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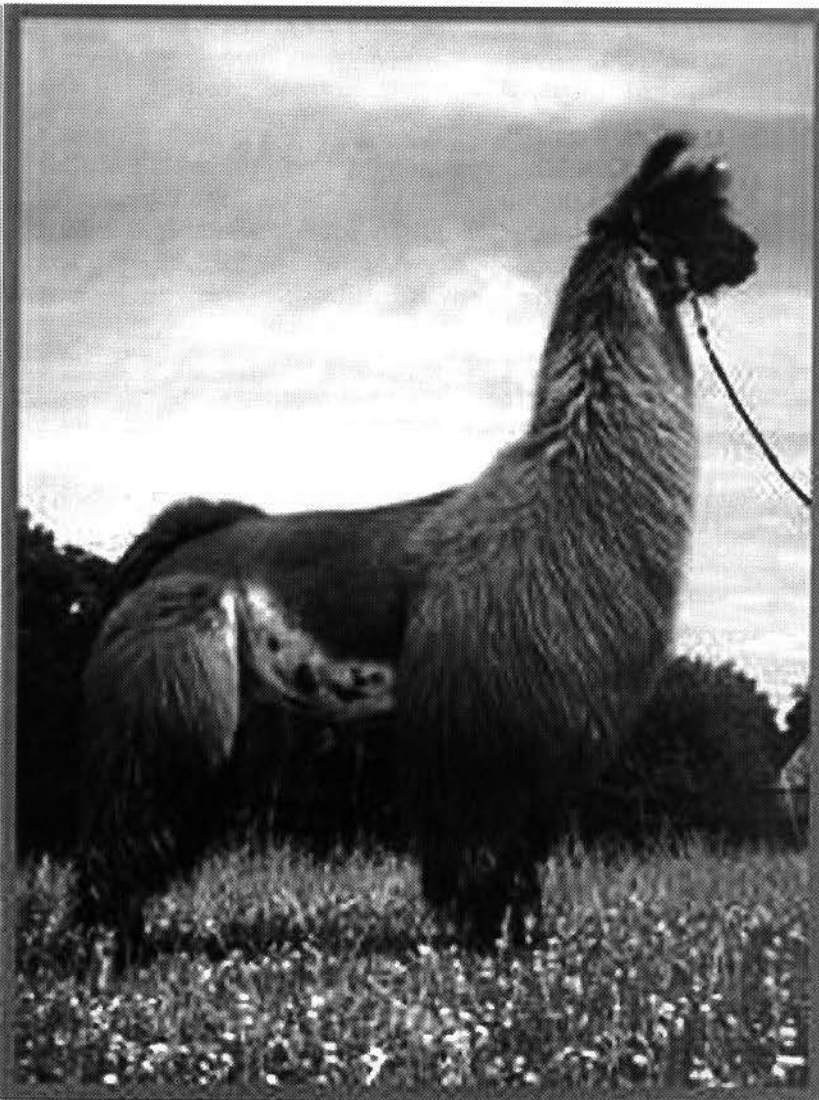
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Julie Heggie
P.O. Box 612
Laramie WY 82073
307.721.2919
307.742.9437 (fax)
jkheggie@aol.com

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
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Library	Sharon Herbold	719.495.3092	info@pikespeakwoolies.com	Patti Morgan
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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

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The Journal

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On the Cover:

Breeding is about the crias. Double J's Argentine Nevara poses for the Journal cover this issue. Read Barbara Coffman-Flinn's perspective on making both short and long-term breeding decisions for your herd, on page 22.

Photo by Gayle M. Woodsum

Summer 2005

President's Message

Another spring and summer season are rapidly drawing to a close, with RMLA once again playing an active role in sponsoring, overseeing and initiating a wide variety of activities for the benefit of RMLA members and education of the llama loving public.



In July, the 2005 RMLA Conference held in Glenwood Springs was a great success. RMLA-sponsored shows have been well attended. The RMLA fundraiser held at the Laramie Llama Festival brought in \$3300 with the proceeds slated to be applied directly to the RMLA Fiber Co-op.

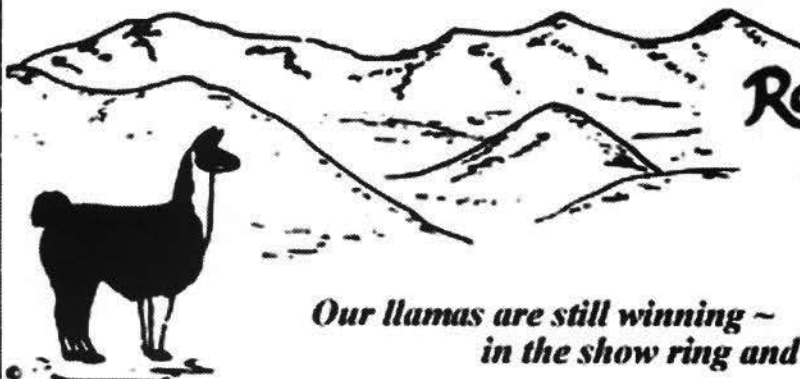
Camelid Community '05 was held in Kansas and attended with representation from RMLA, and national camelid research efforts continue to be monitored and reported on by an RMLA appointed official.

In this issue of *The Journal*, you have the opportunity to read about coping with grizzly bears, knitting up llama wool ear warmers and making carefully considered breeding decisions for your herd. This organization continues in a grand tradition of addressing diverse needs and interests. It also continues to need your input for the ways we can best give you support and assistance as you work to provide the best possible care to the llamas you love.

Very soon, you will have the opportunity to vote in RMLA board elections, where several candidates have stepped forward with enthusiasm and great ideas for the coming years of this organization. I hope you will take the time, as I will, to study the candidate statements coming your way and to type out an email or pick up the phone to ask detailed questions of all the candidates before casting your vote.

The future of RMLA is in our hands. Take time to care, to offer your input, and most of all to vote!

— Julie K. Heggie



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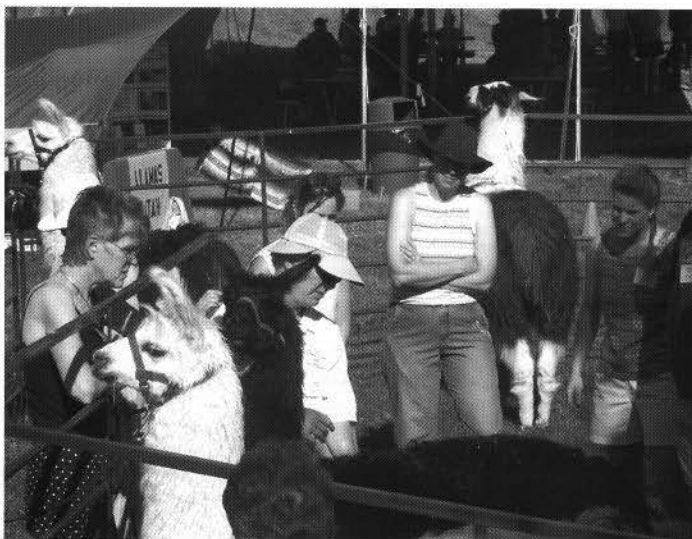
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Tales From the Backcountry

packing in grizzly land

by Barbara Summer

Every area of the country has its stories and tales about wild animals in the backcountry. I must admit that when my llamas and I moved to Northwest Montana and began packing in the areas adjacent to Glacier National Park, every grizzly story I had ever heard was coming alive in my mind. So, this article is not about the stories heard, but more about trying to answer the question "How does one share the wilderness with grizzly bears?"

First of all, it is important to realize that a grizzly is about as interested in running into a person as a person is interested in running into a grizzly. In general, grizzlies are not stalkers. They have two interests which affect people:



Above: a grizzly in Yellowstone National Park; left below: author Barbara Summer beside a bear warning sign at a Montana trailhead



1. getting enough food to survive the winter
2. keeping themselves and their young safe.

As human beings, knowing these needs, we can adopt a few simple behaviors which will help protect both ourselves and the grizzlies.

