



LANA NEWS

Llama Association of North America
Early Summer Edition 2025





LANA NEWS



15



- 3 LANA Business Office
- 3 From the Editor
- 4 From the President
- 4 LANA Board of Directors
- 4 LANA's Mission Statement
- 5 Calendar of Events
- 7 Welcome Members
- 8 What's Happening in LANA
- 14 Thank you from Michelle Kutzler
- 17 LANA's Youth Medallion Winners
- 33 California State Fair
- 39 Great American River Clean-Up
- 44 GALA Conference
- 45 Friends of LANA Sponsors
- 47 Minimum Standards of Care
- 48 LANA's NOK Wallet Card
- 49 LANA Membership Form



ON THE COVER
"Returning to base"
from LANA's Hike the
Sutter Buttes Day

Featured Articles

- 9 Tall Tail Llamas**
Rob and Jill Knuckles, Collbran, Colorado
- 15 Preparing For Summer Travel and Avoiding Heat Stress**
Plan ahead for a safe and comfortable trip
- 19 SAVMA Event for Vet Students**
LANA hosted a hands-on day at Black Cat Llamas
- 31 Landmark Study of Llama Impact on Hiking Trails**
A comparative study of the affect of llamas and other users on the trail
- 34 LANA's "Hiking the Sutter Buttes"**
Enjoy the pictures from the 2025 hike
- 40 LANA's History of Funding Camelid Research**
The past, the present and moving forward

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
Instagram @llamassociationofnorthamerica
Facebook: Llama Association of North America



LANA News DISCLAIMER

LANA News is published for educational purposes only. The information published herein is solely the opinion of the authors and does not necessarily represent the view of LANA, its Directors or Officers. LANA articles cannot 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:

Ron Baird, Margaret Drew, Nick Hauptly, Rob and Jill Knuckles, Lisa Labendeira, Joy Pedroni, Stephanie Pedroni, Susan Rich, Audrey Roberson, Cali Roberson, Charlotte Roberson, and Debbie Ullrich.

Editor's Message

As you're traveling to events and shows during these hot summer days, take some precaution to protect your animals from heat stress. Find out what you can do to help your animals travel more comfortably. Though it is an older LANA Newsletter article, it contains good information.

Learn about how llamas impact hiking trails in an article by Ron Baird of the RMLA Research Committee.

Enjoy the article by Rob and Jill Knuckles of Tall Tail Llama Ranch in Colorado, as they share their journey with llamas.

Enjoy the scenic pictures from LANA's Annual Buttes Hike. It's a popular event with UC Davis veterinary students from their Camelid Club.

And speaking of vet students, read about the LANA hosted SAVMA educational day at Black Cat Llamas. The participating board members collaborated on their article along with great pictures from the event.

What's been happening with LANA's Research Fund? Read Susan Rich's article and find out. Learn how the research fund got started, studies funded and plans for the future.

Join LANA in celebration of our recent honorees:

2024 Humdinger Award winner Michelle Kutzler, along with a letter from her.

LANA Youth Medallion of Excellence winner Josselyn Moen.

LANA Youth Medallion of Excellence winner Katie Barden.

Look forward to the next newsletter — the Kids & Camelids Show edition.

Kathy

From the President

Many thanks to our Board members who organized LANA events this past Spring. BOD Lee Beringsmith spearheaded the annual LANA Buttes Hike. Perfect weather helped to make it an enjoyable day of hiking. Kudos on a job well done to BODs Joy Pedroni, Stephanie Pedroni, Margaret Drew, and Cali Roberson for sharing their knowledge with veterinary students as part of the SAVMA conference held at UC Davis.

As announced in the 2025 Winter Newsletter, LANA reinstated the Youth Medallion Award of Excellence. This award recognizes one youth exhibitor at a show who exemplifies outstanding attributes as a youth representative of the llama and alpaca community.

The Kids & Camelids Show was rescheduled due to rain. The new show date was June 14th. BOD Susan Rich was the superintendent and did an amazing job putting this show together. From awards and prizes, fun atmosphere, immediate feedback after completing the course, to making sure everyone left having a positive experience and became a show person. Thank you, Susan, for all that you do for the kids

Have a great summer,

Kathy

LANA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathy Nichols
President, Newsletter Editor

Stephanie Pedroni
Vice President, Social Media

Joy Pedroni
Treasurer, Office, Webmaster

Sue Rich
Secretary, Youth Co-Chair

Lee Beringsmith
Director

Margaret Drew
Director

Emily Muirhead
Director, Social Media

Cali Roberson
Director, Youth Co-Chair

Cathy Spalding
Advisory Chair

You may contact any of the directors
at lanaquestions@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.

Calendar of Events

Bold type denotes LANA sponsored events
*(asterisk) denotes discount for FOL Sponsors and LANA members

SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR LLAMA & ALPACA SHOW

June 13 - 15, 2025
Del Mar Fairgrounds
Del Mar, California
www.sdfair.com

LANA'S KIDS & CAMELIDS SNOW

June 14, 2025
Wilton, California
contact: susan.rich9631@gmail.com
www.lanainfo.org

GLACIER CLASSIC LLAMA SHOW

June 20 - 22, 2025
Kalispell, Montana
contact: partybarnllamafarm@gmail.com

GATHERING OF FRIENDS - CHAMPIONS SHOW, SALE & FUTURITY

June 27 - 29, 2025
Iowa Equestrian Center
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
contact: llamashowsuper@gmail.com
www.ilrshows.com

ROCKY MOUNTAIN PASTURE SHOW

July 11 - 13, 2025
2Bit2 Ranch
Guffy, Colorado
contact: rmpastureshow@gmail.com

NORTHWEST REGIONAL

July 11 - 13, 2025
Darrington Rodeo Grounds
Darrington, Washington
contact: mr4spd@hotmail.com
www.jnklamas.com

DARRINGTON FLING

July 11 - 13, 2025
Darrington Rodeo Grounds
Darrington, Washington
contact: mr4spd@hotmail.com
www.jnklamas.com

OHIO STATE FAIR LLAMA, ALPACA & FIBER SHOW

July 17 - 19, 2025
Ohio State Fairgrounds
Columbus, Ohio
contact: llamadeb@aol.com

ORANGE COUNTY FAIR

July 18 - 20, 2025
Costa Mesa, California
contact: labendeira@yahoo.com
<https://ocfair.com>

HAPPY CAMPER LLAMA SHOW

July 19 - 20, 2025
Hidden Oaks Llama Ranch
Estacada, Oregon
columbiarivercamelids.com

CALIFORNIA STATE FAIR LLAMA & ALPACA SHOW

July 24 - 27, 2025
Cal Expo
Sacramento, California
contact: KathySVA@aol.com
www.calexpostatefair.org

ORLEANS COUNTY FAIR LLAMA SHOW

July 26, 2025
Orleans County Fairgrounds
Albion, New York
contact: battmichele@yahoo.com
orleans.cce.cornell.edu

BENTON COUNTY OPEN LLAMA & ALPACA SHOW

August 2, 2025
Benton County Fairgrounds
Sauk Rapids, Minnesota
contact: tcnpflipsen@gmail.com
www.bentonfairmn.com

