

Florida Alpaca & Llama Association Inc.

www.falainc.com

SUMMER 2015

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Letter from Our President

Happy summertime!

Years ago, I received a card which read on the outside, “You’re a Success!” and the inside read, “I turned out GREAT!” A person I had trained and mentored and who later received a promotion after I had left the company wanted me to know about her promotion in this fun manner. Well, I want to let each of you know that FALA is a success, the Fiber Fun Day turned out GREAT!

I want to thank the Fiber Committee chaired by Tracy Weaver, and members Mary Rothering, Charlene Braun, and Selma Carrow. We had 55 people come out for the event! 30 had pre-registered! The library thanked us for having the event at their location and for teaching such a wide variety of fiber arts and crafts. Although Tracy was unable to join us on that day, she and her committee did a terrific job of pre-planning that it went off without a hitch. Everyone who wanted to try their hand was welcome to do so and we had several make it/take it projects areas. We had printed instructions available for knitting and crocheting as well.

I wish to thank all the teachers: Charlene Braun, knitting; Mary Rothering, crochet; Doug Warner, needle felting; Jeannette Myers, American Peg Loom rug weaving; Sarah Peloquin, Theo Moorman weaving; and of course, all the spinners with their unique wheels and various techniques: Kimberly Buchy, advanced art yarn; Lois Webber, chunky yarn; Susan Pritchard, lace weight yarn; Claudia Hammack and Margaret “Meg” Hines, sport weight yarn; and me on spinning video tape or plarn. Some FALA members who attended that day served as impromptu instructors and I wish to thank them as well: Cheryl Lambert and Karli Wilbanks on how to warp the American Peg Loom. Everyone came together to make this day such a huge success; if I have missed your name, or your contribution, I am truly sorry!

Claire-Marie Warner, FALA President



Thank you to Bruce and Kathi Volling for hosting the May meeting at their lovely home. Dr. Amanda House was the speaker. She was very informative about our geriatric camelids and their care. Thanks to the Vollings and Dr. House!

**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):

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

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 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.

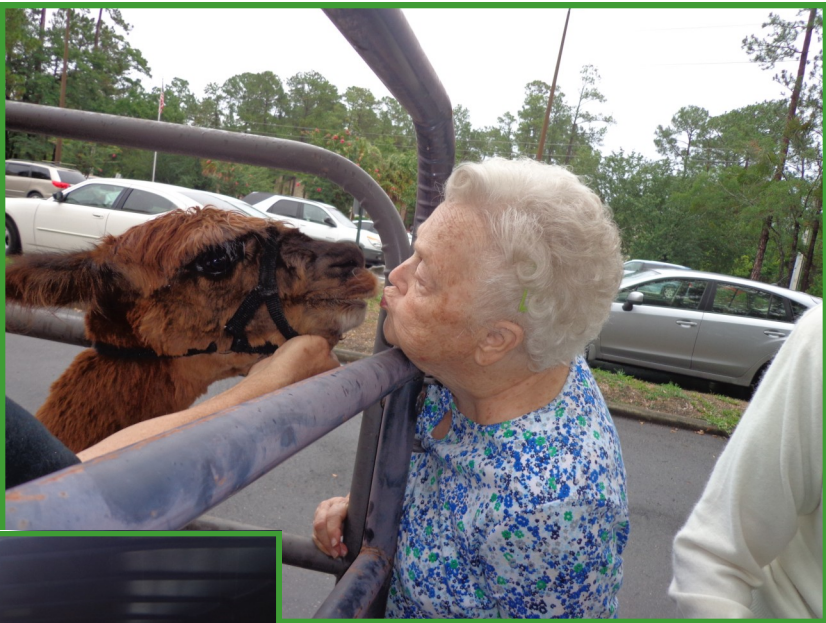
<http://www.falainc.com/data/FSS 570.docx>

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.

