



LANA NEWS



Llama Association of North America
Winter Edition 2024



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Happy New Year Lama Friends,

Your LANA Board of Directors are planning a variety of clinics and events for the year. LANA started the year off with a hike at Lagoon Valley Park in Vacaville, CA, on New Year's Day. Check the Calendar of Events on LANA's website frequently for up to date information. Eblasts will be sent out as these events approach to keep you informed.

LANA has been preparing for their Hobo Classic Show at the Merced County Fairgrounds. If you're coming as an exhibitor please get your entries in as soon as possible. If you're coming just for fun, you'll have a great time. There's a lot happening Saturday. LANA uses this gathering for our annual membership meeting which is held after our dinner in the evening. We also honor those receiving LANA's annual awards. There is a special silent auction table that will benefit LANA Lama Lifeline. We are looking for items that will garner high bids for that special table as well as other items for the regular silent auction tables.

Sadly, two of our llama friends have recently passed away. Trish Brandt-Robuck lost her battle with cancer. Barney McClung passed away in November. Our thoughts and prayers are with their family and friends.

Have you seen LANA's Facebook and Instagram lately? Your board has been posting fun pictures celebrating holidays and different "national days." Take a look, share, add your own pictures. Just another opportunity to share how special our llamas and alpacas are and have a bit of fun.

Wishing you the best for 2024,
Kathy Nichols
LANA President

LANA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathy Nichols
President, Newsletter Editor

Stephanie Pedroni
Vice President, Social Media

Joy Pedroni
Treasurer, Office, Webmaster

Sue Rich
Secretary, Youth Chair

Lee Beringsmith
Director

Margaret Drew
Director

Emily Muirhead
Director, Social Media

Rondi Smith
Director

Cathy Spalding
Advisory Chair

You may contact any of the directors
at lanquestions@gmail.com

LANA BUSINESS OFFICE

Joy Pedroni
3966 Estate Drive
Vacaville, CA. 95688
1-707-234-5510
lanquestions@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
Instagram @llamassociationofnorthamerica
Facebook: Llama Association of North America

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THANK YOU for CONTRIBUTING

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

Wally Baker, Dr. Robert Callan, Dr. Elizabeth Crabtree, Ashley Fike, Joy Pedroni, Stephanie Pedroni, and Susan Rich

Additional pictures of New Year's Day hike - Ron Pedroni

Editors Note:

There's a new feature in the upcoming newsletters and LANA needs your help. LANA Secretary Susan Rich will be sending out eblasts asking you, our readers, to respond to various topics. Something interesting going on in your neck of the woods? Share your story with LANA. The LANA Newsletter is always looking for articles to share with its readers.

