



# LANA NEWS

Llama Association of North America  
Early Summer Edition 2024



International Year of the Camelids

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello LANA Members and lama enthusiasts,

Have you sent LANA a picture of your camelid in celebration of the International Year of the Camelids? Your picture will appear on our website, in our newsletter and eblasted to our group.

At LANA's recent events, there were many people who helped and deserve thanking.

**Many thank you's** going out to:

- ✋ BOD Lee Beringsmith for organizing the Annual Buttes Hike.
- ✋ BOD Margaret Drew for hosting the LANA Herd Health and Wellness Day at her ranch.
- ✋ Dr. Dan Mora for his dental work on the llamas that attended.
- ✋ BOD Joy Pedroni for scheduling the appointments, shearing bellies, toe nail trimmings, and vaccinations.
- ✋ BOD Stephanie Pedroni for weighing llamas, and assisting where needed.
- ✋ Mario Rivera for helping Dr. Mora
- ✋ George Caldwell and Christine Dunham for presenting "the Magic of Llamas" and hosting us at their Circle Home Llama Ranch.
- ✋ BOD Susan Rich for coordinating the above event.
- ✋ The participants who attended and supported LANA and these events.

Keep your eye on the Calendar of Events. In late July, LANA will be the host organization for the California State Fair Llama & Alpaca Show. LANA invites you to join us at the Great American River Clean Up in September.

I hope to see you at an event soon,  
Kathy Nichols

## LANA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Kathy Nichols**  
President, Newsletter Editor

**Stephanie Pedroni**  
Vice President, Social Media

**Joy Pedroni**  
Treasurer, Office, Webmaster

**Sue Rich**  
Secretary, Youth Chair

**Lee Beringsmith**  
Director

**Margaret Drew**  
Director

**Emily Muirhead**  
Director, Social Media

**Rondi Smith**  
Director

**Cathy Spalding**  
Advisory Chair

If you would like to contact any of the board members, please do so at [lanaquestions@gmail.com](mailto:lanaquestions@gmail.com)

## LANA BUSINESS OFFICE

Joy Pedroni  
3966 Estate Drive  
Vacaville, CA. 95688  
1-707-234-5510  
[lanaquestions@gmail.com](mailto:lanaquestions@gmail.com)

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

Visit LANA at: [www.lanainfo.org](http://www.lanainfo.org)  
Instagram @llamassociationofnorthamerica  
Facebook Llama Association of North America

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## THANK YOU for CONTRIBUTING

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

Lee Beringsmith, Karen Conyngham, Francie Greth-Peto, Nina Pedersen, Joy Pedroni, Stephanie Pedroni, Cali Roberson, Susan Rich, Kayla Rogers, and Mo Zatzke

Int'l Year of the Camelids Photo Gallery: Kris Barnes, Eileen Distler, Alyson Giardini, Steven McFarland, Kathy Nichols, Stephanie Pedroni, Nick Stone, and Karen Wagoner,

## Editors Note:

In this issue read about LANA's Annual Buttes Hike and admire the breathtaking pictures. There are two older articles which appeared in previous LANA newsletters with relevant information. Enjoy the photo gallery in celebration of the Int'l Year of the Camelids. Read about LANA's Herd Health & Wellness Day. What are LANA members doing? They're sharing their llamas at Ag Days and writing to tell us about it. Read about the enjoyable afternoon with George Caldwell and Christine Dunham at their ranch in Sonora, California.

*Kathy*

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## THE GATHERING ILR-SD NATIONAL SHOW

June 28 - 30, 2024  
Iowa Equestrian Center  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
[www.ilrshows.com](http://www.ilrshows.com)

## SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR

July 4 - 6, 2024  
Del Mar, California  
<https://www.sdfair.com>

## DARRINGTON FLING

July 12 - 13, 2024  
Darrington Rodeo Grounds  
Darrington, Washington  
contact: [mr4spd@hotmail.com](mailto:mr4spd@hotmail.com)

## ORANGE COUNTY FAIR

July 20 - 21, 2024  
Costa Mesa, California  
<https://ocfair.com>

## HAPPY CAMPER LLAMA SHOW

July 20 - 21, 2024  
Estacada, Oregon  
[www.mumfordllamas.com/happycamper.html](http://www.mumfordllamas.com/happycamper.html)

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

**July 25 - 28, 2024**  
**Cal Expo**  
**Sacramento, California**  
contact: [KathySVA@aol.com](mailto:KathySVA@aol.com)  
[www.calexpostatefair.com](http://www.calexpostatefair.com)

## SONOMA COUNTY FAIR LLAMA SHOW

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

## FIBER CLINIC - ILR & ALSA approved

August 16, 2024  
Party Barn Llama Farm  
Spokane, Washington  
contact: [partybarnllamafarm@gmail.com](mailto:partybarnllamafarm@gmail.com)

## FULTON COUNTY FAIR LLAMA SHOW

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

## MARYLAND STATE FAIR

September 6 -8, 2024  
Maryland State Fairground  
Timonium, Maryland  
[www.marylandstatefair.com](http://www.marylandstatefair.com)

## LAMAFEST SHOW A & B

August 31 - September 1, 2024  
The Pavilion at MSU  
East Lansing, Michigan  
[www.michiganllama.org](http://www.michiganllama.org)  
contact: [aobowling@att.net](mailto:aobowling@att.net)

