyon's story, will not take a bottle. Secondly, bottle feeding makes human-to-cria bonding pretty irresistible, which leads the cria to believe humans are just like llamas. In such a case, a cuddly, in-your-face cria may be fun for awhile, but the lack of appropriate boundaries often leads to behavioral problems in adult llamas, particularly with males. Do a little research on berserk male syndrome to cure you of the idea that overly handling young crias is a great idea.

If you do decide to bottle feed out of necessity, be quick and business-like about it, or even create a holder for the bottle once the cria can stand and nurse on its own. Do not talk to the cria while it is nursing, do not cuddle, and release it to its mother and/or the herd as soon as feeding time is over.

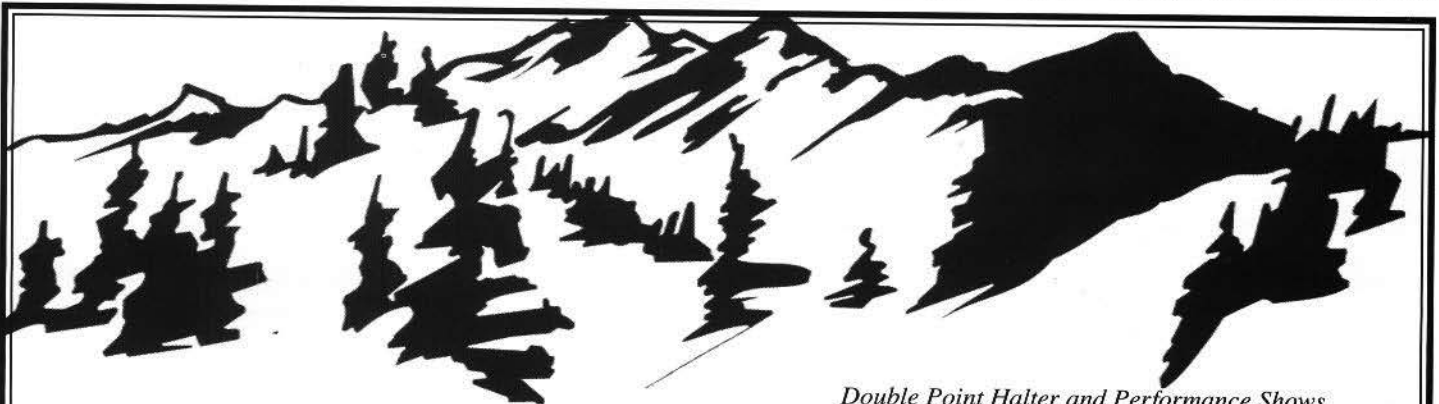
4. Tube feeding crias.

The idea of tube feeding is usually met with resistance or rejection from owners who have not had to do it. However, this method of feeding or supplementing a cria in need is, if done properly, quick, easy and less apt to lead to inappropriate human bonding.

For llamas, it is small tubing that you want, specifically designed for feeding. It should be flexible. In-person guidance from your vet or an experienced breeder the first time or two is advisable. **IMPORTANT:** The following is to give you an idea of the process you can expect and is not designed as a full educational text.

continued next page

Cria Feeding Hints



Estes Park Wool Market Llama Show

June 17 ~ 19, 2005

15 Years of Tradition and Prestige

Judges

*Judie Moser
Cathie Kindler
Karen Kinyon*

Double Point Halter and Performance Shows

Four Distinct Wool Divisions

Full Youth Show

Shorn Fleece and Walking Fiber Shows

Llama Marketing Tent, Demonstrations, Displays, Vendors

Thousands of Llama and Fiber Enthusiast Spectators

At the gateway to Rocky Mountain National Park in Estes Park, Colorado

For more information, contact Gayle Woodsum, superintendent

307.721.2919 • dbljllamas@aol.com

Cria Feeding Hints

Become educated through experienced breeders, your veterinarian and all the camelid texts you can get your hands on.

The cria must be held so that it won't move. The best way to manage this is to get it to kush while you straddle its back (not sitting on it, mind you), cupping its chin and jaw with one hand while working the tube with the other.

