# CONNECTION

# Fall 2015



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Left to Right Karen Kelly, Lisa Beatty, Karen Ball, Sandra Wallace, Steve Aitchison



In California's tradition as a pioneer of progress, Calpaca was the first—and is the oldest—regional alpaca association in the Northern Hemisphere. Calpaca and past and current members have been leaders in the American alpaca industry since 1989.

Its member farms are home to some of the oldest and most respected bloodlines in North America.

#### Calpaca Membership Chair Pam Brady

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# Connection Editor

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#### **Affiliations**

Alpaca Owners Association "AOA"

8300 Cody Dr Suite A Lincoln NE 68512 402-437-8484 402-437-8488 Fax www.alpacaowners.com www.alpacaregistry.com

Alpaca Research Foundation "ARF" www.alpacaresearchfoundation.org

International Lama Registry "ILR" www.lamaregistry.com

Alpaca Fiber Coop of N America (AFCNA) www.AFCNA.com

www.americasalpacas.com

#### **Staying Connected**

*Keep up with member and Calpaca News* Calpaca Website

http://www.calpaca.org/

Group Emails calpaca1@googlegroups.com

#### **Calpaca Facebook**

Calpaca— California Alpaca Association

Cover Photos Celebrating National Alpaca Farm Day Dear Calpaca Members,

As we cross into another season I hope you all had a peaceful summer! With the changing of the season there is hope for rehydration for California and this is something for us all to be thankful for! Let it rain let it rain let it rain...

We have concluded our new fall show, The West Coast Alpaca Show, sponsored by Calpaca, SOJAA and IAO. As is the case for all alpaca shows the wonderful alpaca people are the most important piece in creating an enjoyable environment and this show was no exception. We tried some "new things" at this show to encourage and enhance the way we evaluate our breeding programs and I believe it was a desirable outcome. (Look for more about that in this publication.)

# It is time to renew your membership! We are offering a chance to receive free tuition to the UC Davis Camelid Symposium for membership renewals received by the end of 2015.

Opportunities and Benefits for Calpaca Members:

Our Annual Calpaca membership meeting, November 14<sup>th</sup> (more details are in this publication and our website) I look forward to seeing all who can attend!

Planning for the UC Davis Camelid Symposium January 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> a Calpaca sponsored event, is underway. Once again this event promises to be a worthwhile investment in educating ourselves (and our vets) on new and better ways to keep our herd healthy! If you have attended in the past you know what I mean, if you have not you are missing an amazing opportunity! I encourage all to attend!

We are printing a hard copy Calpaca Membership & Herdsire Directory projected to be mailed March 1, 2016. Make sure you have your membership renewed and contact our editor Dianna Jordan at: <u>DLJORDAN@LIVE.COM 530-620-6033</u> to place your herdsire advertisements.

Want to stay connected? Join our Calpaca Facebook group by typing California Alpaca Breeders Association in the search window at the top of your Facebook homepage.

Wishing all of you a wonderful fall season and lets get pictures of those fall babies posted on Facebook for all to enjoy!

Sincerely,

Karen

Karen Ball, Calpaca President



Registration fee includes continental breakfast, buffet lunch, and handouts for all 3 tracks. One-day registration is also available for Saturday or Sunday.

# FREE TUITION TO THE 2016 UCDAVIS CAMELID SYMPOSIUM

It's time to renew your annual Calpaca membership. Renew before January 1, 2016 and you will qualify to win free tuition to the 11th annual Camelid Symposium.

Hi Calpaca Members—

<u>2015</u>

Are you looking for a fun and great way to increase exposure to your ranch and market your breeding program? Consider hosting a Calpaca meeting. This is a great opportunity for fellow alpaca breeders to wander through your paddocks to check out your animals! You may pick up some great ideas for something around your farm, and you certainly will get a lot of eyes on your alpacas.

Calpaca has 4 meetings for the general membership each year—the second Saturday of February, May, August, and November. We are looking for host farms for February 13, August 13, and November 12, 2016.

