

## What the blog is a blog? By Sue Wilde

I first read this term in a Time magazine article and deduced from the context of the article that blogs are simply personal perspectives or ramblings on subjects of the blogger's choice. This term is so new that even this Word program thinks it is spelled wrong! Just who, I thought, would care about what just anybody was saying, about what they thought was important. But, thousands of people tune into talk shows on radio and T.V. to listen to people's oral "blogs" so I guessed they could "click in" on written blogs.

Well, soon after my first blog experience, I received an email from my neice, a top notch journalist before being struck by pregnancy, saying that she was now a blogger and had a following of about 3000 readers and was being a featured blogger on MSN!! She told me that I should get a blog site going too. Well, I am sure it comes as no surprise to anyone who knows me, that I have a lot of thoughts on a lot of subjects particularly about llamas as I have been living with them for 20 years!

I would like to blog on here about fiber, llama fiber. On one level I could quote Shakespeare and describe the fiber hype as "much ado about nothing!" but as there are probably thousands of pounds of it in North America we really should be making it "much ado" about something great! People woke up to the health value of shearing llamas many years ago after some died and got sick but we really didn't know what to do with the stuff after it was removed from our now comfortable animals.

Eventually mini mills popped up and some people got pretty excited about fiber. I think almost all llama and alpaca breeders now get that once this fleece is off the animal it actually has some value.

We judge the heck out of llamas and alpacas according to their fiber quality but have yet to transfer this obsession to a viable end product.

Not all of us are inclined to spin, weave, felt, knit, etc. but we are all aware that this fiber is wonderful for all of the above. Even the sheared felted necks make great cat beds for our barn cats. Let's get fired up about fiber **off** the animals and make something exciting happen to show off our breeding programs off the farm!.

Well, I've blogged on enough now and so it can now be your turn! The Lama Link, always on the cutting edge of what's new will be offering some blogging opportunities to you our readers. The following parameters will apply:

For your personal websites, a blog on your site that is updated regularly gives you an edge with the search engines as they pick up new entries and this adds ranking to your site. A picture is worth a thousand words but a thousand words is worth a blog. Whatever that means!

Joins us regularly and blog on!