

## Message from the President

Yvonne Taylor

Hello everybody,

Breeding time again! This year without residential bucks here, so I am grateful that there are still breeders out there with the energy and knowledge to keep bucks. I miss their handsome appearance, but not so much their mischievous behavior in the breeding season. Even though they were kept 1 - 2 miles away from the does, some of them knew in what direction to sprint, if they were let out. I used to get a lot of exercise.

Much has happened since the last newsletter. Our international fleece competition was held at Springtide Farm, Bremen, Maine, for the first time. Wendy Pieh was the steward and handled matters with her usual aplomb, while her husband, Peter Goth, judged the fleeces. Peter and I were both impressed with the quality and volume of

the fleeces in the competition. Who says we cannot compete with China and Mongolia? (Just kidding.)

We had another successful show at Tunbridge, Vermont. Sister Mary Elizabeth not only organized the

show and brought us judges from Colorado with a fresh perspective, Bob and Pam Marshall, but she also brought a large number of youngsters, impeccably dressed in Western outfits, who competed in showmanship.

Christine McBrearty and her family ran a beautiful Chinese raffle, that brought in needed funds for CGA.



CGA Booth at Rhinebeck

A dream came true for me this fall. CGA got a vendor booth at the last minute at the Sheep and Wool Festival in Rhinebeck, NY. Four farms got together and sold their wares while having a lot of fun. We would not have been able to pull this off

without Wendy's contacts and the intrepid spirit of Jana Dengler, our treasurer. We hope this will be an annual event and that more farms will join us in the future! While we were being commercial, Pam Haendle, Sister Mary Elizabeth and Wendy Pieh

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educated the public about cashmere coming from goats (yes, people still have trouble believing that!).

Finally, a big welcome to Christine McBrearty, who joined our board and is now the secretary and our

specialist in fund raising!

Happy Breeding Season!

Yvonne

### DEHAIRING CASHMERE:

Different Strokes for Different Folks

By Maggie Constantine Porter

Think it's too much work dehairing your own cashmere? Or that the results of doing it yourself might be sub-standard? Think again. Carol Spencer, of Foxmoor Farm in Silverton, Oregon, has never sent any of her fiber to a mill. Instead, she has dehaired her own fiber for as long as she has raised cashmere goats – for over 20 years. While it is a time-consuming endeavor, Carol maintains that hand dehairing is relaxing and, more importantly, preserves the integrity of the fiber by keeping it from the stress of commercial scouring or dehairing machines. It also allows for intimate analysis of individual fleeces, and for making solid determinations as to how various fleeces can best be blended.

I had the pleasure of speaking with Carol by telephone recently, to verify what I had learned from Foxmoor Farm's web site ([see foxmoorfarm.com](http://foxmoorfarm.com)). The site mentions that it takes Carol about a month to process one fleece. From what she said during our conversation, this means devoting three hours a day to the activity – not so onerous really, if you view it as being the perfect accompaniment to an (admittedly long) after-dinner movie or a couple book-on-tape chapters with early morning coffee.

Carol is now 79 years old. When she started out as a cashmere goatherd, the only processing option available to her was to send sheared fiber to a mill in Texas. She didn't like that processed fiber sent back from the mill might not necessarily be the same fiber

that had been sent to it. She also wasn't satisfied that dehairing equipment could remove as much guard hair as she could with just thumbs, index fingers, and decent lighting. She now believes that hand dehairing produces superior results over what the mill does, with far less fiber degradation.



Foxmoor Farm's goats all have red guard hair, the color of Hereford cattle, the result of highly selective breeding. Carol prefers short, thick guard hair, with fleece growing out and over it; she finds that longer guard hair makes for more difficult combing. Her animals' fleeces come in three colors: yellow (that is, fiber with a yellow cast), almond and apricot. Apricot is most popular with spinners and, as is usually the case, rarer – only one in four of her goats produces

this color. The average fiber length of her goats is 2 ½ inches.

“Celtic Lady,” was Carol’s first doe. When the goat was three years old, her fleece was sent to a competition in Virginia where she took first place over 63 other entrants. Furthermore, Celtic Lady won first place in six of the seven fiber competitions she was entered in (she came in second only once).

Throughout the years Foxmoor Farm has carefully selected bucks with the “red guard hair” gene, always breeding them with does that also carry the gene. The reason for this? Carol loves the color! Quality cashmere fiber is also a breeding priority; Foxmoor’s goats produce a 2 ½ inch staple, and histograms show the herd’s micron diameter to generally be in the 16 micron range. Because of Carol’s attention to genetics, goat husbandry and careful dehairing, all of the fiber in her cashmere top is the same length. Evidently local spinners are happy with her product, as they currently pay \$22/ounce for it. Mind you, this is cashmere that has never been washed or seen the inside of a mill.

