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# *Wild Oak Llamas*

Grass Valley, CA

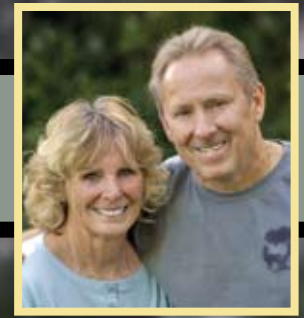


**“Heylee”**

**2008 LFA World Futurity Champion**

***www.wildoakllamas.com***

# Wild Oak Llamas



Mary & Rick Adams

Grass Valley, CA



*Heylee*

2008 LFA

World Futurity Champion



*Tapa The Summit*

FFF Tapa De Seda X

Chilean Ellie Mae

Suri Herdsire



*The Heat is On*

Kastizo X Titikaka

Yearling and Future Herdsire

Rick spent 15 years in electronics in Silicon Valley. In 1985 we moved out of Silicon Valley into the small town of Benicia and started our own business in the swimming pool service industry. Rick worked the business full time and Mary helped while working full time for Pacific Telephone. After about five years and after 23 years with Pac Bell she quit and went to work full time with Rick in running the family business. The business grew from a small family affair to 18 employees and having trained people running the show so we have more freedom to enjoy life outside of work.

We have three grown sons. Our youngest is married and gave us our first grandson in January of 2005, and a second one in February of 2008. What a wonderful time of life!

In the winter of 1999 we found an awesome 5-acre property in the beautiful rolling foothills of Northern California in an area just out of the town of Vacaville. We had always wished that we had had parents with property and animals so our boys could visit their grandparents on the "ranch or farm". Since that was not the case, we are making it happen for our grandkids. But what kind of animals? Then while visiting family in Oregon we were introduced to the most magical creatures. Llamas. They had sheep and had gotten a couple of llamas to use as guards. Later during that same visit, we were sitting in the old Hotel in downtown Jacksonville, Oregon and what to our surprise we saw a man walking a llama right down the main street with a large red white and blue top hat and a stars and strips blanket across its back. Kids were running up to see the llama and he just stood like a rock and let them touch him. He was magnificent! Right then and there we knew we wanted LLAMAS!!

When we returned home after that visit, we looked in the papers, no llamas for sale. Then we went into the yellow pages and found one listing for llamas and guess what, they

were right here in Vacaville! We called and made an appointment with Margaret Ricci of Stonehenge llamas and ended up purchasing our first two girls, Heartburn of Stonehenge a beautiful multi colored medium wool and Tsunami, an awesome traditional short wool in solid black. That was the beginning of our obsession! Four months later Rick got us two more medium wools for Valentines Day. Margaret Ricci then introduced us to the world of Llama Shows by literally signing Mary up for six events showing the last two girls we had just gotten from her. We hadn't even seen a llama show let alone participate in one, but Mary had a blast and off we went.

We have been so fortunate to have people like Margaret Ricci. Margaret has been so instrumental in opening up this magical world to us. She introduced us to Cal-Ila, LANA & ALSA. In fact, from March 2005 to March 2008, Mary was on the Board of Directors for Cal-Ila. Everyone we have met in the llama industry has been wonderful. We have made such great new friends who are also obsessed with these magical creatures.

Between September 2004 and May of 2005, our herd grew from four girls to thirteen girls, three geldings and three males. We even had five girls pregnant. Our first babies were due in the summer of 2005. It was amazing how after attending different shows and seeing so many different types of llamas your "taste" was influenced. Rick and I both feel in love with the large bone heavy wool Argentine Llama. Therefore it was no surprise that our first male purchased to become our herdsire turned out to be  $\frac{3}{4}$  Argentine. Kobra's Lucky Lucianni is his name and he has given us some incredible cria and has earned his ALSA Get of Sire Championship. What a magical time in our lives!

In May of 2005, we went for a Saturday afternoon drive with friends in the Sierra Foothills and ended up purchasing a 12-

acre “ranch”, which was just perfect for our heavy wool llamas. In just three days time, we purchased a place and sold our place in Vacaville, CA. We were extremely fortunate to sell to the first couple that looked and moved within six weeks! Now, we have room to grow our herd and enjoy our wonderful family and friends.

Boy, and grow we have. In just the first three years of living in Grass Valley our herd had grown to 53 llamas. Talk about addictions!! We are truly “llamaholics”. It is hard to remember life before llamas. We are so involved with attending shows, breeding, having clinics and doing anything and everything we possibly can to learn more and promote these incredible creatures.

At first we didn’t understand the importance of showing and earning points towards ALSA Recognition of Merit and Halter Champion but just had a blast showing in the Novice classes (designed for beginners both of the human type and llama) and winning beautiful ribbons. Then one day the light came on and Mary finally took showing seriously and really began making an attempt to “fine-tune” her showing abilities. Wild Oak Llamas has come a long way in just a few short years. We have even had 9 different llamas place in the Top 10 at the ALSA Grand Nationals in that time frame. Learning about “old bloodlines” and setting goals for that “perfect” llama you want to be known for producing. WOW, what an adventure for us to be making together this time in our lives.

In July of 2008 we attended for the first time, one of Kay Sharpnack’s Walk-About Sales. What an experience. Kay and Eric had put their best in the sale and we were able to purchase the high selling female, Heylee. She is an incredible female and as a juvenile was 41 ¼” at her wither and her fiber micron count was 21.0. Her herdsire is Kastizo and her dam Hezanna. She qualified for 2008

Nationals. Her show record was 3 Grands, Celebrity World Futurity 2nd in class 6 Suri females with 31 in the class, and 1st at Western States Futurity. Heylee is SLA Keured and registered. Her full brother, Hidalgo, was the top selling male at the sale and was purchased by Cheryl Russell of Tai Chi Llamas. As this article is being written, Heylee has been to Cedar Rapids, Iowa and competed in the LFA Futurity show. She took first place in a class of 21 suri females between 5 to 15 months of age. What a weekend!!! WOW, it is impossible to describe the excitement and pride we experienced when they announced the placements and our girl was number 1. Keep your eyes on this girl because we have great plans for her in the showring and then into our breeding program. Can it get any better?