Kathy

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NATIONAL WESTERN STOCK SHOW

January 18 - 19, 2024

Denver, Colorado

contact: judy.glaser@yahoo.com

*LANA HOBO CLASSIC SHOW

February 2 - 4, 2024

Merced County Fairgrounds

Merced, California

contact: lanquestions@gmail.com

www.lanainfo.org

RIVERSIDE COUNTY FAIR & DATE FESTIVAL

February 16 - 17, 2024

Indio, California

<https://www.datefest.org>

FLORIDA STATE FAIR LLAMA & ALPACA SHOW

February 17 - 18, 2024

Florida State Fairgrounds

Tampa, Florida

contact: clambert5@tampabay.rr.com

SOUTHEAST HILLBILLY SHOW

March 1 - 3, 2024

Georgia National Fairgrounds

Perry, Georgia

contact: kdevaul2@gmail.com

2024 SPRING SHOWCASE

March 22 - 24, 2024

C Bar C Expo Center

Cloverdale, Indiana

www.ilrshows.com

THE MAGIC OF LLAMAS

Insights From The Ancient Andes To The Future With George Caldwell

March 23, 2024

Llamas of Circle Home

Sonora, California

Free

RSVP: lanquestions@gmail.com

www.lanainfo.org

LANA's ANNUAL SUTTER BUTTE HIKE

April 6, 2024

contact: lbering@outlook.com

MELLOW YELLOW LLAMA SHOW

April 12 - 14, 2024

Gainesville, Georgia

contact: kdevaul2@gmail.com

*LANA KIDS & CAMELIDS SHOW

April 13, 2024

Mares' Nest/Lamarah

Wilton, California

contact: susan.rich@gmail.com

www.lanainfo.org

MICHIGAN HOBO SHOW

April 20, 2024

Jackson, Michigan

www.michiganllama.org

ORVLA CLASSIC

April 27-28, 2024

Coshocton, Ohio

www.orvla.com

LANA YOUTH WRITING & ART CONTEST

Deadline: May 1, 2024

contact: lanquestions@gmail.com

www.lanainfo.org for more info

Bold type denotes LANA sponsored events

*(asterik) denotes discount for FOL Sponsors and LANA members

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

LONESTAR FIESTA LLAMA & ALPACA SHOW

May 3 - 5, 2024

Waco, Texas

contact: sapavecoranch@hotmail.com

LOS ANGELES COUNTY FAIR

May 4 - 5, 2024

Pomona, California

<http://www.lacountyfair.com>

**LANA HERD HEALTH DAY
DENTAL DAY WITH DR. DAN MORA
LLAMA WELLNESS CLINIC**

May 11, 2024

Stonehenge Llama Ranch

Black Cat Llamas

Vacaville, California

www.lanainfo.org

ESTES PARK

June 6 - 9, 2024

Estes Park, Colorado

<https://estes-park.com>

THE GATHERING ILR-SD NATIONAL SHOW

June 28 - 30, 2024

Iowa Equestrian Center

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

www.ilrshows.com

SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR

July 4 - 6, 2024

Del Mar, California

<https://www.sdfair.com>

ORANGE COUNTY FAIR

July 20 - 21, 2024

Costa Mesa, California

<https://ocfair.com>

HAPPY CAMPER LLAMA SHOW

July 20 - 21, 2024

Estacada, Oregon

www.mumfordllamas.com/happycamper.html

**CALIFORNIA STATE FAIR LLAMA &
ALPACA SHOW**

July 25 - 28, 2024

Cal Expo

Sacramento, California

contact: KathySVA@aol.com

HEART OF DIXIE SHOW

Willow Tree Farms Event Venue

Ringgold, Georgia

contact: kdevaul2@gmail.com

MOONLIGHT MADNESS PERFORMANCE SHOW

August 17, 2024

Apple Valley, California

contact: iceyllama@aol.com

2024 FALLAMAFEST LLAMA SHOW AND EVENT

Douglas County Fairgrounds

Castle Rock, Colorado

www.fallamafest.com

GEORGIA NATIONAL FAIR

October 11 - 13, 2024

Perry, Georgia

contact: kdevaul2@gmail.com

NORTH AMERICAN LLAMA & ALPACA SHOW

November 8 - 10, 2024

www.northamericanllamashow.com

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*(asterik) denotes discount for FOL Sponsors and LANA members

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

LANA ELECTION RESULTS

There were two Board of Directors, Stephanie Pedroni and Kathy Nichols, whose terms concluded at the end of 2023. Both directors ran again for another term and were re-elected. LANA thanks its members who voted.

At the December BOD meeting, officer positions were established for 2024. Check Page 3 for the list of directors and their positions.

SAY HELLO TO OUR 2024 MEMBERS

George and Christine Caldwell
Llamas of Circle Home
Sonora, CA
www.experiencellamas.com

Eileen Ditsler
Icehouse Llamas
San Dimas, CA

Ralph and Margaret Drew
Stonehenge Llama Ranch
Vacaville, CA

Mike and Jana Kane
Kane's Kritters
Browns Valley, CA

Don and Janice Keller
Rockin' K Ranch
Hayward, CA
rockink-llamaranch.net

Larry and Maureen Macedo
Macedo's Mini Acre
Turlock, CA
macedosminiaces.com

Crystal Myers
Friendly Hills Llamas
La Habra Heights, CA

*Kathy Nichols
Lamarah
Wilton, CA

Phil and Linda Nuechterlein
Alaska Llamas
Eagle River, AK
alaskallamas.com

*Ron and Joy Pedroni
*Stephanie Pedroni
Black Cat Llamas
Vacaville, CA

*Fred, Sue and Kenny Rich
Rich Ranch
Oakdale, CA

The Roberson Family
Goodness and Mercy Llama Ranch
Escalon, CA

Sierra 4-H Llama Project
Oakdale, CA

The Zatzke Family
Oz Ranch
Loomis, CA



We don't see your membership form. Did you remember to send it in?



A membership form can be found at the end of this newsletter or you can join or renew on LANA's website.

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.

BARACK AND THE NOT FORGOTTEN PROGRAM

BY SUSAN RICH



NOT FORGOTTEN OUTREACH

In the heart of Taos, New Mexico, on 28 acres of irrigated farmland, sits the Not Forgotten Outreach Farm: La Finca Military. This is the home of the local celebrity Barack. Not the former President, but a five year-old who bears his name.

