



# LANA NEWS



Llama Association of North America  
Spring Edition 2022



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Spring! My favorite time of year when everything is green. My llamas enjoy it too. Lots of yummy things to graze on.

April was a busy month for LANA.

The annual Butte Hike was at the beginning of April. There was a great turnout including many UC Davis veterinary students.

The Kids & Camelids Show was rescheduled due to rain. Yet again, rain was predicted and the decision was made to postpone (and boy, did it pour!). We figured that we could end California's drought by scheduling the K & C Show every weekend. BOD Sue Rich coordinated with 4-H leaders and the judge, and a new date was set, June 18th.

The Spring Fling Performance Clinic and Show was to be held at the end of this month. BOD Stephanie Pedroni was working hard to make this a fun and educational event. However, due to lack of entries, this event will be rescheduled later in the year. In its place was a FREE performance clinic and play day. BOD Margaret Drew and her husband Ralph graciously hosted the event at their ranch in Vacaville, California.

LANA will be the host organization for the California State Fair Llama & Alpaca Show. Terese Evenson from West Virginia is the judge. Information is available on the State Fair website in May.

It's time to shear. Remember, we do this task to keep our animals comfortable during the heat. No one wants to wear a wool sweater when it's hot.

Take care,  
Kathy Nichols



## LANA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Kathy Nichols**  
**President, Newsletter Editor**  
KathySVA@aol.com

**Stephanie Pedroni**  
**Vice President**  
StephaniePedroni@gmail.com

**Joy Pedroni**  
**Treasurer, Office, Webmaster**  
joy@blackcatllamas.com

**Sue Rich**  
**Director, Secretary**  
susan.rich9631@gmail.com

**Lee Beringsmith**  
**Director**  
lbering@outlook.com

**Margaret Drew**  
**Director**  
llamaspn@castles.com

**Emily Muirhead**  
**Director**  
emilym3216@gmail.com

**Rondi Smith**  
**Director**  
olympicalpacas@outlook.com

**Cathy Spalding**  
**Advisory Chair**  
cathy@gentlespiritllamas.com

## LANA BUSINESS OFFICE

Joy Pedroni  
1246 Meadowlark Drive  
Vacaville, CA. 95687  
1-707-234-5510  
lanaquestions@gmail.com

Please contact the LANA Business Office for Member Services, Advertisements, Event Calendar updates, and any llama-, alpaca-, or LANA-related questions you may have.

Visit LANA at: [www.lanainfo.org](http://www.lanainfo.org)

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## THANK YOU for CONTRIBUTING

**Thank you** to the following for their contribution to this newsletter:

Margaret Drew, Jana Kane, Susan Ley, Emily Muirhead, Kathy Nichols, Pam Parker, Joy Pedroni, Stephanie Pedroni, and Rondi Smith.

## Editors Note:

In this newsletter get to know LANA's newest BODs Emily Moorhead and Rondi Smith. Enjoy the second article in a four-part series about Marketing. Though some of the ideas in this article are at the beginning of the computer-age, there's a lot of great ideas that can be updated. The weather is warming up and rattlesnakes are emerging. Read the two articles that came from a LANA Expo presentation. The participants contributed to the article about the Performance clinic and Play Day. The next issue will be the Early Summer edition.

Kathy

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## **NEW DATE**

### **\*KIDS & CAMELIDS SHOW**

June 18, 2022

Mares' Nest/Lamarah

Wilton, CA

contact: [susan.rich9631@gmail.com](mailto:susan.rich9631@gmail.com)

[www.lanainfo.org](http://www.lanainfo.org)

### ORANGE COUNTY FAIR

July 14-17, 2022

[www.ocfair.com](http://www.ocfair.com)

### **CALIFORNIA STATE FAIR LLAMA & ALPACA SHOW**

July 28 - July 31, 2022

California Exposition

Sacramento, CA

contact: [KathySVA@aol.com](mailto:KathySVA@aol.com)

[www.caexpostatefair.com](http://www.caexpostatefair.com)

### **\*LANA FIBER CLINIC**

September 17, 2022

taught by Margaret Drew

Stonehenge Llamas

Vacaville, CA

[www.lamainfo.org](http://www.lamainfo.org)

(more information to come)

LANA events in **BOLD** type

\* denotes LANA member discount

If you have an event you would like added to the Calendar of Events,  
please contact: [lanquestions@gmail.com](mailto:lanquestions@gmail.com) or [KathySVA@aol.com](mailto:KathySVA@aol.com)