We were also able to purchase other remarkable llamas from old bloodlines that will only enhance our breeding program. We have learned to look not only at the wool type and size, but to consider all aspects of pedigree; conformation, disposition, style and presence. We realize that with breeding we are responsible for a living, breathing creature and need to be sure that the cria has the best quality of life we can provide. Thank you Kay and Eric for making available your best!

Life is great! Our only regret is that we didn’t discover Llamas earlier in our lives. Hopefully others will learn from this that the animal world, especially the llama, can only improve the quality of life.

As always, visitors are welcome to come and see what life with llamas is like. We always have room for new friends and fellow “llamaholics”!

Please visit us on our website [www.wildoakllamas.com](http://www.wildoakllamas.com)

*Rick and Mary*



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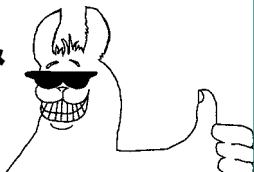


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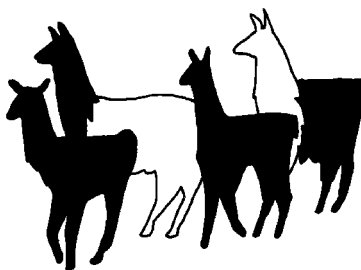
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*Interview with*

## Chris and Venesa Carter CriVen Llamas

by Sue Wilde

**Welcome to Linking Up! Let's get started with your start into llamas. What was your initial introduction to them? What prompted you to buy your first llamas? How do you encourage people to buy their first llamas?**

Hello! We are excited to be interviewed by LamaLink! We started in llamas about 6 years ago. After visiting several farms, we ended up purchasing our first two llamas from the first farm we visited. We bought a gelding and a pet quality female. Of course, when we bought them, we weren't going to ever have more than 4 llamas total. HA!

**Where is CriVen Llamas located? How many llamas are in your herd at present? Are there many llama farms or a local club in your area?**

We are located in Rogersville, Missouri which is just east of Springfield, Missouri and North of Branson, Missouri. We have about 40 llamas in our herd presently. This includes show animals, breeding females, herd sires, extra boys, and favorite pets.



There are several farms in Missouri with llamas. We didn't have to go far to get started with our new adventure.

**You two are very active in the llama community at shows and sales around the country. What aspect of showing do you enjoy most? How many shows would you attend in a year? Do you have a show in your area?**

We love showing! We started showing our original gelding and did very well with him. That was all it took to want more llamas and go to more shows. We do about 10 shows a year on average. Locally we have the Ozark Llama Classic in the spring and in the fall we have two ALSA State Fair shows. We have other shows in the surrounding states throughout the year that we attend. Generally, we don't have to travel more than 6 1/2 hours to any of our shows.

**Do you have a main focus in your breeding program or do you have a variety of types of llamas? When you are at llama sales what type of llamas are you purchasing for you program?**

When we started in llamas, we tended to like a boxier type body

style. With as much as we show, we soon found out that size and stretch are what commands the ring. We have since sold many of our smaller, boxier types and are currently going for more size, stretch, bone and eye appeal. We love many types of llamas and currently have Argentine, Suri, Silky and Traditional llamas in our herd. Our animals have correct conformation, great head and ears, excellent bone and we try for total wool coverage. We love an exotic look to our animals.

**From the llamas featured on your webpage, it shows that you co-own some of your llamas with other breeders. What are the advantages to co-owning? Any disadvantages? What would be some useful tips for ensuring that the venture works well?**

We aren't as formal with our partnerships as some people may be. We co-own both females and males with different people. Our partnerships are based upon trust, friendship and the good ole idea that good people will do the honorable thing. Last fall, after I purchased GHLC Oliver Twist, Rick and Jane Livingston of Renaissance Farms, approached us about selling 1/2 of him.



A smart move because he later went on to win at the 2008 Celebrity. At the 2007 Celebrity, we began a partnership with Triton Llamas on a few female llamas and most recently, we partnered up with Justin Timm on a fabulous female we bought in Oregon at Kay's sale.

The main advantage is that one can have better quality animals, but the out of pocket for each individual person is more affordable. At this point I haven't seen a disadvantage but I can imagine that if a partnership had an unscrupulous person, it could end in disaster.

**You both attended the ILR Lamaribbean Cruise last year. What useful information did you get from the conference that you were able to use on your ranch?**

The cruise was so much fun. We met so many wonderful people in the llama community and became good friends with several of them. The seminars were very informative. There was so much good information, I can't pick just one thing that was the best.

**As you are booked for the '09 cruise, what would be some things you would like to see in the conference schedule that would be of use to breeders?**

This year at the conference, I would like to see a reproduction session. All of us have had to deal with problem females at one time or another. It would be a great help to know what kind of steps can be taken to get these girls pregnant.

**What would be some things that would attract more people to come along?**

In the last couple of years, there seems to be a lot of internal bickering within the llama community.

My suggestion to all llama lovers is just let it all go and come on the cruise for a thoroughly enjoyable time. The cruise is designed to let people have fun, form bonds, learn about llamas and improving the industry. The ship and conference areas are big enough that there is plenty of space and fun for everyone.

