

Florida Alpaca & Llama Association Inc.

www.falainc.com

HOLIDAY 2016



Letter from the President

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'Tis the season.

I hope everyone has geared up for the holiday season and now not feeling so rushed. This year, the 12 days of Christmas and the 8 days of Chanukah start on December 25th. So, I am wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy Chanukah!

As you may have heard or read in the newsletter, the project for the youth at Florida State Fair is fiber, I hope you are using your wool to make presents this year. Even if it is just to put some wool in a glass ornament to hang on the tree. The holiday season is always a relaxing time for me as I get to spend more time in my fiber crafting world. Please, experiment with the fiber, be creative, this is the product of your beloved llama and alpaca donors, use it. Grab a cup of cocoa, pop in a beloved old time Christmas movie or watch a new Hallmark movie or two and curl up with either a knit or crochet project for a friend or family member. It will create a lasting memory. I always remember the quilt Johnny Carson (The Tonight Show) and I made one night when I couldn't sleep.

In the coolness of the holidays, when the pace seems to slow down a little and we might have more time we should reconnect with family and friends and create memories while sparking our creative sides. If you have the time, volunteer a few hours. It will make you feel good and will help someone else. May the New Year bring you peace, good health, happiness and prosperity!

Claire-Marie Warner

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Big thank you to Larry Boyce for scouting out a new location for our November meeting and hike! Santos Trailhead in Ocala was a nice setting and there was a mile hike through the woods. Thanks also to members who brought items for a raffle to benefit Southeast Llama Rescue. Your generosity garnered a \$43.00 donation. Believe me, every bit helps!

Results of the FALA election for available Board positions were announced at the November meeting. Congratulations to all!

President — Claire-Marie Warner

Vice President — Charlene Braun

Director — Bruce Volling

Director — Larry Boyce



Tweekie and Butterscotch dressed up for their Holiday picture!
They belong to member, Maxie Mertes.

RESCUE RUMINATIONS

My first alpaca rescue. A man contacted me who had started developing an animal therapy farm. He was now working in Georgia, his wife was recovering from surgery, and they were "failing miserably" in taking care of the animals on a separate property. He reported that there were 3 horses, 2 donkeys and 12 alpacas. The water system sometimes didn't work. He didn't mention there was no food for the animals. There was one male with ten females and a cria. He reported a male and a cria had died recently. I sent out a mass e-mail to our Florida Alpaca and Llama Association members and any other alpaca farms I knew of. Within six hours that day I had three responses from people who would take all of the alpacas!

Cyndie Nicholson near Jacksonville went to the property to take pictures and obtain names of the alpacas. She took disturbing pictures of the three horses. One was skin and bones. The donkeys seemed ok. Cyndie contacted a horse rescue that took the horses and the donkeys three days later. Cyndie already has two Moms and two crias from the South Florida llama rescue in July. She and her grandson chose the female alpaca with a young cria by her side and another female to foster at their farm. Maryann Marsh, a long-time alpaca breeder, claimed the rest of the eight females. Steve German said he would take the intact male and transport all of the alpacas to their foster homes. In the meantime, Cyndie went to the property twice a day to feed all of the animals who were starving. There was a horse carcass, several alpaca and cria carcasses that emitted a terrible stench. Animal Control made a visit and we communicated with them as to our efforts to get the animals off the property.