To achieve optimal results in dehairing, Carol thinks well beyond actual combing season. She realized long ago that orchard grass and alfalfa were preferable to grass hay, as the latter contains endless seeds that infiltrate an entire fleece over the course of the winter. She also adds wheat germ oil to feed; she maintains that this helps eliminate dander.

Carol grooms her goats throughout the year: if it’s time for shots or hoof trimming she’ll run a natural bristle brush over the animal to get rid of accumulated vegetative debris. She strokes against the grain at first, then with the grain. If it’s combing time, she’ll go over the goats’ coats with a pin brush (the kind without knobs on the teeth), so that the debris will fall out without taking fiber with it.

If dehairing your own cashmere is of interest to you, or to simply learn more about Carol’s special way of combing her goats, including her signature “Taffy Pull” and “X Motion” maneuvers, Google “Foxmoor Farm” and dehairing and cashmere. Finally, a visit to her website will reward you with images of Carol’s fiber transformed into lace by the lace knitting phenom, Galena Khmeleva.

## DEHAIRING FOR MOST OF US

### 1. The Small Fiber Mill

For the majority of cashmere producers, the time commitment necessary to dehair even 10 or more pounds of raw fiber is unrealistic, and mills with dehairing equipment are essential for doing this job for us.

Fiber mills with dehairing equipment in the US and Canada are relatively scarce, reflecting the reality that American and Canadian raw cashmere is relatively scarce. An Internet search of fiber mills will pull up the names of places with dehairing equipment, but some of these businesses, such as America’s Natural Fiberworks or Sweitzer’s Fiber Mill have never processed 100% (or in Sweitzer’s case, any) cashmere before.

Exactly where to send one’s cashmere for processing is a conundrum, especially for the beginning Cashmere goat farmer. Once mills with dehairing equipment have been located, the producer must ask the mill the following questions: 1) What is the mill’s required minimum amount of raw cashmere? 2) What services does the mill provide? 3) What does the mill charge for its various service? 4) What is the mill’s turn-around time? 5) What does the finished produce look/feel/smell like? 5) Does the mill offer special services such as blending and dyeing, and at what additional cost?

Word of mouth factors into all of this, too. I send my fibers to the same place some other Cashmere Goat Association members send theirs to. But is this the smartest thing to do, given that my needs might be different from another goatherd’s?

### 2. The Large Fiber Mill

A new option for dehairing cashmere has arisen, with Natural Fiber Producers (“NFP”) importing into Springfield, Kentucky a huge dehairing machine from Italy. This machine is capable of dehairing up to 50 pounds of cashmere *an hour*. NFP will only wash and de-hair cashmere; it won’t card or spin. Assuming a producer can combine her fiber with other cashmere goat farmers to meet NFP’s 100 pound minimum (!),

you will then have to figure out who will finish the processing.

Many factors enter into how an individual adds value to her cashmere. Therefore, the editors of Hoofprints have decided to investigate as many mills as possible for our readership. Over the next several issues we

will research American and Canadian mills of various sizes, all with dehairing equipment. We will report back to our readers what we've discovered. In the meantime, we welcome any thoughts you may have about your experiences – positive or negative – with sending your cashmere harvest off to a mill.



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## Breeding Matters III – Inbreeding vs. Line Breeding

By [Morgan Hartman](#) / October 20, 2014 ~excerpt printed Courtesy of On Pasture

Confused about the difference? Here's what separates the two "relatives."

While inbreeding is a form of line-breeding and the two are related, no pun intended, they are different.

According to Jim Lents, owner of the Anxiety 4th line of horned Hereford cattle in Oklahoma, a line not outcrossed since the 1870's, the difference between inbreeding and line-breeding is the amount of genetic influence any single animal plays in any descendent's genetic makeup.

For instance, any individual is made up of 50% of each of its parent's nuclear DNA (Mitochondrial DNA plays a role here; however, they are passed down only through the egg. In order to keep things simple we'll ignore mitochondrial DNA for the time being). In other words, the sire and dam of your "best" cow each contributed 50% to that cow's DNA. A daughter to that cow receives 25% each from her dam's parents and 25% each from her sire's parents, potentially watering down the quality and predictability of subsequent offspring.

