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DECEMBER 2008

Interview with  
John & Marcia  
Ollendick

LFA or Bust!!

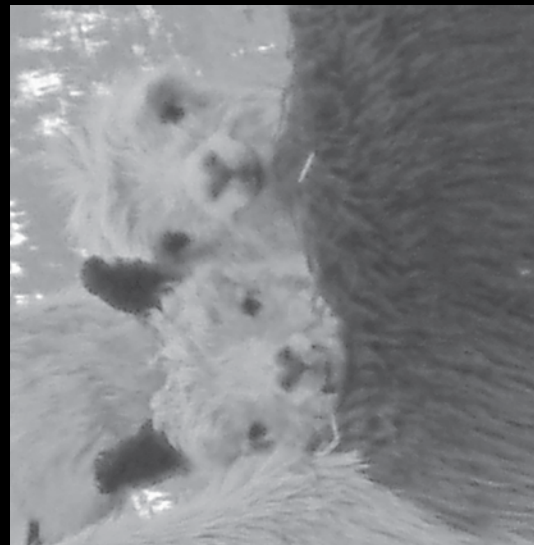
The Lure of  
Llamas Online

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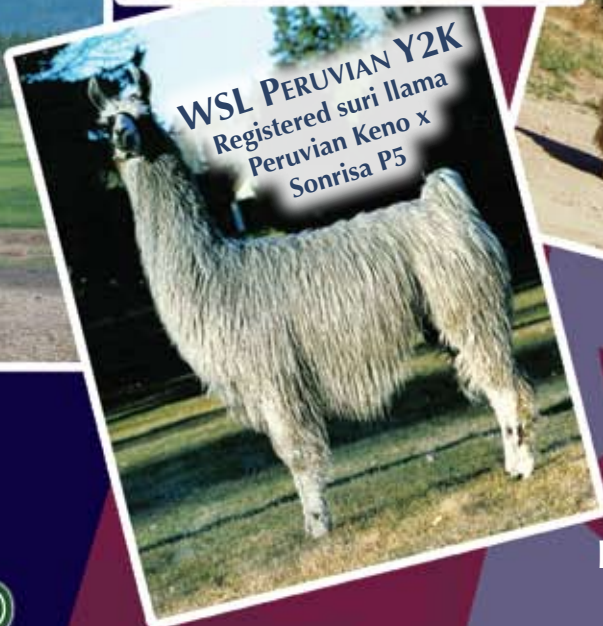
