



# Florida Alpaca & Llama Association Inc.

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

FALL 2015

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## Letter from Our President

Welcome autumn and cooler weather!

Remember to adjust your clocks on November 1<sup>st</sup>. It's marked on your 2015 and 2016 calendars. Also, please don't miss your opportunity to vote in the FALA elections.

Now back to reality. As we move to the time of the year when we open our ranches to the public, please be mindful of scammers. There are so many tactics. Here is one; please be aware: A person emails you wishing to come visit your ranch because they have a friend who absolutely loves llamas and alpacas. They request a date during the week, and you respond that you will not be home because you work, etc. They know you are remote and not home, easy access for them to steal as you may have pictures of your home and area posted on your website or Facebook page. The second scenario is: You make the arrangement for couple to take a farm tour, but they brought additional friends who are also interested in the adventure. You are now on the tour and someone has to go to the bathroom (or some other excuse to go into your home) but you and the group are in the pasture and really keeping you busy with questions and otherwise distracting you; so after all, they have become a quick acquaintances and are super-friendly, you allow the person to go back to the house and use the facility. After a really great tour, and sometime after they have left, you notice your purse has been disturbed, your bank cards may have been scanned, and money and jewelry are missing. If at all possible, never conduct tours by yourself. Never let your guests walk unaccompanied either on your farm or in your home. The liability is too great.

Please don't be a victim. Stay safe and Happy Halloween!

Claire-Marie Warner, FALA President

Thank you Tracy Weaver for hosting our September meeting! A very pleasant time sitting under the shade of her trees, talking camelids and eating good food! Looking forward to seeing everyone at Rye Park in Nov.!

*\*The information printed within this publication is for informational purposes only. Always rely on your veterinarian for advice and treatment. The opinions expressed in articles, letters, ads and editorials are solely the opinions of the author(s) and do not necessarily express the views of FALA. Acceptance of advertising/bulletin board items does not imply endorsement of products or services. Articles, letters, pictures and other contributions are welcomed.*

# 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):

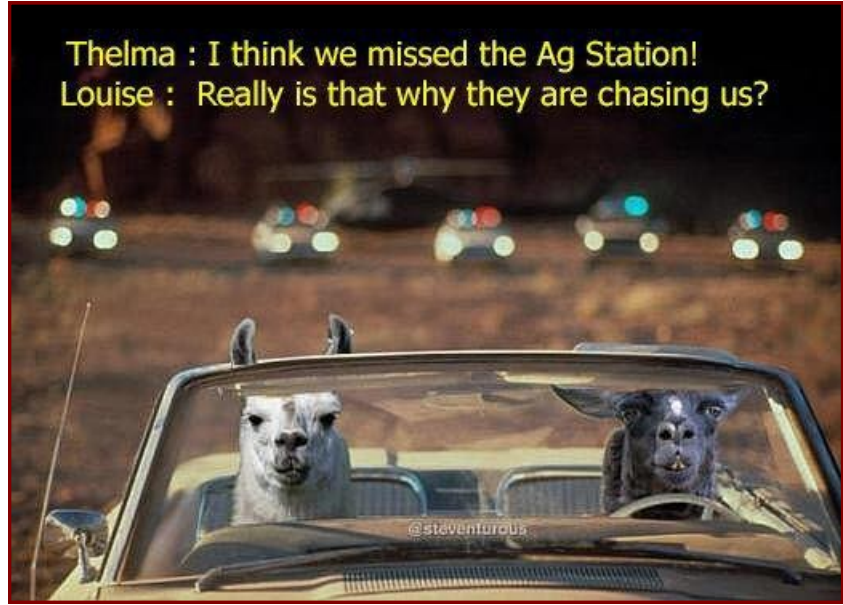
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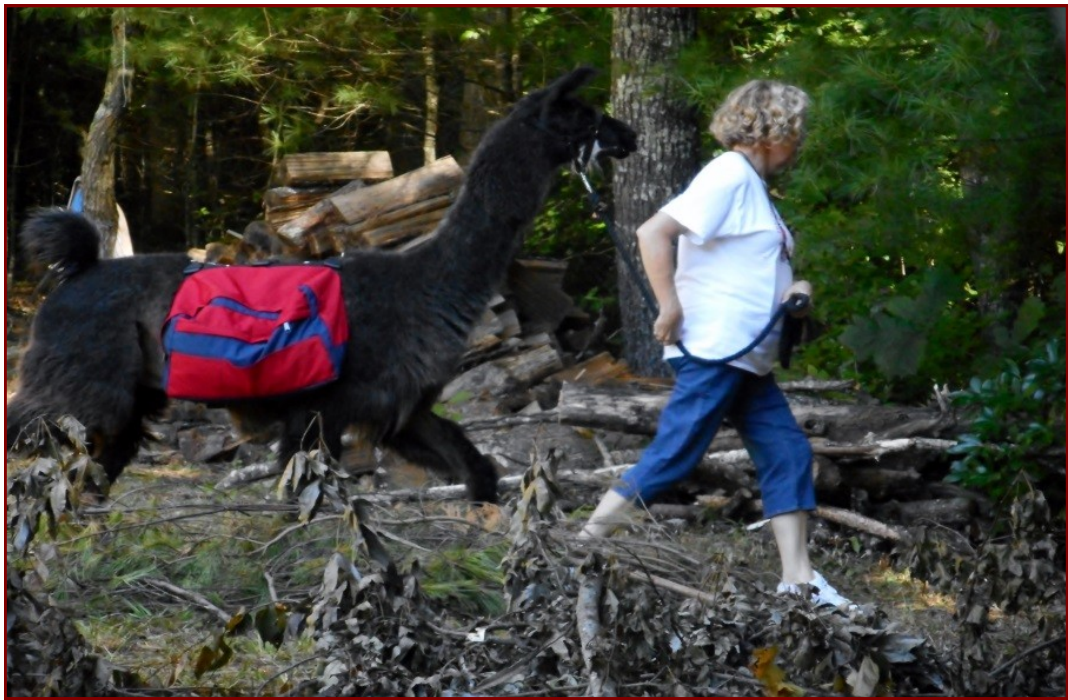
- a) Annual — Any individual, family, farm or corporation with a sincere interest in llamas, alpacas or other camelids shall be eligible to become a Member. An Annual membership shall be granted upon written application accompanied by annual dues, submitted to the FALA Treasurer. All Annual Memberships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

