



Summer 2016

[www.midwestlama.org](http://www.midwestlama.org)



### Greetings from the MWLA President...

Now that school is out and summer is upon us, I often sit back and wonder how I got everything done when I worked every 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend, every other holiday and SUMMERS... It has been so nice to have my weekends free to go to shows and see our llama families, and not have to worry about getting someone to cover my weekends!!! AND having my summer free so far has been a blessing. There's not a dull moment at Scheck's Southwest Secrets. If not attending llama shows, we are full throttle with our Tractor and Truck Pulling schedule. There's many weekends we are going one place and Joe another. But it is what makes our family dynamics work so well.

It comes with a heavy heart to have said good bye to a dear llama member, Jean De-Boom. Jean and Gary have been such good friends to many of us in the llama industry for many years. The DeBoom's started in the industry in 1991 and have had great success with their animals. Keep the DeBoom family in your thoughts and prayers.

I have to give a great big shout out to the Olson's, Eric, Pat, Jenni, Paul and Paul W. and several others for putting together Llamapalooza that was held in May at the Washington County Fairgrounds in conjunction with Shepherd's Harvest. You all did an out-

standing job of getting it all pulled together. As for 2017, they have agreed to do it again... Thanks to you all for stepping up for a second year!!!

As well Barb Parsons had an exceptional show at Badgerland. The circus theme was so much fun. I know she was worried about the space we had for the show, but I think it worked out just fine. Being with our llama families is a big part of the shows we all attend!!!

And the Gathering of Friends & LFA show in Des Moines was a great show to attend. Thanks to Mary Jo Miller, Lisa Robinson and Pam Jensen for all your hard work at making this a fun weekend. A fun time was had by many.

July seems to be a slow show month. But many of us are working at our 4H llama projects so it may be the best we have a few weeks to do that, and then we will wind down the showing season in the midwest with a few State Fair's, and of course Fall Harvest in September.

May you all have a safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Look forward to seeing you all soon...

Respectively,

*Kim Schechinger*

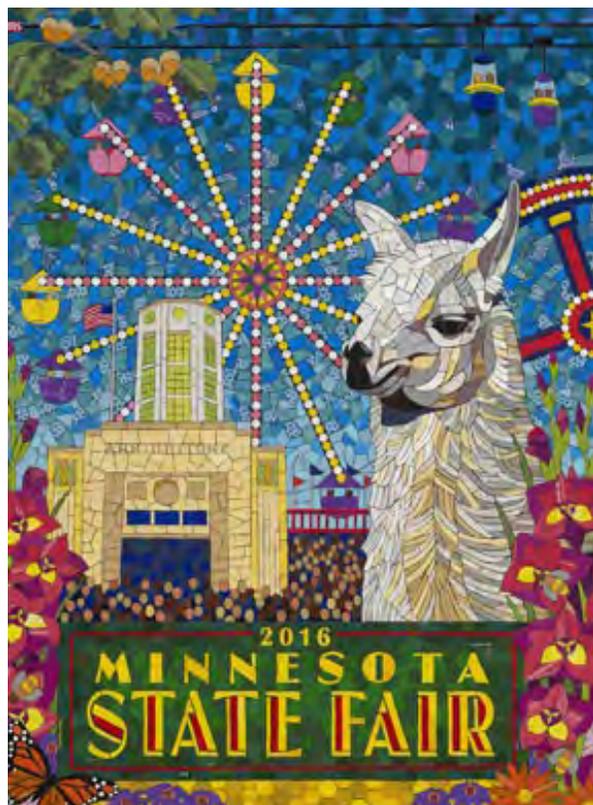
red\_sled2@yahoo.com

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## 2016 Minnesota State Fair Commemorative Art

The Minnesota State Fair's 2016 Commemorative Art was unveiled on Thursday, June 9th by Minneapolis artist Michael Sweere. Surrounded by State Fair enthusiasts on the State Fairgrounds, he presented his artwork publicly for the very first time. The original piece will be on display in the Fine Arts Center during the 2016 Great Minnesota Get-Together, August 25th through Labor Day, September 5th.

Sweere is a mosaic artist who primarily uses recycled and salvaged materials. His colorful mosaic interpretation of the Minnesota State Fair was created entirely from paper packaging, much of which was collected during Sweere's visit to the 2015 Minnesota State Fair. Every piece was hand-cut from a cardboard package that had been a promotional item at the fair or previously contained food, beverages or a wide range of household consumables. The individual pieces of cardboard were glued in place on a masonite panel to form the artwork's key image of "Lucky" the llama surrounded by iconic State Fair imagery.



