



The Llama Rescue Review

The Newsletter of Southeast Llama Rescue, Inc.

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September 1, 2009

Resignation of SELR Adoption Coordinator

By Deb Logan, SELR BoD, Adoption Coordinator

SELR is saddened to report the resignation of the adoption coordinator for IL, KY, MO and IN. Julie Weir has been a SELR Coordinator since the very beginning and has been a long term Board member and one of the most active foster homes ever.

I cannot even begin to enumerate the things she has done for SELR over the years. We were very sad to hear from Julie that she is stepping back but quite frankly, we are all amazed that she has persevered this long. There is really only so long anyone can be exposed by man's thoughtlessness and just plain cruelty to animals and not be impacted. With a large family, a very active family farm and a zillion other obligations, we are happy for Julie that she will be taking some well deserved time for herself.

Her absence will leave a smoking hole in our capabilities but we are hoping that perhaps several people will find it in their hearts to step forward and help. Of course no one person could be expected to cover as much territory as Julie has. It has been an impossible task that spreads one person way too thin, especially now that more people are aware of SELR. If we can get one or even two people to carry the load for a single state, that would be marvelous and would help spread the load. If not, we'll take whatever time and energy anyone is willing to provide!

With that said, here is Julie's resignation letter:

I have resigned as Adoption Coordinator for Southeast Llama Rescue. The organization is not "out of" rescue llamas or alpacas, but it is time for me to step away from the difficult task of rescue for awhile. That does not mean that I will not personally accept some animals to my own farm on an individual basis. It

does, however, mean that I will no longer be a representative of Southeast Llama Rescue.

After nearly 10 years of picking up wild, decrepit, unshorn, untrained, poorly cared for llamas and alpacas, I'm done. In May 2009 I picked up 10 rescues from KY. They had never been shorn, never



Julie Weir

had toenails trimmed, never been dewormed, never CDT'd, males and females running together, untrained, halters growing into faces -- not even named. After having them shorn I discovered that they were skeletal and had been half-starved. An IL alpaca owner graciously took in two of them and she is diligently working to get them back to health. A MO sheep owner took two others and she, too, is working to save them. Three of them have died and I have had the shameful task of burying them. I am left with three very fragile llamas at my farm, along with my own herd of over 100 llamas and alpacas.

Continued on Page 2

In this Issue

<i>The Perfect Llama Barn</i>	3
<i>Llama PR</i>	4
<i>Description of M-Worm Verses Gut Worm</i>	5
<i>Volunteer Highlights</i>	6
<i>Steps to Prevent Plant Poisoning</i>	7
<i>Meanwhile, Back at the Ranch</i>	10
<i>Llama Photos</i>	11

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SELR Mission Statement: 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.

Resignation of SELR Adoption Coordinator . . . Continued

SELR will still be needing foster farms and an adoption coordinator for IL, MO, IN and KY (as those states were my responsibility). If anyone would like to volunteer or would like more information, please contact Deb Logan at www.southeastllamarescue.org or logan99@bellsouth.net, Thank you.

Julie Wier

Wier World Llamas and Alpacas, www.llamasofwierworld.com



Above: One of the Kentucky rescues before and after shearing

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Many thanks to the Donors, Adopters, Foster Homes, Transporters, and all those who donate their time and services to SELR!

The Perfect Llama Barn

Recently on VolunteerChat, SELR's online chat group, a volunteer posed the question: "What are the requirements for a llama barn?" Many volunteers responded, and shared their wealth of experience.

* Always build bigger than you plan for. For llamas, concrete flooring covered with rubber mats are great and easy to clean. Stalls should be 10x10 minimum, 12x12 even better (think about resale, horses need larger stalls). Hot and cold water, electricity, sink and toilet are a plus (have had all in former barn). Have stalls made so that fans can be easily used for hot weather.



- *Susan Ravan*

* I suggest at minimum a 10 x10 ft stall per 3 llamas, but there may be some that will need their own stall (intact males) or you may need an extra areas for weaning, quarantine, temporary boarding, or to house a sick llama. For what you are contemplating, I suggest four 10 x10 stalls--think about airflow and how to provide good ventilation in hot weather. Don't forget additional tack/equipment/hay/feed storage space, which should be finished off and dried in.

