



LANA NEWS

Llama Association of North America

Spring Edition 2017

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Kids & Camelids Show

by Superintendent Sue Rich

*The applicable descriptor is "show-nic."
And the Kids & Camelids event is one: a hybrid
between a show and a clinic*

Typically, here's what happens in performance classes at llama and alpaca shows. The handler navigates the course with his/her animal under the watchful eye of the judge. The judge hastily scrawls short hand notes next to the numbers of the obstacles. These score sheets are delivered under top secret delivery systems to the scoring desk, where they are totaled and kept for placing reference. And the handler, who may find out about

A huge **thank you** to all who helped! It takes a village to put on a show!

- Judges: Kim Yates and Maureen Macedo
- Sponsors: Nasco, Kathy Nichols, Margaret Drew, and Joy Pedroni
- Cooks: Fred and Kenny Rich
- Scorekeepers: Stephanie Pedroni and Sarah Rich
- Photographer: Oscar Garcia Castro
- Obstacle Assistants: Leilani and Lola Garcia and Trinity Harry
- Youth Handlers and their families



their standings in the class after everyone has completed the course through ribbon distribution, must wait until the very end of the show to finally get a peek at the score sheets. the judge is willing, at the end of a long day, and if the handler is persistent enough, the two of them find each other and huddle over the score sheets. The pressure and temptation to just pack up and leave are immense. But the stalwart pair looks over the score cards, trying desperately to remember just what obstacle # 8 was in the class that started eight hours ago. The judge tries to explain the cryptic shorthand. Both are tired. Both want to go home. Not the best learning environment, and many succumb to the call of the fairgrounds exit and head for their trucks and vans, especially if there is any kind of line of handlers waiting for their turn at a post mortem.

The Kids & Camelids Show is designed to be a fun day for youth who want to learn

Funny that feedback is immediate for showmanship and halter, usually, but never for performance. The Kids & Camelids Show is designed to be a fun day for youth who want to learn. It is a no groom show and that right there is worth the “price of admission,” as they say. There is no halter or judging or carting, just performance and showmanship. Maureen Macedo was on hand to offer a sideline fiber consultation so that the kids could learn more about their animals’ fiber.

The best feedback is immediate

The Kid & Camelids “Show” is designed to take advantage of what educators have known for a long time: the best feedback is immediate. So, the judge keeps the handler in the ring after the last obstacle is completed and confers immediately. The obstacles are before them, the judge’s memory is fresh, and the handler is ready to hear about the performance just completed. We even ask the handler to deliver the score sheet to the tabulation table. No need for runners.

For two of the youth, this was a first show. For another two, this was show number two. So, the timing was right. These handlers are early in their careers and ripe for support and assistance. In addition to the immediate feedback, we take

LANA

Youth Article & Art Contest

LANA invites youth member of all ages to submit an article on any camelid-related topic of interest to the youth. Articles should be 1000 words or less with four pictures or less.

Articles should be written in Times New Roman 12 point font and double-spaced, with the author's name on each page in the header.

Young members (11 years and younger) are also invited to submit a piece of original artwork. Pictures or scanned artwork should be submitted as .tiff or .jpeg files with a resolution of at least 300 dpi. The content should be the original work of the youth author.

Articles and scanned artwork should be submitted electronically to Sue Rich at susan.rich9631@gmail.com

One winner from each of the four age categories (sub-junior, junior, intermediate, and senior) will be selected twice a year.

Submission due:
November 1
May 1, 2018

Winners will receive a \$25 cash prize and articles will be published in the LANA Newsletter and on the website.

walk throughs to talk about how to enter obstacles, what to think about and watch for, and when to ask questions and when to stay silent. Again, learning is the theme of the day.

For the Kids

This year's K&C Show was the third. Margaret Drew served as the judge for the inaugural event and the second annual. Kim Yates served as the judge/consultant this year, and the youth handlers remarked on their appreciation of his consultation. Both graciously donated their time because the show was "for the kids," as did Maureen. Fred and Kenny Rich served up warm breakfast burritos in the morning and barbecued in the afternoon, including vegan faire. Nasco provided incredible gifts for each handler: a water bucket, a grooming brush, and a catalog with gift certificates attached.