STATE FAIR OF WEST VIRGINIA LLAMA & FIBER SHOW

August 7 - 9, 2025
Lewisburg, West Virginia
contact: okeechobee_steve@hotmail.com
<https://statefairwv.com>

SONOMA COUNTY FAIR

August 8 - 10, 2025
Sonoma County Fairgrounds
Santa Rosa, California
contact: labendeira@yahoo.com

ERIE COUNTY FAIR LLAMA SHOW

August 13 - 17, 2025
Erie County Fairgrounds
Erie, New York
contact: battmichele@yahoo.com
www.ecfair.org/p/competitions/livestock1/llamas

NEW YORK STATE FAIR LLAMA SHOW

August 19 - 23, 2025
New York State Fairgrounds
Syracuse, New York
contact: battmichele@yahoo.com
<https://nysfair.ny.gov>

NEBRASKA STATE FAIR

August 22 - 24, 2025
Nebraska State Fairgrounds
Grand Island, Nebraska
statefair.org
contact: thecsteele@gmail.com

FULTON COUNTY FAIR

August 29, 2025
Fulton County Fairgrounds
Wauseon, Ohio
contact: drlamaj@yahoo.com
fultoncountyfair.com

Calendar of Events

Bold type denotes LANA sponsored events
*(asterisk) denotes discount for FOL Sponsors and LANA members

OREGON STATE FAIR

August 29 - September 1, 2025
Oregon State Fairgrounds & Exposition Center
Salem, Oregon
<https://oregonstateexpo.org>

WILLOW TREE FARM LLAMA SHOW

August 29 - 31, 2025
Willow Tree Farm Event Venue
Ringgold, Georgia
contact: kdevaul2@gmail.com

LAMAFEST SHOW 1 & 2

August 30 -31, 2025
Lenawee County Fairgrounds
Adrian, Michigan
<https://michiganllama.org>

SPOKANE COUNTY INTERSTATE FAIR

September 13 - 14, 2025
Spokane County Fair and Expo Center
Spokane Valley, Washington
contact: ben_wick@hotmail.com
<https://thespokanefair.com>

HLAA FALL SHOW

September 19 - 21, 2025
Noble County Fairgrounds
Kendallville, Indiana
contact: kelsimattthew@icloud.com
<http://hlaa.us>

GREAT LAKES ALSA REGIONAL

September 19 - 21, 2025
Noble County Fairgrounds
Kendallville, Indiana
contact: kelsimattthew@icloud.com
<http://hlaa.us>

GREAT AMERICAN RIVER CLEAN-UP

September 20, 2025
American River Parkway
Sacramento, California
contact: lbering@outlook.com

OKLAHOMA STATE FAIR OPEN LLAMA/ALPACA SHOW

September 20 - 21, 2025
Oklahoma City Fairgrounds
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
contact: luckyonyx81@gmail.com

THE BIG E LLAMA SHOW

September 26 - 28, 2025
The Big E Fairgrounds
West Springfield, Massachusetts
contact: kewa4@protonmail.com
www.thebige.com

FALLAMAFEST LLAMA SHOW AND EVENT SHOW 1 & 2

September 26 - 28, 2025
Douglas County Fairgrounds
Castle Rock, Colorado
contact: fallamafest@gmail.com
fallamafest.com

ROCKY MOUNTAIN ALSA REGIONAL

September 26 - 28, 2025
Douglas County Fairgrounds
Castle Rock, Colorado
contact: fallamafest@gmail.com
fallamafest.com

WESTERN ALSA REGIONAL

September 27 - 28, 2025
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds,
Lancaster, California
contact: labendeira@yahoo.com

ALSA GRAND NATIONAL

October 3 - 5, 2025
Iowa Equestrian Center
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
contact: llamajudge@gmail.com

2KC INVITATIONAL LLAMA SHOW

ALSA SOUTH EAST REGIONAL
ILR-SD CHAMPION SHOW
October 10 - 12, 2025
Georgia National Fairgrounds
Perry, Georgia
contact: llamajudge@gmail.com

SOUTHEAST ALSA REGIONAL

October 10 - 12, 2025
Georgia National Fairgrounds
Perry, Georgia
contact: kdevaul2@gmail.com

LAMAPALOOZA

October 11 - 12, 2025
Austin, Minnesota
contact: adderellas@yahoo.com
midwestlamaassociation.my.site.com

OREGON FLOCK & FIBER FESTIVAL SHOW

October 18 - 19, 2025
Linn County Expo
Albany, Oregon
oregonflockandfiberfestival.com

Calendar of Events

Bold type denotes LANA sponsored events
*(asterisk) denotes discount for FOL Sponsors and LANA members

GALA EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

October 30 - November 2, 2025

Wyndham Hotel

Cleveland, Ohio

<https://galaonline.org>

LANA'S YOUTH ART & ESSAY CONTEST

Due date: November 1, 2025

contact: susan.rich9631@gmail.com

www.lanainfo.org

NORTH AMERICAN LLAMA & ALPACA SHOW

November 7 - 9, 2025

Kentucky Expo Center

Louisville, Kentucky

www.northamericanllamashow.com

contact: hpool@rockcreekllamas.com

WINTER WONDERLAND LLAMA SHOW 1 & 2

November 21 - 23, 2025

Willow Tree Farm Event Venue

Ringgold, Georgia

contact: kdevaul2@gmail.com

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

SAY HELLO TO OUR 2025 MEMBERS



George and Christine Caldwell

Llamas of Circle Home

Sonora, CA

www.experiencellamas.com

Greg & Diana Harford

Potato Ranch Llamas

Sonora, CA

www.potatoranchllamas.com

Arleen McCombs

McShaggy LL Ranch

Raymond, CA

Katie Marshall & David Watson Jr.

Vacaville, CA

Elaine Partlow

Golden Feather Farm

Pahoa, HI

Scott & Terese Woodruff

Lander Llama Company, LLC

Lander, WY

www.wyominghiking.com

What's Happening in LANA

37th Annual

Llama & Alpaca Show

LANA is the host organization for the 37th Annual California State Fair Llama & Alpaca Show, The show is July 24 - 27th at the beautiful Cal Expo Fairgrounds in Sacramento, California. Joy Bishop-Forshey is the halter, performance and fleece judge. Margaret Drew will be the second performance judge. Beautiful awards and premiums to all grands and reserves. The Fair's theme this year is "Times Like These." Entries close June 18th.



Congratulations to our

LANA Youth Members

Congratulations to our youth members who placed on the 2024 ALSA Youth Top Ten Lists. Shout out to Kaycee Lusk, Audrey Roberson, Easton Kock and Charlotte Roberson. Special recognition to Audrey who made all five lists. Way to go, kids!



American River Parkway Foundation's

Great American River Clean-Up

Come join LANA for a good cause! The annual Great American River Clean-Up is September 20th from 9 am - 12 pm. LANA volunteers fill their llamas' panniers with trash and pack it to a collection site. As stated on the ARPF website, "Clean-ups are essential for removing trash and debris from the Parkway, allowing the environment to heal itself and preventing trash and debris from entering the ecosystem and waterways."