The commemorative poster, a limited number of signed prints and other merchandise featuring the art will be available for purchase. Proceeds support the Minnesota State Fair Foundation 501(c)(3) mission to preserve and improve State Fair buildings, grounds and educational programs.

## Spring Babies Are Soooooo Cute!



Jacky Frost & Our Girl Friday the 13th, alpaca babies born in May 2016.

Thank you to Bruce & Cynthia Johnson for these adorable pictures!

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# MWLA Meeting Minutes - May 14, 2016

## **Opening**

The spring meeting of the Midwest Lama Association was called to order at 5:00 PM on May 14, 2016 at the Washington County Fairgrounds in Lake Elmo, MN by President Kim Schechinger.

## **Approval of Minutes**

A motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting at the 2016 Midwest Lama Association Winter Conference was made by Dan Whittaker and seconded by Connor Cook. The minutes were unanimously approved as distributed.

## **Approval of Treasurers Report**

The treasurer's report was presented by President Kim Schechinger. The current balance in the Midwest Lama Association checking account is \$26,441.88. The donations made to the Badgerland Show, the Llama Futurity Association, and the Minnesota State Fair were paid out, and the monies received from the 2016 Winter Conference were paid in. Payments and expenses from the 2016 Lamapalooza have not been accounted for yet.

## *New Business*

### **Newsletter**

The opinion was expressed that Cheryl Pflipsen has been doing a great job with the newsletter and a great job getting it out. A request was made to the organization to send anything to Cheryl that should be included.

### **4H Quiz Bowl**

Several Midwest Lama Association farms had youth that participated in the MN 4H Llama Quiz Bowl, and over all did very well. Counties mentioned at the meeting were Mower, Carver, and Washington counties. Participants and spectators reported that was a great event with llama knowledge being the main focus.

### **Request for New Ideas**

President Kim Schechinger requested new ideas from the members and told the members that we might be sending out a survey to ask for ideas for future Midwest Lama Association events.

Working on some events in conjunction with the Iowa Lama Association was brought up. A clinic of some kind was brought up, including a fall hike/obstacle clinic.

Margo Schultz said the fall hike in conjunction with the Midwest Lama Association Fall meeting is a great idea. And said the best we can do it book a date and pick a central location. Any members interested in hosting/organizing the meeting should contact President Kim Schechinger.

### **ILR Camelid Companion Certification**

There will be Camelid Companion Certifiers set up at The Gathering in Iowa. They will be available on Friday and Saturday to sign off on llama certifications for the program. The Camelid Companion Certifications are specific to the animal and not the handler.

### **Youth Judging Clinic**

There will be a youth judging clinic June 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> at Marbil Farms. Bill Schultz will be the instructor and the Paquet family is organizing. There will be a \$15 per youth charge for the weekend; there will also be camping available and youth are encouraged to bring their animals.

MWLA Meeting Minutes continued on page 4...

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## *Old Business*

### **Scholarship**

The Scholarship Committee made an announcement that the applications for the Midwest Lama Scholarship are due soon (May 15, 2016) and that they haven't received any yet. If they do receive some, they will make and post their decision by June 1, 2016.

### **Financial Request Committee**

Norris Berg addressed the meeting about the committee formed at the 2016 Winter Conference that was put in place to handle donation and sponsorship requests made to the organization. The committee has been granted authority to spend up to \$2,000 per club year (starts the day after the Winter Conference and goes through the Winter Conference the next year). The forms have been completed and will be posted on the website.

Danita Doerre stood and spoke about the form and the guidelines. There are technically two forms, a Financial Request form and a Financial Summary form. The request form should be filled out 30 days prior to the event and the summary form that needs to be returned to the committee chairperson (Norris Berg); includes a piece that will be submitted to the newsletter editor.

### **Lamapalooza**

Everyone had great things to say about the Lamapalooza/Shepherd's Harvest Show and recommend that we plan to hold Lamapalooza in conjunction with Shepherd's Harvest for the 2017 show. President Kim Schechinger requested an e-mail with any comments/concerns/questions from exhibitors, and she will work with the show committee for the 2017 show. Shepherd's Harvest is moving back to Mother's Day in 2017 and the Olson's agreed to head the show committee again in 2017. They will also block rooms for the group earlier for next year because of all the events happening and many exhibitors had a hard time finding hotel rooms nearby.