*Continued on page 8...*



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**What would be some suggestions you could make for having more successful llama sales in the industry and promoting llama shows to attract more people? You are both in the age group that the industry would love to grow with, any ideas for attracting and people in your demographic?**

Honestly, we believe that until the economy picks up, the llama industry will be at a slow growth. We know people are interested in llamas, but right now with the unsteady economy and high gas prices, people are holding off on extra spending. I believe that after the presidential election and the New Year, we should see some positive changes. Advertising outside of our circle is very important.

The Quarter Horse industry did not get as big as it is by advertising to its current owners. They targeted middle to upper class citizens that didn't realize at the time they wanted a horse, but through positive advertising, ended up buying. We, personally, think ILR should be doing

that very thing. There should be llama ads in all 'Country' style and alternative living magazines.

As for our demographic...I believe it goes back to advertising. Outside advertising needs to be in magazines that people in their 20's, 30's, & 40's read.

When we are at fairs with the llamas, many of the intelligent questions come from younger generation adults. They are intrigued and just need exposure to llamas to get interested in becoming owners.

**As a couple who are both very involved with the llamas, what aspects of the responsibilities of your llama business do you share and which one do you work on individually? What strengths do you both contribute to making Criven Llamas a success? I run the farm on a day to day basis,**



**make the breeding decisions, do all the shearing, and take care of any llama that may be sick. Chris...well, he is the CEO and the muscle behind our farm. He helps me with tasks that are above my capability alone. He loves the llamas and is very active in sales and shows. As with all llama owners, the goal is to have the farm pay for itself one day.**

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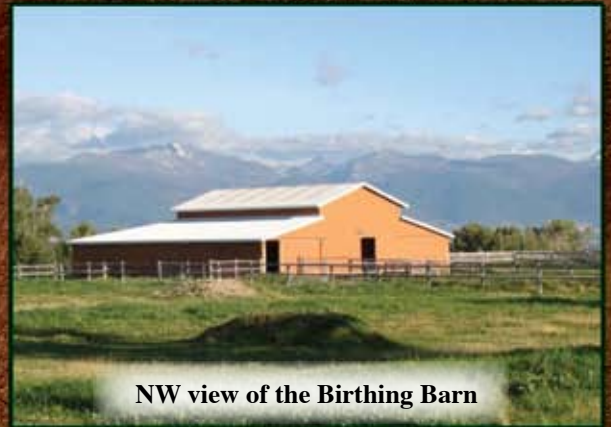


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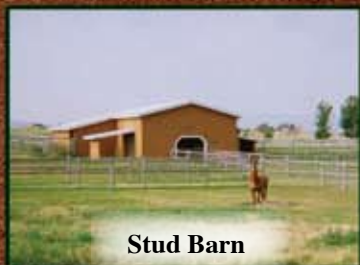


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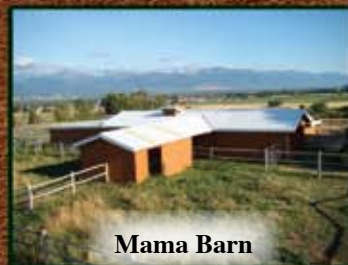
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# Let Me Count The Ways

by Julie Sines



In a day and age where gas and groceries, not to mention hay and grain, are high priced, why would anyone want llamas? Have any of you experienced that question from people who know you lately? I have. It stops and makes you really think about why you do have them and why you put your extra hard-earned cash towards them. When asked the question of why llamas are so important in my life, I say, "Let me count the ways of why I love them....." See if any of these ways ring true in your life too:

**Their Eyes** – I'm not sure there is any species on the earth that has the eyes and eyelashes of a llama. When you gaze into them it is like looking into their inner souls. After a bad day at work I love nothing better than to catch one of my minis and look her right in the eyes. The gentleness and calmness

in them, just soothes all the aches in my soul and makes my world right.

**Their Hums** – Standing among my girls during feeding time and listening to them communicating to each other is a real treat. I think because they are so silent most of the time it makes me really stop and listen to

them and take heart. It's just another way my minis speak to my soul.

**Their Spit** – Nothing can make me laugh harder than my girls or boys fighting with each other. After a bad day at the office it is fun watching my minis fend for themselves and it makes me wish I could behave the same way occasionally to defend myself!

**Their Fiber** – There is nothing like giving a hug to a walking sweater. I especially enjoy this in the dead of winter when it is so cold out. Nothing makes my heart warmer than a huge hug from one of my heavy-wooled minis.



**Their Friendship** – Can anything be more special than a majestic creature coming into our space to say hi? Or how about that llama that you bought and it was standoffish and suddenly one day he decided to trust you? Even if

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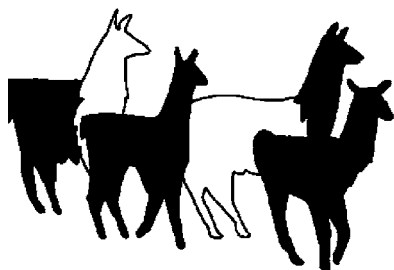


nothing in your life is going right, that one gesture of trust can make your day seem a little bit brighter.

**Their Presence** – Llamas are not arrogant, but have a confidence in life. Whether they are walking in their pasture or into a show ring, they seem to know there is something special about them and they need to be noticed. It is one of my very favorite attributes about my minis. I call it their “star quality”.

I hope my list rings true in your own experience with llamas. Each and every one of us that owns llamas will all have that “something special” we love about them the most. If the poor economy has you feeling down and you start to wonder why you are feeding the hungry mouths out in your pasture, just go out and stand among your llamas. They’ll have you counting the ways you love them!