The mission of this facility is focused on the healing of active military, veterans, military families, and gold star families of fallen heroes; and reintegrating them with the local community through programs, classes, and events to improve relationships and build camaraderie. Since 2017, this non-profit organization has served Veterans and Military Families, while they have been providing the community of Taos with fresh produce.

The intent of the various classes is developing skills in agriculture (including animal husbandry) and improving whole health.

Grants provide funding for much of the recreational, therapeutic and farming programs. Some include: beekeeping, community garden plots, workshops and veteran memorial clean-ups. Barack's part in all this is to provide another facet for therapy: the care and keeping of a camelid.



Executive Director of Not Forgotten Outreach, Patrick Million, describes Barack as “mainly a therapy animal. The participants in our program seem to gravitate toward him and bond with him immediately.” As he has not been haltered, “it is a fun challenge for the veterans to move him from his permanent pen to the field to let him stretch his legs and to provide a change of scenery.”

A little *Barack lore* includes a story about an early attempt at just such a relocation that ended up in an adventure, or a walk about, as the Australians call such extended walking trips. He ended up in the middle of the Taos Plaza before it was all over.

Million talks about this version of equine therapy as building trust. “During the course of the six-month program, participants will report to me that eventually Barack let them touch him, that they feel a bond, and sense that he is trusting them more because they have taken care of him. In the end, caring for him is very therapeutic.”

Barack was born on the farm. Until a year ago March, he had a llama companion, Dolly, presumed to be his mother. When she passed, Dolly left Barack alone in his pen. A herding species, llamas prefer companionship to solitude. Observing the animal and instinctively realizing this, the veterans moved one of the nearby goats, Little John, into Barack’s space. And the two became fast friends and compatible roommates. “They look a little bit like that scene in *Lady and the Tramp* when they are sharing a plate of spaghetti and get at opposite ends of the same noodle, when Barack and Little John are at the salt lick together.” Eventually, all the goats got moved up from the back pen to join the pair. Million notes that Barack does maintain a certain aloofness and llama dignity, separating himself from the goats on occasion when the pruned branches with tasty green leaves get tossed into the pen to the animals waiting. Barack typically turns aside as if sharing the meal with his shorter co-habitants is beneath his station in life.





Art therapy is one of many options for the participants of Not Forgotten Outreach, abbreviated NFO. This year, funded through a grant, the art project utilized Barack's fiber to felt patches and assemble them into a quilt. Million indicated, "We found a great felter, Merce Mitchell, a distinguished fiber artist in town. She envisioned felting panels with Barack's fiber and then stitching those panels together. It is a fanciful quilt with a lot spirit made from



start to finish by the vets. The initial plan was to raffle it off, but when I looked at it, I realized that we couldn't raise the funds that it is worth. It's priceless, so it is hanging in the NFO conference room."

Getting that fiber for such projects and shearing Barack to keep him comfortable in the South Western heat, is another adventure. "Alpaca Tom shows up in June or when it is warm enough to shear Barack. The animal is not too crazy about being shorn, and voices his displeasure loudly."

This is a significant year for NFO. "We are at the 10-year mark and we are celebrating," explains Million. As part of the commemoration, a specialized T-shirt was created, featuring Barack. It is being sold for \$30 on the website for the organization: notforgottenoutreach.org. So, you can add to your llama T-shirt collection and help support a very worthy cause.

What is fascinating about Barack's story is how his presence at La Finca Military changes lives, and he is blissfully unaware. The vets feed his dietary needs and he feeds their healing — it's a win-win for them all.



Ted Moores,
a veteran
participant at
Not Forgotten
Outreach,
models the
10-year
Anniversary shirt

LANA HOBO CLASSIC

HOBO CLASSIC



LANA's 15th HOBO Anniversary
ALSA Single Halter & Performance Show
February 2 - 4, 2024
Merced County Fairgrounds, Merced, CA

Judge: Anna Reese, Seguin, Texas

SHOW SUPERINTENDENT: Kathy Nichols

SHOW SECRETARY: Joy Pedroni

FACILITY: Merced County Fairgrounds
900 Martin Luther King Jr Way
Merced, CA 95341

