President’s Message -Marilyn Nenni

The HLAA Board of Directors continues to have regular monthly meetings since our re-organization last fall and has made a lot of very positive progress. As you can see in this newsletter, the BOD has tackled a number of issues successfully ....... and there are still some exciting plans in the works for this year. Be sure to stay tuned!

As I give well-deserved kudos to the elected members of the BOD and our volunteer committee members, I’d like to point out to you that over half of our current BOD is made up of former Indiana 4-H llama club members – they’re still involved with llamas and now involved with our organization! Sean Hart (secretary) was a 4-H member in Hamilton Co., Becci Young (V Pres) was in 4-H in Allen Co., Becky (Mitchell) Myles (treasurer) was a member in Montgomery Co, and Abby (Dickson) Ramsey (board member) was in 4-H in Clark County. Robyn (Bain) Hart, a 4-H member from Hamilton Co., is now on the Communications Committee and is the Editor of this fantastic newsletter. Isn’t it exciting to see these young people stepping up and now participating in our lama association!

Rounding out our Board of Directors is Patti Hodge, a long-time member of the HLAA with great expertise in fiber, Nancy Pasko, in charge of Fundraising Activities, and then there’s me, Marilyn Nenni, clearly the oldest member of the group and also part of the original organizing group of HLAA. Having all of us, all ages, working together and contributing to our association just supports what a llama lifestyle adds to ones life along with the many life-time friends that we gain along the way.

To further recognize our former 4-H llama club members, the Indy Open Show will be offering a 4-H Llama Alumnae Class – free to all former members of a 4-H Llama Club.

There’s many more of these youth still involved than mentioned here. It’ll be fun to see everyone again!

“Lets Get Together Again”, the theme for the Midwest Lama Conference next month on March 12, is an invitation to all of you, youth included, to join us for fun, fellowship, and lunch as we further educate ourselves on the care, fiber opportunities, showing techniques, and 4-H and youth

continued on page 5

HLAA Library News

The previous HLAA Library has been located, inventoried, and now is available for your use. Many many thanks to Patti Hodge for doing the necessary investigation and work to revive our library and get it ready for use again. There are many publications, books, and videos available for your use and they can easily be obtained through Patti – now our Librarian. For your convenience, there will be a Library Display at the Midwest Lama Conference on March 12. A complete listing of the library contents and instructions on how to take out items is on our website at <http://www.hlaa.org/library.html>
What do they judge a fleece on when you enter it in a fleece show?

The judges normally use a fleece judging card, either supplied by the show management or themselves. Your exhibitor # is listed at the top, no name or farm is ever on the fleece. An example of judging cards can be seen following this article - pages 3 and 4.

FINENESS and HANDLE: The softness of the fiber, how it feels against the skin. The degree of quality fiber which can be determined by touch.

1.Uniformity or Micron: The measure of the diameter of natural fleeces. It should be relatively the same throughout the fleece.

2.Length: The measure of the length of fiber from the root to tip of the lock. You do not want too short or long, which would make it very difficult to process or spin. Rule of thumb is somewhere between 3” to 5”.

3.Color: Any Natural color is fine, a bright white, you do not want stained fleeces. A note: Alpaca solid fleeces should not have a spot in the blanket of either a dark in a white fleece, or a white in a dark. In this case you should remove the contrast color when skirting. This does not apply in a multi or fancy fleece.

CHARACTER: A general term describing the total of all characteristics that make fiber attractive to the eye such as color, crimp, brightness, and sound tip.

1.Crimp: A natural waviness or curl along the length of the fiber. Should be uniform throughout the fleece.

2.Lock Type/Density: The number of hair follicles per square inch. A tuft or group of fibers that cling naturally together in the fleece: also known as a “staple”.


4.Lack of Medullation: Fibers having more medulla (center cell area), such, fibers are coarse and uneven in diameter, harsh, low in elasticity. Guard Hairs.

5. Impurities/stain/fleece damage: Vegetable matter or dung in the fleece. Free from yellow or dark staining of fleece. Soundness-freedom of the fiber from breaks and tenderness: relates to the strength. Fiber that is weak and breaks anywhere along the length is due to poor nutrition or sickness. Tippy fiber is related to weathered ends increasing the noilage. Fleece needs to be free of second cuts: short pieces of wool that result from the shearer clipping off the fiber left from a previous stroke.

WEIGHT: The best method of estimation the weight is by lifting the fleece. Judges are looking for an animal that not only has a good quality fleece but also produces a good quantity. Many times this can become a tie breaker in the judging process.

It is important to attend a wool show judging if possible. You can listen to the judge “giving reasons”. You are allowed to ask questions: about wool terms, fleece character, the judge’s preferences, etc. Knowledge of fiber and wool production is vitally important to all producers. People who constantly increase their knowledge of fiber and wool usually encounter fewer problems in marketing their product. It also helps in breeding and management programs through which they can improve both quality and production in their fiber animals.

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**Fleece judging, explained**

-Patti Hodge

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**We’re on the Web!**

See us at: www.hlaa.us

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/hoosierlama

Follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/hoosierlama
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Reasons:

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<td>Very Fine (next to skin) (17-20)</td>
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Disqualified: 

Judge's Signature: 

Show: 

Entry Number: 

Date: 

Llama Fleece Score Card
involvements all relating to our llamas and alpacas. I encourage you to send in your reservation today. It’ll be a great day and we look forward to seeing everyone!

Following up from two meetings with the IN State Fair Directors regarding the llama and alpaca show for 2011, I’m pleased to report that having both an ALSA Show and ILR Show, as two separate shows, has been presented. Dates and details are now being finalized.

The show season really isn’t too far off. Take a look at our Events Calendar and plan to support our local shows. To add more fun to our local events for both adults and youth, there is a new Sweepstakes Award Program and a new HLAA Members Mystery Fun Class at all Indiana shows. Be sure to look up the details in this newsletter or on our website.

We’re still promoting our youth memberships and trying to get the word out there about our association. Please help us out and encourage any youth who enjoy their involvements with llamas to join the HLAA for further enjoyment and education.

Looking forward to a fun year with HLAA!

**For 16 years Cappy visited llama show after llama show in his quest for world domination, and the perfect pasture. His travels gave him the opportunity to experience many places and meet many people, and uniquely qualify him to offer sage advice – worldly words of wisdom, Cappyisms, if you will...**

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**Attention all llama 4-H’ers, llama youth, and 4-H leaders***************/

Don’t miss the Midwest Llama Conference, sponsored by the HLAA and scheduled for March 12, 2011. 