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



**Layla Cordero**  
Dark Star Ranch  
Placerville, California  
LaylaFlora77@gmail.com

**Abigail Donaldson**  
Lunasea808@aol.com

**Sarah Goodman**

**Nebraska Llama Association**  
Osceda, Nebraska  
nebraskallamas@gmail.com

**Patti Oxenham**  
PPO Gems  
Hesperia, California  
moenp@aol.com

**Southwest Llama Rescue**  
Kerrville, Texas  
SouthwestLlamaRescue@gmail.com

**VIM Publications**  
c/o Terri Watts  
Houston, TX  
Terri.I.Watts@vimpublications.com

**Karen Wagoner**  
Singing Alpaca Farm, LLC  
Jamestown, Kentucky  
www.singingalpaca.com  
kwagoner43@yahoo.com

**Thank you for joining and supporting LANA**

## **Mission Statement:**

Established in 1981, the Llama Association of North America (LANA), serves the camelid community by sponsoring medical research specific to llamas and alpacas; providing current and accurate information about camelid health and care; advocating for pro-camelid legislation and access to public lands; encouraging, educating and mentoring camelid enthusiasts of all ages in their interactions with camelids; supporting rescue for camelids in distress; and hosting a variety of activities including youth programs, hiking trips, shows, parades, fiber clinics, educational events and more.



## RATTLESNAKES

While there are numerous varieties of snakes in the United States, only four types are venomous: rattlesnakes, water moccasins (also known as cottonmouths), copperheads, and coral snakes. Of these, only rattlesnakes are of any real significance in California. There are fifteen species of rattlesnakes in the U.S., all of which belong to the genus *Crotalus*. Of these, the most common varieties found in California include the Western Diamond Back, the Mojave Rattler, the Sidewinder, and the Pacific Rattler. Commonly known as Pit Vipers, they are so called because all have boreal pits located between the eye and nostril on each side of the head. These are heat-sensing organs used to locate prey in the dark.

Other identifying features of a rattlesnake include a flattened triangular shaped head, vertically elliptical eye pupils (cat eyes), and a jointed rattle at the end of the tail. Since a snake may molt several times a year, the number of rattles present is not an accurate indicator of age. Additionally rattles may break off intermittently during the life of a rattler, therefore the lack of a rattle does not mean a snake is safe!

Rattlesnakes primary consume small rodents as the build their food supply, as well as ground nesting birds and their eggs. When a rattler strike its prey, paired hollow fangs unfold from the roof of its mouth. As a rule rattlesnakes can regulate the amount of venom injected when they strike, though young rattlers or very irritated snakes may be less discerning. Mature fangs are regularly shed through the season and are occasionally lost in the prey. It can take several weeks to replace a fang though they are just as effective with only a single fang during that time.



Female rattlesnakes are ovoviviparous, meaning they produce eggs, which are refined and hatched internally. An average brood of young may be 5 - 12 snakes, each 6 - 8 inches long. Young are typically born in the fall. Pregnant females do not feed so it is rare to find a snake carrying young.

Snakes have good vision and a good sense of smell. They are deaf but are sensitive to vibration. All these senses are used both for hunting as well as defensively to detect a potential predator. A snake will coil for protection but it is also from a coil that they can effectively strike 1/3 - 1/2 their body length.



A rattlesnake that has had its head roved is still capable of baring fangs and biting. The heat sensory pits can remain functional for several minutes up to an hour, and the warmth of a hand can stimulate the striking reflex.

Most rattlesnake venom is primary a hemotoxin – this cause significant tissue damage at the site of the bite and may affect the clotting ability of the blood. As a result most venomous snakebites are associated with rapid discoloration of the tissue surrounding the bite as well as pain. The Mojave rattler is significantly more dangerous as its venom is primarily a neurotoxin. As it attacks the nervous system it can cause paralysis and respiratory distress or failure.

Treatment for snakebite may include the use of Antivenin. This can be quite costly, requires some idea of the specie involved with the bite, (though there is some overlap in protection), and is not always readily available as it is a short dated product. Excepting the Mojave rattler, many of the other bites can be managed with non-specific medical therapy if brought in promptly. In our practice we deal primarily with the Pacific rattler and have had excellent success with steroid therapy and antibiotics if we receive the animal within 6 - 8 hours of the bite. Other supportive care may be necessary depending on the location of the bite – i.e. a leg wrap to control swelling and drainage, or fluid therapy if the muzzle is swollen affecting the ability to eat or drink. While everyone is concerned about airway closure secondary to muzzle bites, in my experience this is an extremely rare occurrence.

