



KINDER GOAT BREEDERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

JUNE, 2001

BOONE COUNTY FAIR KINDER SHOW, 7/28/01

Sponsored by the Boone Companions Goat Association
Boone County Fairgrounds, Columbia, MO
Show Chairperson: Joan Wilcox (573)445-3873
Judge: Harvey Considine, Portage, WI
Combined Jr./Sr. Doe Show (open)

2001 MISSOURI STATE FAIR KINDER SHOW, 8/19/01

Sponsored by the 2001 Missouri State Fair
2503 West 16th St, Sedalia, MO
Show Chairperson: Jim Riley (573)882-7379
Judge: Don Bergfield, Bellflower, IL
Jr. Doe/Sr. Doe/Chevon Shows

NEWS FLASH!!!!!!!!!!

ANOTHER BRIAR OFFSPRING STARTS WITH A BANG!

As I was writing the Briar Rose story, I received a phone call from the owner of another Briar great granddaughter that was in the process of giving birth to her first set of kids. By the end of the conversation, there were SIX kids born – full story, and hopefully photos, to come in the next issue of the Newsletter.

Pat Showalter

TIME FOR KGBA NOMINATIONS FOR 2002 OFFICERS

Would you believe that it is that time already? Time to be considering your nominations for officers for the upcoming year 2002 – President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, and one Member-at-large. If you would like to run, or would like to nominate someone else (just please be sure that you have their consent!), send your nomination to: KGBA, PO Box 1575, Snohomish, WA 98290-1575, attention Nominating Committee.

Your ballots will be sent out to you with the August Newsletter. Votes must be postmarked no later than September 30, so nominations must be in by August 1 to allow time to put it all together.

...MONEY...GOAT DAY...FIRST KINDER...FMD...
...PARTING...PETITION...PARASITOLOGY...POLICY...PICTURES...



HAY!

One way to catch up is to leave out an issue! So,...that's what we've done. We'll make it up to you somehow, as long as you send stuff to include.

FMD continues to be an issue, if not in the mass media, at least among cloven hoofed animal owners. I think we all need to educate ourselves as to how we'll deal with the real possibility of an outbreak in our area.

Do we go along with current APHIS policy, or demand a different approach? Do we have a choice? I hope so, but only if we speak up, and also educate those without a direct stake. (A good friend of mine believed from the mass media that FMD was always fatal and there was no vaccine available.)

I'm looking forward to your comments about my article about butchering. I sure would like to know what others have learned to streamline the process and use as much of the carcass as possible.

It's always such a pleasure to see the joy and energy of the young kids and their little big eared faces peering out from around a corner or a doorway. A rich time of year!

Duggan (your newsletter editor)

ABOUT TWO OF THOSE FINANCIALS (next page)....

Since we do have some funds to work with, the KGBA board agreed that it would be good for the credibility of the Association if we support goat research when we have the opportunity. That's what we did with the Symposium support. By the way, I didn't see any other breed associations on the list of sponsors.

A simple answer for the drop in show sanction income -- Puget Sound Kinder Goat Club did not have any shows in 2000 -- used to do 2 annually. That also accounts for the sale of fewer rosettes. We haven't had any new sanctioned shows added since 1999, though quite a few people do show at their local fairs without a sanction. Shows are a lot of work and expense, and there are not large enough groups of Kinder people willing to go to the effort of working at fund-raising and putting a sanctioned show together.

More areas need to look at how Missouri does their Kinder shows -- in conjunction with dairy goat and Pygmy goat shows, each with their separate sanctions. Quite a bit of money and time can be saved if all breeds could work together more often to share expenses and space, and in the case of Kinders, share judges.

