



# LANA NEWS

Llama Association of North America  
Spring Edition 2024



International Year of the Camelid

## Contents

“The Little Rascals”	1
President’s Message	2
LANA Board of Directors	3
LANA Business Office	3
Editor’s Note	3
Calendar of Events	4
LANA’s Mission Statement	4
Members	6
Megan and Jasmine	7
International Year of the Camelids	13
Poem	18
Which Camel is Which?	19
Int’l Year of the Camelids Photo Gallery	20
Overview of Tick Management	26
LANA’s Sutter Buttes Hike	28
Kids & Camelids Show	30
LANA Youth Writing and Art Contest	32
National Adoption Day	33
Herd Health Day.	37
Some Ideas on Marketing Llama Fiber	38
Friends of LANA	40
California State Fair	43
Minimum Standards of Care	44
Membership Application.	45



## PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Hello Members and Friends,

The United Nations declared 2024 as the International Year of the Camelids. Check out the link to their website:

<https://www.fao.org/camelids-2024>

And enjoy the video:

<https://youtu.be/ccnzotps124>

To celebrate, LANA sent out an eblast asking you to share with us your favorite camelid pictures. Your pictures will appear in our newsletter throughout the year. Get your amazing photos in to us!

Some of you may have seen the interesting article that appeared in the New York Times. If you haven't, here's a link:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2024/03/07/llama-emu-ostrich-herds-down/> If

the link doesn't work, I suggest you google New York Times llamas. I found a link that worked for me.

The event “The Magic of Llamas - Insights From the Ancient Andes to the Future” was postponed due to weather. An eblast will be sent out with rescheduling information. There are two LANA events in April - the annual Sutter Buttes Hike and the Kids & Camelids Show. Hope you can join us.

Be sure to check LANA’s website. Joy has been working hard on making some updates and changes.

What to do? While organizations strive to gain and maintain membership, one wonders “where have former members gone?” What keeps former members from renewing? Whether local, state or national, please join and support your associations.

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  
board members at  
lanaquestions@gmail.com

## LANA BUSINESS OFFICE

Joy Pedroni  
3966 Estate Drive  
Vacaville, CA. 95688  
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)  
Instagram @llamassociationofnorthamerica  
Facebook Llama Association of North America

## LANA News DISCLAIMER

LANA News is published for educational purposes only. The information published hereon is solely the opinion of the authors and does not necessarily represent the view of LANA, its Directors or Officers. LANA articles can not be reprinted without permission from LANA or the author. LANA's acceptance of advertising does not imply endorsement of any products or services whatsoever. Articles, letters, editorials and other contributions are welcome and may be edited for brevity. Inclusion and placement is solely at the discretion of the Editor. Before undertaking any herd work with your animals, you are advised to always consult with your veterinarian.

## THANK YOU for CONTRIBUTING

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

Dr. Robert Callan, Dr. Elizabeth Crabtree, Megan Fruits, Sheila Fugina, Ava Mattia and Susan Rich

Int'l Year of the Camelid Photo Gallery: David Armer, Kris Barnes, Pedro Carreño, Eileen Ditsler, Margaret Drew, Elaine Partlow, Joy Pedroni, Stephanie Pedroni, Susan Rich and Katie Smith

## Editors Note:

It's the International Year of the Camelids. Send in your favorite photos and they will be include in the Photo Gallery throughout the year. Got an interesting story about you and your camelids? Perhaps a favorite hike? A fun outing or event? A special animal that touched your heart? Share your story with us. Send to [lanaquestions@gmail.com](mailto:lanaquestions@gmail.com).

Are there articles and topics that you would like to see in this newsletter? Let us know.

*Kathy*



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## LANA's ANNUAL SUTTER BUTTES HIKE

April 6, 2024

contact: [lbering@outlook.com](mailto:lbering@outlook.com)

## \*LANA KIDS & CAMELIDS SHOW

April 13, 2024

Mares' Nest/Lamarah

Wilton, California

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

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

## MICHIGAN HOBO SHOW

April 20, 2024

Jackson, Michigan

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

## CASCADE LLAMA SHOW & SALE

April 26 - 28, 2024

Oregon State Fairgrounds

Salem, Oregon

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

## ORVLA CLASSIC

April 27-28, 2024

Coshocton, Ohio

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

## LANA YOUTH WRITING & ART CONTEST

Deadline: May 1, 2024

contact: [lanquestions@gmail.com](mailto:lanquestions@gmail.com)

[www.lanainfo.org](http://www.lanainfo.org) for more info

## BURNS LLAMA TRAILBLAZERS' SPRING

PACK TRAIL 2024

May 3 - 5, 2024

contact: [herd@burnsllamatrailblazers.com](mailto:herd@burnsllamatrailblazers.com)

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

## LONESTAR FIESTA LLAMA & ALPACA SHOW

May 3 - 5, 2024

Waco, Texas

contact: [sapavecoranch@hotmail.com](mailto: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

LAMA WELLNESS CLINIC

May 11, 2024

Stonehenge Llama Ranch

Vacaville, California

[www.lanainfo.org](http://www.lanainfo.org) for registration info.