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See pages 18 - 19 of this newsletter for more information and registration form

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**Keep Up-To-Date on Llama News and Events**

Hoosier Llama Alpaca Association

www.hlaa.us

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**HLAA/MLA Sweepstakes Award Program**

The Hoosier Llama Alpaca Association and the Michigan Llama Association have joined together and are offering you the opportunity to participate in this exciting Sweepstakes Award Program at all recognized Indiana and Michigan shows - youth and 4-H shows included. Your nominated animal or nominated youth will earn points at every recognized Indiana or Michigan show you attend, the points will be cumulative through 2011, and at the end of the year the Top Five in each sweepstakes division will be recognized and awarded prizes. Fees are very reasonable. Plan to join in the fun and friendly competition and climb into a Top Five position to win great prizes.

Sooo simple to enter:

1. Simply nominate your animal or youth for the Sweepstakes Division you select
2. Send in your nomination to the Sweepstakes recorder.
3. Attend IN and MI shows and watch your placing points push you towards the Top Five.

Send in your nominations TODAY to take advantage of all shows this year! For all the fine details, full guidelines and the nomination form, go to the MLA or HLAA Web site. To the right is a list of Sweepstakes Recognized Shows that we are aware of at this time. (4-H county shows are also included in the program, but we don’t have a listing of all of them.)
Homegrown herdsire
Choosing the path less chosen

- Daniel Powell

A herdsire’s contribution to a herd is profound. In a single year a male llama can produce more offspring than can a female in her entire lifetime (embryo transfer notwithstanding). Therefore breeders put much time and energy into selection of future herdsires, but – and I am about to step on some toes here – I dare say not enough. Herdsires are splashed across every homepage and have had whole magazines printed in their honor, but considering the number of pet homes and sanctuaries these astounding males have filled with mediocre offspring I am given pause to wonder why the limelight is ever theirs.

The allure of the imported llama herdsire has waned greatly of late. This no doubt has much to do with the current economy and the subsequent downturn within the industry, but it also has much to do with the imported animals themselves. Even when their quality approaches what we have come to expect here in North America – and I can count on one hand the number importations that ever possessed such animals – their genetic merit usually does not. These animals are as likely to be the result of random mating as they are inbreeding – both of which have long been reviled by the llama breeder. There is a chance that these animals are the product of consistent and rigorous selection, but as their lineage is obscured by international borders and careful marketing they still represent quite a gamble. ‘The proof is in the pudding’ as they say.

Likewise, herdsires from certain infamous ‘lines’ – and I use this word ‘line’ very, very loosely – all have their own cheering sections and just as often have left the bleachers filled with disappointed fans. The E-line is perhaps the most famous such lineage. This is often referred to as a ‘dam line’ and it traces back to a cluster of females related by decent to ‘The Canadian.’ The E-line is known for producing tall statuesque animals of correct conformation, but two things must be understood when considering such a ‘line’. The first is that it is not a ‘line’ in any sense of the word, as ‘line’ denotes linebreeding - and it is linebreeding that creates consistent production and not a distant mystic ancestor. The second is that in such outcrossed ‘lines’ (if you’ll pardon the oxymoron) only those animals that typify that for which the ‘line’ has come to be known are promoted as being members of said famous ‘line’ – and so the illusion and the tradition associated with the line continues. Almost every E-line animal ever offered was the result of rampant outcrossing – many of which now bear less than 6.25% of ‘The Canadian’’s actual genetic makeup. These ‘lines’ therefore are reflections of selection practices and marketing and have little to do with common ancestry. Again, ‘the proof is in the pudding’. 

-continued on page 10
I recently visited a large ALSA sanctioned llama show. The exhibitors were quite diverse, representing several states. The animals too displayed great diversity in color, markings, fiber, origin, and size. Selecting the finest animals was a nationally acclaimed, ALSA Level III judge. This judge is someone I personally respect and admire a great deal. As is always the case, some exhibitors were very happy with the judge's decisions, while others questioned them.

While presenting oral reasons, this judge frequently stated that one of the lower placing animals was the most "conformationally correct" and "best moving", but was placed lower due to being smaller (than the higher placing llamas in the class). Let me clarify. This judge did not say that the top placers and the smaller animal were equal in conformation and movement, but that the smaller animal was the best in the class in terms of conformation, overall balance, and movement. In several classes throughout the show, the judge publicly acknowledged a selection of size over correctness. It was refreshing to see that this judge was publicly "owning up" to what so many judges do, without acknowledging it.

For a few years now I have watched a number of judges place animals according to size first, then correctness. I often wondered if this was an unpublished ALSA mandate to the judges. In preparation for this article I contacted four judges who assured me that this is not the case. Before you start writing letters to me, let me state for the record that I realize there are many aspects (of conformational correctness) in which size plays a role: size appropriate to age, developmental maturity for age, etc.

Still, I challenge these judges to think about the message they are sending to breeders; the message that "bigger is better".

A few years ago the number of really large llamas at a show or sale represented perhaps 2% of those in attendance; now it is easily more than 50%. Are llamas just naturally growing larger in the United States (than those in their native lands) as a result of better nutrition and care? Is this a result of environment and natural selection, or is it a result of selective breeding? The facts show us that llamas have been allowed to breed largely by natural selection in South America for many, many generations. On the whole, those llamas are small by U.S. standards. So is it an accident of nature that North American llamas are so large? Or is it a result of market-driven selective breeding for larger size animals? Logic tells us it is the latter, rather than the former. OK, so Americans are guilty of selectively breeding llamas for size; is there anything wrong with that? The answer is "It depends". (Don't you hate that answer?) It is generally held that we can best predict the future by studying the past. The philosopher George Santayana said, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." For this reason I chose to research the theories and outcomes surrounding selective breeding. This article is not intended as an exhaustive scientific study, nor do I hold myself out as an expert. This is simply a compilation of my research and observations.

**Theories**

In 1859 British naturalist Charles Darwin published his theories on the "Origin of the Species", citing the benefits of selective breeding in certain species. Over time this theory has been embraced among animal breeders who stand to gain in celebrity or wealth. Although Darwin advocated a conscientious, slow evolution, many breeders have approached this with an attitude of "if a little is good, then a lot is even better" philosophy. Sad to say, Americans seem to be the leaders in this thinking.
Does Size Matter?

Let's review the outcome of some of these. Following are excerpts from various studies, which are credited in the footnotes.