Pat Showalter

CAST OF CHARACTERS

PRESIDENT: Pat Showalter
Snohomish, WA.
(360)668-4559 or (360)668-6032

VICE-PRESIDENT: Sue Huston
Miami, MO (816)852-3222

SECRETARY: Linda Nygaard
Snohomish, WA (360)794-2016

TREASURER: Duggan Kinne
Matlock, WA (360)426-0429

MEMBERS AT LARGE:
Mary Ann Blauvelt, Sheldon, MO
(417)884-5179
Dawn Learning, Nevada City, CA
(530)432-9659
Ramona Birdsall, Hibbing, MN
(218)262-3218

CHEVON DIRECTORS:
Sandra and Charles Mauerhan
Barksdale, TX (830)234-3318

REGISTRAR: Margi Kehres-Ulrich
Everett, WA (425)338-2777

SHOW DIRECTOR: Laurie Gilles
Elgin, IL (847)289-1230

PUBLICATIONS EDITOR:
Duggan Kinne
Matlock, WA (360)426-0429

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH:
Duane Moff
Berlin Center, OH (216)547-6633

YOUTH DIRECTOR: Melinda Kelly
479 Country Rd, Bay Springs, MS
39422

MEMBERSHIP:
138 members; 34 states, 3
countries(more or less)

KGBA INCOME-1999 AND 2000

....revenues and expenses, totaled for each year.

The main moneymaker is registration fees of Kinders and herd names. Membership fees is the next largest revenue source.

Interest income rose significantly, as we continue to transfer excess monies out of the checking account and into 6 month certificates with higher interest.

The newsletter is the largest expense; for both copying and postage. During 2000, the newsletter cost \$645.20 to copy and mail, or about \$1.08 for each of the six issues you received.

Again, there were no telephone charges billed during 2000. Rosettes were bought to replenish the KGBA stock and will be resold to KGBA show organizers over the next few years.

On the previous page of this issue, Pat Showalter discusses two other items.

Higher revenues and lower expenses means a higher net income again in 2000!

REVENUES	1999	2000
Membership Fees	\$474.00	\$585.00
Reg.Fees-Herd Names	150.00	300.00
Reg.Fees-Kinders	815.00	703.50
Classified Ads-Newsletter	34.00	18.20
Milk Test Fees	20.00	16.00
Show Sanction Fees	250.00	150.00
Rosettes	144.00	60.00
Interest Income	51.32	159.47
Misc. Income	13.00	13.70

TOTAL REVENUES	\$1,951.32	\$2,005.87
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EXPENSES	1999	2000
Newsletter Printing	635.41	362.70
Newsletter Postage	308.00	282.50
Other Copying	77.34	121.50
Other Postage	273.00	105.11
PO Box	64.00	64.00
Herd Book	34.14	17.30
Breeders Promotions	60.00	180.00
Bank Charges	49.89	00.00
Web Page	15.00	00.00
Washington State Fees	10.00	10.00
Rosette Stock	00.00	180.99
Seminars and Education	00.00	100.00

TOTAL EXPENSES	1,526.78	1,424.10
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NET INCOME	\$424.54	\$581.77
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KGBA BALANCE SHEET; 12/ 31/99 and 2000

.....a long term view of KGBA's money.

Money, in various forms, is the only KGBA asset which appears on the balance sheet. This year we began adding unused postage as an asset.

Since a balance sheet must balance, the bottom part shows that KGBA has no liabilities (no one is owed money) and all of KGBA's assets are in the form of retained earnings-an accumulated annual excess of revenues over expenses.

This year's Net Income will be added to next year's Retained Earnings, and so we grow.

