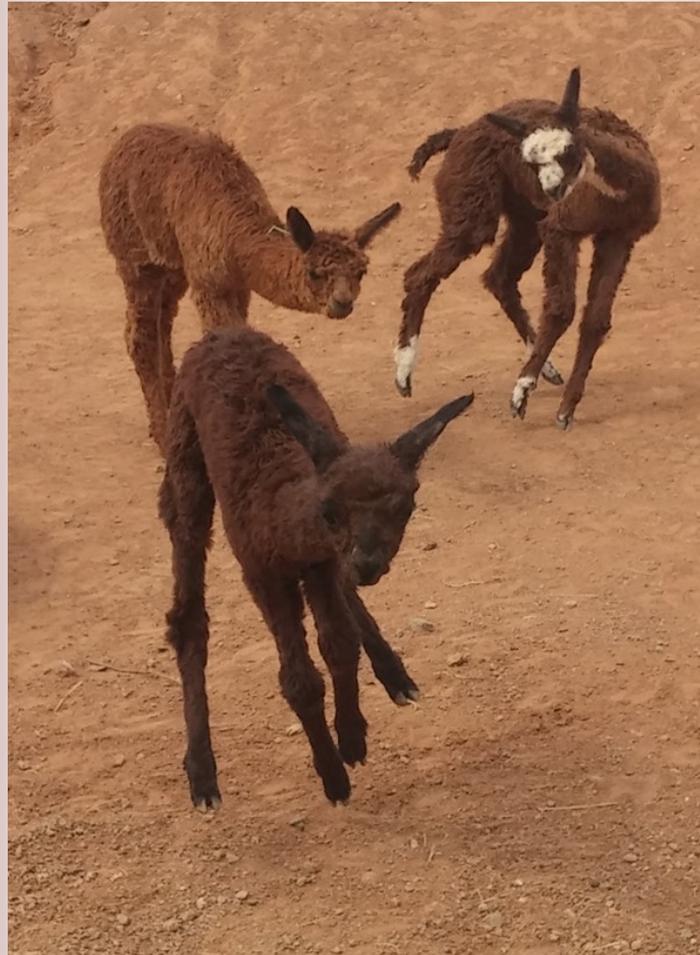


CONNECTION

Autumn 2019



What's New:

- ◇ 2020 Calpaca Board Members
- ◇ Agritourism
- ◇ Alpacas in Rescue
- ◇ Member News
- ◇ *And much, much more!*



California Alpaca Breeders & Owners Association
Connecting members to Calpaca, the industry and each other

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In California's tradition as a pioneer of progress, Calpaca was the first, and the oldest, regional, alpaca association in the Northern Hemisphere. Past and current members of Calpaca have been leaders in the American alpaca industry since 1989.

Calpaca represents alpaca owners, breeders, and enthusiasts in California and beyond. We promote the well-being of alpacas and education of the public about alpacas, alpaca fiber, and alpaca products. We support each other through shared information and experiences. We host meetings, speakers and shows for the benefit of members and the public.

We invite you to join us!

Calpaca Membership meetings are held quarterly on the second Saturday of the second month.

Connection Editor

L'illette Vasquez

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To join or renew your membership:

[calpaca.org/
page/2572/join-calpaca](http://calpaca.org/page/2572/join-calpaca)

Affiliations

Alpaca Owners Association (AOA)

8300 Cody Dr Suite A
Lincoln NE 68512
402-437-8484
402-437-8488 Fax
AlpacaInfo.com

Alpaca Coalition of America (AOCA)

AlpacaCoalition.com

Alpaca Research Foundation (ARF)

AlpacaResearchFoundation.org

International Lama Registry (ILR)

LamaRegistry.com

Stay Connected!

Calpaca Website

calpaca.org/

Group Emails

calpacamembers@gmail.com

Calpaca Facebook

Facebook.com/groups/Calpaca

Advertise in the *Connection*

Calpaca Members:

- Business Card: Free
- ¼ page: \$15
- ½ page: \$30
- full page: \$55

Contact *Connection* Editor

editor@lillette.net

Photos from 925 Sterling Alpacas

Look Inside!

2020 Calpaca Board of Directors 02

MEMBER NEWS:

President's Message, by Charlene Schmid 04
Calpaca Event Calendar 04
Calpaca Membership Dues (and Special Symposium Discount!)..... 05
Social Media Update 06
2020 Camelid Symposium 07

ARTICLES

Agritourism: What it is, and why you may care 16
Rescue:
 Working with Rescue Camelids, by Marty McGee Bennett 09
 Why Rescue? by L'illette Vasquez 13
 IRC Educational Plan for Animal Control & Animal Welfare Authorities 17

ADS:

Stitches West 08
Alpacas of Somerset Farm 12
Business Cards 19
Classifieds 22



It's that time of year!
Current California wildfire info at
http://www.fire.ca.gov/current_incidents/
Be Safe! Be Prepared!



Member News

President's Message

Dear Calpacans:

Well, folks, this is the final Presidential letter in my time of duty. Together, we have achieved a number of goals set by each of the four Board of Directors over my tenure. I am most proud of our progressive movement in owner education, particularly with regard to alpaca fiber. We have shared many opportunities through our membership meetings for learning to skirt, noodle, submit for competition, and most recently, submitting to artisan mills and the commercial industry. There are so many options for our annual harvest – and our membership has shown growing interest in learning – gratitude for this growth!

The Calpaca Board of Directors has worked to establish a number of guidelines. With the start of 2020, we will incorporate new business rules with our Facebook page. You can read more about this in the article on page 6, *Social Media Update*.