TALL TAIL LLAMA RANCH

Rob and Jill Knuckles

We began our journey with llamas about 30 years ago when we moved to a small acreage in Grand Junction, Colorado. Our first llamas were purchased to join us on our backpacking trips. We very quickly discovered how intelligent and wonderful llamas are and they produce this incredible fiber. We were hooked! We began focusing on our breeding program and our next journey began.

We breed for majestic and versatile llamas of outstanding genetics ensuring sound confirmation, great temperaments, athleticism, and exquisite fiber. Within our first year, we were not only hiking with our llamas, we were also now showing llamas, joining a variety of llama groups, and learning about their fleece and what could be produced with it.

Over the years, we have been very active in the llama community: hiking, showing, processing their fiber to both sell and use in our fiber arts (such as weaving and crocheting), and participating in festivals. When first getting into llamas, we were very lucky to have a strong llama community on the Western Slope of Colorado and throughout Colorado. Making many new friends, we often came together to help support, teach and share knowledge with one another. We were very fortunate to have several “llama pioneers” within our region who were our mentors, helping to guide and inspire us.

Owning llamas naturally brings many fun experiences. Being a part of the local Grand Mesa Llama Club, we would get together for day hikes and overnight backpacking trips. What fun it has been over the years to introduce llamas to new enthusiasts and watch them pass on their love for llamas to others. Being superintendent of the Grand Mesa and Kokopelli Llama Classic held in Grand Junction and the Estes Park Wool Market Llama Show, held in Estes Park, has been a very rewarding and fun experience. Shows are such a great way to bring a wonderful group together and enjoy our passion for llamas. In 2003, we were



Top right: Da Vinci, Grand Champion at Estes Park 2024

Above: Get of Sire class at Estes Park 2025

Lower right; Rob with Da Vinci



fortunate to take a trip to Peru and Chile with 7 wonderful llama friends. This was an experience of a lifetime. Being able to venture deep into the Chilean Altiplano to see where llamas originated from and the environment in which they evolved was an amazing experience.



Jumping further into exquisite llama fiber, the learning is never ending. We set out to ensure we were producing the very best yarn for the fiber artist. Through some trial and error in understanding how to sort and combine llama fleece to send to the mill, we eventually came up with a system and understanding of what worked and what did not. It all begins with proper nutrition for our llamas to ensure they grow a healthy fleece. We shear on an annual basis, skirting and sorting the fleeces by type, fineness, length, and color. Each batch of fleece is then analyzed to determine which yarn weight would be best when it is processed. In addition to processing 100% llama yarn, we also found that blending with various other fiber breeds, such as merino or cashmere, creates beautiful blends opening the door to a wider variety of projects. By personally sourcing all fleeces which we use to blend with the llama fleece, we have learned a great deal about the fiber industry as a whole.

As we began creating beautiful yarns, our interest in using these yarns grew. Our love for the arts has now



ventured into the fiber arts. Moving away from canvas, we now hand paint our yarn. What a fun way to work with color and create beautiful, hand-painted yarns.

Our next step was learning to weave our yarns into finished products. We began with a continuous strand triangle loom and have now worked our way up to two continuous strand looms, two rigid heddle looms, an eight shaft and ten shaft loom. We are never short on weaving projects in the Knuckles household and continuously learning new techniques. Our love of creating products from our llama fleece took us into a world of fiber festivals and again, a new opportunity to make new friends and share our love of the fiber arts. The Salida Fiber Festival and the Taos Wool Festival (now the Mountain and Valley Fiber Arts Festival) have been special events for us. We also recently opened an online store offering yarn, roving and a variety of finished products made from our llama fiber and our blends. In addition, we have expanded our festival

presence by venturing out into a variety of Arts festivals within the region.

As Rob often says, “Llamas are one of the easiest animals I has ever owned.” Knock on wood, we are lucky that our challenges over the many years during which we have raised llamas are few. Early on, one of the biggest challenges as a llama breeder was the animals’ ability to deal with the heat in Grand Junction. When first getting into llamas, shearing was not a priority, especially for show animals. However, as we began understanding the value of their fleece, we began to shear on an annual basis. This was key to keeping them cool. Later we moved from the Grand Valley to Collbran, located on the Grand Mesa. We have found this an ideal climate for our llamas. Even though we may experience low 90’s during summer days, our nights cool down significantly, which the llamas greatly appreciate. With our arid climate, we find this ideal for the health of our llamas.





In 2008, Rob took another step and became a fiber judge and later halter and performance judge. Traveling around the U.S. has given him a new appreciation for all aspects of llama showing.

We love showing and attending festivals. More importantly we love the many friends we have made going to shows throughout the United States. Our llamas have brought us life-long friendships that we treasure.



Michelle Kutzler

LANA's Hummdinger Award Winner

Dear LANA officers and membership,

Thank you for the surprise recognition. I am so honored to be included in this prestigious list of previous awardees.

Although I am retired from showing, I still have two llamas and one alpaca, all in their twenties. And I still provide veterinary care for large animals as well as serving the camelid community as an officer in the American Association of Small Ruminant Practitioners.

Thank you again for this award,
Michelle Kutzler





Preparing for Summer Travel and Avoiding Heat Stress

By Debbie Ullrich

Finally, our anxiously awaited show season has arrived. Our events calendar is noted and marked, with nearly every weekend from May to October blocked off to attend something llama, somewhere.

With the increasing number of llama related events on the calendar, it looks like we are all going to be hauling and showing more in the heat of the summer. With a little common sense, thought and preparation, summer travel can be stress free for both you and your llamas.

You can prepare your llamas for summer heat and prevent heat stress in many different ways. Shearing is an excellent place to start in preventing heat stress. Removing the fiber allows the llama to shed heat from the body by opening up the thermal windows. Fiber, if you choose not to shear, should be groomed out to allow for good air movement. Matted fibers locks in the heat. For travel, it is a good idea to wrap up an intact male's tail up; this will allow air movement around the testicles, and between the thighs.

Provide animals at all times with cool, clean water and a clean bucket. If you are traveling, you might want to bring some water from home. Electrolytes are great, but some llamas don't like the taste. So, if you are adding something new to

the water for the trip, be sure to monitor them to be sure they are drinking.

Planning your travel to avoid the heat might be necessary if you don't have air conditioning or have a full load of animals. Remember, air circulation is very important. All the air conditioning in the world won't do much good if you have a packed vehicle.

Consult with your auto associations, such as AAA. Check for road problems and construction. It seems all the paving in the world gets done in the summer and there is nothing worse than getting stuck in traffic, in the sun, behind an asphalt truck.

Animals with excessive body fat are at a higher risk of heat stress, so you need to take special care to keep these animals from overheating. Diet is also a key factor in preventing heat stress. Animals who are at a higher risk of heat sensitivity should be on a decreased protein diet. High protein diets waste body energy and raise the body temperature. Protein burns hotter. Decreasing dietary fiber is also important. If you have a problem with heat stress in your area, you need to take dietary modification into consideration. Talk with your veterinarian on how to best feed your llamas to help handle the heat.