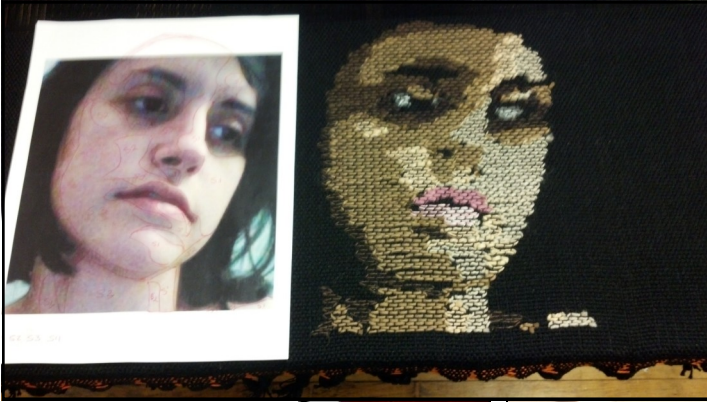
WARNING

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.

Sue & Tim Patterson at
Brookdale Mandarin
Community, Jacksonville



Annual FALA Fiber Fun Day



Self-portrait done in Theo Moorman weaving



Register Your Farm with the State of Florida

FALA Treasurer, Ed Smyth, would like to share information about registering your farm with the Florida Department of Agriculture and the form to do so. Very good idea!

DIVISION OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY
(850) 410-0900



THE MAYO BUILDING
407 SOUTH CALHOUN STREET
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0800

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER ADAM H. PUTNAM

Dear Florida Producer:

As a livestock producer, animal health is a priority to you. The USDA has also made it a top priority by promoting efforts to increase animal disease traceability. The goal is to develop a system that can identify, within 48 hours, any animals or premises that have had direct contact with a disease of concern. This will help us to stop the spread of disease more quickly and reduce economic loss. Premises registration and building a database of producer contact information is the foundation of this system. A modern database will allow a more expedient response when needed.

The traceability system is designed to enable producers and animal health officials to control devastating livestock and poultry diseases, should they occur in the United States. Of special concern are animal diseases found in other parts of the world which pose a significant risk to our industry. This modern system is needed to minimize the impact of an animal disease outbreak. Premises registration is the foundation of establishing a national system. It gives you the power to better protect your animals, your markets and your neighbors in the case of a disease event.

Since the co-mingling of animals poses the greatest risk to our various industries, many exhibition events and certain marketing channels encourage or require premises registration. For some food animal species, individual identification combined with premises registration is a valuable tool in meeting requirements for source verification and Country of Origin Labeling. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, through USDA, is making Official Identification tags available at no charge to producers with a registered premises. These tags allow producers to meet the federal requirements for official identification of animals moving interstate.

I encourage you to register your premises today to be one of more than 10,000 registered Florida premises. You can visit the FDACS, Division of Animal Industry's website at <http://www.FreshFromFlorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Animal-Industry> or the USDA website www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability for additional information. Please contact the Florida Division of Animal Industry with any questions or comments regarding premises registration. I can be reached by e-mail at Stephen.Monroe@FreshFromFlorida.com or at by phone at 850-410-0944. Thanks, in advance, for registering your premises!

Sincerely,

Stephen Monroe
Animal Traceability Coordinator
Division of Animal Industry

Register Your Farm....continued

Premises Registration

Q. What is Premises Registration?

A. Premises Registration establishes a database of locations (premises) where livestock and poultry is housed and contact information for the owner/manager of the animals. This information is used to contact the owner/manager in the event of an animal disease emergency.

Q. Who manages Premises Registration?

A. Premises Registration is part of a national program which is supported by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and implemented by each state's Department of Agriculture. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Animal Industry is the primary contact for Florida producers.

Q. What are the goals of the Premises Registration Initiative?

- A.
- To Safeguard Animal Health
 - To Protect Agricultural Infrastructure
 - To Maintain the Marketability of Animal and Animal Products
 - To Enable Rapid Trace-back and Containment of Infectious Diseases
 - To Facilitate Timely Response to Animal Disease Emergencies
 - To Minimize the Negative Impacts of Animal Disease

Q. Is premises registration mandatory?

A. No. Premises Registration is a voluntary program for those who choose this level of protection for their operation. Premises registration may be required for participation in optional programs such as equine passports and to receive official identification tags from USDA at no cost to the producer.