## 2024 JUDGES CLINIC

May 17 - 19, 2024

Crawford, IN

contact: [msfllama@gmail.com](mailto:msfllama@gmail.com)

## 2024 BEGINNING & ADVANCED ALPACA

HALTER CLINIC

May 17 - 20, 2024,

Poplar Grove, IL

contact: 419-680-1186

## ESTES PARK

June 6 - 9, 2024

Estes Park, Colorado

<https://estes-park.com>

contact: [talltaillamas@gmail.com](mailto:talltaillamas@gmail.com)

## GLACIER CLASSIC

June 22 - 23, 2024

Majestic Valley Arena

Kalispell, Montana

contact: Amanda at (509) 863-8443

## THE GATHERING ILR-SD NATIONAL SHOW

June 28 - 30, 2024

Iowa Equestrian Center

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

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

## SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR

July 4 - 6, 2024

Del Mar, California

<https://www.sdfair.com>

## DARRINGTON FLING

July 12 - 13, 2024

Darrington Rodeo Grounds

Darrington, Washington

contact: [mr4spd@hotmail.com](mailto:mr4spd@hotmail.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](http://www.mumfordllamas.com/happycamper.html)

**CALIFORNIA STATE FAIR LLAMA & ALPACA SHOW**  
**July 25 - 28, 2024**  
**Cal Expo**  
**Sacramento, California**  
**contact: [KathySVA@aol.com](mailto:KathySVA@aol.com)**

FULTON COUNTY FAIR LLAMA SHOW  
August 30, 2024  
Fulton County Fair, Spangler Arena  
Wauseon, OH  
contact: [drlamaj@yahoo.com](mailto:drlamaj@yahoo.com)

Sonoma County Fair Llama Show  
August 9 - 11, 2024  
Santa Rosa, California  
contact: [labendeira@yahoo.com](mailto:labendeira@yahoo.com)

2024 FALLAMAFEST LLAMA SHOW AND EVENT  
September 27 - 29, 2024  
Douglas County Fairgrounds

Castle Rock, Colorado  
[www.fallamafest.com](http://www.fallamafest.com)

ALSA GRAND NATIONALS  
October 4 - 6, 2024  
Iowa Equestrian Center  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
[www.alsashow.com](http://www.alsashow.com)

GEORGIA NATIONAL FAIR  
October 11 - 13, 2024  
Perry, Georgia  
contact: [kdevaul2@gmail.com](mailto:kdevaul2@gmail.com)

**LANA YOUTH WRITING & ART CONTEST**  
**Deadline: November 1, 2024**  
**contact: [lanquestions@gmail.com](mailto:lanquestions@gmail.com)**  
**[www.lanainfo.org](http://www.lanainfo.org) for more info**

NORTH AMERICAN LLAMA & ALPACA SHOW (NAILE)  
November 8 - 10, 2024  
North American Livestock Exposition  
Louisville, Kentucky  
[www.northamericanllamashow.com](http://www.northamericanllamashow.com)

**2025 LANA HOBO CLASSIC**  
**January 31 - February 2, 2025**  
**Merced County Fairgrounds**  
**Merced, California**  
**[www.lanainfo.org](http://www.lanainfo.org)**

**Bold type** denotes LANA sponsored events  
\* (asterik) denotes discount for LANA members

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

### **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.

## SAY HELLO TO OUR 2024 MEMBERS



Rob & Jill Knuckles  
Tall Tail Llama Ranch  
Collbran, CO  
[talltailllamas.com](http://talltailllamas.com)

Michael Nelson  
Sandwich, MA

Rondi Smith  
Olympic Peninsula Llama/Alpaca Rescue  
Port Angeles, WA

Southwest Llama Rescue  
Kerrville, TX  
[southwestllamarescue.org](http://southwestllamarescue.org)

Cathy Spalding  
Gentle Spirit Behavior & Training  
Olympia, WA

Nick Stone  
Somerset, CA

Jerry & Pat Thomas  
Redwoods in the Meadow Farm  
Albion, CA  
[redwoodmeadowllamas.com](http://redwoodmeadowllamas.com)

Scott & Therese Woodruff  
Lander Llama Company, LLL  
Lander, WY  
[wyominghiking.com](http://wyominghiking.com)

# JASMINE

## BY MEGAN FRUITS

I have had llamas since I was two years old and have shown since I was four. In those years, my family and I did multiple public events with our animals. We would only do them if we had the right ones. The ones that could handle the situations well. Not every llama we have owned or raised has been meant to be a PR animal. Even with the proper training, some of the situations can be too much for a llama to handle. As the handler, it is your job to keep the event safe, to make sure you have rules in place, to not only protect the animals but also the people around them. Accidents can happen and you have to take them in stride.





I have had wheelchairs roll into a llama's legs, kids run up and grab back legs and children trip and fall under my llama. These are the situations in which the animal's temperament was important. Jasmine is one of my llamas. She is seven years old. She has had all of the things mentioned, and more, happen to her at public events or shows. Not once has she lifted a foot or pinned her ears back. She is what I would call the perfect PR animal. She truly loves her job and we would not do it if she seemed unhappy or annoyed. Jasmine and I have an incredible bond and she knows that I would never put her in a situation that would hurt her.



This bond has taken us years to form. Trust me when I tell you that it has not always been easy. Jasmine and I have had our ups and downs, but we have always pushed through and bettered ourselves from it. She is the type of llama that I want the whole world to meet. She has touched so many lives already.



Some of our llamas and I do weddings, daycare, nursing home and school visits, parades, parties and show clinics. We go all over the place and for most events, Jasmine is the only llama I take. The nice thing about this is she can ride in the back seat of my truck and no trailer is needed.









