



# The Llama Rescue Review

The Newsletter of Southeast Llama Rescue, Inc.

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Photo by Paul M. Howey/Laurel of Asheville Magazine

## Upcoming Events

SELR will host a booth at the following events. Look for educational materials, SELR logo items, as well as fundraising raffles.

September 8 -9: NC Mountain State Fair, Fletcher, NC (SELR booth sponsored by the

Smokey Mountain Llama Association)

October 13 - 14: GA National Fair, Perry, GA

October 20 - 21: Ellijay Apple Festival, Ellijay, GA

October 27-28: Southeast Fiber Festival, Fletcher, NC

**SELR Mission:** To protect the quality of life and improve the well-being of abused, neglected, unwanted, and behaviorally unmanageable llamas through prevention, education, intervention, placement, and lifelong care.

## Volunteer Highlight: Deborah Logan

If you visit the SELR information booths at llama events in the Southeast, often the smiling face you meet belongs to Deborah Logan. A woman on a mission to help llamas, Deb is tireless, enthusiastic, and always willing to go the extra mile—both figuratively and literally!

Deb joined the ranks of SELR volunteers in 2003, soon after she and sister Tracy Snell began researching llamas & the llama community, and after becoming llama owners. Deb and Tracy soon volunteered to take the job of co-coordinators for the state of Georgia. Deb's passion for animals and her skills at project management fueled her to greater involvement with SELR, and she took on the job of Chair of the Fundraising Committee, and in 2007 became the Vice-Chair of the Board of Advisors. She and Tracy worked together at fostering SELR llamas at Tracy's home. Deb travels far and wide to represent SELR at shows and fairs and her fundraising raffles have brought in over

\$1,200 for SELR. This amount does not include the money that Deb and her husband Danny donate for transport, vet care and other needs of foster llamas. The couple have driven many, many miles to transport SELR llamas. A source close to Deb estimates that the couple donate 40% of their time to SELR!

Upon Tracy's move to Wyoming, Deb took the GA coordinator position single-handedly, and now represents TN and AL as well. Deb also contributed to the overhaul of the SELR website, and has helped SELR in numerous other ways. SELR is very fortunate to have this extraordinary volunteer.

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Melissa Perryman  
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## Adoptions

*We wish to thank our most recent SELR adopters:*

**June**

*Fred & Indigo -  
 Marie Nix & Chris  
 Marino, Sunset,  
 SC  
 Ritz & Armani -  
 Michelle  
 Galbraith,  
 Kirkland, OH  
 Larry - Elaine  
 Autrey, AL  
 Dali Llama -  
 Michelle Sapp,  
 Maysville, IL*

**July**

*Nefertiti - Diana  
 Moxcey,  
 Roxboro, NC  
 Mica - Melissa  
 Perryman, Pilot  
 Mountain, NC  
**August**  
 Tacoma - Sheri  
 Monger,  
 White, GA  
 Ricky & Roman -  
 Ronnie and Rena  
 Solasby,  
 Marshall, NC*

*Thanks also to our foster homes, volunteers, and donors! You make a positive difference in the lives of many llamas!*

## Meanwhile, Back at the Ranch

*By Pat Cothran, SELR BoA & Adoption Coordinator NC*



Saturday, June 23, 2007 was the day of the Adoption Fair at Tractor Supply on Old Brevard Road in Asheville, NC. Thanks again to Starr Cash for the great t-shirts that she designed and provided for SELR volunteers and thanks to Lynette and Kim Melton for all their help!!

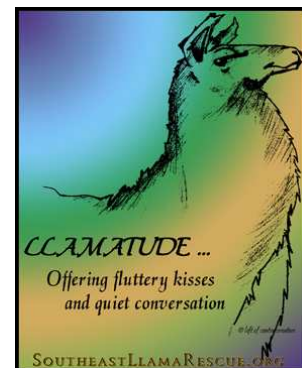
The Tractor Supply folks did a nice job with having panels and canopies set up. They brought water buckets and had extra water nearby, and they dropped off alfalfa pellets for the llamas. They came by and visited throughout the day and made sure all was going well.