I've found that internal dividers help a lot, especially those that are solid. You can't have too many gates, either. Some llamas share their space, others will run off the competition, especially during feeding. It's nice to be able to isolate an individual if necessary and to allow different stalls to access different paddocks/pastures. Also, there should be eaves and/or open loafing areas.

Don't forget water and electricity--you'll want to make life easy for yourself, and it's sure nice to be able to have a hose at hand and places to plug in fans or heated buckets. Also, lots of lights. And if I had it to do over again, I'd have concrete flooring. My sand got toted off with the poop the first year, and I'm getting big holes in the dirt now.

- *Susan Gawarecki, SELR BoD, Pathfinder Farm*

* Marty McGee Bennett - www.Camelidynamics.com; author of *The Camelid Companion* - has some opinions on barn/facility design. If you are not a member of her guild or don't own her book, I would highly recommend both (and I get no royalties or kickbacks from those recommendations!). For instance, a wide-open barn space set up with movable panels (such as corral panels or other types of panels) so as to allow for various options depending on need, allows you to have great visibility and many options for those inevitable issues that arise - illness, parasites, smaller herd, larger herd, unexpected rescued llama, etc.

While I work with the barn designs I inherited when we bought our property, if I were starting from scratch, I would certainly do things a lot differently; mostly allowing myself versatility and options instead of being locked into fixed walls.

- *Pat Cothran, SELR BoD, Adoption Coordinator NC, Soggy Bottom Farm*

* We built too small - seems to me as though males need more space than females do and we have all geldings. Our guys typically each stake out at least a 6 x 6 area. I have seen females seemingly comfortable with far less and I unknowingly based the size on that. We have now added on twice - wish I had a "do over".

- *Deborah Logan, SELR BoD, Adoption Coordinator AL/GA/TN*

Continued on Page 4

The Perfect Llama Barn . . . Continued

* "Just give me 18 inches." Think of how big a space they take up on the ground as they are kushed (I'm thinking llamas occupy about a 3' wide by 4 to 5' long patch?) and then add a perimeter space of about 18 inches between them. They appreciate a little more space in the summer when it's hot and everyone is cranky, they will crowd in a bit tighter in the winter.

BUT... You think of a barn as a place for rest & shelter, camelids think indoor potty pile! So don't forget to allow space for the inevitable spreading bean pile (which is one of the mistakes I made!) Also, they don't just cush quietly chewing cud - they squabble and quarrel if they are in a bad mood or they flop around and roll if they are in a good mood. You need enough space that they aren't kicking their mates in the head when they roll.

For 7 –10 llamas, I'd go at least 10 x 24' of "indoor" space and then put a covered veranda all the way around it for shady lounging.

- *Starr Cash, Venezia Dream Farm*

* Our barn is 30x60 and sometimes we don't have enough space. If you build what you are comfortable with they will make it do. On really cold nights have seen 10 girls in a 8x8 pen. They seem to know how to work it out.

- *Randall Gooding, Emmett Acres Alpaca and Mini-Llama Farm*

Llama PR

By Susan Gawarecki, SELR BoD, Pathfinder Farm, Anderson, TN

I've always been amazed at how well behaved llamas will be in public. My llama, Monty, has never much liked being touched, but he is fairly comfortable being away from the herd (for that reason he was a great cart llama). I took him to the Oak Ridge Public Library for a summer reading program where we read "The Llama Who Had No Pajamas" to little kids. After about 20 minutes they were getting antsy, obviously wanting to pet the llama, so I said they could come up in groups of 2 or 3 to touch Monty. Well, of course they rose up en masse and rushed over. Monty was great--no kicking, no spitting, no panic--he stood stock still and let those kids pet him all over. When we left, the librarian's little son led him out of the library. I had a bad moment when he pulled free and headed for the parking lot (since then I always use a second lead when a kid is leading a llama), but instead of rushing out into traffic, Monty went straight to the van and stood next to it. Smart boy!

I also had him at a Humane Society event "Bark in the Park" where we were promoting Southeast Llama Rescue (selling t-shirts) and showing what llamas could do, like packing and carting. Lots of people with dogs came by, and Monty was the perfect gentleman llama. There was one owner who was asked twice to keep her dog away from him but still let the little mutt go under Monty on its flexie, and it got kicked (but was unhurt--Monty knows when to pull his punch). I think she finally got the message.

