

ALSA 2009 General Election

Statements of Candidacy, Statement to Membership & Bylaws Revision

(Candidates presented in alphabetical order)

Andrews, Ulin – Great Lakes Region Log Cabin Llamas - Oakland IL

April 27, 2009 Dear ALSA Members: My name is Ulin Andrews, my wife Debbie and I reside at Oakland, Illinois. We have been involved with llamas since 1994. We own and operate Log Cabin Llamas, a herd numbering about thirty five. Showing llamas is our passion. Attending the University of Illinois, where I received a B.S. in Agricultural Education, Masters in Education and an Advanced Certificate in Education Administration. After college, I taught high school Agriculture/Education for eight years at Oakland, Illinois. I then spent ten years as high school principal at the same school. My nineteen years, before retirement in 2003, were spent teaching Agricultural Education at the high school level in Charleston, Illinois. Debbie and I have utilized the services of ALSA since 1996. We have shown at twenty five or more ALSA sanctioned shows per year for the last several years. ALSA has provided an outlet for our desire to exhibit llamas. I am running for a full term to the ALSA Board of Directors from the Great Lakes Region after completing a shortened six month term. Being retired, I have time to devote to the needs of our organization and each of its members. This is my chance to give back to ALSA. It is my intention to work towards maintaining confidence and synergy to ALSA. I will be sensitive and responsive to all members and their ideas. If you have any questions, contact me at 217-346-2372. I look forward to talking to each and everyone of you. Sincerely Ulin Andrews

Feick, Bill – CTERS Llamas Geronimo TX - Central Region

I'm, Bill Feick, I would like to be your ALSA representative. I have been a member of ALSA, since, 1995, a llama owner since, 1991. We have a small herd of 50 animals. I have been a life-long resident of Texas; have been involved with animals all my life, showing since grade school (4-H and FFA). I am an ALSA judge, have been a show superintendent, score keeper, ring steward, gate keeper and performance course designer and have organized start-up shows. I was honorably discharged from the US Navy after serving with the 12th Submarine Squadron Engineers. I am an independent thinker...I have no personal agenda...I make no promises, except to uphold the rules as stated in the handbook, regardless, of my personal feelings! I believe ALSA can and will be a fair, functional Show Association with the cooperation of its members and Board. I believe that good sportsmanship is the most important part of any competition and when good sportsmanship returns to the show ring...the fun that has been missing...will, return, also. Your vote is the only way you can be represented in ALSA...Vote for the candidate of your choice...but, please vote.

Forster, Kenneth - Great Lakes Region K & N Exotics – Forman ND

Dear ALSA Members. My name is Kenneth (Ken) Forster and I am running for an ALSA Board of Directors position. My wife Nancy and I live in the Great Lakes Region one mile north of Forman, North Dakota. We have raised llamas since 1987; and I have been showing since early 1990s and especially enjoy showing in performance classes. We also raise miniature horses and miniature donkeys. I retired from Bobcat Company where I had worked for 31 years (28 of those as a supervisor in the different factory departments) in 2003. I have been an ALSA member for many years and became an ALSA judge in 2001. I am presently serving on the ALSA Show Management Committee and the 2009 ALSA Task Force. I enjoy judging Performance and Youth classes and especially like working with the youth. I feel we must make changes to bring ALSA back to be membership involved with the ALSA BOD listening to the membership and move ALSA ahead to a stronger association. I feel I can look at the broad picture and bring a balance to the current ALSA BOD. At this time I would appreciate your vote. I cannot promise to fix all; however I will do whatever is in my power to make ALSA your organization. Thank you.

**Nenni, Marilyn – Buckeye Region
Shagbark Ridge Llamas – Noblesville IN**

I have been actively involved with llamas for over twenty years and I'm a long time ALSA member. I participate in many ALSA shows annually and have attended all of our own Regional Shows and all the Grand National Shows since their inception. Definitely being a strong supporter of our ALSA Show Association, I have a desire to see it grow, become even stronger, and serve every member regardless of preferred type of llama or alpaca, age, or preferred type of classes. I am very involved with the 4-H llama program and this year marks my 17th year as leader of a 4-H Llama Club. ALSA involvements include serving as Chair of the ALSA Regional Show Committee for five years and serving on the National Show Committee the first three years of the ALSA Grand National. I have been a member of the Youth Committee, the Performance Committee, and the Website Committee. Currently I am serving as Secretary of the ALSA Board of Directors and Chair of the new ALSA database project. I have chosen to run for the ALSA BOD for second term and believe I can offer ongoing continuity to many ALSA matters. At the top of my list is communication with the membership, membership input, accuracy of ALSA records, and decisions based on the voices of our committees and the membership. Each BOD member, regardless of their region, has a responsibility to the entire membership, to all business matters that arise, and an obligation to support the ALSA Handbook. Due to recent economic conditions now influencing us, it is imperative that our show association address just what benefits ALSA can offer its members in the most economical way. If elected to the Board of Directors, I assure you I will be an active, hard-working representative for the membership and the ALSA association. If you have any questions as to how I view some ALSA issues, please don't hesitate to contact me at llamas@shagbarkridge.com or 317-773-1201.