Q. Is registration complicated?

A. No. There is only one form to fill out which contains basic information about the operation and its location. The application can be submitted by US Postal Service, fax or electronic mail.

Q. Should producers register each parcel that they run Cattle On?

A. Not necessarily. The main headquarters premises can be registered as a central point that cattle are sold from. Having fewer premises numbers reduces the need to keep up with multiple numbers and locations that official tags are assigned to. Producers can register multiple premises if this best suits their business plan.

Q. How can an Application for Premises Registration be obtained?

A. Find the form on line at: <http://www.freshfromflorida.com/onestop/forms/09215.pdf> or contact the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of animal Industry by telephone at 850-410-0900 or contact the Division of Animal Industry by mail at 407 S. Calhoun Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0800.

Updated February 2, 2015 by SJM

Here is a clickable link to the form:

<http://www.freshfromflorida.com/onestop/forms/09215.pdf>

Great Ideas!

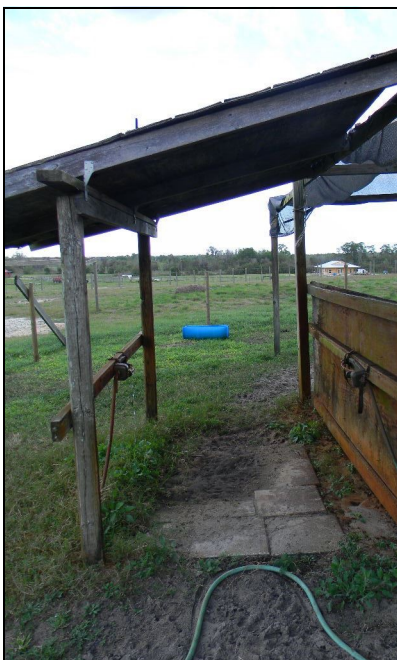
Llama Wash

As each of us know, in the hot months llamas and alpacas for the most part loved to be cooled off by water hitting their belly and legs. Well, after a few years of doing this daily, but never feeling like I was accomplishing much of anything else and going through the gambit of trying soaker hoses, hose stands, and most everything else under the blazing sun, I got to thinking, and the llama wash was born of necessity. I called it the llama wash as we had only llamas as that time. The concept is simple to create and our first one was merely attached to the fence. Now we actually have covered stations with concrete pavers as flooring so we do not erode the soil, pretty “cool”.

The items you will need are

- 2 oscillating sprinklers
- 2 short hoses (about 15')
- 1 Y hose diverter connector
- 1 multi-programmable water timer
- 1 “U” shaped wooden frame sunk upside-down across from other sprinkler

The idea was to put an oscillating sprinkler on a fence line about mid-thigh on me, top of the leg for most of the llamas' heights. Just opposite this create a U shaped wooden frame that you will sink into the ground upside-down. This will hold another oscillating sprinkler. Set the sprinklers to only rotate from the ground to the center



line (which will be shooting straight across to the other sprinkler). So, in actuality, one will oscillate from left to center and the other will oscillate from right to center. I use alligator clips and straps to hold the sprinklers in place on each end of the sprinkler as we do have some leaning leaners. From one sprinkler a short hose is run under the ground in the direction of the other sprinkler and meets up with the other short hose at a Y hose diverter connector that remains in the both on position, another single length of hose is then attached to the Y connector as the lead water line and goes to a multi-programmable water timer then connects to the facet.

We program the timer to turn on 4 times a day and run for anywhere from 15 minutes to 45 minutes depending on time of day (late morning vs. afternoon) and whether or not it is spring, summer, or the long humid days of late summer when the critters have been dealing with the humidity for such a prolonged time. We also provide wading pools and misters for those who prefer them. But the llama wash has by far made an impact in the running of this operation. The llamas and alpacas line up for the llama wash when it activates. Some of them even dance in the moving, driving water. Due to the close proximity of the sprinkler heads about 8' feet apart, the water really is pressurized and does penetrate to the skin instead of just wetting the top layer. They love it!