Mission Accomplished

At the end of the day on March 25, 2017, after the youth handlers and their families graciously helped break down the courses and haul the obstacles to the trailer, the show-nic was a mission accomplished. It was a fun day with lots of lessons learned and great camaraderie.

by



Kids & Camelids

Show Results

	SENIOR YOUTH	PACK	class of 1
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1st	Trinity Harry	McShaggy's Memnon	Orange Blossom 4-H
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	SENIOR YOUTH	OBSTACLE	class of 1
--	--------------	----------	------------

1st	Trinity Harry	McShaggy's Memnon	Orange Blossom 4-H
-----	---------------	-------------------	--------------------

	SENIOR YOUTH	PUBLIC RELATIONS	class of 1
--	--------------	------------------	------------

1st	Trinity Harry	McShaggy's Memnon	Orange Blossom 4-H
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GRAND CHAMPION	SENIOR YOUTH PERFORMANCE		
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Trinity Harry	McShaggy's Memnon	Orange Blossom 4-H
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	INTERMEDIATE YOUTH	PACK	class of 2
--	--------------------	------	------------

1st	Lily Mogler	Cadfael's Mulan	Mogler Madness
-----	-------------	-----------------	----------------

2nd	Allie Williams	Chekov	Hughson 4-H
-----	----------------	--------	-------------

	INTERMEDIATE YOUTH	OBSTACLE	class of 3
--	--------------------	----------	------------

1st	Allie Williams	Chekov	Hughson 4-H
-----	----------------	--------	-------------

2nd	Sierra Siefert	Moses
-----	----------------	-------

3rd	Lily Mogler	Cadfael's Mulan	Mogler Madness
-----	-------------	-----------------	----------------

	INTERMEDIATE YOUTH	PUBLIC RELATIONS	class of 3
--	--------------------	------------------	------------

1st	Lily Mogler	Cadfael's Mulan	Mogler Madness
-----	-------------	-----------------	----------------

2nd	Allie Williams	Chekov	Hughson 4-H
-----	----------------	--------	-------------

3rd	Sierra Siefert	Moses
-----	----------------	-------

GRAND CHAMPION	INTERMEDIATE YOUTH PERFORMANCE		
----------------	--------------------------------	--	--

Allie Williams	Chekov	Hughson 4-H
----------------	--------	-------------

RESERVE CHAMPION	INTERMEDIATE YOUTH PERFORMANCE		
------------------	--------------------------------	--	--

Lily Mogler	Cadfael's Mulan	Mogler Madness
-------------	-----------------	----------------

JUNIOR YOUTH		PACK	class of 4
1st	Ethan Busha	Keebler	Hughson 4-H
2nd	Julia Williams	Shaggy	Hughson 4-H
3rd	Lola Garcia	EZ Cash	Orange Blossom 4-H
4th	Aiden Pedroni	HLM Chop Sticks	Black Cat Llamas

JUNIOR YOUTH		OBSTACLE	class of 3
1st	Ethan Busha	Keebler	Hughson 4-H
2nd	Lola Garcia	EZ Cash	Orange Blossom 4-H
3rd	Julia Williams	Shaggy	Hughson 4-H

JUNIOR YOUTH		PUBLIC RELATIONS	class of 4
1st	Lola Garcia	EZ Cash	Orange Blossom 4-H
2nd	Ethan Busha	Keebler	Hughson 4-H
3rd	Julia Williams	Shaggy	Hughson 4-H
4th	Aiden Pedroni	HLM Chop Sticks	Black Cat Llamas

GRAND CHAMPION	JUNIOR YOUTH PERFORMANCE	
Ethan Busha	Keebler	Hughson 4-H

RESERVE CHAMPION	JUNIOR YOUTH PERFORMANCE	
Lola Garcia	EZ Cash	Orange Blossom 4-H

	SUB-JUNIOR YOUTH	OBSTACLE	class of 2
1st	Ethan Pedroni	HLM Chop Sticks	Black Cat Llamas
2nd	Jackson Pedroni	HLM Chop Sticks	Black Cat Llamas

	SUB-JUNIOR YOUTH	PUBLIC RELATIONS	class of 2
1st	Ethan Pedroni	HLM Chop Sticks	Black Cat Llamas
2nd	Jackson Pedroni	HLM Chop Sticks	Black Cat Llamas

	SENIOR YOUTH	SHOWMANSHIP	class of 1
1st	Trinity Harry	McShaggy's Memnon	Orange Blossom 4-H

	INTERMEDIATE YOUTH	SHOWMANSHIP	class of 3
1st	Lily Mogler	Cadfael's Mulan	Mogler Madness
2nd	Allie Williams	Chekov	Hughson 4-H
3rd	Sierra Seifert	Moses	

	JUNIOR YOUTH	SHOWMANSHIP	class of 3
1st	Lola Garcia	EZ Cash	Orange Blossom 4-H
2nd	Ethan Busha	Keebler	Hughson 4-H
3rd	Julia Williams	Shaggy	Hughson 4-H

Exhibitor Quotes



TRINITY HARRY

17 years old
Senior

“I like that this show is very laid back. The more relaxed environment is great for learning, which is really what this event is all about. Every time I work with my animal I feel like I learn something new. We need to work on handling more sensitive areas, such as legs or ears.”