- See more at: <http://onpasture.com/2014/10/20/breeding-matters-iii-inbreeding-vs-line-breeding/#sthash.7HsdPAC9.dpuf>

## TOP GOAT SPOTLIGHT!

### Ghanna

By Becky Bemus

The story of Ghanna is yet to be told as she is still a very young doe and it is yet to be seen how her fleece holds up over time and how her progeny develop. From a breeding perspective, she has a lovely frame, with nice body length and depth, and good feet and legs. Ghanna is a pale amber badger-faced doe with off white fibre. Her cashmere is a consistent length, and voluminous with 8 ounces of cleanly combed cashmere. Her style is not the showiest we have bred but she is consistent across her fleece and, in my opinion, she is an excellent dual purpose doe.

Her accomplishments include the following at the shows we have entered in the past few years:

2012 CNFC Judge: Diana Mullins  
3rd<sup>st</sup> place doeling fleece 5.4 oz

2012 CGA Judge: Joe David Ross  
-2<sup>nd</sup> place doeling fleece under

2013 CGA: Judge: Mickey Neilsen  
-1<sup>st</sup> place 2<sup>nd</sup> Fleece, Jr Champion Doe 6.2 oz

2014 CGA Judge: Joe David Ross  
-1<sup>st</sup> place 3<sup>rd</sup> Fleece, Jr. Champion Doe, Best in Show 8.0 oz

Unfortunately, the birds got Ghanna's 4<sup>th</sup> fleece as it was just too cold to harvest when the fleece was at its prime, but it looked to be just as lovely and voluminous as her previous fleeces.

## RWF Ghanna

DOB: May 14, 2011

Tag#: 2011-69

Sex: Doe

Birth#: Twin

Colour: Pale amber badger

|  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <b>Sire:</b><br><b>RWF Chaplin</b><br>1 <sup>st</sup> Fleece:<br>MFD 14.3, SD 3.37, CV 23.4%<br>Curvature: 94.7<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> fleece:<br>MFD 16.8, SD 3.47, CV 20.7%<br>Curvature: 71.2<br>6 <sup>th</sup> fleece: 17.52, SD 3.4, CV 20.0%<br>Curvature: 68.6<br>Colour: Cream/Black Badger<br>Size: Medium | <b>Sire:</b><br><b>RSC Harley</b><br>Colour: Amber<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> fleece:<br>MFD 14.45, SD 3.3, CV 22.9~102.1<br>4 <sup>th</sup> Fleece:<br>MFD 16.42, SD 3.64, CV 22.1 ~ 75.9<br><b>Dam:</b><br><b>RWF Attanna</b><br>Colour: Cream/Amber<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> : MFD 15.53, SD 3.12, CV 20.1% ~ 73.8<br>4 <sup>th</sup> : MFD 15.66, SD 3.45, CV 22% ~ 63.3<br>8 <sup>th</sup> : MFD 15.58, SD 3.1, CV 19.6% ~ 61.3 | <b>Sire:</b><br><b>RSC Conan</b><br>White<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> : MFD 17.5, SD 4.3, CV 24.6<br><b>Dam:</b><br><b>RSC Brandy</b><br>Red/Amber<br>4 <sup>th</sup> : MFD 16.1, SD 2.9, CV 18.2<br><b>Sire:</b><br><b>RSC Figaro</b><br>White<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> : MFD 15.4, SD 3.5, CV 22.8~82.0<br><b>Dam:</b><br><b>Omma</b><br>White<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> : MFD 17.1, SD 3.9, CV 22.5 ~ 44.1 | <b>Sire:</b><br><b>Cascho Great Northern</b><br><b>Dam:</b><br><b>GSF Elfie</b><br><b>Sire:</b><br><b>MLF Waddington</b> White<br><b>Dam:</b><br><b>GSF Guinevere</b><br><b>Sire:</b><br><b>RSC Duddley</b> White<br><b>Dam:</b><br><b>AKF Arial</b> Black<br><b>Sire:</b><br><b>U/K</b><br><b>Dam:</b><br><b>U/K</b><br><b>Sire:</b><br><b>U/K</b><br><b>Dam:</b><br><b>U/K</b><br><b>Sire:</b><br><b>U/K</b><br><b>Dam:</b><br><b>U/K</b><br><b>Sire:</b><br><b>MLF Waddington</b><br><b>Dam:</b><br><b>GSF Calamity Jane</b><br><b>Sire:</b><br><b>GSF Mystic</b><br><b>Dam:</b><br><b>RSC Anika</b> |
| <b>Dam:</b><br><b>RSC Hanna</b><br>Black<br>4 <sup>th</sup> fleece:<br>MFD 16.3, SD 3.03, CV 18.6%<br>Curvature: 67.9<br>8 <sup>th</sup> fleece:<br>MFD 16.20, SD 2.8, CV 17.0%<br>Curvature: 76<br>9 <sup>th</sup> Fleece:<br>MFD 17.18, SD 3.1, CV 17.9%<br>Curvature: 64.9%<br>Colour: Black<br>Size: Medium  | <b>Sire:</b><br><b>3RR Brazos</b><br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Fleece:<br>MFD 18.8, SD 4.5, CV 24.1<br><b>Dam:</b><br><b>RSC Dory</b><br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Fleece:<br>MFD 16.6, SD 3.0, CV 18.2  | <b>Sire:</b><br><b>CCS Midnight</b><br><b>Dam:</b><br><b>BBR Doe</b><br><b>Sire:</b><br><b>RSC Beauregard</b><br><b>Dam:</b><br><b>RSC Buttercup</b>  |   |