## GREAT LAKES REGIONAL SHOW

September 20 - 22, 2024  
Noble County Fairgrounds  
Kendallville, Indiana  
contact: [kelsimattthew@icloud.com](mailto:kelsimattthew@icloud.com)  
[www.hlaa.us](http://www.hlaa.us)

**Bold type** denotes LANA sponsored/hosted events

\* (asterik) denotes discount for LANA members

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



**GREAT AMERICAN RIVER CLEAN-UP**

September 21, 2024  
Sacramento, California  
contact: [lbering@outlook.com](mailto:lbering@outlook.com)

**2024 FALLAMAFEST LLAMA SHOW AND EVENT**

September 27 - 29, 2024  
Douglas County Fairgrounds  
Castle Rock, Colorado  
[www.fallamafest.com](http://www.fallamafest.com)

**ALSA WESTERN REGIONAL SHOW**

September 28 - 29, 2024  
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds  
Lancaster, California  
contact: [labendeira@yahoo.com](mailto:labendeira@yahoo.com)

**ALSA SOUTHEAST REGIONAL SHOW**

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

**ALSA GRAND NATIONALS**

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

**GEORGIA NATIONAL FAIR**

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

**LANA YOUTH WRITING & ART CONTEST**

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

**NORTH AMERICAN LLAMA & ALPACA SHOW (NAILE)**

November 8 - 10, 2024  
North American Livestock Exposition  
Louisville, Kentucky  
[www.northamericanllamashow.com](http://www.northamericanllamashow.com)

**2025 LANA HOBO CLASSIC**

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

**Say hello to our members....**

Arleen McCombs  
McShaggy LL Ranch  
Raymond, CA

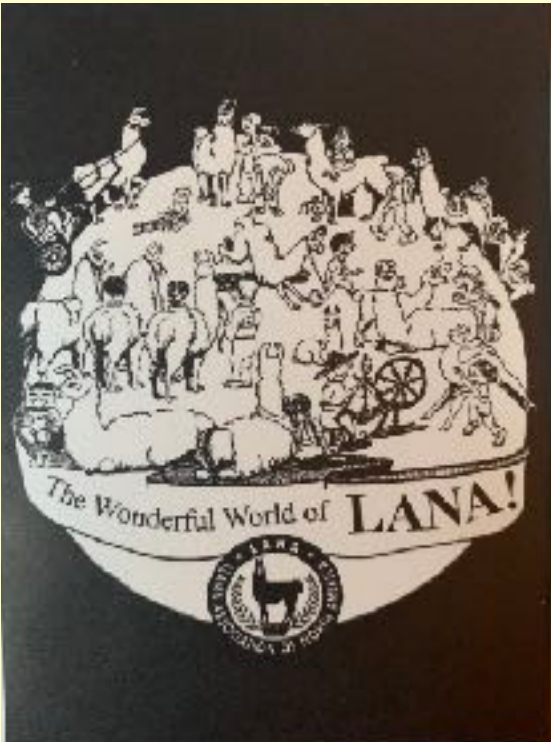
Emily Muirhead  
Las Vegas, NV

Terri Watts  
VIM Productions  
Houston, TX



# Calling all Artists

Many of you will recognize the graphic below as it has fronted the LANA notecards sent out over the past decade or more. As the LANA secretary, I was given a large stack of printed notecards several years ago with this logo, and now ... the cards are almost gone.



So, the LANA Board is launching a contest for a new design for its notecards. This contest began with an blasted email message and ends on November 30, 2024. The LANA Board will select a winner at its December meeting. We will then go to press, and when the last of the old notecards are gone, the new cards will appear.

Submission parameters:

**ONE:** the graphic must be in black, white and gray tones.

**TWO:** The submitted graphic must be clearly discernible when appearing on a  
4 1/4 x 5 1/2" (the profile option) or  
5 1/2 x 4 1/4" (the landscape option)  
with allowance for a 1/2" margin around the edges.

The graphic should be proportionate to either the portrait or landscape shape designated above.

**WINNER receives a FREE 2025 LANA membership**

## 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.

# HERE'S TO THE LITTLE GUYS

## BY FRANCIE GRETH-PETO



**Francie Greth-Peto was a contributing author for the LANA Newsletter with her column *Homespun Herds*.**

**The original purpose of her column was to salute, assist, talk about, talk with, and discuss items of interest to the breeder who has what is generally considered a small herd (under twenty).**



The unique thing about smaller herd ranches is that the people who run them know the most about their animals. Each animal is close to being a family member. The owners can tell you just about every tiny event in the life of that animal. Buying a llama from a small herd ranch can be a delightful experience. Visiting a bunch of small herd breeders can be both fun and confusing to a new buyer, however. People at their small herd ranch tend to become quite attached to their particular values and attitudes about how to raise, train and breed these camelids. This sometimes extends to some feelings about what is the best llama with respect to size, conformation, wool, and all that is put together to make these beautiful creatures.

I like to ask people who visit me what they are looking for, what they have heard from other breeders, and what they feel is best for their situation. When a new llama buyer opens up and talks with me honestly about what he or she has heard, I sometimes am amazed, often awed, and on some occasions, I want to giggle. Every so often I feel a little welling up of frustration when I hear that some breeder has given what is clearly opinion out as fact, and yet, I just listen.

All in all, this trail of “opinionated pseudo-factual information” will lead the new buyer into doing some research and to asking more questions. The answer is not quieting that talk. It is in encouraging more discourse.

The variety makes things interesting, and small herd ranches will find themselves wanting to “specialize” just as small businesses do that vend other merchandise.