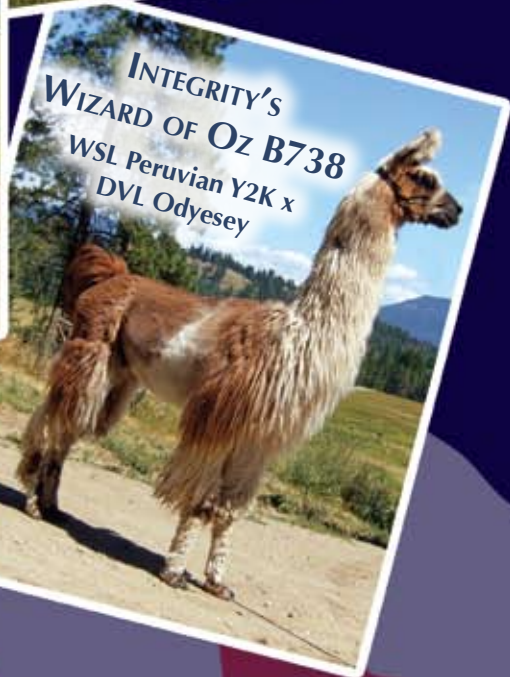
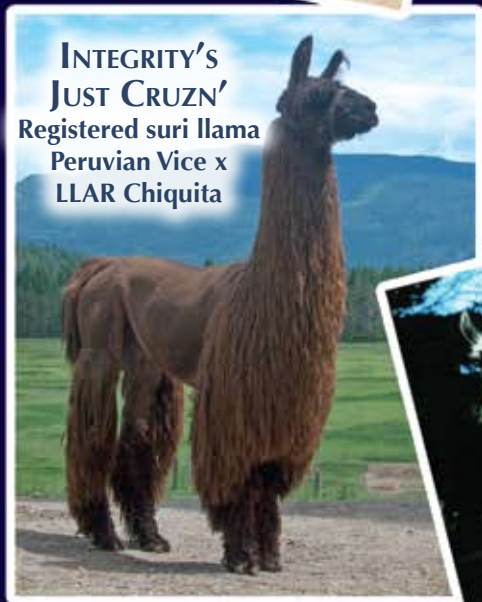
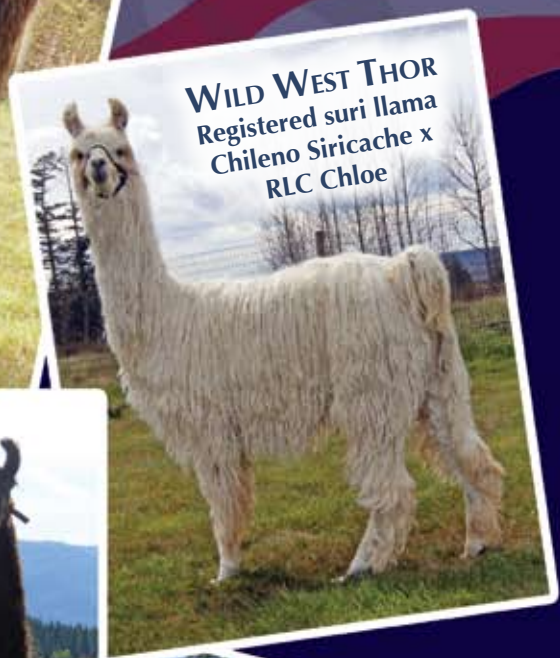
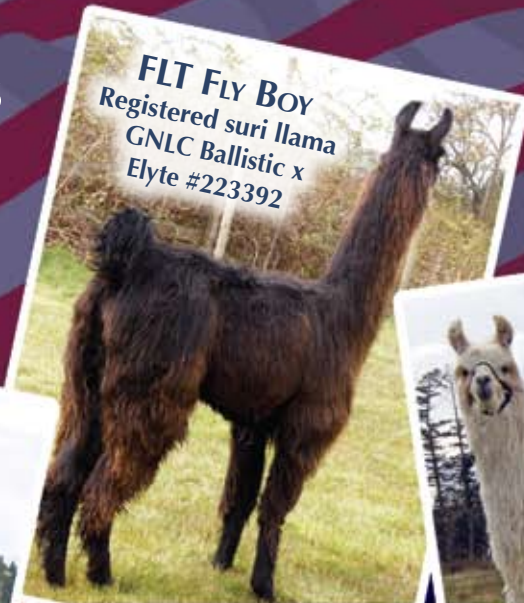
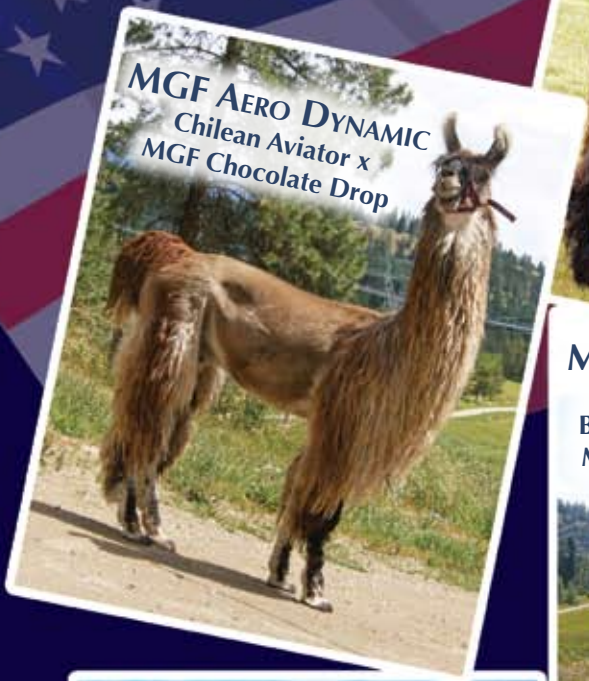
*We are looking forward to an even greater 2009!*

