



Llama News

Spring 2003 Edition

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The SLA Membership

Message from the President

I was going to start this with a cheery message about spring finally being here. Except its currently blizzarding at my house, and apparently elsewhere in the province. Soon it will be spring.

It's been awhile since the last newsletter so there hasn't been an opportunity to thank everyone for pitching in at Agribition. What an incredible team effort! Everyone was willing to help out whenever we needed extra hands. And it looks like we actually made a small profit. The media coverage was great and we're already starting to organize for next year.

I hope everyone got a chance to see the video on TV last weekend. Several SLA and 4H members participated in putting it together and had a great time doing it. The Archerwill crew brought enough food for an army so that rounded out the day. From all reports it's been a hit and is certainly raising people's awareness about llamas.

We have our first event coming up in a few weeks. "How to catch you llamas and get them into the barn" at Sue Ailsby's We're also going to have a trial run at team penning on that day. See you there, bring a friend.

Dawn Fleming

**One of
the
many
joys of
Spring!**



Notice

If you find mistakes in this publication, please consider that they are there for a purpose. We publish something for everyone, and some people are always looking for mistakes..... ☺

Llama News Mailings

Ads & Articles in by	Mailed by
Jan 1 st	Jan 15 th
Apr 1 st	Apr 15 th
July 1 st	July 15 th
Oct 1 st	Oct 15 th

Secretary/Treasurer Report – submitted by Bonnie Forster

Summary of minutes for meeting held February 27, 2003 at Archerwill, SK

Agribition 2002 was discussed. All though the 2002 show was a success except for the barn situation, which has to be addressed for 2003. The 2002 Agribition Show Committee was Sue Ailsby (show secretary), Ivy Bakken (barn boss), Dawn Fleming and Trish Schmidt.

The SLA constitution is to be revamped – Bonnie Forster will work on same and present a draft for the next meeting.

There will be no Fibre Sweepstakes in 2003 – instead, SLA will undertake to be part of the Wool Competition at Agribition 2003 – Genny Carpenter is to draw up the necessary criteria.

The SLA Website is up and running. The website herdsire page will be for members only at a cost of \$50/animal/year.

The newsletter will be posted on the website (it will be mailed to those who do not have internet access).

A letter is to be sent to Prairieland Exhibition expressing SLA's desire to have the prize amounts lowered at Country in the City – Dawn Fleming.

Agribition 2003 was discussed. Noella Tremblay is to contact the Judge -- first choice was Kristen Berman. There is an opportunity for SLA to have a booth in the Agri-Ed section of Agribition 2003 (hands-on educational, designed for children). More information on this booth is to be obtained.

The CLASS Show Committee has made 32 changes to the existing show rules which will be available sometime in the near future for breeders to look at.

There is to be a herding clinic on April 26, 2003 at Sue Ailsby's farm (open to SLA members, 4-H members and immediate family – no registration costs).

There is to be a driving clinic/spinning clinic at the sports grounds in Archerwill. Date and time to be

announced. Estimated cost is \$75.00 – entrants should supply own animals – harness and carts will be supplied.

As 2005 marks Saskatchewan Bi-Centennial year, Mar Craig presented the "Twelve Days of Christmas" project. Each day would be represented by the appropriate number of llamas, all in costume (total of 78 llamas). This production would then partake in parades and celebrations during the month of December, 2005. More information is to be provided at next meeting.

A start to finish clinic for 2004 has been suggested. This entails a competition where a llama is brought in, sheared, the fibre carded, spun and then a finished product made. More information to come.

North Haven 4-H Llama Club was invited to host a sanctioned show on Canada Day week-end (2003) in Archerwill. More info to be provided at next meeting. Next meeting is to be held at Sue Ailsby's on April 27, 2003.

Financial status as at April 12, 2003

Money on hand -- \$3,154.75.

Total income for Agribition was \$1,745.00 (450.00 from sponsorship, 990.00 from entry fees, 145.00 from raffle tickets, 60.00 from t-shirt sales and 100.00 from Agribition for judge).

Expenses totaled \$1,970.74 (750.00 for prizes, 400.00 for judge's fees, 250.86 for 3 night accommodation for judge, 100.00 for judge's meal allowance, 444.88 for judge's airfare and 25.00 for scarf [raffle prize]) There was a shortfall of \$225.74.

We have received 14 single voting memberships and 3 double voting memberships for a total of \$640.00 to date for 2003.

4-H Llama News

Coronach 4-H - Llama Project – Submitted by Edith Scholz, Project Leader

I have 5 enthusiastic members in my project this year. They have learned a lot about llamas and about showmanship. They have taught their llamas

to perform several obstacles as well. We try to meet at least twice a month.

