## **Eran McCarty**

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**ILR-SD HPY** 



Eran resides in Fortville, Indiana with

her husband of 32 years, three dogs, three cats, and seven llamas. She has been raising llamas since 2002. She fell in love with these fascinating creatures while working as a keeper/educator at the Indianapolis Zoo where she worked off and on for over twenty years. Her love of animals began with 4-H in Madison County Indiana showing sheep and rabbits and participating a myriad of other projects ending as a ten year member. She continued with her animal studies at Butler University where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Zoology and Environmental Studies. While at Butler she got her first job with the Indianapolis Zoo as a summer camp counselor and exhibit interpreter. Over the next 20 years she worked as an interpretive volunteer, seasonal keeper, instructor for preschool though adults and finished up writing curriculum and doing distance learning programs. It was her time in the Encounters Biome she met and cared for the llamas. When she and her husband and three children moved to their farm in Hancock County, IN they quickly added llamas to their family.

She currently gives back to the 4-H program by acting as leader for the Moonlight Llamas and Alpacas too! club in Madison County, IN. She has been a 4-H leader since 2004 and judging 4-H llama shows and projects for over 10 years. She became an ALSA judge, halter, performance and youth in 2011 and ILR halter, performance, youth judge in 2014. She currently serves on the ILR-SD Fleece Committee. She is an avid spinner, felter, knitter and weaver and works in her best friend's shop The Trading Post for Fiber Arts. They travel to fiber festivals from Wisconsin to North Carolina. She is also a frequent exhibitor of llama shorn fleece and fleece products in shows across the country and enjoys training and competing in performance and halter classes in MidWest llama shows. She is also having a blast teaching her grand daughters how to care and show llamas.