The tube is run inside the side of the cria's mouth and down into its throat, going only about 1/3 of the way along the tube. Sliding it along from the side of the mouth, as well as not pushing the tube in too far, is designed to avoid getting the tube into a lung.

For crias that get into the habit of biting or chewing on the tube, you can place a short, hard, plastic piece of tubing into the cria's mouth, then run the soft tubing through it. Be sure you are not using a tube that has holes or slices in it.

Once the tube is in place, it is extremely important to suck back on the end of the tube left outside. You should feel a tight vacuum and no air movement. This is your final insurance against having accidentally pushed the tube into a lung instead of the path to the stomach.

Safely in place, a small funnel is set into the end of the tube and the warm milk is poured slowly into it. This is the part made easiest with an assistant who can hold the funnel and pour, although with a little practice it is possible to manage the entire procedure alone.

Again, you should not speak during feeding and should not cuddle or overly handle the cria.

How Much is Enough?

In the first couple of weeks, llama crias must eat a minimum of 2-4 ounces, every two hours, around the clock. After that, for up to at least two months, they should eat 4-6 ounces every four hours, around the clock. After two months of age, you may be able to cut back on the number of feeding times if the cria is eating hay and/or supplemental feed and is gaining appropriately. Being certain of this is a matter of regular weighing, body scoring and experimentation.

Be Prepared

The vast majority of lama crias are born and cared for within the herd without human assistance other than the dipping of the umbilical cord within an hour of birth, care that proper shelter is being taken advantage of, and the vaccinations that must take place during the first six months of birth.

However, problems do occur. If you are involved with lamas that will be giving birth, your first aide kit, care schedule, list of experienced people to call and personal mindset should be prepared for just about anything.

Recommended Sources: Caring for Llamas and Alpacas, A Health Management Guide, published by RMLA (see ad, page 18); **Llama and Alpaca Neonatal Care**, published by OSU College of Veterinary Medicine; and the vast experience of RMLA lama breeders.

After 18 years of being in business, the Cloud Peak's foundation Sires show off their awards.....

MISTY MOON'S CENTAUR

Sire of:

3 National Grand Champions

2 Reserve National Grand Champions

10 National Champions

2 Reserve National Champions

26 Top 10 placings

15 ALSA Champions

TINY TIM TOO

ALSA Champion Halter & Performance

National Champion Intermediate Pack

Third in the Nation

Sire of:

National Grand Champion

2 National Champions

2 Reserve National Champions

10 Top 10 Placings

3 ALSA Champions

BARDO'S OMAR KHAYYAM

ALSA Champion Get of Sire

Reserve National Champion Get of Sire

Sire of:

Reserve National Grand Champion

2 National Champions

4 Reserve National Champions

10 Top 10 Placings

3 ALSA Champions



CLOUD PEAK LLAMAS

Barb, Dwayne & Masha

P.O. Box 541 Story, WY 82842

307-683-2548 Phone/Fax

www.cloudpeakllamas.net

Why Volunteer?

by Sandy Lockwood

Do you attend shows that are close to home? Close to home being within a two-hour drive. Have you ever volunteered to help?

Volunteering to help at a show can be a very rewarding experience. Most people don't think they have time to volunteer and still show their animals. But there are a lot more jobs that can be portioned out than just being gate keeper or moving obstacles on the performance course.

For instance, there is check-in. This usually occurs the day before the show begins. It is an opportunity to meet new people and visit with old acquaintances. There is also the sponsor committee. Sponsors for the various classes need to be lined up weeks before the show. If you show in only halter or performance you can present ribbons in the one that you do not show. Also, someone to scoop poop is always needed in both sets of classes. And none of these require a whole day. Generally, most volunteer work is divided into shifts. One person doing morning and one doing afternoon. If there are more volunteers the work can be split into even smaller shifts.

My observation at shows has been that fewer people are volunteering to help. This puts a lot of pressure on those who do volunteer. Shows that do not have enough volunteers do not run as smoothly as those with more volunteers. Remember, all these jobs need to get done

and if the superintendent has to do them all there is less time to deal with problems that arise during the show. So the next time a show is planned close to home call the superintendent and volunteer to help.