With all that we have been taught about feeding our llamas, feeding for heat stress management is an opposite concept. When diets are adjusted for heat, animals are fed more concentrates and the highest quality forages. Heat increases the heart and respiratory rates, burning up lots of energy. Your veterinarian can help you develop a diet using high calorie density feeds, slowly adapting your llamas into the heat.

Llamas allowed to graze on fescue pastures are at a higher risk of heat stress. Fescue generally has a fungus in it, that, among other things, causes the regulation of the thermal, regulatory mechanism, preventing affected animals from cooling due to vaso-constriction of the peripheral system.

Other recommendations to discuss with your veterinarian are the addition of digestive enzymes, niacin and thiamine to the diet.

A conscientious deworming program will help with heat stress management. Parasites weaken an animal's system and that could hamper thermal regulation.

Animals that have heat stressed in the past are at a higher risk of heat stressing again, and special considerations should be made for these animals. Also, llamas who are a bit high strung or have more nervous personalities tend to be at a higher risk.

Try to avoid regrouping animals prior to travel or in the heat. The stress created by re-establishing social standing in a new group can add to the risk factor.

Signs of heat stress

The most frequent signs of an animal with heat stress is going off feed, laying around, a decreased appetite, dullness and depression. More severe cases include trembling, inability to

rise, excessive salivation, drooping lower lip, and in males, scrotal edema.

What you can do on the road

Get your llama moved into the shade, provide lots of cool water, expose the thermal windows. Add alcohol to your vet kit. If you are on the road without unlimited supplies of water, an alcohol rub is beneficial and cooling. In cases of heat and humidity, it can work better than water, as alcohol cools, and evaporates. Water does not evaporate in high humidity. There are some pretty high powered fans on the market that plug into the cigarette lighter (I found one with a 20-foot cord that will reach outside the van if needed). These, too, are useful to keep the air circulated. Don't wet the wall down on the animal's back. This locks in the heat and reduces the flow.

I am not going to get into severe heat stress here. If your animal is in a medical emergency, you will need to call for veterinary assistance. If you are away from home and need a veterinarian, you can call 1-800 GET-AVET. This is a referral service sponsored by the AAEP, American Association of Equine Practitioners. And taking the time to compile a traveling first aid kit and save our life in an emergency.

Editor's notes:

The phone number listed in this article is no longer in service.

The AAEP website: <https://aaep.org> has an easy-to-use search.

Since the article was written, the use of GPS and smart phones has made navigation easier. However, it's always a good idea to check for weather and road conditions prior to traveling.

Article reprinted and modified from a previous
LANA Newsletter



Josselyn Moen
LANA Youth Medallion Winner

Josselyn was awarded the LANA Youth Medallion of Excellence by Judge Lauren Wright at the 2025 Imaginology Show in Costa Mesa, California on April 13th. The judge felt Josselyn was the most deserving youth exemplifying the award criteria.



Katie Barden

LANA Youth Medallion Winner

The Iowa Llama Jackpot was honored to present the LANA Youth Award of Excellence to Katie Barden of Minnesota, a standout participant in the Senior Youth Division. Katie was chosen unanimously by a secret committee of adult volunteers who observed exhibitors throughout the weekend, watching for those who demonstrated leadership, positivity, and a strong commitment to the spirit of the show. Katie rose to the top through her consistent willingness to lend a hand, stepping in to help others, and doing whatever was needed to keep things running smoothly. She also served as an exceptional ambassador for the llama industry, engaging warmly with members of the public who stopped by the fairgrounds and answering their questions with enthusiasm and professionalism. Her sportsmanship was evident in every ring, cheering on her peers regardless of the outcome, and her stall area was one of the cleanest in the barn. With a smile on her face and a helpful attitude from start to finish, Katie truly embodied the values the LANA Youth Award is meant to celebrate. During our Saturday evening awards ceremony, she was presented with the official LANA medallion and a \$50 cash prize. We are deeply grateful to LANA for sponsoring this award and for their continued support of youth excellence within the llama community.

SAVMA CONFERENCE

On Saturday, March 22, 2025, twenty-three veterinary students from around the country (and a couple from London, England!) visited Black Cat Llamas in Vacaville, California, for an afternoon of hands-on llama experiences. This event was part of the SAVMA (Student American Veterinary Medical Association) conference hosted by UC Davis.





After a thirty minute trip on a luxury tour bus, the students arrived at the ranch. Everyone gathered in the geldings' field and introduced themselves and the schools they were from.

First Things First

Joy Pedroni explained to the students that their first task would be to catch and halter the llamas and alpacas that would be participating in the clinic. Joy added, "It's always fun to watch inexperienced people chase llamas around, especially on our steep hill."



The students then split up into groups of five and chose a station to begin the fun. We offered four stations:

- Handling, obstacle course
- Herd health
- Fiber
- Fecal testing & cria kits





Herd Health

Joy Pedroni

I worked with Dr. Julie Dechant on the Herd Health station. We covered as many topics as we could in the approximate thirty minutes allotted to each station. Every student had the opportunity to learn how to body score using several llamas of varying body size. Discussions on the importance of toe nail trimming, shearing, deworming, heat stress, well ventilated shade and types of hay/feed were some of our topics. I have a couple of llamas with ongoing medical conditions so the students were excited to actually be able to talk medicine with Dr. Dechant.



Parasite Screening & Cria Care Station

Stephanie Pedroni

My original plan for the SAVMA event was to set up a parasite screening station for the students to learn about the types of parasites we typically see in camelids in California and give them some hands-on experience. As each group of students cycled through, I started off by referencing the posted protocol that we were going to follow for the day. The first step was to collect some beans! I shamelessly took advantage of the opportunity and ensured that each pair of students gathered fresh beans from different piles across all our pastures. This way we got a nice sneak peek of our herd's current parasite load as we approach shearing and deworming season.

Next, students broke up the pellets a bit with disposable forks, added fecal material with sugar solution to the flotation tubes, and agitated the mixture to release any eggs. After topping off the tubes with sugar solution to form a meniscus and placing a coverslip for them to adhere to, we set the timer for 15 minutes and shifted over to talk about cria care.

I originally had not planned to talk about pregnancy or birthing and cria care at the event, but as we were setting up and chatting, Cali & our helper UCD vet student Jessie Carson (Camelid Club co-President) expressed interest in seeing the cria kit I had put together in anticipation of a baby last Fall. I spread the items out on a few tables and it became the perfect side topic to cover while our fecal flotation samples "marinated."

In addition to covering the basic information and things to have on hand for a healthy birth, I was able to share the story of my cria, Corteo, who was born with two major heart abnormalities. He stood and nursed twice but then weakened and took one bottle before deteriorating and needing around the clock tube feeding before ultimately needing to be let go at just over 48 hours old.

Telling his story ended up being both cathartic for me, and a critical educational opportunity to talk about Berserk Llama Syndrome and the proper way to handle a bottle or tube fed cria. None of the students had heard about BLS so I feel quite grateful we were able to educate a whole host of upcoming vets and help spread awareness.

