



# Back to Basics

Conference 2011 – November 10th-13th  
Hartford Marriott Farmington,  
Farmington, CT

Dear Gala Members,

Well, it's that time of year again when you start planning to attend the GALA conference. We are pleased to have **Larry McCool** who will educate us on "How to collect, sort and send the Fiber to various mills" for process into many products. He will also speak on his Pacific Northwest Llama fiber Cooperative. **Dr. Stephen Purdy** will speak on varied topics such as "Crias & Yearlings." **Lama Lobsang Palden**, a Tibetan Holy man who studied under The Dalai Lama, will speak on different lifestyle topics from Tibet and how to fully use all of your animal. **Dr. Jen Hall** and **Doreen Hudson** will speak and give a live demonstration on therapeutic laser treatments for Meningeal worm. **Dr. Patrick Long** from Morris Animal Foundation will speak on the needs of older llamas and alpacas. **Peggy Gaffney** will unveil her new book "The Crafty Llama and Alpaca Knits."

**The Herd of Vermonters** will be manning the The Gayle Garrison Fiber Room. (I do miss that great lady as I know you all do). **Farmington Rescue** will be teaching us what to do in case you have a farm emergency. Some of our vendors will be giving talks on some new products that impact our industry.

We as an organization are very lucky to have such a wealth of experience and knowledge from our very own members. The following members have without hesitation have agreed to speak at our Conference. My list of Heroes are in no particular order: **Alexa Metrick, Carol Reigh, Shari Templeton** (Who can forget her dance moves at last years auction), **Tabbitha Haubold-Magee, Marc Page, Gary Ralph, Anita Collins, Sara Davis, and Bob Wolfe.** **Tom Marino** will be auctioning any thing we put in front of him. **Pat McKinney** will once again be in charge of organizing the auction items.

**Carol Reigh** will be surprising us at the Ice breaker on Thursday night and a family-friendly comedian will keep us laughing on Friday night.

This year's Conference theme is "Back to Basics" because our industry is changing and we need to be more creative in ways we use our llamas and alpacas and all of their byproducts.

Please consider being a sponsor at any level you are comfortable with from \$25 to \$1000.

On behalf of the 2011 Conference committee I urge you to attend and encourage other to attend. This is your Conference!

**Patrick Elias** 860-619-8039 cqlf6@hotmail.com

**Kelly Ralph** 631-924-1602 lazyllamaranch@optonline.net

**“Back to Basics,” the 2011 Annual Conference of the Greater Appalachian Llama & Alpaca Association will be held at the Hartford Marriott Farmington, in Farmington, Connecticut.** The hotel has reserved a block of rooms on a first come, first served basis until October 9, 2011. Be sure to state that you are with GALA when you make your reservations. You may request a smoking or non-smoking room. We have one great price of \$99 plus tax per night for single or double rooms if booked by October 9. Check-in is 4:00 p.m. and check-out is by 12 noon.

**To make Hotel Reservations call: 1-860-678-1000**

## Transportation:

Bradley International Airport is located 25 miles from the hotel. (There is no shuttle service provided by the hotel.)

**Driving directions: Coming from North:** Rte. 91 South to Rte. 84 W to exit 37 Finemann Road straight across the exit. Hotel is located in Farm Springs Office Park at 15 Farm Springs Road. **From South-91:** North to 691 W to 84E to Exit 37 at the end of the exit turn left and at the next light turn right onto Farm Springs Road. **Coming from the East or West:** pick up Interstate 84 to Exit 37 and follow same as above.

### Full Conference registration is:

Thursday: 3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. & Friday 7:00 a.m.-7:45 a.m.

### Partial Package Conference registration is:

Saturday: 7:00 a.m. - 7:45 a.m.

You will receive a name tag at registration. It will reflect the name and farm name as they appear on your registration form.

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT YOUR NAME TAG WILL INSURE YOUR ADMITTANCE TO ALL SESSIONS AND MEALS. WEAR IT TO ALL CONFERENCE FUNCTIONS.**

A limited number of individual meal tickets will be available for Conference attendees who are expecting a guest for Saturday night's banquet. Inquire at the registration table when you check in for the Conference.

Hotel registration must be done at the main desk which is located to the left at the hotel's main entrance.

## GALA Membership Dues

If you have overlooked paying your annual membership dues or are new to GALA, please include your dues payment with your Conference registration form. GALA dues are \$40 yearly. The year runs from July 1st-June 30th. Check the space under Join or Renew GALA membership on the registration form. If you do not wish to join GALA, non-member conference registrations are available, but will cost \$50 more per person than member conference registrations.

## Sweatshirts for Sale

Gray sweatshirt with the GALA LOGO in blue. Adult sizes S, M, L, XL and 2XL are \$15.95 each. Adult sizes 3XL, 4XL, 5XL and 6XL are \$18.95 each. Must be pre-ordered on your registration form.