ALLIE WILLIAMS

13 years old
Intermediate

“”What surprised me the most about this show was that the judge walked us through what we did wrong after each course instead of at the end of the show. I liked Showmanship the most because everyone was involved.”



SIERRA SEIFERT

13 years old
Intermediate

“I learned that Moses usually responds if I put pressure on the lead and then let it go loose again when he moves forward. Moses learned how to walk through the tent. We need to work on many obstacles, but it was great.”



LILY MOGLER

12 years old
Intermediate

“I liked how the judge talked to us about our scoresheets and told us what to do better next time. What surprised me the most was having my llama see someone in a scary mask.”



ETHAN BUSHA

11 years old
Junior

“Today, I learned that when the judge asks you to back up and then go back to your normal place. And I learned that we need to work on going in the water.

LOLA GARCIA

10 years old
Junior

“What surprised me the most was that I didn’t do horrible on mu first show. I learned that my animal can actually focus and my animal learned how to do a show with me. We do need to work on going into the water.





JULIA WILLAMS

**9 years old
Junior**

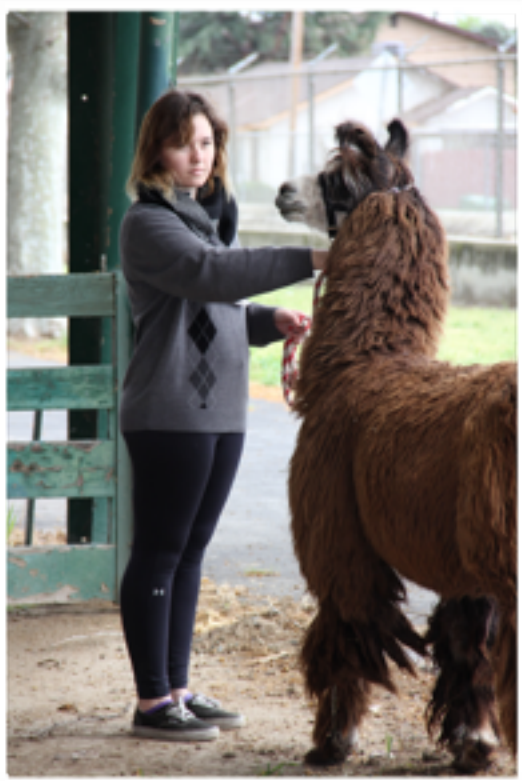
“I learned from the judge today that if you make a mistake, it is ok. Shaggy and I need to slow down and I need to not be nervous.”

AIDEN PEDRONI

**8 years old
Junior**

“I really like Chop Sticks and I’m happy Mrs. Labendeira let me use him. I’m going to do better next time because I’m going to practice.”





TRINITY AND MEMNON





**ALLIE
AND
CHEKOV**





SIERRA AND MOSES





**LILY
AND
MULAN**





**ETHAN AND
KEEBLLER**





**LOLA
AND
EZ CASH**





**JULIA
AND
SHAGGY**





**AIDEN AND
CHOPSTICKS**





**ETHAN (AGE 6)
AND CHOPSTICKS**





**JACKSON (AGE 4)
AND CHOPSTICKS**













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A photograph of a white alpaca's head and shoulders. The alpaca is wearing a blue ribbon around its neck. The ribbon has a circular blue and white rosette at the top and a blue banner hanging down that says "FIRST PLACE". The alpaca is looking slightly to the right. The background is a solid dark blue.

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Camelid Healthcare Services

Patrick Long DVM

33201 Se Peoria Rd

Corvallis, Oregon

February 6, 2016

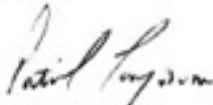
Dear Susan and all LANA Board Members:

It was a big surprise and honor to open your package and see the nice letter and plaque you have sent. I was very honored and humbled to receive LANA's lifetime achievement award. I had no idea I was being considered for this honor.

It has been a wonderful 35 years working with camelids. I have to say that there have been many memorable moments along the way. Receiving this award is certainly one of them.