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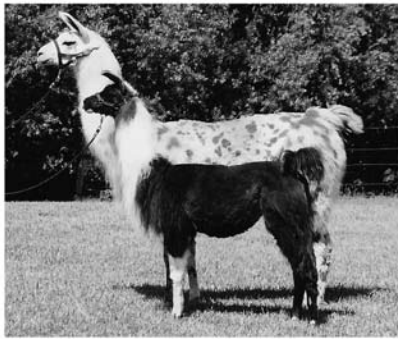
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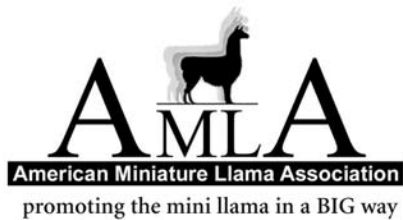
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# One Small Llama One Big Friendship

by Julie Sines & Merle Mann



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Have you ever had one of those moments when you sit back and consider a decision that you made and it changed your life for the better? That happened to me just recently as I was getting ready to celebrate my “one year llama friendship anniversary” with my friend.

Our friendship story starts with the day I decided to put up one of my mini llama females for sale on my website. Over the course of a month I had a lot of interest in Smokey and e-mailed back and forth with several potential buyers. One such buyer was Merle from Luminary Minis of Iowa, who was looking to add another mini female to his growing herd of miniature llamas. After many e-mails and questions, Merle and his wife Tami, ended up buying Smokey from me. Since Smokey was pregnant, we made the decision to have her stay at my farm in Michigan until after the birth of her upcoming cria.

In the months leading up to Smokey’s birth, Merle and I started an e-mail “question & answer” session that lasted

for days. Since I had purchased my first minis a few years ago, I was able to answer many of his questions or at least find out the answers for him. I learned new facts about llamas and so did Merle during that time.

The day finally arrived when I got to e-mail Merle and tell him that Smokey had had her cria. Since all the girls born on my farm are given flower names to go along with my farm name, Blooming Valley Minis, my only request to Merle and his family was that the baby’s name be the name of a flower. They ended up choosing “Zinnia”, which was perfect because that was my deceased Grandmother’s favorite summer flower and it made me think of her.

Since I was taking a small group of my minis to Lamafest in Michigan to compete in the mini llama classes, Merle decided that would make a great vacation trip for he and Tami and to also pick up Smokey and Zinnia at the show. Over the next couple of months I continued to update Merle and



*Zinnia and Julie before Zinnia left to go to her new farm.*

With the sale of one small llama, I gained one big friendship with Merle. That's what llamas do. They bring people of different ages, backgrounds, talents and personalities together. As Merle and I celebrate our "one year llama friendship anniversary", I will forever be grateful to Smokey and Zinnia for bringing my friend and I together.



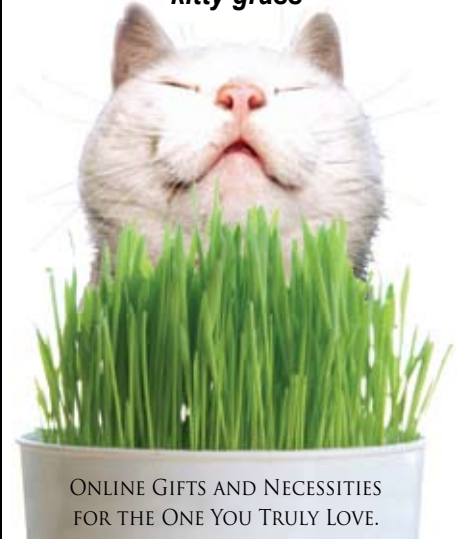
*Merle, his son Troy and Zinnia at their farm one year later.*

his family with new pictures of Zinnia and Smokey while they were anxiously waiting to pick them up.

Finally the day arrived for Merle and Tami to head out on their 10-hour drive, along with their livestock trailer, to come to Michigan to meet Smokey and Zinnia for the first time. While I was busy getting all my decorations and farm display up at Lamafest on Friday night, Merle and Tami walked up and introduced themselves. It was a great moment to finally meet my e-mail friends and to introduce them to my family and Smokey and Zinnia for the first time. Even though I was busy showing my minis and talking llamas with visitors during the weekend, I still got a chance to learn even more about my new friends.

Over the last year, since that fateful day I decided to put Smokey up for sale, Merle and I have become "best llama buds". We e-mail several times during the week just to chat llamas or discuss what our families are doing. Merle and I have also helped each other weather the storm of losing one of our beloved minis almost at the exact same time this past winter and the loss of a spring cria on both of our farms. On a positive note, we celebrate all our successes like the birth of our new crias, new minis we add to our herds and our wins at shows, by e-mail notes and pictures. Through the good and through the bad, we are there for each other.

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## Let's Go to the Mattresses!



by Sue Wilde

My favorite movie is "You've Got Mail". Kathleen Kelly's charming book store is being squeezed out by the big box book store, Fox Books. Her advice as to how to survive was from the Godfather: *"you've got to go to the mattresses!"* **Fight for what want, wage war for it!**

How hard are we fighting for our industry? Where are our arsenals?

We have something worth fighting for! Llamas! We are up against a lot of "big box stores" these days: the alpaca marketing machine, higher gas prices, associations that need dedicated leaders and volunteers and members to support them, reduction in research, lack of support from outside and inside the industry and lessened dedication on an individual farm basis.

The world esteemed leader, Margaret Thatcher states: You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it. I often am in conversations with people about llamas when they tell me about all the ads for alpacas that they have seen on TV. It's always going to be the llama vs alpaca battle but with ingenuity and perhaps some co-operation this is a battle that is worth trying to win again. How? Our ammunition is the wonderful traits of llamas that can outshine an alpaca without maligning the useful cousin. "Family" ties are still important. Those guys are good but we've got.....