I do hope to see many of you at the Camelid Symposium, and please make note of the discounted annual Calpaca Farm membership when you select that option in your Symposium registration. This discount is only valid until December 15th, when early bird registration ends. Sign up today at <https://camelidsymposium.com>.

Thank you all for the kind support you have provided as I have attempted to remember when to call for a vote and all the rules “that guy, Robert” made up. I have been very lucky to serve a membership that readily displays gratitude as so many have walked this walk before me. I especially appreciate those that have provided council in times of need and clarity in sorting through visions. Our organization is a truly compassionate and caring community!

Signing off—

Charlene P. Schmid
Integrity Alpacas & Fiber
Calpaca President, 2018/2019

2020 Calpaca Events Calendar

- | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|--------------------------------|
| • Calpaca Membership due | Jan. 01 | see <i>Calpaca.org</i> website |
| • <u>Camelid Symposium</u> | Jan. 18-19 | Sacramento, CA |
| • <u>STITCHES West</u> | Feb. 20-23 | Santa Clara, CA |
| • California Classic | Mar. 28-29 | Merced, CA |
| • Gold Country Gathering | Oct. 17-18 | Grass Valley, CA |

Calpaca Quarterly Membership Meetings

- | | | | |
|-----------|---------------|----------------------|--------------|
| • Feb. 08 | Dale Davis | Derwyd Alpacas | Esparto, CA |
| • May 09 | TBD | TBD | TBD |
| • Aug. 08 | Leanne Antaya | Plateau Breeze Ranch | Murrieta, CA |
| • Nov. 14 | TBD | TBD | TBD |

Member News, cont.

Calpaca Membership Dues are... Due January 1, 2020

Associate \$30 | Farm \$100

Three ways to pay!

- Purchase online at www.calpaca.org (click button at top right corner of page)
- Pay by check at a quarterly membership meeting (but... *see below!*)
- Register for the 2020 Camelid Symposium BEFORE the December 15 Early Bird Special. Opt to pay your membership dues *at the same time and on the same website*, and you get \$30 off your FARM membership!!

Um.... Really? Did you read that correctly?! It is true! Register to attend the 2020 Camelid Symposium—Early Bird registration only! And before December 15—to benefit from the \$30 discount on your FARM membership.

Renewing Farm membership is \$70 ~ **New Farm membership** is \$20 *IF you...*

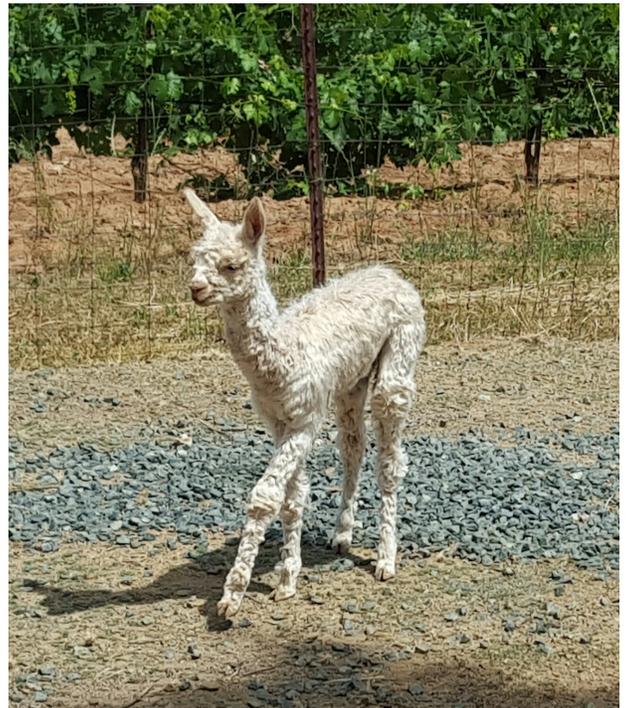
Register before December 15 *with* your registration for the 2020 Camelid Symposium!

This offer is valid ONLY through DECEMBER 15, 2020

Plan now! Act now!

Save a chunk of money on both your 2020 Calpaca membership and the 2020 Camelid Symposium!

REGISTER HERE AND NOW!



Social Media Update

In the past few years, the Calpaca Facebook page has become a sought-after source of information for Calpaca members and other alpaca enthusiasts. Recently, the Calpaca Board of Directors felt it was necessary to make some changes and create some guidelines. The group description will be updated, and some types of posts will be limited to Calpaca **Farm** members. Another change applies to those asking to join the group. To ensure potential members are interested or involved in alpaca/livestock activities, a few short questions will be asked of anyone seeking to join the Calpaca FB group.

During the November 5, 2019, Calpaca BOD meeting the following decisions were made regarding the Calpaca Facebook page. These changes are effective immediately.

The group description will be changed to read:

This group is an extension of the California Alpaca Breeders Association, or Calpaca. It exists to promote and answer questions about raising alpacas, using alpaca fiber, husbandry issues, share interesting news and ranch events, and promote classes having to do with those issues. We are an open group and want to encourage people who are interested in alpacas to join. This is a group for learning, sharing, and being supportive. Please keep posts positive: no argumentative, destructive or negative posts. Let's have a good time together.

Examples of *appropriate* posts: BOD announcements, alpacas in the news, emergency information, birth announcements, new purchases/acquisitions, Calpaca events, show information, Calpaca **Farm** member events, industry events, **limited* advertising**.

***New Rule, limited advertising/marketing is for Calpaca **Farm** members only.** If the moderator(s) considers the advertising/marketing by Farm members to be excessive, the Farm member will be contacted by the moderator(s).

***New Rule, non-Calpaca members and Associate Calpaca members:** Advertising/marketing posts may not include pictures, however, links to information is allowed. For instance, instead of a specific alpaca being advertised, a post stating "Ranch name" has a collection of herdsires, females, etc. available for your review. Click here (link to site) for complete information.

