



Spring 2016

www.midwestlama.org

Greetings from the MWLA President...

Happy Spring everyone... BUT as I sit here this morning compiling this, I fear that we will be seeing snow in the morning according to our weatherman... I guess March came in like a lamb so it has to go out like a lion... Let alone my Grandma always said three snows on a robin's back... Well both have proven true once again this year!!!

I want to thank you for being elected as the 2016 to 2018 President. I know I have a lot to learn and some BIG shoes to follow. Having the board members I am working with excites me, as we all bring so much to the board.

As the 2016 show season starts, I am excited to be seeing many of you along the way. Since Llamapalooza has been moved to May, this is an opportune time to have a spring meeting. Tentatively we will plan a meeting on Saturday evening after the day's events conclude. We will send out more information as the time nears.

Should at any time you need anything from me please feel free to get a hold of me. I am open to your needs and any suggestions that you may have. As the shows start good luck and safe travels...

Kim Schechinger

red_sled2@yahoo.com



MWLA Conference Highlights

Another amazing lama conference was held at the Stoney Creek Conference Center in Onalaska, WI on February 19-21st.

Adult sessions included building great obstacles and courses, lama history and lineage, nutrition, pasture & hay quality and maintenance, reproduction, breeding, farm taxes, and a session on Camelid Companion Certification.

There were also demonstrations and discussions of fiber arts and several fiber classes to participate in.

The youth enjoyed their time learning about the lama project, trivia, earning lama bucks, making lead ropes, decorating wooden llamas and cups and participating in the youth auction.

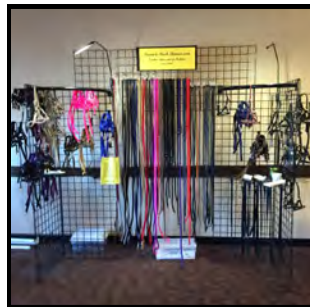


Farm displays filled a huge room showcasing halters and leads and fiber artistry to beautiful yarns, socks and items from Peru.

Fundraising efforts were held with a silent auction and the ever famous fund raising auction held on Saturday night after the dinner banquet. Yes, the tassels have been officially retired!

The weekend concluded on Sunday morning with the MWLA meeting and electing new officers.

Plans are already underway for 2017 for another great conference!



Save the Date!

2017 Midwest Lama Association Conference

February 17 - 18 - 19, 2017

Stoney Creek Conference Center, Onalaska, WI

MWLA Winter Conference Minutes

Minutes from the Fall meeting held in Menominee Wisconsin were published in the Winter News Letter for all to read. Motion to approve by Bill Schultz, 2nd by Dan Whitaker.

2015 Treasurer's report read by Tracey McGinnis. Motion to approve as read by Bill Schultz, 2nd by John Porter.

Llamapalooza 2016 will be held May 14-15, 2016 in conjunction with Shepherds Harvest, but is not their event. It is still a MWLA show. Joy Bishop Forshey is the judge for the weekend. Jenni Olson is working on details which will be out as soon as she can pull them together. At this time there is no motels available near the grounds so this is also something Jenny is looking into. The show floor is dirt, and has room for 30 stalls. The barn area has 78/80 stalls that will house the rest of the animals. Plus if needed a 30 x 100 building can also be rented should it be needed. Vending can also be done in barn at stall and in the show ring area with animals. Animals can begin to arrive after 12 noon Friday, and early am Saturday. We cannot block the roads, but will have parking lot and trailer space behind barn. One important thing to remember is ALL animals coming to show need health papers – even if in state. This is a requirement of Shepherds Harvest.

Grant Committee gave \$700 in grant money to 3 events: \$200 to Lyon 4-H project to help put on showmanship and obstacle clinic for 4-Hers. In conjunction there was a judges clinic for adults, the following day that was sponsored by Minnesota Extension Office. \$250 to Isanti was to be used but due to an unforeseen event this will take place in 2016. \$250 to the Central Minnesota Llama Club for 2 Companion Clinics for 4-H animals and handlers. This event was held in May and September and was very well received. A total of 24 youth, 21 adults and 44 lamas attended these 2 events.