The Calpaca General Membership Business Meetings usually start at 10 am, and it's great if you can provide coffee to wake up some of the folks who have traveled a long way to get to your place (California is a BIG state!). Lunch is usually pot-luck although the host often provides a main dish, paper plates and cutlery, and some beverages. But you can decide what you want to provide and what to ask of the attendees to bring. After lunch we have a 1-2 hr educational program arranged by the host—recent programs have covered working with your farm bureau, a program that provides veterinary expertise to poor farmers in Peru, a discussion of EPDs, a Nevada program to promote locally-produced goods, and eco-tourism. Do you have a veterinarian who specializes in a particular field of livestock care? Do you have ideas about pasture management? Are you engaged in production and sales of alpaca "end products"? These would be great subjects for an educational program.

For complete details and the ins-and-outs of hosting a Calpaca meeting check out http://www.calpaca.org/page/3251/how-to-host-a-calpaca-meeting.

If you would be interested in hosting a meeting, please contact Sandy Wallace at woodwan@earthlink.net .

#### **Upcoming Calpaca Events**

November 14 — Membership meeting at Derwydd Alpacas, Esparto, CA 2016 January 16-17 11th Annual Camelid Symposium at UCDavis February — Membership meeting at Epic Alpacas, Cathey's Valley, CA For more member events check: <u>http://www.calpaca.org/events/</u>

A big thank you to Alpacas of Marin/SoCal Suris for hosting the August  $\bigstar$  $\frac{1}{2}$ \* Calpaca Membership Meeting at their beautiful new ranch in Nicasio,  $\bigstar$ ☆ CA. The Guest Speaker was Mimi Luebbermann: Author, Farmer, ☆ \* Fiber artist extraordinaire and Owner of Windrush Farm, where she  $\stackrel{\bigstar}{\bigstar}$ holds workshops, retreats and hosts group tours. She gave an ☆ \* informative presentation about the ins and outs of Agritourism. ☆ Attendees were treated to an "epic" display of wool, and fine fiber ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ products from the San Francisco Bay Area. The display was created  $\frac{2}{3}$  for the 2014 Wool and Fine Fiber Symposium and on loan from ☆ Fibershed  $\bigstar$ 

#### November Calpaca Membership Meeting Saturday, November 14, 2015 10:00 am

Derwydd Alpacas, Jan and Dale Davis 24485 Derwydd Way Esparto, CA 95627

**10:00 AM—General Membership Meeting—**Breakfast snacks, coffee and juice will be provided before and during the meeting

12:00 "noonish" —Lunch— Pot luck—Drinks will be provided

1:00 PM—Dr Kristen Grimswald DVM will be presenting:

**"Tooth Root Abscesses in Alpacas, The Inside and Out, + Treatment options"** We have experienced a number of tooth abscesses here at Derwydd over the years and thought a general presentation on how they present, what they really look like on the inside and out, and treatment options from surgery to just maintained would be of value to the membership. You will get to meet a couple alpacas here one who is healed and one that is in maintained mode.

**Bring a chair!** We will be having the meeting down in my big barn, layer up, might be chilly to start.. we will try to have at least one propane heater going etal will be provided, depending on turn out, lunch will stay in the barn (more room).

We are doing an AFCNA collection?- Drop off will be in the barn with the alpaca pellets

Wine & Cheese after the meeting for anyone that wants to stay a bit and shoot the breeze.....(beer too)

PLEASE RSVP TO DALE dale.davis@yahoo.com



















#### The WEST COAST ALPACA SHOW Wrap Up "Alpaca show on a shoe string"

The West Coast Alpaca Show was challenged to provide a show that was the cumulative effort of three organizations. They were Calpaca, SoJaa, and IAO. A show that provided something new and innovative, educational and fun. More about fleece but still keeping the traditional halter classes. And keeping to the BUDGET. Unless you have put on a show, you might not know what goes on behind the scenes...so here is what we did.....

Location is key, close as possible to two affiliate areas, close to HWY's' and hotels and if icing could be on the cake...close to airports. Siskiyou Fairgrounds, not as pretty as we would have liked but functional and dry (hey folks....it rained pretty hard on show weekend).

Judges...we opted for international cottage rules where you can have a halter judge and a fleece judge in the same arena. We provided a new class – the Walking Fleece Class. Where your animal was judged on fleece only, right on the animal, and you were given a scorecard! And highest score for both huacaya and suri got a Trophy! Educational!!!! We had traditional halter classes but since we had color groups (Light, Medium, Dark, Grey, Variegated) we had more animals in each class. Orals done up to 10<sup>th</sup> place by the judge.



Fleece show...instead of judging at the show...why not do it ahead of time and include a spinoff with your fleece and then combine the scores for a possible "Spinner's Dream" trophy!!!

