

### Florida Alpaca & Llama Association Inc.

www.falainc.com

**SUMMER 2020** 

#### Letter from the President

#### Well Hello, FALA Folks!

Summer is upon us, and with everything going on it is hard to keep track of times and dates, as well as days of the week. I hope you've managed to get shearing done, fans out, and water running.

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So as you have seen, and will again see in this newsletter, we are planning the July Meeting to be a full-day event. We will be practicing social distancing, so if you plan on attending get your registration in early since seats are limited.

It has been so good to have these wonderful camelids in our lives to be the calm in the storm, the purpose to get up in the morning and go outside, to make us smile and feel gratitude.

Stay safe, be kind, and we will see you all soon

Mary Rose Collins

<sup>\*</sup>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.



# LLAMA & ALPACA EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR

## **WHEN July 18<sup>th</sup> 2020 8am — 5pm**

\*8am-9am check-in

#### WHERE

## The Realtor Association of Citrus County

714 S Scarboro Ave, Lecanto, FL 34461

## ALL EXPERIENCE LEVELS WELCOME

- ❖ Camelid Veterinarian
- Fiber Experts
- Farm Discussion
- Round Table
- Animal Demonstrations

#### REGISTRATION

\$25 Non-members \*2020 FALA complimentary membership included \$ No Cost for Members

#### LUNCH

\$5.00- additional cost

Questions? Davidandie@msn.com 772-579-5993

First come first serve – Event is limited to 50 attendees to account for Social Distancing

Member: Non-Member (\$25): Number of Attendees: Lunch (\$5): Name: Address:	Checks are payable to FALA and can be sent to: Andie Frederick 3715 Lanier Rd
City, State Zip:	Zephyrhills, Fl 33541
Email:	
Which topics would you like our guest veterinarian to di	scuss during this seminar?
Skin conditions Parasite control Heat Stress	_Teeth Health
Other	



**July 18th 2020** 

#### Fiber:

Nicole Taylor and Brenda Crum: Demo shearing, skirting, and techniques preparing fiber for usage.

Charlene Braun and Claire-Marie Warner: Demonstrating process of dye fiber throughout the day.

#### **Camelid Veterinarian:**

Dr. Jessica Paris: Topic to be determined by participant survey

#### **Animal Demonstrations:**

Mary Rose Collins: Demonstrate handling techniques.

#### **Alpaca and Llama Pool Party**

Our alpacas and llamas love to stand or Cush in their pools.

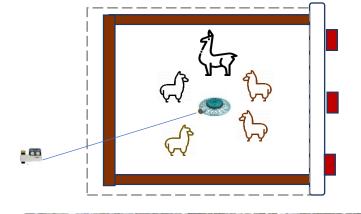
It is important to remember to adjust the sprinkler so that the water only hits their bellies and legs. It is a nice relief from our hot summer days. We set the sprinkler timer to run for 1-2 hours a day. It also helps circulate and refresh the water in the pool. We usually drain the pool once a week by simply moving the bricks and PVC pipe. You can run the sprinkler with the PVC pipe removed to wash off the tarp. You will find your animals will join you in this chore because they love to drink and play in the water!

#### **Easy Setup**

- 1. Level the ground where the pool will be
- 2. Lay out timbers to form 3 sides and add screws to corners
- 3. Lay tarp over the timbers and fold underneath them
- 4. Place PVC pipe at open end of the frame and wrap tarp over it (The PVC is used to drain the pool when needed
- 5. Add the bricks next to the PVC pipe
- 6. Attached the sprinkler to hose (not included in cost)
- 7. Add the timer to your faucet and hose and turn it on.

NOTE: You can make the pool larger by adding more timbers to the frame and increasing size of tarp.

I highly recommend buying a very heavy-duty tarp, especially if you have llamas.