Thank you all—and be sure to pass on my thanks and appreciation to all members of LANA. I will cherish this award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Long DVM". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Patrick" being more prominent.

Patrick Long DVM



Senior Spotlight

**by Suzann Penry
Fallen Oak Llamas**

The Show Ring

A Llama Show. What a wonderful place to see outstanding llamas. The Halter Classes are filled with magnificent representations of the llamas finest potential. Weanling classes are filled with young llamas under a year in age. They are shown when their legs are straight and their growth spurt hopefully has their backs straight. Any person who has bred llamas knows that these young beauties do not look as perfect as that day in the ring. A young llama may be Grand Champion at one show & not place at the next show.

Yearling class shows off the potential of what the llama may become. Some may have had a growth spurt & be tall & agile looking. Some may be turning into powerhouses. Some show off signs of their lineage.

Two Year old Halter Classes show off a llama near his physical peak. The youth of the llama is shown in his grace & agility. The maturity of the Two Year old is shown in his muscles & tone. Then, the last Halter class is the Three & older class. This class is the focus of this article.

The Over Three year old class... mostly made up of three to six year olds. The body is matured, the muscle mass is strong & exhibitors show off the genetic potential of continuing the lineage of that llama—male or female. The numbers in these classes are often significantly lower than the younger classes. Many llamas that were successful in the younger classes are no longer seen in the show ring after the age of three to four years. Ever ask yourself why? Well, there is no one answer for this question. Many factors are involved.

Reasons For No Longer Showing

Success

is one reason llamas are not shown over the age of four years. A llama may have been shown extensively in his youth. He may have won all of the ribbons, received all of the prizes and gathered

all of the points to receive a Recognition of Merit. This llama is probably a sought after commodity. With all hopes, people will want to pay top dollar to add this llamas genetics to their own breeding line.

Breeding

is another reason people no longer show their llamas past a certain age. Males now become the Herdsire for a ranch or sought after by other ranches. Many of these males can become quite unruly in the show environment too. People start breeding their females as young as two years so the two year old classes start to diminish in size. At a recent show, much to my horror, the judge asked if my two year old was pregnant. She was not even overweight. By three years, the female halter class numbers have diminished even more. The llama has reached .

Many *other factors* all are involved in a llamas' show career ending. They can include injury (a problem our ranch became too familiar with in 2008), cost (showing many llamas means spending many dollars) and moving on to other llamas (that new group of crias are great looking & will show off a herdsires genetics). I find the last factor for not showing a llama to be a sad one.

Conformation

At three to six years of age a llama will probably reach it's peak physical shape. The body is tight, the back is straight & solid and the pasterns are strong. The llamas fiber is abundant & flowing. There is a flash in his eye and a perk in his step. Then everything changes. That straight back gets a bit of a sway to it. The pasterns become soft. The llama may loose the nice fluid movement it once had. The fiber begins to thin and become coarser. And let us not forget, the desired style of llamas is constantly changing.

A bit of physical change is to be expected. After all, we see it in humans all of the time. The body seldom stays the same over time & this is something people should consider when adding to their breeding program. I have seen some people that have put genetically unsound llamas into their breeding program because the cria offspring look good (while they are young), or the pedigree is the 'current fashion '. I have seen many outstanding llamas, in great condition' overlooked merely because they were old. The 'Older' Llama

By now you probably think I am telling you that llamas are decrepit over the age of six. I AM NOT! All llamas loose some of the luster that they once had in their youth. Some loose more than others, but NO ONE should give up on a llama because of it's age!

Anyone who knows me, knows my story.

I started out with eight llamas—all at once. I had two herdsires, 2 1/2 years & 7 years old. The 2 1/2 year old not proven & the 7 year old only had two offspring and did not like people! Most of the females ranged between 7-9 years old. Many had been baby producers since before the age of 2 & others were 'problem breeders' because they did not get pregnant. All had good conformation and all would produce Blue Ribbon winners or Grand Champions. My oldest Herdsire, SpellBinder, saw his first show in 2005 at the age of 12 years. Now you must remember, time did not leave him unaffected. Though he scored good over the back, he had a gut. Though it still was silky to the touch, his wool had thinned. He stood at 39 inches, well below the height of his competition... But... his back was strong, his pasterns were magnificent and he had a 'look at me' presence of a much younger boy. He ribboned, placing 5th. Yes, there were only 7 in the class but none of the others were over the age of five. One of the males that placed under him consistently placed in the top three. I was THRILLED!!!



