

The SSLA



LLAMA JOURNAL

The Official Journal of the Southern States Llama Association

July 2023



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*Cover:
from Gainesville Memorial
Llama and Alpaca Show*

Submission deadline for the next issue is October 15, 2023

Send articles, photos (digital format) to:

Charlene Braun, Online Journal Editor, turtlrn@earthlink.net

SSLA BOARD MEMBERS AND INFORMATION

Board of Directors

Donna Justice, *President*
applegal30@gmail.com

Bailey Jones, *Vice President*

Kathy Devaul, *Treasurer*
Kdevaul2@gmail.com

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mrc604@tampabay.rr.com

Debbie Andrews, *Director*
dllogcabin1@gmail.com

Maylene Hall, *Director*
simplicityllamafarm@yahoo.com

Dawn Shaver, *Director*
momod3boys959808@gmail.com

Alex Rodman Geis, *Director*
alexrodman12@gmail.com

Committee Chairs & Contacts

(If the committee chair is a board member, that person is also the Board Liaison)

Committees

Annual Meeting Conference—
 Mary Rose Collins

By-law Amendment—Tom Wilson
 Board Liaison: Alex Rodman Geis

Carting—Greg Hall
 Board Liaison: Maylene Hall

Discover Llama—Liam Munroe
 Board Liaison: Alex Rodman Geis

Election—Charlene Braun
 Board Liaison: Donna Justice

Fiber—Tracy Weaver
 Board Liaison: Mary Rose Collins

Online Journal—Charlene Braun
turtlrn@earthlink.net
 Board Liaison: Donna Justice

Library—Lauren Wright
 Board Liaison: Bailey Jones

Llama Trekking & Packing—Tom Rothering
 Board Liaison: Mary Rose Collins

Membership—Lauri Jones
 Board Liaison: Donna Justice

Show—Kathy Devaul
 Board Liaison: Debbie Andrews

Website—Vicki Sundberg
 Board Liaison: Mary Rose Collins

Youth & Youth Ambassador Awards—
 Jackie Ellett
 Board Liaison: Dawn Shaver

Youth Scholarship—Tom Rothering/
 Board Liaison: Alex Rodman Geis

Ambassador Awards—Maylene Hall

Trekking Awards—Janessa Moore
 Board Liaison: Maylene Hall

Sweepstakes Awards—Vicki Sundberg
 Board Liaison: Donna Justice

Rescue—Deborah Logan
logan99.mail@gmail.com
 Board Liaison: Maylene Hall

Youth—Cathie Kindler
 Board Liaison: Dawn Shaver

Journal Mission Statement

THE LLAMA JOURNAL, published by the Southern States Llama Association (SSLA) is distributed quarterly to the members of SSLA. The purpose of the Journal is to provide:

- Information and articles of interest
- A forum for members to express their opinions on llamas and related matters
- Board of Directors meeting minutes, Treasurer's report and other information pertinent to the function of SSLA.

Notice: The information contained in this Journal is not intended to be a substitute for qualified professional advice. Our readers are encouraged to consult with their own vets, accountants or attorneys for questions concerning their animals or business operations. SSLA or the editor is not responsible for any losses resulting from a reader's failure to heed this caution. Opinions expressed or implied are hereby the editor's choice and are not the opinions of the SSLA Board of Directors or SSLA as a group.

SSLA Mission Statement

OUR MISSION as members of the Southern States Llama Association is to be a strong organization of llama and alpaca owners who have joined together for the purpose of education, fun, and fellowship while promoting the health and welfare of llamas and the llama industry.

SSLA Online—keep in touch with your llama organization

Website: www.ssla.org

Facebook page: Listed as "SSLA-Southern States Llama Association"

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello SSLA,

Hope everyone is enjoying their summer and taking the time needed to prepare your llamas and alpacas for the heat and humidity. Shearing, on-going health checks, pasture cleanup, proper shelter, access to fresh cool drinking water, wading pool or water access, limiting standing and stagnate water, and running fans can all help aid in your herd's health during this time. I know our guys and gals love their trips to our cool mountain creek to cool off.

SSLA needs volunteers!!! By volunteering, it will allow you to become more connected with SSLA. It will allow you to help steer the direction of SSLA and its programs and events. By growing the number of volunteers within our organization, it will help create and structure a bigger, brighter, and stronger organization. Without volunteers, the organization will not thrive. We suffer at events, on committees, and filling spots vacated on the Board of Directors each year. As the SSLA President, I am reaching out for volunteers and assistance. Please consider becoming a vital dependable part of our organization. Please contact me to discuss, Donna Justice, donnassla@gmail.com.