Costume class for the kids, and adults if they wanted......WAY FUN!!!!

Sponsorships – how lucky were we our vet, Michelle Ing also has alpacas and offered to do our vet check-in for a sponsorship in the show!!!! How lucky were we that our Show Program Editor and our Announcer and our Web page designer offered to do those jobs for FREE for a sponsorship in the show!!!

Photo Booth...in this day and age everything is instant! Why not provide a beautiful backdrop where you can

take your own instant pictures of your winnings and post them or keep them

for later for FREE!!! Lots of posts of happy people and their alpacas and even the judges on Facebook!

Advertising....FREE advertising on many, many groups on FACEBOOK. Email blasts, website, all free

Friday night Open Barn night everyone brought goodies and beverages and got to mingle, judges included. Saturday night – POTLUCK ....you

cannot tell me the food at the potluck was not better than the food you get at a traditional show dinner...that you had to pay for. PLUS a really fun Auctioneer, Justin Timm and our own person to do color, Dale Davis, provided entertainment and brought in lots of dollars for our show. We thank all of you who bid and all of you who donated!!!!

Are there things we would do different in the future...YOU BET..but wait for the survey and you can tell us your thoughts. We of the Show Committee enjoyed bringing you the innovative West Coast Alpaca Show.

Article submitted by: Laurie Findlay (show committee member), Alpacas of El Dorado

#### A Medicine Room and its Usage?

By: Sheila Cooney Scroggins

Published in Camelid Quarterly

Do you have a room exclusively for medications and medical supplies for your herd? In my opinion it is a necessity for any alpaca owner. As a nurse practitioner who has worked in many medical offices and hospitals, knows each has a room to store and dispense medical supplies and medications. I try to prepare for convenience and the ability to treat just about anything on the farm. Mostly to treat a minor medical problem, but also moderate medical problem, I feel comfortable handling. Included in the medication room is everything I need for herd health, both in refills and a mobile medication supply bucket to take into the field.

Buying in bulk is typically a good means to save money. For example, I always buy syringes in a box of 100 along with a box of 100 needles. Now you might say, I only have 4 alpacas, how would I ever need 100 syringes. Chances are you will at some point have more than 4 alpaca and if the supplies are kept in a clean environment they will stay sterile for years. When you buy a pack of 100 you are paying 15 cents per syringe, if you go to the feed store, you will pay probably over a dollar for each syringe.

The key to having a therapeutic medication room is it must be kept clean, dark, dry and at a reasonable temperature. It is good to have a small refrigerator for those medication that require low temperatures. Many medications can be affected by excessive temperature ranges and bright light. I have a room in the barn that is closed off from the rest of the barn. The room should also be closed off to rodents. A utility closet, or even a closet in the house, could make a great medication room. Having the medication room where you will be working with the animals is optimum, but not a requirement. At our farm, herd health is every 3 months, and we do every animal with an examination, nail trims, injections, parasite control, fecal analysis, and any other herd health activity. Having everything close to our work area in one place makes it so much more convenient. I maintain the supplies by keeping an inventory list of what is in my medication room and reorder supplies about once every 6 to 12 months.

I believe that every alpaca farmer can learn and provide the bulk of their own ranches herd health. Including giving nearly all medication. Nearly all injections in the alpaca are given via the subcutaneous (SQ) route, just under the skin. In the fat, they are relatively easy to administer and pretty hard to cause any great harm. If there is any one skill every alpaca owner should know, it is how to give a SQ shot. They can be given essentially anywhere the animal has skin and fat, which is just about anywhere on the body. I do try to give over a muscle area. That way the drug will get absorbed quicker and more efficiently.

Here are some tips I've learned along the way that might save you money in setting up or keeping a medication room. Most County Health Departments will provide free sharps containers to the public. This service is primarily directed toward Diabetics but is a good source for the sharps containers. Once the receptacle is full you can take it back to the health department for disposal. When I do my buying I spend time looking at multiple online supply outlets. Many medical supply stores meant for physician or veterinary offices will sell to the general public at wholesale rates. Always try to buy generic drugs whenever possible. Generic drugs are identical to the name brands. Don't buy Betadine, a brand name, when you can buy the exact same thing in a generic for <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> the price. Read labels, read the ingredient label for betadine and then find a generic that is identical. Betadine also comes in variable concentrations. I buy the highest concentration and then add water to dilute it down to the lower recommended concentration. Check expiration dates when you order supplies. No drug or solution should be sold without at least a year left on the expiration date. If less, ask for a new drug or get your money back. Some drugs you may want to have on hand don't require a prescription. Medications such as some antibiotics, both oral and injectable, but nearly all vitamin compounds you need for the alpaca such as BoSe (Selenium) and Vitamin AD &E or A & D combinations need no prescription.