Sandy Lockwood is an RMLA member who participates with her family and llamas in a great variety of RMLA sponsored events throughout the Rocky Mountain region. She is seen volunteering at most of them.

Marketing Tip

From a more mercenary perspective, volunteering is a no-cost way to become known in the showing community, a vital component in every successful marketing plan.

Journal Deadlines

Spring Promotional Issue '05

April 10

Summer '05

August 15

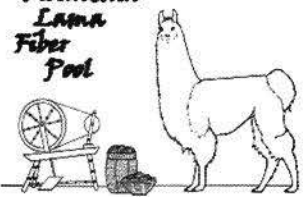
Autumn '05

October 24

Winter '06

December 12

Rocky Mountain Llama Fiber Pool



Llama & Alpaca fiber processing - into yarn, roving, or felt batts.

Learn-to-Shear & Fiber Education clinics

Sharon Beacham
ALSA Certified Llama Fleece Judge
Salida, CO
719-539-7185
www.mlfiberpool.com

COMING
SOON



2005 SPRING LAArk
LAMA SHOW

Level II A.L.S.A. Sanctioned Show (One Day)
Saturday, May 14, 2005 State Fairgrounds Kay Rodgers
Park Ft. Smith, Arkansas - Judge Cathie Kindler

Contact: Linda Mitchell (479) 677-2242
or E-Mail: osage1137@aol.com

Entry Forms: <http://alsashow.org>

<http://members.aol.com/arkllama>

Cria Feeding Hints

Become educated through experienced breeders, your veterinarian and all the camelid texts you can get your hands on.

The cria must be held so that it won't move. The best way to manage this is to get it to kush while you straddle its back (not sitting on it, mind you), cupping its chin and jaw with one hand while working the tube with the other.

The tube is run inside the side of the cria's mouth and down into its throat, going only about 1/3 of the way along the tube. Sliding it along from the side of the mouth, as well as not pushing the tube in too far, is designed to avoid getting the tube into a lung.

For crias that get into the habit of biting or chewing on the tube, you can place a short, hard, plastic piece of tubing into the cria's mouth, then run the soft tubing through it. Be sure you are not using a tube that has holes or slices in it.

Once the tube is in place, it is extremely important to suck back on the end of the tube left outside. You should feel a tight vacuum and no air movement. This is your final insurance against having accidentally pushed the tube into a lung instead of the path to the stomach.

Safely in place, a small funnel is set into the end of the tube and the warm milk is poured slowly into it. This is the part made easiest with an assistant who can hold the funnel and pour, although with a little practice it is possible to manage the entire procedure alone.

Again, you should not speak during feeding and should not cuddle or overly handle the cria.

How Much is Enough?

In the first couple of weeks, llama crias must eat a minimum of 2-4 ounces, every two hours, around the clock. After that, for up to at least two months, they should eat 4-6 ounces every four hours, around the clock. After two months of age, you may be able to cut back on the number of feeding times if the cria is eating hay and/or supplemental feed and is gaining appropriately. Being certain of this is a matter of regular weighing, body scoring and experimentation.

Be Prepared

The vast majority of lama crias are born and cared for within the herd without human assistance other than the dipping of the umbilical cord within an hour of birth, care that proper shelter is being taken advantage of, and the vaccinations that must take place during the first six months of birth.

However, problems do occur. If you are involved with lamas that will be giving birth, your first aide kit, care schedule, list of experienced people to call and personal mindset should be prepared for just about anything.

Recommended Sources: **Caring for Llamas and Alpacas**, A Health Management Guide, published by RMLA (see ad, page 18); **Llama and Alpaca Neonatal Care**, published by OSU College of Veterinary Medicine; and the vast experience of RMLA llama breeders.

After 18 years of being in business, the Cloud Peak's foundation Sires show off their awards.....