# White Lightning Llama Show

Mary Rose and I traveled to Cathie Kindler's White Lightning Show in Ellijay, GA. It's always an adventure. We were busy talking and missed the Agriculture Station sign. We sort of veered in and then out of the entrance. Let me assure you, they are watching and will come after you.



We managed to get the trailer up the steep incline to Cathie's farm, whew! and prepared to have a great show.



## White Lightning Llama Show continued



Went for a two-hour hike around the mountain on Sunday morning. Well mostly up the mountain because they sent the three novices one way, while the advanced packers took another way. Our two-hour hike turned into four hours of being lost. It was interesting that each of the llamas told us in their own way that we were on the wrong path. In the picture above I'm watching Hank and Mary hike into the distance because Alex refused to go any farther. They soon came back and we headed down to eventually make it back to the farm. Mary and Tom Rothering and Lauren and Vern Wright rounded out our Florida group. Fun time!

*Submitted by Claudia Hammack*

Good Morning ALSA Members of Florida,

I am writing to remind you of all the wonderful fiber products that you have made from your llama or alpaca fiber or your shorn fiber waiting for processing.

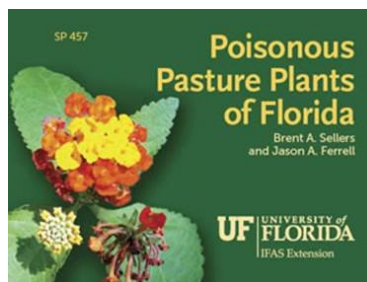
ALSA has incorporated into the point system the Finished Products class for you to enter your fine hand made products. [www.alsashow.org](http://www.alsashow.org)

Look at the Fleece Finished products for the rules and information. Each farm can send 10 items from any of the three categories for \$150 or be bold and send 1 item per class entry for \$25! We (FALA) have sent in monies to support this Fleece area. I think it is time our Florida folks get going in the National organization.

Thanks,  
Tracy Weaver

**GO FLORIDA!**

Available at your Extension office.



This pocket-sized deck identifies 31 of Florida's most common pasture plants that can affect the health, behavior, and yield of your livestock. Full-color, laminated cards feature a photo of each plant and a list of identifying characteristics, life cycle, poisonous parts, toxic principles, and affected livestock. Also features an index of common names and information on types of toxicity and what to do if you think your livestock is poisoned. 35 cards, ring bound. Price: \$10.00

## USDA — Reaching Out to Keep Farmers and Ranchers Informed

### USDA Announces \$2.5 Million in Grants to Provide Outreach & Education to Farmers, Ranchers

An online informational session is scheduled for Sept. 28.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) is offering \$2.5 million in grants to nonprofits and public institutions of higher education to improve farmer outreach and education.

The initiative focuses on new and underserved farmers, returning military veterans, minorities, women, urban or locally-grown producers. Grants will be awarded to nonprofits and public higher education institutions that develop proposals to improve farmer

outreach and education on topics such as financial training, value-added production, recordkeeping, property inheritance and crop production practices.

USDA will conduct four evaluation periods to review applications, with the deadlines of Nov. 20, 2015, Jan. 22, 2016, March 18, 2016, and May 27, 2016. Awards between \$20,000 and \$100,000 per applicant will be available.

For nonprofits and public institutions of higher education that are considering participation, an online informational session will be conducted on Sept. 28, 2015, at 1 p.m. Eastern. **Visit the FSA Outreach website for more information and to download the Request for Applications and access the Grants.gov application package.**

# Photos from the 2015 GA National Show



# 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 [serenityhillslamaranch@gmail.com](mailto:serenityhillslamaranch@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!

# CAMELID CLASSIFIEDS

We just got these shawls and scarves in from Peru and they are absolutely gorgeous. They are lightweight with ancient Peruvian designs that transform their bewitching beauty and magic into a modern and timeless fashion statement. A luxurious blend of 70% baby alpaca and 30% silk.



You must see them in person to “feel” their true elegance. Mention FALA newsletter and get 25% off. The perfect gift...especially for you...

Call Jean at 352-628-0156 or email [surialpaca@yahoo.com](mailto:surialpaca@yahoo.com)

We are open 7 days a week from 10 to 2

Alpaca Magic



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.





## Calendar of Events

**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, Silent Auction, Poker Walk, and great food! Contact Susan Moreland so we can get a count of attendees.

**December** — Local Christmas parades and events