Dan spoke about the website and will keep it going. He is looking for information, photos and such to put on it. He was asked if he could add a sale list and would look into that. He also spoke about the Midwest Lama page on Facebook.

Great deal of discussion took place regarding grant money. Tracey talked on this subject in great length. All that was being asked is to put a requisition in as to what you are needing by the end of March so it can be decided if the request would be accepted. It seemed that members were wanting an explanation as to where funds were being given. It was decided that a committee should be formed to take over these requests similar to the Youth Grant Committee. Lorraine Kilmartin agreed to head this group and get them in tune to the Youth Grant Committee. Volunteers included: John Porter, Danita Doerre, Cheryl Pflipsen, and Norris Berg. Motion was made by Dan Whitaker that the financial board be given the authority to grant up to \$2000 in the year, and 2nd by Bill Schultz.

Election of officers took place for the terms of President and Vice President. New President is Kim Schechinger, and Vice President is Dan Whitaker. Katie Mazec agreed to fulfill Kim Schechingers 1 year of Secretary since she was elected to President. These three join Tracey McGinnis as Treasurer. Congrats to all...

We all want to thank Katie for her years as serving as President. She has made long slides for this association and has done a WONDERFUL job. THANK YOU KATIE...

We also want to THANK Patty and Brian Patterson and family for their years of service of hosting the youth activities for the convention. They have been detrimental in keeping our youngsters involved with the lama industry. There are new faces that are going to be taking over this part of our weekend. Stay tuned for announcements...

The scholarship committee presented the final application and is ready to roll it out for this year. Applications being due May 15, and awarded in June. They have a total of \$500 to present to the applicant/applicants.

A motion was made by Katie Mazec to get a credit card for the sake of having to pay expenses like the hotel and such. 2nd by Lorraine Kilmartin.

No further information was discussed.

Katie Mazec made motion to adjourn, 2nd by John Porter.

Minutes submitted by Kim Schechinger, Secretary

New for 2016!

Midwest Lama Association Offers Youth Scholarships

Application deadline is May 15, 2016

Scholarships will be announced by June 1, 2016

Application and Eligibility Requirements can be found on the MWLA website.

www.midwestlama.org

Complete application procedures and eligibility requirements are found on the website.

Highlights listed below:

MLA Scholarship Application Procedures

- Applications can be typed or hand written.
- Scholarships will be reviewed by the MLA Scholarship Committee. All applicants will be notified of any scholarship awards after June 1, 2016.
- Applications must be complete and legible.
- This scholarship application includes these parts: completed application with essay questions, one (1) letter of recommendation, photo and (mentor letter if applicable).

MLA Scholarship Eligibility Requirements

- Applicant must be related to a current adult member in good standing with the Midwest Lama Association. Current adult MLA members are defined as having paid memberships within this organization for a minimum of 1 year.
- Applicants for this award shall be: daughters, stepdaughters, sons, stepsons, grandsons, granddaughters, sisters, brothers OR a youth mentored by a MLA member.
- The Scholarship Committee feels the mentor/youth relationship to be unique and requests that the **mentor provide a descriptive letter of how the youth has impacted and enhanced the lama project**. This letter needs to accompany the scholarship application.
- Applicants for this award must have completed their senior year of high school OR grade 13 in 4-H years OR be currently attending a 2 or 4 year college. Please make sure that all information is completed and letters of recommendation, photos, etc. are attached before mailing the application.
- Scholarship award monies will be based on the number of eligible applicants. The Scholarship Committee will recommend the final payouts of scholarship monies and forward this to the MLA Board for final approval.
- Any questions regarding this scholarship can be directed to Kim at red_sled2@yahoo.com or Cheryl at tcanpflipsen@gmail.com

Lama Weekend in Lyon County, Minnesota

The Lyon County 4-H Lama Project (includes Murray & Cottonwood Counties) was the recipient of a MWLA Grant (\$250.00) to host a Lama Clinic for 4-H'ers in the Lama Project and those interested in Lama Project.