MISTY MOON'S CENTAUR

Sire of:

3 National Grand Champions

2 Reserve National Grand Champions

10 National Champions

2 Reserve National Champions

26 Top 10 placings

15 ALSA Champions

TINY TIM TOO

ALSA Champion Halter & Performance

National Champion Intermediate Pack

Third in the Nation

Sire of:

National Grand Champion

2 National Champions

2 Reserve National Champions

10 Top 10 Placings

3 ALSA Champions

BARDO'S OMAR KHAYYAM

ALSA Champion Get of Sire

Reserve National Champion Get of Sire

Sire of:

Reserve National Grand Champion

2 National Champions

4 Reserve National Champions

10 Top 10 Placings

3 ALSA Champions



CLOUD PEAK LLAMAS

Barb, Dwayne & Masha
P.O. Box 541 Story, WY 82842
307-683-2548 Phone/Fax
www.cloudpeakllamas.net

Why Volunteer?

by Sandy Lockwood

Do you attend shows that are close to home? Close to home being within a two-hour drive. Have you ever volunteered to help?

Volunteering to help at a show can be a very rewarding experience. Most people don't think they have time to volunteer and still show their animals. But there are a lot more jobs that can be portioned out than just being gate keeper or moving obstacles on the performance course.

For instance, there is check-in. This usually occurs the day before the show begins. It is an opportunity to meet new people and visit with old acquaintances. There is also the sponsor committee. Sponsors for the various classes need to be lined up weeks before the show. If you show in only halter or performance you can present ribbons in the one that you do not show. Also, someone to scoop poop is always needed in both sets of classes. And none of these require a whole day. Generally, most volunteer work is divided into shifts. One person doing morning and one doing afternoon. If there are more volunteers the work can be split into even smaller shifts.

My observation at shows has been that fewer people are volunteering to help. This puts a lot of pressure on those who do volunteer. Shows that do not have enough volunteers do not run as smoothly as those with more volunteers. Remember, all these jobs need to get done

and if the superintendent has to do them all there is less time to deal with problems that arise during the show. So the next time a show is planned close to home call the superintendent and volunteer to help.

Sandy Lockwood is an RMLA member who participates with her family and llamas in a great variety of RMLA sponsored events throughout the Rocky Mountain region. She is seen volunteering at most of them.

Marketing Tip

From a more mercenary perspective, volunteering is a no-cost way to become known in the showing community, a vital component in every successful marketing plan.

Journal Deadlines

Spring Promotional Issue '05

April 10

Summer '05

August 15

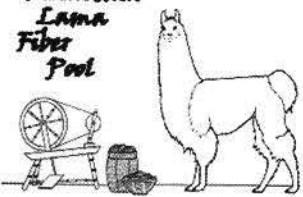
Autumn '05

October 24

Winter '06

December 12

Rocky Mountain Llama Fiber Pool



Llama & Alpaca fiber processing - into yarn, roving, or felt batts.

Learn-to-Shear & Fiber Education clinics

Sharon Beacham
ALSA Certified Llama Fleece Judge
Salida, CO
719-539-7185
www.mlfiberpool.com

COMING
SOON



2005 SPRING LAARK
LAMA SHOW

Level II A.L.S.A. Sanctioned Show (One Day)
Saturday, May 14, 2005 State Fairgrounds Kay Rodgers
Park Ft. Smith, Arkansas - Judge Cathie Kindler

Contact: Linda Mitchell (479) 677-2242
or E-Mail: osage1137@aol.com

Entry Forms: <http://alsashow.org>

<http://members.aol.com/arkllama>

Did You Know?

History Lessons from RMLA Past

compiled by Larry Lewellyn

For your information, Erma Hast used to have Notes from RMLA Newsletters in the past.

1993

May RMLA Journal, Jo Riley published a page of 27 veterinarians to start a network.

1984

Howard Kerstetter had a little male born in the fall, the first-ever birth of a transplanted llama embryo.

1985

In September, the RMLA Conference was held in Ft. Collins, Colorado with Phil Switzer as Chairman. Assisting were the Reitzs from Windsor, the Pettigrews from Livermore, Tom Van Velson from Bellvue, the Russells from Ft. Collins, the Arndts and the Hooks from Loveland.

Jim Hook submitted a recipe for "Loin of Llama." Llama insurance was offered.