Posts that do not meet this criteria will be pulled and replaced with the standard message by Facebook that the rules were violated.

Another change the BOD felt was necessary was screening those requesting to join the group by requiring them to answer four questions:

- Do you currently own alpacas? Yes or No
- If you answered no to the above, are you considering owning alpacas? Yes or No
- Are you an animal lover/person and think alpacas are interesting? Yes or No
- Do you want to join this group to learn more about alpacas and topics related to them? Yes or No

Current board members will serve as group moderators who can accept or decline membership requests. The goal is not to limit followers, but to ensure followers are real and have enough interest to respond to our four questions about alpacas.

How do these changes affect current Calpaca FB members?

If you are a member of the Calpaca FB page, this communication is your notification of the changes. The biggest change affects the posts that are considered advertising/marketing. Being able to advertise or market on the Calpaca FB page is now another exclusive benefit of a Calpaca Farm membership.

If you have any questions please contact one of your 2020 Calpaca Board members: Maureen Macedo, macedosmini-acre@gmail.com, Dianna Jordan, DLJORDAN@live.com, or Tracy DiPippo, tracid318@aol.com. After January 1, 2020, you may also contact Jackie Jones, jaclyndjones@outlook.com or Megan Kukla, mkooks2002@yahoo.com for further information.

CAMELID SYM POS IUM 2020



The 2020 Camelid Symposium is a unique and powerful learning opportunity for anyone interested in alpacas, llamas, and camels!

Presented by Calpaca, with support from Cal-Ila and LANA, this event is a one-of-a-kind learning experience. It brings together some of the camelid industry's top minds to share practical techniques, thought-evoking concepts, and core business strategies to help you succeed in the camelid world.

Day One is built around two tracks:

- Track 1 targets those seeking a basic level of camelid knowledge.
- Track 2 targets those seeking a more in-depth education that can help take their endeavors to a new level.

Day Two will allow attendees to explore topics that interest them in both alpacas and llamas, and give a great education on natural fiber animals and what they produce.

So whether you're new to camelids or a tried-and-true veteran, the Camelid Symposium is the ideal event for you.

[Click here](#) for more information and to register.

Not yet a Calpaca member?

If you're not yet a member of Calpaca, this is a great time to join! Calpaca is a really solid organization and an excellent way to become involved in the alpaca community.

And if you register for the 2020 Camelid Symposium and join Calpaca at the same time, as a new Calpaca member, **you will save \$50!**

That's with the \$30 you will save as a new Calpaca member plus the \$20 you will save as a Calpaca member on the Symposium registration.

But you must register by December 15!

2020 Camelid Symposium

This extremely valuable event for all alpaca owners and enthusiasts began in 2006 and, except for 2016 and 2017, it has been an annual event.

Attendees always come away with new and exciting information, and is of benefit to both new and experienced alpaca owners.

The basic health track is really helpful. It is interesting how some of the health practices have changed over the years.

The Symposium will be held in Sacramento on January 18-19 at the Courtyard Sacramento Cal Expo Hotel.

Santa Clara Convention Center
Santa Clara, CA

February 20-23, 2020



Thursday

Classes 9:00am-12:00pm

Classes 1:30pm-4:30pm

The Market Preview 5 pm - 8 pm

CLASSES

Register for Classes & Events

Click to see all the classes!

Friday

Classes 9:00am-12:00pm

The Market 10:00am-8:00pm

Classes 2:00pm-5:00pm

Fashion Show & Dinner 6:30pm

Photo Program

Meet the Teachers

Hotels

Show Sponsors



[STITCHES West 2020 Classes & Events Text Only Listings](#)

4 FULL Days of classes!

+ 16 New Instructors
+ 175 Market Vendors
= 1 Incredible WEEKEND!

Market Map & Exhibitor Listings



Market Tickets

You can now buy Market tickets for Thursday night, Friday and/or Saturday. Admission to the Market is FREE on Sunday!

THE PLAYGROUND

PAG's | Learn-to-Knit & Crochet | Volunteer



To be in-the-loop for all the news about STITCHES West 2020, please sign up for our XR Insider eNewsletter. Thank you.

Sunday

Classes 9:00am-12:00pm

The Market 10:00am-4:00pm

Cash Grand Prize Drawing at 1 pm
Must be present at the market stage to win!

Classes 1:30pm-4:30pm

Click on the image to the right to open a larger version in a new browser window. Please share this image on your social media feeds to let your friends know you'll be attending #STITCHESWest 2020. Thank you.



Whether you're at the show or at home watching what's happening, we've got you covered with at least one of your favorite social media sites.

[Click here to check out the STITCHES West 2020 Social Media Resource page.](#)



Farm members may send business cards and trifold-size brochures to Maureen Macedo or Karen Kelly to be made available at the Calpaca booth. [Click here](#) to go to the Stitches West web page.

Working with Rescue Camelids

By Marty McGee Bennet, Camelidynamics

It would be wonderful if there were no need to write about rescuing animals: certainly, all alpacas and llamas should have loving, caring homes. Unfortunately, it would seem that in any animal market, there is a percentage of animals that are unwanted. Big-hearted people must step up and help animals that cannot help themselves. Luckily, we have a number of really good rescue groups that are doing wonderful work. This tip could just as easily be for anyone getting a new animal, from a rescue or not; but given the number of folks that I work with at clinics that help to place animals or who take them in, I thought it might be helpful to put this particular spin on it.

In my years as a professional camelid handler and teacher, I have specialized in working with animals that have behavioral problems. Many of these animals were either abused or neglected, or both. These words are often used interchangeably and are actually very different. *Abuse* is an active and intentional activity which involves, among other things, hitting, teasing or unreasonable physical restraint. *Neglect* is the absence of care.