Great Ideas!

My tip is that I used my livestock trailer for shearing this time. I'm able to clean the floor in between animals and gather up the fiber without getting dirt, leaves and other veggie matter included. They are tied, but can see their buddies who are waiting their turn. One of my girls tries to jump out of the chute which scares me, but in the trailer she was fine. I did have a "mover and a shaker" that wouldn't cooperate, but otherwise, much easier!

~Submitted by Claudia Hammack

Wool Production Form

Attached is a link to the Wool Production sheet that I use for our place. I keep track from year to year and can quickly look at this and see who my top producers are, etc.

~Submitted by Claire-Marie Warner

[2015 WoolProduction - Blank Form.xlsx](#)

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CINNAMON CRISPS - Recipe from [Pioneer Woman](#)

1 stick butter, melted 1 cup cinnamon sugar (granulated sugar)
1 pkg. FLOUR tortillas (plain, multi-grain, wheat), any size

Line a baking sheet with foil. Place tortillas flat in the pan. Brush melted butter on tortillas. Sprinkle with cinnamon sugar. Turn tortillas over. Brush melted butter on this side and sprinkle with cinnamon sugar.

Bake at 350-degrees for 15 minutes, or until crisp.

Cool for a few minutes and then break into pieces.

Submitted by Charlene Peck Braun

FARM SPOTLIGHT

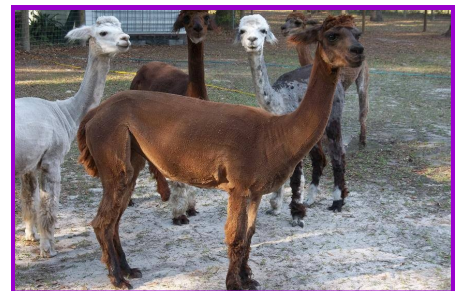
Heavenly Oaks Alpacas, LLC
Selma Carrow

Welcome to Heavenly Oaks Alpacas, LLC!

My journey began several years ago when I met Launda and Tom Soper at a craft event. I fell in love with the alpacas, but just wasn't able to catch up with Launda and time went on. In the meantime, I visited a few alpaca farms and was still deciding if this was really what I wanted. Thus the journey began. I purchased my first animals from Launda and Tom Soper in May of 2013 and began the construction of my farm. I had fencing installed for pastures, a new barn installed, etc. Then I purchased two alpacas from Brenda Crum. All five of my animals arrived in November 2013. Since that time I have acquired six additional alpacas and have had one born on my



own farm. This year the journey continues. I have just recently had a new larger barn constructed and the electric and water are in process. I have no desire to show any of my animals and really got into the alpaca business because of the fiber. I am continuing to learn more and more about the fiber and am learning more and more techniques of what to do with the fiber. So far, I don't have a favorite technique but am definitely leaning towards felting and weaving. I don't think you should ever stop learning about the animal and the fiber. I anticipate retiring in the next three years and will devote all my time to my farm and business. I continue to work with my mentors and continue to learn more and more on my own by taking classes and research and, of course, trial and error. I can't say enough about having a mentor when you get into this business. They are truly the backbone to the business.



CAMELID CLASSIFIEDS

I am looking for two female llamas to guard my goats. I have a brand new llama home built and 6 acres of land with pasture. I will drive 3-4 hours to pick them up.

Please advise and thanks.

Charles C. Garretson
850-607-0421
cgc13@cgc13.com

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Wanted: Gently used, newer, Ashford Traveler wheel, Louet S10 or Shacht Ladybug. Contact Claudia Hammack at llamachick@yahoo.com



Calendar of Events

September — FALA Meeting Date and Location TBD

September 26 — FL State Fair Youth Workshop

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