Seeds of Selective Breeding

Meat Production

"Belgian Blue cattle were selectively bred to possess double muscle mass, producing twice the amount of beef, and thereby doubling profits. However, their limbs cannot support the added muscle mass. They suffer weakness in ligament and bone structure, and endure a fair amount of pain. The calves have to be delivered by Caesarean section."

"Broiler chickens now reach slaughter weight in 42 days (twice as quickly as 30 years ago). As a result, their hearts and lungs cannot cope and even during their brief lifetime, fatal heart attacks are not uncommon. Others will suffer lameness and broken bones as their legs collapse beneath their ballooning weight. Birds that escape slaughter are rarely able to live much longer."

"Turkeys (selectively bred for profit) have experienced similar problems. White turkeys bred for hypertrophied chest muscles (to provide more breast meat) have to be artificially inseminated. Their new ‘improved’ shape may have provided more meat, but it has made reproduction all but impossible. This would not occur in nature because animals which cannot mate cannot pass on their genes, and the trait dies out."

"Pigs have been bred to gain weight more quickly and now suffer hip and joint problems as well as lung and heart conditions."

"Dairy cows (bred to) produce ten times more milk than their calves could ever drink...suffer nutrient deficiencies, lameness, and mastitis."

Pets and Show Animals

"Siamese cats bred to an extreme type for show success are now frail and fragile.

"The Peke-faced Persian cat whose face is so flat that its eyes and sinuses are deformed (due to breeding to the extremes of show standards), has to be on antibiotics for life."

"The Chinese Shar Pei has been bred to exaggerate the number of wrinkles for show success, resulting in severe respiratory defects."

"Pug dogs, whose show breed standard is "eyes that are very large, globular in shape" have a tendency for exophthalmoses and exposure keratitis."

"The British Bulldog breed standard advocates "The skull should be very large – the larger the better. The breed now experiences a high number of dystocia (difficulties in birthing) and "roach" backs."

"The Dachshund's breed standard dictates that "The whole trunk should be long". Over zealous breeders, taking this to the extreme, have exacerbated the occurrence of prolapsed intervertebral discs (caused by a longer trunk than the frame can support) in the breed."

"Large and giant breed dogs suffer hip dysplasia, arthritis, and a host of other genetic maladies resulting from breeding for the hypertype. Similarly, toy and miniature breed dogs suffer from arthritis, tracheal collapse, and cataracts."

"Miniature horses (often bred to perpetuate the small size, in spite of known dwarf characteristics) suffer many health issues and very high reproductive mortality."

"Many descendants of Impressive, the muscular, top-winning halter (Quarter Horse) stallion of all time, carry his genetic mutation linked to the often-fatal muscular disorder known as hyperkalemic periodic paralysis."

Humans Too?

"Perhaps the most disturbing interpretation of Darwin’s theory is its application in the human animal, known as eugenics."

"One of the most disconcerting rulings of the "enlightened" 20th century was the 1927 case of Buck v. Bell, which legalized forced sterilization of "undesirable" populations. It is this case in which "Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. (is credited with his) most infamous opinion (upholding Virginia’s castration program for the feeble minded), with the pithy ‘three generations of idiots are enough.’ In three years, approximately 10,000 people were sterilized without their consent."

What About Llamas?

A llama breeder once told me that she rarely has crias with a birth-weight below 40 pounds on her ranch, and that she culls females who do not produce to this standard. In truth, I believe this was more braggadocio than reality, but consider, if true, the effect on her dams. If we take a benchmark of 325 pounds for the average North American female llama, this means the dams are giving birth to offspring that are 12.5% of their own weight. This is equivalent to a 130 pound woman giving birth to a baby weighing more than 16 pounds.

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Perhaps the most abhorred practitioner of eugenics was Adolf Hitler. His Nazi party’s efforts to rid Europe of all “inferior” people, starting with the handcapped in Germany, and moving on to include Jewish people, Poles, the Romany, homosexuals, and groups opposed to the Nazi ideology are frequently accepted as a purely German invention. However, Nazi eugenics philosophies were largely based on the precepts of legalized sterilization of inferior humans set forth by the state of California. Recently state governments in Virginia, Oregon, and South Carolina have published statements of apology to tens of thousands of patients, mostly poor women, who were sterilized against their will in state hospitals between the 1900s and 1960s. In March 2003, California Governor Davis and Attorney General Lockyer added their regrets for the injustices committed in the name of “race betterment”.

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Is there evidence that the llama species is suffering any ill effects from hypertype. breeding? We’ve all heard rumors of breeders who euthanize crias born with genetic flaws to conceal defects passed on by their prize studs.
Does Size Matter?

We’ve heard that decorative blankets have been used to conceal compromised toplines (resulting from generations of breeding for size over soundness), and that “creative shearing” is used to conceal numerous flaws.

Since a substantial amount of money is at stake for breeders (and veterinarians), genetic flaws are typically well concealed. Only after generations of defective animals have been identified can we substantiate our suspicions, but at what cost to the animals?

Other Characteristics

While a good deal of the information available suggests that breeding to increase animal size has historically played a role in increasing genetic flaws, it should be stated that breeding for the “extreme” of any characteristic is equally dangerous.

I’ve heard breeders of small or “miniature” llamas boast that their stud is a product of six generations of minis. I’ve heard breeders covet llamas with “tree trunk” (heavily boned) legs. I’ve seen hundreds of breeders scurry to produce suri fiber following an auction or sale where a suri-type llama commanded an extravagant sale price. Our brief history of camelid breeding in North America suggests that none of these characteristics are detrimental to the species unless taken to the extreme.

Correcting Our Mistakes

European Legislation

In 1995 the Council of Europe (which covers 41 member countries including the UK), concerned about the gradual shift towards American-style ultra-types (referred to as "hypertypes") in domestic pets, issued the "European Convention for the Protection of Pet Animals". This treaty encourages breeding associations to:

"Reconsider breeding standards and amend any causing potential welfare problems. It would ensure, by educating breeders and judges, that breeding standards are interpreted so as to discourage development of extreme characteristics (hypertype.) which can cause welfare problems. In other words, it is up to breeders to curb, and even to reverse, the excesses of ultra-typing before matters are taken out of their hands by European legislation."