While I normally approach all animals similarly, regardless of their background, this distinction may be important when it comes to successful placement of these animals. Abused animals in general will require more time for rehabilitation and will probably do better in a new home with more experienced animal people.

Most llamas and alpacas are shy compared to most horses, dogs, and even cats. People accustomed to more common types of companion animals may think all camelids act as if they were abused. The success of an adoption program, I believe, will hinge on the training that new owners receive. Unrealistic expectations will likely result in the need for yet another home.

Perhaps the most important thing for rescue camelids and their new owners is a good

foundation. In my opinion, this would consist of simple but well-designed facilities that create success, along with a few basic lessons in handling.

A percentage of new owners will be dedicated. They will subscribe to magazines, join local clubs, and attend educational events. These people will not be easily discouraged. Other people may make perfectly wonderful rescue owners and will enjoy having their llamas around, but will not get involved or actively pursue new information. In my opinion, regardless of which category people fall into, tenacious or simply big hearted, it is really important to make interacting with their new charges as easy as possible.

The following is a list of issues that would be good to consider as you work with potential homes for rescued animals.

- How to get these animals to trust again: the role of using training methods (hopefully, CAMELIDynamics) that do not involve restraint.
- The value of bodywork, specifically TTouch, to desensitize and provide positive reinforcement at the same time—a two-for-one win/win!
- How catching without cornering is the cornerstone of a new way of handling. How using a catch pen changes everything!
- Halter rehab: starting the haltering process over in a catch pen, introducing a properly fitting halter so that the animal has some control over the haltering process.
- Use of food: Food is your friend! Teaching the use of a clicker to empower animals and foster activities that can be fun and interesting for both the person *and* the animal.

Animals that are pushy with food are not

out of the running to benefit from the use of food. Once these animals learn how to work for food, they are often the best ones! The key is teaching them to perform in order to get the food, and for the handler to control the food so the alpaca never gets it by behaving badly.

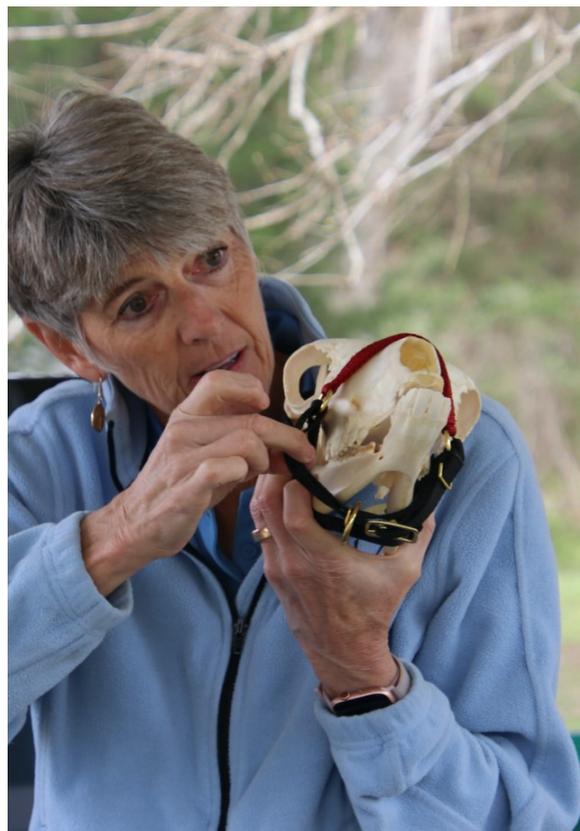
- When to call it quits with aggressive animals.
- Importance of working with the people who adopt animals, providing training and on-going mentorship.
- Halter fit—how it impacts everything you do with an animal while they are wearing it, *and* how one bad experience in a badly fitting halter can damage all the work you have done up to that point. It is never a good idea to use a halter that doesn't fit just because you won't have it on for very long or you aren't going very far.
- Toenails: Getting them back into shape slowly. There are very few actual toenail emergencies!
- The value of and the use of sedatives.



Llamas and alpaca don't dislike being touched—they dislike being chased, cornered and grabbed. This can be a huge paradigm shift for new and experienced owners alike.



Understanding how anatomy affects halter fit and animal behavior is really useful for new owners.



Proper halter fit is critical to effectively working with your alpacas!

Working with Rescue Camelids, cont.



Learning how to touch with awareness.



Understanding how it feels to wear a halter and to be pulled around



A soothing technique



Training aids take the pressure off learning, especially when you are brand new at working with llamas and alpacas



Teaching a young alpaca to target using a clicker

More from Marty at CameliDynamics.com

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



WOW.....
 Color Genetics
 Accoyo Genetics
 Championships..
 its gonna be
TOUGH !!!

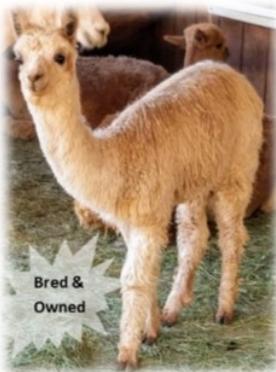
At the 2013 California Classic show these two up-and-coming herdsires were featured in the Herdsire Auction. OVA Kiernan of St. Andrews went on to garner a total of **3 FIRST PLACE GET OF SIRE** and **3 CHAMPION/RESERVE banners**. 101A El Jefe's Moro earned **1 FIRST PLACE GET OF SIRE** and **3 CHAMPION/RESERVE banners**. Between them they have produced over **80 registered offspring**...many multiple show winners.