SSLA Board Committee and the Chairpersons:

Annual Conference - Mary Rose Collins

Library - Lauren Wright

Show - Kathy Devaul

Website - Vicky Sundberg

Online Journal - Charlene Braun

Youth Scholarship - Tom Rothering

Carting - Greg Hall

Ambassador Awards - Maylene Hall

Trekking Awards - Janessa Moore

Sweepstakes Awards - Vicky Sundberg

Youth Ambassador - Jackie Ellett

Youth - Cathie Kindler

Membership - Lauri Jones

Election - Charlene Braun

By-Laws - Tom Wilson

Fiber - Tracy Weaver

Pack - Tom Rothering

Discover Llama - Liam Munroe

Rescue - Deborah Logan

We have an exciting fall and spring planned and I hope many of you will be able to attend some of the shows, pack trials, and conferences in the coming year. We still want some members to serve on many of our committees, so please contact me if interested in any of the committees. Our llama community is growing and if you know someone in your area that has llamas, encourage them to join SSLA. Heart of Dixie is our next show on Sept. 1-3 at Willow Tree Farms. A special thank you to Stacy Mashburn and Willow Tree Farms for always making our visits there so memorable. It's a beautiful venue and is always a great time among the llama community. White Lightning is at Ellaberry Llama Farm, and even though it is a new host, the farm is in Western North Carolina and is a beautiful location to visit. Plans for a Pack Trail this fall are in the works and hopefully we will announce a date soon. Our conference committee has been hard at work already planning next year's conference. Please plan to attend.

For a full list of other activities and events, please go to the SSLA website at www.ssla.org. If you have information you would like to post or update on the website, please contact webmaster, Vicki Sundberg homesweethome_3@yahoo.com

Thank you to each of you for your support! I look forward to hearing from you soon! Be safe in your travels! Hope everyone has a wonderful summer.

Donna Justice

SSLA President

SSLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

ZOOM MEETING

JUNE 4, 2023

Call to Order at 7:35 pm by President Donna Justice.

Reminder all SSLA Board Meeting discussions are confidential until minutes of said meeting are released to the Membership after approval of the Board of Directors.

Attendees:

Donna Justice President, Mary Rose Collins Secretary
Kathy Devaul Treasurer, non-voting member,
Maylene Hall, Board of Director, Debbie Andrews, Board of Director, Dawn Shaver, Board of Director, absent,
Bailey Jones, Board of Director, absent, Alex Rodman Geis, Board of Director, absent

Topic: Treasurer's Report

Kathy Devaul

Old Business**Topic: Conference**

Discussed dates and conflicts.

Motion: The Conference at the Lodge on March 9 & 10, 2024

Motion seconded

Motion passed unanimously.

Further discussion of the Conference and Budget the Board agreed to add funds from the general account to better solicit speakers and activities.

Action to be taken:

Mary Rose to contact the Lodge and lock in dates, send out save the date announcement to members.

All Board Members to make suggestions on activities and Chairpersons to ensure their areas are covered for awards and potential speaker/activities. Donna recommended certification awards for packing.

Topic: Committee Chairs and Liaisons

Action to be taken: Donna will email all Liaisons and Chairs to ensure they are good with their positions and will contact Tom Wilson to request him to be the Election Chair.

Solicit Membership to be Committee Members to ensure future Chairs and learning the committees.

Topic: T Shirt Update

General discussion, process for payment and treasury accountability to be established.

Topic: Website

Donna requested everyone to look at the website for errors and possible changes as well as updating pictures and information.

New Business**Topic: Renaming the Memorial Show, previously NETLS**

Brief discussion concerning the history of show's moving, being established and renaming.

Motion: Rename the NETLS to the SSLA Memorial Show

Motion Seconded

Passed Unanimously.

Due to this Motion, Action to be taken: Bylaw Change reflected the name change in section 6.8 Other Board Responsibilities.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Save the Date

Southern States Llama Association



Annual Meeting and Conference

March 8-10, 2024

The Lodge

Flat Rock, North Carolina

Informative Speakers

Networking

Vendors

Sweepstakes Awards Dinner

OBSTACLE BUILDING 2023



Southern States Llama Association obstacle building event. It's been a very productive day. Thanks Paul Kyst and Kathy Devaul for organizing and leading this successful event. Thanks to those who came to show their support and skills assembling bridges, platforms, car wash station, teeter totters and more. Lauri Jones, Jackie Ellett, Heather Loudermilk Ascenzo, Melissa Apel, Vicky Southwick, Michael, Marit, Rachael Gilley, Tab Gilley, David and Andie Frederick.