As you can see in her pedigree, she is out of RSC Hanna, a black doe purchased from Riversong Farm in British Columbia. Hanna has beautiful colored fleece that has maintained its quality over time. Hanna has her own share of awards in fiber shows over the years.

Hanna was sired by BBR Brazos, a buck imported to Canada from Texas. Hanna's dam, RSC Dory, goes back to MLF Waddington on both sides of her pedigree, and Waddington seems to be the common pedigree link that I gravitate towards in many of my most productive dual purpose breeding results. I also love the "look" of those Waddington inspired faces. Sweet, wonderful beauty, elegance and innocence all wrapped up in one expression and ok, maybe a tiny hit of underlying mischief.



MLF Waddington

Ghanna is sired by RWF Chaplin, a well-built amber badger buck with black bezoar type overlay. Chaplin has a large fleece with robust style. He almost went on the truck more than once in his younger life, but fate somehow intervened at the last minute and each time he was given a reprieve. Rightfully so, as he has gone on to sire more than his share of top placing and producing does in my herd. He himself is an example of our exploiting Waddington's genes, as both Chaplin's sire RSC Harley at generation 2 of his pedigree and his dam RWF Attanna, at generation 5 of her pedigree, descend from this buck. Chaplin has always placed well in the fiber competitions and has many Reserve Champion ribbons to his name. However, Chaplin's success, in my opinion, is owed to his mother Attanna, who I still believe is one of the best does I have ever produced.

Attanna's fiber was long, fine and beautiful but more importantly to me, it stayed consistent over her whole life. Unfortunately Attanna is no longer with us but her 8<sup>th</sup> fleece tested at an MFD of 15.58, an SD of 3.1, a CV of 19.6 and a curvature score of 61.3. She was a well built, balanced and beautiful doe. Her offspring of both sexes were amazing no matter the buck she was paired with; most of whom are still producing show quality fleeces and placing well at shows. I believe Ghanna will prove to be just like her Grandmother as time goes on.

Sadly, Ghanna's brother ended up at the abattoir because he was tall and lanky at the time and we were unable to coral the buckling who was supposed to go that day. When I got his hide back from the tannery, I cried when I saw how long, voluminous and crimped his fleece was. I am sure his body would have come back around in time. Unfortunately that is the nature of farming and we all need to make those decisions to keep the income chain going to support the others who remain.



As a mother, Ghanna is attentive but at ease with her role. She seems to be passing on her volume and length. It is still too early for me to get a good analysis of her merit as a breeding animal as unfortunately her first doeling was lost at only a few weeks old when the does and kids pushed to the very back of their shelter during a torrential spring rain storm. I repeated that breeding to BLF Duke the following year and got a beautiful set of twins. The resulting amber doeling, JGB, appears to have a lovely body shape and Phil keeps telling me she has the best developed shoulder we have produced on our farm to date. JGB's first fleece was very dense, crimped and with good length. Unfortunately, we did not get her fiber harvested this spring due to the extreme cold and onset of kidding, but the samples I took in the early spring show she is on the right track. Her fleece is finer and more stylish than her mother and I think will exceed Ghanna's overall volume.

Last year we bred Ghanna to RWF Gitanno, a Duke son, out of Attanna, so a half sibling to her sire Chaplin. Clearly this breeding also goes back to Waddington with him appearing on both sides of the pedigree; twice at generation 5, once at generation 6 and twice at generation 7. Although the inbreeding coefficient at this point is fairly minimal, Waddington's influence can still be seen in the offspring. In this pairing, Ghanna did not

disappoint me, producing a beautiful set of twin black doelings who are packed with fiber. These girls appear to have nice frames under all that lovely fluff. One doeling is larger and closer to my ideal goat for fiber cover, body style and guard hair

length, but the other girl is going to make someone a good start towards their future herd. I am really looking forward to combing this coming spring and seeing what Ghanna can do for our herd over time.