Gas prices, gas prices, gas prices!! but we are still on the road and still on the go! Do I run to Wal Mart, which is 30 minutes away, on a whim, no - but I do fill my

truck for llama business! Hey, I can write it off! Where does this gas take me? To my friends, to my business to success! Fill that tank and keep it coming!! Let's be winners at the gas wars!

Leadership is something that we must all be invested in. That's why leadership applies to YOU! Your llamas are counting on you for leadership. Don't let them down! To quote Napoleon Hill, "It is literally true that you can succeed best and quickest by helping others to succeed. Associations are always plagued by internal wars of opinions, personal agendas and elevated feelings. Thomas Huxley has great advice that takes aim at this one: "It's not who is right but what is right that is of importance." A united front puts us first so we don't end up on "the Russian front"!

It's coming...  
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watch for details in upcoming issues of  
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Knowledge is one of our best defense/offence strategies. I am always so grateful and impressed with the dedication of vets and their teams to keep the research on going and published to aid us in the care of our camelids. Two years ago our vet school, through Dr. Greg Adams, did some cutting edge research on ovulation. When we heard they needed retired females that were still ovulating we gathered up a group and sent them off to school to help us learn more. Donate animals, time and money wherever possible to win the war on disease and conditions that can impede out progress as an industry. Health care is key!

Support from any ally is support! Our industry related publications, our registry and its programs are providing ammunition on an ongoing basis to ensure our viability as an industry. Support them back with

positive input, advertising, and constant involvement. Get your local media, live and print on your side! We need all the help we can get in this battle!

The best advice for going to the mattresses on an individual basis is from Erre Harvey. If you are feeling alone and overwhelmed, go for singles rather than homeruns. They're a lot easier to hit. Besides, every four singles equals a run... and the bases are still loaded! That's how to win ball games and how to win at the llama game. Don't think that you are walking the long and winding path alone. There is a great network out there and llama people are team players! Pick a side, the side of the positive, up beat, let's get it done team.

We are going to the mattresses!! We are winners! The llamas are the winning team and lucky for us, we are on it!

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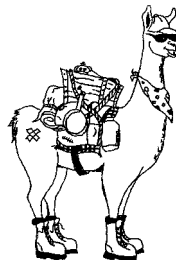
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# Fall Is A Great Fencing Season

Fact sheet produced by the Washington County Soil and Water conservation District (SWCD) and the Small Acreage Steering Committee



## A Strong Fence Equals Peace of Mind

Fencing can be the third highest investment, after buildings and property. Yet it's comforting to know where your animals are and that they will be there when you come back. Fences control animal movement, define property boundaries, and increase property value. However, fences can also create new problems. Consider how a planned fence may harm wildlife, limit equipment access, harbor weeds, and affect adjoining neighbors. Read on to find out about fence types, layout, and safety for you, your animals, and wildlife.

## What Type of Animals are You Keeping In or Out?

The kind of fence you choose will depend on your resources and the animals you are controlling:

- *Certain animals require strong fences.* Coyotes and young cattle require a stronger fence than sheep or goats. Sheep with heavy coats need multiple wires to hold them. Pigs need low wires to keep them from rooting out. Dairy cows need less of a fence. Animal groups with mixed sizes may need a higher or lower height with closer wire spacing.
- *Horses and llamas have special needs.* Horses are fast, physical animals that see small items poorly and need tall, highly visible fencing. A startled horse can run into a single wire and be severely injured. Llamas will not challenge a fence as much, but have large, protruding eyes that can be injured by sharp points. For these reasons, barbed wire should never be used with horses or llamas.

- *Wildlife may be injured or killed by barbed or woven wire.* Smooth wire is safer for wildlife than barbed or woven wire. Space smooth wire at 16, 22, 28, and 40 inches from the ground to allow antelope, deer, and elk to get through with reduced damage to themselves and the fence. The 12-inch gap between the top two wires keeps animals from getting tangled in the wires. Determine whether this wire spacing will hold your livestock.
- *A high number of animals in a small area will need a stronger fence.* Permanent, wooden fences are often used for corrals and barnyards. Temporary electric fences, with two to three wires, are effective in larger areas such as pastures.
- *The stronger the temptation on the other side of the fence, the stronger the fence needs to be.* Strong fences are needed to separate cows from weaning calves, intact males from breeding females, and hungry animals from lush crops.

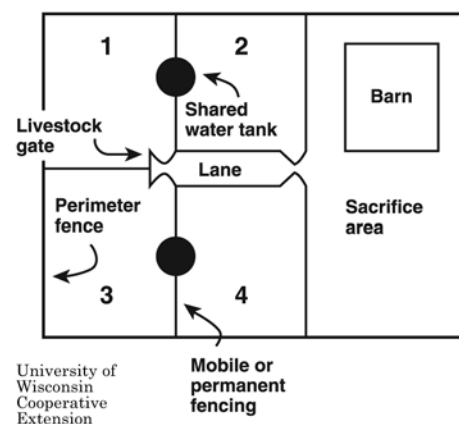
## Fence Laws in Your Community

Fences keep animals off roads and out of crops. On designated "open range," the property owner is responsible for fencing neighboring livestock out. On designated "closed range," the livestock owner is responsible for fencing livestock in and will be liable for loose animals that damage crops, cars, or people. Contact the Oregon Department of Agriculture at (503) 986-4681 to find out the range designation in your area.

When installing a new fence, maintain good neighbor relations by surveying your property lines and installing a legal fence. Some local ordinances may require permits, prohibit fence chargers, and

specify fence types, heights, and setbacks next to roadways, railways, and between neighbors. Contact your local building official for more information.