Once the fecal flotation samples were ready, students placed their coverslips on the slides and took turns scanning their samples under the microscope. For reference, I had color printouts showing typical camelid parasites and "pseudo parasites" like pollen and air bubbles that can initially be tricky to discern from actual eggs. In the event that we gathered a super clean sample, I also had pre-prepared slides showing a couple of the most common things I've run across such as nematode eggs (nematodirus), whipworm eggs (trichuris), and tons of pollen. Regardless of their prior experience level of conducting fecal exams, it seemed like the students all appreciated the opportunity to do some hands on experiments and to learn about the specific parasites we tend to see and be concerned about for camelids in this geography.







Handling and Obstacle Station

Cali, Audrey and Charlotte Roberson

Joy set up a challenging course full of bridges, jumps, weaves, and elephant stands. We had four animals, two llamas and two alpacas, for the students to practice with. The combination made for an informative example of the difference between handling llamas versus alpacas. We had some packs on hand as well to demonstrate their proper use.

I began our sessions by contrasting the body language we used while catching the animals with the body language needed in leading and negotiating obstacles. During the catching process we stood squarely facing the animals with arms out in a defensive manner. This body language says “Move away from me” or “Don’t approach me.” This is useful when asking an animal to do things like backing, sidepassing, or moving their hip away.

A different approach is needed for getting an animal to follow you. We discussed using a more “neutral” body language such as standing parallel/quartering to your animal and leading with your back to them, not facing them. We went over asking a reluctant animal to take a step to the side versus pulling straight forward.

Audrey and Charlotte took turns demonstrating how to take an animal through the obstacle course. They showed the students how to approach obstacles in a straight line, how to keep an eye on what the animal is doing without facing them, and the importance of having a loose lead when the animal is doing what we want. The girls showed how to correct the animal’s position with small, light tugs then releasing/rewarding the animal when they complied.

Now it was the students' turn to take an animal through the course. Many of them had never led a llama or alpaca before and were eager for the opportunity. They did a great job trying to get their animal to negotiate each obstacle. I helped them with minor adjustments to the lengths of their leads or approaching an obstacle in a slightly different way. I encouraged them to give





the animal the opportunity to follow on a loose lead if possible. As well trained as Joy's animals are, there were times when they knew they could get away with cheating here and there. The students took these moments with good humor, and I loved seeing the big smiles when they succeeded in getting one to do the elephant stand. There were lots of laughs and cheers of support.

Zarya put up a slight protest by kushing after several trips through the course. I thought it would be a great example to show the students how to get one up from this type of refusal. First, I rubbed her ears, she wasn't bothered at all. A good way to show everyone how to check for ticks, right? On to the next trick, hands to the rear. I handled all her nether regions in the most annoying way I could think of. Everywhere under her tail and felt up into her udder region, and still, nothing. Not even an angry glance back at me. Ok, time to try leading by pulling to the side instead of straight ahead like I had preached at the beginning. She just scooted like a big brown caterpillar. She scooted pretty much 180 degrees in both directions without getting up from her kush. Finally, she decided she had proven her point and stood. The students were highly entertained.



Fleece and Fiber Station

Margaret Drew

I was invited to share my knowledge of fiber and lama fiber with veterinarian students from around the world. I had gathered my extensive fiber collection and finished products to put on display. The morning was cool and misty. Arriving early with coffee in hand, Ron Pedroni was there to help me unload. My tables were arranged with raw fleece, processed fiber and finished products. I offered handouts. My presentation included Peruvian breeding practices, development fiber types, fiber preparation, hand-spun, hand-woven and current commercial fiber processing. I fielded questions until the students had no more. All in all, it was an excellent day.



A refreshment station in the shade proved quite popular with the students as the afternoon wore on. The four hours the students were here went by very quickly and all too soon, they were saying their thank you's and goodbye's and hiking to the bus to head back to UC Davis.

At the time of the clinic, the participating students attended:

University of Arizona
Ohio State University
Washington State University
Oklahoma State University
University of Illinois
Kansas State University
Tuskegee University
Midwestern University

Royal Veterinary College (London)
University of Missouri
Long Island University
University of California, Davis
Purdue University
Lincoln Memorial University
Texas A & M



The SAVMA conference is a bit like the Olympics. The hosting university has to be chosen so it's not an annual event. The last time SAVMA was at UCD was in 2014 and that was our first time holding the clinic for them. I definitely think that with all the amazing help we had this year, we did a much better job. I want to thank all of the fantastic LANA Board members who gave up their Saturday to help make this event so successful: Margaret Drew on the Fiber Station, Stephanie Pedroni on the Fecal Testing Station, Cali Roberson and her husband, Ryan, and her daughters, Audrey and Charlotte on the Obstacle Station. My husband, Ron, was a huge help in getting our fields cleaned up and ready for the day. As always, we were really privileged and grateful to have Dr. Dechant be the veterinarian in charge of the clinic. We had a great time! ~ Joy

BLACK CAT LLAMAS-

THANK YOU!

Thank you for sharing
your expertise and
passion with us!
This was wonderful
- Caitlyn (WSU)

This was a wonderful experience!
Thank you so much for sharing
all of your knowledge with us!
Emily

This was a really
special experience -
thank you! - Anwesha

This was a great experience! Love that we got
to learn so much! Doug

Thank you for letting
us explore your farm!
♥ - Julia (MWU)

Thank you for having
us out here
and letting us
learn -
Jimena ♥

us!
- Lindsey
Arkangel

I learned so much!
Thank you!
- Gabriel

Thank you for this
amazing experience!
- Elisa Ramos
(LIU)

Thank you for this
amazing opportunity!
- Ramon

Thank you
so much!!
- Abby

Thank you so
much for
being so welcoming!
I absolutely loved
this experience.

- Elizabeth Brown

Thank you for
sharing your
experience and
your lovely
animals with
us! - B. Hunt

Thank you so much!
Sydney
Thank you for this
opportunity - Victoria

Landmark Study of Llama Impact on Hiking Trails

By Ron Baird, RMLA Research Committee

Article originally appeared in the RMLA Journal
Reprinted with permission from author and the RMLA Journal

Claims frequently are made that llamas should be banned from National Parks or U.S. Forests “because they cause damage” and are “not native to the area.”

Allegations such as these were made by Walter Dabney, Superintendent of Canyonlands National Park in the 1990s, when he attempted to ban llamas from being used in that park as pack animals. RMLA was a lead plaintiff against the U.S. Department of the Interior in that legal case. Interior ultimately agreed to never impose a similar action against llamas to settle the case. Similar claims have been made in Alaska recently, where the Forest Service was prohibiting llamas but not horses and mules as pack animals.

Debunking such claims are some very salient facts:

- Llamas are in the camelid family, which originated in North America.
- Llamas lived in the Dakotas, Arizona and elsewhere until about 10,000 to 12,000 years ago.
- A well-preserved skeleton of a llama from about 25,000 years ago is in the Mammoth Museum in Hot Springs, South Dakota where it was recovered along with mammoths and some 86 other species from a Pleistocene era sinkhole.
- The Denver Museum of Nature and Science requested the skeleton of a modern llama about twenty years ago to compare with bones it had recovered from an ancient cave in the mountains of Colorado.