Jasmine and I did a pep rally at a local middle school. She and I had to walk into a gymnasium with 600 screaming students. At one point she was surrounded by kids, touching from her ears to her tail. When I tell you she was not fazed, I mean she was not fazed at all. The best part was when we went trick-or-treating and we had all kinds of kids running up to us and telling their parents, "That's Jasmine and she was at my school!" It made me so happy and proud to see how much of a positive impact Jasmine has had.







**My favorite story, by far, was when Jasmine and I went to a nursing home, for a routine visit. Some residents were able to make it outside, but not all. We made sure that anyone who wanted to was able to see and pet Jasmine through a window. There was one man, who staff told me never smiled, would not join in any activities and consistently woke up crying, not knowing where he was. When he saw Jasmine through the window, he lit up. He stood there and watched her for a solid thirty minutes, smiling the entire time. Some of the staff even started crying. They had never seen him so happy. That right there is why we do what we do.**

**I take Jasmine out every chance I get, just hoping to brighten someone's day. She is the absolute best llama and I am eternally grateful for her.**



# INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF CAMELIDS 2024

## **The Year of the Camelids**

**By Susan Rich**

The United Nations (U.N.) has declared 2024 to be **The Year of the Camelids**. Why? Because on various continents and frequently in harsh environments, these animals are major contributors to the Sustainable Development Goals established by the U.N. To stave off hunger, these animals provide milk and meat. They contribute fiber to provide clothing and shelter. They are a form of transportation for indigenous peoples, and they produce fertilizer to aid in agricultural endeavors. These amazing animals provide these goods and services in over 90 countries. In short, camelids worldwide impact millions of households providing food and economic security. They play a major role in the societal and cultural values and customs of native peoples. The declaration of the U.N. hopes to increase public awareness of the important roles these animals play. Their ability to survive dramatic swings of temperature makes them an object for study as climate change impacts the world's inhabitants as well.

**What are CAMELIDS?** They are mammals that vary in body shape from slender to stocky, but they all have long, gracile (a new word to me: slender or thin in an especially charming or attractive way) necks, and relatively small heads with long, slender legs. They have padded feet with two toes. Their eyes are relatively large and expressive, with long eyelashes, and they have well developed eye sight. They chew their cud, but they are “pseudo-ruminants” because their stomach has three chambers rather than four. Camelids have extremely long and complex large intestines which efficiently extract nutrients and water from their food. This allows

them to survive on far less water than other mammals, a notable attribute for animals living in typically arid environments. The upper lip is distinctively and deeply cleft. All members of the family are renowned for “spitting” when irritated, the spit actually being the contents of their stomach. Camelids are induced ovulators, that is to say ovulation is stimulated by the act of mating.

There are seven distinct categories of camelids. Camels live in Asia and Africa and have humps. They are categorized as Bactrian camels, wild Bactrian camels, and Dromedary camels. Their South American camelid counterparts are the domesticated Alpaca and Llama and the wild Guanaco and Vicuña.

**Bactrian camels**, also known as Mongolian camels, have two humps and are native to the central steppe region of Asia. The population of 2 million is almost all domesticated. Due to their tolerance of cold, drought and high altitudes, these camelids composed the caravans that traveled the Silk Road, an ancient trade route that linked Rome to China, connecting the two great civilizations and sharing their unique treasures, among them silk. Bactrian camels can stand at 5’9” at the shoulder with an overall height of 8’2” and weigh as much as 2,200 pounds. Their nostrils are sealable so that they can keep debris out of their noses during sandstorms. They are able to withstand exceptional extremes of temperature from below freezing to blistering hot. Their ability to shed their heavy coats quickly accounts, in part, for this and sometimes lends them the appearance of having been

partially shorn with the rest of the job waiting to be completed. Those that are feral are considered their own species: the **Wild Bactrian camel**, and herds of them live in the Gobi Desert. They are unique in that they are able to drink “saltwater slush,” unlike their domesticated brethren.



The Bactrian camel





The Dromedary camel

And the other camel? The **Dromedary**. It is sometimes referred to as the Arabian camel or the one-humped camel, and 90% of the camels fall into this category. It is the tallest of the three camels. Primarily, they live in Africa and on the Arabian Peninsula. There have been no Dromedaries naturally occurring in the wild for nearly 2,000 years, although interestingly, there are feral herds today in Australia.

They provide meat, milk and transportation and are essential to the survival of many tribes inhabiting North Africa. Their eyes are protected by large supraorbital ridges, double sets of eyelashes, and bushy eyebrows. Their coat is typically a tannish brown, with longer hair at the throat, hump and shoulders. Male Dromedaries have a 7" long palate that can be inflated to form a dark pink sac of sorts that hangs to the side of the mouth and is often mistaken for the tongue, but they use this palate to attract females come mating season. The body temperature of the Dromedary varies during the day, assisting with their conservation of water. They can outrun horses in the desert, and they were reputed by Alexander the Great to travel 50 miles per day, everyday for the a week, needing little to no water.