## Farm / Product Displays

Farm/Product displays are an excellent way to advertise. Each 18" x 8' space is \$60. A table is provided, but you must bring your own extension cord. If you want electricity. Be sure to circle "Electric" under Exhibits — Farm/Products Display on the registration form (Not all spaces have access to electricity.)

There are a limited number of farm/product display spaces so they will be on a first come, first served basis. Set up begins 4:00 p.m. Thursday.

## Farm Banners

Farm banners are welcome and will be hung by the Marriott on a first come, first served basis, where space allows. Be sure to drop off your banners at the Conference registration table when you arrive and include identifying information on the back of your farm banner.

## Vendor Space

Vendors will be located in the Grand Ballroom and Hallway outside the Grand Ballroom. Each space is approximately 100 sq. ft. Not all spaces will have a solid back wall so plan accordingly. Each vendor space will be provided with two tables and two chairs. Electricity will be available upon request (first come, first served) but you must bring your own extension cords. Vendors will receive one copy of the Conference Notebook. Vendor space is limited so please sign up early. **For more info contact Liz Murtha at 860-693-0303 or llylacilly@aol.com.**

**Vendor set up is Thursday 4:00-7:00 p.m.** Vendors must be set up by 10:00 p.m. Thursday. Break down may begin after breakfast on Sunday unless special circumstances apply.

## Separate Meals Package for Vendors

This year we are continuing to offer a separate complete Conference meals package for vendors. Cost is \$175 per person includes the following: Thursday Ice Breaker, Friday and Saturday lunch and dinner, Sunday breakfast, all scheduled breaks and events scheduled during meals. Breakfast on Friday and Saturday is on your own with a Continental Breakfast on Sunday. Check the Full Meals Only Package space under EXHIBITS on the registration form.

## Individual Meal Tickets for Vendors

A limited number of individual meal tickets will be available for vendors not purchasing the Full Meals only Package. Inquire at the registration table when you check in for the Conference.

## What to Bring

Please bring suitable attire for the outdoor sessions, remembering that the Conference is in early November. Any classes with hands-on animal demonstrations will be held outdoors, rain or shine. The hotel has an indoor pool and fitness center, so bring your swimsuit and fitness clothes if that's your thing!

## Fundraising Donations

GALA prides itself on donating funds to Camelid medical research and government relations each year as a result of our fundraising which takes place during the Conference. A very small percent of the funds raised is retained for the GALA operating budget. Please consider giving in one of the following ways:

- **Donate items for the Live Auction, Silent Auction, and Raffle Auction.**
- **Donate money directly to GALA.**
- **Set aside money to spend** at the Conference in the various fundraisers, including the 50/50 Raffle and those listed above.
- **Offer your time to help.** We need volunteers to act as Speaker Hosts and to help set-up on Thursday and break down on Sunday.

Why not consider teaming up with a few friends to donate a larger item to the live auction such as; a digital scale, clippers, spinning wheel, weaving loom, carder, art work, computer software, llama chute, catch panels, medical supplies, birthing kit, microscope, centrifuge, pack saddle, blower, camera for trailer or barn, automatic waterer, etc. These are just a few suggestions. Think about it!

**To help us keep track of donations being made, please complete the Conference Fundraising section on the registration form.**

**If you are unable to bring your item to the conference, send it to: Pat Elias, 91 Cemetery Hill Road, West Cornwall CT, 06796.**

## What Not to Bring

Your animals—unless you made arrangements to bring them for demonstration purposes. There will be no private treaty sales.

## The Gayle Garrison Fiber Room

The Fiber Room manned by the "Herd of Vermonters" will be located in The Vermont room which is conveniently located across from the Banquet Hall. See Fiber Room information in this booklet for a glimpse of what they have planned.

## Ice Breaker

The Ice Breaker on Thursday evening serves as an informal and fun way to meet and greet people at the Conference.

For newcomers to the Conference, it's a great way to meet others and break out of your shell (if you have one). For "oldcomers" it serves as a way to welcome people into the GALA community and to make new llama friends. Carol Reigh will be surprising us with "Mirth & Merriment." A lite fare and cash bar will be provided.

## Fiber Evaluation

Send in 3 oz. of raw, clean camelid fiber (do not wash) and get back a 2 oz. handspun skein of yarn from your fiber and a written evaluation from our talented hand spinners.

**Please fill out the enclosed Fiber Evaluation Application making your check payable to GALA Conference 2011 and mail to the address on the form. For more info call Edie Cardwell at 540-937-2745.**

**Fiber samples must be postmarked BY September 12, 2011**

## Conference Notebook Advertising

The GALA Conference Notebook is a valuable resource and, therefore, a good advertising investment for your farm or business. Even if you cannot attend the Conference, it's a great way to get your name out there. Please consider placing an Ad; it will benefit both you and GALA. If you've never advertised before, Joanne Beckmann will walk you through it with ease. She'll even design a simple advertisement for you — no charge.

Please fill out the enclosed Conference Notebook Advertising Application making your check payable to GALA Conference 2011 and mail to the address on the form. You may also snail mail your check and application and submit your ad via email.