In "Some Practical Solutions to Welfare Problems in Dog Breeding", P D McGreevy and F W Nicholas of the Department of Animal Science, University of Sydney suggest ethical breeding practices for dogs. In the abstract of the paper, they state "Some breed standards and selection practices run counter to the welfare interests of dogs, to the extent that some breeds are characterized by traits that may be difficult to defend on welfare grounds. Meanwhile, little selection pressure seems to be exerted on some traits that would improve animal welfare and produce dogs better suited to modern society." "There are several constructive ways to overcome these challenges. Breed associations can ensure that reduction of welfare problems is one of their major aims; they can review breed standards; they can embrace modern technology for animal identification and pedigree checking; they can allow the introduction of 'new' genetic material into closed studbooks; and they can encourage collaboration with geneticists in identifying and using DNA markers for the control of inherited disorders."

"Certainly dog breeding controls cannot and should not be applied across the board to other species, but I do feel that some of the recommendations may have application for the camelid species."

North American Breeding Ethics

I am reluctant to align with the innumerable groups who portray Americans as greedy and self-serving, but in this case I believe the Europeans are acting in the best interest of the animals.

ALSA has carefully set standards for llama and alpaca conformation guidelines that perpetuate soundness in the species. In my opinion, our industry is best served when:

• judges adhere to strictly to those guidelines.
• breeders consider the soundness of the species over novelty or income potential.

• buyers consider the long-term consequences of purchasing (and breeding) the latest "trends".

References:

1 "Great Moments in Genetic Engineering" published by Ecoglobe
3 The Greenberg Center for Skeletal Dysplasias (USA Miniature Horse website)
4 U.C. Davis School of Veterinary Medicine
5 "Unmasking the Fatal Flaw", Jack Moore, Equus Magazine; March 1993
6 "Twisty Cats and the Ethics of Breeding for Deformity" by Sarah Hartwell

Biography of the author:

The first time Cheryl Cave saw a llama (outside a zoo) was in 1987 in Corvallis, Oregon. While visiting Corvallis for bank software training, Cheryl was instantly drawn to a pasture of llamas owned by the Oregon State University veterinary program. From that moment, she was captivated.

Cheryl and husband, Tom, began researching the llama lifestyle, reading everything they could find and visiting llama farms across the country. In 1998 they purchased a home with acreage and bought their first two llamas. By the end of that year, their herd was up to twelve, and by 2002, the herd size exceeded 60. Cheryl became actively involved in many facets of llama care, shearing and consulting professionally. She often attended surgeries and procedures at the local veterinarian’s office. In 2001 Cheryl traveled to Chili to select and import several Argentine llamas. She has enjoyed a great deal of success in the show ring, with a national champion and several ALSA hater champions to her credit.

Cheryl is currently writing a book intended for new llama owners. She also writes a column for an international software publication.
‘Now if I were a gambling man, of the two ‘puddings’, this is the one I would most likely choose – albeit I do only consider it to be a slightly more palatable pudding than the one aforementioned.

The above two scenarios persist as the two extremes of a very narrow and very limiting spectrum upon which our industry was built. I am not a proponent of outcrossing as a ‘standalone breeding system’, and so neither of the above scenario appeals to the geneticist and breeder in me. I want consistent results – and so should anyone who fancies himself a breeder. The only way really consistent results are to be obtained is through positive assortative mating and linebreeding. These two breeding strategies are the mainstay of every successful livestock industry. The most prepotent and valuable herd sires of the future are going to be linebred and will have been born of generations of like to like mating. Indeed, if such animals existed today, the ‘imported herdsire’ as well as the ‘faux line herdsire’ - would all but vanish. To any newcomers who ask me how to choose a herdsire, I simply say, ‘breed your own’ – as this is the only sure way to stack the deck in their favor.

Dan has additional articles of interest posted on his farm website, One Earth Farm, and can be contacted at <dan@oneearthfarm.com>
Crocheted stripe scarf  
-Thelma Goulet

Needed:
1. 2 colors of yarn, DK, light worsted or worsted weights (a main color and a secondary color)
2. crochet hook, size “H” or look at your yarn label for suggestions
3. darning needle to weave in the ends

While crocheting, you will be going back and forth on the length of the scarf to make the stripes. I crocheted this for the Colts 2012 but it can be done in any color, width or length.

Instructions:


Row 2 - all half double crochet stitches

Row 3 - half double in front of stitch (ALL stitches from now on are 1/2 doubles in front of stitch only). This method creates a small ribbed effect. If you wish, crochet into both lops but you will not have the rib. <http://www.freepatterns.com/stitch_guide/content.html?content_id=63>

Row 4 - Change to secondary color and crochet 1/2 double in front of the stitch.

Row 5 & 6 - Change to main color and crochet same as Row 3

Row 7 - Change to 2nd color and crochet same as Row 4

All additional rows are same as rows 5, 6 & 7. Finish the last row with the main color.

You can now finish by weaving in the ends with your darning needle, put on fringe -OR- make braids.

To make braided ends: There will be alternating colors hanging from this scarf.
- For the braid with 2 rows, you will need 6 ends approximately 6” long. You may need to add some ends by cutting 12” lengths and attaching them.
- For the braids with 1 row, you just need 3 ends at the same length

Of course with 3 ends, just hold 3 groups of 1 end and do the same thing.

HLAA Member’s Mystery Fun Class - Win “Big Bucks”!!

The Hoosier Llama Alpaca Assoc. is sponsoring a free HLAA Mystery Fun Class at all Indiana shows in 2011 (with the show superintendent’s permission of course). These planned classes will not be for the best halter or the best performance animal, but will be a strictly fun class for HLAA members and one of their llamas. A separate Mystery Class is planned for adult and youth HLAA members. Each Mystery Classes will be unique, as will the awards, which will vary from $10.00 to $50.00 at each show throughout the season. You can bet on the fun! Plan to attend all Indiana llama shows this year, join in the fun, and take advantage of your HLAA membership benefit for the opportunity to win the “Big Bucks”!!
Looking for a great new addition to your herd?

You will find a wide selection of young males & females, mature females - bred or open, and truly great stud prospects. These colorful suris & silkies are all 4-H trained and bred for correctness and people-pleasing personalities.

Glen & Marga Smucker • 17740 County Road 14 • Goshen, IN 46528
You’re sure to find it at
Klein Himmel!

You will find great deals and packages made up of fine quality show, breeding and companion llamas. If you are looking for that perfect llama, contact Klein Himmel. Be sure to visit our web site for more pictures and information.
New life for rescued llamas

The Camelid Rescue Coalition (CRC), comprised of Northeast Llama Rescue, Inc. (NELR), in collaboration with Southeast Llama Rescue, Inc. (SELR), Southwest Llama Rescue, Inc. (SWLR), Llama Association of North America’s Lama Lifeline Committee (LANA Lifeline) and several other llama associations, is thrilled to announce that all llamas have been evacuated from the Montana Large Animal Sanctuary.