ASSETS

Seafirst/ BA-Checking	\$2,670.66	\$1,310.17
Seafirst/ BA-Savings	366.94	17.35
Seafirst/BA-6 month CD's	2095.14	4254.20
Postage on Hand	xxx	132.79
Property and Equipment	0.00	0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$5,132.74	\$5,714.51

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

Liabilities	0.00	0.00
Capital		
Retained Earnings	4,708.20	5,132.74
Net Income	424.54	581.77
Total Capital	5,132.74	5,132.74

Duggan Kinne, Treasurer

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL	\$5,132.74	\$5,714.51
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GOAT DAY, CARVER FARM, JEFFERSON CITY, MO

Goat Day was held on April 7, 2001, at Carver Farm in Jefferson City, MO. Carver Farm is located within the city limits of Jefferson City, but is on a winding black-top road that leads through a country setting for about a mile or so before reaching Carver Farm. This is the beautiful new facility of Lincoln University. The main building consists of one large room that can be divided, and has a small adjoining kitchen area. There are many other rooms in this building, that we used for a variety of programs.

This is where the Breeder's Sale and the Youth Programs were held. Lincoln University and the United Missouri Goat Producers sponsored Goat Day. The Breeder's Sale was sponsored by the United Missouri Goat Producers and was held in conjunction with Goat Day.

Harvey Considine was the morning keynote speaker and did a slide presentation on Goats of the World. Harvey is not only a great ADGA judge and a wonderful evaluator of goats, but he is also a very fine speaker. We were so fortunate to have both him and Dr. May for our keynote speakers.

Dr. May's programs included 'State of the Art Packing Plant in Texas', 'Opportunities for Youth Scholarships', and 'Update on Mohair Marketing in Texas'. Lincoln University provided both of these wonderful speakers.

There were concurrent sessions that ran all day, following both the morning and afternoon keynote addresses. Some of the programs were: 'Butchering Your Own Goat for Home Use', 'Cheese Making', 'Program on AI', 'Exporting Goats', 'Breeding Goats Out-of-Season', 'Floating Your Own Fecal Samples', 'What Goats Have Meant to Me', 'Registry Standards for Colored Mohair', 'Hi-Tensile Fencing for Goats', 'Showmanship - Meat and Fiber', 'Corrective Hoof Trimming', 'Successful 4H Lease Program', 'Goats as a Companion Animal', 'Proper Handling of Milk for Market', 'Goat Nutrition', Dairy Goat Showmanship', and several others.

These programs were presented by some of the best from the goat world. There were videos made on 'Butchering Your Own Goat', and 'Corrective Hoof Trimming'. You can borrow these videos for free. They come from Lincoln University and must be returned in 5 days, but it is permissible to make copies.

The Breeder's Sale was held in the Sheep and Goat Research Barn. This was a Private Treaty/Silent Auction Sale. This way of holding the sale allowed the people enjoy the programs of their choice and also take part in the breeder's Sale. I believe there were some 30 animals of several different breeds offered for sale. There were no Kinders in the sale. I am sorry, but I didn't feel that I could take animals and fulfill my other obligations. Perhaps next time.

The United Missouri Goat Producers honored Dr. Helen Swartz by dedicating Goat Day to her on April 7th. Dr. Swartz is a grand lady. She began her college education after her two children graduated from high school. Many times during her undergraduate work she found herself in some of the same classes as her daughter, Becky. After receiving her undergraduate degree she went on to get her Masters and her Ph.D - all from the University of Missouri at Columbia.

She began her career at Lincoln University in 1983. She was then, and still is, the Sheep, Goat and Small Animal Specialist in the state of Missouri. Dr. Swartz was instrumental in the organization of the first Goat Day in the state in 1984, with 300 attendees, and in 1985 there were 400 who attended. This was the positive beginning for the goat industry in our state.

With all her work and energy she has made goat producers proud to be just that, goat producers. She is always there to give a helping hand. She was the one who was instrumental in getting the Kinder goat in at the Missouri State Fair. We owe her a great deal.

I estimate that there were between 250 and 300 people who attended Goat Day on April 7 this year. The meat that was served for lunch was all from Kinder goats. It was delicious! We had both barbecue and plain. There were lots of compliments on the meat.

Goat Day was possible because of Dr. Swartz and Lincoln University. It was a success because of Dr. Swartz and all the wonderful people who worked so tirelessly on this project for over 3 months. Many thanks to all involved!