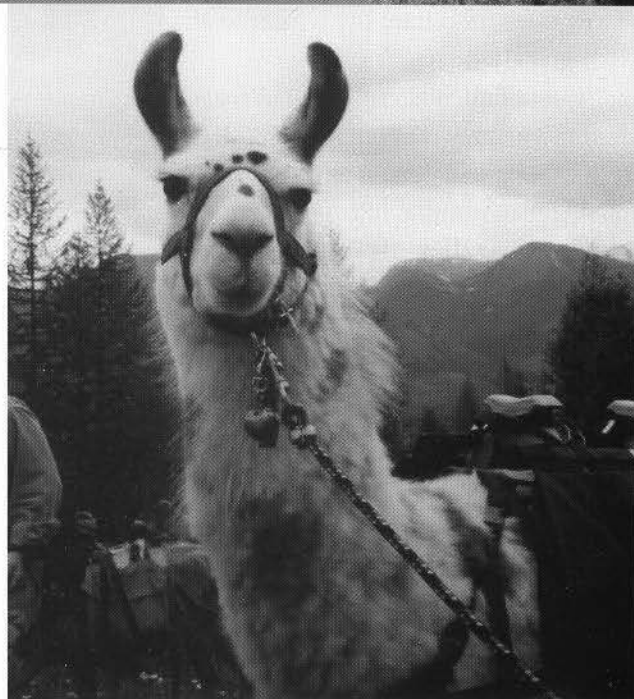
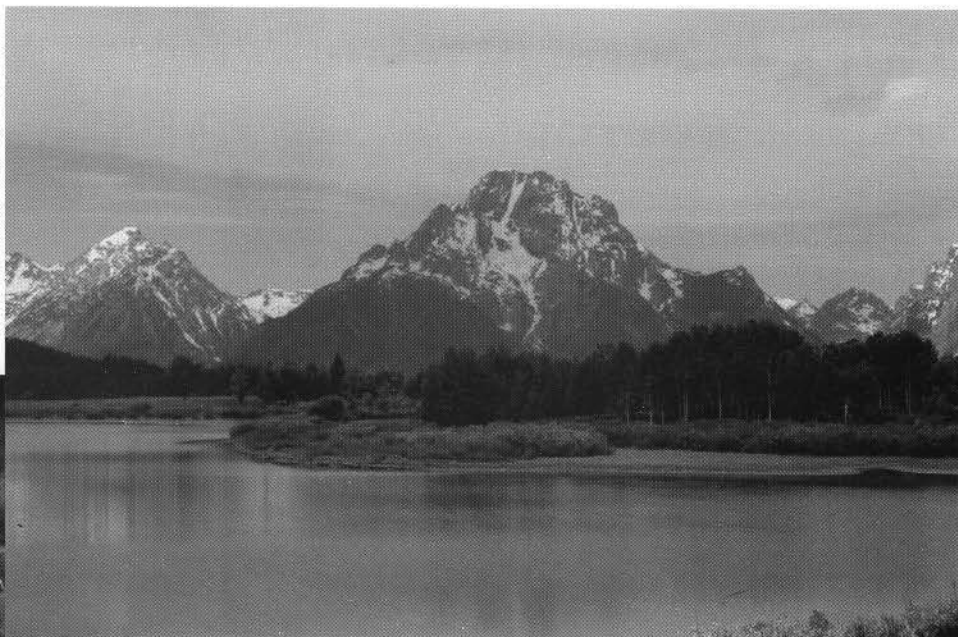
The following are some of the issues we should think about while in the backcountry.

1. When hiking, make lots of noise. Many backcountry encounters are due to hikers surprising grizzlies. Bells are not enough. Scan above treeline with binoculars, and be especially noisy along streams, feeding areas like berry patches and in areas where you cannot see far ahead. It is better to not hike alone.

2. Look for signs of grizzlies and know grizzly habitat. I found a wonderful area to stake my llamas above a lake but as I checked it out there were huckleberries (a favorite for grizzlies) bordered by a lot of fresh bear scat—so on we moved to find a new place to set up camp.

Scat, fresh grizzly prints, digging for roots or insects, a fresh kill are all examples of bear signs. The more knowledge you obtain about grizzly behavior, the more you will recognize these signs in the backcountry and the more comfortable you become.

3. The handling of your food is important. Every time a grizzly obtains food from a human it is one step closer to becoming a problem bear. Problem bears are many times killed because of human behavior. So, you need to store your food in a way that makes it totally inaccessible to the bear.



I use a "certified" bear proof container which fits in a pannier; one llama carries two of these containers. Inside these I pack the food, cooking ware, stove and toiletries—anything smelly.

The other choice is to hang all of the previous things 10 feet up a tree and 10 feet away from the trunk whenever you are out of camp or at night. (I have tried this and it is very hard to do.)

Also remember that it is better to avoid bringing odorous foods—freeze dried foods or grains are a much better option. Also avoid that perfumed body lotion.

4. Be sure to keep your campsite clean. Cook a minimum of 125 feet away from your tent and preferably upwind. Clean up every particle of food, do not



take food or scented items into your tent, and be sure not to sleep in the clothes you cooked in.

5. Listen to your llamas as you hike. A sudden refusal to move for no apparent reason, agitation and fearful behavior can be some of the signs of a bear nearby. My lead llama has warned me many times and is usually right. The one time I didn't listen to him we came around the bend to find a fresh deer kill and fresh bear scat all around it. I haven't made that mistake a second time.

6. Carry bear spray accessible at all times. Learn how to use it. It has saved several people from serious injury in this area. Since I have lived here, every problematic backcountry encounter I have heard about was because the grizzly was surprised by the hikers. **REMEMBER TO MAKE NOISE.**

Living and hiking in grizzly country is a gift; these are amazing and intelligent animals. It is important to remember that when we behave wisely and responsibly we are helping these animals to survive and decreasing our chances of an encounter. Whether we are in the backcountry or on our ranch, making a few small adjustments in our behavior can mean all the difference for both our llama and the grizzlies.

With care and wisdom, the beautiful Rocky Mountain region can be safely shared with llamas and all manner of wildlife. Opposite page: clockwise from top, the Grand Tetons, one of Summer's hiking companions, mountain sheep and a black bear. This page from top: an owl out for evening hunting, black bear, elk and Summer's pack string.



99th National Western Stock Show

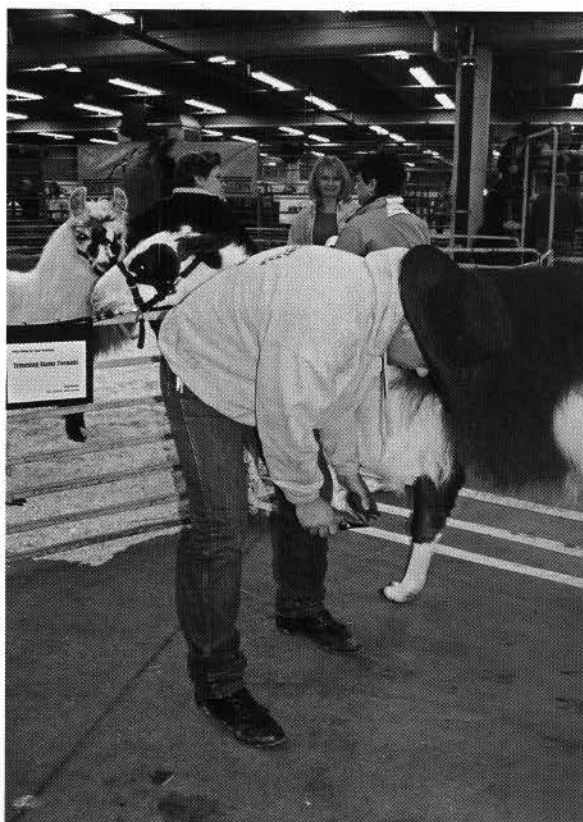
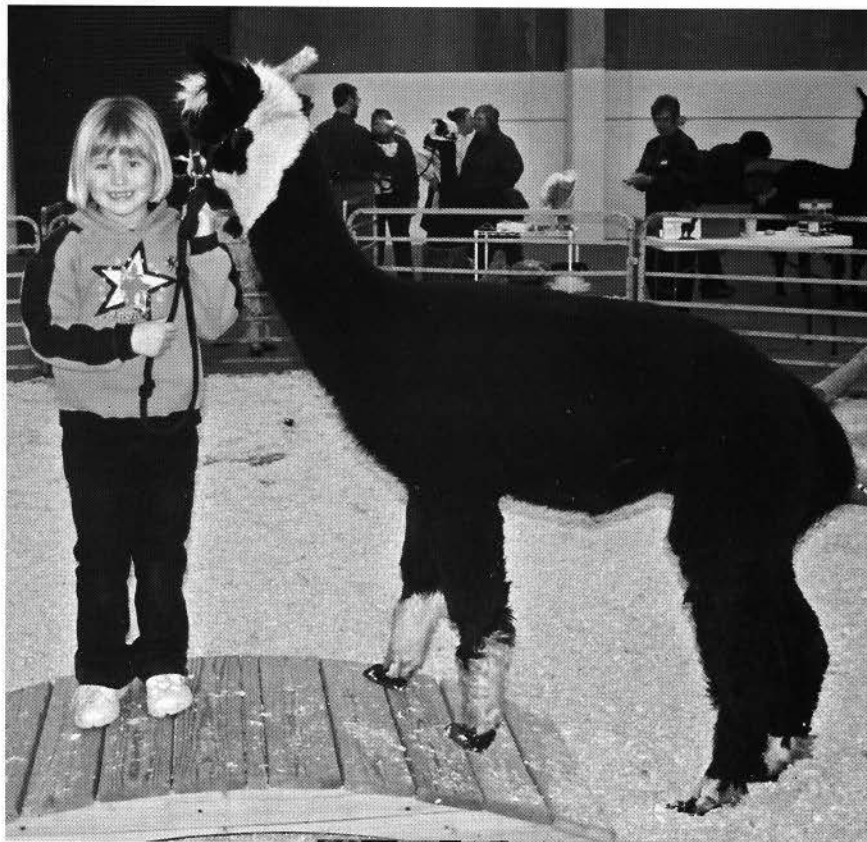
21 years of llamas

by Jerry Dunn

For the past several years, the llama show has kicked off the opening weekend of the NWSS. Thousands of visitors roam through the llama barn talking with owners and enjoying the opportunity to get close to the beautiful animals. Many stay to watch the show and participate in the “Evening with a Llama.”

This year, we had about 50 families and 180 animals registered at our show judged by Patti Morgan and Mark Smith, with ring steward Ann Bruhn. Our apprentice judge was Karen Talmon-I’ Armee from Oregon. Thanks to the judging staff and floor crew the show moved along smoothly.

