



# The Llama Rescue Review

The Newsletter of Southeast Llama Rescue, Inc.

Volume 1, Issue 1

December 1, 2006



## 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.

## What is Southeast Llama Rescue?

Southeast Llama Rescue, Inc is a 501C3 non-profit organization incorporated in North Carolina. Comprised of founders Alvin Bean and Lance Hardcastle, a Board of Advisors, and many wonderful volunteers, SELR takes in llamas that are in need of help, places llamas into adoptive homes, and assists llama owners. The majority of llamas that SELR assists are surrendered due to their owners' moving, divorce, illness, or other inability to care for them. SELR works closely with Indian Creek Sanctuary, Southwest Llama Rescue and Northeast Llama Rescue. SELR is also one of the few organizations that can be turned to in cases of llama aggression and other behavior problems, and has rehabilitated a number of llamas that have been "diagnosed" as having Aberrant Behavior Syndrome. In all, SELR members feel it is their duty and privilege to assist the magical, inquisitive creatures that are llamas.

### SELR's Roof Raising Dinner

On the evening of October 28, 2006, the Southeast Llama Rescue hosted its first annual fundraising dinner at the Madison County Arts Council in Marshall, NC. Filled with fabulous entertainment, great camaraderie, and a delicious gourmet meal prepared by SELR's own intern, Ford Martin, the event helped raise needed funds for the first SELR barn. Founders Alvin Bean and Lance Hardcastle surprised guests with the appearance of the guest of honor, a SELR llama named Omar. Alvin, Silas Owens and Cullen Owens provided musical entertainment.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM  
SOUTHEAST LLAMA  
RESCUE!

*"Until mankind can extend the circle of his compassion to include all living things, he will never himself know peace."* - Albert Schweitzer, Nobel Peace Prize recipient, 1950



### Thank You to Our Volunteers!

SELR is proud of our dedicated volunteers. Around the year, day in and day out, our volunteers give of themselves. They travel and transport llamas\* at their own expense. They give countless hours of their time to aid in rescues. They support, encourage, and educate, and most of them have adopted and/or foster rescue llamas. Our volunteers make the world a better place. Thank you!

\*Llamas: Llamas, alpacas and their relatives

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**SELR Founders**

Alvin Bean  
Lance Hardcastle

**Board of Advisors**

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Nancy Sottosanti  
Nancy Fox  
Julie Wier  
Susan Gawarecki  
Chris Stull  
Chris Adams  
Kate McKelvie  
Deb Logan (begin 1/1/07)  
Ricky Zachow (begin 1/1/07)  
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**Message from the Editors:**

We hope that you enjoy this first edition of *The Llama Rescue Review*. Our goal is to expand recognition of SELR and increase awareness of llama rescue issues. If you would like to be added to our mailing list please submit your name and e-mail address to: melisser3@hotmail.com.

**Meanwhile, Back at the Ranch** By Alvin Bean

Dear friends,

It has been a very hard year for SELR, but our volunteers and friends have met these difficulties with more strength, harder work, and as usual doing what needs to be done for the llamas. Between lacking adoption coordinators for 3 southern states, expanding into the Dakotas and taking adoption transfers from SWLR and NELR, the facility here in Mars Hill topped out a whopping 90 animals as of January and has just now come down to 80 this past month. The Mars Hill facility has had numerous problems with parasitism and has recently been more or less quarantined. This has been a difficult time, with running fecals constantly, weighing, checking for anemia, looking for diarrhea, and just hoping that nothing is being missed...but yet it sometimes is.

Charlie is an aggression case who has osteomyelitis. He's been up to UT (University of Tennessee at Knoxville) for two visits and they gave him little hope. He has maintained his weight, but he is the first to charge up when entering his field, spits, screams and looks for an opportunity to knock you down. So we usually only see his back end during health checks. Today I was out in the field for some time with a potential adopter and he turned away from me just for a second. I immediately realized that he has diarrhea. His hocks were stained and his tail was matted with feces. Charlie's alternative to SELR was euthanasia, and now he is in a clean stall with plenty of food, awaiting the results of his fecal check for treatment. He's quite happy about this, because he loves beet pulp and has his own unchallenged supply.

Funding for llama rescue is hard to come by (many foundations are proud to provide grants to dog and cat rescues...but llamas?), as are volunteers who are able to be safe with ABS llamas in the fields. Resistant parasitism has become a huge problem in the south, for goat and sheep farmers as well as llama and alpaca breeders. What we're doing right is running a Modified Wisconsin fecal test regularly on all the llamas, as well as weighing, famacia, and BCS. We thank Colleen Boll for buying us a microscope with a moveable stage, Dr. Van Amstell at UT for numerous free consults, and especially Ford Martin, our current intern, who works numerous hours every day feeding, watering, cleaning pens, as well as doing fundraising and cooking the excellent 5 course meal at our first annual fundraising dinner.

For the first time ever, the board has requested to approve intakes, due to lack of funds and volunteers, and to insure the best care for those llamas at the Mars Hill facility. Stepping up to the plate, many volunteers are doing private rescue and housing animals personally until SELR is back in the black and can officially intake them.

Meanwhile, we wait hopefully for the donation of a lifetime lease for a permanent facility for SELR. Nancy Fox has been working 24/7 on finding and buying property for SELR's permanent home. I had no idea with how complicated real estate transactions can be, but it takes up a tremendous amount of time. Nancy F is working extremely hard to get the SELR llamas into a permanent place with permanent facilities.