A rattlesnake vaccine has recently been introduced for dogs, and some people are advocating using it in other species. It is important to point out that this vaccine is not entirely protective as most of our common vaccines tend to be. It is intended to minimize the effects of the toxin; however the manufacturer emphasizes that veterinary care for the bite is still indicated. I have not heard of any untoward reactions fro far in off label use of this vaccine, though any owner requires tin its use must accept all responsibility for any negative consequences. While it is logical to expect it to have similar protective effects in species other than dogs, it has not been tested so no one really knows. If you believe your animals are at extreme risk for rattlesnake bites and you are interested off labels of the vaccine, I recommend you discuss this with your own veterinarian to help you assess your specific situation.



# RATTLESNAKE BITE PREVENTION

There are three aspects to preventing rattlesnake bites:

1. Remove all sources of food
2. Remove hiding places
3. Kill and dispose of all rattlesnakes found on the property

## 1. Remove sources of food

This step is absolutely essential to a prevention program. If there is nothing of the snakes to eat they will not stay there.

### a) Mice and rats.

Keep barns and hay storage areas clean.

Barn cats are great for keeping the rodent population down.

Poison baits can be used if they are placed so that no domestic animals (dogs, cats, llamas, etc.) can get access to them.

### b) Ground squirrels.

Poison baits down their holes work well.

Shooting, if you are capable and the area is safe to do so.

## 2. Remove hiding places

a) Raised floor outbuilding that snakes can get under — board these up to prevent access. Also done to prevent rodents from nesting and breeding.

b) Raised, open porch areas around the house. Close off to prevent access by snakes and other critters (skunks!).

c) Wood piles.

d) Trash piles and old dump sites.

e) Keep barns clean and neat.

f) Keep weeds cut down.

g) Be particularly careful around shrubs and gardens. Often times this represents a source of water if you live in an area that is dry the summer.

h) To prevent snakes from entering your property if you live on small acreage, some people propose putting a 36 inch high, 1/4 mesh along the bottom of your perimeter fence. This needs to

be at least 3 - 4 inches into the ground. Will have to be replaced every few years. Usually not practical for larger acreage.

### **3. Kill and dispose of all rattlesnakes found on the property**

- a) Keep a shovel or hoe readily available in all barns, outbuilding and garden area. Smashing with the backside of the shovel works very well to kill or stun the snake and is easier than trying to cut off the snake's head initially. Shooting (shotgun or pistol-make loads) is very effective if the area is safe for doing this.
- b) Any rattlesnake on your property has the potential to bite you or one of your animals. By not killing them you are potentially allowing them to breed and produce a lot more rattlesnakes.
- c) If you have had a significant problem or if you live in an area known to have a lot of rattlesnakes, you may have to actually hunt them initially to get the population down. Trapping methods are available.
- d) No repellents or toxicants are available and fumigants are generally not effective.



Southern Pacific  
rattler

Author unknown  
Reprinted from an LANA Expo notebook

## MARKETING STEP TWO...

### Making Contacts and Generating Leads

by Susan Ley

Well you've done a few promotional events, and they went well so pat yourself on the back. You have fulfilled the first step of a successful marketing campaign: getting folks interested in your product, which is lamas.

At your promotional events, your animals were at their best (you worked with them so they would be) and so were you, so now your marketing program is up and running with the large list of potential clients.

**What?** You **didn't get** any names and addresses? Wow. You just wasted the most important benefit of doing promotion — using it to generate a mailing list.

But take heart because you are not alone. Unfortunately this is the place where most of us quit. We spend a lot of effort doing promotion and then we wait for folks to beat a path to our door. When they don't, we're lost. Remember, it's fine to spend time with the lookers, but this is just the start of your marketing efforts and to move into the next phase you've got to have leads.

Review my last article for ideas on how to get leads, and then get busy at your next promotional event collecting names. Find someone to enter them onto a disk, and presto, your marketing campaign is well under way with your very own mailing list.

If you are using a list that you obtained at a promotional event, you might want to start making further contact with folks by dropping them a note every once in a while to let them know what is happening on your ranch.

## Marketing Program:

- Promotional Events
- Leads
- Contacts

Photographs are a great way to do this. If you have a small list, just use a Sharpie permanent marker to write short notes on the back of the photos and send them off. The picture is the best way to catch their interest and the note will complete the message. As your list grows, you can move up to a printed sticker for the back of photos or have postcards printed up.

If you are computer savvy, you can use a scanner to scan in a photo and design your own postcard. This is a lot easier than you might think! The word processing programs that will help you to design your own promotional mailing pieces are out there, so ask around to find one that is suited to your temperament (simple or difficult!!) and to your hardware, and then go for it.

