

# Second Annual National Youth Show!

*All American Youth Jamboree  
welcomed youth from eleven  
different states!*

The level of excitement was on high as youth started to arrive at the second national youth llama/alpaca show held in June in central Indiana. The three-day All American Jamboree, offering shows, workshops, seminars, challenges, and fun events, was open to all llama youth participating in any 4-H llama group or any ALSA youth member. Youth attending represented eleven different states.



Nearly 125 youth in attendance.

The festive weekend started on Friday morning with the Opening Ceremony put on by all the Senior youth. Colorful flags and llamas with parade blankets filled the arena as Lily Schwab, an Intermediate exhibitor from Indiana, sang the National Anthem. The presentation of the flags was followed by the lighting of the Friendship Torch by Samantha Steward from Nebraska. The Friendship Torch, placed at the entry of the llama barn, then continued to burn all weekend



Two separate youth shows, an ALSA Show and a 4-H show, were held – both awarding cash premiums through sixth place and ribbons. Although all youth showed concurrently, judges were not aware of which show the youth were in. Another feature offered at the Jamboree was the availability of “loaner llamas”. If youth wanted to attend but could not trailer their own animal, they could arrange for a “loaner llama” for the weekend to participate in the shows with. A fun addition to the Performance Classes were the individual themes and stories that accompanied each performance course along with the ring decorations and music. The courses were unusual and challenging. Awards went to ALSA Performance Champions as well as 4-H Performance Champions.



Josh Ploeger from Missouri negotiates the teeter obstacle.

In addition, Versatility Champions were awarded and received impressive ribbons and prizes. Exhibitors in the Poster Competition and the Youth Fiber Show also received ribbons and cash premiums.

Other weekend activities combined all youth together giving everyone the opportunity to make new friendships, work together, and join in the many challenges offering educational and friendly competition. In addition to the regular show schedule, a wide variety of workshops and educational seminars filled the weekend. Carefully scheduled so everyone could enjoy just about everything, the choices were many. "How to Stand Out In Showmanship" led by Penny Davidson and "Tips for Performance" led by Doris Schlemmer and Lynnette Swineheart were very popular hands-on seminars in the main show arenas.



Doris & Lynnette lead Performance Clinic

Nearby in another building volunteers taught spinning, wet felting, needle felting, crocheting, and weaving. Kits were provided for finished projects made of llama fiber. The second day there were two interesting vet clinics offered. The youth attending one clinic discussed general care and maintenance and observed a demonstration on ultrasound for pregnancy. In the other vet clinic youth learned about administering medications and practiced giving Sub-Q and IM injections using BBQ sauces on

raw chickens. Following the clinic, the chickens were grilled and offered for dinner. BTW – they were delicious!

Another favorite activity of the weekend was the Llama Jeopardy. All youth were divided into teams of mixed ages so skill levels evened out. Various elimination rounds were played until there was one group of three Llama Jeopardy winners. The winning team members from this final round each received large gift baskets full of assorted items.



Exhibitor works on the Vet Corner section of the Skillathon, one of the challenges offered during the weekend.

The Youth Jamboree was the "bargain of the year" with only a \$50 fee for the *entire* weekend. Shows, stalling, workshops, two dinners, and two breakfasts were all included in the one fee! A pizza party was held on Friday night followed by a live auction with over 100 items for the kids to bid on with the "Llama Bucks" they found in their show packet. Additional "Llama Bucks" were handed out throughout the day from "Jamboree Mystery Bankers" who watched for good workers, groomers, meeting new friends, and those helping their fellow exhibitors.



Bidding was enthusiastic at the auction!



Jim Nenni was the tireless auctioneer as volunteer spotters kept up with the fast bidding on the many generously donated items.

Saturday night Mark Foerder from Hubbard Feeds, the primary sponsor of the show, hosted a fantastic BBQ feast for all attendees. Brats, hot dogs, and hamburgers along with all the trimmings and side dishes were followed by “make your own” ice cream sundaes with a large variety of sauces and toppings.



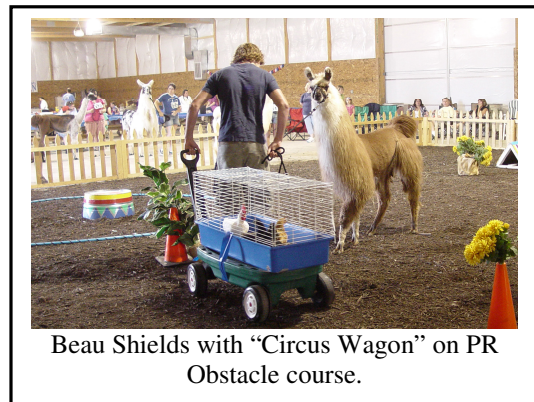
“Chef Mark” grills for over 250 for the complimentary Saturday night dinner sponsored by



After the cook-out, one of the favorite fun events was Farmer Olympics. Kids, again in evenly divided teams, raced in various events that included balancing buckets of water on their heads, covering a team mate with cheesed crackers, rolling large steel barrels, and directing blindfolded team mates through an obstacle course. Adults were also able to join in the fun by being nominated for a Farmer Olympics team (BTW - it took \$5 to get *off* the nominated team) and joined in the games running the same obstacles. By the end of all the games, buckets of water were being thrown in all directions! A fun evening!

The Showmanship classes were scheduled Sunday morning. All age divisions had large classes and had fantastically skilled showmen! The

Senior classes were so incredibly smooth it was like watching a performance choreographed to a symphony. No one envied the judge in placing these classes! The Sweepstakes Obstacle Class followed. This class was the only event in which the youth had to qualify. The qualifying consisted of previously attending two ALSA Shows and placing or placing at previous 4-H shows. Watching the youth plan their own course for this challenging timed event and then head for the bonus obstacle when the whistle blew was very exciting!



Beau Shields with “Circus Wagon” on PR Obstacle course.

This memorable and eventful weekend ended with the presentation of the awards and a rather moving Closing Ceremony. As all youth gathered together in the arena forming a large circle, Seniors Melissa Adair and David Ruckman came forward and extinguished the Friendship Torch. This brought an end to a fantastic weekend event!



Seniors extinguish the Friendship Torch bringing a close to the 2009 All American Youth Jamboree!

“Good-byes” and “Safe Travels” were heard along with many promises to return to the Youth Jamboree in 2010.

Probably the most impressive aspect of this fun-filled weekend was all of these youth coming together, making new friendships, working together, and enjoying a weekend of lamas. Although many of the events were competitive, winning was definitely not the center focus of the weekend. Those in attendance were seen constantly helping each other with hints and tips and the atmosphere was one of good sportsmanship and just plain fun! If you were a parent or youth leader at this event, it was impossible to not be impressed with these youth - our future country leaders.

A very special thanks goes to Hubbard Feeds and the additional Jamboree sponsors for making this event possible. From those who have used these products for many successful years, we encourage you to try Hubbard’s llama supplement and llama trace mineral mix for top nutrition and service for your animals. Also a special

thanks goes to Joel Armstrong from Vantage Imaging in Nebraska for the photography. Jamboree photos may be viewed and ordered at [www.vantageimaging.com](http://www.vantageimaging.com). This event was only possible due to the many, many wonderful volunteers who worked together to bring all the plans and events to a reality. A sincere thank-you to everyone! Mark your calendars now for another fantastic all-youth weekend, the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual All American Youth Jamboree to be held on June 25-27, 2010. Hope to see you there!



Kim Kyst, youth leader from Jefferson, GA., gives instruction for the exciting Llama Jeopardy.