**Advertising deadline is September 15th, 2011**

## Photo Contest

Don't forget to enter the Photo Contest! It's easy...

- Photographer must be a GALA member and an amateur
- Each Photographer may submit two entries per category
- Each entry must contain a camelid or some identifiable portion of a Camelid
- \$7.00 per photo, check payable to GALA Conference 2011
- Categories: Children's, Portrait, Full Body, At Work, Interacting with People, Comedy, General, Crias, Black & White, and Altered Images.

For more information about size, mattes, entry fees, and display see the August, 2011 issue of the GALA newsletter.

**Send envelopes marked: "Photo Handle w/Care" to: GALA Photo Contest, c/o Robert Patterson, Turtle Hill Farm, 208 Grassy Hill Road, East Lyme, CT 06333.**

**Photo contest deadline IS October 30th, 2011**

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## Thursday Schedule

1:00	Animal set up begins
3:00-7:00	Conference Registration
4:00	Vendor set up begins Hotel Registration
<b>5:00</b>	<b>GALA Board of Directors Meeting</b>
5:00-7:00	Dinner on your own
<b>7:30-?</b>	<b>Ice Breaker</b>

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## Friday Schedule

7:00-8:00	Breakfast on your own
7:00-7:45	Conference Registration
<b>8:00-8:15</b>	<b>Welcome</b>
<b>8:15-9:15</b>	<b>Keynote speaker — Lama Lobsang Palden</b>

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SESSION  
**1**

9:30-10:30

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### Llama/Alpaca Rescue, Welfare and Rehousing

Marc Page Connecticut

*A frank and open discussion of the reasons llamas and alpacas need new homes, and how to be part of the solution.*

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### How to Plan & Manage a GALA Conference

Anita Collins Massachusetts

*Learn the joys and pitfalls of putting on a GALA conference. There is no need to feel intimidated by the thought of chairing a conference, it just takes organization and attention to detail. Get a timeline, committee and a course of action and...POOF...there's a conference! A variety of volunteers are needed to put on these conferences. Come and learn the how to's and then consider volunteering.*

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### Llama Reproduction

Dr. Stephen Purdy New Hampshire

*Learn about issues pertaining to llama reproduction and infertility.*

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### Cart Driving 101

Ralph Foxwell Outside

*Join Ralph and learn how to get started in cart driving from choosing your llama to that first drive and everything in between.*

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**10:30-10:45 Break**

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SESSION  
**2**

10:45-11:45

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### Local Author

Peggy Gaffney Connecticut

*The author of "The Crafty Llama and Alpaca Knits." She will tell you why she feels you are sitting on pure gold.*

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### Physical Therapy for Camelids with Neurological Damage after Meningeal Worm Infection

Dr. Jen Hall, Rhonda Lehrman Massachusetts  
and Doreen Hudson

A discussion on both medical and physical therapy programs designed for Larry the Llama who suffered from neurological damage caused by Meningeal Worm. The speakers will share treatment information on medicines, exercises and heat and laser equipment used during their three year journey with Larry.

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### Animal Emergency

Dr. Stephen Purdy New Hampshire

*Learn what to tell your vet when a llama/alpaca emergency arises. What should you have on hand and what you will need to relay to the vet.*

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SESSION  
**3**

12:00-1:00

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### Vendor Products

Vendors Connecticut

*Come see what exciting and new products our vendors have to offer and what products are "Green." They will also discuss the proper use of their products.*

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### Morris Animal Foundation Update

Dr. Patrick Long Massachusetts

*The Morris Animal Foundation will be here to discuss the latest in camelid research. See where GALA's research dollars are utilized.*

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### Fireside Chat

Dr. Stephen Purdy Lobby

*Come and ask Dr. Purdy all of your questions.*

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**1:00-2:00 Lunch**

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SESSION  
**4**

2:00-3:00

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### Endowment Information

GALA Committee Connecticut

*Informational session on the GALA endowment.*

(Friday, Session 4 continued)

**Lifestyle topics from Tibet**

**Lama Lobsang Palden** Massachusetts  
*Lama will speak on various lifestyle topics pertaining to Tibet, such as fiber, home heating and how to utilize all of your animal. Lama is also a healing lama who has studied under the "The Dalai Lama."*

**Vaccine Protocol**

**Dr. Patrick Long** New Hampshire  
*Does your llama/alpaca need to be vaccinated? Learn what shots your llama/alpaca needs and how frequently they should receive them.*

**SESSION 5** 3:15–4:15

**Marketing**

**Tabbithia Haubold-Magee** Connecticut  
*Learn how to market your fleeces and products.*

**Fiber Co-op**

**Larry McCool** Massachusetts  
*Information on joining a fiber co-op and its benefits.*

**Camelidynamics**

**Sara Davis** New Hampshire  
*Learn how to ensure safe halter fit, simplify herd management tasks, reduce stress levels, improve your relationship with your animals and have fun doing it! Sara's gentle and confident approach to teaching and animal handling will help you take the next steps toward a respectful, balanced relationship with your llamas or alpacas.*

