



**Florida Alpaca & Llama Association Inc.**

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

JUNE 2016

## Letter from Our President

It's hot, hot, hot! As the summer officially started last week, the days of heat and humidity are upon us. If you have not sheared your animals by now, please do so as soon as possible; if you do not have the means to do it, call and ask for help. An average classic llama of 350 pounds is wearing enough wool for ten sweaters. That is too hot, hot, hot! If you utilize a unique way to beat the heat and keep your animals feeling breezy, please let us know. It benefits each of us when ideas are shared; but moreover, it benefits our critters.

Thank you to all who helped and/or participated in the recent Fiber Day at Cagan's Crossing Library, in Clermont. It was a huge success with 56 people attending and trying their hands at the different hobbies that were exhibited. Tracy Weaver was the chairman of the Fiber Day committee and deserves our appreciation for getting the word out on what to do with our fiber animals' product.

Have a great summer and Happy Independence Day to everyone!

Claire-Marie Warner, FALA President

Cute cria born on April 1 at Eydie Robshaw's farm.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Florida State Fair Youth Workshops

We are having our workshops for the youth for learning about walking and shorn fleece and finished products on June 28th, July 13th, and August 27th at Stewart Middle School, 38505 Tenth Ave, Zephyrhills from 1pm -3:30pm.

All exhibitors are welcome, as these classes will be included in not only Youth, but Open for the Florida State Fair in February 2017.

Any volunteers that would like to come from 2-3:30 to show various areas of finished products (spinning, weaving, felting, and crochet or knitting) are definitely welcome.

Please contact Tracy Weaver for more information: [lotsallamas@earthlink.net](mailto:lotsallamas@earthlink.net) or 727-457-3578

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FALA is in the process of planning our next camelid health seminar at the University of Florida for next year. Our organizers are asking for help for selecting topics and speakers. If there are particular topics that you would like addressed, or if you have heard a topic and/or speaker that you think would benefit or draw participants, please email them to Bruce Volling at [vollingvalley@aol.com](mailto:vollingvalley@aol.com). Once several topics are received, we plan to present them to the members to vote for the ones they would like to hear. We will then try to secure speakers for the top topics.



# Annual FALA Fiber Fun Day





# Annual FALA Fiber Fun Day





# Farmland Preservation Festival



Bruce and Kathi Volling took Puddin' and Summer's Spots to the Festival located on 441 just North of McIntosh in May. This Festival hi-lights what people are doing on their farms/ranches in the area. It is a wonderful experience for all who attend and contribute. Good PR for your business (animal, craft, plants, etc.) There were mini-cows, horses, ponies, llamas, goats, hay rides, plants, beautiful homespun crafts, children's activities, live music, homemade ice cream and great food. We had lots of opportunities to let people see llamas up close and learn they do not always spit.

*A visitor, Marsha Strange, with Puddin' and Bruce with Summer's Spots*

*Magic keeping cool  
Turtle Run Llama Farm*





# RESCUE RUMINATIONS

The day arrived that the Palm City llamas that were surrendered to SELR were actually going to be picked up. The owner had contacted SELR several times and finally realized she could no longer care for the animals. Big thank you to all who helped.

The caretaker had penned the llamas in a small area prior to our arrival, much to our relief. These 15 llamas had been running on 30 acres, males and females together. We ushered them into a smaller catch pen a handful at a time. I had been contacted at the last hour by two nearby farms who wanted to adopt some llamas. Thank goodness as we probably could not have haltered and got them on the trailers without their manpower!

As each llama was haltered, Eydie Robshaw injected them with their CDT vaccine and Ivermectin dosage. Four females went to the nearby farms. Two geldings went to a farm near Orlando on the way home. Two females and their crias came to my farm, along with five intact males. There were only supposed to be three intact, but surprise! Thank you to Mary Rose who took her trailer on the 8-hour round trip to help get the animals to my house. Now I had nine extra mouths to feed, five males to geld and homes to find!