Anyway, though he's been out in public and was a bombproof cart llama (now retired due to bad pasterns), I've never considered Monty to be a PR llama because he really doesn't care to be touched. Yet when used for such, he's always behaved with remarkable restraint and good sense. I think these attributes are more common than not in llamas.



Monty the llama at a Humane Society
"Bark in the Park" event

Description of M-Worm verses Gut Worm

By Dr. Steve Hull, First Published on Alpacasite chat list 6/09

There remains a LOT of misunderstandings on parasite control. First, we MUST know what we are talking about. There are two general types of internal worms that alpaca owners worry about and must manage.

The first, and easiest is the M worm, brain worm, meningial worm or the worm that goes up the spinal cord, eats nerve/brain tissues and causes paralysis, blindness and then death. Then there are gut parasites.

M worm first (I prefer to call it BRAIN worm as this conceptually separates it from gut worms). For those of you east of the Mississippi (and a few sections just west of that - eastern Texas, SE Oklahoma, parts of AK, etc) your parasite control must be the following: Ivermectin injected EVERY month, all year long, at a dose of 1 ml/100 lbs (source -Dr. Steve Purdy, Director U-Mass Camelid Program). For brain worm, there is no blood test, fecal test, or other test that can test for "eggs". You must do prevention.

Now let's consider gut worms. In the USA, ivermectin was a tremendous parasite killer - from the late 60's up to about 10-12 years ago. Since then virtually all gut parasites have become resistant to it (but NOT M worm). Thus, using ivermectin against gut worms is just worthless - and it gives you a dangerous false sense of security. Ivermectin simply got over used and in situations where it was not needed (like taking antibiotics for a viral cold).

The key to a proper gut worming strategy is to give up on the "spring and fall" or just fall, or once every other month worming. Rather use fecal exams to find out if you have gut worms. Then ONLY worm if you have a problem! Otherwise you are just worming "blind" not knowing what you are doing. The use of blind worming has resulted in the massive gut ivermectin resistant parasite problem. Let's not repeat that with the drugs that currently do work on gut worms.

Further adding to the confusion is that the brain worm larvae are ingested by mouth and start off in the gut. So these must also be gut worms - right? Then there are well meaning vets that also get confused, don't keep up or whatever.

Wrong. The problem is that alpacas and a few other

animals are aberrant hosts and the M worm does NOT stay in the gut. Rather, it invades the spinal cord and as it travels to the brain, it eats nerves.

The treatment for M worm is very expensive, not a 100% cure and meanwhile the disease is terribly painful to the animals and they suffer. If you understand the use of monthly heartworm for your dog, then the EXACT same logic applies to your alpacas and the use of monthly injected ivermectin. Yes, the use of monthly ivermectin for M worm will cause gut parasite resistance - but they are resistant already. So that bull is out of the gate, out of the pasture long gone - and it doesn't matter that the gate is still open!

We are now seeing another gut parasite that is deadly - haemonchus contortus (aka, barberpole worm, goat worm, h contortus). This is one that drinks blood and lives in the true stomach (not rumen). It literally bleeds the animal dry internally and can reproduce at a very fast rate (just a couple of weeks). And no, it is NOT just in the south (Texas) it is now all over the USA.

Bottom lines. If you are east of the Mississippi (and a few other areas), you need to do the monthly ivermectin shots all year long (good news - this is inexpensive) . Others need to check for fecal parasites (with a vet that knows how to do it with a centrifuge or 24 hour float) and then ONLY worm if you have a problem. And after you worm, you must check two weeks later to make sure the parasites you treated for are dead.

The amount of times you need to check for fecal worms depends on where you live. Dry lot may only need a once per year if you have a closed herd. But if you send a lot of animals in/out or are in wet and warm areas, then more frequent is necessary. You need to manage that.

Yes, I know that you are on dry lot and that you "never have worms". Do you have females in for breeding to your males? Do you send animals out for breeding? Do you ever visit other farms and then bring home poop on your shoes? Yes, yes, yes, I do all these things and that is why I must check for gut worms and THEN use the appropriate wormer.

Dr. Hull can be contacted by e-mail at steve@timberlakefarms and is available for consults.

Volunteer Highlights

By Shirley Engelhardt, Adoption Coordinator



Claudia Hammack

Claudia Hammack

Claudia saw her first llama when she lived in Zanesville, Ohio. She stumbled across a llama show at a local fair and so began her fascination with llamas, a fascination that led her to make her husband go to the show with her every year until they moved to Florida.