Claims that llamas cause damage to forests and trails were refuted and debunked in a 1998 study from the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute (Publication #319). RMLA contributed substantial financial grants to the study.

The study's purpose “was to assess the relative physical impact of hikers, llamas, and horses on recreational trails.” The highly technical analysis of these types of impacts from feet was accomplished by assessing the damage caused by horses, llamas, and humans on 56 different hiking trails in the Lubrecht Experimental Forest in western Montana.

All three species were walked across both wet and dry trail plots 250 to 1,000 times each and then compared to control plots that had no foot traffic on them. The amount of soil erosion, compaction, and changes in surface texture were assessed.

The study's conclusion was "differences ... between llama and horse traffic indicate that trail managers may want to consider managing pack stock llamas independent of horses."

The following graphs illustrate the authors' conclusion that llamas cause much less damage to trails than other pack animals and about the same as humans.

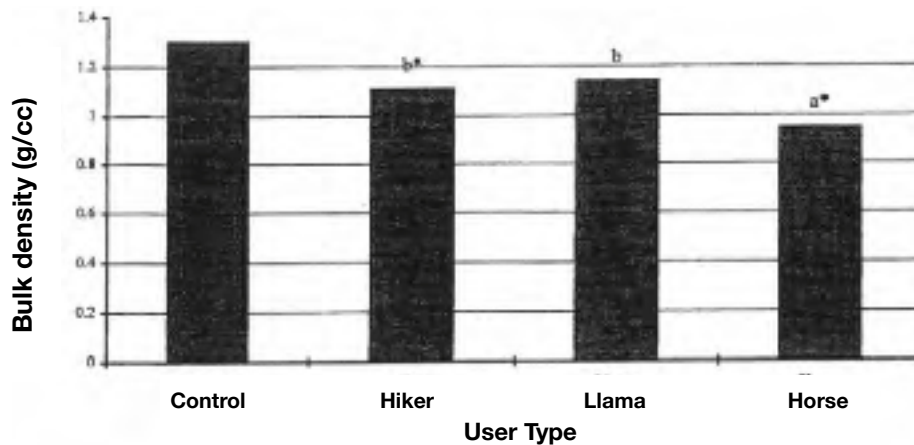


Figure 1. Soil bulk density following hiker, llama and horse traffic averaged across two levels of traffic application intensity to dry trail segments. Bars with asterisks are significantly different than the control ($P \leq 0.05$) by Dunnet's analysis and bars without similar letters are significantly different ($P \leq 0.05$) by Tukey's test.

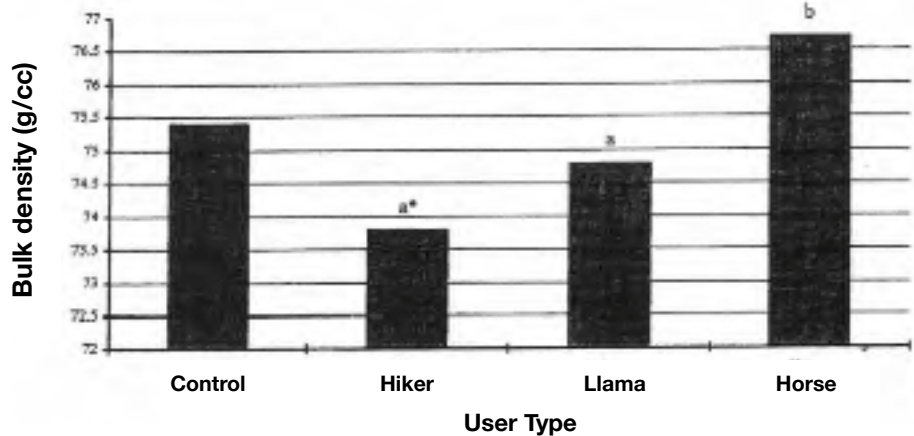


Figure 2. Mean roughness of soil surface as measured by total vertical variation (70 cm = level) across the hiking trail following hiker, llama, or horse traffic averaged across two levels of traffic application intensity and wet and dry trail moisture conditions. Bars with asterisks are significantly different than the control ($P \leq 0.05$) by Dunnet's analysis and bars for without similar letters are significantly ($P \leq 0.05$) by Tukey's test.

The study, entitled "Influence of Llamas, Horses, and Hikers on Soil Erosion from Established Recreation Trails in Western Montana, USA" is available from the RMLA Library, under the care of Sandy Lockwood. It also is available from the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute, Rocky Mountain Research Station, 790 E Beckwith Ave., Missoula, MT 59801 or at <https://leopold.wilderness.net>.

When that page opens, go to Publications Search. The key word is llamas. The start and end years are 1998.

Then Search, the following comes up: <https://leopold.wilderness.net/pubs/319.pdf>. That pdf is named "Influence of Llamas, Horses, and Hikers on Soil Erosion..."

Now you can print the entire pdf document, which is eight pages in length.

RMLA members may want to read this study as it can be extremely useful in explaining to the public or possible purchasers the exceptionally light impact llamas have on the environment compared to other livestock.



Llama & Alpaca Show

July 24-27, 2025

Cal Expo
Sacramento, California

Judges:

Joy Bishop-Forshey

Margaret Drew

www.calexpostatefair.org

entry deadline
June 18th



HIKING THE BUTTES

By Cali Roberson





The annual hike at the Sutter Buttes was held on April 6 this year. This event was organized by LANA Board member Lee Beringsmith. Every year LANA members and a limited number of UC Davis vet students get the opportunity to hike on a private ranch that encompasses part of the “world’s smallest mountain range” near Yuba City, California.

We met at our hosts’ ranch mid morning and began packing up the llamas. There were several LANA members in attendance. Nick Stone generously brought 6 llamas and handed them all off to eager students. I brought 5 llamas, 3 of our own plus 2 young packers on loan to our 4H group. Mike Kane and Lee also had animals for the vet students to lead. We headed out up the hill under perfect weather conditions. Our host was concerned about areas where heavy winter rains had carved through some of the established trails, but the llamas had no problems negotiating the deep grooves in the paths.



Our 4H group's newest member, Dominic, and his mom, Rachel, joined us. Although hiking with llamas is amazing, both Dom and my youngest daughter Charlotte decided exploring and hunting for bones would be more fun. They handed their llamas off to vet students who were all too happy to take them off their hands. With nearly 30 students making the trip we had many more handlers than animals. Everyone did a great job trading llamas and taking turns.





We made the steep climb up the small mountain then passed along the ridge. In past years this area has been quite windy, but this year it was sunny and calm. We then dropped down into a neighboring ranch and followed a narrow trail through trees and poison oak. Our host was at the lead calling out to those behind him whenever he saw the pesky plant, but by the time his message reached those in the back of the line, every plant with a leaf was “poison oak.”