*Sue Huston
Bramble Patch
Kinders
Miami, MO*

GOAT PARASITOLOGY

Pat suggested expanding on the Parasitology Research Benefit Auction note from the last issue with two articles from their website.

Their website address is:

*<http://www.cometothefarm.com/Parasitology-Research-Auction.htm>,
then click on 'to the auction'.*

Probably more goats have been lost to parasites than to any other cause, and yet we cannot develop a vaccine, we cannot provide an antibiotic, we cannot even depend on the same dewormer from one year to the next. Very few dewormers have been tested for effectiveness in goats and the ones that have are now useless. We are forced to choose our deworming program by hearsay & faith. One of the major problems with this method is that we take a chance on making the problem worse by encouraging the development of resistant strains of parasites by our under-dosing & dosing at the wrong time.

At the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine in Knoxville, TN, we have a parasitology department that likes working with goats. Dr. Saron Patton has a list of research projects to be done on goats but very few funds to carry out the research. Not many companies donate monies earmarked for goat research.

In the summer of 1999, Dr. Patton was able to do a study on Doramectin, a new dewormer that was out. A link to the results of that study will be provide soon, along with the results of a second study on Pyrantel tartrate & pamoate.

Dr. Patton & her team would very much like to test the Golden Blend Morantel pellets. They would also like to test Cydectin & Moxidectin to find the proper dosages needed. They would like to do pasture testing & find ways to reduce infestation in the pastures. They would like to test natural dewormers & test clinically the effectiveness of supplements like copper, iodine, etc.

This research will help all breeds of goats. It will be useful to the dairy, meat & fiber goats. The commercial breeder as well as the pet goat owner will use it.

These people are willing to donate their time & facilities but funds are needed to pay for the drugs & to pay for the student help to administer the drugs, collect samples (repeatedly) & check the fecals.

Please help us fund some of this research, be a part of the solution. \$3,500 will get the first study rolling. See what you might have that you can put up for auction. Visit the site often & bid.

Once we have the funding, Dr. Patton will be looking for volunteer herds that are within an hour ÇÖs drive of the Vet school. A website will be put up at UT to help us follow the study & to give a little more information about what is involved in each study. This auction is being sponsored by the TN Valley Goat Association & Khimaira.

Please note: Neither the University of Tennessee, College of Veterinary Medicine, Tennessee Valley Goat Association nor Khimaira has any additional responsibility with this auction other than identified above.

**Sally Heeren
Greeneville, TN**

(OVER)

Evaluation of Anthelmintics for Treatment of Trichostrongylid Parasites in East Tennessee Goats

*Sharon Patton, Charles Faulkner, C. Shane Mayes, Dawn Lindsey and Alana Anderson,
University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine, Knoxville, TN*

Parasitism, particularly with *Haemonchus contortus*, is a major cause of illness and death in goats. Producers rely on frequent anthelmintic treatment, and many parasite populations are now refractory to these compounds.

Doramectin is efficacious for control of trichostrongylid parasites in cattle, but its efficacy against goat parasitic infections has not been determined. Goats were assigned to treatment groups using pre-treatment fecal egg counts (FEC's). Pre-treatment FEC's for treated animals ranged from 50 to 5350 (mean = 632.5, sd = 212.02), and 50 and 1450 (mean = 400, sd = 395.39) for untreated animals.

Treated animals received 200 µg/kg body weight of Doramectin (Dectomax 1% injectable, Pfizer, Inc.). FEC's 10 days post-treatment (PT) were reduced 66%. The previously untreated animals received 300 µg/kg of Doramectin. FEC's 10 days PT were reduced by 70%. FEC's of animals treated with Doramectin at 400 and 600 µg/kg showed similar declines. Mean reduction in FEC (ANOVA, $p < .05$) was not significantly different for animals treated at higher dosages.