Every small ranch will want to capitalize on its reasons for breeding the way the owners do, and for the philosophy behind their style of llamas: this is what makes each ranch a bit unique. The caveat I wish to underscore here is that the danger comes in when the facts get buried under opinion and the new buyer is misled. This is dishonest and will ultimately not serve either the small ranch nor the industry well.

The llama industry has always had a tolerance for diversity in the beast...in fact, if one looks at the history of llamas in North America as told through photographs, one will see that many ranches have rather markedly changed the llama in the last fifteen years. The North American alpaca breeders have rejected this concept of change and have adopted a strict policy on blood typing to ensure that the offspring that result from cross breeding of llamas and alpacas remain outside the alpaca registry. But this is a subject for another column.

Small herd ranchers are in a marketing competition with one another, and yet we are all in this business together as witnessed by the participation of so many people in local associations that have only one purpose: cooperation and education. I always enjoy getting together with other Gold Country Llama Association people as we have a great deal in common. We put out a cooperative brochure (ours is undergoing a change currently because we have grown in numbers so much). We get together to share food and tips on training, pack, breeding. I believe we have just begun to tap the resources of our group.



Small herd ranches share a common problem with being able to get away and travel. Finding reliable caretakers involves a lot of work. It seems that large herd ranches often have the luxury of a live-in caretaker or employees that can handle the herd when the owners travel. Small herds often find themselves caught “short.” Sharing this responsibility among the other small herd people can be an answer. Bartering caretaking is a great way to handle this problem.? Who better to trust your animals to than other llama people who know what to do in an emergency. If the caretaker is not able to spend the night at the ranch, a safe-from-predator-pasture needs to be part of the picture, however...and the caretakers, in my opinion, need to be willing to arrive morning and night to be sure things are okay, and not so that they don't go too long without intervention.

Small herd ranches can also help each other with training. I always like to set up situations where I can train alone, but there are lots of times when another pair of hands is invaluable. Ditto for herd health. Some small herd ranches own squeeze chutes in which to place llamas for shots, nail trimming and the like. These devices are great (I own one myself, but hardly ever use it...it is called into service only under the most extreme situations when it is just the veterinarian and myself to tackle, a tough problem). I prefer the training method...it is really so rewarding to desensitize one's llamas enough to be able to trim their nails and give their shots, and especially comb them, without the need for a restraint.

The joy in this is based in the trust of the llama. If your job is done and done well, your llama will trust you to do these things, and won't struggle because it knows you and knows you aren't trying to hurt it. Sometimes just the act of going into a restraint causes some llamas to get nervous and excited. I often believe they think, “Oh yikes, it must really be a bad thing that is coming to me if I have to be stuck inside this box with my head jammed between two poles!” Don't get me wrong, my squeeze has been a life-saver a time or two when I have been all alone and the llama was in big trouble, but there is no substitute for a well trained llama. Well trained llamas, open dialogue with neighbor llama ranches, sharing of resources and honesty: with these basics in mind, our industry will continue to improve and llamas will be in more and more “backyards.”

*reprinted from a previous LANA newsletter*

# LLAMAS HIKE THE BUTTES - 2024!

by Stephanie Pedroni



On a beautiful Saturday in early April, LANA hosted our annual hike in the Sutter Buttes. Every year, we invite vet students from UC Davis to join us and our llamas for a day hike. We had a fantastic group of 43 humans and 19 llamas traverse the roughly 7.5 mile round trip which includes an elevation gain of more than 600 feet! Return hikers included Lee Beringsmith, Nick Stone, Mike Kane and his sister, myself, several senior vet students, and Dr. Julie Dechant.



We were thrilled to have a host of new vet students, as well as first time LANA Butte hikers: the Roberson girls (Cali, Audrey and Charlotte), Kira Vessels, and a selection of the Zatzke Family (Mo, Maverick and Maverick's Great Grandmother who put many of us younger folks to shame with her endurance negotiating some of the steeper inclines).



After a quick caravan from the 76 Station down the road, we all found various parking spots, unloaded and met up with our generous hosts who own the property and allow us the amazing opportunity to come and enjoy this yearly event. I've been lucky enough to experience a few of these hikes. We started off along their pastures of goats, past the most beautiful and iconic white house, and through a smattering of cows before reaching the first of several steep inclines which always seem to be a bit of a challenge for both our two- and four-legged hiking companions. Thankfully there is plenty of breathtaking scenery and views to afford anyone huffing and puffing a good excuse to pause for a moment.