Youth Clubs - News and Announcements

submitted by Kayla Bish

Llama 4-H returns to Boulder County, Colorado with the formation of the Leaping Llamas 4-H club, under the direction of leader Leigh DiNatale, and with the generous support of Rocky Mountain Llamas and Bobra Goldsmith. Youth secretary is Kayla Bish, who can be reached at oboellama@msn.com.

The pros and cons of llama shows were being discussed.

On July 3, the Annual Llama Race was held in Fairplay, Colorado. Proceeds from the race and t-shirts sales were donated to the Colorado State University Contingency Fund.

Thanks to Judy Stevens, for giving me all these old RMLA Journals. If you have some old RMLA history, please feel free to share it with us.

RMLA Membership Committee Report

submitted by Bob and Barbara Hance

Total Members

	YOUTH	YOUNG ADULT	LIFE	ADULT
2003	34	5	39	384
2004	27	4	41	352

New Members since 4/1/04: Youth: 5, Life: 2, Adult: 57

Membership has handled 877 email messages, incoming or outgoing, since 1/1/04.

Since the 2004 membership posting on the RMLA website, there have been 29 changes or additions, besides the additional "New Member" postings. The "Health" page has had 22 additions this year, and the "Hot News" and "Events" sections have been updated at least every two weeks.

The website is still a very hot feature for RMLA. In one week in December, RMLA's website had 3,983 hits; November had 17,636 hits. March 2004, was the most active month with over 21,000 hits. During November, 2004, 87 distinct pages are responsible for 41:49:55 (HH:MM:SS) spent. (Average 00:28:50 time per page) During the previous month, 84 distinct pages were responsible for 41:52:37 (HH:MM:SS) spent. (Average 00:30:37 time per page)

Journal Classifieds

PARTING OF THE WAYS: FootHills Llamas are offering their foundation herd for sale at good prices with packaged deals. These animals have good conformation, large and good mothers. All females sold can come with buyer's choice of breedings to any of the following National Grand Champion Light Wool Males: 2001 PHF Rambutan, 2003 D's Pongo or 2004 Rambutan's Dakota Dream. Dakota Dream is for sale, who would make a wonderful herd sire. He has it all, fiber, bone and is big. Also, we have two young females out of Smokin' Gun; one is light wool and the other is a very nice white fibered animal. Please feel free to contact us: fhlllamas@aol.com or llewellyn@bop.gov

GREAT DIVIDE LLAMA CHUTE: Includes straps and wheels. In excellent condition. \$500.
LLAMA SCALE: Weighs to 1600 pounds. \$200.
GRAIN SILO: Like new. Holds 5 ton. Huntsville, Utah. Telephone: 801.745.3621
ALPACA AND LLAMA: Chutes and Scales, Single

and Double-Sided Feeders, Panels, Gates, Creep Feeders and Shearing Tables. Very Competitive Pricing! References available. Price list and photos available upon request. VISA and Mastercard accepted. Contact Ron Haines @ Daybreak Criations Alpacas, 970.484.9420 or ronhaines@starband.net

PROJECTS FOR ALPACA AND LLAMA: New book, 25 projects, 60 pages, 7 techniques, 16 artisans and original designs. \$16.00 plus \$2.00 shipping, plus CO tax 59¢ (\$18.59 total). Send check to Chris Switzer, Box 3800, Estes Park, CO 80517.

VINYL FENCE: Nothing better for farm animals! Safe, strong, durability, low long term costs, and beauty. Contact us. *Fencing Forever:* 888.771.3276; e-mail: sales@heritagevinylfenceusa.com. Visit our website: www.heritagevinylfenceusa.com.

**Classified Ads are eye-catching,
 reader-attractive and economical.
 Try one today!**

The RMLA Journal - Advertising Information

Great Rates — National Distribution — Diverse Readership

All ads must be camera ready. For information or assistance on getting your ads ready for publication, contact Gayle Woodsum (see contact information on page 3). Additional charges will be incurred for ads to be run that are not camera ready.