Changes in the schedule afforded us a block of time to offer a workshop for exhibitors and visitors to the NWSS. The title of the workshop was “Fitting the Llama.” The term “fitting” in the livestock setting refers to the overall preparation of an animal before viewing or judging.

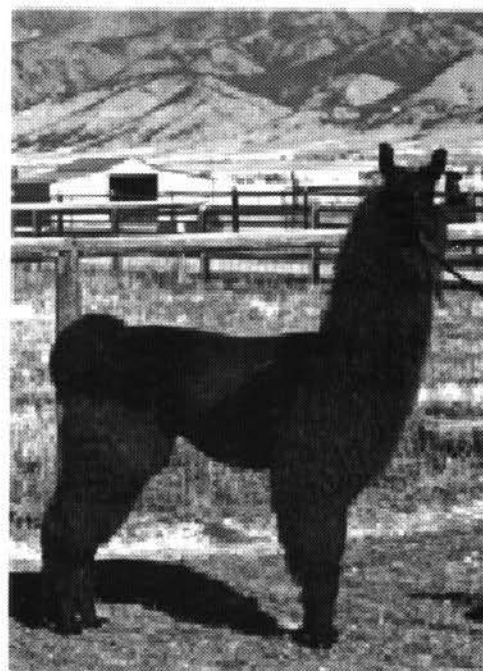


Photos, clockwise from top: a Herbold granddaughter and her alpaca on practice obstacle course; Mary Mauz offering a spinning demonstration;

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RMLA volunteers stepped up to present grooming, shearing, fiber preparation, spinning, felting, toenail trimming, halter fitting, performance showing, packing, 4-H groups and information about special activities with llamas. Visitors to the barn were able to visit the different presentations and ask questions. The “fitting” volunteers included Sherry Adamcyk, Sheree Friedel, Wes Mauz, Bobra Goldsmith, Lloyd Wamsley, Dalene Reinecker, Carolann Evans, Judy Glaser, Mary Mauz, Gayle Woodsum, Gary Carlton, Jim Osmun, Roger Miller, Sharon and Harold Herbold, Barb and Bob Hance and the Lofty Llama 4-H group. Annette Mulholland made all of our signs for the workshop and set up the RMLA information booth.

The beautiful RMLA fiber co-op booth was managed by Judith Wolf-Mills and her crew, accompanied by the international fiddlers’ contestants. Dani Varela photographed and taped the activities in the llama barn.

It was a busy, fun time and I will be pulling it together for one more year. January, 2006 will be the 100th anniversary of the NWSS. I am looking for photos taken over the last 20 some years. If you have any to share, please send them my way and we will post them on a big historical photo board. More information will be coming out soon concerning other planned activities during our weekend at the NWSS.

Photos, clockwise from top: Judy Glaser works at a portable loom; posing in front of the Fairplay display board, Jim Vance, Gary Carlton, Roger Miller, Jim Osborn; Wes Mauz and Kurt Glaser at their packing display; the Llofty Llamas 4-H Club



History from Past

RMLA Newsletters/Journals

compiled by Larry Lewellyn

Erma Hast was very proud of RMLA's long list of "firsts" that she boasted about in a 1988 article in the Journal:

- We were the first organization to set out a budgeted amount for research.
- We were first to publish a service directory-yellow pages of the llama industry.
- We started the neonatal seminar with Dr. La Rue Johnson, which was picked up by ILA and LANA and offered repeatedly throughout the country.
- We sponsored the first llama pack race: the Fairplay Pack Race.
- We also are the first organization to set up a lending library. Our library has 55 items, which are lent free of charge to members, a very popular service.



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An Interview with Deb Mayo, DVM

by Larry Lewellyn

Dr. Mayo is a 1980 Graduate of Texas A & M with DVM. She was in a private mixed practice from 1980 to 1997, when she started her own mobile mixed practice. Deb is an honorary member of RMLA; she and her family reside in Golden, Colorado.

How long have you been involved with camelids?
Since 1982

What do you think is the biggest problem with today's camelid owners?

Not really a problem but I think camelid owners should realize these animals are livestock and be treated as such.

How important is worming/vaccinations?

Very important. Almost every year I see a fatality associated with clostridia infection which could have been prevented by proper vaccination. Worming is important for the optimum utilization of foodstuffs as well as the health of the camelid and its fiber.

Is it important to supplement feed for camelids, or is hay enough?

Hay and minerals are enough for camelids, however some supplements are recommended to maximize fiber condition. This is especially true for alpacas who are shorn yearly.

What is your experience with well-loved (fat) llamas?
Being overweight is not beneficial to long term health in any species. The extra fat stresses out the organs. Also, extremely obese animals are usually hard to breed.

In your opinion, do you see llama genetics changing in llamas due to breeders breeding certain traits for show purposes only and getting away from sound conformation with good bloodlines?

I have not seen this in llamas but have in other species such as horses. It is a changing world in which we live with many diverse opinions.

What advice do you have for first time camelid owners in today's llama industry?

Get to know what is normal for your animal so you can tell when it is sick.

When you go out on call to work on camelids, what are some useful hints for owners to do before the vet gets there. Example: worming, vaccinations, etc.?

Have animals haltered and tied or in a small pen so the vet won't have to waste her or his time while the animals are being caught. If their work involves several animals, a list made by the owner of all to be done is extremely helpful. Also, with llamas a chute is very nice to have; almost a necessity.

What is the most common medical problem you see in camelids today?

Colic and birthing problems.

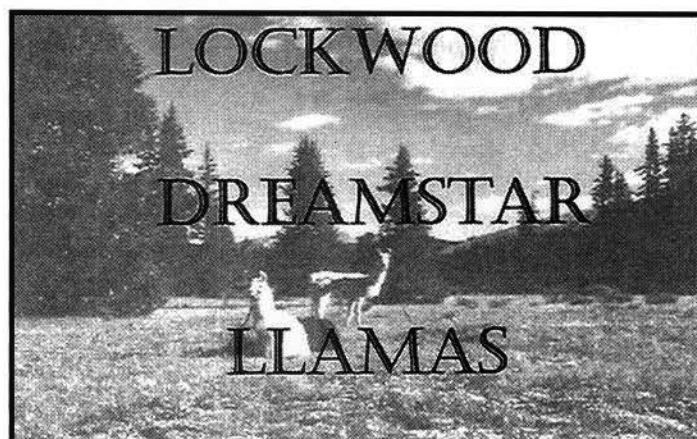
What is your best advice to camelid owners?

Get to know your animals and establish a relationship with the vet who treats them. Set up a calendar schedule for vaccinations and deworming.

How important is it to ensure that camelids teeth are good. Do you float teeth?

Yes, I do float teeth but do not over-float them. I see a fair amount of teeth problems. Proper alignment is necessary for them to properly chew their food. How would you feel if you had a sharp spike in your gum every time you chewed?

Doctor Debbie has been my personal vet for many years as well as others hear on the front range. She has assisted me in some tough times and always there to answer any question I have had pertaining to llamas with our. What I admire the most about Ms. Mayo is her honesty in dealing with your camelids. A big thanks to Doctor Deb for this interview.



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Breeding Llamas

one breeder's perspective on her herd

by Barbara Coffman-Flinn

Breeding llamas, or any kind of animal, should always be done with a lot of thought and consideration. It is a different task for each person who does it. I have been breeding llamas for 20 years now and although I have the same philosophy that has been consistent since the beginning of Cloud Peak Llamas, I also change or add a few things each year.

What I look for and strive to achieve will be similar but yet completely different than another breeder. After all, each of us has an idea of what we feel the "perfect llama" is, and that idea is what makes breeding llamas so much fun.

When llama owners move into the breeding business, they are trying to decide what type or style of llama they want to raise in the end. Their first decision needs to be the same, regardless of what the end use of the llama will be. One must start with a llama that has the best conformation and movement that they can find. That is, and will always be, the backbone of their breeding program. Wool length and fiber lock structure are much easier to add and change yearly, but the body structure of the llama is the framework of your whole breeding program. Without it you have nothing. With the framework complete, one can begin adding the size, genetics and fiber they want on their llamas.

Another trait I feel is important to have and can be easily brought into the program is disposition. Disposition does pass through the parents into the kids. Starting with llamas with good dispositions is much easier than having to change the disposition down the line. Nice sweet llamas are much easier to own and sell than llamas with bad temperaments.

I think in any breeding program the breeder must look at the male and the female they choose to breed together. They see the good qualities in each of them and hope by breeding them together they will pass those qualities off into their cria.

I began breeding llamas in the 1980's and at that time the only llamas that were for sale were North American llamas or what is known today as the classic. Importations began in the early 80's and with those llamas came a variety of wool and an unrelated genetics pool.

It was then that I bought Misty Moon's Centaur. He was out of Misty Moon's Antares and Misty Moon's



Capella. Both Antares and Capella were Bolivian imports that Vic and Lori Breeden bought from the Barnett importation through Fred Hartman in 1988. Genetics were so important then, as the gene pool available in this country was so small. But along with the need for unrelated genetics I knew that I needed to breed a conformationally correct llama that tracked out well, had nice fiber, a good disposition and was very eye appealing.

That was when I found Centaur. He was my "perfect" llama and the backbone of my breeding program. Prior to my purchase of Centaur, I was doing outside breedings to add new North American genetics into my herd.