SpellBinder

In May 2007, I was able to purchase an imported Herdsire, Argentine Corvo. He was 10 years old. I was impressed by his movement. He had strong pasterns. He had one of the strongest backs that we had seen, at any age. His problems— he only had four offspring & he stood at only 40 inches, but I like small. In May 2008, I entered him in the Grass Valley Show, CA. He was 11 years old (see a pattern here?). The Halter Class was double point—two judges. There were eight llamas in the class. Corvo placed a 3rd & a 5th, over much younger llamas. I had been sick so Corvo was not washed before competition. Corvo placed 4th in his Walking Fiber class. He was the only llama to score a perfect ten in wool density, in all four wool classes.

Conclusion

The three herdsires I mentioned lived to 23, 18 & 16 years old. They never lost their sparkle or energy. The two oldest had to be put down because of a dog pack attack. If not for that I believe they would still be with me, full of life and energy. All of them maintained outstanding conformations. All of them passed on those solid genetics to their offspring. All were part of my breeding program until the day they died

Do you have a nice older llama? Enter him/her in a show or take him to a public event. You will be thrilled if they do well. I have seen several llamas in their teens bringing home Grands and Reserves. It is a great way to validate (or not) your own opinion of your llama. Are you going to breed to a llama outside of your ranch? Maybe you might want to consider a llama that has stood the test of time. He may be standing in your own pasture. You may not have the current fashionable genetics, but that strong cria produced might be the one everyone else will be wanting in the next few years!

JUST ANOTHER OPINION... OR... COMMON SENSE?

by Cathy Spalding

Varying approaches regarding the immediate handling, intervention and assistance of newborn alpacas and llamas have been shrouded in controversy and debate for over a quarter century. The extremes run from doing absolutely nothing in the thought that nature should prevail to assisting the mother and her newborn baby in all manner of ways -- from taking those first steps to encouraging nursing, initial training and more. As I travel across North America and abroad, I am consistently asked my thoughts around the levels of human handling, intervention and assistance immediately following the birth of an alpaca and/or llama.

Though I steadfastly maintain that we all hold a fiduciary responsibility to provide the best we are able for the animals in our charge -- to, of course, intervene in cases of necessity -- it would seem appropriate to also hold awareness and appreciation for the miraculous process unfolding before our very eyes. While in the womb, the body of most every mother adjusts to the many requirements of her developing baby. Dr. James Kimmel, PhD -- speaking from the perspective of the human mammal -- points out: "Although mother and infant are separate organisms with separate physical structures, they function as a unit. They activate and respond to the biology of the other." They are a "functional unit because they are participants in the same process." Dr. Kimmel explains that this functioning as a unit does not cease at the moment of birth. Each unit continues to operate on their own timetable appropriate to their unique coupling.

Some baby camelids are up, attempting to walk and nurse within moments of birth. For others, hours may pass. Functioning as a unit postpartum, the body of the mother is preparing to care for her baby "on the outside" while simultaneously the body of the baby is also preparing for life "on the outside." No baby is exactly as another and no two mother-baby pairs are precisely the same -- even with the same mother/father combination. On a fairly equal timetable to this unique pairing, the baby is adjusting -- gathering focus, strength and coordination -- as the mother goes through her own adjustments of hormonal shifts, passing of the placenta and the let down of milk.

It seems remarkable that an alpaca or llama newborn must accomplish within hours what normally takes several years for a human baby. At birth, a human baby does not have control of their body movements nor are they able to clearly focus on objects any closer than about 10 inches from their face. It is not normally until about 4 to 5 months of age that they have developed the muscle strength and control allowing them to roll over, sit upright with assistance and hold their head up for short periods.

From 6 months to a year old, human babies typically learn to sit alone, crawl, pull themselves up to stand and take short walking steps with assistance. Their eye muscles should now be able to include more distance in their focus and follow moving objects. They should be able to locate sounds by turning their head. It is not until around the average age of 18 months that a human baby should be able to walk and feed himself without assistance. By the two-year mark, it is expected that the human baby will be able to walk (can control legs and feet), begin to run, climb up and down from furniture and walk up and down stairs with support. Their actions should now become more intentional, controlled and coordinated.

How does this compare with camelids? Amazingly, an alpaca or llama must accomplish within a few hours of birth what it takes a human baby nearly two years to master. This accomplishment would seem programmed within as a serious matter of life or death. As we are quite unlikely to make a significant impact on the rate of speed in the development (maturation) of humans, it would seem equally unlikely that we could significantly impact the rate of speed in the development (maturation) of camelids.



alpaca baby moments old



human baby a few ours old

Specifically, a baby alpaca or llama “hits the ground” somewhat limp and sputtering. At the moment of exposure to their new life outside of mom, the lungs begin to take in the outside air, the eyes begin to focus and it is usually obvious that there exists a deep innate desire to “get going.” Yet, at this most initial stage, they are unable to control muscle movement or raise their head. Very shortly, however, muscle strength begins to appear.