## Designing Paddock Fencing



Your property is unique and will require a fence layout that fits your resources, animals, and site conditions. Here are some key points:

- Paddock location.** Never locate a paddock over the septic system. The drainfield needs uncompacted soil and vigorous grass to work properly. Locating paddocks on the south, east, or west sides of buildings will dry out paddocks quicker than those located on the north sides.
- Paddock shape.** The more square, the better. Livestock will group near the gate in a long, narrow paddock. The result is uneven grazing. Temporary electric wires can shorten up long fields. However, when space is limited, long paddocks make better exercise areas for horses.
- Paddock position on slopes.** Run paddocks across slope. If paddocks run up and down a hill with water at bottom, animals will tend to



The logo for Treasure State Metal Recycling (TSMR) features the letters 'TSMR' in a stylized, blue, serif font. The 'T' is the largest and most prominent, with a horizontal bar extending to the right. The letters 'S', 'M', and 'R' are smaller and stacked to the right of the 'T'. The background of the logo is a white, torn-paper-like shape against a blue sky with white clouds.

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undergraze the top half and overgraze the bottom. If bottomlands are wet, livestock will tear up the sod. Instead, separate hilltops from valleys and run paddocks across the slope.

- d) **Gate location.** Put the gate in the paddock corner nearest the barn. Here’s what happens when gates are placed in the corner away from the barn: animals see the herd heading down the lane, head for the ungated corner, and mill around.
- e) **Lanes.** Short and narrow lanes will leave more room for growing forage. A 12-foot wide lane will serve a herd of 35 cattle or 350 sheep. An 18- to 24-foot-wide lane serves larger herds. Locate lanes in dry areas and install the lane using a gravel layer over geotextile fabric.
- f) **Stockwater location.** Locate watering sites away from ditches, streams, and ponds. Watering sites often concentrate livestock, manure, and mud. Livestock will graze more evenly and trample less forage if water is provided in each paddock. For an inexpensive and

portable stock tank: cut a 55-gallon plastic barrel in half and outfit it with a water float and garden hose. See the fact sheet “Managing Stockwater in Pastures and Streamside Areas” in this series for more details on providing stockwater.

### Designing Fencing Near Streams

Animals wade in streams for water, shade, and fly relief. However, livestock can contract hoof rot and water-borne diseases, trample wildlife habitat, destabilize streambanks, and cause water pollution. A fence creates a buffer between the land and open water with many benefits. Keep these tips in mind when designing a near stream fence:

- a) **Fence location.** The wider the buffer, the greater the benefits will be for cleaner water, wildlife habitat, and reduced streambank erosion. Place the fence as far from the stream as possible. Fences placed closer than ten feet will bring few benefits and are more likely to be damaged from floods. Cost-share programs will require a generous buffer. See the fact sheet Managing

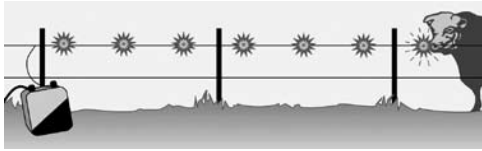
Near Streamside Areas with Buffers in this series, for more information on designing buffers.

- b) **Fence type.** Fencing areas that are frequently flooded can be a challenge. The most economical option is to install a temporary one-strand or permanent high tensile electric fence. Don’t use woven wire fence that is more likely to trap debris, injure wildlife, and be damaged in a flood.
- c) **Fence features.** When you install an electric fence in a frequently flooded area, include line switches. The switches allow you to shut off power to wires until floodwaters recede. Use pinlock insulators to reduce trash collection on wires and damage during floods. The insulators allow you to place wire on top of posts or to drop wire to the ground. Mow grass under electric fences, as needed.
- d) **Riparian pastures.** In some situations, a near stream or riparian pasture may be created to control weeds and produce forage. Work with a grazing

*Continued on page 18...*

professional to successfully carry out this special practice.

### Shocking Facts about Electric Fencing



An electric fence creates a fear barrier rather than a physical one for animals. Electric fences are often used in permanent high-tensile fences along the perimeter and as temporary single or double strand fences to divide pastures. Points to keep in mind about electric fences include:

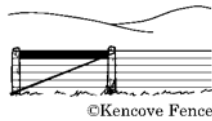
- The main components are posts, wires, and insulators. Accessories include the charger and grounding rods. New Zealand chargers are more efficient with less fire danger than “zapper” chargers.
- The fence creates an electric circuit that runs from the energizer, over the wires, through moist ground and returns to

the grounding rods. In this example, the wet earth is half the circuit. Sandy or dry soils don’t conduct electricity very well. In these areas, a grounded return wire may be needed to close the circuit.

- Anything touching the wire can drain the charge to the ground and decrease the shocking power of the fence. Electric fences need to be inspected periodically to remove grasses and tree limbs that are touching the wires.
- Animals need to be trained to respect electric fences. A single wire inside a small pen will quickly teach animals. Horses monitor fence current and need a fence that is continuously charged.

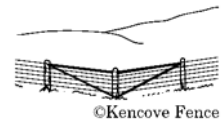
### Fencing - Key Parts

#### End Posts



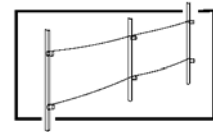
Wire fences can exert up to 4,000 pounds of pressure on posts located at the end of a fence line. End posts need to be braced, made of steel or stout wood, and buried deeply to withstand this kind

#### Brace Posts



The brace post (H-brace) is the anchor that provides the strength to end posts. Brace posts are needed at the ends, corners, and on long runs on all fences, except wood rail and plastic types. A double brace (HH-brace) assembly will take wire pull in both directions.