Centaur was born in the United States and was the only full Bolivian male out of Antares. With his influence in my herd I was able to take my large North American females to him and still produce a cria with size but had a smaller head, curved ears with a softer and heavier wool coat, not to mention unrelated genetics. Did Centaur work for me? Over the years Centaur has produced 3 National Grand Champions, 2 Reserve National Grand Champions, 10 National Champions, 2 Reserve National Champions, 26 Top 10 placings and 15 ALSA Champi-

ons. The answer for me is yes, I have been very pleased with what Centaur has done for me and I still use him today with the right female.

Each of my seven sires over the years has been bought with an idea of improvement to the herd in mind. With Tiny Tim came size and Canadian genetics, with Bardo's Omar Khayyam came Peruvian genetics, mass bone, and super abundant fleece. Argentine Trevelin brought the Argentine look and genetics into the herd and RAR Ricochet brought Chilean genetics and improved the quality of fleece in each of his cria. I have now added two suri males; FFF Chiri Colipe that has size and color and Chilean Escalade who has a super fleece and unrelated suri genetics.

I still have and use all but one of these sires in the herd. (RAR Ricochet passed away in January of this year.) Some of the older boys are used on a limited basis but nonetheless, they are still a valuable asset to my breeding program.

I breed around 35 females each year. I look at each female and then at my sires and try to imagine what I want my cria to look like. If a female has a weaker back end I might breed her to Omar because he has the strongest back end. If I want to increase size in the female's baby I still use Tim. If I know the female could produce suri fiber I will then decide on one of my two suri males. Which suri stud I use depends upon the size of the female, the color of wool and the style of her fleece.

Each breeding is different, but the same principals are used throughout the entire herd. Every breeding I do is a conscious decision on what I want the cria to look like and will I be able to market the cria in the coming year.

Today we not only need to think about conformation, movement and disposition of our unborn crias, we must also factor in the fleece style and the end purpose of the cria. What are we breeding this cria for? Is it going to be a packer, a show llama or a pet? Do we intend to use its wool for spinning? Where do we want to sell this llama someday? All these questions are questions you need to think about before you bred the sire to the dam. Of course, we don't know all the answers at the time of breeding, but we hope that as good breeders we have an idea.

The principals of breeding llamas haven't changed and shouldn't change. What we have seen change in the industry is style, color and fiber structure. Some people call it fads. Moving with the fads is what keeps a herd current. The trendy llamas of today are what sell for the most money and pay the majority of the ranch related expenses. But

just because I breed suri llamas doesn't mean I don't breed classic llamas too. I personally want a variety of llamas; one for each person's unique style and purpose. The bottom line for me as a llama breeder is to breed good quality llamas, llamas that are healthy, conformationally correct and can be used for a variety of purposes. I want llamas I am proud to have bred, proud to own, proud to show and proud to sell.

There is no actual right way to any breeding program. Every one is different. Find out what works for you. Start with good structure, nice disposition and smooth moving llamas and then add the trimmings. Think your breeding out each and every time, every year. Breeding llamas is fun. You can put a lot of time and selection into each breeding, but still the color and sex are what you can't control. So with each new cria always comes a surprise and the surprise sometimes is the greatest gift of all.

Barbara Coffman-Flinn has recently moved with her family, llama and suri alpaca herd to Park City, Utah, where she plans to continue enjoying the pleasures and challenges of breeding camelids.

Volunteer Opportunity RMLA Journal Editor

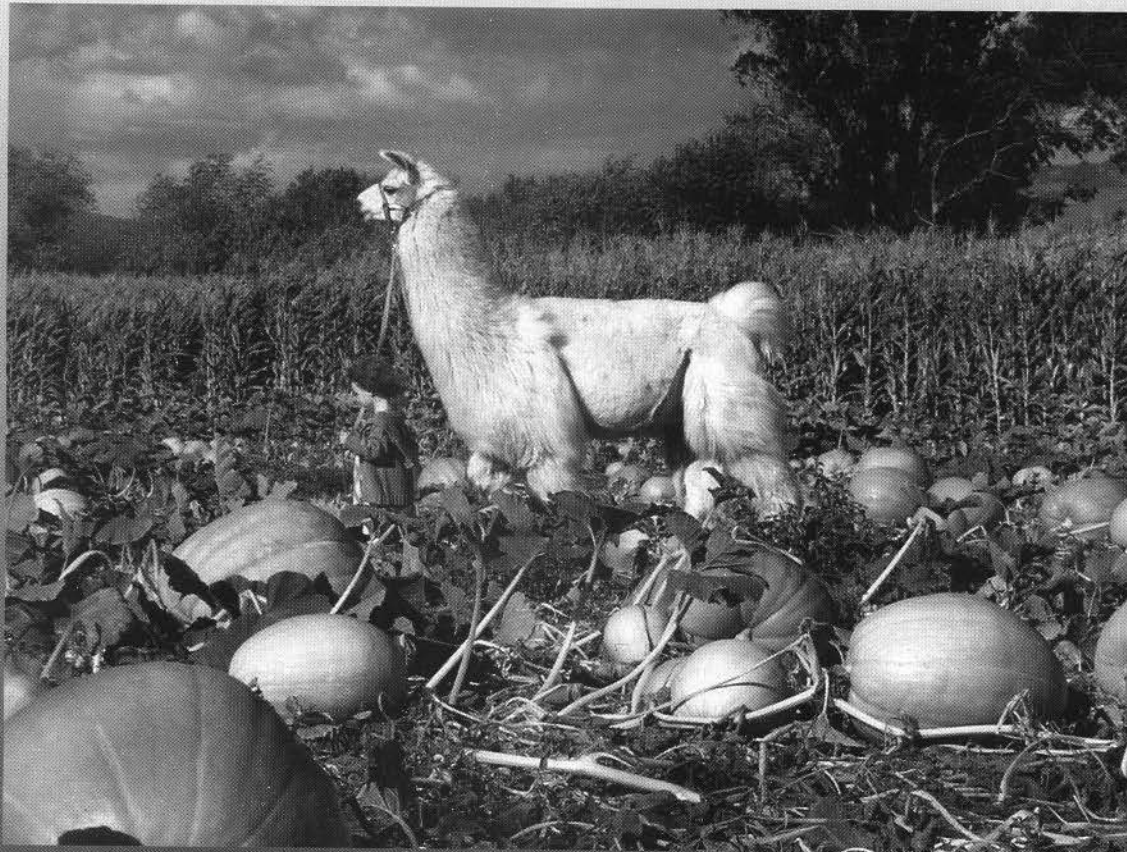
The RMLA Journal is seeking a volunteer editor/production coordinator to produce this quarterly magazine, camera ready for printing.

Experience in writing, editing, ad sales and desktop publishing preferred.

Expenses are covered by RMLA, plus a stipend of 15% commission on each paid ad published per issue (currently averages a total of \$200 per issue).

Interested parties should contact Journal liaison Julie Heggie at jkheggie@aol.com or 307.721.2919.

No Matter What Size You Are...

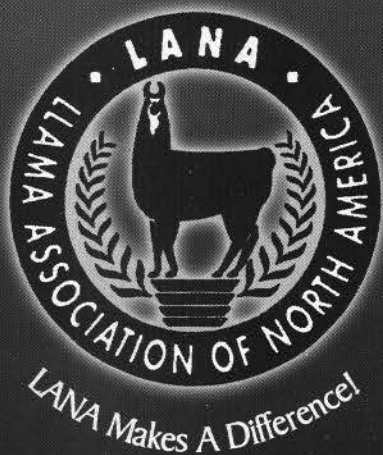


RRLR Chilean Bellagio © 2004 Nina Pederson, Rainbow Ridge Ranch, Calif., LANA member

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FIBER PROJECTS

from fleece to favorite

edited by Judy Wolff-Mills

ANDEAN RAINBOW... a machine-knit ear warmer by Cheri Paxson

Cheri shares her design and machine knit instruction for this colorful alpaca Earwarmer with RMLA Journal readers. An accomplished machine knitter, she gives detailed instructions and offers workshops.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Alpaca Earwarmer

Equipment:

- knitting pattern •
- multi-color stockinette stitch equipment •
- Brother electronic computerized knitting machine •
- standard knitting bed with 200 needles, 100 needles on each side of 0 •

Yarns:

- 2 ounces of Sport Weight llama or alpaca yarn •

Gauge:

- 8 - 10 on main carriage •

Size:

- Medium •

KNITTING & FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Select 72 needles on each side of 0 and put into WP (Working Position)

Push every other needle back, out of work.



Cast on to every other needle, using Cast On Comb and weights. Knit 1 row.

Pull the out-of-work needles back into WP and knit on all needles for 63 rows.

Using your Lace Carriage on this row, pull every other needle partially out, just to the latch. **IMPORTANT:** Don't let the latch open on the needle! One pass with the Lace Carriage will transfer stitches. You will have 2 stitches on every other needle.

Push the empty needles out of work.

Take off the weights at the bottom of the Cast on Comb.

Using a 1/2" metal dowel rod as a weight, put the rod into the fold and bring the first row of every other needle up to the last row of every other needle. You are going to hang the first row onto the last row to hang a hem. This is tricky and will take some practice.

Knit 1 row on every other needle (row 64)

Bring all needles out to E Position (hold) and do a basic bind off onto the sinker posts. At the last bind off stitch, leave an 8 – 10" tail to sew up the seam in the middle.

INSERTING THE DESIGN

To put a design into the front, use a 20-row pattern starting at row 38. The last 4 rows are plain knitting to row 63. Finish as above.

Use 2 ounces of Sport Weight yarn.