ARRIVAL: Arrival time for all exhibitors is
anytime on Friday, February 2nd

SHOW SCHEDULE: **Saturday - February 3rd**

8:00 am Driving Classes

Exhibitors' Meeting

Performance Classes

6:00 pm Hobo Dinner

Annual Membership Meeting

Annual Awards

Introduction of 2024 Board

Dessert Auction

Sunday - February 4th

8:30 am Showmanship

Halter Classes

Best in Show Llama & Alpaca



Llama Best in Show Nastaza's Miguel
Pedro Carreño - Blue Steel Llamas

Registration, Show Information and all Forms
on LANA's website



Alpaca Best in Show SA Starz Snowmass Avalanche
Joy Pedroni - Black Cat Llamas



Special Anniversary Price Package

NO Groom Show

Relaxed & Casual Atmosphere

Hobo attire encouraged

Fun Awards

Outstanding Silent Auction


LANA Annual Membership Meeting

LANA Annual Awards

Dinner Saturday evening

Dessert Auction

COME JOIN THE FUN!



Remember Why You Love Llamas?

As an active member of two great llama email lists via the internet, we do a lot of discussing about a lot of different issues. Lately a lot of the discussion both online and off has been low prices and selling features of llamas at recent sales and through private sales. I think we are getting off track.

I think we need to show people WHY we love our llamas. We need to stop worrying about long wool, or short wool. Who cares if your favorite llama has banana ears or not? It doesn't matter if they are classic long tall rangy packers or short bodied fluffballs. I do understand if you are a heavy-duty timberline packer/hiker you need

a llama that is tough and strong and able to do the job. I also understand if you are a fiber maniac that the wool is the charm for you.

Pets are peoples' choice — NO one is going to pick the same type, size, color, or use for the llama they choose. What I am getting at is that our llamas are an important part of our lives no matter what particular style or bloodline we have. Let's see a little more enthusiasm for the animal. Let's show some love for the llama itself as a friend, companion, co-worker, and using animal.

Instead of talking bloodlines and the big bucks to a new buyer, describe soft humming the mother llama makes to her newborn as it's being born. The way she tries to see who is back there and start laying down rules, before the baby is even born. The way their bond is formed and make them see how important that baby is to her. Maybe that will cut off some plans to separate a mom and baby pair in the future before either is ready.

We need to tell them about the time a certain male thought he was Mr. Macho and tried showing off and strutting for his ladies only to be blasted back into his right mind. Hey! Surprise! LLAMAS DO SPIT! Why pretend that they don't? It is a natural defense method and pretending that it never happens leaves someone, somewhere, in for a rude and smelly awakening! Explain WHEN and WHY a llama spits. Even the best-behaved llama is going to let fly sooner or later. They shouldn't be shocked and hurt that their new "perfect llama" is still just that, a llama.

How about telling them about the time you took your llamas into the local nursery home or school. Describing the looks on the faces of those you visited is going to prove how much these animals mean to others, not just YOU. Explain what an honor a llama kiss really is. Don't sugarcoat their flaws, but make sure you tell people about the special feeling you get from just looking into those big dark eyes. How they seem to read your mind some days when you just need a cuddle. The quiet serene companionship they provide. How they can go from regal and haughty to bouncing screwballs in a split second. The sheer personality of each individual llama in your herd.

If they intend a future purchase, show them everything you can on how to halter, lead, load and do toenails. If not, they are going to possibly get your sweet llama home and totally blow its training. Not everyone does the everything the same way. Show your way; make it easier for your llama. Tell them what shots and worming schedule you follow and provide the brand names of products you favor. Give them labels from the bottles and boxes. Make your llama as user friendly as you can. Have a list of magazines, equipment catalogs, books, training information ready for all new buyers. Offer advice and tips for every llama related thing you can. Provide a properly fitted halter at least, and if possible, a lead rope. That way your llama isn't going to have its face shoved into an uncomfortable or dangerous new halter.

Basically, I see no other options if we expect our llamas to bring decent prices. I am talking decent prices, not MEGA bucks. Realistic prices that people in the real world can pay. I don't mean give them away either. They are a big investment in time, training, care, feed and vet expenses. Make sure the owner knows that up front. Help them with follow-ups in any way possible. Accept and gracefully answer any "stupid" questions (since actually there are NONE you haven't thought of in the teeny, tiny corner in the back of your mind yourself). If we expect to be taken seriously as breeders and owners, we need to show our customers that we are professionals. Prove we sincerely love our llamas. We don't dump them on someone just to get rid of them if they are less than perfect. No matter what "quality" they are, they still deserve a good home. We need to train our llamas to behave nicely and not just treat them as a breeding pool. If we want to promote them as pets, they need manners. And we need to adjust our thinking too!