Of the 506 llamas that were held in triage at the sanctuary in preparation for transport, 495 are now receiving the best of care at foster facilities throughout the country. Four llamas were euthanized on site when it was determined that their conditions were not improving and that they would not survive transport. Three llamas died in transit or shortly thereafter, and five others died prior to transport due to their extremely compromised states.

The CRC wishes to extend our gratitude to the kind persons caring for the 495 llamas in foster facilities. These facilities are located in California, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, and Washington State. We are also pleased to announce that one of our member organizations, Southeast Llama Rescue, Inc., is the recipient of a $20,000 grant from the ASPCA. The grant will help to defray some of the $50K+ spent by SELR and the CRC on initial transportation costs. Donations are still needed to help us provide hay and supplies for the hundreds of llamas now in foster care, and to assist with future transport of llamas to their adoptive homes.

For more information about donating, please visit SELR at: www.SoutheastLlamaRescue.org (678 Mill Creek Rd, Luray, VA 22835) to support this effort through your generous donation. SELR is a recognized 501(c)(3) organization.

We continue to ask that anyone wishing to adopt llamas from this effort to contact our member organizations for details.

NELR: Wes Laraway laraway@midtel.net
SWLR: Pat Little mt@zi.net
LANA Lifeline: Gary Kaufman gary@roadsendllamas.com

Icy hazards

As many of you also experienced, February this year brought inches of snow topped with freezing rain that ended up in approximately 4 inches of solid ice covering all the roads and pastures here in central Indiana. One evening we discovered one of our young llamas had wandered away from the hay feeder and was trapped on the icy hill of the pasture. The more he tried to stand, the further he slid down the hill. And it was questionable whether we could even get to him safely. Jim and I were able to approach him without falling only because of the “ice grippers” (see image bottom left) we had attached on our boots. After getting a halter on him we were able to get him to a safe place. We just happened to have these “grippers” on hand and they were an absolute lifesaver during these past couple of weeks. Although we hope they won’t be needed any more this year, they sure might be handy to have on hand for the future. You can order them online at <http://cozywinters.com/ice-cleats/ice-cleats.html> for only $14.95. And as for the young llama who is experiencing his first winter, he was penned up with the rest of his pasture-mates in a small, safe area for the next five days.

Autumn Hill Llamas & Fiber

Offering beautiful, friendly, and healthy llamas and alpacas for sale, outside breedings to an award-winning herd sire llama, and roving, yarn, and finished fiber items.

Fairland, IN
317-652-8658
llama@zianet.com
www.outhillllamas.com

- Marilyn Nenni
Mud Wrestling  -Laura Keller

The rain, the mud and the snow.
The snow, the mud and the rain.
With weather at zero,
It’s hard for a hero,
From language that’s rude to refrain.

With porridgy muck to our knees,
With sky that’s a’pouring a flood,
Sure the worst of our foes,
Are the pain and the woes,
Of the rain, the snow, and the mud.

That little ditty was based loosely on the Robert Service poem, “Cremation of Sam McGee.” The poem appeared in an outdoor magazine shortly after I left college, back in the days when I admired backpacking and mountain climbing as noble pursuits. I am afraid I do not recall the name of the author. The poem has stayed with me all these years, even though I last backpacked about three decades ago. To compensate for my lack of sporting pursuits, however, I moved to the country and started raising llamas. And alas, the rain, the snow, and the mud have followed me there.

I am sure it is only a very lucky few people that raise livestock that don’t have some problem with mud during the “rainy season” or, worse yet, that time of year when the heavy snow melts and the ground is too frozen to absorb all the runoff. Of course, the best maintained farms would have installed proper drainage around their buildings and in low areas to handle these situations. But many of us do not have the luxury to embark on major excavation projects, especially if we are dealing with existing structures. And of course, hindsight about drainage improvements you should have completed last August when you are having your boots sucked off by the mud today does not help your mood in the least.

The seemingly most minor problem with mud starts on those first days of very early spring, when the ground is clear of snow but still frozen. Our boondoggle is the path to the barn, which leads around our picturesque pond. The slope of the path is slightly towards the pond, to facilitate runoff into the pond. Unfortunately, the slope also facilitates slide-off. The southern exposure concentrates the sun’s warmth, and as the top layer of ground thaws, a slimy layer of mud separates invisibly from the underlying frozen ground. This layer is as slippery as greased Teflon. There are no lug patterns on boots that can give you traction on this deadly surface. If you have an area like this, my best advice is to find another way around.

Once finally and safely at the barn, other muddy problems appear where low spots occur, or downspouts drain too close to the barn. The llamas themselves add to the problem, especially when it is muddy already, because they seem as reluctant as we are to get their feet wet. They therefore defecate in the barn and on surfaces close to the barn and entrances. The solution is to keep the manure cleaned up, but of course this is a lot more effort when it is snowy and wet, and you cannot enter the area with anything but a shovel and muck bucket. The problem quickly worsens. I believe the word for this is autocatalytic, where a problem tends to spiral out of control in a rapid fashion. It seems more autocatalysimic to me. Do the best you can to keep the areas clean, and encourage the llamas to go out in the pasture and browse on imaginary shoots of grass, so that they poop as much as possible outside of the confines of the barnyard. Perhaps flinging some choice hay far out in the pasture, or setting up a course for croquet might entice them out on nice days.

Our most challenging mud is just outside of our main barn, on the path we take to the loafing shed where we feed hay. The path taken by the llamas becomes muddy with their passage, and the drainage from the downspouts has failed when the buried drainage pipe collapsed. So much for planning ahead. In desperation, we found a good solution by making a path with 4’ X 8’ sheets of ⅜ inch plywood, laid on the ground end to end. This runway was meant as a temporary solution, but like most temporary solutions, it worked so well it discouraged us from the big job of fixing the drainage problem during the dry, but much busier season of late summer. The plywood has held up surprising well and has now become an integral part of the ground, with crab grass hiding the edges in summer and a patina of grime making the boards almost invisible. The llamas also love to lie on the plywood “beach” and sun themselves on those first warm days of early spring. Someday we plan to replace this path with a wide raised path of crushed limestone, but I doubt that limestone will stand the test of time like the plywood has.