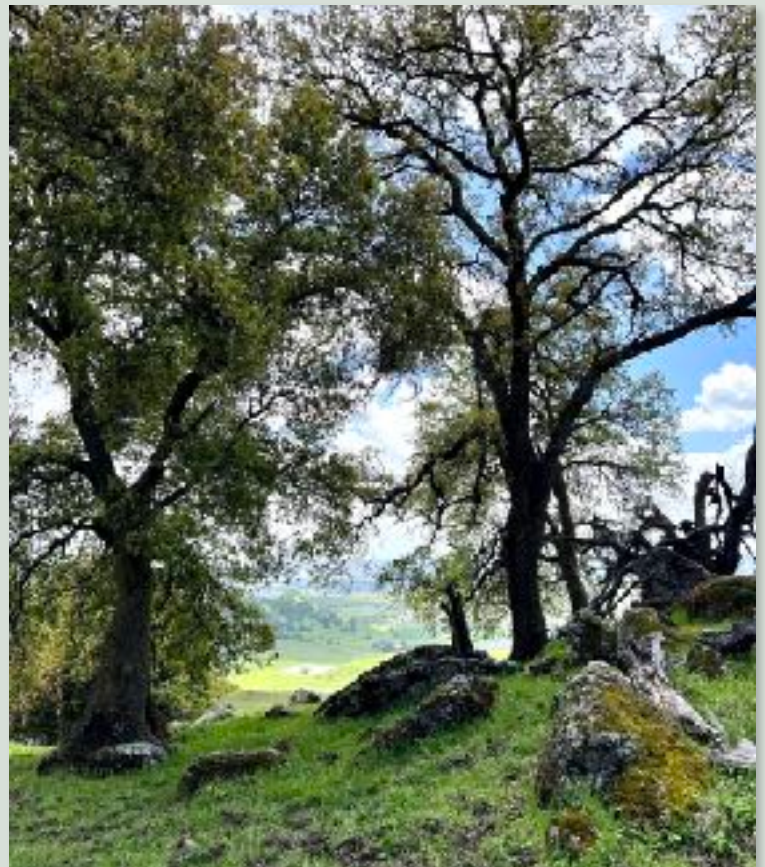








About a bit over halfway through the 7.5 mile hike, we reached our lunch spot. Llamas were tied out to various trees and a few fence posts for a nice break. The hikers spread out on the various boulders available as seats to take in the view and have a bite to eat. Poor Maverick endured an impromptu partial bathing to combat the poison oak that he inadvertently touched, while veteran packer Nick reclined in his signature chair that his professional pack llamas easily carried in for him.











As we wound our way back down the mountain range, we paused at the historic encampment built by Major General John C. Fremont and his expedition while marching from Klamath Lake to Sonoma during the Bear Flag Uprising. The battle resulted in the acquisition of California from Mexico, and it's a truly unique opportunity to experience history in such a tangible way.





Over the entire day, I barely touched the four llamas that I brought and I couldn't be more thrilled. Don't get me wrong, I value every opportunity that I spend with my llamas, but on this particular hike, my aim is the opposite. Vet students who have little knowledge or exposure to the amazing world of camelids get a one of a kind, hands on experience interacting with and handling happy, healthy animals. It's such a joy to watch them be intrigued and then fall in love with these animals that we love so much and know to be so special.





Once again, I am so personally grateful to Lee for organizing this wonderful annual event, and to our kind hosts for welcoming us on to their private land each year. It's such a wonderful opportunity to expose future vets to llamas, but it's also incredibly rejuvenating to spend time in such a beautiful place, and honestly, a whole lot of fun!



## LANA HERD HEALTH & WELLNESS DAY

On May 11th, LANA held its Herd Health and Wellness Day in Vacaville, California. LANA BOD Margaret Drew hosted the event at her Stonehenge Llama Ranch. BODs Joy Pedroni and Stephanie Pedroni coordinated efforts behind the scene, as well as on site, taking care of the ten llamas who attended for various needs.

Five of the llamas had dental appointments with Dr. Dan Mora. Dr. Mora dremeled the front teeth which will, in time, correct the bite. Dr. Mora has been doing this procedure for over ten years. One of those llamas also had their fighting teeth cut. Participants appreciated this opportunity to have their llamas worked on by him.

What else happened? Animals were weighed, vaccinated, toe nails trimmed, a few were shorn, folks ate a delicious lunch and caught up with friends.

LANA is considering holding another “dental day” in six months. If you’re interested, please contact the LANA office.





**before**



**after**



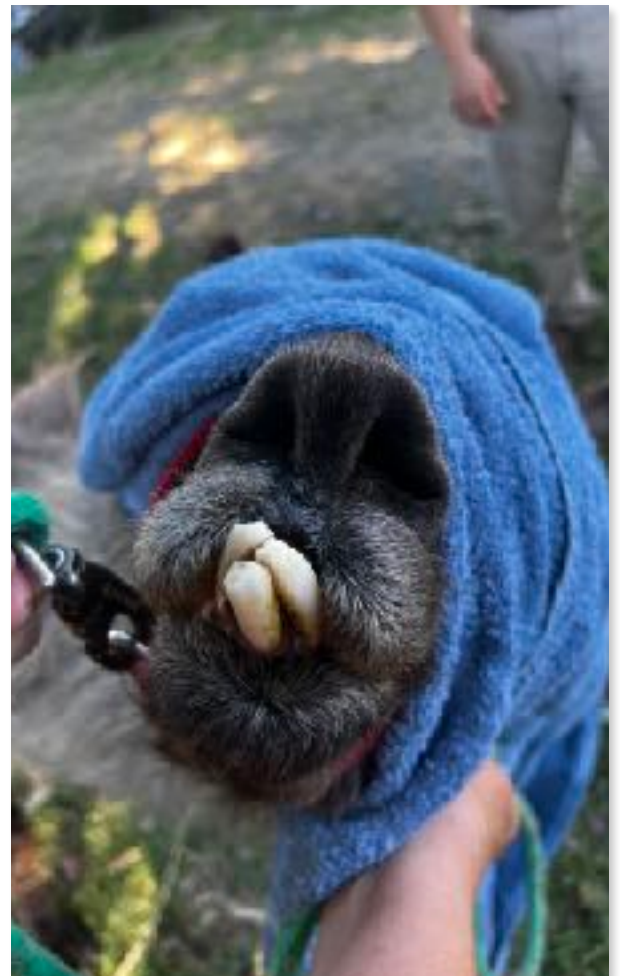
Looking at the after pictures on the previous page, as the teeth grow, the dremeled spaces will allow the teeth to pull together and align better with the dental pad.

picture below left:

Dr. Mora shining a light through the teeth to see where the blood vessels are which helps him judge how far to grind the teeth.

picture below right:

You can see how badly the teeth are out of place. While the procedure doesn't work as well for older animals (there's very little teeth growth in the aged animal), it's still beneficial allowing for easier and more efficient grazing.