When computer newsletter software first came out, I recommended that a great way to keep in contact with folks was to publish your own newsletter. However, since then we have become buried in printed material, so that now I think a simple postcard with a message on the back is the way to go.

Once you start sending out materials, you will need to work on devoting good telephone skills. I am one of this people who don't like to use the phone, but long ago I learned that the telephone was essential for making sales. In our totally wired world people expect to have their calls returned in a very timely manner. If they aren't, you will lose business by looking unprofessional (professionals return calls immediately), and you will obviously give the the impression that the call isn't important to you.

But on a ranch, its hard to be on the phone during the day, so practice returning calls every few hours and explaining to your callers that you can't give them the concentration you would like at the present moment, but you want to make an appointment now to call them later. That way, they know you are both a responsible business person who returns calls and that you want to meet their needs, two essential qualities for generating sales.

There are some tricks you can practice to help you develop good telephone sales techniques and they all start with 3 X 5 cards. Start by writing down your responses to the various questions you get on the phone. That's it, just write down the answers that get good feedback. As time goes by, you will get better and better with your responses. You can make a game of it try out different cards, discarding the ones that don't work. Before long, you will have your answers down pat. Reading from a prepared card is not a deceptive sales technique! It's a tool to use to improve your telephone skills and those skills are essential for good sales success.

You'll also need to develop a schedule for contacting your leads. Stick to it. Marketing takes time and follow through, so be prepared to persist, persist, persist.

At first, you'll be doing most of the work of contacting folks, but as you begin to develop an ad campaign and get your name out there in various ways (newspaper articles, promotional events, ads in various publications, brochures, handouts, mailings, web sites) you'll start to get more and more calls inquiring about your ranch. It's very important to keep track of where people heard about your operation. Here again, keep that pencil and paper handy by the phone and record what prompted the call. You have to track where your leads are generated so you know where to spend your advertising budget to get the best response.

These marketing records will function as your report card and tell you how well you are attracting buyers and making sales. The more you can focus in on your target market, the more you will be able to avoid a shotgun approach to spending money on advertising. Next, we'll explore how an open field day can generate sales.

Develop an  
ad campaign  
and get  
your name  
out there

Reprinted from a LANA Expo notebook  
Look forward to part 3 in the next newsletter

# *Meet BOD*

## *Rondi Smith*



Living in Alaska for 25 years, I decided to move to Port Angeles, Washington, because it doesn't rain 100+ inches a year. It has always been my dream to raise alpacas and have an apple orchard.

In 2013 I rescued my first 3 llamas and 2 alpacas. It was love at first sight. In my research, alpacas and llamas were being flipped for a profit. Experiencing heartbreak, I bought two alpacas a lady had bought from the meat market. She had them housed in a 20 x 20 round pen with two calves, several goats, and a pig. I paid and picked these two girls up. Upon arriving to their new barn, one of the females died literally leaving the trailer. I was devastated. I also didn't have enough knowledge medically to figure out what happened.

Shortly after that, I started buying and picking up as many Alpacas and Llamas as I could afford and made available to me and diving head first into everything I could read about Llamas and Alpacas.

In 2016 I officially started the rescue Olympic Peninsula Alpaca Rescue. Luckily my background was in Accounting, and I have had experience with Corporations, LLC and all the public filings, taxes, and IRS stuff.

It gave me an advantage to be able, in 2018, to apply and be granted as a 501c3 rescue. Our rescue is closing in on rescuing over 1000 animals and we have an amazing 90+ percent adoption rate.

I realized that I want to help out more. I had been following LANA for a while and actually did a few rescues with them. LANA also supported our rescue when we were just getting started. A board position came up and I applied for it hoping that some of my experiences might go beyond the scope of our rescue here in Port Angeles.

I am also learning so much from LANA's expertise and structure and hoping our rescue will be able to capitalize on the many, many years of LANA's existence.

It is a great honor to be part of this organization and I hope I can contribute to their continued path.



*Meet BOD*

*Emily  
Muirhead*



Hello LANA! My name is Emily Muirhead and I am one of the new board members. I live and work in Sonora, California. I help out Sue Rich with her youth/4-H'ers, which is exactly where I started 20+ years ago.

