



Herd Talk

CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT LAMA ASSOCIATION

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Spring is in the Air!

While the snow is still falling in the high country it's hard to believe that nice weather is just around the corner. If you haven't started working with this year's show stars now is the time to break out the halters, lead ropes and obstacles and start practicing. If the show ring is not your thing, then you can still break out the halters and lead ropes and start going for walks. Both you and your llamas will benefit from the exercise and you'll be ready for the summer hikes we have lined up this year.

Still not buying it? Well, lets face it, with the weather improving there will be plenty of chores and repairs to catch up on after this hard winter. But I'd rather be out walking the llamas than replacing fencing or worse, painting the barn...but that's just me!

The first **Show Clinic** of the year is this month on April 16th at Margaret Drew's ranch in Vacaville. Learn some of the best kept secrets on how to show your llama in the halter ring; the best way to negotiate an obstacle course; and find out from real judges what they are actually looking at in the ring. (It can't be "my" llama, because they didn't even place her and she's the best!)

Our annual spring **Clipper Party** will be held at the Adams' ranch in Grass Valley at the end of April. Don't miss this opportunity to learn from the professionals on how to get your llama looking her (or his) best this summer.

Registrations are now open for the **Grass Valley Llama Show** held over Memorial Day weekend. Make sure to enter early to get the stalling you want! If you plan on camping at the fairgrounds during the show you need to make your reservations NOW. They expect the campground to fill up quickly and you don't want to be left scrambling to find a spot at the last minute!

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Annual Meeting



Our annual meeting has been postponed until later this year. The BOD is meeting this month to determine a new date.

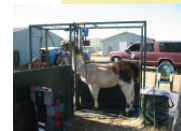
While Rick & Mary Adams' place was beautiful in the snow, it was just plain out dangerous trying to get there. This photo was taken the day before the scheduled meeting!

We will let you know when and where the next meeting will be held!

Special points of interest:

- **ANNUAL MEETING**
POSTPONED!
- **MEMBERSHIPS**
DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!
- **RESERVE YOUR CAMPSITE**
CONTACT THE NEVADA CO FAIRGROUNDS TODAY TO MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR THE GRASS VALLEY SHOW. CAL-ILA WILL NOT RESERVE SPACES THIS YEAR!

Don't miss the clipper party!





CAL-ILA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) unincorporated association that promotes the education of the Association's members and the public in the caring for, breeding and raising of llamas and other camelids.

CAL-ILA is committed to supporting, promoting and developing Youth related llama activities. CAL-ILA supports and promotes camelid research. CAL-ILA works through cooperative efforts with other associations, organizations and/or groups to meet these objectives.

www.cal-ila.org

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Spring is Coming *(cont..)*

The annual **Blanket Party** will be held in June so you will have decorations ready for your local 4th of July Parade. Check the calendar for more information.

This will be the 2nd year of the earlier dates for the **California State Fair**. Show registration forms should be available at www.bigfun.org by the end of the month. To get a sneak peak, go to the State Fair page on the CAL-ILA website.

The **Solano County Fair Llama Show** is the weekend following the State Fair. Held at the Fairgrounds in Vallejo, this is a fun filled

single day show that is fun for everyone.

The next weekend is the **Hot August Nights Show** at Lora's Llama Ranch in Turlock. This is a fun Performance only no-groom show held under the cotton-wood trees. Camping is available on the ranch!

Ellen Goldsmith is leading the **High Sierra Llama Hike** into the Dardanelles Lakes area south of Lake Tahoe. This overnight trip will be the perfect opportunity to get away and enjoy your llama out in nature.

As the summer winds down

we have the second hike of the year planned for the Pollock Pines area. This **Sierra Foothills Overnight Hike** will be the last chance of the year to get out into the mountains before the snow starts to fall again.

We will wrap up the year with a December **Craft Party** just in time for those last minute Christmas gifts!

Whew...I'm tired just thinking about all of the activities awaiting us this year! I guess I'd better get those chores done now, so I'll have time to play with my llamas! **Hope to see you out there....**



Even the llamas are anxious to get out and do some exploring after this winter is finally over!