The purpose was to generate some interest in the 4-H Lama Project in southwestern Minnesota.

May 9, 2015, was not the best for weather, but the participants made the day a HUGE success.

We were glad to have Eric Olson and Rick Carlson on hand as presenters for Performance and Showmanship Classes.

Jenni Olson presented a short course on grooming and was available for shearing, nail trimming and vaccinations for the animals.

Laura Meany did a fantastic presentation on presenting the Costume Class.

We had 54 participants that came from all over the state including 4-H members and adults.

Thank you the Midwest Lama Association for the opportunity to host this clinic!

Submitted by Mary Beth Sinclair, Lyon County, Minnesota





The Midwest Llama Association would like to wish the Minnesota Llama Quiz Bowl Team's good luck on April 16th, as they compete in Sauk Rapids, Minnesota.

There are 8 senior teams competing and 2 junior teams.

These youth have mentors that are MWLA members, coming from Lyon/Cottonwood, Washington, Beltrami, Chisago, Mower, Stearns, and Carver counties.

They will be tested on their knowledge of a llama. From health, nutrition, breeding, origin, uses, and showmanship, just to name a few topic areas.

Good Luck to all involved with this event...
Stay tuned for updates in later newsletters...

Midwest Llama Association Youth Grants Awarded in 2016

The Youth Grant Committee has awarded two grants this year for a total of \$200.

The Central Minnesota Llama Club of Sauk Rapids, MN will receive \$150 to pay the presenter fee for a third session of the Camelid Companion Certification program (to be held May 21st at the Benton County Fairgrounds in Sauk Rapids, MN). This session will allow participants to start or to continue Level 1, 2 or 3 of the program. Kim Schechinger will present. Members of the Youth Grant Committee felt that the Camelid Companion program teaches participants valuable skills and is a service to the community, since it prepares members to take animals to venues such as nursing homes or schools.

The Youth Grant Committee has also granted \$50 to the same club to pay for the presenter fee for a fiber skills workshop to be held in the fall. The presenter will be Karin Wahlgren. The Youth Grant Committee noted that this workshop is a response to interest on the part of the members, who are anxious to learn more about using their llama's fiber.

Article submitted by Lorraine Kilmartin

Camelid Companion Certification Training - #2

This article is a follow up to the Camelid Companion Certification Training Clinic that was held in Sauk Rapids, Minnesota on May 23, 2015.

Due to a generous grant from the Midwest Llama Association, the Central Minnesota Llama Club was able to host 2 trainings in 2015.

Level 1 and Level 2 of the Camelid Companion Certification was again offered on Saturday, September 26, 2015 at the Benton County Fairgrounds in Sauk Rapids, MN. The fall weather couldn't have been more perfect with temperatures in the high seventies.

This event had 11 4-H youth and 9 adults from 4 different Minnesota counties that participated in the training, 7 of which were new to the training series. There were 17 llamas that participated, with several animals receiving 4-H certificates for completing that level. 4-H certificates were awarded for Good Camelid Citizen and Public Relations after the animal had suc-

cessfully completed two runs through the courses on two different dates.

Kim Schechinger and her daughter Kristine led this training series.

In addition to the training, the group worked on a service project for the Benton County Fair by removing the "years" of staples off the boards that hang above the pens in the Sheep/Swine & Llama Barn.

Thank you to the Midwest Llama Association for the grant opportunity to host these 2 trainings! Our 4-H club is looking forward to continuing this certification training series in 2016!