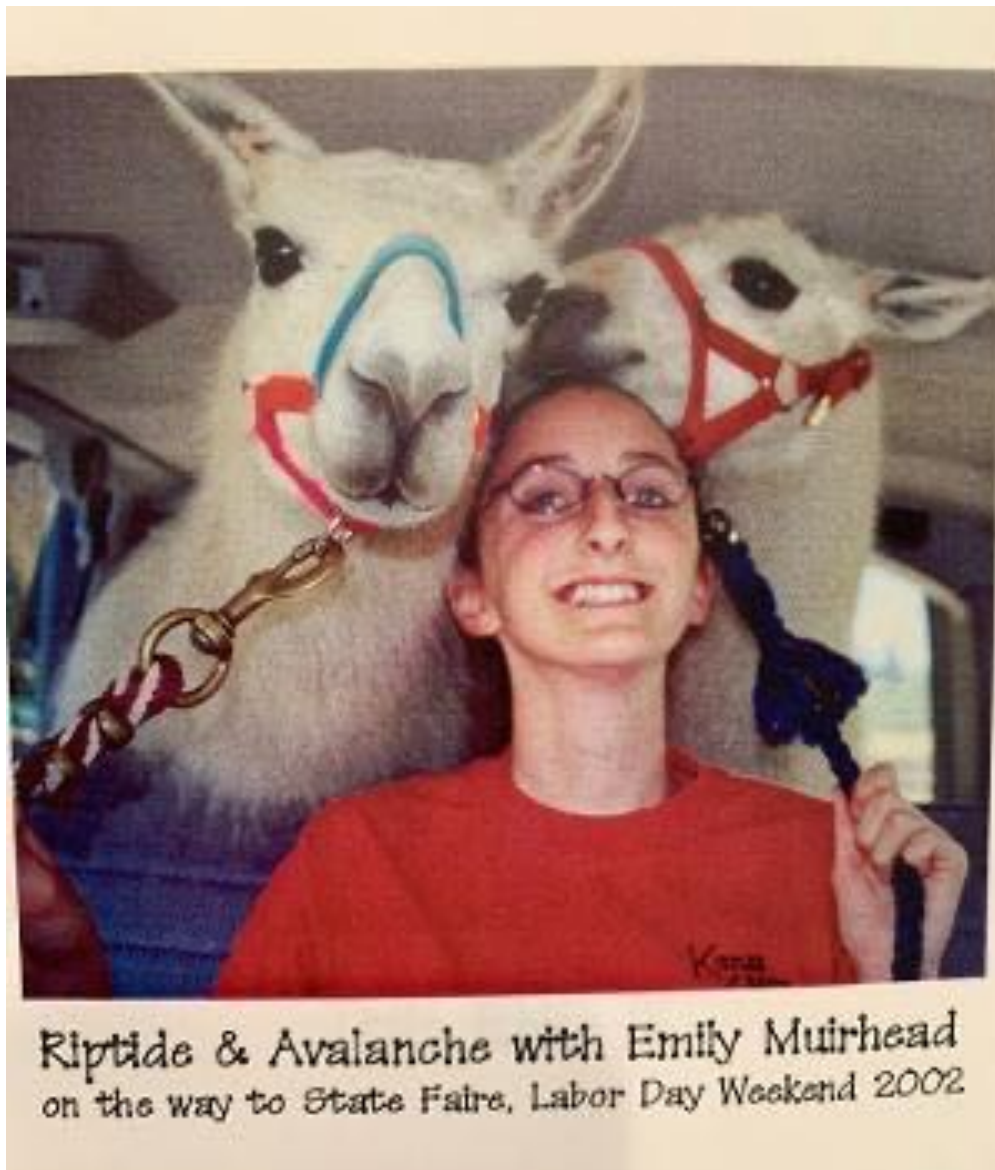
I was about 10 when Sue sparked my interest in the llama world and joined 4H with her daughter Sarah, who I was friends with through school. I was in the 4-H llama project and showed until my senior year of high school. I loved being in the show world. Showing was always my favorite thing to do with the llamas. I met plenty of friends who have become lifelong friends.

I joined the US Navy after high school, and was able to see some of the world such as the Western Coast of Africa, parts of the Middle East, Spain, Greece, Turkey and my favorite, Israel. I served four years in the Navy and when I was honorably discharged, I attended school in San Luis Obispo, California.



I got the itch to travel and packed up my life and moved out to Tampa, Florida to further my education in behavioral sciences.

In 2018, I decided to move back to California to my hometown of Oakdale. I started working for the Superior Court of Tuolumne County as a court clerk. Working for the court system has been a career path I am building on. I bought a home here and finally finished school. Now my next venture is being a part of LANA and as a board member. I am very excited to be a part of this and look forward to next year!