Another shortcut, especially when a muddy area has a slope to it, is to cover that spot with large 4’ x 6’ rubber mats. These mats are durable, and will no doubt outlast us, our llamas, and probably democracy itself. Their drawback is that they are extremely heavy, and almost impossible to move. It is very frustrating to discover that no amount of grip strength enables me to hang on to one of these mats and drag it across the ground, or heaven forbid, have to lift it. Even with two people, the mats are like dragging a dead weight much heavier than their 80 or so pounds. We have cut a couple of the large mats in half, making them easier to handle. But, we wore out a Skil saw motor and saw blade doing this, so you’ve been warned. The only way we have found to effectively move these rubber mats is to drill holes inside the corners of the mats, and then use metal hay hooks to move them. Viola! This actually works, and if you take one tip from this entire article, this is the one to remember.

Another mud beater, which takes a little planning ahead, is to use hardwood mulch in low areas and for paths. Our favorite spot for this is on the llama path that leads through a gate, where the llamas concentrate their foot traffic so much that they create a low spot that turns to muck when it rains. We dump about two cubic yards of hardwood mulch in this spot, which creates a small mound. This must be done during better weather when you can drive a truck onto the pasture. The mulch pile levels out quickly, and the llama foot traffic eventually forces the mulch into the ground, through the earth’s mantle, through the molten core, and out the other side near Hangzhou China, where local Chinese farmers reuse the mulch to make paths in their rice patties. Isn’t recycling great? Unfortunately, the Chinese have not reciprocated by sending any unused mulch back in our direction. Therefore, the mulch must be replaced every year or two.

Trying to keep ourselves and our llamas out of the mud and wet conditions serves more than just aesthetics and convenience.

-continued on page 20
Though it may seem far away with all the winter storms we have been having, 4-H season is right around the corner. The memories are rushing back to me now, teaching the younger 4-H’ers how to halter the llamas and telling them not to be afraid even though they are big. I talked to some other members of different clubs to see what they think of the beginning of the 4-H year. Emily Talbot, a member of Critter Haven Farm 4-H Club, led by Doris Schlemmer and Lynette Swineheart, said that her favorite part is, “All the people you get to meet, and just having fun with your friends. Making memories that will last forever!” Many 4-H’ers share that same view. Erin Vollmer, member of the Llama Trekker Club led by Marilyn Nenni and Lisa Swain, said, “I enjoy coming up with new ways to improve my club and get new members involved in 4-H.”

With interest in llamas growing so are the clubs. Both adult and youth leaders are learning to adapt to teaching all then necessary information to their groups and having fun at the same time. Improving ones techniques was a common goal with all of the youth I interviewed, but Shelby Smith, also from Critter Haven Farm, stated she wanted to help a lot in her club this coming year. She can be seen working with her llama, Streaker, on a nice winter day (below right). Zoe Schwab, from the Llama Trekker Club, will have her first senior year (in 4-H) this year and she cannot wait to improve her leadership skills as well. Marissa Kroger, from

4-H Youth Corner
- Aly Briggs

Critter Haven Farm, summed up her favorite things about the whole entire 4-H season well when she said, “I love being with all my friends, new and old, and I love working with the animals.” So as the season approaches keep in mind not only what you want to get out of it, but what you want others to get out of it as well.
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4-H Llamas Word Search Puzzle

4-H Llama Clubs will be starting up soon. Locate the words that you will be learning about in the clover maze

4-H license plates!

Have you seen cars and trucks with a 4-H license plate and wondered where to get one? It’s simple: 4-H license plates can be purchased directly from the license branch. Just let the BMV know you want a special plate. $10 from each plate comes back directly to your county 4-H program.

Drive home the message and support 4-H!
Midwest Lama Conference
March 12, 2011
Hamilton Co. Fairgrounds
Noblesville, IN

“let’s get back together”
An educational and fun day for all llama and alpaca owners, 4-H and any youth interested in llamas and alpacas.
Membership in HLAA is not required.

Mark your calendars and send in your reservation today!
More information is on the website: www.hlaa.us/conf.html

Welcome, welcome ............
Come and enjoy a lama day with other lama enthusiasts and youth. The main topic will be New Awareness for Parasite Management with speaker Dr. Janice Kritchevsky from Purdue University offering new information on parasite control. Instruction on fecal testing on your farm will also be included. In addition, attendees will have the opportunity to also attend multiple workshops, Stand Out in the Show Arena and Getting your Fiber Ready for Shearing. These show workshops will include halter, performance, and showmanship. Fiber demonstrations will include preparing your fiber prior to shearing, actual shearing, and info on shears and blades. Youth will have their own show workshops schedule, a Quiz Bowl, and some additional fun activities. 4-H Leaders will enjoy a special round table sharing new ideas and plans for the upcoming 4-H season. Not to be overlooked is the serving of an inviting lunch and a time for socializing and meeting new members. The schedule will also include the annual meeting of the Hoosier Llama Alpaca Association. Mark your calendars and send in your reservations for both you and your youth today!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Youth</th>
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| 9:00 – 9:30   | Check In & Coffee  
Place: Winks Bldg. | Check In  
Place: Winks Bldg. |
| 9:30 – 10:30  | “Stand Out In The Arena”  
Showmanship & Halter  
Place: Winks Bldg. | “Stand Out In The Arena”  
Performance Classes  
Place: Annex Bldg. |
| 10:35 – 11:35 | “Stand Out In The Arena”  
Performance Classes  
Place: Annex Bldg. | “Stand Out In The Arena”  
Showmanship & Halter  
Place: Winks Bldg. |
| 11:45 – 12:45 | Lunch & Social Hour  
Place: Winks Bldg. | Lunch & Social Hour  
Place: Winks Bldg. |
| 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. | “New Awareness for Parasite Management”  
Fecal Prep & Identification  
Dr. Janice Kritchevsky, Purdue University  
Place: Winks Bldg.  
(youth are welcome too) | Youth Quiz Bowl  
Place: Annex Bldg. |
| 2:35 – 3:35 p.m. | Shearing & Fiber Preparation for Show  
Place: Winks Bldg.  
OR  
4-H Leader Roundtable  
Place: Annex Bldg. | Shearing & Fiber Preparation for Show  
Place: Winks Bldg. |
| 4:00          | Short HLAA Annual Meeting | Short HLAA Annual Meeting |
Registration
Midwest Lama Conference
&
HLAA Annual Meeting

“let’s get together again on March 12”

Lunch & All Activities:

HLA Adult Members: $12.00
Non-Member Adults: $15.00
All Youth: $10.00

Registration:

Name/Names: _________________________________________
____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________

Email: _______________________  Phone:  _________________

Youth:  ____     Adult:  ____

HLAA Member ____  HLAA Non-Member ____

Please make all checks payable to HLAA.
Please send in your registrations by March 6th.