**Norman, Malinda – Central Region
Texas Llama Company – Henderson TX**

I am excited to have passed the nominations procedure and honored to be placed on the ALSA ballot by my peers. I am anxious to work for the membership of ALSA to set goals and a program of work for our show association. Like the majority of you, llamas are my passion and an integral part of my life. I am willing to put in the time and resources necessary to represent you. I believe any Board of Directors should be honest in serving their membership and uphold, to the letter, the bylaws. After over 30 years of self-employment in a small community in Northeast Texas, I have developed a reputation of high ethical principles in business and management. The decisions I make will not always be the most popular of the status quo, but they will be made for the entire membership. I believe truth and integrity, along with the effort to avoid controversy, will move the ALSA organization forward. The membership needs to provide strong goals for the future. The Board should be transparent in their leadership with no personal agendas or politics. We should have pride in our achievements and communicate them timely to the rest of the world. We should focus on accurate data, use the most up-to-date technology available and value high performance by ALSA staff. Volunteers give freely to an organization that takes care of them. Volunteers should always be treated with the utmost respect. I have no conflicts or personal interest that would ever reflect adversely on our organization. I have a long history of service on non-profit boards. Proven by this history, I have always avoided activities that might reflect negatively on my reputation. I will fight hard for what is right for ALSA and be an advocate for the best interests of all of the members and volunteers as we all strive to be the standard of excellence in the show arena. Need more information? Contact me tollfree at 888.289.2153 and let's talk. Or check me out on the web at www.texasllamas.com or www.llamasarefun.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

**Parsons, Thomas – Great Lakes Region
Animal Acres – Dousman WI**

I have been serving as the Treasurer of ALSA since late last year although I am not currently a member of the Board of Directors. It is my desire to continue in that position as a BOD member. I have been a Certified Public Accountant since 1972 and was an auditor for one of the largest US accounting firms. As a recent retiree of Harley-Davidson (Sep 2007) I have the appropriate amount of free time to devote to the position to insure that the assets of the organization are safe guarded and the financial transactions are accurately recorded. I further believe that as a Board member I can be of value to the membership to assure you that prudent financial decisions are made that will result in a healthy, long lived show association. I believe that this is a critical time for ALSA. In business I learned that to be a successful company it is necessary to constantly evolve. In a changing world change is required to survive yet the core principles of the organization should be maintained. The organization belongs to the membership. The Board members are stewards whose job is to serve and leave it better than they found it. My wife Barb and I have owned Llamas for many years. We currently care for about 50 animals with no desire to get substantially larger or smaller. Barb is very active showing our animals and has sponsored a 4-H Club for more than 10 years. She is also a current member of the ALSA Show Committee. We both are of the opinion that increasing the number of young people involved with Llamas is one of most important ways to grow our industry and increase membership in ALSA. I respectfully ask for your vote.

**Peterson, Kathy – Southeastern Region
Southland – Birmingham AL**

ALSA belongs to its members. The job of an ALSA board member is difficult and often unappreciated. No decision goes without scrutiny, and it shouldn't. Board members walk a fine line between being responsive to the membership and becoming entangled in political agendas that don't benefit overall membership or support ALSA's goals. ALSA has stood through good times and difficult ones, both organizationally and as part of the llama community. Some would like ALSA to fail. It's time to move forward with optimism and determination, setting aside personal agendas. It's time to pull together as an organization united for the good of all membership and our industry. I'm running for a board seat because I can make a positive contribution to the organization and its membership. I have a Master's Degree in Public and Private Management, coupled with 27 years of management experience in corporate America, followed by 8 years creating, running and then selling a regional retail business. Today I'm retired and have time and energy to devote to the ALSA Board. My previous experiences have given me the skills to plan, organize, promote and communicate effectively, representing ALSA and its membership without biases. ALSA must have a board that can debate, agree/disagree, vote and then move forward together as a cohesive group that supports the vote. The ALSA Board must communicate regularly and effectively with its membership and should remain open-minded to change and improvement. As a board member, I surely will not agree with every decision made by the Board. However, I will participate fully in discussions and try intensely to understand other board members' views, while also listening intensely to the membership to understand their views. Then I will vote according to what I think is best for ALSA and its membership. However, once a decision has been made and voted on, I will support that decision, even if I strongly disagree with it. That's my pledge to ALSA and to the membership. Listen toll free to more information (888-295-3713), go to www.southlandllamas.com and read more, email MKathyPeterson@aol.com or call me (205-369-3111) to chat. Thank you.