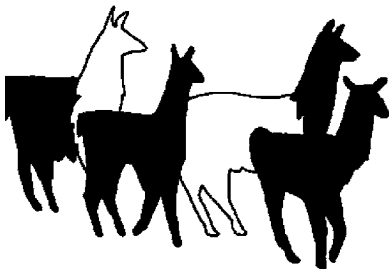
#### Line Posts



Line posts are used to withstand animal pressure and maintain wire spacing. They may be made out of wood, steel, plastic, or fiberglass.

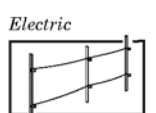
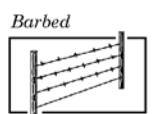
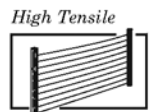
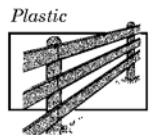
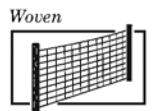
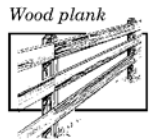
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### Types of Fences

Fence Type	Features	Initial Cost and Maintenance
Wood Plank	High strength, visibility Attractive, often used for horses or cattle near buildings Use offset electric wire to prevent horses chewing on wood	Expensive High upkeep for wood and paint
Woven Wire	High strength, visibility, available in different mesh sizes Add top board or wire for tall animals, add electric wires for sheep and goats with horns Unsafe for wildlife, consider using only in small areas close to buildings	Expensive Moderate upkeep
Plastic	Moderate strength, not for cattle Safe for horses and llamas	Expensive Low upkeep, no painting
High-tensile Electric	High strength, lower visibility Used for wide variety of animals Cost-effective compared to others	Moderate Moderate upkeep to retighten wire and cut back vegetation
Barbed wire	High strength, low visibility Never electrify barbed wire Unsafe for horses, llamas, and wildlife	Moderate Low upkeep to retighten wire
Electric wire	Psychological not physical barrier, animals need to be trained to respect wire Low visibility, electric “tape” may be used to increase visibility Permanent or temporary fence. Ideal for subdividing fields into smaller paddocks for pasture management	Inexpensive Moderate upkeep to retighten wire and cut back vegetation



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## Gates



Gates should be sturdy and at least 16 feet wide for field equipment and lime, hay, or gravel trucks. Provide a people entry gate next to the main one to discourage fence climbing. For horses, consider secure latches that are "horse proof," but are easy to reach from horseback.

## Safe Fences

### For You:

Locate underground and overhead utilities before installing a fence. Call the Oregon Utility Notification Center at (800) 332-2344, to make sure there are no gas, water, or electric lines where you plan to dig postholes.

Wear heavy leather gloves and eye protection when installing a fence.

Wear a dust mask and hearing protection when sawing or driving treated wood posts.

Never install electric fences under power lines.

Notify neighbors, visitors, and small children about electric fences and instruct others on disconnecting the energizer in an emergency.

Post warning signs on electric boundary fences as required by law.

### For Livestock:

Avoid sharp edges on gates, fences, and chutes that can cause injuries. Signs of hazardous fencing are shiny skin or bruises found under hair tufts. Sharp edges are found on nails, bolt ends, exposed pipe ends, and the tops of metal T-posts. Pipes with diameters larger than 3 inches are less likely to injure animals.

Equip gates with tiebacks to prevent gates from swinging into alleys and catching animals between gate end and fence.

Horses and llamas are inquisitive and will injure themselves on a poorly designed fence. Horses can get their legs caught between brace posts and fence wire. Block off this space or run woven fabric on the

occupied side of the fence. Ask your fence dealer for more information on protecting these animals.

### For Help

Local farm supply store or fence material catalogs may have details on installing a fence.

Fence contractors install fences. Look in the yellow pages in the phone book under "Fences." Get several bids and check references.

The local soil and water conservation district (SWCD), USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and local watershed council may provide on-site technical advice and cost-share funding for fences that manage pastures and protect near stream areas. Contact your local SWCD, NRCS, and watershed council offices for details.

Oregon State University Extension Service provides assistance on fencing that manages pastures and protects near stream areas. Contact your local office for more information.