expiration date. Drug expirations typically effect the potency of a drug, but rarely make the drug unusable. So, I typically will use drugs even if expired under a year. Usually buying larger quantities saves money. I buy 100 ml bottle rather than 50 ml bottle. I still save money even if I have to throw a small amount away due to drug being expired.

Since nearly everything is given subcutaneous (SQ) in the alpaca, I buy only one size syringe needles. Those are 18 gauge (size) by 1 inch (length). These are big enough to give oily thick solutions such as some vitamin compounds, but will also work for thin solutions such as Ivermectin. If you draw your own blood samples, 18 gauge is perfect for that, and 3 mls syringes are good for blood draws since very few blood tests require more than 3 mls of blood. So, I only buy 3 millimeter (ml) syringes since there is rarely a medication that you would administer that is more than 3 mls SQ. If you need 6 mls of something use two syringes. I give AD&E vitamins to every alpaca every 3 months, so syringes can get used up fairly quickly. Even if you have the veterinarian do much of your herd health having the equipment for their use may save you money. No needle or syringe should ever be used twice. Once a needle is out of the vial of medication it should never be reinserted.

Small narrow needles, though they go through the skin easier, need much more pressure to eject the solution and this high pressure stream is much more painful than the stream created by a bigger needle. Don't forget that needle size, the lower the number, the bigger the size. (Who ever thought up that numbering system should be flogged)? You should never need a needle length greater than 1 inch for an alpaca. In fact, you probably only need to go in under the skin about  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch. If you are drawing blood from the neck vein, a one inch is best. The neck vein is very superficial and using a longer needle may pierce the neck artery which is under the vein, which would not be good.

Bandaging can be a challenge on the alpaca. Legs are simple. If I need to keep a wound covered on the alpaca leg use Telfa (non-stick gauze) to cover the wound with triple antibiotic cream. Then take a roll of cotton gauze, wrap the leg area with the wound for padding, and finally vet wrap the area you have covered with cotton gauze. To keep it in place secure the top border around the leg with duct tape (yes, duct tape). For dressings over the blanket area the Telfa and padded dressing can be secured with duct tape as well on the fiber. Any wound that has dead tissue accumulating in the wound should be debrided (cleansed) of the dead tissue. This will enhance healing and prevent bacteria from colonizing in the dead tissue. The easiest way to do this is to irrigate the wound with water or saline. Some recommend irrigation with ½ to ½ strength hydrogen peroxide. The goal is to clean the wound but not to damage the fragile new tissue that is a part of the healing process. Anyone can buy large bags of sterile intravenous saline solution and tubing from many medical supply outlets and these make great solutions for vaginal or wound irrigation. Or, you can buy bottles of sterile saline contact lens solutions for cleansing wounds.

I never buy from a company I have to pay shipping. You are just as well off to go to your local feed store for Penicillin than to buy online and then have to pay for overnight shipping. Almost all online supply outlets have free shipping if the sale is over a given amount. I also try to buy where there is no sales tax applied.

The primary items you are going to need in your medication room is of course medications, the other is wound care items and items for completing general herd health. In my medication room I also keep medical records on all my animals. I have a binder for every animal with all their health records in hard copy. Whenever I give a medication or treatment I chart that immediately in their medical record. This is of course my preference, and I know many owners keep electronic records, which is probably the better of the two. I have created my own template but really a plain piece of paper will work just fine.



Continued on next page

There is a number of electronic medical records for download, and if you are a member of a web service like Open Herd, they offer an electronic medical record as part of the subscription. I like to have a written record I can refer to and see what has been done previously and now due to be done. Checkoff template sheets are also good for herd health activities.

Every medication room should have a small refrigerator for medications that require refrigeration. Also remember that drugs in brown bottles are light sensitive so keep those in a closed cupboard. I have several very cheap cabinets in the medication room for storage most of my light sensitive medications and liquid supplies.