At the time, Claudia and her husband had ten acres that weren't being used so they decided to get two llamas. Naturally, two weren't enough. Today, Claudia averages 15 in her herd and she has also taken to breeding and selling mini llamas. She loves to show her llamas at Florida and Georgia shows and is starting to needle and wet felt products from llama fiber.

Several years ago, Claudia took in a llama that had been raised by himself at a local Florida water park. Not surprisingly, he had developed aggressive behaviors and the staff there hit him with rakes to keep him at bay. He was too much for Claudia to handle so she contacted Alvin and Lance of Southeast Llama Rescue. She met Lance in Georgia and thankfully gave him Blizzard. Not long thereafter, Alvin asked her to become the Florida Adoption Coordinator for SELR and she gladly accepted. Says Claudia, "It has been one of the most rewarding things I have done." Claudia also serves on SELR's board of directors.

For Claudia, the best part is seeing the llama meet his adoptive family for the first time. She only wishes she had the resources to devote to transporting and fostering more llamas. But, for now, she takes care of her very own 13 llamas (her two fosters recently found a great home) and a slew of other animals, mostly rescues - four dogs, two ferrets, three parrots, two chickens and three guineas. And, she boards five peacocks for her neighbor.

Tracy Snell

Tracy lives in Dallas, Georgia, and shares adoption coordinator duties for Georgia with her sister, Deb Logan. Tracy also serves as SELR's webmaster and board member. She volunteers for transport, fostering and training; handles various PR events, creates the T-shirts available at many of events and on [cafepress \(www.cafepress.com/SELR\)](http://www.cafepress.com/SELR); provides medical care and mans fundraising and education booths, raffling off training hikes. Tracy is also a member of TLC (Tennessee Lama Community) and SSLA and volunteers where and when she can for various rescue groups.



Liam Monroe and Tracy Snell

Tracy works as a shearer and llama trainer and as of next month will have graduated EMT school and will be working as an EMT-I while continuing for her MEDIC license. She has worked as a vet tech on both small and large animals for many years, as a wildlife relocater and rehabber for several years (working with everything from squirrels and beaver to coyotes and raptors) and as a llama trainer/trail guide in Wyoming, where she took customers out for two day to two week trips through the Wyoming Range and other areas. In the Southeast, her troop is mainly seen carrying lunch rather than all the accoutrements for a two week hike!

Tracy has had llamas for about ten years now and her current animals include llamas, goats, cats, Anatolian Shepherds and Great Danes. Most are rescues and Tracy plans to keep it that way, as well as keeping their number under 20 so she can give everyone as much individual time as she can and to make sure they all have enough room to be happy and healthy.

Steps to Prevent Plant Poisoning

By Shirley A. Weathers

Every year, poisonous plants cause death, temporary and chronic pain and illness, abortions, decreased productivity, and birth defects involving hundreds of thousands of grazing and browsing livestock. The annual economic loss amounts to hundreds of millions of dollars. Although less is known about llama and alpaca susceptibility to plant toxins than other livestock, there are documented cases of poisoning of llamas by at least Oleander; Mountain, Black or Sierra laurel (*Leucothoe davisiae*); Rhododendron; Water hemlock (*Cicuta* spp.); Ponderosa, Western or Yellow pine (*Pinus ponderosa*); Yew (*Taxus* spp.) and Death camas (*Zigadenus* spp.). Camels reportedly have been poisoned by African plant species identical or related to western U.S. plants: h ornapple (*Datura stramonium*),



Rhododendron

Milk or Pencil bush (*Euphorbia tirucalli*), Lantana, Castorbean or Castor-oil plant (*Ricinus communis*) and Sorghum.* Time will tell more about how llamas react

to other plants that have harmed horses, sheep, cattle, goats or pigs, but using caution in allowing them access is the best policy in the meantime.