**reprinted from a previous LANA newsletter
author's name not listed**

The Magic of Llamas

Insights from the Ancient Andes to the Future

George (Geo) Caldwell and Christine Dunham have been raising llamas in the Sierra Foothills since 1984. Fascinated and intrigued by the intelligence and savvy of llamas they traveled to Peru in 2005 to learn more. Geo has been back to the Andes five more times to learn of their origins and culture, having the good fortune of working with keepers of the ancient knowledge. While originally training llamas for shows and packing, they began training llamas to work in mental health and stress & anxiety relief in 2014. We will share many Insights from Andean travels as well as sharing how the “Therapy Llamas” have developed behaviors and attitudes specific to their training and how these llamas have influenced their legacy herd. Please join us for the discussion.

Saturday, March 23, 2024
Start Time 11 AM - afternoon



**Lunch and drinks
are provided**



LLAMAS OF CIRCLE HOME

15301 Tuolumne Rd, Sonora, CA 95370

rsvp

*Please let us know if you are coming by sending
an email to: llamaquestions@gmail.com
There is no cost to attend this event.
We hope you can make it!*

KICKING OFF 2024!

by Stephanie Pedroni



Following a long hiatus, LANA reinstated its Annual New Year's Day hike at Lagoon Valley Park in Vacaville this past January 1st! We gathered as a fairly small group of 9 humans, 8 llamas and 1 pup in the spacious equestrian parking lot. As is typical when we bring our amazing camelids out in to the public, we quickly attracted a large crowd of folks taking pictures, asking questions, and meeting the llamas. The combination of the crowd, a litany of bicycles and dogs, and the presence of a few horses proved a valuable teaching moment for some of the younger llamas in attendance.





Once everyone was settled and the crowd had dissipated some, we set out on our leisurely walk around the lagoon. Following some rainy and overcast days, the weather cleared up just in time and was spectacular for our outing. Temperatures in the low 60s combined with bright blue sunny skies made for the perfect temperature to get in a little exercise outside. Zarya and I led the way, followed by the Roberson family - Charlotte with Don Pedro, Audrey with McClure, and Cali with Shasta, then Joy with Karalahna, Lee with Dolly, and Jana & Mike with two of their flashy, suri juveniles pulling up the rear. Ron with his dog, Sully, bounced around from front to back doing his best to capture some stellar photos.





Along the flat and well maintained path, we encountered a short, but narrow, section of orange construction webbing, the very scary combination of dogs running alongside bikes and strollers, herons taking off from the still, glassy lagoon as our group approached (also quite scary if you ask Zarya), a pelican skeleton, and a couple of wooden bridges. The highlight of the walk, however, was a lovely couple who stopped and commented that it had been at least 10 years since they had seen us at Lagoon Valley and that they were so happy to see us back! How cool that they remember us and that they were excited to see llamas back there on New Year's Day!



As we closed the loop back to where we began, we claimed a picnic table in the open, grassy area alongside the lagoon and found places to tie out our llamas. We enjoyed some nice time to catch up, a bit of lunch and homemade cookies compliments of Cali and Jana. Ron and Joy also graciously brought a treat of prosecco and OJ to toast in the New Year with a heartfelt cheer to many more days just like this one!



LANA Sutter Butte Hike

April 6, 2024

contact: Lee at
lbering@outlook.com
for meeting location
and time



Kids & Camelids Show



Saturday, April 13, 2024

Start Time: 9:00 AM

Registration Deadline: Monday April 8

Location:

**Nichols Ranch
12514 Plum Lane
Wilton, CA 95693**

Go to www.lanainfo.org
for registration forms



Designed for Youth ONLY

No Groom

Lots of fun

Performance classes + some fun stuff!!

Part Show - Part Clinic

- Consultations with the judge
- Opportunity to practice on obstacles
- Fun stuff station(s)

Bring non-4H friends along to play along with you!



Show Superintendent:

**Susan Rich
(209) 847-2981
(209) 605-2055**



Make a List, Check it Twice!

by Ashley Fike

Once again the show season is creeping up on us and we should start getting organized. Those familiar words may already be ringing in your head “*Did you remember your water bucket or your brushes, Billy?*” Some of you might respond, “oops!,” or “Yes, Mom.” For those of us who said “oops” OR “Yes, Mom,” I have a few simple tricks to help you remember your show supplies.