Besides SELR llamas, there were pigs, goats, cows, horses, and a dog rescue group in attendance. A booth was set up at the entrance to Tractor Supply and a group was giving away hot dogs, with a donation jar nearby.

I got what I consider to be three solid leads for adoption and/or foster of SELR llamas, so that was a real positive. Lots of folks stopped by and looked and asked questions and petted and fed; all the usual things.

Before we packed up to leave, Carol Hardtke (the manager) and another Tractor Supply employee came by with a cart loaded with three 50-pound bags of llama pellets that they donated to us. But an even bigger surprise was when I was leaving and Carol came to me with an envelope in her hand. She said, "You made \$57 in donations." I said, "What donations?" Carol explained that she had arranged for one of the local 4-H groups to man the hot dog booth, with Tractor Supply providing the food, and she split the donations they took in between the two rescue groups; SELR and the dog rescue. I was stunned! I had assumed the hot dog folks were just another group trying to raise funds. I didn't have any idea we would benefit from that, too!

So a successful day, in my opinion! We sure appreciate all the work that Tractor Supply did to host this event, and I hope they will do it again in the future.



Find this and other great llama designs to support SELR at <http://www.cafepress.com/selr/1000055>

## Happy Endings: Mack the Alpaca *By Linda S. Brier*

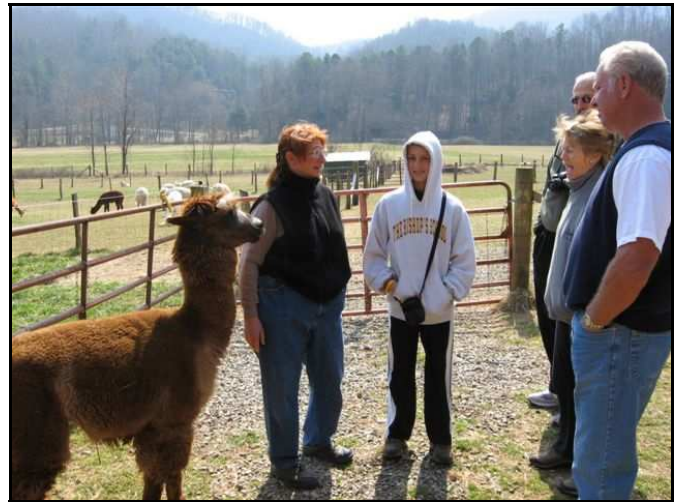
During herd health day at SELR in Mars Hill, NC, I noticed one thin, small, lone alpaca gelding in with the llamas. After finding out his history, I was determined to get him either into my alpaca gelding herd, or into another alpaca group. Mack is blind in one eye from cataracts, and lame in one hip from a hereditary dysplasia. I understand that his dam was eventually euthanized due to this lameness.

His first few days at our farm, he paced the fence constantly, and stress-hummed. Even with a calming buddy in his enclosure, the pacing and humming continued. He did much better when released into the gelding herd.

Mack was surrendered for bratty crowding of people and food issues (spitting). I suspect that part of his crowding of people is due to lack of visual depth perception and partly due to incorrect handling as a cria. I'm not clear about his food issues - he tends to start air-

spitting as soon as he hears the feed bucket. We're working on all of his problems, and getting a bit of weight on him (but not too much, so we don't over-burden his hip).

He's a sweet guy, and seems to be settling in with my herd nicely. No real grazing buddies yet, but at least he's not the lowest guy in the pecking order. And his fence-pacing and stress-humming are history.



## What's In Your Hay? *By Chris Stull, SELR BoA & Adoption Coordinator NE PA*

The basics for feeding any lama are hay, salt, and water, with only as much grain as needed for the animal to maintain good body condition. Hay still is the basis for a good feeding program because it usually can satisfy daily maintenance requirements of energy, protein, fiber, vitamins and minerals. However, depending on the quality, hay can vary in its nutritional content. For example, it can contain less than 8 percent or more than 22 percent protein. Alfalfa hay may provide much

more protein than some animals need, whereas, older, yellowed grass hay might not provide enough. Protein is important for bones, muscles



and just about everything else, including coat condition. Too little protein will cause a dull coat. Too much won't hurt your animal but will result in higher

urine output (wet smelly stalls, increased water needs). For the average llama, probably 8 to 10 percent protein in his daily diet would be plenty. Naturally, lactating, pregnant, or working llamas may have greater requirements.