**4:30-5:30 GALA Annual Meeting**  
New Hampshire

**5:30-6:00 Networking**  
New Hampshire  
*Meet other GALA members to develop a broader network of relationships, resources and shared resources.*

**6:00-7:00 Dinner**  
Ballroom

**7:30-8:30 Comic**  
Ballroom  
*Jason Pipitone of "Pipitones Epic Show" is sure to entertain us with this family friendly show of jokes, juggling and just plain funny stuff.*

**Gayle Garrison Fiber Room**

**Fiber Processing Mills:  
Fleece-to-Yarn Display**

We sent silky fiber from the **Marino's herd**, and classic, two-coated "downy" fiber from the **Chandler's herd** to our five participating mills. We asked them to use their own best judgement for how to handle and spin these fleeces, and the mills have produced pounds of lovely yarn for you to see, feel, and work with at the conference.

Come see their displays and learn how they can help you turn your raw fiber into lovely yarn. We hope to have at least one mill owner in the Fiber Room for a "Chat" during the conference. Drop by for a schedule.

**Huge thanks to the participating mills:**

- Flaggy Meadow Fiber Works
- NEWAIM Fiber Mill
- Still River Mill
- Twist of Fate Spinnery
- Vermont Fiber Factory

**And a big thank you to our fleece donors:**

- Liz Marino, Ivory Pond Farm
- Lindsay Chandler, Northern Vermont Llama Company

**Saturday Schedule**

- 7:00-7:45 Partial Package Conference Registration
- 7:00-8:00 Breakfast on your own, OR
- 8:00-8:15 Welcome**  
Coffee, tea, pastries, etc. will be provided to be enjoyed during the keynote
- 8:15-9:15 Keynote speaker—Larry McCool**

**SESSION 1** 9:30–10:30

**Showing 101**   
**Tabbithia Haubold-Magee** Connecticut  
*Learn the basics of showing from grooming to the showing.*

**Understanding Camelid Behavior and Lama Stewardship**   
**Marc Page** Massachusetts  
*Understanding camelid behavior as it relates to management and training. Learn all aspects of lama stewardship: barns, shelters, fences, feed, herd groupings, herd behavior and an introduction to training methods. Foundation information for "Now What" Lama Training Clinic I & II.*

## Gayle Garrison Fiber Room— Basic and Beyond Knitting

Brought to you by  
the Herd of Northern Vermonters

**Personal help:** rip, fix, turn a heel on socks, decipher a pattern, etc.

**Hands-on instruction:** projects for beginning and experienced knitters

**UFO:** bring unfinished objects (projects) to work on

**Access instruction thru digital media:** bring your device (laptop, Ipad, etc.) to use and load up on great knitting web sites

**Teach a friend to knit:** come in, share with others your knitting skills

**Friday: free pattern day**

## Mitten Contest

Warm Hearts—  
Warm Hands in the Spirit of Gayle

Knit Mittens for the Homeless

**Challenge:** the state with the most entries distributes all the mittens to their favorite homeless shelters. (Get your local lama organizations working on this. Don't let other states out knit you)

**Peoples Choice Awards:** Prizes to individuals for the best mittens submitted (voted on by conference participants)

### Content Rules:

- Mittens must be made out of at least 60% llama or alpaca (100% best)
- Mittens can be any size or color
- You don't have to come to the conference to enter
- **Send mittens to June Taylor:** 24 Fields Lane, Jericho VT 05465 by November 5th **or bring to the conference fiber room** by 10:00 a.m. Friday.  
**Questions? [taylorcho@aol.com](mailto:taylorcho@aol.com)**
- Include your name, email address or telephone number, fiber content, and number of years you have been knitting mittens.

(Saturday, Session 1 continued)

### The Younger Set

Dr. Stephen Purdy

New Hampshire

*A discussion will be held on the care and needs of the cria and yearling.*

LAMAS  
101

**10:30-10:45 Beverage Break**

SESSION  
2

10:45–11:45

### Senior Llamas and Alpacas

Dr. Patrick Long

Massachusetts

*A discussion on the needs of your older llama and alpaca. What to look for and how to help your llama and alpaca through it's golden years.*

LAMAS  
101

### What do I do with my fiber?

Larry McCool

New Hampshire

*Learn how to collect, grade and sort your fiber. Also, hear about the fiber co-op requirements for its members.*

### “Now What”™ Lama Training Clinic I

Marc Page

Outdoors

*A hands on class which will provide short, effective lessons you can take home and use immediately. Topics include: establishing trust, round pen training, reducing the flight zone, & introduction to haltering and successful lead training.*

LAMAS  
101

SESSION  
3

12:00–1:00

### Purchasing and breeding what to look for

Carol Reigh

Connecticut

*A discussion will be held giving tips on what to look for when purchasing and breeding your llama.*