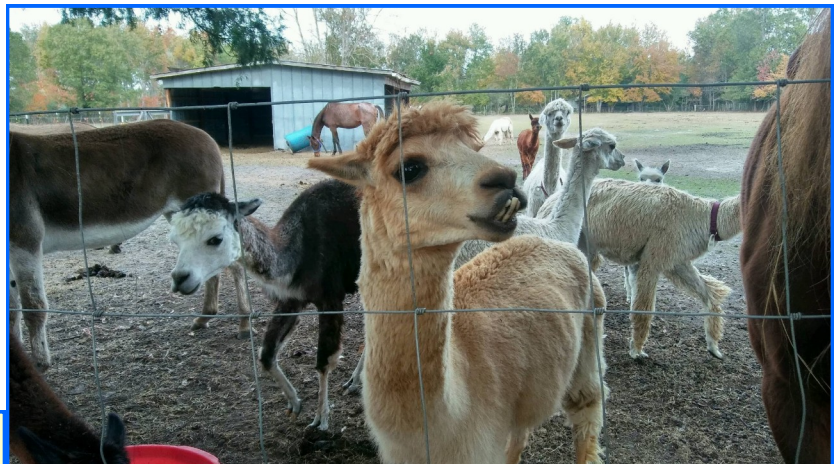
Gustavo



On December 1, Steve, Cyndie and a neighbor accomplished a pretty easy round-up of the alpacas. They are at their foster homes where they are receiving vet care and TLC. All of the females are pregnant and very thin. Gustavo, the male, is also malnourished partly due to his very long incisors that interfered with his eating.

The owner verbally surrendered the alpacas to me but he has not returned the Surrender Contract I e-mailed to him. He also agreed to meet Cyndie when he was in town with the alpaca registrations. She waited two hours and he never showed. I am so appreciative of the fast response I received, especially from Steve who said he would take the intact male. Who does that? :) When they are at a good weight and have delivered their cria we will start the process of adopting them. Gustavo will be gelded.

I don't have much action here but when I am in need I am so grateful to those that step up.



LEVY COUNTY FAIR SPONSORSHIP NEWS

FALA voted to donate \$500.00 as a sponsor for the Levy County Fair. That puts us in the "Silver Partnership" category. The description lets us know what we will receive at that level. Our youth won lovely belt buckles last year at the expense of the fair.

They are welcoming us back this year and you have the opportunity to add your support at \$250.00. That amount can be split among several farms, as well. Tracy Weaver is putting in \$50.00 to start a sponsorship if anyone would like to contribute. You may add your business card or logo to the program if you like.

Click on the link below to view the categories on the sponsorship page.

[http://nebula.wsimg.com/f9d2bbfb96cd84f87cda65e17c93fc59?
AccessKeyId=67530869EDAB99686EAE&disposition=0&alloworigin=1](http://nebula.wsimg.com/f9d2bbfb96cd84f87cda65e17c93fc59?AccessKeyId=67530869EDAB99686EAE&disposition=0&alloworigin=1)

March FALA meeting

Would you like to host the March meeting at your farm? Suggested dates are March 12 or March 26. We don't expect anything fancy and members normally bring dishes with them. If you are interested, please contact Tracy Weaver, Secretary, at lotsallamas@earthlink.net



2017 Calendar of Events

January 22 — FALA Fun Show & Practice at Casadellama Inverness

February 17-19 — Florida State Fair Llama Show

MESSAGE TO YOUTH FAIR EXHIBITORS

Most of you received the Florida State Fair reminder card regarding your **record book**, it is due at the fair, completed by January 11th. We have scheduled our **Showmanship and Performance clinic** on Saturday, January 7th. You are welcome to turn in your record book at that time. It may save you postage or an extra trip to the fairgrounds.

I am hopeful that many of you chose to prepare a finished product or shorn fleece to exhibit at the fair. These items are also due on the 11th, but again, bring them on the 7th for check in. They will be judged *prior* to the fair so they may be displayed with your ribbons and, if Grand or Reserve Champion, your monetary award given.

Walking Fleece, posters, Ask Me Booth, Skill-a-thon, Record Book test, Halter and Performance with animals will all be completed at the fairgrounds February 16th-19th.

FALA Fun Show

Date: Sunday, January 22, 2017

Check-in: 9am -10am

Location: Casadellama
4211 S. Old Floral City Rd.
Inverness, FL 34450

Mary Rose Collins and Cheryl Lambert are hosting a "**Fun Show**" at their farm from 10am - 3pm. You are welcome to participate. There will be an obstacle course in the morning and a halter class in the afternoon. This is your chance to practice for upcoming shows or to see what the classes are like up-close and personal. Check in time is 9am-10. Bring your own lunch, drink, chair and animal.

For questions or more information contact Mary Rose at 352-726-1104 or mrc604@tampabay.rr.com