Hydrogen peroxide and betadine have both lost favor in wound care. The reasoning is that both are too harsh and can destroy the fragile new cells forming to close a wound. If I use either of these topical I dilute them down by at least 50%. Hydrogen peroxide is great for debriding a wound. Debriding is the method of getting rid of dead necrotic tissue that may have accumulated in the wound. However, in dislodging this bad tissue it also dislodges new good tissue. Chlorhexidine solution is now the standard for wound cleaning, but just plain irrigation with saline or water works well to flush out dead tissue.

Wounds should be sutured or closed within 24 hours of the injury. Suturing a wound that is 24 hours old risks abscess formation. I get follicle biopsies then suture or staple right after. I believe in suturing a follicle biopsy site. Follicle biopsy is a deep puncture, down to the muscle. It is my opinion healing is much quicker with even just one stitch to close the puncture site. Another trick to close a small laceration site is to put on a clean glove, on the fingertip put a big glob of crazy glue or skin glue. Pull the sides of the laceration together such that the edges come nicely in contact with each other and put the crazy glue finger right over the wound. Hold on the site for a couple of minutes until the glue dries. Then cut away all of the glove except the tip of the finger with the glue covering the wound. The glove tip will fall away once the wound has healed sufficiently. I would not use this wound closure technique except with lacerations less than an inch in length.

After a cria is born and after I have put iodine on the umbilical cord, I will put several 4X4 Telfa pads over the cord and wrap the abdomen. I wrap lightly with vet wrap for maybe 8 to 12 hours until I am sure the cria has received the necessary colostrum to prevent infection. The primary portal of entry for pathogens is the umbilicus responsible for septicemia. Take care to not cover the penis in male crias. Don't use this method if the dressing will get wet.

For supply storage I have found that clear totes with drawers\_are best. These drawers keep the supply clean, dry, easily accessible and cheap. I use old card tables or other tables covered in plastic tablecloth to keep all the spray bottles and solutions visible and easy to find. Finally I have a canvas carryall that goes over and into a 5 gallon bucket. It has pockets on the inside and outside and it becomes a convenient cheap portable medicine chest. This tote is my most used item and would be my highest recommendation for any rancher doing their own herd health. Everything you will need for herd health can be put in the canvas pockets and inside the bucket itself. Another useful container that can be used to carry medical supplies to the alpaca, is a fishing tackle box.

Human medical supply companies are great places to buy a diversity of supplies for a medication room. Even though they are for humans, the veterinarian supplies are exactly the same as those used for people. For example the bandage wrap for humans is called "coban" and for animals it is termed "vet wrap" They are identical. So if you can find a medical supplier cheaper than a veterinary supplier all the greater savings. See my inventory list below I keep in the medication Room:

- Veterycine eye solution, great for use for inflammation from dust or prior to the veterinarian visit for an eye infections. Veterycine wound spray, this is really good stuff, but quite expensive. Any sterile saline solution for use with contact lens make a great irrigation solution for an alpaca who may have a foreign body in their eye.
- Any cream with 1% hydrocortisone, be careful not to use on any pregnant alpacas.

- Antibiotic creams of any kind, triple antibiotic formulations are the best. For small wounds or around the mouth when the alpaca develops crusty areas around the mouth. I also use it in the skin around the eyes if they develop any hair loss around the eyes.
- Gallon Concentrate Size germicide use for cleaning stalls, equipment and the trailer before or after a transport
- Gallon Isopropyl Alcohol put into smaller containers or spray bottle and label, I save spray bottles and then put on new labels