Submitted by Cheryl Pflipsen, Benton County, Minnesota



Calendar of Events for 2016

April 23 - 24 Heartland Lama Show, Webster City, IA

May 14 & 15 Lamapalooza, Lake Elmo, MN

ILR Sanctioned Llama Show

ILR Halter & Performance Judge: Joy Bishop-Forshey

Spring MWLA meeting will be held at Lamapalooza on Saturday evening

Info regarding the show can be found on the website at: www.midwestlama.org

Questions? Please contact Jenni Olson at olsonje2@yahoo.com

June 3, 4 & 5 Badgerland Llama Show, Jefferson, WI

4-H, ILR Showmanship, ALSA & ILR Halter & Group Classes

Judges: ILR: Darrell Anderson; ALSA: Tami Lash

Info regarding the show can be found on the website at: www.midwestlama.org

Questions? Please contact barbparsons1234@yahoo.com or dmmatrisch@att.net

June 17, 18 & 19 Gathering ILR/LFA, Des Moines, IA

More details and a schedule of events can be found on the website at: www.midwestlama.org

July 23 Blue Earth North County Classic, Blue Earth, MN

More details to follow...

August 6 Benton County Open Class Llama Show, Sauk Rapids, MN

Judge: Rick Carlson

Showmanship, Halter and Themed Performance Course (Got Water?) - Youth and adult classes

\$5.00 head fee per animal with cash payouts for top 5 animals in each division

On grounds trailer parking

Show details can be found on the website at: www.midwestlama.org

Questions? Please contact Show Superintendent Cheryl Pflipsen at tcanpflipsen@gmail.com

August 19, 20 & 21 Iowa State Fair, Des Moines, IA

More details to follow...

August 31 - September 2 Minnesota State Fair, Minneapolis, MN

More details to follow...

September 17 & 18 Fall Harvest, Waterloo, IA

More details to follow...

MWLA Newsletter

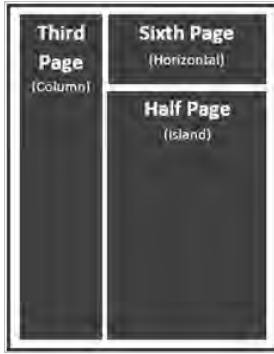
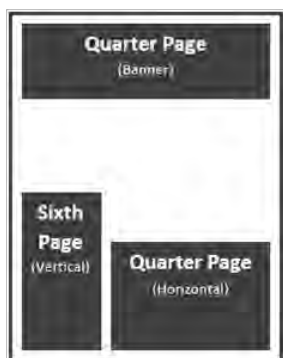
2016 Print Advertisements & Rates

Advertisement	Dimensions (Inches)	Member Price	Non-Member Price
Full Page	8 X 10.5	\$20	\$30
Half Page (Vertical)	8 X 5	\$12	\$20
Half Page (Horizontal)	3.75 X 10.5	\$12	\$20
Half Page (Island)	5 X 8	\$12	\$20
Third Page (Column)	2.75 X 10.5	\$8	\$15
Third page (Banner)	8 X 3.25	\$8	\$15
Quarter Page (Vertical)	3.75 X 5	\$5	\$12
Quarter Page (Horizontal)	5 X 3.75	\$5	\$12
Quarter Page (Banner)	8 X 2.5	\$5	\$12
Sixth Page (Vertical)	2.75 X 5	\$3	\$10
Sixth Page (Horizontal)	5 X 2.75	\$3	\$10
Business Card	3.25 X 1.75	\$2	\$7
Classified (more than 75 words)	N/A	\$2	\$10
Classified (less than 75 words)	N/A	Free	\$7

Attention MWLA Members:

Please send any photos, farm stories, articles or any information you would like to see in your newsletter to:

Cheryl Pflipsen
Newsletter Editor
tcanpflipsen@gmail.com



Share those adorable spring crias by sending in your photos to be published in the MWLA Newsletter!

Advertise your farm in the MWLA Newsletter!

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