On another continent, **Alpacas** are a domesticated South American camelid mammal bred specifically for its fiber. There are two breeds of alpaca distinguished by their fiber: the Suri Alpaca and the Huacaya Alpaca, the Huacaya representing approximately 90% of the alpaca population. There are 52 natural colors classified in Peru, 12 in Australia and 16 in the U.S. After centuries of debate, a significant paper relying on DNA testing confirmed that alpacas descended from the vicuña. There are no known wild alpacas. Over half of the worlds' alpaca population are found in Peru.



The Alpaca

Alpacas first arrived in the U.S. in 1984, when importation rules were temporarily lifted. At the time, 600 alpaca were brought into North America from Chile. A second wave followed in 1988, again from Chile. And then in 1990, a third influx, this time from Peru, Chile, Bolivia and Australia and New Zealand came into North America. Now it is estimated that there are over 192,000 animals in the country.

**Llamas** are the second domesticated South American camelid mammal, and they were bred for packing, being able to carry 25-30% of their body weight. DNA analysis indicates that the llama's ancestor was the wild guanaco. North America caught its first glimpse of the llama when they were imported in the late 1880's as zoo exhibits and collectibles for exotic trainers and animal parks, and private collectors, among them William Randolph Hearst for his collection at his San Simeon "Hearst Castle." While primarily beasts of burden, llamas also are guard animals, able to protect herds of smaller animals from dogs and coyotes. They have a sharp alarm call when predators or potential threats are near. Llamas are distinguished from their alpaca

cousins because they are typically larger, have a flat top line, and their ears are described as "banana" ears. Llamas hum, and believe it or not, llamas can swim.

In the wilds of the Andes Mountains, herds of **Guanaco** roam free. To blend into the terrain where they live, guanacos' coloring is typically a light brown, brownish yellow or rusty red, while their belly, rump, legs are white with a grayish hue to the head, ears and nape of the neck. They do have natural predators in their environment and because there typically is no place to hide in that same environment, their best chance of survival is their ability to run. They can reach speeds of 40 miles per hour, about the speed of a horse. Once a thriving species at about 50 million individuals, there are approximately 600,000 of these animals remaining,



The Llama



The Guanaco

The other wild South American camelid is the **Vicuña**. This smaller, more delicate animal lives at higher altitudes and its tawny brown and white fiber is highly prized. During the time of the Incas, only royalty wore clothing made of its fiber. Its wool is very valuable because it is so fine, animals need to be captured in the wild to be shorn, the animal produces relatively small amounts, and it is harvested only every three years. The gift of a valuable vicuña coat to the Chief of Staff for President Dwight Eisenhower led to a scandal as it was seen as a bribe that eventually led to his resignation. The vicuña is the national animal of Peru, and its image appears on the flag. In 1974, this animal was declared endangered, and its numbers were estimated to be 6,000. Due to conservation efforts, the vicuña has rebounded and the South American population is thought to be somewhere around 350,000.



The Vicuña

All photos are taken from Wikipedia sources





There are different types of us worldwide.  
On highlands and in deserts we reside.  
We are alpacas Bactrian camels, dromedaries true,  
But don't forget we are guanacos, llamas, and vicuñas too.  
Through our milk, meat and fibre  
We are hardy mammals and providers.  
We nurture communities, playing a vital role  
Sometimes used as transport, wherever you go.  
Short or tall, stocky or slender,  
In harsh conditions we thrive and rarely surrender.  
We are your culture and part of your identity.  
We are creatures of hope, creating prosperity.  
We will help build resilience as our climate changes.  
Together we will tackle challenges the planet faces.

## WHICH CAMEL IS WHICH?

Is the one hump camel called the Bactrian? Or is it the one with two humps?

How to remember the correct names of camels.