Reserve your breeding (multiple discount available)
 530-744-7474

** Kiernan is co-owned with Alpacas of El Dorado and Moro is co-owned with Back 40 Farms*



Our Multicolor Designer Suri Program Is Growing



CELESTE OF SOMERSET FARM
 SIRE: SSilkens Accoyo Tesori
 DAM: Derwydd Greystone's Kanilla



EA'S SHIELD MAIDEN LAGERTHA
 SIRE: GLR Picasso
 DAM: Lisbet Zambesdatter



CHECKMATE OF SOMERSET FARM
 SIRE: SSilkens Accoyo Tesori
 DAM: Tupelo Honey of Somerset



ALPACAS OF SOMERSET FARM
 Jack & Dianna Jordan
 www.alpacasofsomersetfarm.com
 530-744-7474

Why Rescue?

by L'illette Vasquez, L'illy Lamas
Southwest Llama Rescue, Inc. ~ Southeast Llama Rescue
LANA Lifeline Committee ~ Camelid Rescue Coalition

Author note: I have been involved in camelid rescue pretty much since I bought my first llamas in January 2000. I had a few months to start getting accustomed to the awesome responsibility of living with, and learning from, these incredible animals; and then the late spring heat set into northeastern Texas, and cattle ranchers and smaller livestock owners began looking for guard llamas.

A novice, I was frequently contacting my inadvertent mentor, Margaret Henry (an inadvertent responsibility she graciously shouldered, but by no means inadvertent on my part! I *knew* who to call!!). I learned a lot from those early days of my "llama life" and from Margaret's caring and practical guidance—sometimes in the depths of a night, frantic and fearful, or just frustratingly confused; other times, in the middle of a beautiful, or not so beautiful, day, fully knowing I was interrupting her work day. Then Texas' summer heat and humidity settled in, and those same cattle ranchers and small livestock owners started calling *me* for answers and ideas and assistance in dealing with their overheated, under-cared for "guard llamas."

Before long, I joined forces with Southwest Llama Rescue and began to actively participate in llama rescue. Eventually, of course, as happens with all animals taken in by humans, alpacas became an increasing call for rescue. And in my mind, "llama" became "lama," which comprises both "2L-llamas" and alpacas. Since 2011, I have lived and worked at 925 Sterling Alpacas. And in the years since I first started these "Why Rescue?" articles, calls for alpaca rescue become more and more frequent. Southwest Llama Rescue, Inc., Camelid Rescue Coalition (CRC) and cohorts undertook a huge rescue in Donnelly ID in May 2019. It's not the first; it won't be the last.

Many owners, when faced with dispersing their herds or individual llamas, feel a sense of failure at having to turn their llamas over to a "rescue" group. But as a member of extraordinary rescue organizations, I can

honestly assure you there need be no stigma associated with llama rescue! What really surprises me is that when I mention that I'm involved in llama rescue, the most frequent response is "What? You actually need a rescue for llamas?" More recently, the exclamation is response to a need for *alpaca* rescue, as well. The answer, whether llamas or alpacas ("lama" is the term used for both llamas and alpacas), is a resounding "Yes!" Here's why, and who does it, and what happens, what you can do to help and... ultimately, ideally... to end the need.



Amira: Shortly after her birth, Amira was attacked by a dog. She sustained a head injury that left her completely blind. SWLR stepped in to undertake her complicated and lengthy recovery. Because of her circumstances, Amira became a "poster child" of SWLR. Her care cost about \$100 per month; sponsors contributed to her lifelong care; and Amira survived.

The Need for Rescue

You might be surprised to learn that almost 90% of llama rescue intakes come from folks that just can't keep them any more. These are conscientious breeders and owners who have had drastic life changes: death or divorce in the family, health problems, aging, relocation, military deployment. Rather than risk putting their llamas on the market, they release them to a rescue group for fostering and eventual rehoming. No shame in that! They love their llamas and want the best for them.

Additionally, groups like SWLR and SELR have indeed taken in many

animals that were abused or neglected. These animals would inevitably end up euthanized or further abused as they are passed around to unknowledgeable new owners often looking for a cheap or free "yard ornament" or a llama livestock guardian. In cases of abuse, the rescue organizations work with local law enforcement and animal control authorities who can legally remove the llamas from difficult situations.

Llamas and alpacas are also turned over to rescue organizations because of behavior problems. You may have heard of the dreaded "Aberrant Behavior Syn-

Why Rescue, cont.

drome (ABS)” or “berserk” llamas and alpacas. In these rare cases, this results from the over-handling of young animals, especially males, which causes them to be disrespectful of humans. If normal boundaries are not established early in life, males tend to become aggressive with people at the onset of sexual maturity. Females may become prone to spit on humans and can also be physically aggressive. Ideally, llamas with true aggression towards humans are given sanctuary with a knowledgeable rescuer and undergo training to diminish their unwanted behaviors.

Fortunately, these animals are a small proportion of rescues and are not later offered for adoption. Unfortunately, there are far too few qualified, experienced rehabilitators and facilities that can take in these animals. Most of these llamas are euthanized. Nonetheless, groups like SWLR have had a quite high rate success with them, which promises even more success in the future. ABS llamas may never be rehabilitated to the point that you’d be comfortable turning your back them, but they *can* live long and productive, happy lives.

They don’t have to die.

Rescuers and Rescue Organizations

Note: Though there are lots of legitimate llama rescue groups, I am most involved with Southwest Llama Rescue, Inc. (SWLR), Southeast Llama Rescue (SELR), Inc., and the Camelid Rescue Coalition (CRC). It is from this perspective that I offer my thoughts and opinions, based on our experiences.

Something I think really important to say right at the first: *Llama rescue organizations do not compete with reputable breeders.* Both SWLR and SELR require that males are gelded, and females are placed with non-breeding contracts. Can we always enforce that? No. But we try. Sometimes, more often than you might think, people with rescue animals fall in love with their llamas and the llama lifestyle, and they then decide to begin breeding or showing.