- Frontline spray (frontline is now generic: Buy products that have 9.70% fipronil, the active ingredient in frontline) or you can use Alpaca & Llama Insect Spray.
- Provolone Iodine 10%, will need to be diluted
- Chlorhexidine solution Gallon
- Injectable Penicillin G: also be used topical on fungus such as around the mouth munge.
- Injectable Gentamycin- ingredient in "witch's Brew".
- Oral & injectable Banamine or Butazolidine. (Can administer orally in a 6 ml syringe if diluted in water or apple source).
- DMSO: topical anti-inflammatory Ingredient in witch's brew
- Terramycin Ophthalmic Ointment
- BoSe injectable
- AD&E injectable
- Covexin 8 Injectable
- Oxytocin Injectable
- Dexamethasone Injectable
- Estrumate Injectable
- Dectomax: More expensive type of Ivermectin.
- Domperidone Injectable (milk increase or letdown)
- Oral Broad spectrum Antibiotic Keflex/Bactrim: Oral (no prescription required).
- Shampoo with salsylic acid: Good for cleansing any skin problems or dermatitis areas.
- Lime Sulfur- Concentrate gallon –Foot bath for chorioptic mange prevention.
- Iodoform gauze: This is gauze soaked in iodine for packing in deep wounds
- 4X4 Gauze large package
- Vet wrap (10) Cheapest I have found was Ranch Supply or Walmart (be careful that you are getting less length in the lower pricing)
- Large roll of cotton padding
- Gloves medium I use gloves with nearly every medical intervention
- Cotton Balls cleaning injection sites
- KY Jelly
- Mineral Oil
- Tweezers
- Kelly clamp
- Microchips: I have found the mini-chips to be the best for staying in place.
- Probiotics: I use for going to shows and if any alpaca is receiving antibiotics
- Knee Pads: I always wear hard knee pads to get down to do nails and protect from kicks.
- Blood Cards

Continued on next page

- Lamb or goat nipples 10
- Nail Clippers
- Syringes: 50 ml (5), 20 ml (10), 12 ml (10), 6 ml (10)
- Grease board for a running shopping list
- Plastic bags: large, medium, freezer and sandwich
- Stainless steel buckets (2) quart size for solutions or washing
- Towels: bath (2), wash cloths (5)
- Nasal infant bulb syringe for suction at birth
- Scissors/permanent markers/twine, small close pins/small rope
- Chux pads: large pads made for hospital beds that are absorbent and disposable: Great for putting under the newborn crias when he/she hits the ground. Very absorbent and clean.
- Gloves, buy cheapest, but don't buy latex gloves (are implicated in allergic reactions). I glove up for everything I do with the newborn crias. I glove for any type of wound care. Gloves should fit, so buy the size that fits. May need some trial and error. Buy by the 100 count boxes.
- Thermometer, any rectal thermometer will do. I prefer digital, takes a lot less insertion time. Tie a string on the end if not a digital thermometer to make sure you can keep ahold of it.
- Stethoscope to listen to gut, heart and lungs sounds is not that difficult to do. You can get a cheap stethoscope for about 20 bucks and can be a lifesaver for the alpaca who has colic.



#### IT'S BACK!

#### A HARD COPY CALPACA MEMBERSHIP + HERDSIRE DIRECTORY

~ A great resource to have in hand when the cyber world is not enough ~

The printed "2016 Calpaca Membership and Herdsire Directory" will have a new look and expanded focus. This paid advertisement Herdsire Directory will help underwrite the cost of a printed Membership Directory in addition to offering Calpaca members the opportunity to promote their herdsires and breeding programs at less than pennies a day!

#### **DIRECTORY TARGETED MAILING DATE IS MARCH 1, 2016**

All Calpaca members who have joined or renewed by February 15, 2016 will receive a copy! It will also be given to all new members in 2016.

#### RESERVE YOUR ADVERTISING SPACE NOW BY CONTACTING THE DIRECTORY EDITOR DIANNA JORDAN AT: DLJORDAN@LIVE.COM—530-620-6033

Calpaca Members Business Card Ads: B/W \$10 Color \$20 Color 1/4 page \$45 Color 1/2 page \$85 Color Full Page \$160 Non-Calpaca Members Business Card Ads: B/W \$20 Color \$30 Color 1/4 page \$55 Color 1/2 page \$95 Color Full Page \$170

**MORE DETAILS COMING SOON!** 

#### **Beginner's Luck**

For anyone just starting out or considering the Alpaca business, you may enjoy this or even find it useful to you.

Regardless of the number of resources you find (books, magazines, internet articles, publications, etc.) there is no replacement for a mentor.

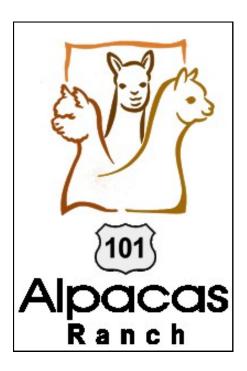
I just knew that no matter what came up, I would be able to find a quick solution in one of my books or on the internet... "NOT"! You really can't stop in the middle of a cria birth to go look something up; but you *can* make a phone call.

Fellow alpaca owners and breeders are an invaluable source for information and support. If I were asked to suggest one thing for someone new to the business it would be to network with your Alpaca Owner community.