The performance of Doramectin was comparable to FEC reductions of previous years when Ivermectin, a closely related avermectin compound, was used. This study indicates the local emergence of a population of trichostrongylid parasites refractory to treatment with avermectin compounds. Doramectin and Ivermectin are not approved for use in goats at this time.

In a second study the efficacy of pyrantel tartrate (PYT) and pamoate (PYP) (Strongid C and Paste for horses, Pfizer) were evaluated for efficacy against trichostrongyles in goatherds with resistant populations. Goats were divided into 2 groups of 15 by pre-treatment fecal egg counts (FEC). The Group 1 (G1) mean was 513 eggs/gram; Group 2's (G2) was 410. G1 was treated with PYT and G2 with PYP at 20 mg/kg.

Seven days post-treatment FEC reduction was 90% for both. Counts returned to pre-treatment numbers by week 4. Larval cultures showed that 20% of the eggs were *H. contortus*. Both groups were then treated with PYP, 20 mg/kg, and Ivermectin, 0.4 mg/kg, (Ivomec for cattle, Menial). At 7 days post-treatment, FEC's were reduced by 95%, with no *H. contortus* recovered from cultures. G2 then remained untreated while G1 received PYT daily.

After 8 weeks, mean eggs/gram in G1 and G2 were 80 and 482, respectively. Pyrantel pamoate and tartrate were efficacious against the trichostrongyles in this goatherd. The pyrantel pamoate/ivermectin combination was particularly effective. Neither pyrantel pamoate or tartrate are approved for use in goats.

Morantel, a drug which is chemically very similar to pyrantel (Strongid horse dewormer), is approved for use in goats and has recently become available in a "blended feed-pellet" formulation. It is safe for pregnant does, has no milk withdrawal time, and a 3 day slaughter withdrawal time. Planned studies with goatherds in this area need to be done to assess the strategic use of this compound in goatherds in east Tennessee.

