



**Florida Alpaca & Llama Association Inc.**

[www.falainc.com](http://www.falainc.com)

LATE SUMMER 2015

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# MEMBERSHIP QUORUM BY-LAW SUGGESTED CHANGE

## Reason/Need for Proposed By-law Change:

As a result of the last membership meeting and a tally of the membership/farms, we discovered we may run into the problem of not having quorum for our regular meetings, for amendments to by-laws, and for elections since it is based on a percentage of the total number of ranches. Below are the current references to quorum from our by-laws. It is the board's recommendation to change the Membership Qualifications by-law with regard to voting and non-voting membership by "activating" the membership when a meeting is attended. All other rewards of membership will remain the same for both voting and non-voting annual memberships; this is just to remedy the quorum issue. (**Example 1:** A regular monthly meeting is held and 16 people are present representing 7 farms. If we have 50 membership farms x 20% = 10. This does not meet quorum. **Example 2:** Election of Officers: if we take the same 50 farms x 33% = 17 farms.)

## ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS

- a) *The Officers shall be elected every two years, by a quorum vote of the Membership at the November meeting, which is designated as the "Election Meeting."*
- b) *Quorum is defined as one-third of the membership.*

## QUORUM

*Twenty percent (20%) of members who are eligible to vote shall constitute a quorum at any meeting. If a quorum is not present, the members present, by majority vote, may adjourn the meeting to a future time.*

## ARTICLE XV. AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

*Section 1. These by-laws may be altered by amendment, repeal, or addition by the majority vote of the membership of the FALA at any regular or special meeting of the membership, provided a quorum of the membership is present at such meeting.*

*Section 2. Amendments to the By-Laws must be approved by the membership by written ballot.*

*Section 3. A change in the by-laws must be approved by majority vote of the members actually voting.*

## CURRENT WORDING:

### ARTICLE V MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

Section 1. There shall be five types of membership:

- a) Annual — Any individual, family, farm or corporation with a sincere interest in llamas, alpacas or other camelids shall be eligible to become a Member. An Annual membership shall be granted upon written application accompanied by annual dues, submitted to the FALA Treasurer.

## PROPOSED WORDING (ADDITION IS SHOWN WITH UNDERLINE, DELETION IS STRIKETHROUGH):

### ARTICLE V MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

Section 1. There shall be five types of membership:

- a) Annual — Any individual, family, farm or corporation with a sincere interest in llamas, alpacas or other camelids shall be eligible to become a Member. An Annual membership shall be granted upon written application accompanied by annual dues, submitted to the FALA Treasurer. All Annual Memberships are considered inactive/non-voting; and therefore, do not count against the quorum until the membership is "activated" by attending a meeting during that calendar year. All other membership benefits will remain the same for both voting and non-voting members.

## AgriTourism Sign Information and Pre-Orders

**UPDATE:** Only 2 more needed to meet the 50-order minimum

Many farms and ranches conduct educational Alpaca Days and Open House Days for the public. Agriculture Secretary Bill Putnam wishes to encourage the farm and ranch lifestyle and has been a proponent of the Agri-Tourism bill which passed and became part of the Florida State Statutes.

You may have seen the Equine Signs posted on horse farms throughout the state; well, this statute provides for agritourism ventures. You will need to post a sign on your property. There are specific wording and directions for the sign and where to post on your property.

We have requested and received a few quotes from sign printers and the best quote for the sign is 50 signs for \$12 each, or 100 signs for \$10 each. This does not in-

clude tax. Before we order the signs we need to have committed pre-orders for them as we do not wish to maintain an inventory of unsold signs. If you wish to purchase the signs, as noted in the Statute, each farm/ranch will need to post a minimum of two (2) signs; one at the entrance to the property and one where the "tour" takes place (gate to your pasture, etc.). If you would like to purchase a sign(s), please email Claire-Marie Warner at [SerenityHillsLlamaRanch@gmail.com](mailto:SerenityHillsLlamaRanch@gmail.com) with your name and how many signs you want us to order for you. Thank you.

The FSS 570 pertaining to agricultural ventures can be found at the link below. Please take the opportunity to read this.

[http://www.falainc.com/data/FSS\\_570.docx](http://www.falainc.com/data/FSS_570.docx)

The notice of inherent risk sign must consist of a sign in black letters, with each letter a minimum of one (1) inch in height, with sufficient color contrast to be clearly visible. I would like black letters on a white background, like the Equestrian Warning signs, you may have seen.

### WARNING

Under Florida law, an agritourism operator is not liable for injury or death of, or damage or loss to, a participant in an agritourism activity conducted at this agritourism location if such injury, death, damage, or loss results from the inherent risks of the agritourism activity. Inherent risks of agritourism activities include, among others, risks of injury inherent to land, equipment, and animals, as well as the potential for you to act in a negligent manner that may contribute to your injury, death, damage, or loss. You are assuming the risk of participating in this agritourism activity.