Members have been involved in Fund Raisers and other Multiple Club Activities. At our project meetings they have done such things as braiding lead ropes, dying fibre, making felt, baking llama treats, and a bit of needle felting.

Two of my members participated in Agribition. I'm hoping that all of my members will be able to attend at least one more show this 4-H year.

Our Achievement Day is tentatively planned for June 1.

Prairie Criations 4-H Llama Club – Submitted by Trish Schmidt, General Leader

Some of our activities that are planned this year:

- Fund raising events.
- Hiking camp weekend at one member's cottage.
- Prairieland Junior Ag Showcase in July.
- Achievement Day in August.
- Agribition

Members meet weekly to work with their llamas and work on their project books and projects.

Our youngest member, Janel Harle participated in the 4-H District 14 Public Speaking "Speak-off" competition and came in as runner-up in the junior age group.

Janel also entered the Prairieland Youth Leadership Scholarship Program, which is offering \$7500 in Scholarships. We are hoping she is one of the 50 applicants selected to participate at the Program finale at this year's Prairieland Junior Ag Showcase.

North Haven 4-H Llama Club – Submitted by Karla Folstad

North Haven 4-H Llama Club will be taking applications for llamas for our 2003 show string. Wayward Wind, Nut Mountain Llamas, Sylviaborg Llamas and K 3 Farms have currently a very limited supply of young animals to use so.....

We are looking for weanlings and yearling females, also will take young males up to one year of age.

Hauling males over one year is difficult because of the testosterone factor and the limited space that we have, also pasturing males that are developing nicely in that second year is difficult. (I personally do not like having a pen of fighting two year olds).

We will do our best to match the animals to the children. Animals can come to Bakken Farms as early as May 01, 2003, we prefer to have the 4-H animals in place by the long weekend in May, May 19, 2003.

Last year to be able to house the 4-H llamas I had to rent pasture for my own broodmares. I do support the 4-H and will pick up this cost to make sure the program operates. While your animals are here they are fed (the same as my young animals) a specially prepared ration to enable them to grow strong and straight and to keep their body condition and lustrous coat. We take the best care possible of all the llamas entrusted to us. Currently we are buying feed for our animals and expect to be buying feed/pasture into the summer/fall of 2003. We have reduced our herd from 29 to 14 llamas because of the feed shortage.

All vaccinations and deworming should be done previous to the animal coming to Wayward Wind Llamas, if this is not possible we will vaccinate and deworm when we shear your animals. Vaccinations are very important, especially blackleg, there have been reported cases within 100 miles of our place, so while we have never had a case closer to our knowledge it pays to take precautions. We will also treat any skin conditions and abrasions/wounds that the shearing uncovers, if vet services are required we will contact the breeding farm. Shearing will be at no cost to the Breeding Farm and the fleece will be prepared to be entered in the shows that we attend. (Currently blades cost \$47.00 per blade, and a blade will shear anywhere from 2 to maximum of 6 llamas.)

The breeding farms that supply us with young stock to show will be responsible for covering the penning costs and some class entry costs (halter and fleece). The Breeding farms will receive the ribbons. Cash prizes from both the halter and fleece classes will go to the 4-H Club to help cover the cost of showing. Obstacle and Showmanship costs are born by the 4-H club and the winning are the property of the child showing and the 4-H club.

Hauling will be covered by Bakken Farms and K-3 Farms as currently provided free of charge to the breeding farms.

We can still use 2 or 3 llamas from other breeding farms in our show string, if you are interested please apply now, otherwise we will use some of our open broodmares to fill this opening.

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Upcoming Events

Melfort Show

Once again the SLA will be hosting a show in Melfort in conjunction with the Melfort Exhibition. The events will run from Thursday evening July 17 to Sat July 19. There will be a dog llama relay on Thursday evening. Friday afternoon we will start at 2pm with Showmanship followed by Driving and then Obstacle and Pack and possibly fleece. On Saturday the fleeces will be judged in the morning followed by Halter, Costume and a second Performance class. The judge has indicated that if there are a large number of fleeces he might spread it over the two days. Judge is John Bednarik from Okotoks, AB.

No move in and out. If you only want to come for one day that's okay. However, this is an opportunity to get two qualifying scores in Performance, which, for many of us, would mean a title.

Prize list will be available as soon as we get an official sanction number.

Herding Clinic

April 26th at Sue Ailsby's farm. Clinic starts at 11:00am

SLA Meeting

April 27th at Sue Ailsby's farm. Meeting starts at 11:00am

New CLASS Rules

The new CLASS rules are available on the CLAA website. It would take too much space to cover all the rule changes and many of them are just a cleanup of typos from last year but I thought I would highlight some of the changes that affect us as exhibitors.