# International Year of the Camelids 2024

The UN has designated 2024 as the International Year of the Camelids. Celebrating all things Camels, Guanacos, Llamas, Alpacas and Vicuñas. For more information, check out:

[iyrp.info](http://iyrp.info)

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ccnzotps124&list=PLzp5NgJ2-dK5COw5oI6HgQVBbGKGYIQLo&index=3>

<https://www.fao.org/webcast/home/en/item/6402/icode/>





# International Year of the Camelids 2024 Photo Gallery



**Jagger**

Dutch Flats Jagger  
Owned by and submitted by  
Kris Barnes



**Ahhh, this feels refreshing**

Piper cooling off during a  
training hike  
Submitted by  
Stephanie Pedroni





## Chief and Shawn

Owned and submitted by  
Karen Wagoner  
Singing Alpaca Farm



## The Boys

Latitudes Jake, Latitudes Al Capone,  
Dan Hammonds and Black Bart on a pack  
trip in El Dorado National Forest  
Owned and submitted by  
Nick Stone



## RMP Chill Out

Chill in the costume class  
at LA County Fair  
in the late 90's  
Owned and submitted by  
Eileen Ditsler



## Classroom Visit

PFO Indy and Devon Giardini  
Visit YES Charter Academy 6th Graders  
Photographed and owned by  
Suzann Penry  
Submitted by  
Alyson Giardini





## Owen and Hamish

Meet Owen McFarland and Hamish

Owned and submitted by

Steven McFarland



## Out For a Walk

Billy taking in the sights  
on our walk in San Dimas, CA

Owned and submitted by

Kathy Nichols



# **CAMELID EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

**compiled by  
Karen Conyngham**

## **Why Camelid Owners Need to be Prepared**

Transporting animals to safety when disaster strikes can be difficult. Disaster preparedness is important for all animals, but it is particularly important for livestock because of the animals' size and the requirements needed to shelter and transport them. Even if you think you are in an area relatively safe from natural disasters, remember that disasters can happen anywhere and include barn fires, hazardous material spills, propane line explosions, and train derailments, all of which may necessitate evacuation.





**It is imperative that you be prepared to protect your alpacas and llamas, whether by evacuating or sheltering in place.**

Some state legislatures are considering legislation that would require first responders to take animals into account when evacuating areas threatened by flooding waters, earthquakes, wildfires and other life-threatening disasters. Monitor your state legislature or state veterinary medical association's website to determine if such a bill is under consideration for your area.

### **MAKE A PLAN AHEAD OF TIME**

Make a disaster plan to protect your property, your facilities, and your animals. Where will you go, how will you get there, what supplies will you take, how long will it take to gather and load the animals?


Create a list of emergency telephone numbers, including those of your employees, employer, neighbors, your veterinarian, state veterinarian's office, county extension service, and a contact phone number for yourself other than your cell phone (e.g. close friend or family who are outside the impacted area). Have a copy of this list ready to give to each person helping in your evacuation.

Have a designated person who can implement your plan in case you are not home when an emergency happens. If you update your plan, be sure this person also has a copy of the latest version.

Keep a current copy of your association's membership directory in your vehicle.

Have several alternative destinations depending on type and extent of disaster (within 15 - 40 mile radius recommended). Keep a current state roadmap in your vehicle. Possible evacuation sites: pre-arranged farm/ranch of a friend who is not in the affected area; show/fairgrounds, sale barns, equestrian centers, veterinary colleges, racetracks.

Make sure every animal has identification. Microchip IDs are fine but also have halter or neck tags with your name and phone number ready in case all animals are not chipped.



Have a halter and lead for each animal; keep ID tags on each halter, Organize halters and lead ropes on a peg board in barn hallway. Dog collars can serve as an emergency substitute for halters; be sure the collar fits snugly enough that the llama or alpaca cannot slip it off over its heads. Train all animals to lead and load into a trailer.

Include a picket line, bungee stakeout lines and stakes in case there is no pen or enclosure at the receiving area.

Maintain permanent health and I.D. records for your animals in a safe place. Take them with you if you evacuate. Backup software programs at least monthly. Store a backup of the data file either on disc and keep it in your safe deposit box/home safe or email the backup file to a friend or relative.

Print a list of all your animals and make copies. Photograph your herd and keep it with your master list. Organize your herd into groups (geldings, studs, moms and babies).

Identify an alley, lane or pen that can easily be used to confine animals and is readily adjacent to where a trailer or truck can access them.

Know who can transport animals if necessary and where animals can be relocated, or be prepared to leave them behind if you must.

Find out if anyone nearby has equipment which may be shared, such as trailers, generators, water tanks or portable pens.

If you own too many animals to evacuate in one trip, decide ahead of time what the priority evacuation list will be. Some may have to be left behind.