# STONEHENGE CLIPPER SHARPENING



Master Blade Wright  
Ralph Drew

*Have your blades sharpened by fiber people*

*Super Fast turn around*

*rdrew76@yahoo.com*

*707-430-3452*

*ship usps priority mail*

*7621 Clement Road*

*Vacaville CA 95688*

# POTATO RANCH LLAMA PACKERS

**Sierra Nevada Llama Rental**

*"Take it off your back and put it in our pack!"*



**Greg Harford (Proprietor)**

**15025 Potato Ranch Road**

**Sonora, California 95370**

**209-588-1707**

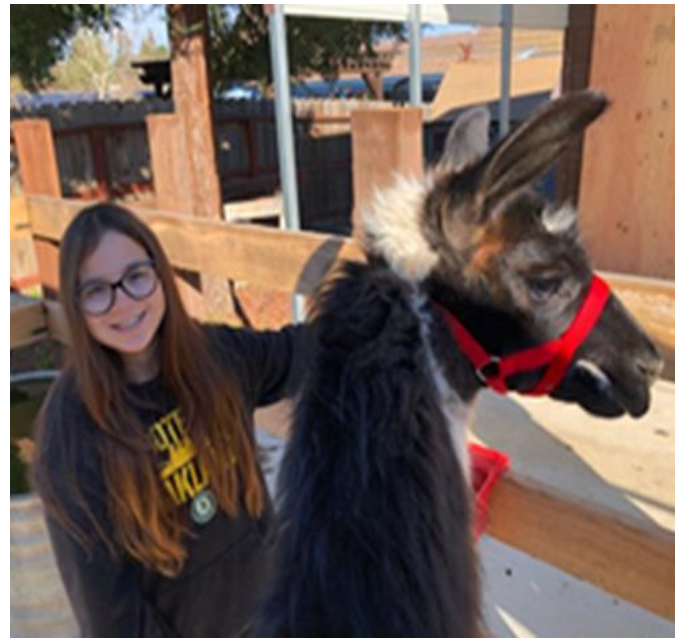
**llamapackers.com**

**potatoranch@gmail.com**

A very heart-felt and sincere

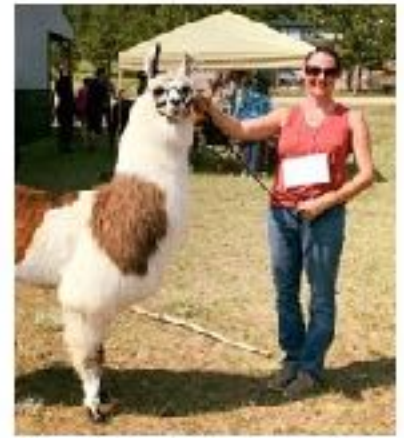
*Thank You*

to **Greg Harford** of Potato Ranch Llamas and **Arleen McCombs** of McShaggy's Ranch for their lending and donating of animals for 4H! Their trust and generosity make it possible to provide animals for the youth who join the Orange Blossom 4H Llama Project.



Susan, Fred, and Kenny Rich of

**The Rich Ranch**



# Black Cat Llamas

JOY PEDRONI & STEPHANIE PEDRONI



LOCATED IN VACAVILLE, CA, WE ARE LLAMA ENTHUSIASTS THAT ENJOY:

- *Competing with our small herd*
  - *Hiking with our animals*
- *Doing educational & fun public events*
- *Creating & selling llama related crafts*



# LAMARAH

Kathy Nichols

Wilton, CA



## Honoring Razu's Patch

Patch was was a yearling when I bought him. He was to be a companion for another yearling male that I planned to show. Little did I know at the time, their roles would reverse and Patch would become an outstanding performance llama. He was a sweet boy, patient and willing. He loved to people watch at Fairs, but did not want to be pet (he would tolerate petting for the mandatory PR obstacle). He knew how to kush in his pen just out of reach from the public. I was very proud of all of his accomplishments, especially being the first llama in California to earn the ALSA Performance Champion title. He lived to be 18 years old.

# Kids & Camelids Show



**JUNE 18, 2022**  
**Start Time: 9:00 AM**  
Registration Deadline: June 11th

## Location:

Nichols Ranch  
12514 Plum Lane  
Wilton, CA 95693

Go to [www.lanainfo.org](http://www.lanainfo.org)  
for registration forms



Designed for Youth  
No Groom  
Lots of fun  
Three performance classes + some fun stuff!!  
Part Show - Part Clinic

- ALSA Sanctioned
- Consultations with the judge upon completion of every course
- Opportunity to practice on obstacles

Bring non-4H, non-ALSA friends and let them try an obstacle course

**Show Superintendent:**  
**Susan Rich**  
(209) 847-2981  
(209) 605-2055

# LANA Performance Clinic & Play Day

On April 30th LANA hosted a Performance Clinic and Play Day at Margaret and Ralph Drew's ranch, Stonehenge Llamas, located in Vacaville, California. Margaret, who is an ALSA and ILR Judge, taught the participants about Obstacle judging criteria such as faults, handler errors, minimizing point loss, and much more.