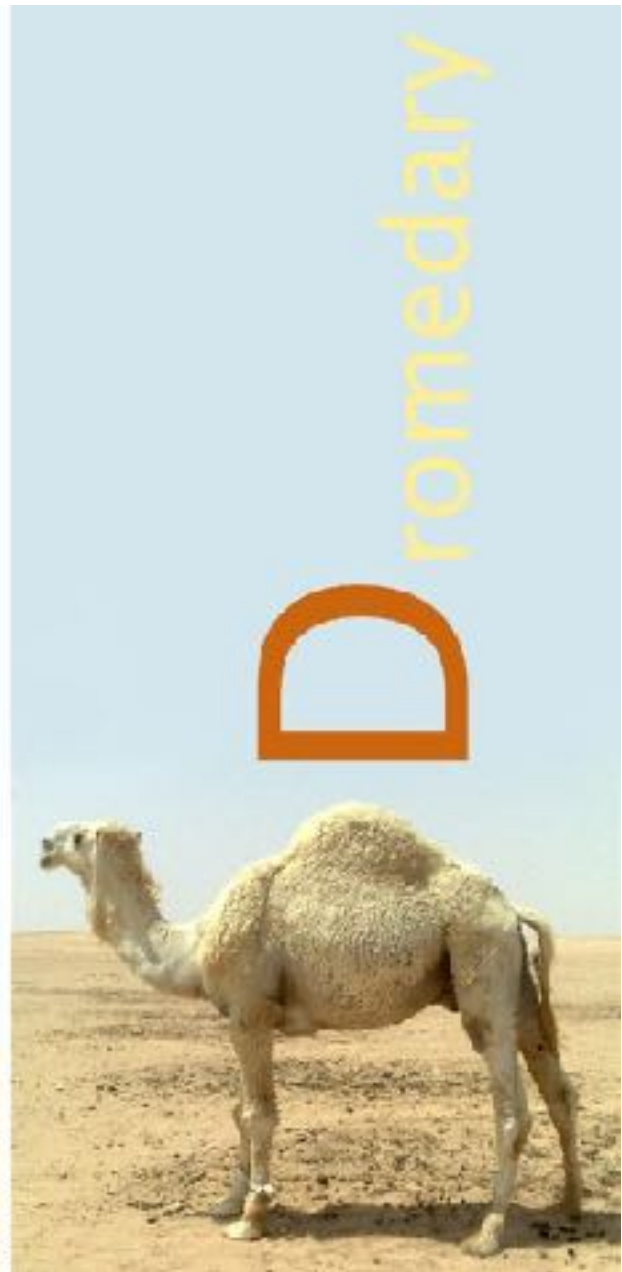
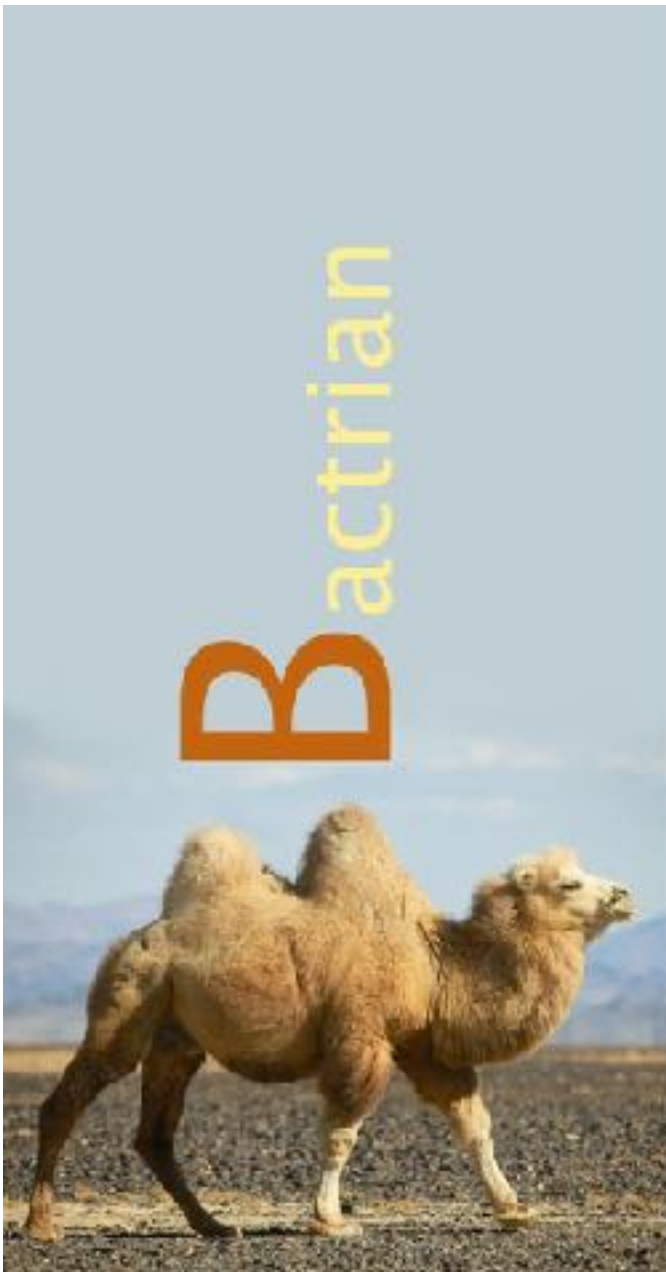
Stand the Bactrian camel on its nose

Its two humps form the letter "B" – "B" for Bactrian

Stand the Dromedary camel on its tail

Its one hump forms the letter "D" – "D" for Dromedary

And there you go. Now you'll easily remember their names.



# International Year of the Camelids 2024 Photo Gallery



## The Little Rascals

Eileen's twins, Stardust and Ziggy  
are on the left,  
Picture submitted by Eileen Ditsler



## Yuri

Kris Barnes owns Yuri  
(New Leaf's Yuri) whose name means  
Light of God in Hebrew  
Picture submitted by Kris Barnes





## Pumkin Pie

This is Pedro Carreño with  
Skansen's Pumkin Pie

(Yes, it is spelled with one p!)

This photo is from their last show at  
ALSA Western Regionals in 2022  
He won Grand Champion Advanced  
Performance

Picture submitted by Pedro Carreño



## Hot Notes, "Good Morning, Glory"

WINS Hot Notes

Owned and submitted by

Margaret Drew



## Joy Ride

Dolly Peters and Nick Hauptly  
driving Kaza at a show in Turlock  
Photographer unknown



## Billy & Eleanor

Eleanor leading Billy at the  
2023 Kids & Camelids Show  
Photo submitted by Katie Smith





## Gobi in Winter Snow

Gobi the Bactrian  
Owned and submitted by  
David Armer



## Road Trip

Aiden and Hero  
on a road trip in a minivan  
Photo submitted by Joy Pedroni





## Life is Good

Dusty enjoying her day  
Owned and submitted by  
Kathy Nichols



## Just Look at that Face!

LMM Peanut aka Piper  
Submitted by  
Stephanie Pedroni



## Who's Coming to See Us?

Manhattan and Cup of Java  
waiting for the school buses to empty  
at the Gallo Center for the Arts  
in Modesto, CA, for the production of  
Llama Llama Red Pajama  
Owned and submitted by Susan Rich