## *Adjournment*

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Norris Berg and seconded by Connor Cook. The meeting was adjourned at 5:34 PM by President Kim Schechinger.

### *Save the Date!*

**2017 Midwest Lama Association Conference**

**February 17 - 18 - 19, 2017**

**Stoney Creek Conference Center, Onalaska, WI**

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## Youth Scholarship Awarded for 2016



The Midwest Llama Association Scholarship Committee is excited to announce that a \$250 scholarship has been awarded to Nathen Pflipsen of Sauk Rapids, Minnesota.

Nathen got started with llamas about 13 years ago. He first saw them at the Benton

County Fair, from there his family acquired their first breeding pair from a neighbor.

He has been active in the llama project with 4-H and showing at the county and state levels, taking the animals to schools and nursing homes, helping out at the Llama-Llama Read-A-Rama, parades, hikes and other community events.

He and his favorite llama, Radar, have earned several “walls” of ribbons and plaques.

Nathen said the llama project has helped him make lots of new friends and overcome his fear of public speaking. Enough to have him earn his auctioneer’s license in February of 2014. He also is looking forward to judging more llama shows in the area during the summer months.

Nathen will start college this fall and will be attending Vermillion Community College in Ely, MN for DNR/Game Warden.

On behalf of the Midwest Llama Association, congratulations to this outstanding youth!

## Isanti County Llama Training Clinic



On April 23, 2016, Isanti County (Cambridge, MN) 4-H held a llama and alpaca clinic. On this beautiful day, there were 16

llamas and 1 alpaca, along with 20 4-Her’s in attendance.

The 3 presenters taught tips and tricks to be successful at showing their animals. The handlers also received training in showmanship, obstacle course and public relations.

Skills taught were the haunch turn, quadrants, presenting the animal to the judge, side pass, showmanship skills, and the head to tail line up and picking up feet. Those attending also received

the llama and alpaca curriculum.

Emma Matchinsky, one of the attendees said, “ I finally learned the proper way to pick up the llamas feet!”

The 4Her’s will use their new skills to prepare for their county fairs and to mentor younger Cloverbud’s (youth grade 2 and under).

A special thanks to presenters Eric Olson, Cheryl Pflipsen and Nathen Pflipsen. Also a special thanks to the MN Midwest 4H Llama Club.

Be sure to stop out at the Isanti County Fair on Friday July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:00 am in the beef arena and see these skills in action!



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## Financial Request Committee—NEW

The Midwest Llama Association is an organization of llama and alpaca enthusiasts and professionals. The MWLA supports the efforts of like-minded organizations to promote the llama industry and involvement in llama-related activities. It provides financial support for events and activities sponsored by these organizations at the request of MWLA members.

Norris Berg addressed the meeting in May 2016 about the committee formed at the 2016 Winter Conference that was put in place to handle donation and sponsorship requests made to the organization.

The committee has been granted authority to spend up to \$2,000 per club year (starts the day after the Winter Conference and goes through the Winter Conference the next year). Applicants requesting funds for events must be current, paid members of MWLA.

The forms have been posted on the website.

The Financial Request Form should be filled out 30 days prior to the event.

Once the event has been held, the Financial Request Summary Form needs to be completed and an article and photos about the event will be sent to the Newsletter Editor and added to the newsletter.

Any questions regarding this new change for funds can be directed to:

**Norris Berg, Chairman**

Valley View Acres  
W4155 570 Avenue  
Ellsworth WI 54011  
715-273-5230  
715-307-2209  
[llamas@dishup.us](mailto:llamas@dishup.us)



Here's an update on how the **Lama Quiz Bowl** Teams did. Many of them are members of MWLA, or their leaders are members. A big shout out to the coaches and leaders of the Lama Project in Minnesota... It was an exciting day for all who attended.