After a delicious lunch, the group assembled with their llamas and alpacas. Margaret gave the attendees feedback as they negotiated the many obstacles located around the ranch, as well as helpful training tips.

The day concluded with a great dinner and great conversation. If you weren't there, you missed out on a fun and informative day.







I was very excited to attend the LANA clinic/play day at Margaret Drew's in Vacaville. I went with the intention of learning how I could do better, what judges were watching for and how many points were lost for various things. I got all that and more.

I brought Catalina "Cat Cat" and Inca. Both had been my "lawnmowers" for years and had never been shown. They learned a lot by watching the other llamas go through the obstacles, and were fairly cooperative when they tried it themselves.

Margaret was a wonderful host with handouts, lunch, verbal explanations while we all went through the obstacles, and a delicious dinner. It was fun to be with my llama friends again. Thank you, Margaret. I look forward to our next one.

~ Pam Parker

What a fun day! Good company, great learning opportunity, fantastic food and a chance to spend the entire day with my llamas.

Thank you to our hosts, Margaret Drew and LANA.

~ Joy Pedroni





This was the perfect training day: outside of our llama's comfort zones of being at home, but without the pressure and time constraints of performing at a show. I learned so many new things that I'm excited to implement while training at home and at our next show! And perhaps best of all, I got to spend a fun day with my animals and my llama "family."

~ Stephanie Pedroni

I had been requesting some form of a training clinic through our club, LANA, for several years. This past weekend, Margaret Drew of Stonehenge Llamas put on a wonderful clinic. She invited us to her ranch, put together books with information on what the judges are looking for, explained how the point system works on the obstacles, and talked us through our mistakes so we can learn from it. I was very impressed how thorough she was.

Along with opening her home and ranch, Margaret made meals for us too.

I am hoping there will be more clinics in the future, but this one will be hard to beat! Thank you Margaret!

~ Jana Kane



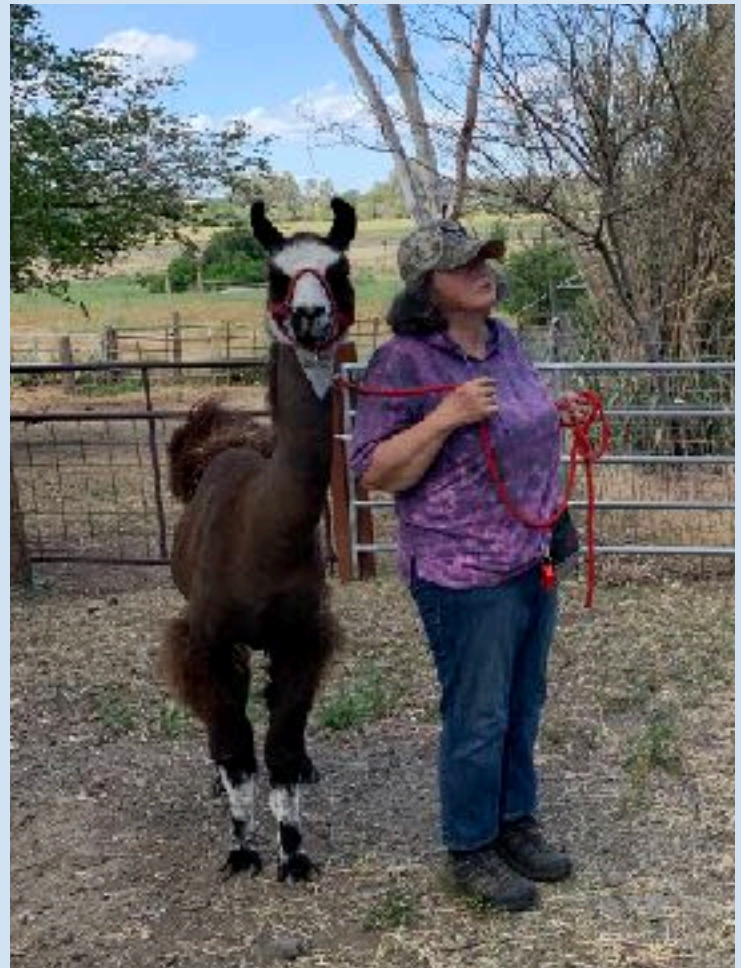
What a wonderful day! It's been quite some time that my llama and I were able to spend the day together off of the ranch. It was good for both of us.