Use tension 10 on the Main Carriage.

WORDS FROM THE EXPERT

The basic techniques you learned on this ear warmer can apply to making hats, vests, sweaters, and other functional items.

Although the machine knits the pieces, the final product has a lot of handwork on it.

FINISH, FINISH, FINISH makes the final functional product.

Don't be afraid of starting over! The more you perfect your technique, the better machine knitter you will become.



Cheri Paxson, Colorado native, Nordic ski enthusiast, and knitting entrepreneur, opened her custom knit business 19 years ago, designing for the recreation industry. She specializes in designing hats and custom winter wear from exotic animal fibers like alpaca and llama. Paxson designs and teaches out of her "Fiber Barn" in rural Longmont Colorado where she raises llamas and alpacas. She can be contacted at www.paxknits.com or 303.772.2862.

Judy Wolff-Mills is chair and manager of the RMLA Fiber Co-op booth. She works as a fiber artisan and can be reached at jwmfibers@cs.com; 970.668.7463.

Minutes of the RMLA

1st Quarter Board of Directors Meeting

February 19, 2005; 10 AM; held at the home of Teri Baird, Elizabeth, Colorado

The 1st Quarter Meeting of the RMLA BOD was called to order at 10:00 AM by President Julie Heggie. Present were Julie Heggie, Jerry Dunn, Paul Schwartz, Patti Morgan, Annette Mulholland and Larry Lewellyn.

1. Minutes of the Executive meeting held October 1 were approved as read.

2. Treasurer's report:

General Operations	\$1,527
Life Member Escrow	7,426
Liquid Asset	61,660
Marketing Research	3,656
Medical Research	6,068
Special Production CFL&A	20,080
Bookstore	4,839
RMLA Conference '05	500
Total	\$105,756

The only unrecognized account is the RMLA Conference 2005. All invoices are paid, all deposits are made. Bookstore financials for January 2005 have been received, reviewed and are in good order. Royalties will be paid by April 10. The Bookstore inventory of CFL&A is nearing 1/3 remaining. Larry will contact the authors and request that they begin reviewing the last printing for editorial changes and/or updates. The printers should be contacted in May/June to begin the process. Preparation of the 2004 financial records is nearing completion.

Committee Reports

a. Bookstore: CFL&A will need to be reprinted (see treasurer's report)

b. Calendar: Profit for 2004 was \$618.10. Annette presented a proposal for the 2005 calendar. Patti moved and Teri seconded to approve the proposal. It includes cross-advertising and a slight price increase.

c. Continuing Education: The updated conference schedule was presented. It is on the RMLA website with registration information. Ads are being put in several publications.

d. Election: By-laws: The by-law revision was presented to the membership for approval. It was approved. A copy was sent to each board member as well as the mem-

bership committee for inclusion in the 2005 handbook. There were several comments received with the ballots and they were discussed. From now on, there will be a "by-laws" stand alone committee with the liaison of Patti Morgan and chair of Lougene Baird. Patti will write guidelines which will include by-law review at least every 2 years.

e. Events: There are 28 events approved for 2005, which include 8 teaching clinics/workshops, 4 fun days, 1 fiber show, 6 youth shows, 10 combined ALSA shows, and 3 information and service events. An updated list was presented to the BOD. The list is also on the web page. A beginner's judging clinic to be held on June 24-26 at Patti Morgan's was approved (Annette moved, Paul seconded; unanimous vote). There was a request from a fiber event in New Mexico for sponsorship; Jerry will research.

f. Fiber: Judy Wolff-Mills has been appointed chairman of the committee. Her report was presented via email. There was a 23% increase in sales at the NWSS over 2004. The new format has been put into place. The 2005 booth venues include NWSS, EPWM, RMLA conference, Taos Wool Market and ALSA Grand Nationals. Judy's current projects include updating the price structure guidelines, and working to increase the number of consignors.

g. 4-H Advisor: Maureen Bergenfeld; The 4-H shows are now more aware of trying to contact certified judges for their shows. Annette reported that Maureen has a project book for younger kids and did a fine job. She will make copies for the BOD. Mary Gross is also close to finishing a fiber project book. Jerry reported that the 4-H youth had a part in the "fitting a llama" at NWSS. Jerry is looking at having a 4-H show in conjunction with NWSS for 2006.

h. Youth: Barb Harris: Barb has started getting info packets from LANA, LOCC, etc. on "outstanding youth award" for RMLA. She will have a proposal at the RMLA Conference.

i. Governmental Relations: no report

j. Library: no report

k. Pack: Tony Gross has resigned as chair. Wes Mauz has agreed to be chair. One of the things he is looking at is having a

"packer's page" on the web-site.

l. Membership: Renewal notices will go out next week via email. Since December there have been 13 new members, and 13 renewals. Jerry presented a revised "email news line guidelines." It will be given to the Hances for publication. The revised RMLA web page guidelines were also presented.

m. Research: There have been 4 requests received, but Morris has just begun to fund research. LMRG must receive clarification from Morris before recommendations are made.

n. Publishing/Journal: no report.

5. Old Business

a. Vets Honorary Program: need to establish guidelines for the future. Patti moved and Annette seconded to establish a vet cross reference page on the web site with a projected date of May 2005. A member may give the name of their vet(s); the vet must sign a release to be put on the page.

b. Booth Display Proposal: Annette presented a proposal for a new RMLA Display Booth including a table top display with an embroidered skirt to fit an 8' table. Discussion was tabled until the weight and dimensions are known. Annette also presented the BOD with a worksheet for proposals.

c. Membership survey proposal: Annette handed out a membership survey. Discussion followed. The amended survey will be sent out via email; Patti Morgan will mail to non-internet members.

d. Bookkeeper contract/Journal Editor Contract: Letters of agreement were presented for Lougene Baird as bookkeeper and Gayle Woodsum as Journal Editor. These were approved with one amendment.

6. New Business

a. Operations & Procedures Manual: the treasurer description will be submitted by Larry Lewellyn. He will also look at conference guidelines. Patti Morgan will submit the by-law committee description.

b. Camelid Community 2005 conference will be in Kansas City, MO on August 12-13, 2005. Sally Rucker has volunteered to give the BOD a report from the conference. RMLA will send a report for Sally to take.

c. Liaisons: Julie proposed that the liaison: be abolished. The following committees were affected: 4-H will be Paul Schwartz, pack will be Jerry Dunn, Research will be Teri Baird, Conference will be Annette Mulholland, and Publishing/Journal will be Julie Heggie.

continued next page

RMLA Membership Report

submitted by Barb and Bob Hance

NEW LIFE MEMBER

Paul Schwartz
Karen Schwartz
ChanTar Llamas
PO Box 363 - 69 Gallatin Drive
Big Horn WY 82833-0363
307.672.5144 Fax 307.672.5144
chantar@fiberpipe.net

New Members

Jacob Allison (Youth)
4730 Oz Court
Colorado Springs CO 80922-1621
719.550.0147
mdyerall@alumni.plu.edu

Cody Bish (Youth)
1308 S Bowen Street
Longmont, CO 80501-6641
303.772.0575
elkcreeklamas@aol.com

Kayla Bish (Youth)
1308 S Bowen Street
Longmont, CO 80501-6641
303.772.0575
elkcreeklamas@aol.com

Pat Blackburn/Pat Alger
Timnath Alpaca Ranch
5536 E CR 40
Fort Collins CO 80525
970.482.6327 Fax 970.494.0280
timnathalpaca@starband.net

Andi Garcia-Torres
ARG Ranch
PO Box 263
Guadalupita, NM 87722
505.387.9058
argarcia@nmt.net

Ross Klutke/Lori Klutke
Rolo Ranch
PO Box 115
Livermore CO 80536
970.221.0232
rosasan@bigfoot.com

Jim Rutledge
Geri Rutledge
Bucks Hollow Alpaca & Llama
Ranch
2209 Road 9
Waco NE 68460
402.728.5254
jr70734@alltel.net

Linda Sidwell
Cris Jennings
Dragon Mist Llamas
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drgnmyste@jps.net
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John Trauth
Pam Trauth
Meadow Haven Farms
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775.217.9039
llamalady@charter.net

Richard E. Truchses
Anne O. Davidson
Tree of Light Ranch
32504 Hwy. 92
Hotchkiss CO 81419
970.872.4474
retruchses@montrose

Greg Yates
Dawn Yates
2525 W. 34th Avenue
Denver, CO 80211
303.455.0494
dawn.yates@comcast.net

Continued from previous page

d. Tent at EPWM. Julie Heggie gave a proposal to do a promotional tent at EPWM. After discussion, the BOD voted 3-2 with 1 abstain to not have the tent.

e. Future Direction of RMLA/goal setting: Teri Baird stated that since the direction of the industry is totally different than it was 10-15 years ago, she would like to see focus groups from RMLA get together and set goals. No BOD members would be on the groups. A time for this is being sought.

f. Fundraiser: Julie Heggie presented a proposal for a fundraiser to benefit the Fiber Coop. It will be held at the Laramie Llama Festival and will be a herdsire auction. The herdsires have been consigned; the only expense from RMLA would be of two full page ads in the RMLA journal. Patti moved and Jerry seconded to approve the proposal. It passed unanimously.

g. Julie brought up that RMLA has been giving the EPWM \$250/year. This had been historically done. It will be looked at each year.

The meeting was moved/seconded and voted to adjourn at 3:47 PM.