Send checks and registrations to:
Becky Young
8525 Eby Rd.
Ft. Wayne, IN 46835

We look forward to seeing you there!
If the llamas are continuously exposed to wet and mud, they can develop a fungal/bacterial infection called foot rot. Like most foot problems, this can be hard to treat and is best prevented. Marilyn Nenni suggests placing a piece of carpet soaked in bleach solution at the entrance to the barn, so that the llamas essentially self-disinfect their feet frequently.

Through all this, remember that you are not alone. Civilization has fought the weather and in particular the mud, from the Nazi invasion of Russia, to the westward movement of wagon trains (where you were told to choose your rut carefully) to the great Napoleon, and on back in time to our earliest civilizations. Why do you think the Roman road was paved with bricks? (Because they had not invented plywood yet!) So keep your chin up, watch where you step, and keep your boots on!

Schedule of upcoming events:

Midwest Lama Conference & HLAA Annual Meeting
March 12, 2011
Noblesville, Indiana
[http://www.hlaa.us](http://www.hlaa.us)
A fun and informative one-day conference with many educational workshops and speakers. Purdue informs us of new parasite managements.

Many youth & 4-H workshops offered. Annual HLAA meeting! A “don’t miss” event for everyone!

The Fiber Event at Greencastle
April 15 & 16, 2011
Free Admission, Free Parking
[http://www.thefiberevent.com](http://www.thefiberevent.com)

Hobo Hootenanny
April 23, 2011
Hillsdale, Michigan
Fun one-day show, hobo show – no grooming allowed! Hobo King & Queen crowned.

Mid-Michigan Llama Show
April 30 & May 1, 2011
Charlotte, Michigan
[http://www.michiganllama.org/forms.htm](http://www.michiganllama.org/forms.htm)
MLA show at a nice woodsy fairgrounds. ALSA sanctioned show.

Indiana Fiber & Music Festival
April 30 & May 1, 2011
Clark County Fairgrounds
Charlestown, Indiana

Indy Open 400 & 500
May 21 & 22, 2011
Noblesville, Indiana
Two full ALSA shows, the 400 and the 500, and a 4-H show. Huge complimentary barn buffet breakfast! Cash premiums.

Allen Co. Llama Show
June 4 & 5, 2011
Ft. Wayne, Indiana
Full ALSA show & 4-H show. Fun show with easy in and out.

Hoosier Hills Fiberarts Fest
June 3 & 4, 2011
Franklin, Indiana
Johnson County Fairgrounds
[http://www.hoosierhillsfiberarts-festival.com](http://www.hoosierhillsfiberarts-festival.com)

John Mallon Clinic
June 18 & 19, 2011
Country View Llamas
545 Country View Lane
Ghent, KY
contact: [John Maddy](mailto:johnmaddy@gmail.com)
Sponsored by Kentucky Llama Alpaca Assoc.

National All American Youth Jamboree
Shows and Conference
June 24, 25 & 26, 2011
Noblesville, Indiana
http://www.youthjamboree.net/ALSA Youth Show & 4-H Show, all classes in each show. Free dinners, auction, show workshops, vet workshops, fiber workshops, Farmer Olympics, Obstacle Sweepstakes, and other fun challenges. Cash premiums & ribbons awarded.

Submission Guidelines for the Hummer:

Please send any articles, information, stories or photos you would like to have considered for future issues of the Hummer to robynhart@sbcglobal.net.

Articles may be submitted as the body of an e-mail (preferable), as a .doc, .docx, or .txt. A .pdf may be acceptable in certain instances. Please send all related images as separate attachments in either .jpg or .psd file formats, with a minimum resolution of 300 ppi.
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What's Different?
Can you spot the 6 differences between these two photos?
Sweepstakes Nomination Form

Name __________________________________________________________
Farm __________________________________________________________
Address ________________________________________________________
City __________________ State ______ Zip ______
Phone ___________________ Email _________________________________
Hooiser Llama Alpaca Assoc, Member____ Michigan Lama Assoc, Member ____

Nominate your animal or youth to accumulate points at all Indiana & Michigan shows attended this year. Enter in as many Divisions as you’d like - list is at the right. The Top Five in each Division will receive year-end awards.

Column 1.
List the animal or youth that is being nominated for the Sweepstakes Award Program.
Column 2.
List the number of the division that you are nominating for.

Total the amount due for each nominated youth or animal. $5.00 per division.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A or Y</th>
<th>Name Of Animal(A) or Youth(Y) being Nominated</th>
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Divisions to Nominate For
1. Female Halter Class (all ages)
2. Male Halter Class (all ages)
3. Non-Breeder Halter Class (all ages)
4. Obstacle Class (novice, advanced, & masters)
5. PR Class (novice, advanced, & masters)
6. Pack class (novice, advanced & masters)
7. Adult Showmanship
8. Junior Youth Showmanship
9. Intermediate Youth Showmanship
10. Senior Youth Showmanship
11. Junior Youth Obstacle
12. Intermediate Youth Obstacle
13. Senior Youth Obstacle
14. Junior Youth PR
15. Intermediate Youth PR
16. Senior Youth PR
17. Junior Youth Pack
18. Intermediate Youth Pack
19. Senior Youth Pack

Earn points in your choice of Sweepstakes Divisions for exciting year-end awards!

One fee for all year!
No. of Divisions Entered ______
@ $5.00 per division
Total $__________

Make check payable to Sweepstakes Program.
Mail To:
Marilyn Nenni
16960 Union Chapel Road.
Noblesville, IN 46060
HLAA/MLA Sweepstakes Award Program

sponsored by

Hoosier Llama Alpaca Association and
Michigan Lama Association

Purpose:

The purpose the HLAA/MLA Sweepstakes is to encourage members to attend llama shows in Indiana and Michigan and add additional fun and excitement of additional awards to our show season. 4-H and Youth Shows are included in this award program! Shows outside of Indiana and Michigan may also participate in the Sweepstakes Award Program with approval by the Sweeps takes committee and payment of a minimal fee. Animals and youth nominated into the Sweepstakes Award Program will earn points for all their placings throughout the show season. Accumulative points will be posted as the show season progresses and awards will be presented at the end of the year to the Top Five in each Sweepstakes Award division. Join now for maximum points and awards for the 2011 show season!