At this point, we refer them to reputable farms providing registered breeding stock. A llama breeder, selling to someone who’s previously adopted an animal

from a legit rescue group, has an assurance that the adopters have been prescreened and mentored, and they know what they’re getting into. So the breeders can sell their valuable animals with added confidence that they will be properly cared for.

Perhaps one reason for the distrust of llama rescue in general is the inevitable rise of scam artists— those folks looking to make a buck, not to improve the well-

being of the animals. Too, we read reports—in the news and stories passed along through the Internet—about people, some genuinely well-intentioned, who tout themselves as rescuers, when a more appropriate term might be



Girls at auction barn



Day-old cria, born in auction barn

“collectors.”

Sometimes it’s difficult to tell if an organization, or an individual, is truly legit. It is important to separate the

legitimate rescue organizations from the others, but how can you tell? Registered nonprofit rescue groups like SWLR and SELR have boards of directors, make their records public, invite visitors and others to review their procedures. We apply for, and we are awarded, grants from some very picky organizations. If you’re talking to a llama rescue that’s a registered nonprofit, you’re probably talking to a legit group. But always check with other adopters, anyone who might have had dealings with the rescuers. Find out all you can.

Why Adopt?

Why should you consider adopting a rescue llama or alpaca? If you’re looking at one of the SWLR animals, for example, you’re looking at a llama that is “off the market” and no longer available for breeding. But that doesn’t mean it’s not a great animal! Both llamas and alpacas from rescue can make wonderful 4-H or com-

Why Rescue, cont.

panion animals; and rescue llamas compete and win in shows, are excellent drivers and packers, and *appropriate* llamas may be excellent livestock guardians. (Note: a llama is also dinner for a predator such as a mountain lion. Though the llama may well protect your herd of smaller livestock, it may be at the risk of the llamas life. It's much better to consider them "alarms," rather than guardians. And alpacas are great at alarming, but too small to take on any significant predator.)



Toenails: One of the most common things we see are overgrown toenails. Owners either don't know how to trim nails, or

How Can You Help?

As mentioned above, llama rescues need foster homes, transport, donations... and sometimes just folks to come out and help shear, trim toenails and give vaccinations, and spend some time with the animals. Each organization has more information available for you; or you can contact any one of us, and we'll help get you connected with the groups in your area. Perhaps as important is spreading the word. Llama rescue *helps* save lives. Too many llamas and alpacas are discarded, unnecessarily euthanized, or abandoned. It just doesn't have to happen, and you *can* help!

When you adopt a rescue llama, you also make it possible for other llamas, equally wonderful and valuable, to have a shot at a happy and meaningful life. Non-profit rescue groups like SWLR and SELR are funded solely by private donations and adoption fees. They also happily accept tax-deductible contributions of money, tack, feed, or other equipment to maintain and assist the llamas in their care.

A rescue llama comes with a history. Maybe a sad or terrible one. More often, a history of being loved and cared for by someone who just couldn't continue to do so. You'll know what you're getting. Even if the back-story is vague, the llama has been watched, tested, treated, handled and fully evaluated by qualified members of the rescue team.

What About Fostering?

If you have extra pasture and shelter space, you are needed! Lots of times, llamas come from one part of the country, but available foster homes are states away. More folks are always needed to provide long- or short-term temporary sanctuary to llamas awaiting adoption. Unlike with adoption, SWLR and SELR do reimburse veterinary costs, though the day-to-day maintenance falls upon the foster caretaker. It's critical that we have approved locations to take surrendered llamas, and there are never enough available.

Transport is also a huge issue. It's not uncommon to have individual llamas, and even herds, ready for immediate delivery to a foster or adoptive home; but no one available to help transport cross-country. Such transport may also be reimbursable, though not at the rates professional haulers charge.

Rescue Resources

See these websites for lists of llama rescue resources:

Camelid Rescue Coalition (CRC)

<http://camelidrescuecoalition.org>

The Camelid Rescue Coalition is an alliance comprising Northeast Llama Rescue, Inc. (NELR), Southeast Llama Rescue, Inc. (SELR), Southwest Llama Rescue, Inc. (SWLR), Llama Association of North America's Llama Lifeline Committee (LANA Lifeline) and several other non profit animal rescues. Its purpose is to provide a unified workforce with the ability to plan, organize and mobilize llama rescue resources nationwide in response to the plea for assistance from the Montana Large Animal Sanctuary.



Southeast Llama Rescue (SELR)

<http://southeastllamarescue.org>

SELR is a non-profit located in Marshall, North Carolina, with foster homes and volunteers spread out across the country. SELR takes in all llamas in need, regardless of behavior, health, or condition. Those with special health needs who are considered unadoptable are sent to live out the remainder of their lives at Indian Creek Llama Sanctuary, or ICLS, in Oliver Springs, Tennessee. ICLS has ready access to the large-animal practice at the University of Tennessee veterinary college and can provide customized feeding or treatment regimes for special-needs animals.



Southwest Llama Rescue, Inc.

Why Rescue, cont.

(SWLR)

<http://southwestllamarescue.org>

Sometime around 2001, there became an obvious need for llama rescue efforts in the southwest region. Individuals in Texas contacted Southeast Llama Rescue and began working as the Southwest regional representatives. The official SWLR began in New Mexico in the fall of 2002, when 14 llamas from an Animal Control rescue needed a place to live while awaiting new homes. In July of 2004, SWLR received 15 malnourished llamas from an owner who could no longer take care of them. In December 2004, SWLR received 25 females and babies. Some of the females were pregnant, so they went to a foster care facility for their special needs. Since that time, groups and individual llamas have been fostered in SWLR throughout New Mexico, Colorado, Texas, Arizona and Oklahoma.