For complicated reasons of plant and animal evolution, well-nourished herbivores will generally avoid eating most toxic plants. The toxins in some plants make them unpalatable to animals—they either smell or taste bad. Animals learn from other animals, particularly their mothers, to avoid some of the other poisonous plants. Still other poisonous plants produce a disagreeable physiological sensation soon enough after ingestion that animals learn not to eat them at all or they stop before consuming toxic quantities. But these mechanisms of safe eating are not foolproof. As noted, above, poisoning does occur and when it does, it can be devastating to both animal and owner. There are a variety of reasons why livestock eat poisonous plants. There are some to which livestock have

been found to be attracted. Some unpalatable plants appear to lose their disagreeable odors or tastes when dried (as in hay); a significant cause of poisonings is consumption of toxic plant parts mixed in hay, silage, grain, or processed feed. Some typically safe plants become toxic when fertilized or treated with certain herbicides. They may simultaneously become more palatable. Weather stresses and other natural conditions may convert the non-toxic to toxic. Probably most importantly, if put into a situation where only poisonous plants are available or where they make up a large percentage of available forage, animals will eat them.

Whether or not animals will be sickened by ingesting particular toxic plants is also a complex matter. Not all species of livestock are equally affected by or susceptible to various plant toxins. For example, it is thought at this time that only equines contract “chewing disease,” a devastating illness involving irreversible brain damage caused by consumption of toxic amounts of *Centaurea solstitialis* or *Centaurea repens* (commonly known as Yellow starthistle and Russian knapweed, respectively). I personally choose to err on the side of caution and avoid feeding hay to our llamas that contains this plant.

The relative health of the individual animal (or, if a ruminant, of the microflora in its rumen) can figure into how well it can handle some toxic substances in the plants it consumes. The digestive systems of some animal species can adapt to be able to detoxify higher levels of toxins with exposure. A substantial quantity of some plants must be ingested to trigger illness or death. A couple of leaves of other plants can kill.

Despite all of these variables (and more), experts agree that plant poisoning can be minimized. The best means is a combination of effective use of good information about toxic plants and the provision of adequate amounts of safe alternative food. In the unhappy event that poisoning occurs, being informed may facilitate effective response.

Continued on Page 8

Steps to Prevent Plant Poisoning . . . Continued

Here are some suggestions that may help owners of livestock of all types protect their animals from poisoning:

- Pasture management is critical. Learn about plants in pastures and the animals that will graze there. Seek help from Extension agents and others, if necessary. Some options:

- Eliminate or fence securely around toxic plants, especially if animals may find them palatable or if they are highly toxic or abundant. NOTE: If you grub out highly poisonous plants such as the various Water hemlock species (*Cicuta* spp.), take appropriate precautions to protect yourself and others, especially children.
- If animals will have access to less palatable toxic plants, ensure that they always have adequate safe forage available. Check plant levels and types periodically. Do not overgraze.
- Watch carefully in early spring or late fall when toxic plants may be more prevalent than others. Know which plants are drought resistant. They may be the only food available under some circumstances.
- Watch out for toxic plants that are evergreen from fall to spring.
- Ensure that animals have adequate water, as well as salt and mineral supplementation, if needed.
- Avoid giving access to plants during their toxic season(s).
- Check on your pastured animals regularly and know the signs of poisoning to allow prompt action in case poisoning occurs.
- Be careful with herbicides (including those that may be applied by others, e.g., local government entities). Learn about their direct effect on animals, whether animals may be attracted by application of the product and, if palatability is likely to increase, know about the inherent toxicity of those plants.
- Be prepared to identify and respond appropriately to toxic plants when animals will be taken into unfamiliar areas. New poisonous plants may be eaten simply because the animal has no experience with them.

- Avoid driving animals through areas with high concentrations of toxic plants, particularly if they are hungry.

- When tying, picketing, or staking animals, identify, and avoid areas where they are likely to consume toxic plants. If at all possible, find a place that is grassy, rather than leafy. Most, although not all, wild grasses are safe forage. [Be able to identify and avoid *Triglochin maritima* (known in most areas as Seaside arrowgrass) and *Zigadenus* spp. (commonly known as Death camas, but there are several other common names).]

- Do not assume that others know about poisonous plants. Feeding animals “treats” seems to be an almost irresistible urge of humans. Educate both adults and children who may come in contact with animals so that they know not to feed them leaves, fruits, etc. (This exercise will also alert children to the whole issue of poisonous plants. Many plants are at least as dangerous for children to eat as livestock.) Consider providing visitors with “special treats” that animals like and can safely eat.

- If animals are rented or lent to others, orient the temporary caretakers to toxic plants along with other instructions on care and handling. Provide plant identification resources to be taken along with the animals.