Fleece Class

Now divided into three classes.

First shearing - must be sheared at less than 15 months.

Second shearing – no more than 15 months between first and second shearing.

Successive shearings - no more than 15 months from previous shearing.

Weight is now a criterion.

Performance Classes

Obstacle Level 1

Only change is that the jumps have to be solid not bar jumps.

Obstacle Level 2

New exercise - Designated Pattern This replaces the figure eight. In this exercise the judge will have drawn a pattern on the posted course and the handler has to memorize it and follow it on course. It can include turns, figure eights, and speed changes.

Ball Pit now becomes a loose fill pit, pit will be filled with other loose articles besides balls.

Jumps must be bar jumps with a bar that can be easily dislodged if the llama knocks it.

New exercise - 5 Second Stand on Platform

The llama is led onto the platform and must remain there for a count of 5.

Obstacle Level 3

No foot pick up in the catch pen.

New exercise - Crumpled tarp

Similar to the surface change in Level one but the tarp is crumpled.

Pack Level One

Hallelujah! No more putting the pack on in the catch pen so that the class takes 7 hours. Everybody enters with a pack on and ties their llama up in the catch pen. The judge examines the tack, you put your weights in, do the foot pick up and away you go.

New exercise- Move Through Narrow Space

The handler has to walk ahead of the llama and lead the llama through a narrow space (probably barrels) The object of the exercise is for the packs not to touch the barrels.

New exercise- Tie Out

This has two parts. The first part is that the llama is tied on course while a second llama goes through the rest of the course. The llama is supposed to stand quietly. The second part is that when you're on course with your llama he's not supposed to be distracted by the tied up llama.

No more side pass bar in Pack.

Since some of us may get to Level 2 Pack this year, I'll quickly review the new Level 2 Pack exercises.

The first three exercises are done in a group of three to five llamas.

Group pack dress - llamas are brought into the ring and tacked up in a group.

Walk in Line - Llamas and handlers walk in line, do turns etc in a group.

Foot pick up -You hold the leash and do a foot pick up. Llama is not tied to anything.

Individual Exercises

Water hazard – same as Level 3 obstacle.

Walking the plank - Llama walks over a narrow plank that is slightly raised off the floor.

Deadfall II- more than in Level one.

Bent tunnel – same as in obstacle one only you lose points if the pack brushes the walls of the tunnel.

Turn corner backing up- same as in Level 3 obstacle.

Negotiate Narrow space with turn- same as in level one but with a 90-degree turn.

Ladder - Llama will have to climb ladder to get on platform - just kidding!. There will be ladder on the ground or slightly off the ground and he has to walk through it.

Herd Sire Advertising Information Letter - Submitted by Ivy Bakken

Dear Fellow Llama Producers:

We are once again starting a new year, a time to re-organize and look forward to a bright future in the Llama industry. The industry has taken a slump in the past few years and we, as the Saskatchewan Llama Association would like to help you promote and market your animals.

The Saskatchewan Llama Association is working towards a revitalization of the industry, using the shows that we currently have in Saskatchewan (country in the City, Saskatoon, Melfort Exhibition, and Agribition in Regina). The SLA is also looking at entering the products/garments made division of the shows with items that have been handmade from llama fiber.

The Saskatchewan Llama Association has currently a website <http://www.llamaproducers.com>. The website committee is trying to set up a herdsire directory of herdsires owned and / or leased by members of the Saskatchewan Llama Association. We are accessing our 4-H youth as Junior webmasters under the guidance of Karla Folstad, senior webmaster of www.familyfarmers.com to design and make the herdsire site and set up the **Saskatchewan Llama Herdsire Book 2003** for print.

At this time we would like to invite you to join the Saskatchewan Llama Association and to advertise your herdsire on our website and in our Herdsire Book. Membership in the SLA is currently \$35.00 for a single vote and \$50.00 for a double vote/or family membership. To qualify to list your stud as a Saskatchewan herdsire (complete with pictures and text) and to be listed in the Saskatchewan Llama

Herdshire Directory you must be a SLA member.
(cost \$35.00)

Each Herdshire going into the Herdshire Book will cost \$50.00. You would need two body pictures and a headshot of each herdshire, and will be allowed 50 words of text plus your farm name and contact info. This is a promotion for Saskatchewan Llama Association members only. Your SLA membership (\$35.00) and your web herdshire listing payment (\$50.00) will get your herdshire listed on the internet (on a site that is averaging 3100 hits per day) and get you one print copy per herdshire listed, other copies will be available at cost (approximately \$5.00 per copy). This is being done for the Sask. Llama Producers at cost, there is no profit made by either the Llama Association &/or the 4-H Club.

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2003 Membership - April 15, 2003

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