Results are as follows:

- 2 Junior teams: 1<sup>st</sup> Mower County  
                  2<sup>nd</sup> Carver County
- 8 Senior teams: 1<sup>st</sup> Washington County  
                  2<sup>nd</sup> Carver County 2  
                  3<sup>rd</sup> Carver County 1  
                  4<sup>th</sup> Mower County  
                  5<sup>th</sup> Stearns County  
                  6<sup>th</sup> Lyon/Cottonwood County  
                  7<sup>th</sup> Chisago County  
                  8<sup>th</sup> Beltrami County

Work is in process to have a Battle of the Borders in September for the kids. Look for more information to come out. So all you performance kids get your game on!!! Lets make a fun day of it...

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## Camelid Companion Certification Training - Level 1 & 2

The Central Minnesota Llama 4-H Club hosted our 3<sup>rd</sup> clinic in this series for the Camelid Companion Certification Training at the Benton County Fairgrounds in Sauk Rapids, Minnesota on Saturday, May 21, 2016. The weather could not have been more perfect, with highs in the upper seventies and a beautiful blue sky.



Due to a generous grant from the Midwest Lama Association, Level 1 and Level 2 training opportunities were presented to 18 youth and 13 adults. A total of 21 llamas and alpacas participated, with several animals earning 4-H certificates awarded for Public Relations and Basic/Good Camelid Citizen.

This event had participants from 5 different Minnesota counties with one family and their 3 llamas driving 3 hours to attend the training!

Animals were allowed to practice basic tasks within the levels and then be tested on their ability to complete the tasks. For example, some tasks included in the levels were: being petted by a stranger, lifting feet, side passing the L shape, having their photo taken, step up, walking over a tarp, accepting the halter and having another animal approach the llama and handler. Participants were also given the list of tasks to continue to practice with their animal to achieve the levels of certification.

Bella, a 4<sup>th</sup> grader from Benton County, attended the training for the first time with her alpaca Tootsie Roll, she said "It was super fun. I learned how to back up and move my alpaca sideways! He also got used to other surfaces". Her older sister, Kennedy, grade 6, brought her llama, Izzy to the training for the first time also commented on learning how to move her llama sideways and practicing new surfaces.

Kim Schechinger from Austin, MN led this training and testing series for the Camelid Companion Certification.

In addition, Dan Whittaker of Stillwater, MN presented a halter fitting session along with offering beautiful handmade halters and leads for sale.



With a flea market also being held on the fairgrounds that day, many of the visitors stopped by to watch and visit the animals with their families and to ask questions.

Thank you to the Midwest Lama Association for this grant opportunity for our 4-H families.

*Submitted by Cheryl Pflipsen, Benton County, Minnesota*

*Advertise  
your farm  
in the  
MWLA  
Newsletter!*

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# Calendar of Events for 2016

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

**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.midwestllama.org](http://www.midwestllama.org) OR [bentonfairmn.com](http://bentonfairmn.com)

Questions? Please contact Show Superintendent Cheryl Pflipsen at [tcanpflipsen@gmail.com](mailto:tcanpflipsen@gmail.com)

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

<https://www.iowastatefair.org>

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

<http://www.mnstatefair.org/competition/livestock.html>

**September 17 & 18** Fall Harvest, Waterloo, IA

Sharon & Jerry Williamson  
N13122 W. Prairie Rd  
Trempealeau, WI. 54661  
608-534-5111  
[phllamas@centurytel.net](mailto:phllamas@centurytel.net)  
[pinehavenllamas.com](http://pinehavenllamas.com)



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# MWLA Newsletter

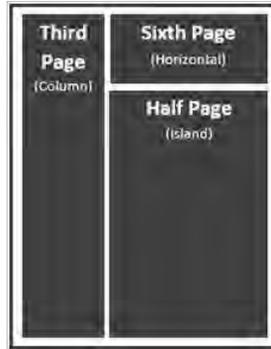
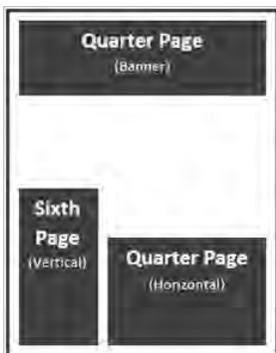
## 2016 Print Advertisements & Rates

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**



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## Classified Ad - For Sale

**For Sale:** 1997 Featherlite stock trailer - one owner, excellent condition. 6' X 10', center swing gate with high and low air vents. \$3500 Contact Edie [608-206-0874](tel:608-206-0874)

**For Sale:** Miniature manure spreader in good working condition. \$400 OBO.  
Contact Edie [608-206-0874](tel:608-206-0874)



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