The clinic was valuable to any person interested in showing in performance classes regardless of their level of experience. The notebook that Margaret provided us is good resource material. Hearing information from a judge's point of view was extremely helpful.

It was fun to spend the day with my llama friends and their animals. Thank you Margaret and Ralph for your hospitality. LANA, thank you as well. Looking forward to the next clinic

~ Kathy Nichols









California  
**STATE ★ FAIR**

## Llama & Alpaca Show

**July 28 - 31, 2022**

**Judge: Terese Evensen**

**Level III Llama Show**

**Level I Alpaca Show**

**entries closes June 22nd**

[www.caexpstatefair.com](http://www.caexpstatefair.com)

For more info. contact [KathySVA@aol.com](mailto:KathySVA@aol.com)



## LANA and the Morris Animal Foundation

On January 19, 2022, LANA reached out to you all asking if you wanted to suggest possible research topics regarding camelids. We were responding to a change in approach to funding research with our partners the Morris Animal Foundation, the MAF. This new approach, donor-inspired research, would provide researchers with possible topics for their grant submissions.

LANA received on request for research from this outreach:

*“As you are probably aware, most states in the US are ranked as TB free and animals may move freely about the country through these states. There are still a few that require camelids to have a current Tuberculosis and Brucellosis test before entering the state for whatever reason. We think it would be interesting to see some current research as to how TB and Bangs currently affects the camelids in the country.”*

The previous LANA President, Michelle Kutzler, DVM, and Stephanie Pedroni, a current member of the LANA Board with background in research, worked to craft a proposal for the MAF in response to the request and submitted it.

We received a response from the MAF as follows:

- Our initial proposal focused on the lama’s ability or inability to spread disease in wildlife. This relates to bans and attempted bans for packing. Our proposal was for a maximum of \$30K over 3 years. The feedback from the MAF was that the funding needed to address that issue would be more along the lines of \$100,00.



- Based on the aims of our current proposal, it should be categorized under wildlife health vs camelid health. Considering this placement, the MAF felt it would be more successful to reword the proposal so that it addressed the health of wildlife.
- Additionally, an advisor to the LANA Board shared that there had been a substantial amount of research done in this area already. There was some question about whether this earlier research had been validated via peer review and whether or not it had been published. The absence of either of these two things would decrease the ability of such research to sway legislators and policy makers.

With imminent timelines adding pressure, along with a lack of information about any earlier research and its vetting, and the significant amount of money under discussion, the Board decided to wait another year before submitting this request for specific research to ensure that such an investment was prudent and the proposal could be crafted carefully.

The Board learned that it would have the opportunity to review any camelid related research topics submitted that did not come from donor requests, in the meantime.

The LANA Board is committed, as the LANA Mission Statement declares, that we will sponsor medical research specific to llamas and alpacas and advocate for pro-camelid legislation and access to public lands. We want to be transparent about our efforts to do so and good stewards of the resources under our care.

# Minimum Standards of Care for Llamas and Alpacas

Minimum Standards of Care are mandatory to llama and alpaca survival and humane treatment. These are the most basic requirements that all llamas and alpacas must have for physical well-being and, as such, define minimum requirements for animal control officers and government officials investigating questionable llama and alpaca care situations.

1. **WATER:** Animals should have continuous access to potable drinking water.
2. **NUTRITIONAL:** Animals should have nourishment adequate to sustain life and health.
3. **SHELTER:** Animals should have natural or man-made shelter that enables them to find relief from extreme weather conditions. The sheltered area must allow for the ability to stand, lie down, rest and reasonably move about.
4. **MOBILITY:** Animals should have a living area through which they can move freely and exercise independently
5. **NEGLECT:** Animals should have a physical appearance free from signs of serious neglect. Signs of serious neglect may include such things as crippled ambulation due to severely curled toenails, ingrown halters, or living conditions not meeting the minimums listed above.
6. **SAFETY:** Animals should be reasonably safeguarded from injury or death within their defined living environment and/or when traveling.
7. **CRUELTY:** Animals should be reasonably safeguarded from cruel treatment and actions that endanger life or health or cause avoidable suffering.
8. **SOCIALIZING:** Llamas and alpacas are herd animals and should not live alone without a companion animal. A crier (a baby llama or alpaca under six months) should not be revised apart from other llamas or alpacas.

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