Truck and Trailer: Check your truck and trailer regularly to make certain they are ready to transport camelids. Check the floor, tires, brakes, light and hitch to be sure they are in working order. Make sure you have a full tank of gas. Do not carry full gas cans in your trailer. Always back your vehicle into your driveway facing the exit, in front of your trailer if possible. Keep your trailer in an easily accessible place.

**Supplies to take with you if possible:**

- water buckets
- feed pans
- hay/feed for at least three days
- medicines for any animals currently under treatment; syringes if needed (three-day minimum)
- animal and people first-aid kits
- clippers to treat broken toenails
- tweezers to remove thorns
- scissors
- brush for grooming
- microchip reader



## If You Need to Shelter in Place

Install a hand pump and obtain enough large containers to water your animals and family for at least a week (municipal water supplies and wells are often contaminated during a disaster).

Identify alternate water and power sources. A generator (4 hp minimum) with a safely stored supply of fuel may be essential, especially if you have electrical equipment necessary to the well being of your animals.

Have 48 - 72 hours of water and feed on hand for animals. Use child's plastic swimming pool, boats, trash cans, bath tubs to store water.

Turn off power and gas lines in advance.

### Keep the following emergency supplies on hand:

- Plastic trash barrel with lid
- Tarpaulins
- First-aid items for animals and people
- Portable radio, flashlight and extra batteries
- Fire-resistant non-nylon leads and halters
- Sharp knife and wire cutters
- Leg wraps (disposable baby diapers make good emergency wraps or bandages)
- Duct tape, Majic markers
- Lime and bleach (disinfectants)
- Portable pens/fencing or crates if appropriate

### Camera

Have your camera and camcorder to document storm damage. If time permits, take pictures of your structures prior to the storm. Review your insurance policy to determine storm coverage then document damage accordingly.

### Water purification

Iodine or chlorine treatments and an actual physical filter (paper towels, clean cloth, coffee filters for filtering brackish water) may be needed if water sources are contaminated.

**Iodine dosage:** using ordinary 2 percent tincture of iodine from the medicine chest - 3 drops per quart of CLEAR water, or 6 drops to each quart of CLOUDY water, and stir thoroughly - allow water to stand for at least 30 minutes before using or filtering for additional protection.

**Chlorine dosage:** 8 drops (1/8 tsp. Or .5 ml) for 1 gallon of CLEAR water; 18 drops (1/3 esp. or 1/25 ml) for CLOUDY water. When storing water in 55 gallon drums or inflatable bags, us .55 ml. Average potable water needs are one gallon per person per day; llamas/alpacas may need two gallons or more each per day.



## **After the Disaster**

Watch for unstable roads and highways.

Looters and vandals could be in the area.

Survey the area around your barn and pastures to identify sharp objects, dangerous materials, contaminated water; downed power lines and dangerous wildlife such as snakes.

### Walk Fence Lines

Handle livestock quietly, calmly, and in a manner they are familiar with.

Release animals into safe and enclosed areas only.

Reintroduce food in small servings, gradually working up to full portions if animals have been without food for a prolonged period of time.

Allow uninterrupted rest/sleep for all animals to recover from the trauma and stress.

**Practice your plan at least once a year!**



# A Tale of Two Ag Days

by Cali Roberson

There may be nowhere else on earth where the agriculture industry has more diversity than the 20,000 square miles that make up California's central valley. According to the California Department of Food and Agriculture, it provides a quarter of our nation's food and nearly half of its fruits and nuts. The valley produces over 250 different types of crops, some of which are grown only in California. Despite bringing in \$59 billion in sales in 2022, the census of agriculture shows that only .3% of California's population are farmers. This is a huge gap between the people who produce and the people who consume. Programs like "Ag in the Classroom" and "Ag Days" seek to bridge that gap.

Even in an area so rich in agriculture there are few kids who get to experience what it's like to bottle feed a calf or grow vegetables from seeds. Oakdale Unified School District began holding its own "Ag Days" to help educate kids about how agricultural products are produced and about the many career opportunities available to them as they grow up. Each school in the district runs its Ag Day differently with some providing in-depth presentations and others run more like petting zoos. This is where our Sierra 4-H llama group comes in. Llamas may seem more exotic than agriculture, but they have their many uses. Our 4-H group was eager to share our animals and what they can do with other kids their age.

This year we were invited to participate in two different Ag Days. The first was at Sierra View Elementary. We gave four 20-minute presentations to the older classes. The younger classes could wander around and ask questions. We had three girls from our llama group each give a speech that tackled a question that we frequently hear as llama owners: "Do they spit?", "Is that a llama or alpaca?", and "What do you do with them?" We also demonstrated how they can carry packs and negotiate obstacles like step overs, jumps, and hula hoops. Our group had alpaca and llama fiber to pass around so the kids could get "hands on" without having hundreds of

“actual hands on” our young llamas that we brought.

Our second Ag Day was at Knights Ferry Elementary. We were asked to present to each class, which (at a TK-8 school) meant ten presentations! This was a bit grueling, but we had 4 girls in our group to help present. Our presentations were similar to our prior ag day, but since our member Kira Vessels brought her heavy wool llama, she was able to discuss his fiber type compared to our other light wool llamas. We brought different groups of llamas to each ag day. This allowed our group’s girls to handle different llamas as well as get more animals exposed to this type of PR situation.