- When selling animals, ensure that buyers are aware of toxic plants. Consider providing pertinent materials to the new owners.

- Do not feed yard or garden vegetation (clippings or trimmings) to livestock.

- Try to arrange to walk uncut hay fields before buying and check hay when feeding. Buy grain and processed feeds from reputable sources.

- Consider removing toxic trees and shrubs in corrals, pastures, and yard that could be accessible to livestock. Of course, the urgency of this measure depends on the toxicity of the plants.

Continued on Page 9

Steps to Prevent Plant Poisoning . . . Continued

- Anticipate accidental circumstances such as leaves blown by wind or the fact that animals sometimes get out.
- The safest course during Christmas and other holidays is to avoid feeding trees or other greenery to livestock. Although *Pinus ponderosa* (Ponderosa pine, among other common names) is the most commonly referenced harmful member of the *Pinus* genus, other species and other conifers also may be toxic, especially if consumed in large quantities over a short period. Many common types of holiday decorative greenery can be deadly.
- Check branches and tree limbs brought down in pastures by storms to ensure that they are not from toxic trees.
- Plant poisoning is generally a complex medical situation and will probably require a veterinarian's evaluation and care. The following may be helpful for livestock owners to keep in mind:
 - Establish a connection with a veterinarian before an emergency arises. Locate a practitioner familiar with your species of animal(s) and involve him or her in routine care.
 - Ask for information about any plants in the area that may already have caused problems. If other animals have been poisoned by local plants, there is a good chance that local veterinarians at least will be aware of that. They also may have some good advice to give you about prevention or response or both.
 - If you will be taking animals into a situation where veterinarian assistance will be difficult to obtain, ask your veterinarian to discuss some prudent actions to take in the event of poisoning. Always notify a veterinarian when plant poisoning is suspected. Be prepared to provide him or her with as much information as possible about the situation.
 - Discuss appropriate supportive/symptomatic care you may be able to provide to sick animals and be prepared to provide it until assistance arrives.
 - Try to identify any suspect plants. Get a sample.

- Inspect the area where the animal was grazing. Try to determine the amount and duration of consumption.

- Observe and make careful note of any physiological or behavioral signs the affected animal may exhibit.



Prunus serotina, Black Cherry

- Keep an open mind and investigate other possible toxic agents to which a sickened animal may have been exposed, as well as the possibility that another type of illness may be involved.

*Murray E. Fowler, "Plant Poisoning in Camelids" in *Poisonous Plants - Proceedings of the Third International Symposium*, Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1992, pp. 335-39.

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Shirley Weathers, co-owner of Walsh & Weathers Research and Policy Studies and Rosebud Llamas Utah, excerpted this article from her book, Field Guide to Plants Poisonous to Livestock—Western U.S. The book is designed to help livestock owners recognize over 100 toxic plants (many of which are also found nationwide) and provide adequate basic knowledge to consider effective animal or pasture management responses when those plants are present. Possible physiological and behavioral signs of poisoning are also provided, as well as types of care or treatment that may be helpful. The field guide is \$14.95, plus \$3.00 shipping for one book and \$1.00 for each additional book. Mail orders to Rosebud Press, P. O. Box 270090, Fruitland, UT, 84027-0090. For questions or comments, phone (435) 548-2630, FAX (435) 548-2438, or email walsh.weathers@gmail.com. Visit <http://users.ubtanet.com/www/> to see sample plant entries from the book. Foreword by Peter R. Cheeke, Professor of Comparative Animal Nutrition and Toxicology, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR. Peer reviewers include Dr. Murray E. Fowler, Department of Medicine and Epidemiology, University of California at Davis (retired) and Dr. Charlotte Means, National Animal Poison Control Center.

Meanwhile, Back at the Ranch: Recent Llama Events



SELR booth at Dallas, Georgia farmers' market

Liam and I were invited to the local Dallas, Georgia farmers' market with the llamas. We went out with two last weekend and had a great time. We've been invited back every Saturday – or as many as we can make (once a week is a wee bit much). We sold alfalfa pellets in Dixie cups for \$1 to feed the llamas (as a suggested donation). Spoke to a number of folks concerning adoption and fostering. We'll see how that goes. We were a big hit and look forward to some more.