They begin to raise the head often scrambling unsuccessfully at the same time to assemble those long legs in some orderly fashion. A short moment later, there is evidence of some organized control over those muscles. That long neck is now lifting the head and those flailing legs move in a more deliberate fashion soon to be tucked underneath the body. Before long, this very new to the world baby is kushed with legs basically tucked appropriately underneath, neck upright holding the head fairly steady. After what would appear a short rest, it is time to discover how all those legs might work in coordination with one another. Wobbly and often falling over at first, the body becomes a bit more stable and it is now time to attempt forward movement. Invariably, nothing seems to work very well together at first. If movement is not well coordinated, the legs become entangled causing a fall. Too much forward force from those rear legs causes a heels over head tumble. It is a matter of discovering the nuances of balance, coordination and control. It is remarkable how quickly those lessons can take hold. And typically, until they do it is not yet time to begin nursing. During this same time period, the newborn’s mother is changing and adjusting to be able to feed and care for her baby. Miraculously, by the time this newborn is able to stand, walk and negotiate the task of nursing, mom had gone through much of her own needed changes and her milk has usually fully let down. They are a near perfectly orchestrated unit.



alpaca babies at six months of age



human baby at six months of age

Our respect and recognition of this near perfectly orchestrated unit is important as it relates to our level of handling, intervention and assistance. If there appears an obvious need, there is no doubt that we should intervene. It would also seem important that we might consider each unique pair as a healthy, attuned unit unless otherwise proven. Timing is relative to each unique pair and what may occur within an hour in one case may take 4 or 5 or perhaps more hours in another. It is most logical and surely appropriate to conduct an overall check of the baby, dip the umbilical and weigh. To go too far beyond those basics, however, could lead us – as well as this mom and baby – down a difficult, worrisome and perhaps totally unnecessary path. As an example, we might decide it has been over an hour since birth and based on our past mother/baby unit experience, this new baby should be up and nursing by now. We approach the mom, perhaps even tie her and strip the waxy plugs from her teats. Oh no, we sigh with concern... it seems as though she may not have a full bag of milk. We press on, however, and gather up baby who is yet unable to fully negotiate standing and walking on his own. We hold him steady under mom trying to teach him where the teats are located. We feel hope within us that perhaps his sucking will stimulate her full milk production. Unfortunately, sigh, he won't nurse. Maybe he doesn't have a sucking instinct? What to do now? Perhaps we should tube him with goat colostrum, give mom a shot of Oxytocin and offer her some grain laced with an herbal milk stimulant. I wonder if the colostrum in the freezer is still viable? Perhaps we should run in to the feed store as long term, we might also need a milk replacer. How long should we wait? Maybe we should milk out mom as best we might ourselves and feed the baby? Should we tube or feed from a bottle?

If, per chance, after all of our honest efforts milk does come fully in and he nurses on his own... is that because we intervened or is that because it was going to happen in its own timing no matter what we felt to do? And would it, perhaps, have come together sooner if we had not intervened? While intervention surely has a place on the time-line continuum, could it be a bit premature in this specific case with this unique pair? If premature, our attempts will likely not be wholly successful if for no other reason than the timing is not yet right for everything to come together for this pairing.

We have additionally disrupted the timetable of this unique pairing, added additional confusion and stress for everyone and absorbed some much-needed energy from the baby.

As we would not expect our human baby to perform far beyond their normal range of capabilities before their time, it would seem reasonable that we do not place that expectation on our alpaca and llama babies. As some human babies develop at an earlier age and some at a later stage than the perceived norm, so do the alpacas and llamas. It would seem most appropriate to allow the natural flow to develop in its own unique timing and not disrupt the process diverting away precious energy unless truly necessary.



Connected yet separate. There would seem no doubt that we can surely learn from one another!