# WHERE TO BE

- **Oct 3 - 4, 2008 Tulsa, OK Tulsa State Fair**  
Entry forms on Tulsa State Fair website Superintendent - Brenda Foulks [bfoulks74016@yahoo.com](mailto:bfoulks74016@yahoo.com)
- **October 4 & 5, 2008 8th Annual Alpaca Heritage Days.**  
Looking for that special alpaca to add to your herd? How about some prime fiber and alpaca products? Mark your calendar now! The weekend offers private treaty sales, free seminars, and lots of shopping fun at Terhurne Orchards in Princeton, NJ. For more information including directions, go to [www.AlpacaHeritage.com](http://www.AlpacaHeritage.com).
- **October 25, 2008, 9-3 Tucson Wool Festival**  
Sponsored by the Withers Ranch as a community outreach and educational awareness program on fiber animals and arts, various breeders and vendors from throughout the southwest will be demonstrating their wares from their fiber animals on the Withers Ranch in Tucson, Arizona. Free booths are available. Seeking instructors for 2-3 hour classes. Contact Kathy Withers (520)572-3758, [jmarckathy@aol.com](mailto:jmarckathy@aol.com). Additional information is on the Wool Festival page of [www.uniquedesignsbykathy.com](http://www.uniquedesignsbykathy.com).
- **November 8, 2008 Alpaca Heritage Events presents Dr. LaRue Johnson's Neonatal Clinic in Bordentown, NJ.**  
This clinic includes 6 hours of lecture and 90 minutes of wet lab for each registrant. Topics include reproductive anatomy and physiology, breeding and pregnancy diagnosis options, gestational development, care of the pregnant dam, normal and abnormal creation, and care of the newborns as well as high risk crias. The wet lab will include diagnosing the contents of the uterus, delivery plans and cria deliveries. Cost is \$200 per person and includes lunch. For more information and to register, visit us at [www.AlpacaHeritage.com](http://www.AlpacaHeritage.com) or contact Ingrid Wood at 609-261-0696.
- **November 9, 2008 Alpaca Heritage Events presents Camelid Infertility and Congenital/Genetic Defects,**  
a seminar presented by Dr. LaRue Johnson. This informative session will be held in the Rutgers EcoComplex in Bordentown, NJ from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Cost is \$75 per person and includes lunch. For more information and to register, visit us at [www.AlpacaHeritage.com](http://www.AlpacaHeritage.com).
- **November 7-9, 2008 North American Llama & Alpaca Show, Louisville, KY.**  
Part of the World's Largest Purebred Livestock Show. Double llama, including mini classes, single alpaca and single llama fiber show. Deb Yeagle & Lora Crawford llama judges & Anthony Stachowski alpaca judge. Fiber judge Susie Smithers. *Change in health requirements-no blood work from free states.* Premiums plus awards and ribbons. One fee for unlimited classes same handler and llama. See website [northamericanllama-alcacashow.com](http://northamericanllama-alcacashow.com) or contact Mary Jo Miller, 502-350-4525 [brookscrllamas@bellsouth.net](mailto:brookscrllamas@bellsouth.net)
- **November 9, 2008 Alpaca Heritage Event's Fleece Show at the Rutgers EcoComplex in Bordentown, NJ.**  
All you need to compete in this fun show is 2 oz of prime alpaca fiber! Great for novices and experts alike! Simply mail-in your entries ahead of time or drop them off in the morning. For more information, go to [www.AlpacaHeritage.com](http://www.AlpacaHeritage.com) or call Ingrid Wood at 609-261-0696.
- **January 23, 2009 SCLA Select Llama Sale Friday at 6:00 pm**  
Held in conjunction with the Ft Worth Expo and Stock Show. For information go to [www.sclasale.com](http://www.sclasale.com) or Ft Worth entry info [www.fwssr.com](http://www.fwssr.com). The sale consist of 50 select lots and is the longest running association sale. Sale info contact Steve Berry- [berry\\_patch@itexas.net](mailto:berry_patch@itexas.net), 817-279-6725.
- **March 21 & 22, 2009 3rd Annual March Magic Level III Double Casual Llama Show.**  
Relax ~ Fun ~ Casual ~ No Groom ~ Low Entry Fees ~ Great Awards. Hosted by Llama Association of Southern California (LASC) Location: Antelope Valley Fairgrounds, Lancaster California. We will be offering all 4 wool divisions, driving, novice & advanced performance. All 3 youth age groups. Walking and shorn fleece will be a single show. March Magic had to be moved this year from the Fairplex in Pomona due to fairgrounds construction. This year's new facility is fully covered. No Rain Worries. Our show this year will be in conjunction with a Home and Garden Show. Show judges: Mark Smith ~ Senior Level Judge, Mary Jo Miller ~ Senior Level Judge Margaret Ricci ~ Level Judge Contact: Ken Sutton 760-240-6878 or [SewSew25@aol.com](mailto:SewSew25@aol.com) or Tracey Wallace 909-792-3711 or [DandT22@aol.com](mailto:DandT22@aol.com)
- **April 3, 2009 The Grand Slam Llama Event '09 Friday April 3, 2009**  
Held in conjunction with the 2009 Spring Celebration Sale & Futurity Heritage Place Oklahoma City OK for more information contact Shawn Norman at [grandslam1@ymail.com](mailto:grandslam1@ymail.com) or 405-476-0399. DON'T MISS THE BIGGEST GAME OF THE YEAR!!!!
- **April 3-5, 2009 - Spring Celebration Llama Sale, Heritage Place, Oklahoma City, OK.**  
Tom & Nancy Simmons and Tim & Teresa Vincent have turned over the lead rope to Dan and Marilyn Milton after 20 years of putting on the Spring Celebration Llama Sale. 2009 will again see Shawn Norman's Grand Slam llama show on Friday, the preview and sale will be on Saturday and the World Futurity on Sunday. Look for some new and exciting additions to the weekend's events. It is time to look over your herd and select your best for the grand slam show, sale, futurity and herd sire row. Contact Dan or Marilyn Milton at [dmmilton@charter.net](mailto:dmmilton@charter.net) or 541-899-8097 for more information on the 2009 Spring Celebration Llama Sale.

Please submit your lama events to: [editor@lamalink.com](mailto:editor@lamalink.com)



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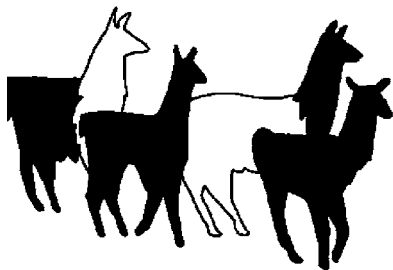
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## ■ WANTED

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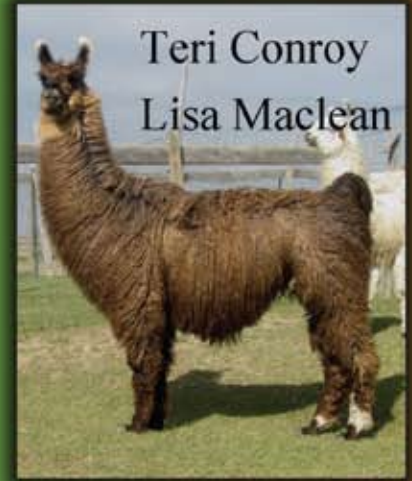
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