**Wattigney, Keith – Central Region
P.K.'s Mini Farm – Belle Chasse LA**

My name is Keith J. Wattigney, Sr. I am running for the ALSA Board of Directors in the S.C.L.A. region. I have been married to Patti Dagley Wattigney for sixteen years and have three sons, Cody, Ryan, and Keith, Jr. Together, Patti and I have been raising llamas since 1993. ALSA has a very important purpose to the llama industry and it is imperative that ALSA survives the new challenges that it faces. As a director, I would like to introduce and establish some changes to help the organization move in a new and positive direction. For twenty five years I have been self employed and now own and operate a successful, reputable business. Hard work, dedication and integrity are the foundations of my business and the principals I intend to bring with me to the board. I am not a politician – nor do I like politics. I “shoot straight from the hip” and will not make promises that are impossible to keep. As an ALSA board member, ALSA and its members will be my top priority. I will strive to bring unity to our organization, represent the members' desires and needs, and increase interest and faith in ALSA to promote new membership and encourage prior members' return. My voice will be heard. I believe in an “open door” policy and welcome your suggestions and opinions. Please help me help ALSA by supporting me with your vote electing me as a member of the ALSA Board of Directors.

Please review all pages before voting

The below information has been submitted to the Election Committee for placement into the balloting information. The Certified Llama Registry (CLR) has petitioned the ALSA Board of Directors for recognition of its registry. The information submitted has not been verified by the ALSA Board of Directors nor the ALSA Election Committee. Each member is encouraged to carefully research the issue prior to voting. The ALSA Board of Directors is asking the membership to accept OR not accept the CLR as an optional registry for ALSA shows.

Certified Llama Registry (CLR) Statement to ALSA Membership

The CLR is asking ALSA members to vote “yes” to recognize the Certified Llama Registry. Before being registered in the CLR, llamas are DNAd, microchipped, and parent DNA verified as in the alpaca registry, and additionally, must pass a llama breed standard. CLR is about choice, defining a llama breed standard, establishing permanent microchip identification and requiring DNA testing to confirm parentage for all registrations of llamas. It is about giving value and legitimacy to each llama’s registration. CLR differs significantly from all other registries which do not require DNA, microchip or parent verification to register animals (often with unknown parents) as llamas. There’s a myth that CLR promotes crossbreeds. That myth was started years ago and simply is not reality. CLR was never about creating crossbreeds. Although purity cannot be legitimately claimed by any registry today, CLR requirements differ significantly from the ILR, thereby preventing the registration of obvious crossbreeds. Because the CLR only registers llamas that phenotypically meet llama breed standard criteria, uses DNA to confirm parentage, identifies llamas accurately through required microchip, the CLR is the only llama registry in North America that eventually will achieve “purity” of the breed. ALSA allows ILR registered animals to participate in ALSA shows, even though the ILR has created a competing show division. Without availability of another llama registry, ALSA members have no choice but to register their llamas with the ILR, a competitor of ALSA. Some say competition is good for ALSA. The CLR believes competition also is good for the ILR. CLR registration fees are competitive. CLR’s accuracy is unparalleled. Those who believe credibility and verification of their llamas’ registration certificates are important choose to register with the CLR. Registration with the CLR would be an alternative - not a requirement - to registration with the ILR. ALSA members should be allowed a choice of registries. There is no downside to voting “yes” for choice. Vote “yes” for choice and CLR participation in ALSA shows. More information at www.TheCLR.org, listen to toll free, recorded information (866-870-3874) or call Kathy (205)369-3111. Thank you for your consideration. Kathy Peterson, Registrar

The ALSA Board has reviewed and approved the following to be place on the ballot.

The struck copy is current wording of the Bylaws. The replacement text or additional words are in bold print.

ARTICLE III – Board of Directors

Section 3. Elected Representation (currently located on page 160 of the 2008 ALSA Handbook 15th edition)

(b) A maximum of 2 directors from within any one region shall be allowed to serve concurrently. ~~(The regional show program shall specify the regions which are in place at the time of an election)~~ **The Regional Show Committee shall specify the regions within the Continental 48 States at the time of an election. Alaska will be attached to the Northwestern Region, Hawai’i will be attached to the Southwestern Region and Canadian Provinces will be attached to their common boundary Region of the 48 states.**

Section 6. Election. (currently located on page 161 of the 2008 ALSA Handbook 15th edition)

(a) Directors shall be elected annually by a written ballot from the membership in good standing. Ballots ~~must~~ **may** be received by mail through the United States Postal Service, even though they may originate from a postal service outside the United States, such as Canada Post in Canada. **Ballots may also be faxed to the entity tabulating the results as described within the balloting information.**

Please review all pages before voting