LAMAS  
101

### Learn to Pack

Alexa Metrick

Massachusetts

*Learn how to fit a pack, what type of pack to use, and the basics of packing.*

LAMAS  
101

### Common Llama and Alpaca Health Issues

Dr. Stephen Purdy

New Hampshire

*Diagnosis and treatment health issues such as limping, eye problems, tooth abscess, and more.*

LAMAS  
101

## “Now What”™ Lama Training Clinic II

LAMAS  
101

Marc Page

Outdoors

(participants do not have to attend Clinic I to attend Clinic II)

*Hands-on learning to deal with the hard to handle lama in addition to advanced training in trailering, as well as handling the face, ears, and feet.*

### Fireside Chat

Larry McCool

Lobby

*Hear all that Larry has to say about fiber.*

1:00-2:00

LUNCH

SESSION

4

2:00–3:00

### Heat Stress

LAMAS  
101

Bob Wolfe

Connecticut

*Learn how to prevent, diagnosis and treat heat stress.*

### How to's

LAMAS  
101

Shari Templeton

Massachusetts/Outdoors

*Discussions on how to fit a halter, trim toe nails, oral dosing, shots and more. This session could save you money.*

### Physical Therapy for Camalids with Neurological Damage after Meningeal Worm Infection

Dr. Jen Hall, Rhonda Lehrman  
and Doreen Hudson

New Hampshire

A discussion on both medical and physical therapy programs designed for Larry the Llama who suffered from neurological damage caused by Meningeal Worm. The speakers will share treatment information on medicines, exercises and heat and laser equipment used during their three year journey with Larry.

### Emergencies on the Farm

Farmington Rescue Squad

Outdoors

*How to handle farm related accidents and emergencies. What you learn could save a loved one while waiting for the rescue squad. Please meet in the lobby for outside demonstration.*

SESSION

5

3:15–4:15

### First Aid & CPR

Gary Ralph

Connecticut

*Learn the basics of first aid and CPR. At the conclusion, you will be certified by the American Red Cross. Cost \$7 per person.*

LAMAS  
101

The Lamas 101 sessions are provided for the new owner and also as refresher sessions for everyone.

### Lifestyle topics from Tibet

Lama Lobsang Palden

Massachusetts

*The Lama will speak on various lifestyle topics pertaining to Tibet.*

### Parasites

LAMAS  
101

Dr. Stephen Purdy

New Hampshire

*The latest on treatment of parasites, de-worming schedules and testing for parasites.*

4:30-5:30

Professional Panel

New Hampshire

*A group of the professionals from the conference will answer your pre-submitted questions. This is your chance to get all those questions answered that you forgot to ask or wanted to ask but did not get the chance. Be sure to write out your questions in advance and hand them in at the registration table.*

5:30-6:00

Networking

New Hampshire

*Meet other GALA members to develop a broader network of relationships, resources and shared resources.*

6:00-7:00

Cocktails and Shopping

Ballroom

7:00-?

Dinner and Auction

Ballroom

## Sunday Schedule

7:00–9:00 Breakfast, last minute shopping and goodbyes

*There will be a drawing for door prizes. Must be present at breakfast for your chance to win a \$100 prepaid Visa/MasterCard, GALA Sweatshirt and more. But we don't want to spoil the surprise.*

# SPEAKER BIOS

## **DR. ANITA COLLINS**

Dr. Anita Collins co-chaired both the 2007 and 2010 GALA Conferences with Carol Reigh. She had previous experience organizing national and international conferences in her field of science. She's a recent llama lover, owning three females and one gelding, primarily for fiber and friendship for the past seven years. With attendance at a number of local and regional meetings prior to ownership. "Camelid people are very special and fun to be with, so I look forward to the 2011 conference and this workshop."

## **SARA DAVIS**

With over twenty years of camelid ownership and training experience, Sara has been involved in every aspect of the training process. She has raised crias who have earned multiple halter and performance titles in the show ring and has participated in activities ranging from parades to pack trips to convalescent home visits with her llamas. In addition to training, Sara has been successful in evaluating and reshaping many animals with behavioral issues.

To supplement to her practical experience, Sara has a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science and has spent a lot of time researching animal behavior and different training methods. She began learning about Camelidynamics in 2006 and has found that it closely aligns with the training techniques she has been using for the last two decades. Sara earned the Camelidynamics Handler Seal and entered the Practitioner program in 2008. She is available for consultations and training sessions for everything camelid: facility layout, basic lead training, advanced obstacle and pack training, and evaluation and modification of undesirable behaviors. She also has extensive experience managing a large herd of llamas and is available to help trouble-shoot a variety of health and management issues.

## **RALPH FOXWELL**

Ralph Foxwell and his better half, Brenda Pelletier, are co-owners of Dandy Acres Llama Farm. A 83-acre farm in Glocester, RI. The farm consists of 31 llamas, 25 goats, turkeys, ornamental pheasants, guinea Hens, peacocks and some chickens.