*Season's Greetings!*



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9 The LFA board is to be commended, once again, for organizing an event for the llama community to participate in.

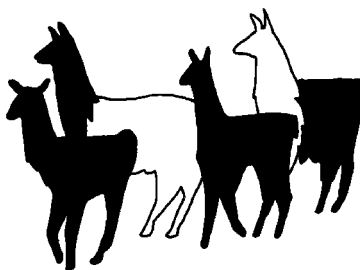
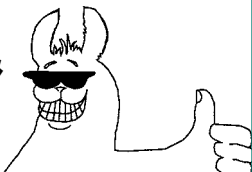
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17 From a self proclaimed llama addict, the Internet has satisfied my desires to continuously search for and purchase llamas online. Being able to peruse through herds across the country undetected, for the latest desirable addition to my breeding program has become increasingly accessible and a viable way to purchase llamas.

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*Interview with*

## John & Marcia Ollendick

by Sue Wilde

**Hi, where is Ollendick Farms located?**

We are located in Central WI, Just outside of Tomah WI.

**How long have you been in the llama industry and what is the size of your herd?**

We have been raising llamas for about 13 years, our herd is in the 70 plus range at this time.

**You got into the llamas “by an accident,” tell us about your start into the industry.**

Actually we started our retail store in our barn after John had been in a horse riding accident, where he was hospitalized for some time and came home in a wheelchair and we weren't sure he'd walk again. We needed to have a home based business on the farm to help raise our 4 children. So, we turned our barn into a craft/retail store and then soon decided we needed to once again raise some animals and have a place where families could come and enjoy our farm, as well as our store. We live

in a wonderful community, and with the support of family, friends and neighbors we pulled through some difficult times and John beat all odds and was able to walk again and return to work as a contractor, prior to that we were dairy farmers for 17 years. After purchasing our first couple of llamas we were hooked, especially Kelly Jo. She has always loved llamas and she spent many years showing in the Youth Performance and Showmanship.

But, 15 years ago when the ambulance drove off our farm with John and shortly after I arrived at the hospital where John was receiving his last rights from our priest we did not know what would happen to our family. God has blessed us with 4 healthy children, 2 great son-in-laws and a wonderful daughter-in-law, and 6 wonderful grandchildren, our farm, the llamas and our wonderful friends we have met in the llama industry. We have learned never to take life for granted and to enjoy every day of our lives.



**Your family has always been active in the llamas, what part does each person play in the business?**

Kelly Jo of course has always been our show person and now shares that role with her dad. She set up our farm records, helps with shearing, shots, worming, setting up clinics for our annual llama fun day. She helps with bus tours, sets up the obstacle course and just about anything that needs to be done. Kelly's husband Todd helps with farm work and chores whenever we ask. Our oldest daughter Carrie helps with the fiber, sorting, cleaning, washing and spinning. Our Son John is always around with his family to help with the crops especially during hay season. He has updated all of our electrical on the farm. He also helps with the fencing and John and his wife Kelly are always willing to help out with chores while we are away at llama shows. Our daughter Mandy has been a great help with the marketing, she sets up our bus tours and helps to promote and market our wool products in the store. She also does our website, flyers, and business cards. Mandy's husband Craig also helps us when we are haying and does chores for us when we are gone. The

*Continued on page 6...*

