

Information about hosting a Get Connected! workshop with Jim Krowka and Gwen Ingram

Scheduling, format, and locations:

The workshop format is one day, and generally needs to be a Saturday (we both work on Sundays). We start early (8AM) and it's a long day (about 10 hours).

For each workshop, there are six slots for participants who bring their own llamas (cost: \$70 each slot). Auditors (\$35) are generally unlimited. We will also bring one or two llamas to assist us; if we can "borrow" one from the host, we will usually choose to bring only one llama of our own.

The workshop location needs to be close enough to Dexter, Oregon that we'll be able to drive there on Friday (or Saturday morning) and return home by early Sunday morning at the latest. That pretty much limits us to Washington, Oregon, and Northern California. Even western Idaho is a bit of a stretch. We will also consider giving a workshop in Wyoming (within reasonable distance of Pinedale) or in northern Colorado (near Longmont) if the date can be scheduled to conveniently coincide with our time off and not interfere with our llama packing trips. It may also be possible for us to schedule a workshop on our way to or from Wyoming, meaning that a location in central or south Idaho or northern Utah may work.

We pack all summer (and summer in the high country is short). That means we'll only consider doing workshops from early October thru mid-July. Exception: Any workshop that coincides with our trips to Wyoming will need to be between mid-July and the end of September, and will also have to be within our previously selected vacation weeks. Our vacation time is usually set by the end of December.

Why are the locations and times so limited? We have regular jobs. If we quit those jobs to give workshops, the price of attending would be prohibitive. So we gotta schedule around the jobs!

We provide:

- (1) Advertising, general workshop information, registration form and liability release that includes the host (and host's farm or business, if applicable). Downloadable forms will be provided on the internet.
- (2) Written materials for both participants and auditors
- (3) An introduction to a unique, effective, naturally-based set of activities and games that really make a difference from the llamas' viewpoint — and that bring about a highly effective perspective shift for llama handlers.

Hosts provide:

- (1) Location with adequate parking. Expect up to five or six vehicles with trailers* and as many vehicles as auditors who are not arriving with one of the participants-with-llamas**. If you have limited parking, you can get creative by requesting that people carpool or use public transportation; in some cases, we may agree to restrict the number of auditors, although we prefer not to do that if possible.
- (2) Acceptable llama accommodations for eight llamas (six participant llamas, one host llama for demonstrations, and our llama). Accommodations may be separate pens or stalls, picketing areas, and/or shaded/sheltered parking (so that llamas may safely remain trailered). Community pasturing or penning (whether two or more) is not acceptable unless specifically requested by participants. Please tell

registrants — and us — what to expect because some llamas people might consider bringing may have limitations, such as “can’t tether”, that might not be addressable by your facilities.

(3) A 30-foot diameter round pen (larger is OK) that does NOT have solid sides. Panels can usually be borrowed from people who show, llama clubs, or horsey contacts; there are also ways to economically construct permanent round pens. If the panels are 12 feet, you’ll need 8; if they are 10 feet, you’ll need 10; if they are 8 feet, you’ll need 12. ALSO: Some llamas will not immediately progress to the point that they are comfortable standing still to be haltered in the large round pen, but it will be best for them to take a break and another llama to enter. For expediency and least stress, we ask that 2-3 additional panels be available to make a small “easy-catching” pen alongside the round pen so that any such llamas can be herded into it. Alternatively, the round pen can be positioned against a fence or building; then one additional panel can be used to the same effect.

(4) Drinks (nonalcoholic!) such as coffee and hot water (with assorted teas) and/or soft drinks, juice and cold water. Also please ensure that restroom facilities are available. You may provide the drinks gratis if you like; you may also sell them. If you are so inclined, proceeds from drink sales can benefit your local llama organization, a charity, or llama rescue.

(5) Information about times, facilities, local motels, and so forth to the participants. Hosts also handle incoming registrations and checks (made out to Lost Creek Llamaprints), including designating the first five participant slot requests (six if the host won’t use his/her participant slot) and the next two participant requests as alternates (in case a participant must cancel). Hosts also confirm that registrations were received and provide directions to the workshop site (we’ll provide a customized confirmation form).

(6) OPTIONAL: Attendees can be told to provide their own lunches, or the host may arrange to procure lunches at an additional cost for those attendees who so desire. When the host chooses to arrange lunches in advance, there will be a checkoff on the registration form and a request that a separate check be made out to the host for the lunch amount. Hosts need to determine the lunch amount before the workshop is announced so that the information can be integrated into the registration materials.

(7) OPTIONAL: Hosts can provide all chairs, or can inform attendees that they’ll have to bring their own; hosts may also choose to provide some chairs (such as for themselves and those bringing llamas), and inform auditors they’ll have to bring their own chairs.

(8) OPTIONAL: If the location is not under cover, hosts may arrange for shade/shelter at their expense, or may simply inform attendees that there is no shade/shelter and to bring their own if they so choose.
Note: We schedule workshops only under cover during seasons likely to have inclement weather.

Hosts get:

- (1) Each host may have ONE of the participant-with-llama slots for FREE
- (2) Members of the host’s immediate family/household may audit for FREE
- (3) One of the host’s llamas will be used for initial demonstrations
- (4) A lot of fun
- (5) Recognition and thanks from happy workshop attendees
- (6) A whole new way of looking at and relating to your llamas!

* Some participants may use vans instead of trailers; we generally transport our assistant llama(s) in a van. When a host uses his/her participant slot, that eliminates one potential trailer if the chosen llama is on site.

** At this time, attendance is ranging between 15-25 auditors

Want to do it? Want more information?
Contact us: llamaprints@att.net or 541.937.2507