Recognized Shows:

1. All shows held in Indiana and Michigan are automatically included in the Sweepstakes Award Program.

2. All 4-H and youth shows held in Indiana and Michigan are automatically included in the Sweepstakes Award Program.

3. Shows must meet the requirements set forth by the Sweepstakes committee for ages, divisions, and judging requirements.

4. Shows outside of Indiana and Michigan that would like to be recognized to offer the Sweepstakes Award Program at their show must apply for approval from the Sweepstakes Show Committee. There will be a participation fee of $25.00 for all shows outside of Indiana and Michigan.

Requirements & Guidelines:

1. Animal owner or youth must be a member of either the HLAA or MLA.

2. Youth must be nominated for whatever classes you would like to accumulate points in. (showmanship, obstacle, PR, Pack – all or one class) Youth do not have to show the same animal the entire show season – it is the youth that is accumulating the points, not the animal. Youth may also show alpacas.

3. The one-time annual nomination fee for youth is only $5.00 for each youth class you would like to accumulate points in.

4. Llama owners must nominate any animals they would like to accumulate points for in the Sweepstakes Award Program.
5. The one-time annual nomination fee for an animal is only $5.00 for each class you would like that animal to accumulate points in.

6. All nomination fees will be applied in full toward the Program awards given at the end of the year.

7. If joining at a show in the middle of the show season, animals or youth must be nominated in the Sweepstakes Award Program within 7 days after the end of the show. If joining in the middle of the show season, you may not go back and pick up points from previous shows.

8. If an animal is sold during the Sweepstakes show season, the currently earned points will be transferred to the new owner. All points stay with the animal. However, in order for that animal to continue in the Sweepstakes Award Program, the new owner must be a member of the HLAA or MLA. It is the responsibility of the new owner to notify the Recorder of the transfer of ownership before additional points may be accumulated.

9. A youth may only record points with one animal per each division per show. Example: if a show allows a youth to go through the same youth class with two different animals, only one set of placings may be sent in for recording. If the event happens to offer two separate sanctioned shows, such as a double show, placings for both individual shows may be sent in for recording.

10. Show results will be sent to the Sweepstakes Recorder from each participating show to be posted to each participating member’s record and to the website.

11. If there is a situation where a Results Sheet may not be available to submit to the Sweepstakes Award Program, such as a small 4-H show or a small county or open show, a youth may use the individual Placings Card that is posted on the website. The card must be signed by the organizer of the show and it will be the youth’s responsibility to submit it to the Recorder of the Sweepstakes Award Program within 7 days of the show.

Nominations:

1. To participate in the Sweepstakes Award Program, each llama or youth must pay a nomination fee of only $5.00 for each division they would like to collect points for.

2. All nomination fees will be placed in an account and be applied to the year-end awards.

Divisions:

1. Awards will be given to the Top Five animals or youth in each of the Sweepstakes Award divisions.

2. The following are the Sweepstakes Award divisions:

   a. Female Halter Classes (wool divisions aren’t specified – points are awarded to the animal for whatever class and age division you are in)

   b. Males Halter Classes (wool divisions aren’t specified – points are awarded to the animal for whatever class and age division you are in)
c. Non-Breeder Halter Classes (points are awarded to the non-breeder for whatever age division you are in)

d. Obstacle Class (includes Novice, Advanced, Masters)

e. PR Class (includes Novice, Advanced, Masters)

f. Pack Class (includes Novice, Advanced, Masters)

g. Adult Showmanship

h. Junior Youth Showmanship

i. Intermediate Youth Showmanship

j. Senior Youth Showmanship

k. Junior Youth Obstacle

l. Intermediate Youth Obstacle

m. Senior Youth Obstacle

n. Junior Youth PR

o. Intermediate Youth PR

p. Senior Youth PR

q. Junior Youth Pack

r. Intermediate Youth Pack

s. Senior Youth Pack

Point System:

1. Points will be recorded to the animal or youth as to the placing received at each participating Sweepstakes show.

3. Points are awarded as to the number of animals shown in the class and the placing the animal or youth receives.

4. Points will be awarded from all recognized Sweepstakes shows between Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 of the current year.

5. Point Chart for all shows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of Entries in Class</th>
<th>1st Place Points</th>
<th>2nd Place Points</th>
<th>3rd Place Points</th>
<th>4th Place Points</th>
<th>5th Place Points</th>
<th>6th Place Points</th>
<th>7th Place Points</th>
<th>8th Place Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Awards:

1. Year-end awards will be awarded to the top 5 in each of the approved Sweepstakes divisions.
2. Awards will be presented after the end of the current show season which ends on Dec. 31.
3. All awards will be determined by the sweepstakes committee.
4. Awards will be supported by all the nomination fees and additional sponsors.

Sponsors:

1. All amounts for sponsorships will be greatly appreciated.
2. Sponsors will receive advertising on the Sweepstakes Records page – a website page that will be visited often during the year.
3. Sponsors will be mentioned in all Sweepstakes Awards Program promotions.

Record Keeping:

1. A Sweepstakes Recorder will be determined by the Sweepstakes committee for all record keeping.
2. Each Sweepstakes approved show will be responsible for submitting show results to the Sweepstakes Recorder within 14 days following the show.
3. No special show results format is required. The same results sheet that is sent anywhere else can be sent to the Sweepstakes Recorder.
4. Current points and division standings will be posted as received on the Sweepstakes Award Program website for viewing.
5. Participants in the Sweepstakes Award Program will be able to continuously view their status in the program as the show season progresses.

Show Season:

1. The show season for the HLAA/MLA Sweepstakes Award Program will be from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 of the current calendar year.

How To Participate. Simple as 1, 2, 3:

1. Have a membership in the Hoosier Llama Alpaca Association or the Michigan Llama Association. Membership applications are on the web. [http://www.hlaa.us](http://www.hlaa.us) for the HLAA or [http://www.michiganllama.org](http://www.michiganllama.org) for the MLA
2. Nominate the animal or youth you would like to collect points for and designate the divisions that you will participate in. The nomination form is on the Sweepstakes website: 
http://www.hlaa.us

3. Send the nomination form and participation fee to the Sweepstakes Recorder. Now you are ready to gather points towards year-end awards as you attend the fun Indiana and Michigan shows.

Sweepstakes Award Program Committee:

1. The committee will be made up of members of the HLAA and the MLA.

2. 2011 committee members are:

Marilyn Nenni, Glen Unzicker, Sheila Miller, Jerry Miller, Bob Minto, Sean Hart