LANA Lifeline

<https://www.lanainfo.org/lana-lama-lifeline>

A development of the Llama Association of North America (LANA), Lifeline is a safety net for llamas and alpacas. It comprises a network of individuals, businesses and organization that will take action to intervene on behalf of llamas in precarious life situations. LANA provides consultation, networking, education,



Authors Note: This article was first published in the December 2006 issue of *Camelid Quarterly* magazine. In 2009, it was revised and published in the *LANA News* newsletter. This is the third iteration.

Agritourism

From the University of California Small Farm Program:

Agritourism is a commercial enterprise at a working farm or ranch conducted for the enjoyment and education of visitors, and that generates supplemental income for the owner or operator.

Agritourism can include farm stands or shops, U-pick, farm stays, tours, on-farm classes, fairs, festivals, pumpkin patches, corn mazes, Christmas tree farms, winery weddings, orchard dinners, youth camps, barn dances, hunting or fishing, guest ranches, and more.

The UC Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (UC SAREP), working with county-based UC Cooperative Extension farm advisors, provides resources for agritourism operators and hosts California's statewide directory and calendar of agritourism operations.

Learn more on the [California Agritourism website](#).

Hopefully, you have been able to take a look at the "California Agritourism News" emailed to members last month by Calpaca secretary Dianna Jordan. This e-newsletter offers some really interesting information with links to such things as:

- Hosting an Agritourism Event on your Farm
- CA Agritourism Directory and Calendar
- Adding a Farm Store for Additional Revenue
- Marketing Beyond Social Media
- Useful Resources

If you are not familiar with agritourism, or if you want to learn more, the UC Agritourism News website is a great place to start:

- * <https://ucanr.edu/sites/agritourism/>
- * The newsletter link is <http://sfp.ucdavis.edu/agritourism/emails/>

Educational Plan for Animal Control & Animal Welfare Authorities

prepared by the **National Llama Intervention & Rescue Coordination Council (IRC Council), 2008**

Animal control and animal welfare authorities are sometimes called upon to remove llamas and alpacas from situations where their welfare is compromised or to capture loose camelids whose presence has become a traffic hazard. Most of these authorities have little or no experience assessing “at risk” situations involving llamas or alpacas, nor do they have experience catching, handling and transporting camelids. This educational plan, along with the resource materials suggested, is designed to help camelid organizations close that gap by suggesting ways they can provide educational opportunities for the animal control officials in their states.

Resource Materials

- *Catching and Handling Llamas and Alpacas.* Prepared by the IRC Council, this fact sheet provides basic tips on the safe catching and handling of camelids, emphasizing how they are different from other livestock.
- *IRC Council: National Camelid Welfare Group Stresses Education.* This fact sheet spells out the IRC Council’s purpose and goals and provides contact information for the council’s regional coordinators.
- *Minimum Standards of Care for Llamas and Alpacas.* Designed for animal control officers investigating camelid care situations, this fact sheet defines elements necessary for camelid survival and humane treatment.
- *Recommended Practices in Caring for Llamas & Alpacas.* The purpose of this brochure is to provide basic and important information on how to create a healthy and safe living environment for llamas and alpacas.
- *PowerPoint Presentation on Minimum Standards and Recommended Practices.* This presentation is a good way to visually present camelid care information at workshops, conferences or other educational gatherings.
- *Local Llama and Alpaca Owner Contacts.* Camelid

organizations should provide animal control officials in their state or region with several key camelid contacts who can provide advice or coordinate help from willing members or other llama and alpaca owners when needed.

All of these materials (except the local contact lists) will be available at www.icinfo.org (the web site for the International Camelid Institute). Just click on Resources, then Animal Rescue, then Educational Plan for Animal Control. You will then be able to click on individual documents as well as the Camelid Standards of Care title that will take you to the three pieces involving camelid care and practices (the “recommended practices” piece is set up for either single-page or duplex printing). All of the material was produced with the intent of being copied and distributed wherever needed. It is suggested that camelid organizations include a copy of each of the fact sheets and brochures in a simple three-ring binder or folder to present to each animal control or animal welfare office in their area. Use the PowerPoint presentation when designing a workshop or clinic for these same groups.

Identify Your Audience

Animal control authorities operate differently in various parts of the country. They have different titles and different responsibilities. Each camelid organization needs to identify what these officials are called in their own particular state or region, as well as how to reach them. Sometimes their titles even differ from county to county within the same state. Some of the possibilities include animal control, animal welfare, humane societies, animal health, county sheriffs and town constables. Some are public officials (city, township, county, state) while others are private contractors.

Determine How to Reach Them

Many animal control personnel have regularly scheduled conferences or workshops that may provide llama and alpaca organizations with an opportunity to present a session on camelid care and handling. Even a one-hour class using the above PowerPoint presentation and supplemental handouts would go a long way in introducing officials to specific care problems and handling techniques

involved with llamas and alpacas. Camelids usually make up little, if any, of the animals most authorities deal with on a regular basis. Though we don't want to overwhelm them with more information than they will read or assimilate, we have an obligation to try and help them understand how camelids are different from other livestock they deal with and why they usually require a different approach.

A camelid organization could also offer a special half-day or daylong training clinic for animal control personnel in various locations throughout the state. Besides the PowerPoint presentation and handouts, it would be ideal to offer some hands-on training opportunities so that animal control authorities have the opportunity to practice catching and handling techniques as well as learn how to do basic body scoring and make other "at risk" assessments. If your camelid organization holds a conference or other educational event on a regular basis, you might consider inviting animal control officials to attend at no charge.