Next, we reached our lunch spot, a beautiful little area with views of the entire Central Valley. We staked our llamas or tied them to trees and everyone had a well deserved rest. The hike concluded with a stop at John C. Fremont's campsite and a quick history lesson from our host. This annual event has become one of our favorites for our family to attend; we look forward to going again next year.



GREAT AMERICAN RIVER CLEAN UP

SEPT. 20th

9 am - 12 noon

Location: River Bend Park
2300 Rod Beaudry Drive
Sacramento, CA

Register on line at
<https://apps.arpf.org/volunteer-opportunities?VO=593>



Come join LANA and other volunteers at the GARCUI! We will be clearing trash and debris off the American River Parkway. Your alpaca or llama hauls out the garbage in your pack's panniers to the collection area. There is horse trailer parking at this location.



More information at lanainfo.org
or contact Lee Beringsmith at lbering@outlook.com

LANA's History of Funding Camelid Research

By Susan Rich

Back in the day, as they say, when the Llama Association of North America (LANA) had an impressively long roster of members and lush bank accounts, a sum of money was set aside for camelid research. More specifically, in 1990, \$69,807.52 was placed with the Morris Animal Foundation (MAF), the staff of which would:

- announce Requests for Proposals to the research world
- gather and evaluate the grants that were submitted
- share those proposals approved by its Scientific Advisory Board with LANA
- work with a designated LANA liaison to encourage consideration of one or more of the proposals
- oversee any funded projects

Available funding was derived from the interest earned by the original principal. LANA funds were pooled with other groups' initial "deposits" and then invested by the MAF's Investment Committee. This committee proved to be very effective, and by the first of the calendar year 2022, the Foundation held nearly \$200,000 on LANA's behalf.

Ten years after the initial agreement was put into place, then LANA President, Dan Milton, signed another 10-year agreement with the MAF. This served as a continuation of the partnership as outlined above. The agreement was to stand for 10 years, and there was no additional agreement on file after that. LANA was grandfathered into seeming perpetuity with the same conditions standing.



Throughout the years, LANA partially or fully funded many proposals, including:

Project Title: Development of a Quantitative Method of Assessing Insulin Sensitivity in Camelids, out of Oregon State University.

Project Summary: This study will evaluate insulin secretion and sensitivity using a special technique as researchers hope to gain a greater understanding of camelid physiology and develop effective treatment strategies.

Project start date: 9/1/2006

Project End Date: 7/31/2008

Grant amount: \$17,507

Project Title: D14LA-005: Improving the Alpaca Genome Sequence Assembly to Allow Efficient Discovery of the Underlying Genetic Causes of Diseases, Disorders, and Traits, out of Texas A&M AgriLife Research.

Project Summary: This study will improve the alpaca whole genome assembly for the discovery of genes and mutations responsible for important traits, genetic disorders, and diseases in alpacas and other camelids.

Project start date: 2/1/2014

Project End Date: 1/31/2017

Grant amount: \$130,024.16

Project Title: D15LA-301: Pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and analgesic efficacy of intravenous, transdermal, and topical fentanyl in alpacas, out of Ohio State University.

Project Summary: Researchers will determine the effectiveness of and optimal way to administer the pain-relieving drug fentanyl in alpacas

Project start date: 12/1/2014

Project End Date: 11/30/2015

Grant amount: \$16,647.28

Project Title: D19L:A-005: Clinical Pharmacokinetics of Fluconazole in Alpacas, out of the University of Arizona.

Project Summary: Researchers will determine appropriate dosing for the antifungal medication fluconazole, a treatment for coccidioidomycosis or Valley Fever in alpacas.

Project Start Date: 4/1/2019

Project End Date: 3/31/2020

Grant amount: \$14,265.30

Presentation of the LANA funded
Valley Fever Study
at the Camelid Symposium
in Sacramento, California



During the years of her LANA Presidency, Dr. Michelle Kutzler, D.V.M. served as the liaison to the Morris Animal Foundation Board, helping to ascertain the quality of the submitted research proposals and reporting back to the LANA Board of Directors. The marriage of her expertise and LANA's desire to fund camelid research proved to be very advantageous.

Then in 2022, the Morris Animal Foundation, through Dr. Kutzler, announced that it would instigate a new process to encourage camelid research proposals: donor-inspired grant proposals. This required LANA to solicit suggestions from the field, and in early 2022, the LANA Board sent out an eBlast message and utilized the Annual Meeting agenda at the Hobo Show to garner ideas to pass back to the MAF. The thought was if the topics came from camelid owners and breeders, there would be specific proposals submitted that were of interest to the funders.

The initial response asked for research designed to assist those fighting bans of camelid access, specifically llamas, to the back country. Members in various parts of the United States had been battling bans proposed in legislation and based on erroneous assumptions about camelids endangering indigenous wildlife. LANA dutifully submitted its request. The LANA Board established funding parameters, dedicating \$30,000 to such a project. The MAF responded that this research was primarily aimed at the supposedly endangered wildlife and not at camelid health. Furthermore, it indicated that such a study would cost more than three times the cap established by the Board. The agreement, therefore, was to wait to see if any viable projects came through the MAF pipeline.

These discussions are detailed in the LANA Board of Directors' minutes from the early months of 2022. And for about a year, nothing else happened.

Then on February 13, of 2023, a conference call was scheduled that included two members of the Morris Animal Foundation and three members of the LANA Board: Kathy Nichols, President of LANA; Stephanie Pedroni, Vice President of LANA whose work involves research; and Susan Rich, LANA Secretary.

During that meeting, LANA was presented with three options to consider for moving forward:

OPTION ONE: take back the funds from the MAF.

OPTION TWO: allow the MAF to oversee one final Research Project, specific to LANA's priorities, effectively expending all of the funds held by the MAF with the understanding that any leftover funds would be returned to LANA.

OPTION THREE: allow the MAF to hold and continue to invest the funds, but place all responsibilities for procurement of research grants, assessment, funding, and oversight with LANA.

LANA Board members scrambled to investigate other avenues to promote research. There was outreach to university contacts to ascertain interest. These conversations led to the conclusion that oversight of such funded grants was complicated. Additionally, the Board realized that such research was very expensive, especially when considering the peer review needed to make such research conclusions official and therefore usable when contesting proposed legislation to ban camelids from the back country. The Board concluded that it did not have the capacity to take on the responsibilities that had been held by the MAF. During this time, the funds continued to be held by the MAF.

In December of 2023, the Morris Animal Foundation organized a second conference call. Kathy Nichols, President; Joy Pedroni, Treasurer; Stephanie Pedroni, Vice President; and Susan Rich, Secretary represented LANA on the call. The three options presented previously were reiterated. It was clarified that if LANA kept its funds with the MAF, a 5% Administrative fee would be levied; however, the MAF made it clear that it was not in favor of this continued relationship. It became clear that the MAF hoped to divest itself of LANA's funds. Joy Pedroni offered to investigate the possibility of placing the funds into a separate, interest-bearing account.

At the December 21, 2023, LANA Board meeting, the decision was made to remove the funds from the MAF. At the Annual Meeting, held as part of the Hobo Show, Treasurer Joy Pedroni reported that LANA was moving its now over \$200,000 into a Wells Fargo brokerage account.