O n  
Thursday  
I delivered Dal-  
las and  
Zazu to  
their new  
adoptive  
home.

Andra's two little boys were anxiously awaiting the arrival of their llamas. They took them for a walk around their new pasture and then took their halters off. Both Dallas and Zazu stood for hugs off halter in the field. They seemed to understand that these little humans require additional tolerance and patience, and one must be careful not to step on them accidentally. It was a heartwarming scene. We nearly lost Dallas to E-mac last spring, and here he is in this beautiful home, beautiful pasture, with two nice kids and a new built 3-sided shelter, and a mom with lots and lots of good questions which always indicates to me that this adopter is going to pay a lot of attention to the animals.

As well as other breeding farms and other rescues in the southeast, we have had unusually high losses this year, and racked up thousands of dollars in vet bills at UT. UT never charges us a vet fee, only labs and board and surgical procedures. They are a great bunch of people, and they let us have a payment plan. They will not turn away a sick animal from SELR.

I wish for everyone the best of holidays and health and happiness for you and your family, both two legged and four.

Sincerely,

**Alvin Bean, Co-founder, SELR**



## Bob's Llama Journal *Featuring Bob, Betsy, and Muffin*

By Bob Huss

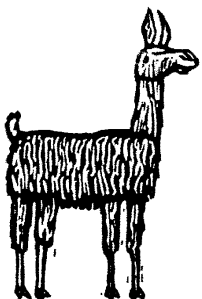


A Visit With Otis and Elvis - Part One

One thing is for certain: When a person volunteers with Southeast Llama Rescue and actively participates in Volunteer Chat, that person is a friend to llamas and concerned about their welfare.

Yesterday Betsy and I took our walk alone since Muffin was having a timeout in the pasture. She had spit again while being groomed. The afternoon was cool with the feel of approaching winter in the air. At our elevation in the Colorado Rocky Mountains most of the grass has already been frost killed. Betsy devoured a patch of hardy green grass beside the road as a friend approached: "Did you know that there are two new llamas in the neighborhood?" I had talked to the new owners a couple times about llamas and they had expressed an interest in getting some.

***"Today Betsy, Muffin and I walk toward the little pasture where the new llamas are kept."***



Today Betsy, Muffin and I walk toward the little pasture where the new llamas are kept. Muffin didn't spit today so she is getting an outing also. As our little procession approaches another patch of green grass, Betsy takes the point position and leads us in the correct direction. Both Betsy and Muffin seem to have an instinct to put on some weight since winter is just around the corner.

Betsy spots the new llamas when we are still about two city blocks away. After a short distance, Betsy takes the lead and there is real excitement in her gait. Betsy spent a lot of time away from other llamas as a young adult and always gets excited when she sees other llamas. Muffin has a "Ho Hum" attitude about meeting other llamas since she has many ABS characteristics from being raised with people instead of with llamas. Muffin would take the point position if there

were two people in front of us.

When we get to the pasture, Betsy immediately jumps the dry irrigation ditch and greets the two gelded boys. Muffin stands beside the ditch until I encourage her to jump it. She greets them with little interest and no enthusiasm. The two boys look healthy and the toenails seem short enough, but I am concerned about the fact that they are wearing halters. The halter worn by Elvis seems too snug but it is still resting on the nose skin. The one on Otis is way too tight and the skin on top of the nose is starting to grow around the nosepiece.

My knock at the front door is greeted by...

( To be continued in Issue 2)

## SELR's Llama Personal

Meet a wonderful Llama waiting for adoption!



**Tommy Llama** left the bright lights of Chicago to settle into foster care in southern Illinois in late September 2006. He is a medium-sized, athletic llama gelding who is unregistered, and about 5 years old. His fiber is black with some

white markings on his face. He is a "classic" llama with no leg fiber.

Tommy is a fairly mellow boy -- who lives peaceably with three other geldings. His only lead training has happened since he came to southern Illinois, so he is just getting the hang of how much fun it is to be haltered and walked around to explore. Tommy is up-to-date on deworming, immunizations, toenail trims and shearing.

He has spent most of his life with his "buddy," the Dalai Llama. Tommy is a good guy who is looking for a forever home.

For more information, contact SELR Adoption Coordinator **Julie Wier**, [SIMPLECLWN@aol.com](mailto:SIMPLECLWN@aol.com).



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**In This Issue...**

SELR's Roof-Raising Dinner, Bob's Llama Journal, Llama Personal and more!



## Other Rescue News

### Southwest Llama Rescue\* by Pat Little

Southwest Llama Rescue (SWLR) beginnings go back to 2000 when a Llama herd was seized in Northern NM by Animal Control. Without the advantage of an organized rescue organization llama owners joined together to take the llamas and find good homes for each of them.

In the past six years we have organized as Southwest Llama Rescue {SWLR} We are a 501c3 and have taken in 118 Llamas. Eighty-eight Llamas from SWLR have been placed with new Llama Families.

Our Sanctuary is located in Silver City NM under the supervision of Baxter who is the Matriarch of SWLR.

SWLR is a newcomer in the world of llama rescue and has obstacles to overcome. We look forward to 2007 with a renewed energy to do our part in caring for our llama friends who, by circumstance, find themselves without a home or family.

Please visit our Website:  
[www.southwestllamarescue.org](http://www.southwestllamarescue.org)

**PAT LITTLE**  
**ADOPTION COORDINATOR**  
**SWLR NM**

\*Editors Note: Southwest Llama Rescue is an independent organization with a similar mission but distinct from Southeast Llama Rescue.