Hay analysis can be done by a county agent or any university that has an agricultural department. However, this is not always practical. A rule of thumb for testing grass hay is to look at the distance from the stem to

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### What's In Your Hay?

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the seed head. The longer the stem, the lower the protein. If stems on timothy hay, for instance, are about six to seven inches long, you probably would have a less than 8 percent protein hay product, and you might need to supplement with a higher protein concentrate. If the stems are all nice and short, barely coming out of the blade of grass, then the protein percentage will be higher, and you probably would not need to supplement.

Watch for moldy hay. Any hay can become moldy because of harvesting or storage problems. It can cause respiratory disease and could be toxic to llamas. Usually, llamas won't eat moldy hay, and you'll see a lot of it wasted. Bales that are heavier than those around them may be moldy. Look for discolored patches of brown or white. Also, be sure to take a whiff. You can smell mold. Good hay is always clean, leafy and sweet smelling.

Sometimes hay can be difficult to find, especially after drought conditions. If this is the case, you can substitute forages such as hay-cube products or bagged forage, which are pretty good as hay substitutes. Complete beet-pulp-based rations are

not really 100% adequate to replace hay but can be used. You need to switch slowly. In both cases, expect increased wood-chewing activity. A llama naturally spends 10 to 14 hours a day eating. A diet of only hay cubes or bagged chopped forage and concentrates can be consumed in less than four hours, therefore, these llamas will look elsewhere to chew and may resort to eating toxic weeds.

Grass hay tends to be higher in calcium than phosphorous, but the ratio between the two is fairly narrow.

Your feed room should have one closed container for grain, if your animal needs it, with a couple of bags of hay cubes or bagged chopped forage in case your hay is not the best quality. There should be extra loose salt with some electrolytes to replace essential compounds lost during periods of extreme heat. For animals in good condition, that's really all you need.

In our next issue we will discuss different types of grain and minerals.



### Good for the Soul

The following story was told by Chris & Alan McDonald of Berlin Center, Ohio:

"Alan was up at the recycle bin near our farm and an elderly lady asked for some help unloading her things, so Al helped. When they were finished, she turned and looked at our llamas and said to Al, 'I just love those llamas.' She said she doesn't know what their names are but she has names of her own for every one of the llamas. She even tells her family that she is recycling just to come up and see the llamas. She said they are very calming to her soul. Alan said he felt real good when he came home. He said that our llamas made that lady very happy!"

-Contributed by Helen Carpenter

## Llama Personal

Tops is a female llama that was surrendered due to divorce. She arrived at SELR with a small cria at her side who was subsequently adopted. Tops is probably somewhere around 7 years or so of age, with light wool, white with a brown tail. She is a big, well-muscled girl who would probably be a great packer. She fusses a bit about haltering but behaves well once haltered. She has made good progress at her foster home and now enjoys having her neck and back petted.

Tops would probably do best with someone who has time to work with her. This is a gal who has been in foster care for almost two years now and she deserves to be in her forever home where she can have the individual attention that she needs and deserves.



To obtain additional information or to submit an adoption application, contact Deborah Logan at SELR\_GA@Yahoo.com

### In This Issue...

Good For the Soul, Mack the Alpaca, and more!



Kris Paige, an SELR volunteer, with Miss Tattletale, the therapy llama

## Lama Photos



Kim Melton with Young Man, the blind SELR llama who was surrendered at a few days old, and had to be taught how to be a llama. In return, Young Man has taught the Meltons a lot about life!

Linda Vantresco of Shymali Llama is donating a portion of the proceeds from some items currently listed in her e-bay store at <http://stores.ebay.com/Shymali-Llama-Sterling-Jewelry>. Visit her site and support SELR!



**SEND US YOUR LAMA PHOTOS! Send photos, stories, and other llama news to:**  
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