The Board would always honor that these funds would be used primarily to support research projects to improve camelid health. However, in the drought of interest on the part of researchers and lack of research proposals, the Board would consider expanding the use of those funds to include the possibilities of youth scholarships and other noteworthy endeavors. The Board would move forward cautiously and maintain transparency. Any and all actions would be taken by Board action and documented in agenda and posted minutes on the LANA website.

Current Update:

- The funds are held in an interest-bearing account that has prospered, despite the current turbulence of the economy.
- At the last budget report during the May 2025 LANA Board meeting, the account holds \$222,696.95.
- Stephanie Pedroni has brought some research proposals forward to the Board for discussion and possible funding.
- The LANA Board decided at its May 15, 2025, meeting to designate \$150,000 as the principle and to expend only those funds housed in the account in excess of the principle.
- None of the funds have been expended at the time this article was written.

The bottom line in all of this is that the money is secured and the funds are accruing interest. The LANA Board will act in congruence with that portion of the mission statement pertaining to research: *Established in 1981, the Llama Association of North America (LANA), serves the camelid community by **sponsoring medical research specific to llamas and alpacas** ...* All decisions will be made by the Board and captured in the minutes posted on the LANA website. The Board is excited about moving forward. So, please, stay tuned!

SAVE THE DATE!

GAMELIDS ROCK!



GALA EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE 2025
THE WYNDHAM HOTEL, Cleveland Ohio
Oct. 30-Nov.2, 2025

Meta AI



Sierra 4-H Llama Project

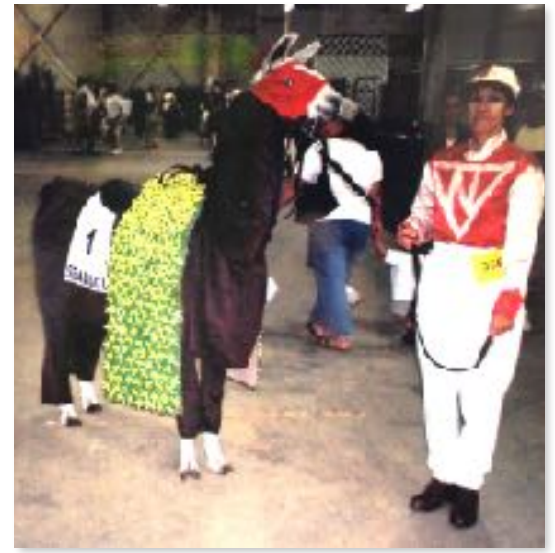


2025

Llama Project Leaders: Cali Roberson and Susan Rich

Llama Project Members: Audrey Roberson, Charlotte Roberson, Dominic Toste, and Kira Vessels

As always, our Sierra 4-H Llama project wants to say a sincere **Thank You** to the many supporters who encourage us and gift us with the resources to care for, show, and love on llamas. Thanks to Greg Harford for trusting us with his "foster boys." Thanks to the LANA Board for providing many opportunities, activities, and adventures. Thanks to our parents who drive us hither and yon!



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.

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

LANA's Emergency Wallet Card

Next of Kin Card & Live Animal Alert

Edited from an article by Cris Jennings

In 1996, LAMA Lifeline was created. It was apparent that rescue was but one role Lifeline needed to include in their new program. Although Lifeline consciously structured itself to respond to llama needs, Lifeline volunteers encountered llama rescue situations where other animals (i.e.: goats, sheep, cats, pigs, and geese) came into play. To the owner needing Lifeline's assistance, these animals' welfare was every bit as important as the llamas. Lifeline learned early on, when one type of animal on a ranch is jeopardized by a ranch emergency, all the animals may all be at risk.

Many of the llama rescue situations Lifeline has been involved with began with some sort of human emergency. Having a plan in place for llama/other animal care in case of emergency allowed owner input and control during the chaos of crisis. Real life crisis, health emergencies and death do happen to people all of the time. Individuals prepare for these events by making wills/living trusts, medical powers of attorney, and dutifully paying insurance premiums; some even insure their llamas. Lifeline realized there was generally nothing in place to

ensure basic everyday needs were met (food, water and animal care) if the owners were suddenly out of the picture and unable to provide or direct ranch coverage during an emergency situation. In response to this need in the llama community, LANA developed an emergency notification card that links Next of Kin contacts with animal care contacts.

The hard facts of life are that no one can predict when a tragedy may strike and human crisis can generate significant chaos to create animal emergencies. Thoughtful preplanning can prevent putting animals at risk and avoid compounding an already difficult situation. The NOK/Live Animal Alert Card is but one practical application of LANA's commitment to the community, the well being of llamas and Lifeline's consulting, networking, education philosophy.

LANA was contacted in December 2024, and asked if LANA still had the NOK cards available. The Board of Directors agreed to create an updated card and make it available to anyone. Please feel free to print this and share with others.

 Llama Association of North America Next of Kin / Live Animal Alert Name _____ Address _____ _____ Phone(s) _____ Email _____ If I am incapacitated or die, please contact those listed on the reverse side of this card. PLEASE ENSURE SOMEONE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR IMMEDIATE FOOD AND WATER NEEDS OF MY ANIMALS.	Next of Kin Contacts Name: _____ Relationship: _____ ph _____ Name: _____ Relationship: _____ ph _____ Animal Care Contacts Name: _____ Relationship: _____ ph _____ Name: _____ Relationship: _____ ph _____ <table><tr><td>____ # Llamas</td><td>____ # Cats</td><td>____ # Sheep</td><td>____ # Equine</td></tr><tr><td>____ # Alpacas</td><td>____ # Dogs</td><td>____ # Goats</td><td>____ # Other</td></tr></table>	____ # Llamas	____ # Cats	____ # Sheep	____ # Equine	____ # Alpacas	____ # Dogs	____ # Goats	____ # Other
____ # Llamas	____ # Cats	____ # Sheep	____ # Equine						
____ # Alpacas	____ # Dogs	____ # Goats	____ # Other						



FOLD HERE

Llama Association of North America

Website: www.lanainfo.org Email: lanaquestions@gmail.com



2025 Membership and Donations

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



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.



Your Name:

Your Ranch Name:

Address:

Email:

Phone number(s):

Website:

MEMBERSHIP & Donation OPTIONS

See second page for Descriptions

Membership options:	Fees:	Your
---------------------	-------	------

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:



LANA Membership, Sponsorship, & Donation Opportunities 2025

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-sized card ad in all five general 2025 newsletters to promote your camelid passion: a ranch, club, animal(s), or business, 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 as outlined above: 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, 1 vote for a designated adult, & support of the association and its mission
Donation to LANA Lama Lifeline Donation to Youth Programs	Lifeline saves camelids in housing crisis. Funds go toward feed, vet care, transportation, and other rescue costs. The LANA Lifeline Committee responds to emergencies and works with other agencies to remove animals when necessary and rehouse them safely. LANA Youth programs include youth only shows, youth classes at shows at discounted rates, 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.