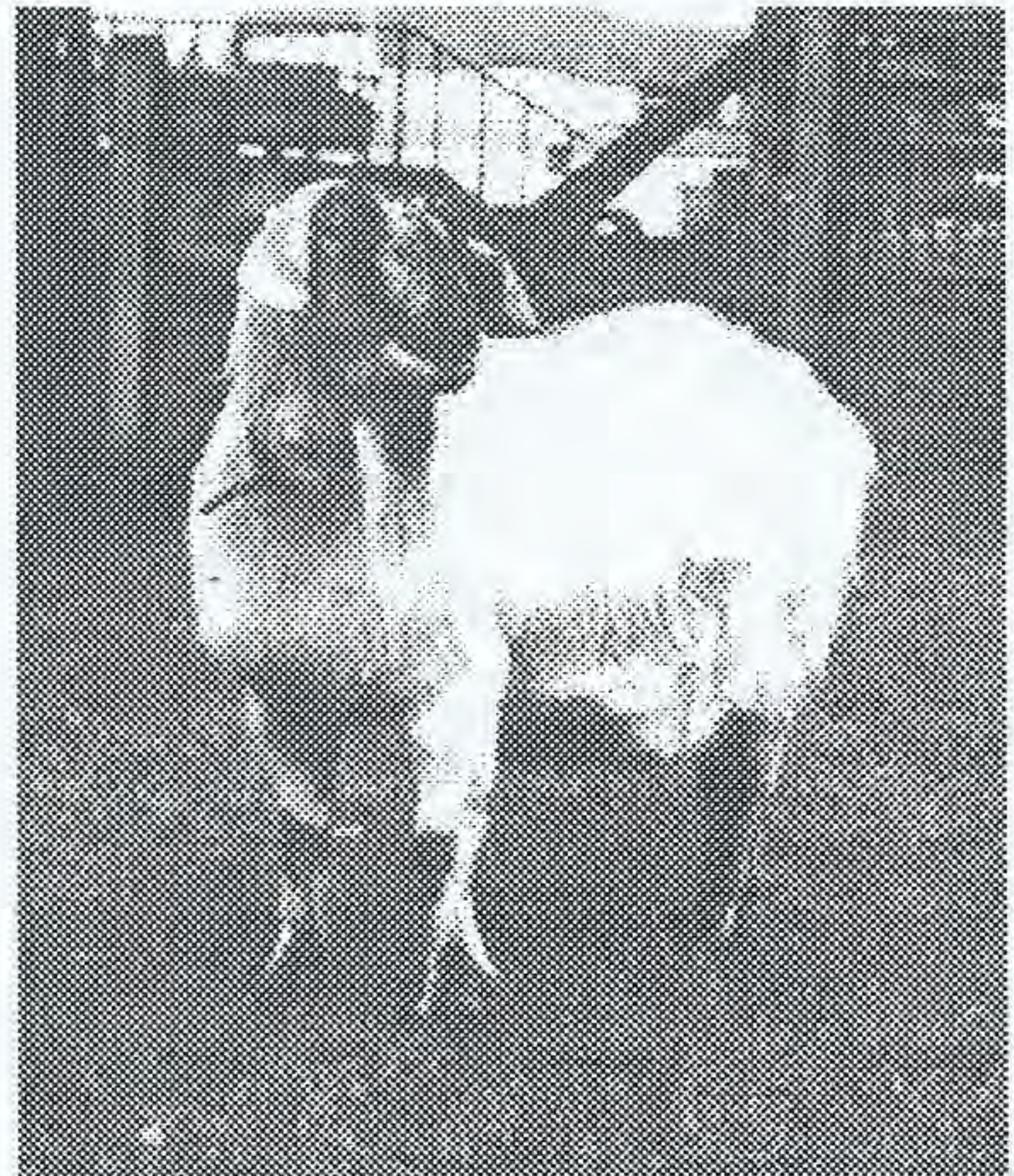
**MEET 'QUEEN' BRIAR ROSE
THE FIRST TO BE CALLED 'KINDER'**



SPUNKY OLD LADY, BRIAR



BRIAR ROSE AND BEST FRIEND, BETH



ANOTHER BIT OF KINDER HISTORY – 'QUEEN' BRIAR ROSE

"In the beginning"... there was a Kinder doe born – the very first of the Zederkamm line of Kinder goats, born June 30, 1986. Her name is Briar Rose.

Yes, I did say 'is', because she is still alive and well!

She is, however, retired, with her 15th birthday coming up.

Briar was a single kid born to a first-freshener Nubian doe. Her Nubian granddam was the dam of Zederkamm Liberty, the first of the Zederkamm Kinders to earn her production star. She was sold to a neighborhood 6 year old, Beth Gilbertson, to become a pre-4H project. Little did the family know that Briar would be with them at Winter Creek Ranch for so many years!

The Gilbertson family has always had other livestock (cattle, hogs, ducks, geese, chickens), but for much of the time, Briar has been an only goat, and she seems to prefer it that way. For a number of years, one of her (wethered) sons was a companion, but more to Beth and her younger sister, Megan, than to Briar. She has always been a spunky and independent spirit, and has taken on the job of 'supervisor' for all the projects around the ranch over the years. Nothing goes on without her inspection. Even when she was very pregnant, she had to accompany Beth on her rounds of chores, with big tummy rolling and bouncing.

Briar Rose produced quite a number of fine kids, several of which were purchased to go back into the Zederkamm herd. She started out with twins, but then settled into the regular production of triplets with at least one side trip into quads. Her most 'famous' granddaughter is Zederkamm Buttercup, who in 7 kiddings, had 28 live kids. Her great, great granddaughter is Zederkamm Sweet Alyssum, who is famous for her 'litter' of live sextuplets, and a total of 23 live kids in 6 kiddings. The entire dynasty of does that come from this Briar Rose foundation have averaged over 7% butterfat, but Briar herself was never on official milk test.