For those who like to leave jobs to the last minute, make a list. The list might include the following:

- brushes
- water/feed buckets
- blower
- Ranch banner
- pack
- a nice clean halter for Showmanship or Halter class
- bedding for the stall
- fan
- hay/grain
- boots

Making a list to help remind yourself what to bring is NOT nerdy. It’s very cool and that way you will never forget. I use a list and it never fails.

Keep spares handy. If you have double of something, let’s say a bucket, keep it in your truck or trailer so if you accidentally forget, you can pull it out.

For those of us who remember most of the time, being organized is not just getting ready for the show, but coming back home as well. When you get home from your

show, make sure you unpack and clean up. Make sure you don't leave hay in the bottom of your trunk or bucket. It can become moldy and make the animals sick if they eat out of it. Be sure to check that any buckets that had water in them are dried out. If you have muddy boots in your trunk, trailer, truck or bucket, don't leave them there!

Do not be afraid to share. If someone you know forgets hay, or a bucket or even a llama pack, please be willing to let them borrow something they accidentally forgot.

The most important of all — HAVE FUN!! SHOW TO THE BEST OF YOUR ABILITY and SHOW SPORTSMANSHIP!! For me, coming to shows is not about winning or losing, but having the best time possible, no matter what the outcome.

See you soon at a show!

Ashley was the winner of the 1999 LANA Youth Across America Award. While this was written primarily for the youth who are showing, it is also valuable information for those of us whose memories are not what they used to be!

A thank you letter from Ashley appeared in the same issue as her article:

I would like to thank LANA for the honor of receiving the Youth Across America Award (YAAA) in recognition of my 4-H llama project. Much of my perspective of life has been shaped by my 4-H experience.

I believe that the llama is the perfect large animal for 4-H youth. After we build a relationship with our llama, we are not expected to send it to market, but we are able to continue a rapport with the animal that will help us continue along the road of life. That relationship includes responsibility, and learning more about who we are by being able to travel across the country to a llama show, or attend a llama sale, and keeping lifelong youth and adult friends.

Completing my 4-H record book, has helped me organize my experience in 4-H. As difficult a record book is to complete, I know it will be less complicated to complete other forms such as college applications and tax forms. Again, I would like to thank LANA for recognizing my efforts.

Ashley Fike

LANA

Youth Writing & Art Contest



LANA invites youth of all ages to submit original work for a contest:

- a piece of writing :
 - an article on any camelid-related topic of interest to the youth OR
 - a fictional story involving camelids OR
 - a poem about an alpaca or a llama or a herd OR
- a piece of original artwork with camelids included

NOTE: Please just one submission per youth per contest. (There are 2 contests per year.)

Written pieces should be 1000 words or less. If the author chooses to include images (illustrations or drawings or photographs), there should be no more than four to accompany the writing. The images that accompany a piece of writing will not be considered for the Art contest; they will be seen as a part of the written submission. If completed on the computer, written pieces should be written in Times New Roman, 12 point font, and double-spaced, with the author's name on each page in the header.

Pictures or scanned artwork should be submitted as .jpeg files with a resolution of at least 300 dpi. The content should be the original work of the youth author/artist.

Submit written pieces and scanned artwork electronically to Susan Rich at lanaquestions@gmail.com. Deadlines for the annual contests are May 1 and November 1.

One winner for the written submission and one winner for the art submission will be chosen for each of the four age categories (sub-junior; junior; intermediate; and senior). Winners will receive a cash prize and written pieces and artwork will be published in the LANA newsletter and posted on the LANA website.

DEADLINE MAY 1st

TAKING IT TO THE NEXT PERFORMANCE LEVEL

BY
WALLY
BAKER

Welcome to the challenge of Llama Performance competition. You have invested a lot of time to this point to ready your llama and yourself for performance shows. The very first thing that you must think about is that you and your llama are a team. I will readily admit that I have probably lost more points as an exhibitor during competition than my llama has at any given show. There are many considerations a judge takes into account when you and your llama step into the performance ring. The following information will help prepare you for the challenge of performance competition by examining what the judge is evaluating.