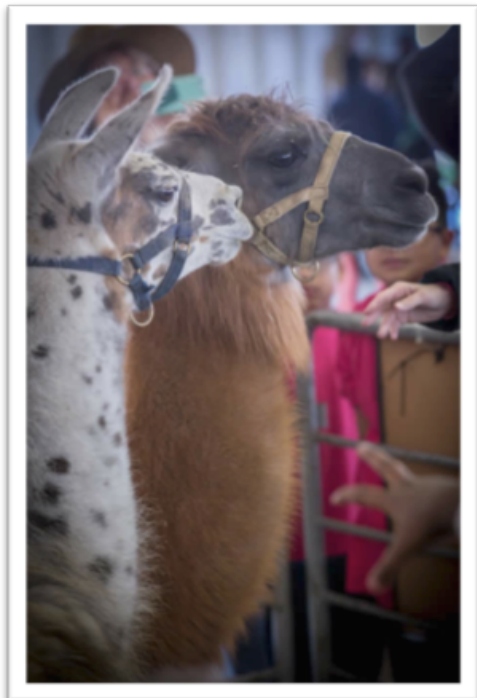


by Joy Pedroni
Black Cat Llamas

2017's Youth Ag Day was just terrific! The first Solano County Ag Day was held back in 2002. It's now the 15th consecutive year and 2017's Ag Day was the best one yet. The annual Youth Ag Day is a collaborative effort of the Solano County Fair and agricultural related businesses, organizations, farmers, ranchers and other individuals to encourage Solano County third graders to experience agriculture first-hand.

This fun and educational event is free to all third grade classes in Solano County and features a wide variety of rotational learning stations and displays. Activities are designed to give children the opportunity to learn about food and fiber production from new perspectives, with a particular emphasis on the agricultural wealth of Solano County. Children participate in hands-on displays and educational presentations as well as an optional pre-event classroom project to enhance the field trip learning experience.

Here are the stats –There were 121 3rd grade classes from all over Solano County, representing 41 schools. We had 44 presenters, plus the 100 4H members, who connected with 2,894 third-graders and 693 teachers and chaperones. Of course, the numbers don't tell the whole story, as this activity wouldn't be possible without the many hours of time donated by dedicated volunteers and presenters.



Black Cat Llamas has been participating in the event for seven years

Ag Ventures with Zydeco by Brittany Mogler

I recently had the opportunity for a real life public relations challenge when I was asked to bring a llama to Ag Ventures at the Lodi Grape Festival Fairgrounds.

Zydeco was surrounded by thousands of energetic 3rd graders for about five hours.



I would talk to the groups of kids that came by what llamas can be used for and answer all their questions.

I let the kids pet Zydeco and would take him out of the pen several times throughout the day to allow special needs students the opportunity to pet him too.



I was thankful for the opportunity to bring Zydeco out for this large field day, many kids have never seen a llama before, and this allowed me to teach the children what amazing animals llamas are. Zydeco is the best for school occasions as he remained very calm and relaxed while being mobbed by kids.



**You're
invited
to a Party**



LANA'S 30th ANNIVERSARY

PARTY LAMA SHOW

May 6-7, 2017

San Joaquin County Fairgrounds

Stockton, California

Judges:

Cynthia Ernst - Michigan

Adryce Mathisen - Texas

BEST IN SHOW AWARDS

Llama Halter

Alpaca Halter

Shorn Alpaca Fleece

Shorn Llama Fleece

Walking Llama Fleece

VERSATILITY CHAMPIONSHIP

Open Alpaca

Male Llama

Female Llama

Non-Breeder Llama

FINISHED PRODUCTS

Novice

Advanced

Masters

Youth

PERFORMANCE DIVISIONS

Novice

Advanced

Masters

Open Alpaca

Sub-Junior

Junior

Intermediate

Senior

Open Youth Alpaca



SATURDAY NIGHT FUN

Chicken Dinner

Silent Auction

Bingo

50/50



May 27, 2017

Time: 8:00 am

Parade

*Join us for our third
year participating in the
Vacaville 2017 Fiesta
Days Parasde*

*lanaquestions@gmail.com
www.lanainfo.org*

**Joy Pedroni
707-447-5046**



LLAMA CAMPING

LANA is taking you camping with your llama! SAVE THE DATE and mark your calendars for a llama adventure at Sly Park Black Oak Equestrian Campground on June 9th, 10th & 11th. Sly Park is located in Pollack Pines, CA.



We need to know as soon as possible who is interested in attending this fun weekend event. Please send an email to lanaquestions@gmail.com and tell us how many in your group. Prices will be determined when we have a count. LANA members will receive a discount. More info to follow soon!