I have had the fortunate blessing of making a connection with an experienced breeder and truly do not know where I would be now without her. Even when I ask questions which I feel show my ignorance and am embarrassed to ask, I feel safe and assured that I am on the right track. I learn a thing or two each time and am never made to feel like the novice I am. I am very lucky!

Never hold back asking for help. You may get lucky too and accidentally find yourself with a great mentor!

Submitted by Nancy Noble, Lavanda Rosa Alpacas







CHAMPION



# Welcome to the West Coast!

Color Champion Fleece, 2004 OABA Alpacafest Handspinner's Choice Fleece, 2002 AOBA National Show Breeder's Choice Fleece, 2002 AOBA National Show Reserve Grand Champion, 2001 Kentucky Classic **Nine-time Blue Ribbon Winner** 

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- · Black Forest produces color, color, color: He's had only nine white or beige offspring out his first 156 registered crias.

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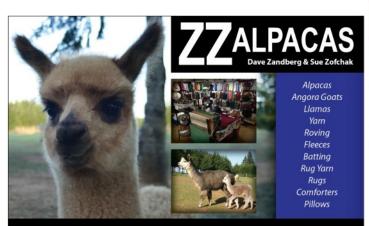




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# Herdsires

**Menagerie Hill Ranch** introduces our newest herdsire, **LV Silver Sammovar by Vantaggio!** He took the Reserve Color Champion in gray at the California Classic 2015 where judge Sharon Loner called him a "Fantastic Male", finer even than the juvie in the class!

Sammo is the product of a medium silver gray sire (4 time Champion LV Vantaggio Di Bisturi) with spectacular fleece characteristics including an 18 micron fleece at three years, and a true black dam (LV Black Sapphire) from a line known for it's retained fineness. His blanket is the most beautiful medium steel gray; extremely dense with abundant crimp, bundling and a wonderful handle. In fact, his 2014 fleece (1 year) was 16.7 microns!

We believe he can make a big impact on our breeding program and yours! He's already settled his first girls with pregnancies confirmed. And we can't wait to see what he produces! We've set his breedings at an introductory price of \$750. Get your breedings now and take advantage of his great genetics at a great price! Deb Galway & Kirk Howard, Owners. www.menageriehillranch.com 707.290.7915

Attention breeders of exotic suris Derwydd Tagi's Phawchi is now residing at Alpacas of Somerset Farm. A true "standout" in the field Phawchi is one sexy herdsire with incredible exotic and elegant coloring covering a solid and impressive frame. If you want part Accoyo full Peruvian genetics in your colored breeding program check him out: http://www.openherd.com/alpacas-forsale/105966/derwydd-tagis-phawchi. For more information about Phawchi and our other impressive males visit www.alpacasofsomersetfarm.com then contact Dianna or Jack Jordan, 530-620-6033 to book your breedings. Multiple discounts available.

El R Cash, an El R Luciano son, now standing at Macedo's Mini Acre. Cash is a harlequin grey boy, who's throwing lots of different colors. Offspring conformation and fleece characteristics are stunning as well. Other studs available as well.<u>www.macedosminiacre.com</u> or <u>maureenmacedo@aol.com</u> Larry's cell 209-648-2338

Plan your spring breedings with Washoe Valley's Dr. K in mind. This four year old herdsire is the son of Derwydd's Manchu and an El Nino Grandson. His first cria are on the ground and they are gorgeous. You can still get introductory breedings for \$750 and there are discounts available for multiple breedings. Drive-bys can be arranged. Call Roger at 559-591-3321 for more information.

Two of Crescent Moon's best are now standing at Alpacas of Somerset Farm. We are proud to announce we are hosting Crescent Moon's Krypton, the dark brown son of Kryptonite and grandson of the legendary 4Peruvian Legacy and Crescent Moon's Private Reserve II, the medium fawn son of 6Peruvian Accoyo Elite. Thank you Donna Poplawski, American Pride Alpacas, for entrusting us with your magnificent herdsires. Check them out at ww.americanpridealpacasllc.com and then give Dianna (530-620-6033) a call to find out how easy it is to add these world class genetics to your herd.