Camera ready ads may be submitted electronically in the following formats: TIFF, JPEG, PDF. Microsoft Word documents that include graphics or photographs *are not camera ready*. Ads may also be submitted through the mail on high quality photo paper. Photos may be scanned in color or grayscale (black & white), at 300 dpi 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 Gayle Woodsum, RMLA Journal, P.O. Box 536, Laramie, WY 82073; rmlajournal@aol.com.

Ad Specifications

• No Bleeds •

	Height	Width		Height	Width
Business Card	2"	3"	1/3 Page Vertical	10"	2.5"
1/4 Page Horizontal	2"	7.5"	Half Page	4.5"	7.5"
1/4 Page Vertical	4.5"	3.5"	Back Page	7.5"	7.5"
1/3 Page Horizontal	3"	7.5"	Full Page	10"	7.5"

Advertising Rates

Commit to 4 issues in a row - get a 10% discount!
 (You can even change your ad each time.)

All rates per issue, camera ready.	RMLA	Non-
	Member	Member
Ad Sizes	Single Issue	Single Issue
Business Card	\$15	\$18
1/4 Page	\$24	\$36
1/3 Page	\$35	\$48
Half Page	\$48	\$72
Back Cover	\$60	\$90
Full Page	\$78	\$117
Inside Cover (front or back)	\$96	\$144

Spring Promotional Issue - Special Ad Options
 for Centerfold 4 pages and Inside Covers. Contact
 Production Coordinator for Details

Classified Advertising

Members: \$10 for up to 50 words per ad
 Non-Members: \$25 for up to 50 words per ad
 25¢/word for over 50 words - members and nonmembers

RMLA-Sponsored Events Calendar

APRIL

April 16-17, 2005 • Sierra Nevada Llama Show
Fallon, Nevada. Contact John Trauth
775.217.9093, llamalady@charter.net

April 16-17, 2005 • Driving Clinic
Golden, Colorado. Contact Jerry Dunn
303.277.1129, beartrak@gte.net

April 23, 2005 • Grand Mesa Llama Classic
Grand Junction, Colorado. Contact Jill Knuckles
970.241.4112, talltaillamas@bigplanet.com

April 24, 2005 • Kokopelli Llama Classic
Grand Junction, Colorado. Contact Jill Knuckles
970.241.4112, talltaillamas@bigplanet.com

MAY

May 7, 2005 • Jelly Bean Classic
Arvada, Colorado. Contact Jerry Dunn
303.277.1129, beartrak@gte.net

May 13-15, 2005 • Shearing & Fiber Prep Weekend
Laramie, Wyoming. Contact Gayle Woodsum
307.721.2919, dbljllamas@aol.com

May 22, 2005 • Spring Fiber Clinic
Salida, Colorado. Contact Sharon Beacham
719.539.7185, beachams@phf.llamas.com

May 21, 2005 • Spring Sneakers Performance Show
Arvada, Colorado. Contact Jerry Dunn
303.277.1129, beartrak@gte.net

JUNE

June 4-5, 2005 • Santa Fe Spring Fling & Green Chile Classic
Santa Fe, New Mexico. Contact Melanie McMurray
505.286.8830, llamappelli@aol.com

June 18-19, 2005 • Estes Park Wool Market Llama Show
Estes Park, Colorado. Contact Gayle Woodsum
307.721.2919, dbljllamas@aol.com

JULY

July 1-3, 2005 • LOCC Llama & Fiber Festival
Castle Rock, Colorado. Contact Brenda or Jim Vance
719.789.0553, brenda.vance@splitrockllamas.com

July 9, 2005 • Douglas County Summer Classic
Franktown, Colorado. Contact Scott McHenry; 303.688.6642

July 15-17, 2005 • RMLA 2005 Conference
Glenwood Springs, Colorado. Contact Cheryl Juntilla
970.434.6042, Cajwdj@aol.com

July 30, 2005 • Fairplay Llama Pack Race Fairplay, Colorado.
Contact Gary Carlton, 303.503.1324

July 31, 2005 • Fairplay Llama Camp Performance Show
Fairplay, Colorado. Contact Mary Wickman; 719.687.1423