*“The Knights Ferry Ag Day was very fun and interactive. I was able to present and educate students about llama spit and I was able to answer questions about the animals. I also showed how llamas will jump over obstacles with a llama named Kern. At the Sierra View Ag Day, I was able to educate those students on the llama spit as well. The main difference between the two Ag Days, I used a different llama.”*

*Allison Blanc, age 12  
Sierra 4-H*

These kinds of opportunities are so wonderful for showing the public what our animals are capable of. It’s even more special when the kids at these schools get to see someone their own age doing the speaking and showing off an animal they have spent many hours working with. Hopefully the students left knowing a bit more about these animals, and maybe we sparked an interest from them to get involved in llamas in the future.





*"My favorite part about the Ag Days is showing people what llamas can do. When you take a llama over the jumps, I love watching the little kids get excited and happy. It makes me happy too. Next year I want to add more info into my speech. I also want to focus on the audience. I like both Ag Days a lot. They had their ups and downs. At Sierra View, they only had a few classes that we presented to. I wish we had a few more classes. At Knights Ferry, we gave 10 full presentations back-to-back. I wish we had a little more break time. I look forward to going next year."*

*Audrey Roberson, age 11  
Sierra 4-H*



*"The kids had fun. I am looking forward to next year, and there were lots of other animals and jobs the school learned about. I think the kids' favorites were the goats, llamas, vet and the calves."*

*Charlotte Roberson, age 9  
Sierra 4-H*



Ag Days are also great learning opportunities for us and our llamas. Our 4-H members each researched and prepared speeches to give. The first presentations of the day were a little shaky and quiet, but after a few rounds each girl was speaking confidently without using notes. The llamas we brought are all 3 years old and younger. Each of them had to navigate large crowds of kids and other strange animals nearby. The llamas were pulled out of their pens and returned repeatedly. They had to show teeth and feet dozens of times. (Talking about their strange feet is my favorite part!). The jumps by the end of the days were not as enthusiastic as the beginning but all the llamas were very willing to try everything we asked. The days were also regurgitation free, proving that llamas don't go around looking for people to spit on.



*“I really enjoyed the Ag Day at Knights Ferry. Opportunities such as this one are great for training. One of several things we cannot train our animals for is crowds and we are never certain how they will react. I have been working with my llama for several months and I was very pleased when I saw how he improved. I look forward to seeing further improvements next year.”*

*Kira Vessels, age 13  
Sierra 4-H*









I really do believe that we get more out of presenting at these Ag Days than the students we present to. I am very appreciative of our local schools that allow us to bring our animals on campus and let the kids interact with them. They see the value in educating students about industries and careers that they may have never considered. Industries that are a vital part of our economy and careers that are rewarding and character building.

Cali Roberson  
Sierra 4-H Llama Group Co-Leader



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awarded to  
State Fair Champion & Reserve Champion  
Male Llamas  
Female Llamas  
Non-Breeder Llamas  
Open Alpacas

# The Magic of Llamas:

## A Visit to the Llamas of Circle Home

by Susan Rich

“Working with llamas is all about psychology.” George began with this announcement on June 1, 2024, when opening his ranch and sharing his special methodology of working with the “speechless brothers and sisters” who live with him. “For 7,000 years in the Andes, there was family, harmony and energy with llamas at the center of life.”

He continued, “These animals are telepathic. You find one who knows what you want and you let him teach the other llamas.”

I watched when he held up a grooming brush and one of his llamas reached out with his nose, smelled the brush, and literally asked to be brushed, or asked for some love, as George described the behavior. One animal kushed and literally fell into a trance as the brushing continued. I thought to myself—“Not exactly the reception I get when I break out the grooming bag and present a brush or two.”

It is something special to be able to visit with a long-time adventurer with llamas. George Caldwell and Christine Dunham have resided at the Llamas of Circle Home for many, many years. Their place is lovely with a large blue house, decorated with white gingerbread scrolling wood work. There are many outbuildings and several pastures. Males are relegated to one large pasture and females to another. In addition, for years, the couple has provided a home for developmentally disabled women. And these residents play a part in the unfolding story of llama ownership and lifelong learning about these fascinating creatures.

The young women and George practice a form of cooperation with their camelid









counterparts every day. The animals appear at the gate of their enclosure and are led out to an open lawn area. There are deeply driven stakes in the ground, and their lead lines are attached to those anchor points. Next comes a Rubbermaid bin with hay, apples, carrots and moistened llama pellets. And so every leisurely morning begins. There is no chasing, no shouting of llama names; the animals appear as they please and the ritual is quiet and serene.

Having visited the ranch before, I can attest to George and Christine's observation that these women are more confident, more interactive and have more purpose in their lives due to this daily ritual in which they participate.



George talks about the individuals in the herd with great insights into their unique personalities. One strikes a stance on the “power mound” in the pasture, and according to George, “announces that God’s gift has arrived.” Because, alpaca — the domesticated cousins to llamas — were essentially “the meat and fiber of the Andes,” says George, they are tougher to train and they don’t remember well. So, any camelid “bad behavior” is called out as an alpaca trait. Or he might say that the animal has “an alpaca brain.”

Over the years, George has seemingly done it all. He has visited Peru many times and communed with native peoples to learn more about these animals in their indigenous setting. He has packed with llamas in the back country. He has transported llamas to

parks in the Bay Area so that challenged individuals attending “camp” in the wilderness areas there can experience hiking with a llama. He has developed a business of bringing his animals to college campuses during finals weeks as therapy animals to help maintain the mental health of the stressed students and provide opportunities to interact with animals who have done well with his specialized training. He has literally created ambassadors out of his more social animals.

