



Florida Alpaca & Llama Association Inc.

www.falainc.com

FALL 2016

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Letter from Our President

I hope you have received your ballot and will take the time to vote. If you have not already voted, please come to the meeting on November 13, and cast your vote.

If you were at the meeting in September, please excuse me for I am about to repeat myself. Of course, it is something we never hear enough of ... our members, both past and present, are the greatest! We have some of the most wonderful people in the state of Florida who belong to our organization! The caring and compassion they show for llamas and alpacas that are in need is unceasing. I know this because we really tried to push the limit this summer with a few of them and they did not let us down. We have been there for each other over time and have become friends. I would like to thank Charlene Braun, Chris and Robin Schwarz, and Charles and Mary Poillion for their assistance during nearly ten hours over a three-day span trying to get two llamas sheared. Simple enough, right?

We all have stories of the one that got away, of the smart thinkers llamas are, and the fact they can adapt and learn from people's "silly antics of trying to be in-charge." I think they find us amusing while we find them amazing. Thank you! Thank you for being there for us, thank you for being members, thank you for continuing to assist when called. You are the greatest and I am most appreciative of your presence.

Claire-Marie Warner, FALA President

*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.

Thank you, Jean Riley, Alpaca Magic USA, for hosting our September meeting! The setting was so pretty and your fiber store offers something for everyone!

We love visiting different member farms. Let us know if you would like to host an upcoming meeting!



FALA Election Reminder

There is another important upcoming election! You should have received your FALA election ballot courtesy of Survey Monkey in an e mail. You have until Nov. 6th to vote. Results will be announced at our November meeting. Please take a minute, if you haven't already, to fill out the ballot and return to llamachick@yahoo.com. Let me know if you did not receive the ballot. Thank you!

FALA 2017 Calendar!



Our calendar for 2017 is available! Members who sponsored a page can order additional copies for \$6.00 each. Member purchase price is \$8.00 each, Non-Members \$10.00 each.

Please contact Mary Rose MRC604@tampabay.rr.com to order! We will also have calendars at our meetings and events.

When the call comes ... choose adventure!

Before the prolonged enduring heat of the long hot summer really set in, a need presented itself locally. Doug received a call and two llamas within an hour's drive needed to be sheared, "could you do it?" "Yes, of course! For the health of someone's llamas, count us in." So, arrangements were made with the new owner as they were recent adoptions from SELR, and we arrived on a Saturday in July. As it would happen, the new owner was unable to assist us, but did have a friend available. The friend knew nothing about llamas either general or specific (not even the names); and the owner requested the friend video tape the day so he could watch at a later time, so the help really wasn't. After 2.5 hours of walking back and forth in the July heat in a pasture of about 5 acres, we decided the task was not going to be accomplished without an army of volunteers!

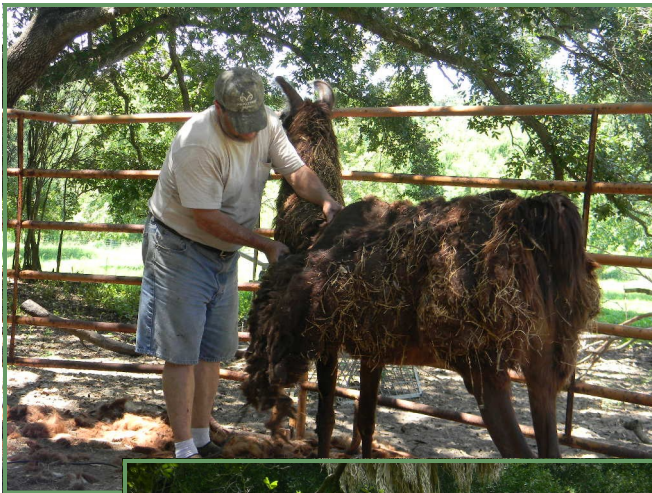
New arrangements were made for the following weekend. Phone calls were made to both current and past FALA members who are also in the area. Chris and Robin Schwarz were able to assist as was Charlene Braun, excellent, that meant five of us and whatever friend(s) the owner could arrange. Okay, so it was a small army. As luck would have it, when we arrived, no one was there to assist. We had permission, so we went about our business of trying to secure the llamas so they could be sheared. We were walking, walking, walking, and planning and plotting both through the sunshine and through the rain. After about 2.5 hours, we had our first catch! Now, he just needed to be led to the barn. Seriously, by now, it felt like it was miles from one end of the pasture to the other. We were hot, tired and wet. We decided to plug on, and continued with our many, many, many more valiant attempts to capture the 2nd llama. After a day of hearty exercise and all of us getting weary, we finally made capture number two, 3 hours of