1. Rapport and mutual confidence and trust between llama and handler
 - Llama is listening to handler and trying to accomplish obstacle
2. Llama following exhibitor on loose lead
 - Llama is responding freely to handler's direction
3. Llama should be allowed the freedom to pause momentarily before attempting an obstacle
 - Allow your llama the opportunity to solve a situation before rushing him through an obstacle

Point reductions result from:

1. **Handler errors:**
 - a. Tight lead
 - b. Short lead
 - c. Dangling free end of lead rope
 - d. Inattentiveness to animal
 - e. In pack class, halter too tight for trail work
 - f. Lack of handler rapport
 - g. Lack of flow

2. **Minor Faults**, including but not limited to:

- a. Touching of obstacles
- b. Too wide or too tight turns
- c. Slow response to handler's request
- d. Inattentiveness of the llama
- e. Bad disposition or unwillingness
- f. Nervousness, agitation, fearfulness
- g. Poor jumping form
- h. In pack class, improper placement of pack or fitting out of panniers, improper cinching, dangling straps that reach below the knee of the animal
- i. In pack class, spooking during saddling or unsaddling
- j. Too slow pace through course
- k. Moderate safety hazard (i.e. reaching under llama to pick up rear foot)

3. **Major Faults:**

- a. Knocking down of poles, jumps or other obstacle parts
- b. Stepping out of obstacle confinements
- c. Extreme irritation, spooking or nervousness
- d. Not accepting a pack or other cover requirement
- e. In pack class, excessive shifting or bouncing of pack
- f. Rushing out ahead of handler on exiting or entering an obstacle
- g. Failure to execute a complete stop
- h. Improper or unsafe knots when tying a lead rope
- i. Major safety hazard (i.e. standing in the space where the llama would jump as it is coming out of the trailer or wrapping lead rope hand)
- j. In pack class, loosening front cinch before the back cinch
- k. In pack class, fastening any strap before the front cinch
- l. Taking an obstacle backwards
- m. Taking multiple jumps in the wrong order
- n. Going in or out of the wrong door of the trailer

4. **Incompletion:**

- a. Not closing a gate
- b. Missing an upright pole in a weaving obstacle
- c. Not completing one of a series of jumps
- d. Not backing all the way

- e. No response to request for change of pace
- f. Losing pack or added items
- g. Off side of bridge or ramp without another successful attempt to complete the obstacle
 - Enter at same location animal stepped off
- h. Entering, but not successfully completing or exiting any obstacle or activity (Entering an obstacle is defined as all four of the llama's feet being inside or on the obstacle, except such obstacle as the sidestep where only two feet are required to enter)

Off Course:

- a. Forgetting an obstacle
- b. Taking an additional obstacle
- c. Taking an obstacle out of sequence or specific requirement

Summary:

We are all competitive in nature or otherwise we would not go through all the effort to prepare for shows along with all the other considerations needed for just being at a show. There is much to take into account when preparing and competing in performance classes.

When practicing with your llama, keep the small details in mind so when you enter the performance ring many of the minor faults that could cost you point deductions, such as refusals are easy to single out, but on a grander scale is the overall exhibitor and llama team effort to successfully negotiate each obstacle over the entire course. Evaluation input is valuable in working towards improvement. At the ranch or practice area, be innovative with obstacle order and giving different looks to obstacles to create challenge and to stimulate enthusiasm.

Always take something positive with you from each show. A great class placing goes a long way towards accomplishment, but there are often times other upbeat events that happen during a show that can be used to build on. At the end of the day, the special bond shared between you and your llama working together is the true accomplishment.



Sierra 4-H
Llama Project 2023-24
 Oakdale, California



This year's participants include:
Audrey Roberson (far left),
Kira Vessels (back row),
Charlotte Roberson (middle front),
 and **Allison Blanc** (far right)



Llama Project
Leaders

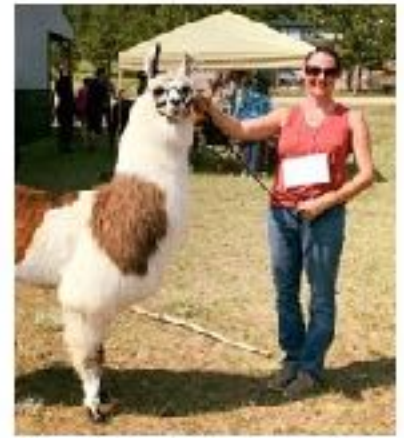


Cali Roberson



Susan Rich

The Sierra 4H Llama Project is very grateful for all the support it receives from the llama community, and we would like to thank, in particular, Arleen McCombs (for Tam), Greg Harford (for Kern and Short Stop and ranch visits), Joy & Stephanie Pedroni (for Regionals, etc.), Kayla and Lisa Labendeira (for ranch visits and sage, wonderful advice in all things llama), and Kathy Nichols (for opening her ranch for shows & playdays and lending animals).