## Life is Twice as Nice in Paradise

Female identical twins Amber and Garnet, born in 2011  
Owned and submitted by Elaine Partlow  
Golden Feather Ranch, Pahoehoe, Hawaii



# An Overview of Tick Management

By Dr. Elizabeth Crabree, Intern and  
Robert Callan, DVM CSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital

*Reprinted with permission from The Journal of RMLA, Summer 2023*

Ticks can be a difficult and frustrating part of livestock management. Ear ticks bring about an especially frustrating aspect for camelid owners. In this brief article we will discuss the life cycle of ear ticks, management practices to keep ear ticks under control, and potential conditions caused by these creatures.

Ticks are considered arachnids, and there are two broad categories of ticks: hard ticks and soft ticks. These two categories are based on the structure of tick's shell surface. While both categories of ticks can take up residence in the ears of llamas and alpacas, the soft tick *Otobius megnini* has an affinity for ears.

Note: It is important to remember that ticks are not the same as mites. Mites are much smaller than ticks, have a different life cycle and cannot be seen with the naked eye. They actually burrow into the skin and are not readily observed on the surface. Ear mites do occur in cats, dogs, ferrets and humans, there is not a recognized ear mite in camelids.

This tick is often called the spinous ear tick because the nymph life stage is covered in small spines and a part of its life-cycle is directly related to the ear canal. Adult *Otobius megnini* ticks lay their eggs on the ground. These eggs hatch into larvae, and the larvae begin searching for a host ear to take up residence. When a host reaches down to graze or lays down on the ground the larvae have their opportunity to reach the ear. Once in the ear canal the larvae will stay there and molt through their larval stages and into the nymph stage. Consider the nymphs teenage ticks. These nymphs continue to take blood meals from the skin and burrow into the ear canal until they reach their adult stage. Once these ticks have reached their adult phase, they leave the ear and the host to mate in the environment, lay eggs, and die. While this life-cycle may appear simple, it is often times hard to break this cycle and control ear ticks due in part to the lengthy time that the ticks can survive on the host and in the environment.

Camelids have a particular aspect to their ear anatomy that makes managing ear ticks even more difficult due to the length and shape of their ear canal. While it is common with other species to be able to look down the length of the ear canal and visualize the tympanic membrane, that is not the case for camelids. Camelids have a long ear canal that makes a sharp turn. This turn prevents us from visualizing the entire length of the ear canal, and it also makes a great safe environment for the



Figure 1. Adult spinous ear tick (*Otobius megnini*).  
From <http://csu-cvmb.colostate.edu/vdl/Pages/spinose-ear-tick.aspx>.

ear ticks to hide. This often means we do not readily see the ear ticks that may be causing camelids problems until secondary conditions arise.

The most common secondary condition seen in camelids with ear ticks is ear infection. While it is possible that they can get a simple external ear infection, it often progresses to a much more complex infection involving the structures of the middle ear (otitis media) or inner ear (otitis interna). As in humans, middle and inner ear infections require more intensive care, and often show extreme clinical signs. These signs can include, but are not limited to, tilting of the head, drooping ears on the affected side, foul smelling discharge from the affected ear, wide based stance, difficulty turning, and seeming to not be able to balance when walking. If any of these signs are seen, a veterinary consultation is warranted immediately. Some other subtle signs of ear tick infestation include shaking their heads, rubbing or scratching their ears on inanimate objects, and pain on manipulation of the ear.

So, what can be done to manage these little buggers? As previously mentioned, it is very difficult. Unfortunately for us, and our camelids, there is no oral medication for the prevention of tick infestations like there is for small animals. Fortunately, there are management practices that can aid in decreasing the occurrence of ear ticks.

On an environmental management standpoint, pasture should be kept short, and access to heavily wooded areas could be decreased. Tick larvae do not survive well in direct sunlight, and they will try to find suitable places deep in grass, in bushes, or shade in other environmental structures like log piles. Keeping the pasture forage short can facilitate keeping the larvae further away from the camelid's ear when they graze. Brush and wood piles should be removed from pens and pasture areas. You can also use commercial permethrin sprays to reduce the population of ticks in the environment.

While these efforts may help, it is often more feasible to treat the animals and kill the ticks in the ears. This can be done in many different ways. Catron IV fly spray is available at the majority of farm and ranch supply stores, and it is a great option! It is effective in treating the ticks, economical, and it is labeled for use in controlling ear ticks. Catron IV can be sprayed in and around the ears. Many llamas and alpacas do not particularly like to have their ears sprayed, so as an alternative you can spray some into a cup and then draw the fluid into a syringe and apply into the ear canal. Another great option is using Ivermectin. It can be placed directly into the ear to kill the ticks on contact. This is an extra-label use of Ivermectin and you should work with your veterinarian to determine if it is an appropriate treatment for your animals. Both Catron IV spray and Ivermectin can be administered in the ear on a monthly or bi-monthly basis to control the ticks.

Based on the *Otobius megnini* life cycle and the amount of time it spends on and off the host, we recommend treating all animals once monthly for at least 8 months. While the ticks will be controlled in the animals sooner than the full 8 months, the ticks can survive in the environment for up to 7 months. In addition, other wildlife and domestic animals including deer, coyotes, dogs, rabbits, goats, and horses can be hosts for ear ticks and continue to maintain exposure from the environment. Work with your veterinarian to develop a prolonged treatment and control program based on your herd's environment and management.