"We are still very new to llamas only starting in 2005 with one 6-month old female. Brenda and I thought we would get a llama to guard our goats, Well, all she did was think she was a goat and she had no idea she was suppose to be guarding anything! After talking to other llama folks we decided to get an adult llama that had guarding instincts. We found a big beautiful classic female and she taught us and the little girl so much!

Brenda and I both grew up on farms. We learned about all types of animals but llamas were new to both of us. We took what we learned growing up on the farms and reached out to the llama community with tons of questions. Everyone was so helpful and patient with our constant phone calls asking for help. Every llama owner we met were so willing to share their knowledge and were so helpful. We realized llama people are a special type of people and we were so glad to have met so many!

Brenda and I went to our first llama show in 2005 not to show just to watch. We were hooked. We wanted to go home and start teaching our llamas to do all the cool stuff they were doing. That was when I saw someone driving a llama cart.... I just had to try that. The next year I was competing in my own llama shows, and yes I was driving a llama! I competed with a single hitch and have now trained two more for a double hitch. I am also working on training several others at this time. I will soon be driving a triple hitch!

## **PEGGY GAFFNEY**

Peggy Gaffney was the author of eight knitting books of intarsia designs celebrating the worlds of dogs and cats when a group of llama and alpaca breeders approached her to create a book for them, she was only too happy to take on the challenge. As they pointed out, "We've got yarn!" So that is how *The Crafty Llama and Alpaca Knits* came into being as the ninth knitting book from publisher *Kanine Knits*.

In 2005, Peggy decided to take her design skill in a new direction and create a series of knitting books that would be unique by focusing on the world of dogs. So far, she has created for dog lovers, seven books in *The Crafty Dog Knits* series. Last year, she was approached by members of the cat fancy and asked to give them equal time by creating a knitting book for cat lover. *The Crafty Cat Knits* is the result.

With *The Crafty Llama and Alpaca Knits*, she dealt with the two well known camelids and discussed the history, what they do and of course talked about the fleece which is of so much importance not only with the breeders but with knitters craving luxury fibers. The book is filled with photos of these wonderful creatures in action.

*The Crafty Llama and Alpaca Knits* is published by [www.kanineknits.com](http://www.kanineknits.com)

## **E. JENNIFER HALL, DVM COASTAL VALLEY VETERINARY SERVICES, LLC.**

Dr. Jennifer Hall graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 1996 with High Honors in Marine and Environmental Sciences. She served five years active duty in the Coast Guard, leaving with a final rank of Lieutenant.

After serving her country, she followed her life-long dream to become a veterinarian, and attended Tufts Cummings School

of Veterinary Medicine, graduating in May, 2008 where she received the Frank Zak, DVM Award for Excellence in Food Animal Medicine. Dr. Hall completed many externships including study at Penn Dutch Cow Care (organic dairy medicine), Tufts University Ambulatory Care Center and the Foster Hospital for Small Animals. Following graduation from Tufts Dr. Hall started her own mobile veterinary practice, Coastal Valley Veterinary Services, covering Middlesex and New London counties.

Dr. Hall has been married to Coast Guard Commander Gregory Hall, Ph.D., since 1997. They have a daughter Kylie who is 10 years old. Dr. Hall was born and raised in Connecticut and has lived in Old Lyme for thirteen years with her family including a standard poodle Cyndi and ocicat Leah, and truly enjoys working with ALL species of animals!

### **DOREEN HUDSON**

Doreen Hudson is an owner and co-founder of Respond Systems, Inc., a U.S. manufacturer of laser systems since 1986. Prior to her 21 years at Respond Systems, she conducted strategic market and technology planning at a regional Bell System company. She is a graduate of Skidmore College, and attended Syracuse University MBA program and Wesleyan University's MLS program. She is a graduate of the Connecticut School of Electronics and is a Certified Electronics Technician. At Respond Systems, Inc. she is responsible for Sales, Marketing and Finance. Respond Systems makes therapeutic laser and PEMF (Pulsing Electromagnetic Field) systems for veterinary and medical applications, with over 4,000 laser systems sold in the U.S. and around the world. Respond Systems is the laser and PEMF supplier to the United States Equestrian Team. Therapeutic laser is in wide use in small and mixed animal veterinary practices for treatment of soft tissue injury, nerve regeneration, wound healing and degenerative conditions causing pain and inflammation. You can learn more at [www.respondsystems.com](http://www.respondsystems.com).

### **LAMA LOBSANG PALDEN**

Lama Lobsang was born in eastern Tibet in 1966., and was recognized as a tulku, or reincarnated lama, while still a young boy. He studied all aspects of Tibetan Buddhist philosophy and practice at Tashi Kyil Monastery at Amdo, where he also studied Tibetan yantra Yoga and Tibetan Healing Massage. He apprenticed with a Tibetan doctor who was a healing lama, and he learned much from his grandfather, who was also a healing lama. He is a gifted healer who has received His Holiness the Dalai Lama's blessing and encouragement to do healing work. He left Tibet at age 18 and lived at Tashi Kyil Monastery in Dehra Dun, India, for 10 years. He has received many teachings from the Dalai Lama and other Tibetan masters. He has traveled the world sharing his knowledge and experience. He currently resides in Chicago, Illinois, with his wife and children.