~Kim Kyst



GAINESVILLE MEMORIAL LLAMA & ALPACA SHOW GAINESVILLE, GA



GAINESVILLE MEMORIAL LLAMA & ALPACA SHOW GAINESVILLE, GA



GAINESVILLE MEMORIAL LLAMA & ALPACA SHOW GAINESVILLE, GA



MEMORIES FROM 2010

PRINCESS AT THE BEACH

BY KAREN SCHRANK

Princess is a one-year-old “let-go” (not really a rescue) llama with a great future as a pack and/or performance animal. She is an intelligent, calm, small-stature, medium wool creature, featured in a recent article in the Wilmington, NC *Star News*. For her first year, she had no human contact – she, her dam, her sire and half-sister lived in a pasture where they were loved, fed and watered, but never touched, haltered, groomed, or trained. After coming to SundMist Pastures she was handled and trained to halter. The Llama Rendezvous at the Beach, held April 16-19, 2010, was her first public event.

To get her from SundMist Pastures to Ft. Fisher, Princess experienced something few llamas ever become familiar with, a ride on a ferry. Once the ferry was fully underway, Princess and the other llamas were allowed to leave their trailers and come out onto the deck. She stepped onto the metal deck, reverberating from the powerful engines as though she'd been on ferries regularly during her year of life.

Once on deck, she met an unrelenting wind—not much of a challenge for an animal whose coat resembles 10 sweaters layered over one another. The cry of the gulls, the reflection of the early morning sun off the water, the smell of the salt air, surrounded by water—all things few llamas many times her age never experience—simply occasioned a thoughtful expression on those long-lashed dark eyes.

The author was her handler, a relatively novice llama handler, during a hike on a trail at Ft. Fisher where she was exposed to llamas she had never met before, as well as new human beings. The hike itself was filled with situations and footing that a llama in its native habitat would never experience. In the South American altiplano, trees are likely to be tough scrubby

brush clinging to tiny patches of soil in the rocks; they do not form a tunnel of greenery through which the llama walks. The trail chosen for the hike around Ft. Fisher contains many such green-walled corridors. Mercifully, the hordes of hungry formations of biting insects that have descended on llamas and people in years past were absent from this year's hike.

As for footing, there was not only sand, which was more of a problem for the handlers than the llamas, but there was also lengthy wooden bridges over the marshes and concrete with gaping holes on the jetty.

Further, Princess met hikers on the trail and crowds on the beach with small children and cameras. She handled all these events with an aplomb that belied her lack of previous training. She shied only once when coming up a ramp from one level of the beach to another. From the edge of her vision she saw pedestrians clad in flapping towels on an upper level of the walkway and became momentarily disconcerted. Otherwise, she behaved with regal tranquility when confronted with photographers, and unrelenting wind and the sea. She participated in the “Llama Games” which were traditional llama obstacles, such as a jump and duck under, but she had not previously been trained in doing these. She was so cooperative that even a child, whose family happened to be at the beach that day, successfully led Princess. This was the picture captured in the newspaper – the beaming little girl with sweet little Princess.

The term “princess” often refers to a female exhibiting high-maintenance behaviors. In this case, however, it refers to a youngster that has already matriculated from the llama school of impeccable deportment.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING LLAMA EVENTS

Date	What	Where	Contact
September 1-3, 2023	Heart of Dixie Llama & Alpaca Show	Willow Tree Farm Ringgold, GA	Kathy Devaul kdevaul2@gmail.com
September 15-17, 2023	White Lightning Llama/Alpaca Show	Justice Farm Hendersonville, NC	Kathy Devaul kdevaul2@gmail.com
October 13-15, 2023	SSLA GA National Fair Llama Show and SE Regional Show	GA National Fairgrounds Perry, GA	Kathy Devaul kdevaul2@gmail.com



Southern States Llama Association Advertising Opportunities

Our Llama Journal

Published Quarterly, your support helps SSLA and gets you customers
Contact **Charlene Braun**, Online SSLA Journal Editor at turtlrun@earthlink.net

SSLA Discover Llama Magazine

Published for new camelid owner or those interested in owning llamas
Contact **Tom Wilson** at williesspiritfarm@gmail.com

Southern States Llama Association Website

www.ssla.org
Members can advertise their animals, products, and "stuff" here on our web site
Contact **Vicki Sundberg** at homesweethome_3@yahoo.com

Southern States Llama Association Annual Membership Directory

Members have the opportunity to promote farm, services, animals and products with print advertisements
Contact **Lauri Jones** at laurijones55@gmail.com