California State Fair Llama & Alpaca Show



30th Annual Show

July 27 - 30, 2017

Cal Expo, Sacramento, California

ALSA Level III Llama Show

ALSA Level I Alpaca Show

Head Judge: Tami Lash - Michigan

For more info: www.castatefair.org
or contact kathysva@aol.com

deadline is June 21st

California State Fair website: www.castatefair.org



October 7th & 8th
Stanislaus Fairgrounds
Turlock, CA

2017 Western Regionals

Ladies & Gentlemen! Boys & Girls of all
Ages! Welcome.....to the Big Top!

That's right, Regionals is headed back to the circus.
Dig out your circus clothes and join the fun.

Ron & Joy Pedroni, Superintendents

JOY@BLACKCATLLAMAS.COM

BELLA

Fiddymment Farms Hero Award



On Friday March 31, Bella, Trish and I attended a Placer SPCA 2017 Awards Dinner and Fund-raising Event at Del Webb's Sun City in Roseville.

The event, attended by over 350 people, was held in the magnificent Timber Creek Ballroom and included dinner, auctions, a live comedian and presentation of "Hero Awards" to a number of honorees.

The "Hero Awards" were established to annually honor people, animals, businesses and/or organizations that have gone above and beyond to demonstrate the strength of the human-animal bond. Both Bella and Michael Carlson, who designed her prosthetic leg, received an award.



Bella was honored for her service in supporting amputee groups and for her work with 4H youth. Trish led her up the stairs and onto the stage to the resounding applause of the attendees. Here she is receiving her award, and being photographed after the presentation with Trish and Michael Carlson, who designed and made her prosthetic leg....



Prior to the event KCRA Channel 3 did an extensive interview with Bella and Trish out in the parking lot.....



Bella is resting well after media event and public appearance...

Chuck Robuck



Dolly Peters

**RANCHO
DOLLY LLAMA**

951 Sheridan Lane
Gardnerville, Nevada
702 265-1989

RDL Ilya—7/6/15

California State Fair Champion

Medium Wool Male



THE ORANGE

BLOSSOM 4-H LLAMA PROJECT



We are indebted to very kind members of the adult llama community who share their expertise and their animals with the 4H participants in our project. Trinity Harry is shown here with a llama provided by Ed and Arleen McCombs: McShaggy's Memnon.



Another McComb's gift, McShaggy's Maverick with Trinity: **BEFORE** the shearing ...



... And then
AFTER



We especially want to thank those in the llama world who have donated their time to help these 4Her's and other llama youth grow in their knowledge of the care and training of their camelid friends, their skills in dealing with the new and unusual both in the ring and on the trail, and their love of the animals.



Lora Crawford has been incredibly generous with both her time and her animals. Lola Garcia, to the left, has her first up-close-and-personal encounter with EZ Cash, an animal donated to the project from Lora. His easy affection makes him a hit with newcomers to the project and a favorite at shows, especially State Fair, where he is quick to reach over the bars of the stalls to say, "Hello" to the passersby.

Joy Pedroni has volunteered her time and energies to make the Kids & Camelids Show happen by gathering the show entries, interfacing with ALSA and fairgrounds staff, and manning the scoring table. Her grandsons fill the ranks of the sub-junior classes, and she connects with the youth at every show.

Maureen Macedo shares her home pastures and fields for the Hot August Nights Show, sponsors another 4-H project, and donates her time to offer fiber consultations during the Kids & Camelids Show.

Incredibly generous, **Margaret Drew** has donated her valuable time to judge and consult with the participants of the first two Kids & Camelid Shows. She has created T-shirts, shared printed resources, provided give aways for gift bags, and served in innumerable ways to connect kids with animals.

Kathy Nichols has had a huge impact on youth and their animals. She provided the youth strand of the LANA Expos for years, schedules a youth demonstration at the State Fairs that she has superintended, and has donated her time to assist with the Kids & Camelids Shows. **THANK YOU ALL**

Project Leader: Susan Rich, 9631 Dillwood Road, Oakdale, CA 96361 (209) 847-2981



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OKIA RTC

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Argentine

Suri Wool
Stud



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LAVENDER



ORANGE



**DESERT
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**PRAIRIE
DUST**



**MILITARY
GREEN**

\$16 per shirt

This is an ongoing fundraiser to benefit LANA programs throughout the year. You can order by email (lanaquestions@gmail.com) and send a check or you can order on LANA's webpage, www.lanainfo.org, and pay with PayPal.

Help support LANA and order your shirt today!

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

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THANK YOU

Thank you to the following for their contribution to this newsletter: Oscar Garcia Castro, Brittany Mogler, Suzann Penry, Joy Pedroni, Sue Rich, Chuck Robuck, and Cathy Spalding

