

L'illette Vasquez

Farm/Ranch, Barn and Herd Manager

Summary of Qualifications

Over 10 years managing my own small llama herd, including over seven of those years working for Bobra Goldsmith at Rocky Mountain Llamas, where I have trained llamas and alpacas and served as Project Leader for Lleaping Llamas 4-H Club. Active and well-known in llama rescue work, including writing numerous articles on llama herd health, management and rescue for local, regional and international publications. Additionally, offer exceptional computer, management and business skills and experience (see accompanying résumé).

Experience Summary

General information

- Non-smoker, non-drinker.
- Congenial, mature, responsible, flexible, honest.
- Easily get along with a wide variety of people.

Herd Management

- Record-keeping in LlamaLogic/HerdLogic, Ranch Manager/Camelid Edition, and Excel.
- Managing breeding processes from planning and exposure through care of both healthy and challenged offspring.
- Developing llama care record database in Alpha Five (in process)
- Appropriate and safe introduction of males into existing bachelor herds
- Easily catch, halter and lead most llamas, as well as herding groups
- Available to oversee ranch and animals evenings and weekends, and as required during emergencies or extraordinary circumstances

Herd/Animal Care

- Wound, abscess, post-surgical and palliative care
- Geriatric and neonatal care
- Typical maintenance: toenail trimming, shearing, deworming, vaccinations, injections, etc.
- Development of diet planning for overweight, non-thrifty, ill and special-needs.
- Oversight of pregnant mothers and crias, including neonatal care and weaning.
- Primary caregiver for elderly, ill and injured llamas, as well as pregnant dams and newborn crias.

Training/Showing

- Trained by Bobra Goldsmith in her basic and pack training techniques.
- Familiar with training methods by John Mallon, Cathy Spalding, Marty McGee Bennett, Jim Krowka.
- Preparation for shows: grooming, training.
- Award-winning in halter and performance classes (obstacle, public relations, packing); most recent award: ILR Grand Champion Halter Division | Light-Wool Adult Female at 2010 Great Western Stock Show, Denver CO.

Llama/Alpaca (Lama) Rescue

- Currently serving on boards of directors for Southwest Llama Rescue, Inc. and Southeast Llama Rescue.
- Regularly collaborate with Colorado Llama Rescue.
- Serve as local liaison for lama rescue endeavors with Rocky Mountain Llama & Alpaca Association as Chairperson of the Rescue Committee.
- Board member of Llama Association of North America (LANA) and member of the LANA Lifeline Committee, which assists rescue endeavors.
- Do fund-raising efforts, particularly for individual emergency rescue efforts.
- Perform evaluations of potential foster caretaker farms.
- Perform evaluations and physical rescue of llamas at risk, often dealing directly with local agencies in order to effect removal and safety of animals.
- Train and rehabilitate llamas to prepare them for potential foster or adoption.
- Create and disseminate educational materials pertaining to lama rescue.
- Speak at relevant gatherings and regularly submit rescue-related articles to local, regional and national publications, including newsletters and the *International Camelid Quarterly* magazine.

4-H Leader/Public Relations

- Serve as Project Leader for Leaping Llamas 4-H Club, sponsored by Rocky Mountain Llamas and my own L'illy Llamas.
- Develop meeting and training agendas.
- Lead Public Relations activities with 4-H kids, such as going to PetsMart, lama shows, nursing homes, schools.
- Train the kids to care for, train, show and do PR work with their llamas.
- Teach health care of llamas, behavioral aspects and how to work with llama natures in training.
- Mentor individual kids, including helping with record books, guidance for demonstrations, training, teaching to share information about llamas with the public.
- Foster the bonds between the kids and their chosen llamas, helping them to fully appreciate the relationship and potential of human/animal collaboration.
- Tour visitors around Rocky Mountain Llamas, helping them to walk a llama for the first time, and often working directly with school children and disabled adults and children
- Accompany summer youth groups on llama hikes.

Additional Animal Care/Rescue Experience

- Involved for 40 years in rescue and rehabilitation of cats, dogs, ferrets and, for past ten years, llamas and alpacas.
- Help “unofficially” with relocation and rehoming of various species.
- Using my own animals, present programs to schools and groups such as Girl Scouts, on quality care and respect of our animal companions.
- *Note:* With the exception of my two Livestock Guardian Dogs, an aging Great Pyrenees and a young Pyr/Komondor cross, all my home animal companions are rescues. Whenever I have taken in an animal that didn't blend into this menagerie, I have ensured that they were resituated in homes that could offer them whatever I could not. For example, I recently gave my youngest dog's litter mate, who was clearly destined for livestock guarding work, to some wonderful folks at a goat farm nearby. (His brother seems to prefer people to animals, and is my companion.)