Lama grew up, as all Tibetans did, following the Yak, who showed where the fertile soil was, the Yak provided clothing and rugs through it's fleece, and heat for homes through its dung. Lama has just returned from a journey to his homeland and brought back photos for all to see of the home heating process and the yak. He will discuss fiber, heat and Tibet.

### **TABBETHIA HAUBOLD-MAGEE**

Tabbethia Haubold-Magee, of Long Island Livestock Company resides in LI, NY on a 17-acre farm that is home to a herd of about 20 llamas and other various fibered livestock. With a BS in Animal Science and an original love affair with horses, Tabbethia began raising llamas in 1997 and then started showing in 2001 on the local, regional and national level, in both halter and performance. She was the ALSA Grand National Champion in Showmanship for 2007, 2008 & 2009. In 2010 she was awarded the ALSA Grand National Reserve Champion in Master performance and bred and trained her llama that was awarded the first ever ALSA Grand National Male Versatility Champion.

As an educator by nature and profession, Tabbethia also heads up the LI Livestock Company Youth Show Team which currently consists of 15 youth ranging in ages from 8 to 18. Tabbethia is passionate about showing and taking her years of experience and sharing it with others.

When she is not busy working with the kids or the llamas, Tabbethia has an extensive shearing business with over 175 clients that has her traveling from VT to GA and everything in between. Outside of shearing season, Tabbethia utilizes her animals and knowledge to provide educational programs for youth and adults in various venues and is also retailing fiber, yarns and value-added products.

### **RHODA LEHRMAN**

David Labroke and Rhoda Lehrman have been working together with re-homed or rescued animals since 2005 on their farm in East Haddam, CT. Llarry the Llama arrived in March of 2009 already infected with meningeal worms.

Through months of trial, error and the dedication of a team including Dr. Jen Hall, Coastal Valley Veterinary Services in Old Lyme, CT, Dr. Deb Saunders, Wizard of Paws Animal Rehabilitation Therapy in East Haddam, Dr. Brad Amery, Inline Veterinary Services, equine chiropractic and acupuncture, in New Milford, CT and Respond Systems Lasers, Inc. in Branford, CT, Llarry's decline was stopped.

Llarry eventually progressed from being unable to stand on his own to running up and down the steep, rocky hills in East Haddam. His gait certainly wasn't pretty but he always kept up with his herd!

### **PATRICK LONG, DVM**

Patrick Long, DVM, is a practicing veterinarian in Corvallis, OR. Llamas and alpacas comprise more than half of his practice. He graduated from Kansas State University with his DVM degree in 1976. After five years in the U.S. Army, he has since practice in Oregon, working with llamas and alpacas since 1982. He has spoken at many national and international meetings on llama and alpaca care. Dr. Long is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association, Oregon Veterinary Association, the Willamette Valley Llama Foundation, and he is a board member of the Alpaca Research Foundation and the Morris Animal Foundation. He is co-author of the Llama and Alpaca Neonatal Care book. Dr. Long has written many articles for Alpacas Magazine and has participated in several importation screenings for ARI. Dr. Long's areas of interest are herd health management, nutrition, and reproduction.

### **LARRY McCOOL**

"I was raised on a medium sized livestock farm near Dallas, Oregon. We raised hundreds of head of beef and dairy cattle, sheep, pigs and even horses. I had always had a market for everything that I had raised, so when my wife Lee and I got into llamas in 1996 I started looking for an outlet to market both the fiber and the offspring. I asked around and found out there was no one place to sell our fiber. There was only hand spinners or try and market it yourself. This did not sit well as I had been in retail and marketing for about 20 years. I had to find out what the options for Llama fiber was, not only here in the northwest, but nationwide. I figured this shouldn't be too hard as llamas had been around here in Oregon for over 20 years and there must be mills set up to handle such a wonderful product. Could I have been any more wrong.

This was in 2003 when I really started looking into this and started writing about a fiber co-op. It was a very long and drawn out process just to get anyone to listen to what I was trying to do. Even long time owners who I had know for years, were not jumping on board. I couldn't understand why, as we were all having to shear our animals. I found out that most of these owners were either just bagging the fleeces and storing them or had been hauling them to the landfill. Most of the responses I had gotten were, this can't be done, it had already been tried, and there was no market nor mills for a finished Llama product. This was definitely not acceptable to me.

It took until 2005 to garner enough interest to even have a meeting about a cooperative. I convinced about 15 member farms of our local llama Association, the Willamette Valley Llama Association, to get together and show them what I had found out. The year before, Lee and I had found out about a small mill in Canada that had worked with camelid fiber before. We had sent them enough fiber to make seven

blankets. I was also able to get a few samples from some other smaller mills to at least have something to show. So on that day in 2005 we met at Glenmore Farms near Dallas, with Glen and Morris willing to host an event, and we formed a steering committee which went on to form what would become the Pacific Northwest Llama Fiber Cooperative. That first year we produced our first product, which turned out to be some average quality socks. But it was a start, and now we are the largest Llama Fiber Cooperative in North America, with over 80 members in 12 states.