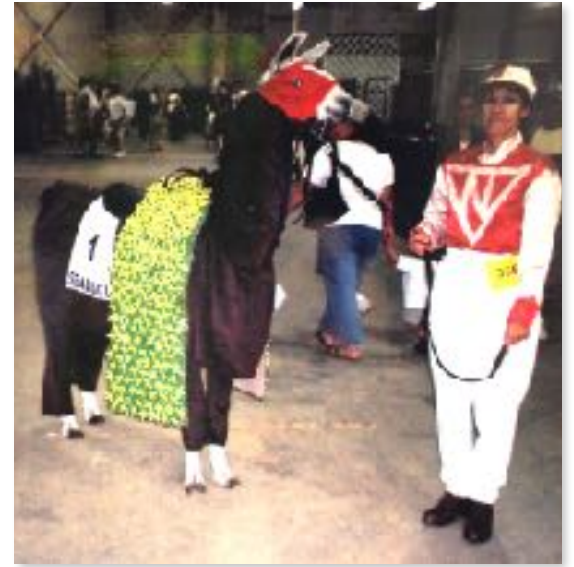
Black Cat Llamas

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

Wilton, California
Kathy Nichols



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 cria (a baby llama or alpaca under six months) should not be removed or apart from other llamas or alpacas.

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Standards of Care Committees, June 2005
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Llama Association of North America 2024 Membership and Donations

Website: www.lanainfo.org

Email: lanaquestions@gmail.com

Membership: Jan. 1 – Dec. 31

Please send all completed applications and checks, made out to LANA, to:

LANA, c/o Joy Pedroni
3966 Estate Drive
Vacaville, CA 95688



On-line membership directory

Tell us what you want:

Please check one:

- Include me & my contact info (phone number, US Mailing address, email address, and website)
- Include me & my contact info: phone number, email address, and website BUT no US mailing address
- Include me and my email address only
- Include me and my phone number only
- Include me and my US Mailing address only
- Include my name but no contact info
- Don't include my name or info



MEMBERSHIP & Donation OPTIONS

See second page for Descriptions

Membership options:	Fees	Your membership choices
Friend of LANA	\$250	
LANA Member	\$40	
New LANA Member	\$25	
Youth (19 and under)	\$20	
Youth Club	\$35	
Donor: LANA Lama Lifeline		
Donor: Youth programs		
Donor: Gen. Fund		
TOTAL:		

AS YOU WOULD LIKE IT TO APPEAR IN THE DIRECTORY:

NAME:

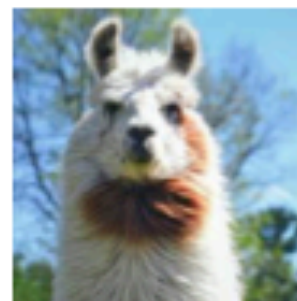
RANCH NAME & ADDRESS:

EMAIL:

PHONE number(s):

Website:

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.



LANA Membership & Donation Opportunities 2024

Friend of LANA A year-long sponsorship \$250	Discounts for show entries + 1 free class/show; 50% fees for clinics & camping; free vendor space at LANA-sponsored events and shows; recognition and ads (website, all newsletters, show programs, banner at shows and events); US Mailings from LANA; 1 vote per membership for LANA elections; support of your association and its mission
LANA Member \$40	Discounts for show entries, clinics & camping; listing on LANA website; US mailings from LANA; business card ad in one 2023 newsletter of your choice, 1 vote per membership for LANA elections; support of your association and its mission
New LANA Member \$25	Discounted membership fees as a welcome to LANA for first-time members with all the benefits of membership: discounts for show entries clinics & camping, US mailings from LANA, 1 vote per membership for LANA elections
Youth (19 and under) \$20	Discounted membership fees to youth, discounts for show entries, clinics & camping, US mailings from LANA specifically for youth events and opportunities, and support for your association and its mission
Youth Club \$35	Group membership for established youth clubs (4H, FFA, etc.) for which each club youth receives discounts for show entries, clinics and camping, US mailings from LANA, and support of the association and its mission
Donation to LANA Lama Lifeline	Lifeline saves camelids in housing crisis. Funds go toward feed, vet care, transportation, and other rescue costs. LANA Lifeline Committee responds to emergencies and works with other agencies to remove animals when necessary and rehouse them safely.
Donation to Youth Programs	LANA Youth programs include youth only shows, youth classes at shows, specialized clinics for youth, and specific awards for youth.
Donor to General Fund	LANA funds are used to sanction and provide resources for shows; purchase awards; and support clinics, camping trips, parades, etc

Please note: California State Fair is excluded from any benefits as LANA serves as a host for the show only and is not a sponsor.