We also had to naturally refute the statement “watch out, they spit” – which I always ask them what their experience was and proceed to explain the hows and whys. Naturally, many of them say petting zoos which gives me an even

bigger opening to talk (like I need one to begin with!).

One woman and her daughter began in such a manner. The daughter Terri, had been spit on directly in the face by a llama they visited in a petting zoo when she was 5. She is 37 now and had avoided llamas ever since. I spoke about why llamas do so poorly in that kind of environment and why mine don't spit at people, then introduced her to Echo. Mr. Echo for being so tall, simply masters the idea of what a PR llama is and promptly offered her multiple kisses and was very gentle with her. She immediately fell in love. Terri has been rehabbed! I took a picture of her and Echo together and sent it to them. They were ecstatic.



Tracy (right) and a visitor

- *Tracy Snell, SELR BoD, Webmistress*

First ... my daughter was interviewed on 94.3 Country, a local radio station that happened to be walking by the barns when Amanda was brushing out her boy. They stopped and asked if they could interview her on the radio. She was very excited to share her llama with the radio listeners!



4-H Kids and llamas from the news cast

Then Tuesday morning I was on Fox28 morning show, a local affiliate out of Columbus, Ohio. I was able to share our llamas and their rescue history and get out the word about SELR. We did two spots on the morning show! The anchor asked if I would also do a brief stint on the noon hour show, because he found the llamas to be fascinating ... so I did! While I talked with him, the 4H kids (and my husband) walked the llamas through a 'smaller version' of our obstacle course in the background. It was all very cool! Parents in our club recorded it on their DVR. They said it was a great promo. Nonetheless, to get some positive PR for the llamas was awesome!

- *Chris Adams, SELR BoD, Adoption Coordinator, Adams Family Llama Farm*

Continued on Page 11

Meanwhile, Back at the Ranch: Recent Llama Events Continued



Koko and Duke at Adopt-A-Pet

I took two llamas to the Adopt-a-Pet Event in Hartville, Ohio on June 27th. I now have two people interested in helping out with SELR and fostering llamas. I also have another one who is definitely interested in adopting and another potential adopter. So from that standpoint, the day was a total success. I also hope to be hearing from a llama farm in Michigan that is interested in getting involved in SELR! That would be the best.

I adopted out one Loretta, one cow and one SELR mug. With those adoptions and additional donations, I will be sending a check for \$53.

I also agreed to foster a rescue goat today from someone who just this morning got him from the owner. He is a real sweetie pie and is in decent shape - no hoof rot and no lice. Anyway, she wanted to give me money to take care of him for awhile and I asked that she donate to SELR instead. She wrote out a check for \$50 on the spot!

- *Helen Carpenter, SELR BoD, Adoption Coordinator*

Llama Photos



Meet Junebug, the newest SELR representative. The mother llama, Patsy, was one of nine llamas surrendered to a county animal shelter. The llamas were given to a couple who kept females and intact males in a small pasture without adequate nutrition. Luckily, SELR intervened and Patsy was able to receive proper nourishment for the remainder of her pregnancy. Patsy was adopted by Katie Panebianco and Eric Melcher in Joelton, TN.



I finally got around to sharing some pictures of the special girls. They get lots of attention and love by many children and adults too. After the winter they got a new pasture and new barn even closer to my home so I can now go out on the deck of my bedroom and talk with them. They don't talk back much.

- *Rose Kresley, SELR Adopter*



Llama Personal: Available for Adoption



Max

Max is a gelding of unknown age currently available in Ohio. He was rescued through the Ohio SPCA in November of 2007. He was severely emaciated upon arrival. Max has gained close to 100 lbs since his arrival and has filled out to be a good size boy. He has a sweet personality and could easily be trained to be a 4H animal. He currently has been halter trained, but we have not worked on obstacles with Max.

If you are interested in adopting, or can provide a foster home for Max, please contact adamslamas@aol.com or call Chris at (740) 869-3289.

To see more llamas that are looking for their forever homes, please visit our website or contact your state coordinator: www.southeastllamarescue.org

Support SELR



Yes, I would like to assist SELR's mission to help llamas and alpacas in need. Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of . . .

- \$25 Friend
- \$50 Partner
- \$100 Sponsor
- \$ 500 Sustaining Giver
- \$ _____ Other

To donate online, please visit www.southeastllamarescue.org

My email address is:

Please mail your donation to:

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