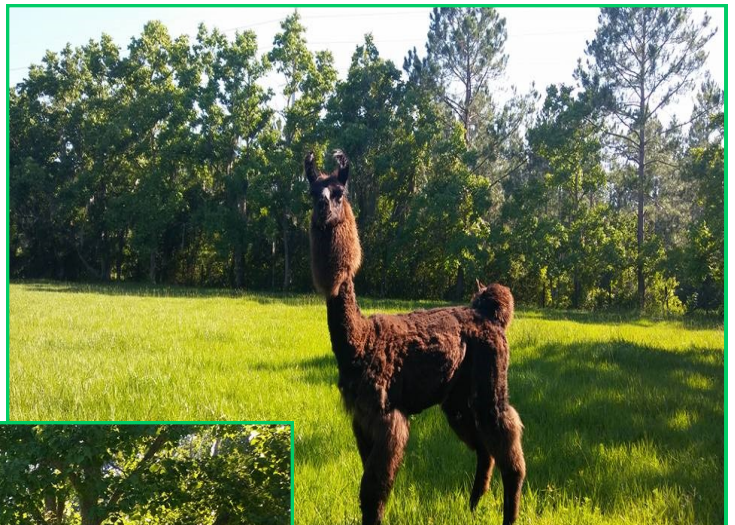
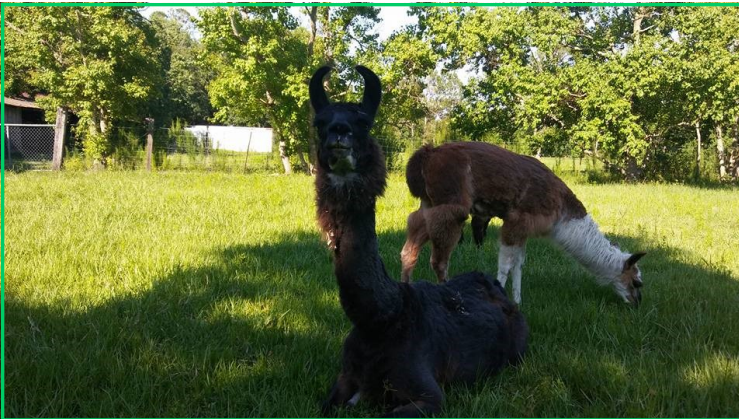
Within a week I had a call that one of the females had given birth and it didn't look good. Despite the foster home and vet attempts, the baby didn't make it. These are all inbred animals and poor cria could not stand to nurse, eventually becoming septic and euthanized.

I want to thank the FALA Board for once again voting to make a generous donation to Southeast Llama Rescue. Besides the vet bills for the cria vet care, here is another example of where these funds go.

It is SELR's policy that all intact males are gelded to prevent further breeding. The vet came out and castrated four males. Only four because the fifth one jumped the fence. Thanks again to Mary Rose and my handy man, I was able to trailer # 5 to the vet for his turn. Keep in mind these animals have not been handled, don't know what a halter is, leading or how to jump on a trailer. And in this heat! I don't think Mary or Bill will answer my calls for awhile.

Within 3 weeks, 13 llamas are in their new homes except for the two youngest males and they are pending. I am always amazed and grateful for the good homes that I am able to place these animals in. For example, the old Mama who is down on her pasterns something terrible is on lush, green grass on 20 divided acres with the other Mom and their two crias. All SELR females go with a no breeding clause so they will not have to endure another pregnancy again.

~Claudia Hammack



# FSF Youth Letters

....My experience at the Fair was really fun. I enjoyed how friendly and helpful everyone was. I won Grand Champion in Halter class. My llama and I worked very hard for this. Again, thank you for your support of llamas at the State Fair.

*Kristy*

....This was my first year at the State Fair and I had so much fun. This was my llama's first show. He is very good at halter and showmanship. We received Reserve Champion for Halter. I was so happy. I had so much fun at the year's State Fair and I look forward to going next year.

*Ashley*

Thank you for sponsoring my 2016 State Fair year. It was greatly appreciated by myself and others. This year I received all blue ribbons for chickens, which I was extremely excited for because I worked so hard for that.

*Braelynn Bolger*

...I was very thankful to participate in the fair. I had a lot of fun. I really loved the games we played, like llama limbo and leaping llamas. I would like to thank you for sponsoring at the Champion of Champions program.

*Desiree Downer*

I am honored to say that I brought home the title of Grand Champion Market Hog....I had such a great time working with him and showing him at the Jackpot shows to prepare for the Florida State Fair. This year's Skillathon topic was a perfect fit as well because Live-stock Judging came into play and the skills from Live-stock Judging are what helped me choose such an amazing hog....Thank you again for your support!

*Michael Austin*

....I had a superb experience....I learned how to make Mini Rex Rabbits look their best through the help of the Champion Youth Program judges and volunteers. I earned one red ribbon for showmanship and a blue ribbon on my recordbook! I would like to thank you again for supporting our Florida State Fair because without individuals like you we wouldn't be able to participate in such great learning experiences....

*Nicole Pracko*

Along with exhibiting my animal at the Florida State Fair, I studied the skillathon topic, competed on the skillathon test, presented an educational talk and demonstration, and put together an interactive educational posted on the benefits and usage of sexed semen in beef cattle. These events make me eligible for the Florida State Fair Champion Youth Program. This program rewards youth exhibitors for educating themselves in the current year's topic and competing with other youth exhibitors for the best scores and presentations. This program would not be possible without sponsors, and youth exhibitors would not have such an amazing opportunity to learn and compete without it....

*Megan Abram*

This is my second year participating in the State Fair with my llama. This year I was even able to win Second Place Overall in the Youth Program for my age group. I was very proud of this accomplishment. This was a very fun and educational experience. I cannot wait for next year.

*Amy Hedgepath*

Thank you for sponsoring the Champion Youth Program. I raised four chickens and showed one at the Fair. My chicken got a blue ribbon while I got a white ribbon for Showmanship. Also, I got a blue ribbon for my record book. Thank you again for sponsoring because without your help I could not have shown my chicken...

*Ryan Craig*



# CAMELID CLASSIFIEDS

Male Holland Lop Rabbit free to good home.  
1 yr. old.  
Comes with cage, dishes and some  
supplies.