In business conducted interim:

Patti moved and Jerry seconded to pay the liability insurance from High Country Insurance for \$2087.48. The motion passed 4-2.

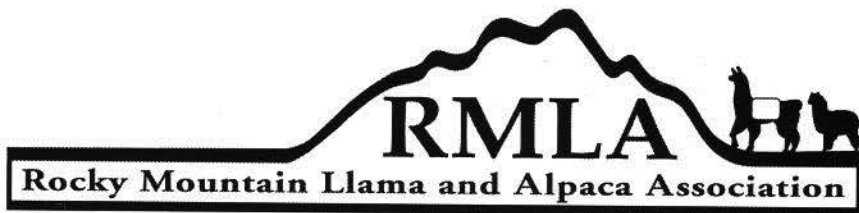
Teri moved and Annette seconded to approve the addition of a new event being the ALSA fiber judging clinic hosted by Pam Tait for March, 2005. The motion passed.

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April 1, 2005 through March 31, 2006 RMLA MEMBERSHIP

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Please consider making a donation to the RMLA Foundation Inc., for RMLA Youth scholarships.

* * * * *

Junior Membership: \$10.00 per year (must be 18 years or under **and have an adult RMLA member sponsor**. Not entitled to vote, but eligible to receive scholarships and grants from the RMLA Foundation Inc.

Youth Membership: \$10.00 per year **Former Junior members only**, who have continued education beyond High School. Must have an adult RMLA member sponsor.

Annual Membership: \$40.00 per year (Up to 2 adults per membership: 1 vote per person.)

Life Membership: \$500.00 one time only! Same as Annual, plus: **Special** recognition in Directory; and a one time free 1/4 page ad in the Journal. If there are future special assessments, "Life Members" would pay the same as annual members.



Life memberships may be paid in 4 equal quarterly installments of \$125.00 each.

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This charge will appear on your bill as: Rocky Mt. Llama

of Llamas owned: Females _____ Intact Males _____ Geldings _____

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___ Research(RE) ___ Judging(JD) ___ Packing(PK) ___ Leasing(LE) ___ Brokering(BK)

___ Commercial Packing(COM PK) ___ Other(Specify) _____

Check if interested in working on these committees:

___ Finance ___ Marketing ___ Fiber ___ Continuing Education ___ Events ___ Membership ___ Nominations/Elections
 ___ Research ___ Publishing ___ 4-H & Youth ___ By-Laws ___ Library

Mail this form with your check (payable to RMLA) or Credit Card information to:

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Lamas in the Park

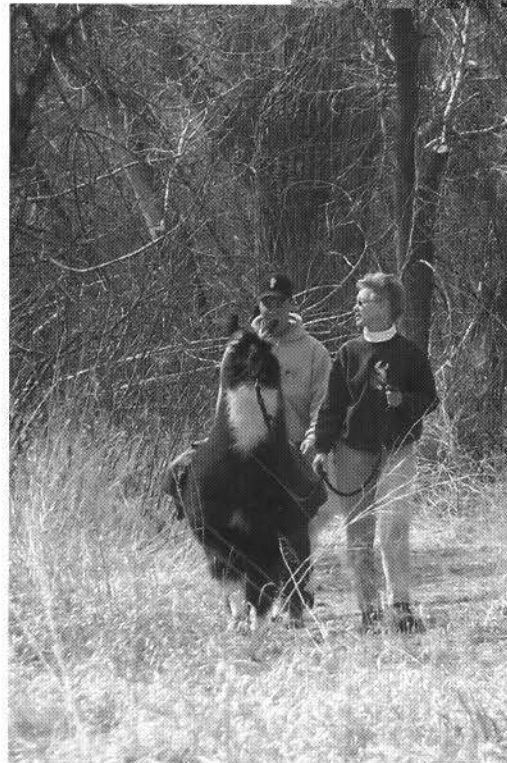
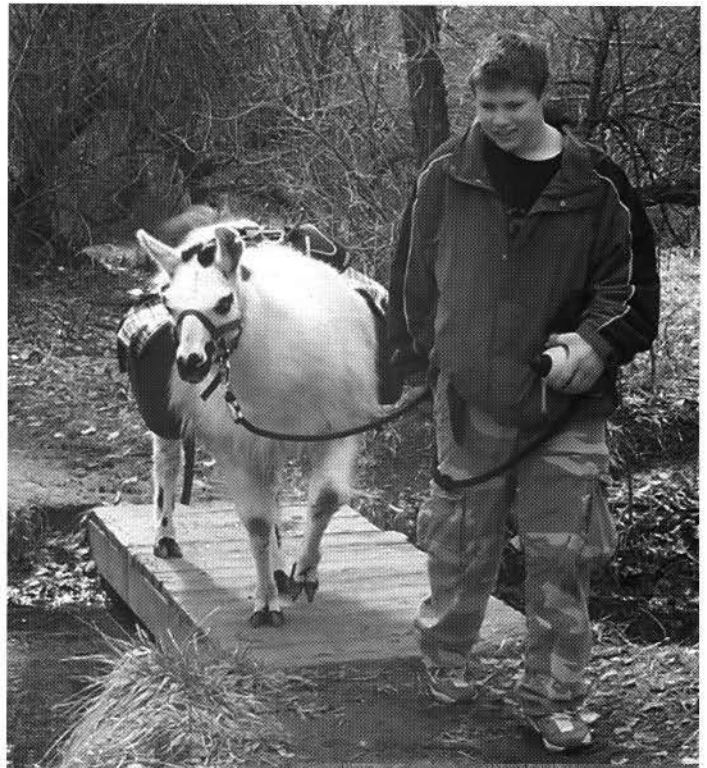
by Jerry Dunn

Every year I hold my breath and watch the weather forecast, hoping that it will be nice enough for us to get together and play in the Wheat Ridge Greenbelt with our llamas and alpacas. It was beautiful this year, with 17 people arriving to experience the trails and the many obstacles provided by the area.

Before we hit the trail, we checked everyone's tack, helped secure camp chairs and water bottles on the llamas. Safety issues were discussed and away we went.

We divided into two groups with Lloyd Wamsley leading one group and I led the other group. We took separate trails that wound around through the trees and along Clear Creek converging at a lunch site in an open area near Bass Lake. The llamas were clipped into their tethers during lunch while we shared chips, cookies and fun stories. Following lunch, each group returned to the trailers by a different route.

New llama owners Sandra Nolan with her granddaughter Tianna and Robin Hergenroeder and her son Adam enjoyed their first outing with their llamas. First-time-on-the-trail people were Judy Glaser, Kim and Carolann Evans, Jared Bechtoeld. Each year we have a fun group that returns to enjoy the park. This year, veterans included Jim Osmun; Dave and Sandy Lockwood; Carol Lontine; Bobbi and Jerry Losasso; and Mike Jensen.



Hikers with their llama companions clockwise, starting at top right: Adam Hergenroeder, Lloyd Wamsley, Bobbie Losasso, Judy Glaser.

Another Dog Attack

same dog, same cria

by Carol Lontine




Sam-E, a four-month old cria, was attacked a second time at about 11:15 Saturday morning, March 26, by the same Husky that attacked Sam-E on January 2. (see report in the March, 2005 Journal). The dog bit Sam-E on the mouth, just below the nose. The cria's gums were bleeding, indicating that the dog teeth bit just below the nose. The cria's dam and sire, Josie and Cupcake, were also bitten on the front part of the hocks. Josie had also been bitten on the right hip. They didn't bleed as they weren't punctured, but it was obvious they were bitten.

During this attack, Nancy finally caught the dog and put him in her shed, then called Animal Control. The dog was taken to Table Mesa and would be there for ten days, having attacked twice at the same place in less than 3 months. Normally, the County sets up court appearances and when a dog attacks this much in this short of time, they are put to sleep.

We are so glad that Sam-E is recuperating quite well and is an adorable young llama. Of course, when he sees another dog in the distance, it is easy to tell that he is scared and heads towards Mom and Dad.



Photos. Top: Sam-E's mother was attacked by a husky on March 26, two spots on the leg above the hock. Middle: Back of Sam-E's neck since he was attacked on January 2; wool is growing back quite well. Bottom: His nose that was attacked by a husky on March 26. When Nancy approached him, blood was coming out the mouth from the gums just inside the nose.



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Spring Shows in Santa Fe

On a beautiful spring day in early June, llama breeders from Texas to California gathered in Santa Fe for the second annual Santa Fe Spring Fling and Green Chile Classic. As each trailer pulled into the Santa Fe Horse Park, they were greeted by a bright blue sky, lovely (albeit, a bit breezy) weather, custom made show T-shirts and many friendly faces. Since starting this double show last year, I have been amazed at how far people will travel to participate in the shows. I don't know why I wondered. Santa Fe is a great place for a spring llama show: great views, great food, great weather and great people. With the help of judges Phil Feiner and Linda Rodgers, we had two great shows, too. I can't wait to do it all over again next year!