### **ALEXA METRICK**

Alexa Metrick grew up packing with llamas in the Colorado Rockies, where she was taught everything she knows by her father, Charlie Hackbarth, and the green llamas the family always took out on the trail. She has also spent her fair share of llama conferences manning the Sopris booth and is currently GALA's newsletter editor. Recently, after trying to plan an east coast llama pack trip and struggling to find llamas to lease (Alexa and her husband, Craig, do not yet have llamas of their own), she launched Rent-A-Llama.com, an online directory of outfitters and leasers. Alexa also designed the Sopris website and designed, edited and printed Charlie Hackbarth's book, *Tales of the Trail*.

### **MARC PAGE**

Marc and his wife Sandy live in Petersham, MA, where they maintain a training herd of llamas at Sputtermill Ranch which was established in 1992. Since 2001 the major emphasis of Sputtermill Ranch has been the rescue and re-homing of llamas and alpacas in need. Marc has a degree in human services and works as a job developer for disabled adults in his non-llama life. Coming from an educational background he is very committed to promoting llamas through public education, and consequently spends many hours volunteering his time to the llama community. A major emphasis of his educational programs is training, herd management, and care for the overall welfare and well being of the llama. Marc and Sandy have authored numerous articles on behavior and training of llamas, and have been vocal proponents of llama breeders providing new owners with education. Marc has been a speaker at numerous GALA Conferences and at other state and regional organizational gatherings. Marc also presents 'Now What'™ group and private training clinics and has a traveling shearing business. Sandy and Marc are lifetime GALA members. Marc is a regular speaker at the Big E on llama behavior and management. He regularly attends Camelid Community held in Kansas City, Missouri each August. He is the Northeast Representative of the IRC (Intervention Rescue Council) which was established through Camelid Community. Marc served on the GALA Board from 1999-2004 as President, Vice-President, and Representative of District 5.

**STEPHEN PURDY, DVM**

Associate Professor and Director of Camelid Studies, Executive Director of Animal management, Center for Agriculture, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, President Nunoa Project Peru. Dr. Purdy received his DVM degree in 1981 from the New York State College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University. Dr. Purdy's special interests include reproduction, neonatal care, nutrition, and infectious diseases, as well as the preventive medicine aspect of the management of livestock.

**GARY RALPH**

Gary Ralph lives in Long Island New York. He and his family raise six llamas. Gary has been teaching American Red Cross First Aid and CPR for over 20 years. Gary is an EMT/EMTD.

**CAROL REIGH**

Carol Reigh is the owner of Buck Hollow Llamas, Inc. along with her husband Doug. She has been raising and breeding llamas for 16 years. Known for their gentle dispositions correct confirmation and ultra silky fiber, her llamas are a result of careful breeding and purchasing of bloodlines. Carol has traveled all over the country to pick up the animals

to add to her program. For a small farm, her animals have made their marks in shows and even the Grand Nationals. Carol is also the distributor of the nationally known grooming chute and is presently distributor of the Jug waterers. Buck Hollow Llamas, Inc. is home to 10 males (7 studs) and 23 females. BHLF, Inc is located near Reading, PA, just eight miles off the PA turnpike. Carol likes to say, "she is a small farm with a big reputation."

**BOB WOLFE**

Bob Wolfe has been breeding, training and showing llamas since 1994. He and his wife Carol maintain a herd of about 30 llamas in Stockton, NJ. They take advantage of numerous opportunities to share their llamas with the public at various fairs, festivals and their annual open barns. Bob served for six years as a board member and secretary for the Pennsylvania Llama and Alpaca Association. He also designed and maintains the website for the PLAA. For 11 years, Bob has been conducting a successful summer youth program where kids learn how to halter, handle, train and respect the llamas. At the end of the summer, they participate in performance and costume classes at the local county fair. For Bob, the past 17 years with llamas and llama people have been wonderful.



# Fiber Evaluation

## Back to Basics

## GALA Conference 2011

**SEND IN:**

- 3 ounces of raw, clean camelid fiber (do NOT wash) in a clear plastic bag
- A photo of the animal
- And, this entry form, plus a \$20 entry fee (per fiber sample). **Make your check payable to GALA Conference 2011.**

**GET BACK:**

One 2 ounce handspun skein of yarn from your fiber, and a written evaluation of your fiber by our talented hand spinners.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Farm Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Animal \_\_\_\_\_ Animal's Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Shearing \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] F [ ] M [ ] G

**Send fiber to:** Sherry Lynch 234 Sugar Cake Road Somerset PA 15501-7411.

**Samples must be postmarked by: September 12, 2011**



**Back to Basics**  
Conference 2011 – November 10th-13th  
Hartford Marriott Farmington,  
Farmington, CT