We are aware that Fipronil is also used in the ears to control ear ticks. While this is very effective at controlling ear ticks, Fipronil is labeled as a pesticide and regulated by the EPA. It is a violation of Federal Law to use this product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling such as applying in the ear of a llama or alpaca. Because of this labeling we do not recommend its use for the control of ear ticks in these species.

The CSU Livestock Service hopes that this article was fun and informative, and if you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us by calling 970-297-5000!





**LANA's  
Sutter Buttes Hike  
April 6, 2024**

**contact: Lee at  
[lbering@outlook.com](mailto:lbering@outlook.com)  
for meeting location  
and time**



# Join us and hike the World's Smallest Mountain Range





# 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](http://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**







# LANA

## Youth Writing & Art Contest



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

- a piece of writing OR:
  - 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 [lanquestions@gmail.com](mailto:lanquestions@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**

# National Adoption Day by Ava Mattia

My name is Ava Mattia and I am 17 year-old Junior in High School. Most years for my birthday, I choose to give back to the world instead of having a party. Growing up, I was never a party kid who liked parties or being in the spotlight. I am a person who loves to see others smile. So volunteering and giving back is, in my eyes, the best way to do it. This year I chose to help others. I had an incredible opportunity to volunteer at National Adoption Day in front of our local courthouse and bring my alpacas and a friend's young llama as part of Miners' Ravine 4-H. Our 4-H club brought an entire petting zoo to celebrate the kids who were being adopted from foster care by our community.







It was truly amazing to bring animals and set up for this event. Getting to celebrate the unity of families that have waited so long for this day was so eye-opening and beautiful. The woman who runs this event, Renee Verdugo, a social worker for Placer County Youth and Family Services stated, “Most of these families are foster parents who have been fighting this legal battle for years, so this is the sweet nectar of victory and love they have been yearning for.”



The event, held yearly in November, is part of National Adoption Day and feels like a party with clowns, dancing, music, food and games to mark their adoption. The love that filled the air was refreshing, but the thing that stuck with me the most was, “It’s never too late,” as one teenager said who was being adopted.

To me, “Never too late,” meant it’s never too late to find your family, passion, friends, or even yourself. Some of the “kids” being



adopted were teenagers and hearing their stories showed that no matter what background you have, there is always a place for you. They were so excited to, legally, be a part of their family. These families have a new beginning and a wonderful journey ahead of them. The smiles on all of the faces of those who are close to the families whether they were friends or workers on their cases were genuine.



Miners' Ravine 4-H helped supply goats, sheep, pigs, bunnies, alpacas and llamas. It truly brought so much joy to the kids and families to have animals there. Would it be a celebration without animals? I think not. The animals loved being a part of this experience too. They made the celebration a little more memorable. I could tell the animals loved the kids running up to them to introduce us to their official moms and dads.





Even though the weather was windy, rainy and chilly, this experience warmed all the hearts around (and the hot chocolate helped too). Being a part of this truly helped me understand the opportunities I was given. As someone who has raised and has had the chance to surround her whole life with animals; the impact they have on people is truly remarkable.

Being blessed with that and having the life I do is something that I have taken for granted. I forgot that not everyone has or will get the life I have. Growing up on a farm has given me a chance to help others who may not be able to have animals or live on property. Sharing this experience and the knowledge that I have with others is one of my favorite things. I love seeing people experience the gift of animals being submerged in the love and joy they bring. I enjoy helping people experience the animals; it's been amazing to see the impact they have on people. Whether that is being officially adopted to using them to help cope with anxiety or other mental health struggles. As Sara Mattia says, "Animals are truly meant to heal the soul." It was a truly a memorable birthday for me!



# HERD HEALTH CLINIC

May 11, 2024  
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Stonehenge Llama Ranch  
Vacaville, CA

LANA Members - Free  
Non-Members - Free

Shearing our camelids is important for their health and well-being. We offer this clinic at no charge to encourage owners to learn how to give their llamas the necessary health care.



Dr. Dan Mora will be at the event doing teeth trimming/adjustments for \$85 per llama. An appointment is necessary so contact LANA asap to secure your time slot. No limit on number of animals you can bring.

Snacks/Lunch will be provided for \$5 per person payable to Margaret Drew

- ~ Shearing
- ~ Toenail Trimming
- ~ Deworming & Inoculations
- ~ Teeth trimming by Dr. Mora

Go to [www.lanainfo.org/forms-docs](http://www.lanainfo.org/forms-docs)  
To download the registration form



# Some Ideas on Marketing Llama Fiber

by Sheila Fugina

More llama owners are becoming interested in marketing their fiber, whether through cooperatives or on their own. I thought I'd share a few ideas that have worked for me, and maybe someone else will also benefit from them.

Since I try to keep our llama herd at 20 to 25, I'm not totally inundated with wool as long as I meet my goal of selling (or using) most of the current years crop before the next one comes in. Usually I manage to do that. Besides doing a bit of felting, I also put together and sell small kits containing llama fiber.