2005 Santa Fe Spring Fling

Nonbreeder, Two-year:

Taos Eddie, Michael Brooks/Melanie McMurry

Vercingetorix, Eileen Ditsler

Adult:

HLM Chop Sticks, Wally & Maryan Baker

Stage Stop Quigley Down Under, Barbara/Brock Royal

Raisin Spots, Betty O'Grady

Grand Champion: HLM Chop Sticks

Reserve Grand: Taos Eddie

Light Wool Males, Juvenile:

Stage Stop Chilean Zapata, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers

Yearling:

Rambutan's On The Button, Michael Brooks/Melanie McMurry

Two-Year:

Tenzing Norgay, Michael Brooks/Melanie McMurry

Adult:

Salsa's Red Hot Chile Pepper, Michael Brooks/Melanie McMurry

DOL Bardo's Cinnabar, Barbara/Brock Royal

Rainbow Valley's Salsa, Mary Summers/Reid Langerman

Grand Champion: Stage Stop Chilean Zapata

Reserve Grand: Salsa's Red Hot Chile Pepper

Medium Wool Males, Juvenile:

DM Chilean New Drama, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers

X-Ception, Marcie Saska Agnew

Yearling:

Stage Stop Chilean Summer, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers



DM Silver Streak, Helen Cole

Jazz Mann's Blackjack, Michael Brooks/Melanie McMurry

Two-Year:

SHAG Shawnee, Ken/Lisa Fenley

GHLC Holy Smokes, Caroline Gardner

Adult:

Roy-Dee's Thunder's Lightening, Dee Stoddard

Grand Champion: Stage Stop Chilean Summer

Reserve Grand: SHAG Shawnee

Heavy Wool Males, Juvenile:

Chilean Skychief, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers

WINS Hazz Pizazz, Caroline Gardner

Yearling:

Rosolio, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers

HLR Clifford, Dana/Dennis Myers

Two-Year:

Spectacular Knockout, Wally/Maryan Baker

Adult:

MGF Argentine Lucero, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers

Mr. Dabney, Mary Summers/Reid Langerman

DM Crazy For You, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers

Grand Champion: Chilean Skychief

Reserve Champion: MGF Argentine Lucero

Light Wool Females, Juvenile:

DM Qing Dynasty, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers

Kokopelli's Pinecone, Michael Brooks/Melanie McMurry

Yearling:

Harley's Softail, Marcie Saska Agnew



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 Rainbow Valley's Tabicka Dee, Mary Summers/Reid Langerman
 Rainbow Valley's Sugar, Mary Summers/Reid Langerman
 Grand Champion: DM Qing Dynasty
 Reserve Grand: Harley's Softail
 Medium Wool Females, Juvenile:
 Nahani, Caroline Gardner
 DM Xi Lin, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers
 DM Bolivian Fiesta, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers
 Yearling:
 Peruvian Fantasy ABSR, Caroline Gardner
 DM Carmen, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers
 Taste of Canela, Sara Spoerri
 Two-Year:
 DM Shady Acres, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers
 Roy Dee's Hooter, Dee Stoddard
 Coco Nut Pie, Sara Spoerri

Adult:
 Roy-Dee's Petea, Betty O'Grady
 Roy-Dee's Blazin Red Ruby, Dee Stoddard
 Grand Champion: Peruvian Fantasy ABSR
 Reserve Grand: Roy Dee's Petea
 Heavy Wool Females, Juvenile:
 WINS Auraflame, Caroline Gardner
 DM Kocina, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers
 Yearling:
 WINS Chilean Hot N Spicy, Caroline Gardner
 Chloe's Queen Sheba, Helen Cole
 Grand Champion: WINS Auraflame
 Reserve Grand: WINS Chilean Hot N Spicy
 Get of Sire:
 White Russian, Caroline Gardner
 Red Tail Thunder, Dee Stoddard

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 Taos Eddie, Michael Brooks/Melanie McMurry
 Vercingetorix, Eileen Ditsler
 Adult:

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 Stage Stop Quigley Down Under, Barbara/Brock Royal
 Grand Champion: HLM Chop Sticks
 Reserve Grand: Taos Eddie
 Light Wool Males, Juvenile:
 Stage Stop Chilean Zapata, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers
 Yearling:
 Rambutan's On The Button, Michael Brooks/Melanie McMurry
 Two-Year:
 Tenzing Norgay, Michael Brooks/Melanie McMurry
 Adult:
 DOL Bardo's Cinnabar, Barbara/Brock Royal
 Rainbow Valley's Salsa, Mary Summers/Reid Langerman
 Salsa's Red Hot Chile Pepper, Michael Brooks/Melanie McMurry
 Grand Champion: Stage Stop Chilean Zapata
 Reserve Grand: DOL Bardo's Cinnabar
 Medium Wool Males, Juvenile:
 X-Ception, Marcie Saska Agnew
 DM Chilean New Drama, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers
 Yearling:
 Stage Stop Chilean Summer, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers
 Jazz Mann's Blackjack, Michael Brooks/Melanie McMurry
 Two-Year:
 SHAG Shawnee, Ken & Lisa Fenley
 GHLC Holy Smokes, Caroline Gardner
 Adult:
 Rainbow Valle's Invierno, Mary Summers/Reid Langerman
 Roy-Dee's Thunder's Lightning, Dee Stoddard
 Grand Champion: Stage Stop Chilean Summer
 Reserve Grand: SHAG Shawnee
 Heavy Wool Males, Juvenile:

Chilean Skychief, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers
 WINS Hazz Pizazz, Caroline Gardner
 Yearling:
 Rosolio, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers
 HLR Clifford, Dana/Dennis Myers
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 Spectacular Knockout, Wally/Maryan Baker
 Adult:
 MGF Argentine Lucero, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers
 Mr. Dabney, Mary Summers/Reid Langerman
 DM Crazy For You, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers
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 Light Wool Females, Juvenile:
 DM Qing Dynasty, Sandy Henning/Roger Akers
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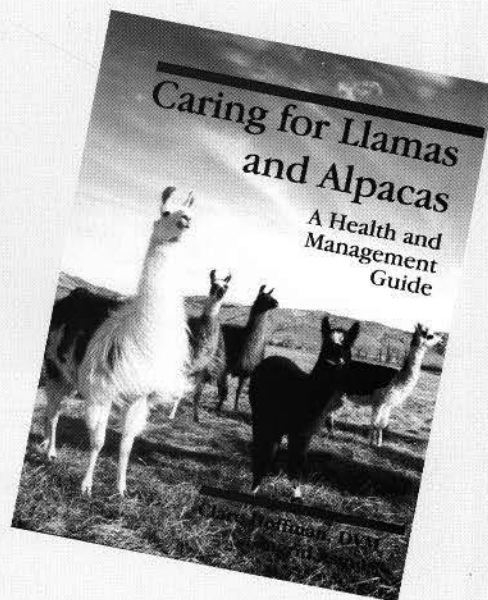
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 Performance Reserve Grand: Vercingetorix



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Who Will Remember Our Animals?

by Cris Jennings

Sometimes we are suddenly and deeply reminded that the life we have here on Earth and with each other is very precious and fragile. One moment we are strong and vibrant, movers and shakers in our families, our industry, with our animals, caught up in the trappings and activities of daily life and our community. The next moment uncontrollable life circumstances are roughly thrust through our serene realities, changing everything and everyone else forever. It is from this place of life's fragility, perspective of llama intervention and rescue and a genuine need to help mitigate the spread of chaos during human crisis that the Next of Kin, Live Animal Alert (NOK/LAA) card took life.

The Llama Association of North America (LANA), through their Lifeline rescue work, had long realized the need for individuals to have a crisis animal care plan in place during times of unexpected personal emergency. Prevention planning provided owner input and control over animal circumstances during the chaos of crisis.

While dual deaths or incapacitation of an entire family in a single incident is not the norm, it is a real possibility as are other life catastrophes...fire, earthquake, accidents, health emergencies and death. As a society we speak of living wills and medical powers of attorney, establish wills/trust, and dutifully pay insurance premiums, always hoping for the best but being prepared for the worst. Many of us even carry insurance on our animals for the same reasons. As llama and alpaca lovers, what have we done either individually or as a community to ensure basic everyday food/water and animal care needs are met if we were suddenly unable to make calls/coordinate ranch coverage during an emergency situation? Have we thought really thought about who would remember our animals?

In July 1999, LANA developed an emergency notification card that links personal identification and Next of Kin (NOK) contacts with prearranged animal care contacts. This link was necessary as emergency medi-



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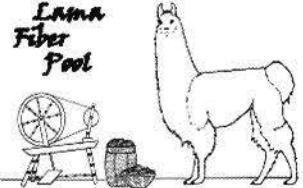
Owners of *Serendipity Farm*

cal workers stop looking through personal effects once personal and NOK information is located. The card identifies the bearer, address and phone and offers two NOK contacts as do other emergency notification cards. Notably, the card has a Live Animal Alert title as well as a bold message on the front, requesting a contact be made to attend to the immediate food/water needs of animals. The back of the card indicates types of animals that would need care as well as two entries for animal contact individuals. The animal contact persons listed should be local individuals that have previously agreed to be a resource, know the animal population needs of a ranch and would attend to simple food/water/care needs temporarily until other family/friends were available. If neither of the listed animal contacts could be reached, the LANA office number has been provided for networking assistance. LANA could notify local members and request they coordinate emergency community networking and support on the required interim basis.

In the Spring 2003 ILR report, the ILR cited the NOK/LAA card and a Lars Garrison's article speaking again of necessary planning for animal care in the event of a tragedy. Lifeline had also advocated "advanced di-

rectives" for animal care as another way to minimize the need for rescue. The development and use of the NOK/LAA card was another logical tool to be added to this effort.