July 30-31, 2005 • Day With A Llama—Boulder Cty Fair
Longmont, Colorado. Contact Carlos Mendoza
303.772.2854, carlos@rmi.net

AUGUST

August 2, 2005 • Kiowa Creek Youth Llama/Alpaca Show
Kiowa, Colorado. Contact Dani Varela
303.621.9021, dvarela55@yahoo.com

August 12-14 2005 • Laramie Llama Festival
Laramie, Wyoming. Contact Gayle Woodsum
307.721.2919, dbljllamas@aol.com

August 18-21, 2005 • Hope Pass-LT-100 Pack Trip
Leadville, Colorado. Contact Jim Osmun
303.457.2787, osmunj@att.net

SEPTEMBER

September 3-4, 2005 • LOCC Fall Classic
Castle Rock, Colorado. Contact Barb Harris
719.275.9457, WildCatLlamas@aol.com

September 3, 2005 • Colorado State Fair Youth Llama Show
Pueblo, Colorado. Contact Rhonda Livengood
719.783.9238, llamarado@netzero.net

September 10, 2005 • Sangre de Cristo Youth Llama Show
Westcliffe, Colorado. Contact Rhonda Livengood
719.783.9238, llamarado@netzero.net

September 23-25, 2005 • ALSA Rocky Mountain Regionals
Castle Rock, Colorado. Contact Lougene Baird
303.688.5445, lougene@1pws.com

A Special Thanks to Our Advertisers

Remember to support the people who support your organization!

Adamcyk	29
Blue Line Design	13
Bar Q Diamond Ranch	26
Bear Track Farm	24
Cache La Poudre Minerals	18
Caring for Llamas and Alpacas	18
ChanTar Llamas	23
Cloud Peak Llamas	34
Classified Ads	37
Double J Llamas	Outside Back Cover
Ears 2 You	23
Estes Park Wool Market Llama Show	34
Grand Mesa/Kokopelli Classic Llama Shows	21
Golden R Heart Ranch	18
Hance Ranch	19
Indian Peaks Llamas	Inside Front Cover
LARRK Spring Llama Show	35
Laramie Llama Festival	31
LC Llamas	3
Mazuri Purina	17
Pheasant Hill Farm	Inside Back Cover
Rock-n-M Llamas	27
Rocky Mountain Lama Fiber Pool	35
Rocky Mountain Llamas	7
Serendipity Farm	26
Tall Tail Ranch	25
Wolff-Mills	22

Portrait of a Champion - Cadfael

Sire of 14 Top 10 winners '02 - '04 ALSA Grand Nationals,
including 1 Grand and 2 Reserve National Champions.

Sire of 6 ALSA Halter Champions and 6 other ROM's.

5 outside breedings available in 2005

Fee: \$1000 - LBG

Discount for Champion females



**Pheasant
Hill Farm**
Llamas

For Fiber, Packing,
Show and FUN

**John & Sharon
Beacham**

15760 CR 220
Salida, CO
81201-9427

719-539-7185



Cadfael portrait by
Sharon Stolzenberger

Double Jj Llamas of Laramie, Wyoming

Where dreams and reality are one and the same.



Double J's Dare to Dream
Argentine Yecu x Double J's Kiana
DOB 7/2/02
Heavy Wool Female
Grand Champion Both Shows,
Estes Park '04
Top Ten ALSA Grand National '04



Zia Zelda
DDL Knight Flight x Jewelle
DOB 9/20/01
Grand Champion
Medium Wool Female,
Rocky Mountain Regionals '04
3rd in the Nation,
Medium Wool Adult Female,
ALSA Grand Nationals '04



Bolivian Innovations Silver Lining
Bolivian Innovation x Bardo's Serrinilla
DOB 10/5/01
Grand Champion Medium Wool Male
Rocky Mountain Regionals '04
Top Ten ALSA Grand National '04
FOR SALE

Our Latest ALSA
Halter Champions

307.721.2919 • Julie Heggie & Gayle Woodsum • dbljllamas@aol.com

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

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US Postage PAID
Laramie, WY 82072
Permit No. 7