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3 - 8 ft landscape timbers	\$12.00
1 - 3inch 10 ft PVC Pipe	\$5.00
1 - 10 x 12 heavy duty tarp	\$30.00
3 landscape bricks	\$1.50
1 - Orbit water timer	\$32.00
1 sprinkler	\$11.00
Cool Happy Alpacas / Llamas	Priceless
Total	\$91.50

8 X 8 Alpaca / Llama Wadding Pool





#### **Accoyo Acres Alpacas**



In 2012 I began the wonderful adventure of having an alpaca farm. I purchased three adult females and two male cria. I asked thousands of questions (I had a legal pad and wrote everything down). After several visits to the sellers' farm to become familiar with the animals and do herd health with them, my little herd was delivered to Macclenny, Florida. I had a double carport and a pasture. It was a huge learning curve even with all the questions answered.

It didn't take long to add several more alpacas, additional fencing and carport shelters. I also had ultrasounds on the girls, who were to have been bred before I took pos-

session of them, and only one was pregnant. She gave birth to our first cria, a true black girl.

As the herd grew, we made improvements and became a popular farm for visitors and a frequently visited Facebook page for locals and out-of-towners as



well. Our agritourism business was super busy, along with Craft Festivals during the fall and winter. We attended community events and our farm visits were free of charge. I think we made more money from donations and the farm store than we would have by charging admission. I felt like it was important to give back to the community and we hosted many groups and parties. The alpacas have been to wedding receptions, family reunions,









as well as engagement, and maternity photo shoots.

Crias were born; I lost a couple of adult animals. There were sales and purchases and a lot of love and fun. I attended as

many training classes as I could, including First Aid with Dr. Robert Anderson, Parasitology with Dr. Ruthanne McCaslin, CameliDynamics with Marty McGee, Neonatal Clinic with Dr. Cheryl DeWitt, and the OSU Breeders Conference. I attended a couple of them twice!

This year as summer approached, I realized the summer heat was more than I could handle. The animals were not living their best life and I was concerned that I would become unable to care for them properly. A plan came together quickly and the alpacas are now happily munching on Orchard Grass right from their own farm in Tennessee. It has broken my heart but their best interest comes first.

What now? I'm starting another business to go out and provide farms with what I needed and didn't have... a way to take a break! Al-Paca My Bags Farm Sitting LLC will be up and running in September. I will use the things I have learned to help others while still being with animals; which is what I love to do!





#### 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 upsidedown 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 upsidedown. 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!

Doug and Claire-Marie Warner



## **CAMELID CLASSIFIEDS**

FOR SALE: 14 ft Livestock Trailer. 2007 Beetle Rubber mats, middle divider, electric brakes, new spare. Tires very good. Needs some cosmetic sprucing up. Weight 2450 lbs. Asking \$3000.00 Contact Claudia for more pics and info. llamachick@yahoo.com



## **CAMELID CLASSIFIEDS**

#### **Mountain Loom:**

12" Maple Table Loom w/stand- Retail price \$495---asking \$250.

#### Includes:

4 harness, 200 heddles, reed, lease stick- 19"w x 27" depth, about 20 lbs

The 12" looms are popular with weavers who need a sampler loom to sit beside the big floor loom, or for travelers who are very tight on space or can be used to demonstrate in a classroom or workshop.

I bought it from *Annabelle's Handmade* at the Black Sheep Gathering in Oregon in 2015. I have made some placemats, a scarf, as well as some other table/dresser mats. I have enjoyed learning to weave on the Mountain loom. It is easy to fold the table

and travel with the loom, great for the RV!

Check out the Mountain Loom Co. website for more information about the loom.

~Tracy Weaver







#### **2020 Calendar of Events**

July 18, 2020 — FALA Llama & Alpaca Educational Seminar — 8am—5pm
The Realtor Association of Citrus County
714 S. Scarboro Ave., Lecanto, FL 34461
See flyer on page 2 for more details.

#### New Vet in our area!

**Dr. Veronica Buhler, DVM**Countryside Animal Clinic

3628 N Lecanto Highway. Beverly Hills, FL 34465

Phone: 352-746-7171