Other Suggestions and Considerations

Some animal control authorities will be more receptive than others to your attempts to provide training opportunities.

- In some cases it may be more effective to work on a county by county basis where relationships already have been established between key camelid owners and their local animal control. Take advantage of those good working relationships to promote further education regarding llamas and alpacas.
- Enlist the help of supportive animal control and animal welfare officials in making contacts with those in other counties or areas of the state. A big first step is simply letting animal control authorities know who they can contact for help or advice when they are faced with a rescue or intervention situation involving llamas or alpacas.
- In other areas it may be advantageous to contact an office or department at the state or regional level for help with animal control contacts and opportunities to provide them with education on llamas and alpacas. State officials may be willing to have you provide camelid information or articles for their newsletters or other com-

munication vehicles or list upcoming llama and alpaca training sessions in the calendars of events for their employees. Again, provide these officials with a folder of camelid resource materials, as well as someone to contact if they need additional information or help.

- To get an educational program for animal control and welfare officials started in your area, it would be good to have a subgroup of several interested members of your organization work together to determine: the need for such a program in your state (are some counties or areas in more need than others), what opportunities already exist for tapping into with camelid information (animal control conferences or workshops) and what other educational opportunities could be created (a series of hands-on training clinics or classes).

It's easy to become overwhelmed with the prospect of trying to reach every animal control and animal welfare agent in the country with information on camelids, but just as we break training sessions for our llamas and alpacas into smaller more manageable chunks, that's what we need to do with our educational efforts. We all need to do what we can where we are. If we in the camelid community work together and are consistent in the information we provide and the helpful attitude we display to animal control authorities at every level, they will see us as part of the same team. And, indeed, we are—we all simply want to ensure the safety and well-being of these animals.



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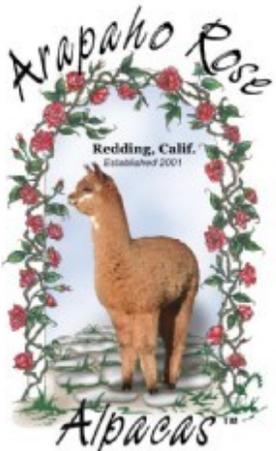
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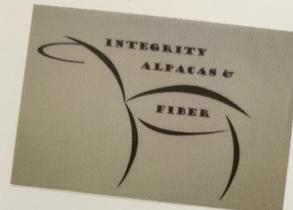
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Calpaca Classified Ads

Where is *your* classified ad?

Please contact the editor at llamas@lillette.net if your ad should be here, but isn't. Request for updated info was sent out, but if you were missed, I'll take care of it right away.

Not missing, but you wish you had run an ad?

We have a lot of empty categories, and I'm always happy to add more if your desired ad doesn't fit into one of these. Our classified ads are so inexpensive, and their availability to our current and potential members makes them a great investment for a relative pittance. I'm happy to help you develop your ad. We can even do color! Images! Clever text! Just send me your info, or contact me if you want a bit of a collaborative creative effort. We'll rock the classified ad section!

~ Editor

Farms / Ranches

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? At the 2013 California Classic show, two up-and-coming herdsires were featured in the Herdsire Auction. Little did we know then that six years later, we would be proud co-owners of them.

OVA Kiernan of St. Andrews went on to garner a total of **3 FIRST PLACE GET OF SIRE** and **3 CHAMPION/RESERVE banners**. **101A El Jefe's Moro** earned **1 FIRST PLACE GET OF SIRE** and **3 CHAMPION/RESERVE banners**.

Between them, they have produced over **80 registered offspring**...many multiple show winners.

Call Dianna at 530-744-7474 to arrange a breeding to either of these proven herdsires.

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Package of Four Female Suri Alpacas! We're combining four of our favorite girls into a "pet quality" package a for a super low price. Get these [925 Sterling Alpaca](#) ladies for our best pricing ever: Kissy Suzuki, Suvilla, Sarah and Rockette. Contact L'illette at 925suris@lillette.net, or call 720.839.0787 [Plymouth CA]

Herdsires

Not **ONE**, not **TWO**, but **THREE** Get of Sire blue ribbons. The proof is in his progeny! OVA Kiernan of St Andrews (#30528987) has sired 61 registered cria over the past eight years. Five were registered in 2018, and more are expected in 2019 and 2020. Yep, he is still working. Check him out at www.openherd.com/alpacas-for-sale/119141/ova-kiernan-of-st-andrews, and then give us a call at 530-744-7474. Jack and Dianna Jordan, www.alpacasofsomersetfarm.com.

Suri: Jar Jar Binks, Sir Baronoff son ; and Pericles, a Greystone son.

Huacaya: Accoyo Milagro (appaloosa), RR Brubeck (roan), Sundance Kid (light fawn, has sired harlequin greys). Macedo's Mini Acre, Turlock, California.

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Notices

Seeking Onsite Ranch/Herd Manager Position ~ Beginning Spring 2020

Around May or June of 2020, I will be ready to move on to a new position. Trepidation and anticipation! Currently the ranch manager for 925 Sterling Alpacas, located in Plymouth CA, I hope to find a similar position, preferably in this area, though I am certainly willing to relocate to another state.

In addition to working here since 2011, I spent eight years in Colorado working for Bobra Goldsmith at Rocky Mountain Llamas. I also have extensive business, writing and editing skills and experience. Please contact me at llamas@lillette.net for more information, business and ranch/herd management resumes, and references. (By December 1, I will have this info available online at Lillette.net.)

Looking forward to discovering what lies ahead in this extraordinary path that found me in January 2000!

~ L'illette Vasquez

Categories not listed this issue:

Agisting, Alpacas for Sale, Land/Ranches for Sale