# RESCUE RUMINATIONS



- ◆ I have the possibility of 9 alpacas being surrendered due to owner health issues in Central FL. I do have some people waiting in line, but not for all of them. I am waiting on photos and descriptions of the animals. This will be a simple re-home unless there are issues with a particular animal that I will want to keep in the SELR system. A preliminary list consists of 2 intact herdsires, both white, 3 white females, 2 light fawn females, and 2 brown females. All homes are screened and approved by me. Thanks for your help! Please contact Claudia at [llamachick@yahoo.com](mailto:llamachick@yahoo.com)

Claudia Hammack  
Florida Adoption Coordinator

Maxie and her rescue llama Tweekie.



# FALA 2016 Calendar!



Our calendar for 2016 is out! Once again, the calendar committee has done a great job of creating the pages and product. Members who sponsored a page can order additional copies for \$6.00 each. I give them as Christmas gifts to my family and friends. Non-sponsors can order them for \$10.00 each.

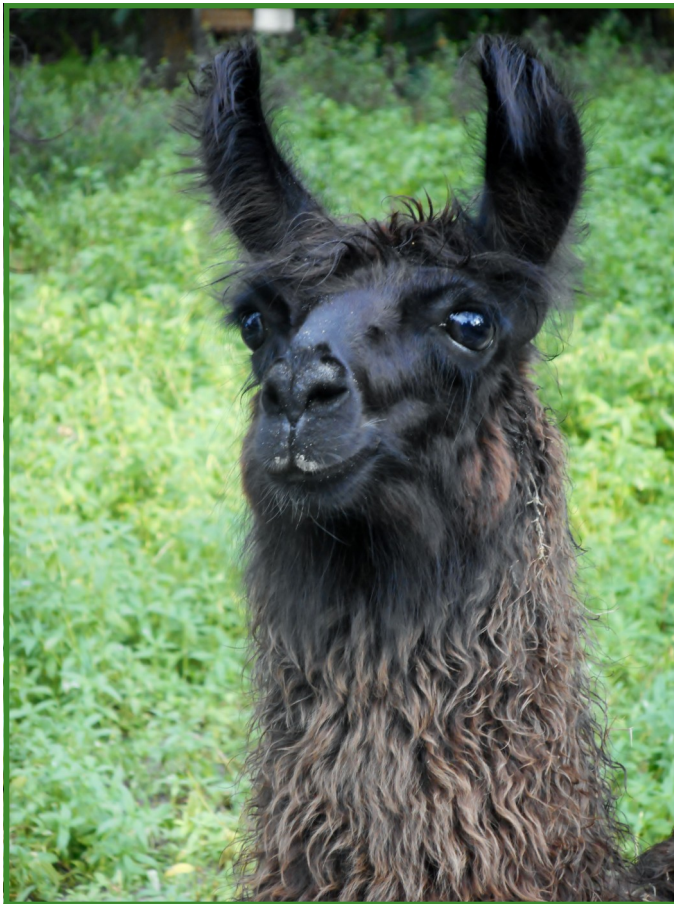
Please contact Claire Marie Warner [serenityhillsllamaranch@gmail.com](mailto:serenityhillsllamaranch@gmail.com) or Dan Moreland [d-smoreland@msn.com](mailto:d-smoreland@msn.com) to order! We will also have calendars at our meetings and events.

A big Thank You to Pat Dempsey for sponsoring the Southeast Llama Rescue calendar page. It is much appreciated!



Hey members! Don't forget that you can help FALA by clicking this link when you order from Amazon.com.

When you shop at AmazonSmile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to Florida Alpaca And Llama Association Inc. Bookmark the link <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/27-0099095> and support us every time you shop.



Simon looking pensive



Gracie, the Livestock Guardian Lab



## Calendar of Events

**September 13 — FALA Meeting — 1 pm.** Hosted by Tracy Weaver, Lotsa Llamas, 15611 Peter Max Blvd., Hudson, FL Please bring a chair and, if you're inclined, a dish to share.

**September 18-20 — The White Lightning Performance Show and Pack Trial**

In Ellijay, GA. Judge: Mary Jo Miller

This is a one day performance show held in a large field on top of a GA mountain. Primitive camping or nearby motels. A very relaxed, natural show incorporating obstacles from nature. See the Facebook SSLA page for more details. Join us for a fun show!

**September 26 — FL State Fair Youth Workshop**

Visit the FL State Fair website <http://www.floridastatefairag.com> for specific information.

**October 16-18 — Georgia National Fair Llama Show in Perry, GA**

This is one of the best fall shows! Llama showing plus fair food and attractions in a pretty setting. Even if you don't show it is worth the trip to observe and have lots of fun! See the Facebook SSLA page for more details.

**November 8 — FALA Annual Meeting — Rye Wilderness Park, Parrish, FL**

Election of officers, hiking trails for llamas. Bring a dish to share.