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Perhaps the NOK/LAA card and “advanced directives” concepts also need to be included in the current thinking and work being done on a national level by Camelid Community’s Intervention & Rescue Coordination Council (IRC). How many other ideas could organizational leadership, collaborative efforts and committed individuals share to reduce interventions and rescues?

No one can predict when, how or who tragedy may strike in a human crisis so significant to generate life chaos and animal emergencies. Thoughtful preplanning can mitigate putting animals at unnecessary risk and avoid compounding an already difficult situation; the NOK/Live Animal Alert Card is but one practical way. Using the NOK/LAA card, sharing the concept with others and taking the time to write out “advanced directives” will help all of us know exactly who will remember our animals.

Cris Jennings raises llamas and lives in Nevada City, California

Next of Kin/Live Animal Alert

Name: _____
 Address: _____

Phones: _____ / _____

If I am incapacitated or die, please contact those listed on the reverse side of this card.
PLEASE ENSURE SOMEONE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR IMMEDIATE FOOD/WATER NEEDS OF MY ANIMALS.

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NOK Contacts: Name & Phone

1. _____ / _____
 Relationship: _____

2. _____ / _____
 Relationship: _____

Animal Care Contacts: Name & Phone

3. _____ / _____
 4. _____ / _____

Llamas/Alpacas Cats/Dogs Horses Birds Sheep/Goats
 Others: _____

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Llamas!..Llamas!..

by Rick Ponczek
photographer chris cosenza

Denver, Colorado, March 12. The calls from both children and adults alike went out all along Blake Street, 17th and Wynkoop. Alpacas and llamas in great numbers joined the other revelers in downtown Denver to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. I know it's a day about celebrating St. Patrick driving the snakes out of Ireland. I know it involves Irish jigs, colorful dancers and toe tapping, corned beef and cabbage, leprechauns, and of course, the color green. But what I want to know is why llamas?

I learned that for some 10 or so years now, Jim Haas of Soda Creek Llamas, Evergreen, Colorado has been organizing llama owner and RMLA participation in the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. He annually invites RMLA members to join him and others in the parade for several reasons. It provides an opportunity for llama and alpaca owners and ranchers to get together for a wonderful outing with their animals, to show the rich diversity and genuine nature of these animals, and to allow the public a chance to see and interact with these truly wonderful animals.

The llamas and alpacas were well received. Both children and adults delighted in the animals' unique looks and personalities. Young and old found their eyes searching among the animals for their favorites. They were equally captivated by the sea of color and varied fiber; the animals' grace and poise; their seeming aloofness and indifference to the roar of the crowd; the wail of siren and horn; and pounding beat of nearby marching bands.

Everyone enjoyed petting the llamas and alpacas and frequently it was heard how soft they were. The chorus of children exclaimed, "I love llamas." "What's his name?" "How old is he?" "Can I ride him?" The adults wanted to know, "What do you do with llamas (alpacas)?" "Do they bite?" "Do they kick?" "I heard they spit, is it true?" "How much do they cost?" "Do they get to know you?"

Among all the parade participants, the Irish dancers in colorful costumes, Scottish bagpipe bands, Irish Wolfhounds, PT Cruiser car club, clowns, a U.S. Marine display, Boy Scouts, Monaco South Optimist Club, drummers, bicyclists, motorcyclists, mules, horses, the limo from the Isle of Capri Casino, fire engines, corvettes, Knights of Columbus, Irish Setters, and columns



of Vespas, VW bus, vintage cars and a herd of long-horns, were the llamas and alpacas. I guess Jim has it right. The llamas and alpacas fit right in.

You're wondering how does it work? How can I get involved? Early next year, I suspect Jim Haas will again put out an e-mail message asking for participants. If you don't get a message, just plan on giving him a call at Soda Creek Llamas and letting him know you're interested. He'll forward a packet of instructions and directions to the parade staging site. Plan on an early day. We had to be at the staging site near the Coors Field parking lot at 8:30 AM. Being early allows you a little extra time to get your llamas and/or alpacas groomed and decorated with a "bit of the green." Also,

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you get a chance to get together with other llamas/alpaca folks and to see the rest of the parade participants.

Who was there? Following is a list of the participants. (I apologize if I excluded anyone or misspelled anyone's name.)

K2Llamas

Keith & Katy Wegner

Golden, CO

Lamas: Fizz, Kaltlani

Wannawokka Llamas

Lou & Jim Haynes

Coal Creek Canyon, CO

Llamas: Quin, Onyx

Jim, Mary, Kayla, Cody Bish

Llamas: Blizzard, Rowdy, Rory

Rocky Mountain Llamas

Bobra Goldsmith

Leaping Llamas 4-H

Boulder, CO

Garrick Durham-Raley, Emily Dinatale,

Leigh Dinatale, Anna Seskind,

Scott Seskind, Forrest Soper,

Joan Soper, Sonny Dunbar

Llamas: Rocky Mountain High Spirits,

Toreno, Phillip, Sunchero, Nichels

Clearview Alpacas

Delmar & Diana Smith

Blackhawk, CO

Alpacas: Bandolero, Beno, Inti

Bear Track Llamas

Jerry Dunn & Mike Jensen

Golden, CO

Llamas: Double J's Jambalaya, Bocelli

Soda Creek Llamas

Jim Haas, Johnathan Haas, Amy Haas,

Cindy Haas, Wendy Dinzk, Kathleen Peterson,

Karen Matzsik, Wyatt Warner

Evergreen, CO

Llamas: The Force, Damask, Black Foot,

The Charmer, Tomave, Hiker



Hance Ranch

Bob Hance, Becky Mayo, Char

Mayo, Joni Mayo

Wheat Ridge, CO

Alpacas: Diamonde of Night, Taffy,

Gotto, Viktor

Castle Oaks Farm

Irwin Steiner

Littleton, CO

Alpaca: Desperado

El Zorro Colorado Alpacas

Ron Hinds and Elizabeth Cline

Elizabeth, CO

Alpacas: Latigo, Calcal

Cielo Grande Alpacas

Christin Jones

Morrison, CO

Alpaca: Unknown name

D & C Llamas
Carol Lontine & Charles Quigley
Denver, CO
Llamas: Douglas, Magorian

Trail Ridge Ranch
Annette Mulholland
Dawn Bee, Grace Mulholland,
Samantha Saylor
Sedalia, CO
Llamas: Moonstruck, Nightday, Milo
Desert Smoke, Chocolate Fizz


Alpacas of Vista Hermosa
Mike, Jenny and Galen Rodman
Parker, CO
Alpaca: Francisco

Colorado Camelids
Walden & Samiya Sweet
Boulder, CO
Llama: Hasan

Bar-Q-Diamond Ranch
Stephen & Shari Quackenbush
Castle Rock, CO
Llamas: Fudge, Star

Rick Ponczek
Jerry Kuner
Longmont, CO
Llamas: Rocky Mountain Thunder, Merlin

It was a great turnout, with a total attendance of 49 people, 32 llamas and 12 alpacas. In fact, Jerry Dunn commented that it was the most llamas and alpacas she has seen participate at an RMLA parade. Well, how about it? Start planning now. Don't let next year get away. Seize an opportunity to get out with your llamas and alpacas. Seize a "slow time of the year," a time without any shows, a time when the mountain pack trails are full of snow, a time when your animals only rotate pastures or move in or out of the barn. Join Jim of Soda Creek Llamas next year and put a "bit of the green," on your llama or alpaca and enjoy a nice hike along a Denver street. Lassies and lads, we'll be looking for you.



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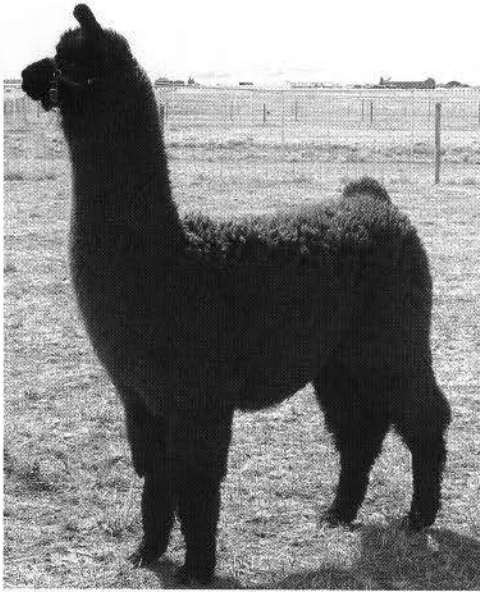
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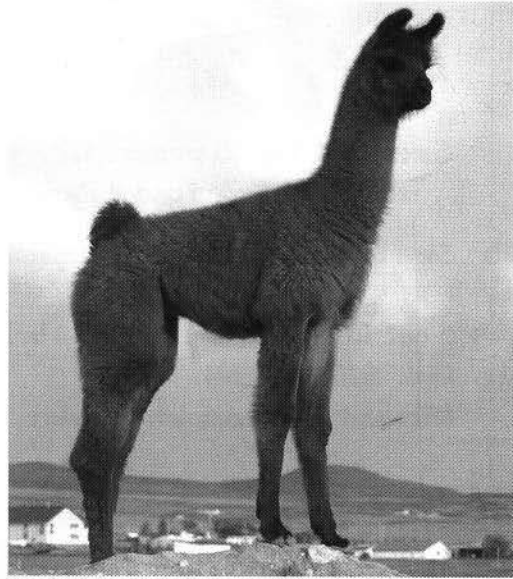


Cadfael portrait by
Sharon Stolzenberger

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