Beth bred Briar through her 10th year, but before that final kidding, new neighbors with uncontrolled dogs moved in and made life a stressful misery for the little goat family. They all survived the ordeal, but the family decided that Briar should be retired rather than put her

through that experience again. When she didn't have kids to guard, she could defend herself pretty well!

Through the years, the most endearing thing about Briar has been her slightly quirky character – the makings for many a funny family tale. Her favorite foods are hog food, duck food, and blackberry vines. The Gilbertsons also discovered that she loves toilet paper.

One of the many stories that they shared was 'The Toilet Paper Caper', where a mischievous family cat was her accomplice. Winter Creek Ranch has an outhouse with a faulty spring latch. The cat discovered the weakness and let himself inside, whereupon he began playing with the toilet paper roll. How fast and how far can a determined cat unroll a roll of toilet paper? The answer is VERY fast and VERY far – and who will do the cleanup? Briar Rose thought that it was a wonderful treat! The stories of Briar Rose's deeds (and misdeeds) are numerous, and the tale of her life at the ranch could fill a book.

When I visited her and her family at Winter Creek Ranch just recently, I was amazed at her vigor and obvious zest for life. She doesn't move like an 'old lady' at all. In fact, she took offense at the little noises my camera made as I took a series of photos of her and Beth. She reared up on her hind legs in a mock 'threat' to let me know that she was irritated by the breach of her privacy.

I had a most enjoyable time reminiscing, photographing, and observing Briar in her idyllic home setting. As I drove toward home down their winding gravel road through the green countryside, my mind kept taking me back over the descriptions of the amazing life of the first goat to be called a Kinder.

**Pat Showalter
Snohomish, WA**

CURRENT "UNOFFICIAL" THINKING ON FMD

The following is my "unofficial" reporting of a discussion that I wanted to share.

I was invited to participate in a conference call this morning, and received some updates and information directly from APHIS (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service) on FMD.

Here is a brief summary:

Surveillance efforts dramatically increased. Staff has been increased at points of entry, adding some 350 temporary employees, with plans to add approximately 400 permanent positions in the next year. The emphasis on possible virus contamination of used farm equipment was again mentioned, with new restrictions being placed.

APHIS is working closely with all states on emergency preparedness, and states will be posting new information soon. Increased inspection on garbage feeding operations and increased inspection overall is in place.

APHIS is also working closely with FEMA and other federal agencies to utilize all possible resources. The Secretary of Agriculture is reported to be very supportive of efforts. In the event of an outbreak in the US, a compensation policy has been through the first stages of development. Indemnity programs to provide reimbursement for expenses such as direct out of pocket expenses, fair market value of animals, and cleaning and disinfecting.

A specific policy on FMD with proposed rules will be going out for industry comment in the very near future. The current proposal would give incentives for reporting the diseases with an effort to be "producer friendly".

Wildlife infection was discussed. It is the belief that wildlife infection would be self-limiting, and they don't see it as big threat overall. There are plans for an ARS study on white-tail deer at Plum Island in the next few months.

Any vaccination program would be a "last effort" approach to contain severe outbreaks. It would be more of a buffer zone with regional vaccination, and re-vaccination every 6 months, and probably eventually de-population. He reminded us that the vaccine cannot be produced in the US, and that only the US, Mexico, Canada, Australia and New Zealand are FMD free status areas at this time.

A side benefit (for the lack of a better word) of the worldwide FMD outbreaks is that it is providing us with valuable training and learning opportunities. It has taught the US new things to learn about the disease and we've found areas that need "fixing". The US has sent some 75 people so far (mostly veterinarians and university representatives) to places in Europe to observe and learn. We expect to send more, and possibly have an international operational headquarters area.