# Herdsires

For Lease: Two times light fawn Reserve Color Champion ALR Inti-Sapa's Peruvian Ruffo is available for lease with unlimited breedings - \$3000 for 3 months. Check him out at <u>http://alpacasontheweb.com/StudDetails.asp?ID=90&DetailType=Dam</u>. His crias include black! Questions? Call us at 541-821-8071 or email renategyuro@gmail.com

Achieving Greatness in Gray...The studs at **Heart & Soul Alpacas and Spinnery**! MSG 4 x Champion, 8 x blue ribbon winner 4-Sight's Applause throwing 85% Black or gray and 75% female! BB 4 x Champion including 2012 AOBA Nationals, 12 x blue ribbon winner LKR Total Eclipse. And last but not least and hot off the grill A Paca Fun's Sonic Shift, already a reserve Champion and 2 x blue ribbon winner at 6 months of age! (will be breeding fall 2016) Call 543 432-3015 www.heartandsoulspinnery.com

Introducing Valiant of AHHH Sweet, a Vantaggio son. Valiant is the Black Color Champion, California Classic Roundup 2014, where Dave Barboza declared "This is what we are breeding for, this boy has it all". Valiant has already begun his breeding career with his advance reservations and is now eager to entertain your girl. If you are looking for True Black with lots of Gray in his background, Valiant is worth a look (and more importantly a good feel). He has density, character and a great handle, ask anyone who has seen him! **\$500 introductory breeding** for Calpaca Members. (707) 448-9157

# Agisting

**Menagerie Hill Ranch** is a full service, family run ranch offering **agisting**, **consulting**, **sales**, **support and alpaca fiber products**. Our agisting service includes quality feed/water, routine husbandry, vaccinations and other care. Alpacas on a long term agisting plan receive free shearing. Owners are welcome to visit any time and we will help you learn how to care for your alpacas. Veterinary care, breeding, training and other services are extra. Standard rate \$3.50 per day. We are located in the English Hills area of Vacaville, close to Hwy 505.

Deb Galway & Kirk Howard, Owners www.menageriehillranch.com 707.290.7915

**Sierra Rose Alpacas**— Located in Grass Valley, 1 hour East of Sacramento, we invite you to consider us when looking for a home for agisting your alpacas. We have owned alpacas since 2006, and have both Huacaya and Suri's. In our early years, we agisted ourselves, so we know how important it is to find a good home for your alpacas. We offer competitive rates, with a full time ranch manager on site (Howard). We provide gentle, trustworthy interaction with them regularly. Rotational grazing principles are used to provide year round pasture. We also feed them orchard grass hay, alfalfa when needed, free choice minerals, and supplemental pellets are given daily. Vet services extra. We offer specialized services, and work closely with our agistors to give you and your alpacas the care you want such as halter training, husbandry, education, etc. Howard and Cynthia Kuhlmann, 530-272-1218 www.SierraRoseAlpacas.com

**Heart and Soul Alpacas and Spinnery** offers full agisting and herd management services. We have 20 fenced acres and a small herd ourselves. We operate our ranch full time and offer boarding, breeding birthing, training, showing and mentoring services. Give us a jingle if you are in the need of boarding your alpacas short term or long term. Call 543 432-3015 www.heartandsoulspinnery.com

# For Sale

Suri or Huacaya alpacas for sale, males and females. Plus, Derwydd Inti-Hatun offspring for sale at Macedo's Mini Acre. We're breeding for colorful patterns and these stunning dark brown "chip off the old block" kids need to go somewhere they can be used! Extremely reasonable pricing, especially if you take more than two! www.macedosminiacre.com or maureenmacedo@aol.com Larry's cell 209-648-2338

Three darling little huacaya boys for sale. Donnie Lee, white (b. 5-2014) Handsome, brown (b. 10-2012) and Pershing, white (b. 11-2012). \$ 550. each. Halter and lead trained. No medical issues. Excellent confirmation. Love carrots and fruitless mulberry leaves. Great junior herdsire material. Looking for an excellent new home. **Barb's Alpaca Ranch** 559-834-4934

# Services

Full Service Fiber Processing! **Heart & Soul Spinnery** is a professionally run custom order mill located in Northern California. Haven't used our services before? Ask about our new customer specials or check out our website for current running specials www.heartandsoulspinnery.com

## Transport

Colusa Riverside Alpacas provides safe transport for livestock in the western United States. Our rates are at the industry standard and the ride is comfortable and clean. Please choose Colusa Riverside for all your transport needs. <u>www.colusariversidealpacas.com</u> and 530 458 4022.