And George has great stories. Once, he was headed home with animals in the van, and his neck really started to bother him. One of his llama boys, crawled up and lay his head on George’s shoulder such that he was breathing on his chauffeur’s neck. He



was joined by another llama boy in the van who took on the other shoulder. And so George continued his drive with camelid therapy underway. No doubt more than one driver on that same road went home with interesting tales to tell about what was going on in the van in the next lane over.



But things change. The market for llamas dropped off. When there were once over 1,000 camelids in Tuolumne County where he lives, there are now fewer than 100. So George and Christine no longer breed animals. In fact, they have become a sanctuary for rescue llamas to a certain extent. He no longer competes in llama shows, although he is a great supporter of organizations, like LANA, that continue to offer shows.

But probably his favorite activity now, especially in this phase of his life with llamas: he just really enjoys sharing the Magic of Llamas at his home. He and Christine host visitors to talk about their life and times with llamas and to share what they have learned and are continuing to understand about these fellow sojourners in life. The hospitality afforded us ranch visitors was warm and welcoming. We all left thinking about how we could approach our animals a little differently to tap into the kind of communication and relationships that we saw demonstrated at the Llamas of Circle Home.





The best part of this LANA event was to be able to see in person the communication that has been established between llama and person. The llamas have learned that when they touch the brush with their nose they get rewarded with being brushed. So maybe that means I learned that llamas can be trained to do something when there is a reward in doing so. And the favorite part is being able to see it demonstrated. Thank you for arranging this event.

Nina Pedersen







My favorite part was brushing Chai. I loved how he put his nose on the brush and asked for love. I learned: Llamas are telepathic. They have all the same emotions. I learned llamas can have mental health issues too. Llamas are speechless family and alpacas were raised for meat and fiber.

Audrey Roberson

I learned something about the culture and languages of Peru.

Michael Pagani

I learned if you love on a llama too much when it is young, it may develop a syndrome and have to be put down.

Isaiah Pagani



I learned several new things to do that will help build positive relationships with my llamas. I liked spending a relaxing afternoon learning about llamas with like-minded people.

Nick Stone

I am very grateful we had the opportunity to visit their ranch. I really enjoyed hearing about their methods of training and how they build deep connections with their llamas. Visiting their home and hearing about the history of llamas and how different the llamas live in the Andes has made me appreciate that we get to train and learn from llamas.

Kira Vessels



I learned how llamas will follow the other llamas and learn how to handle things with other llamas. I learned about moistening the pellets because if they gobble it up, they might harm their esophagus. My favorite thing was the llamas that touch the brush with their noses asking to be brushed.

Charlotte Roberson

Some of the things George shared with us reminded me about a few of my experiences with my own llamas. A great day!

Kathy Nichols



I learned about the importance of having a llama that can be an example or leader to the other llamas. That llamas can learn so much and be taught by seeing how this llama interacts with people. I love how much physical time they spend with their animals. They are caught and staked out and handled every day. It is apparent how much the llamas enjoy this time as well.

Cali Roberson

The “magic” of llamas is a result of honest and intentional connection made through a series of encounters where a bond between yourself and your llama happens over time. It doesn’t take much more than deliberate care and calm conversations. The mundane grooming could be just the opportunity you needed to make a lifetime connection with your llama. Everyone deserves a loyal best friend. George and Christine were such gracious hosts — we had a great time!

Keralyn Vessels





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



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



**Llama Project**  
**Leaders**



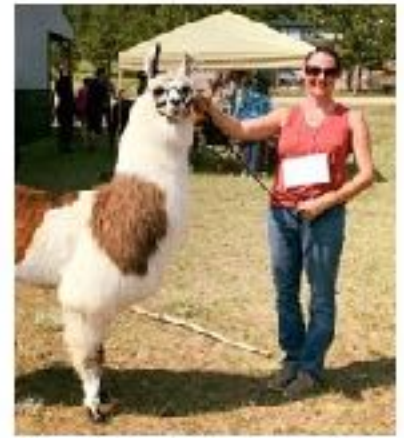
Cali Roberson



Susan Rich

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





# Black Cat Llamas

JOY PEDRONI & STEPHANIE PEDRONI



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

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





# LAMARAH

Wilton, California  
Kathy Nichols



# Minimum Standards of Care for Llamas and Alpacas

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

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

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

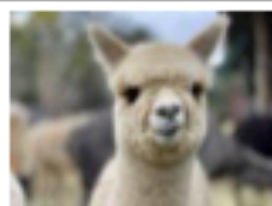
Website: [www.lanainfo.org](http://www.lanainfo.org)

Email: [lanaquestions@gmail.com](mailto:lanaquestions@gmail.com)

Membership: Jan. 1 – Dec. 31

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

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



## On-line membership directory

Tell us what you want:

### Please check one:

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



## MEMBERSHIP & Donation OPTIONS

See second page for Descriptions

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

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

NAME:

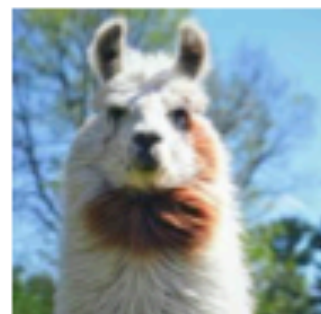
RANCH NAME & ADDRESS:

EMAIL:

PHONE number(s):

Website:

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



# LANA Membership & Donation Opportunities 2024

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

**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.*