With regard to species, it's well documented that hogs are "virus factories". Cattle are easy to diagnose, but sheep and goats are much harder to diagnose, which may actually account for the lower number of reported cases in those species.

Reminded us that farm biosecurity practices should be improved. APHIS will be publishing guidelines for shows and fairs, and that will be available very shortly. One of the suggestions made by a fellow participant in the call was a handout to be provided for all air travelers, (with information on handling clothing, etc.) in addition to other measures such as the announcements on flights, and signs in airports. That recommendation will be taken back to APHIS for considered implementation.

As an aside to the FMD discussion, it was also stated that there are no test results yet available on the VT sheep that were destroyed (with an earlier quote "While there is no way to be certain that this is BSE rather than scrapie, neither can that possibility be eliminated" without testing.)

*Linda Campbell
Khimaira Farm
Luray VA USA
<http://www.khimairafarm.com>*

CUTTING THEM UP

Just a warning-this article may not be for everyone; it's about butchering our little friends. Kinders are a dual purpose breed though, and I must not be the only one struggling with the details of getting them to the table.

I'm not from a farm family background, and until I started butchering Kinders about 8 years ago, had not parted out any animal larger than a raccoon. Diagrams like "Cuts of Chevon" have always been a mystery to me. For instance, should I try to follow those lines more or less exactly, or do they just define major sections that I'm hacking out of the wilderness?

In the past, I have cut large chunks of various sorts off of the leg and the shoulder, but they were ugly things-not something you'd want to hand to a slightly squeamish cook and say "here you go honey." For a while I experimented with cutting off individual muscles, but those muscle sheaths are yucky raw and even more yucky when they're cooked.

At one point I'd just cut big chunks and little chunks from all over the place and throw them together for chili and stir fry and put the still meaty bones in a pot for the dog. The dog got a lot. Now, I'm a little more systematic. I'd like to describe what I'm currently doing and would be very appreciative of suggestions for improvements in my technique and utilization.

I don't use the head-don't even suggest it. The neck I cook up separately and then remove the meat to use in tortillas and anywhere else where tender, shredded meat works well. The shoulder and upper part of the back leg is what I still cut into chunks, big and little and package for subsequent cutting into small pieces for stew and stir fry. This way, I can use a cleaver and remove any muscle sheath and whatever else I don't want to even think about eating.

The ribs I barbeque over an outdoor fire, after boiling them first for a while, and have a great time with them. I remove those muscles along the backbone, both outside and inside-though which is the tenderloin, I don't know-and save them.

I cut off the muscles on the lower part of all four legs from the bone, and save that and the thin sheath of belly muscle for the dog, who also ultimately gets the heart, the liver, and the lungs too. The spinal column, the breastbone and the leg bones are cooked and the dog gets whatever meat comes off of them. That's it.

Any suggestions for improvements? Incidentally, I have gotten to the point where skinning, gutting and burying the remains is about an hour, and cutting off the meat and weighing and bagging for the freezer is another ninety minutes at the most.

**Duggan Kinne
Matlock, Wa.**

FMD PETITION AVAILABLE TO SIGN

An online petition is available, which you can sign electronically, if you are opposed to the U.S. government's apparent current plans to cull any animals exposed to Foot and Mouth Disease. The address is:

<http://www.PetitionOnline.com/p89g238/>

With my browser at least, I have to get to that address in two stages; first as far as .com and then, once that is loaded, I add the end part, which takes me to the specific petition, since this site has many.

I have also reproduced the petition and enclose it in this newsletter as an insert. Look it over and see what you think. I for one think it unlikely that I will passively sit back and allow "my government" to kill my goats if the statements in this petition are accurate.

I had originally thought this would make a good letter to send to the editor of your local paper but there may be some copyright issues that would prevent this. Instead, all I can say is; if you agree with the petition's contents, please sign it on line, or get permission from the author to use it elsewhere.

Duggan Kinne

KGBA

po box 1575

Snohomish, WA 98291-1575