Too many llama owners think you need to be a spinner to learn about fiber. I'm not a spinner, but I have a number of spinner friends, and I never pass up an opportunity to talk to new spinners I meet to see what I can learn from them. I've attended and sometimes help organize a variety of wool workshops and have learned about different kinds of fiber, not just that of llamas. With the help of spinner friends, and as a result of the workshops I've attended, I've learned a great deal about the fiber of my individual animals too. This has helped immensely in the type of marketing I've been doing with my fiber.

I've found that there's a big difference from spinner to spinner in what they want for specific projects, and I've found certain ones prefer fleeces from particular animals of mine — some for the color, some for the crimp, some simply for the feel of it. I bag my fiber with a card that includes not only the weight and price of the fleece, but also the name of the llama and often a photo for personal touch. In addition, I include comments spinners have made about that animal's fiber:

“has great crimp”

“a total joy to spin”

“has a wonderfully silky smooth ”





Spinner friends have provided me with hands-on yarn and knitted samples from certain of my animals, and I've made a simple but effective display with them. This has helped me sell fiber to non-spinners who then have someone spin it for them so they can use the yarn in various projects.

This summer a spinner friend and I organized a free spinners workshop at my farm. I was the only non-spinner there! My friend compared llama fiber to other fibers — similarities, differences, blending llama with other fibers, etc. I had tables of my fleece on display, and spinners were encouraged to feel and compare and discuss. They also had a chance to spin llama fiber. Then my friend did a solar dyeing demonstration that was a real hit since none of the spinners had tried that dyeing method before.

After a fun morning, we had lunch at the small local hotel that sponsors an annual "Running of the Llamas" so it was an opportunity to talk about other aspects of llamas. The afternoon was filled with a tour of a local plant nursery and a discussion of dyeing fiber with plants and other natural items.

The workshop was a success in many ways and was well worth the time involved. Besides selling fiber that day, I've had spinners come back later for fiber and also refer other spinners to me. In addition, I sold a llama to one of the spinners who had Angora goats, and I made a number of new friends.

Marketing fiber from individual animals has worked well for me so far — in great part because of the time I've invested in learning about llama fiber in general as well as the unique fiber from each of my animals. My spinner friends have taught me a lot, and I see that they're well rewarded with fiber from their favorite animals.





**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**



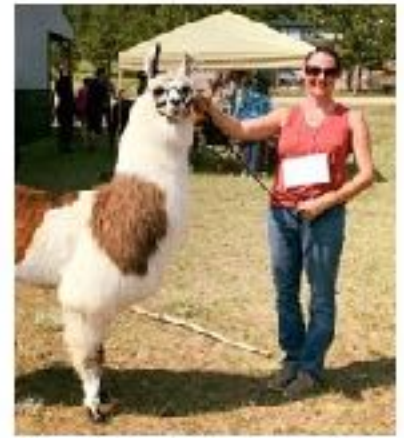
Cali Roberson



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



California  
**STATE ★ FAIR**



# **LLAMA & ALPACA SHOW**

## **July 26 - 30, 2024**

**Cal Expo, Sacramento, California**

**ALSA Sanctioned**

**Judges: Rob Knuckles - Halter, Performance & Fleece**  
**Margaret Drew - Performance**

**[www.calexpostatefair.com](http://www.calexpostatefair.com)**

**NEW THIS YEAR**

**LLAMA LIMBO**

**RETURNING DUE TO  
POPULAR DEMAND**

**ADULT COSTUME CLASS**  
**YOUTH COSTUME CLASS**

Premiums and Rosettes for all  
Grands and Reserves

Special Awards, Premiums & Rosettes  
awarded to  
Open Premier Exhibitor  
Youth Premier Exhibitors  
(Senior, Intermediate and Junior)

Suede Banners, Premiums & Rosettes  
awarded to  
State Fair Champion & Reserve Champion  
Male Llamas  
Female Llamas  
Non-Breeder Llamas  
Open Alpacas



# 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.

This document may be reproduced in whole or in part without permission, as long as the copyright citation is included.

Standards of Care Committees, June 2005  
©2005, Camelid Community Working Group



# Llama Association of North America 2024 Membership and Donations

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

Email: [lanquestions@gmail.com](mailto:lanquestions@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		
<b>TOTAL:</b>		

### AS YOU WOULD LIKE IT TO APPEAR IN THE DIRECTORY:

NAME:

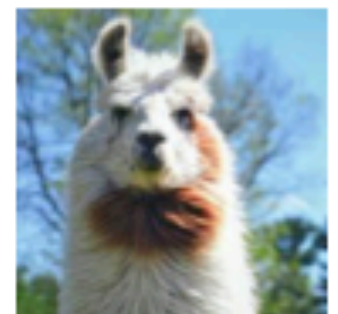
RANCH NAME & ADDRESS:

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

<b>Friend of LANA</b> <b>A year-long sponsorship</b> <b>\$250</b>	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
<b>LANA Member</b> <b>\$40</b>	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
<b>New LANA Member</b> <b>\$25</b>	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
<b>Youth</b> <b>(19 and under)</b> <b>\$20</b>	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
<b>Youth Club</b> <b>\$35</b>	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
<b>Donation to LANA</b> <b>Lama Lifeline</b>	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.
<b>Donation to Youth</b> <b>Programs</b>	LANA Youth programs include youth only shows, youth classes at shows, specialized clinics for youth, and specific awards for youth.
<b>Donor to General</b> <b>Fund</b>	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.*