chessboard-type maneuvering! It was now off to the barn; again, at the opposite end of the pasture. After securing him for the night and leaving both with food and water. We made arrangements to come back the following day and do the shearing. Since Chris, Robin and Charlene had prior engagements for Sunday; I returned to the phone and called upon Charles and Mary Poillion to ask if they could assist us with shearing. They said, "Yes."

Sunday arrived. Two weekends and finally shear day was going to happen! Third time's a charm, right? Charles and Mary met us there and we each brought in our equipment. The llamas were no worse for the ordeal of being "cooped up in a barn." We made the plan together that Charles would shear, and Doug would assist and clear the area of wool as it fell around their feet. Both Mary and I were cast in the roles as observers.

It appeared neither of the llamas had been sheared in years and both were very matted. Due to the mats this task was very labor intensive. On a side note, both behaved rather well once the shearing began. Did I mention it was July? After 4 hours of hot work, which included gathering up all our equipment (corral panels, shears, feed buckets, water buckets, halters, leads, extension cords, etc.) and loading them onto the truck. We were ready to leave, we were dusty and tired. The llamas actually looked refreshed and much cooler. Since we never did learn their names, may I present to you Puffy and Fluffy. It doesn't matter by which name you call them; they are no longer Puffy or Fluffy.

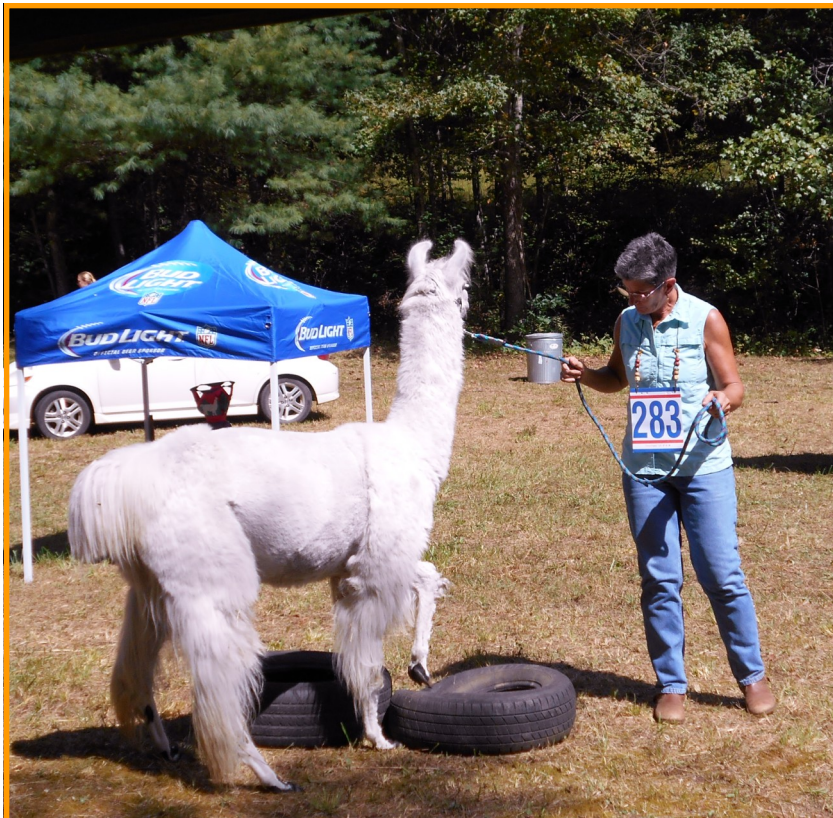
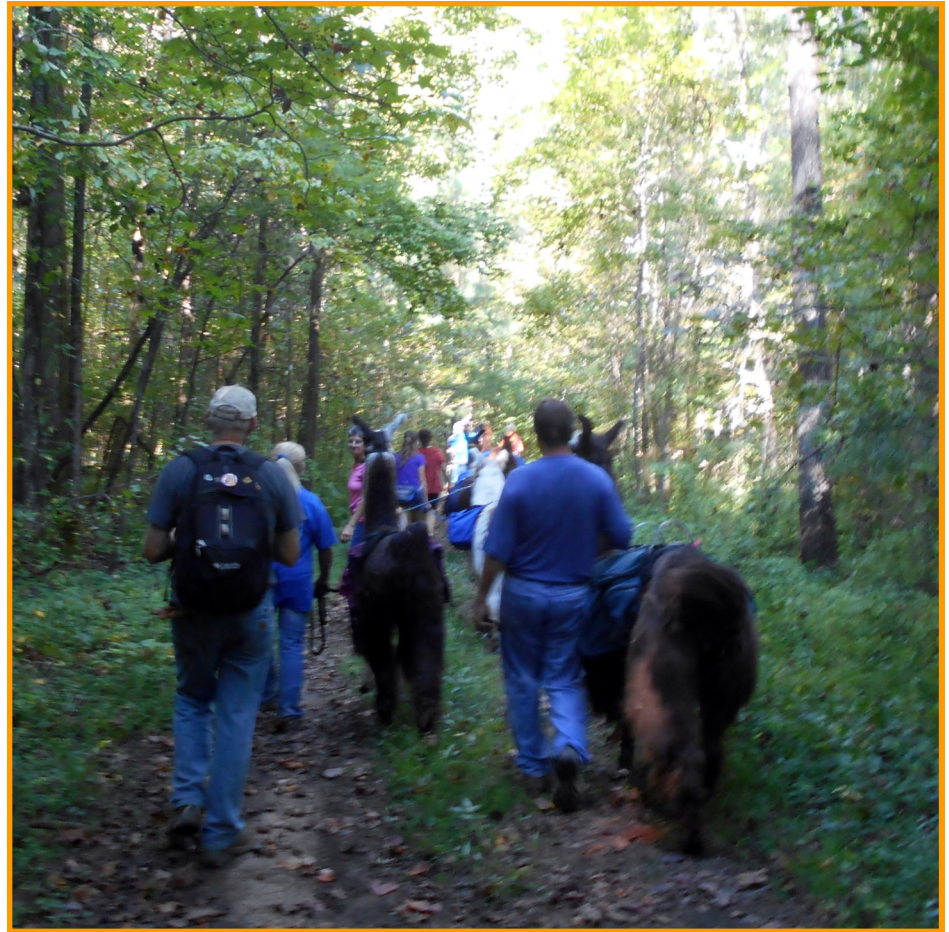
~Claire-Marie Warner



Show Pictures



Show Pictures





Calendar of Events

November 13— FALA Annual Meeting

December — Local Christmas parades and events

FALA ANNUAL MEETING

Date: Sunday, November 13

Arrival: 10am **Meeting:** 1pm

Location: Santos Trail Head
3080 SE 80th St
Ocala, FL 34991

Please join us at our next meeting. Bring your llamas or alpacas to enjoy walking the trails in a beautiful setting.

The trail and park area is called: Santos Trail Head, 3080 SE 80th St., Ocala, FL 34991.

You may begin arriving at 10am, and our lunch will be at 12-1, with our FALA meeting beginning at 1pm. Trails and activities to begin after the meeting. The lunch will be "share a dish."

We will have a drawings for door prizes and SELR has a tote of donated items to do a silent auction. Proceeds to benefit SELR. If anyone wants to bring along anything they can.

Those of you who would rather spin, knit, crochet, weave, or felt instead of the trails are more than welcome to share those talents. There probably will be public there to enjoy your talents!