## Thoughts on Culling: One Farm's Perspective

by Abby Sadauckas

We all love goats, we would like to have as many goats as possible, right? Well, I certainly agree, but what this article addresses is having the **right** goats for **your** farm. I bought my first goats in 2008, a pair of Boer cross bucklings named Chop and Porter(house). These two boys taught me several important lessons about goats, the first being that if I wanted to have more goats I had better get some breed stock - otherwise I'd be faced with heartbreak every fall. So, indeed I did, by purchasing breed stock from Black Locust Farm and Springtide Cashmere. At that point the plan was to amass a quality herd and then commence selling breed stock to others, a plan which may sound familiar to Hoof Prints readers.

So, fast-forward almost 10 years and now my partner Jake and I raise a variety of animals; cows, sheep, chickens, turkeys, geese and goats. We have a herd of more than 40 goats, with just under half of those breeding does. Our farm produces meat for sale at markets year round, and goat meat is a popular offering. We finish between 8-10 goats a year and see demand for even more. So, my thinking about why and how I raise goats has evolved considerably. First though, I will say culling goats has been more challenging than in our sheep flock. Sheep generally have such flaws such as poor mothering, mastitis, or lameness --- defects that our goats just don't have! While this is great it also means we have to look more carefully at each

both its fiber production AND frame. Ideally our goats have a long, deep chest with strong shoulders and wide-set front and rear legs. From the side they have a squarish appearance without their shoulders or rear ends sticking up too far. Our ideal frame has wide set eyes, with shoulders providing ample capacity for vital organs, food consumption, meat growth and cashmere coverage.



Cull Doe

Ideal goats should have straight backs, correct carriage (without bowed legs), deep bodies (from back to belly) and an even rump that isn't sloped, swayed or short. Again, the majority of these points have been established by good breeding, but several of our does do not meet all points of this criteria. A few have narrower bodies than I would like or have somewhat high shoulders. None at this point have meaty back ends to rival Boer. But, our newer does, born in the last 2-3 years, are getting



closer to our ideal animal with wide set eyes, beefy front shoulders and a balanced square side view. It is encouraging to see these younger does exhibit more of these traits.

When choosing a buck, we identify one that is as close to perfect as possible. We look for a buck with a square, balanced body shape with a deep chest, wide-set legs and wide head. We generally choose the largest framed (not just tallest) buck we can, and have chosen to use one buck for two years in a row running to see if his good traits show up in kids with consistency.



Until this year we did not own a buck, nor did we attempt to keep any of our own bucklings to become a buck. This has changed with the recent acquisition of our first buck-in-residence, STC Spike. Spike was the same buck we used last year and now, with about 12 does to breed each year and a group of rams he can live with, it seemed feasible to add him as a permanent member of the farm.

We don't keep our own bucklings for breeding; instead all of our bucklings are wethered early and are destined for the meat market. We find this eases management by allowing them to nurse for a full 3 months and run with the doelings without any

out-of-season kidding. We generally finish bucklings at 16 - 18 months, and sell both meat and pelts.

Goat meat is sold alongside our grass-fed lamb with comparable pricing. Our goats are still not huge, but have hanging weights have increased over the years. Goats are harvested in November and December so they have ample time to finish and for their cashmere to begin coming in.

We raise our own doelings and use the same criteria for judging them as explained above. But, we usually find that our assessment from the first six months up to the first year can't always be relied upon. For example, in our field this year are two two-year old does, Tobago and Sicily. Tobago is out of a doe that is just about perfect, and so has always been on the radar as a replacement. Sicily on the other hand, out of one of my original does, was a slow grower whom we almost lost to parasites her first spring. Though she isn't quite as well-balanced as some other does, she has grown enormously and has a deep, meaty body and is taller than her dam with thickly muscled legs. She appears to be a "keeper."



Another example of a late bloomer is a little doelings, Antalya, who is now just a year old. Like Sicily she came out of winter with sluggish growth and didn't do much all summer. But, mid summer, she turned a corner, gaining weight, growing into her legs and balancing out. So, as with Sicily, it looks like she won't be a cull after all!

My point being that we always try to wait until a doe reaches her second fall before we cull. Our growing market demands meat, but we also want to balance this demand with increasing our herd with the right goats.

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<http://www.sheepandgoat.com/#!evalmeatgoat/c1xve>



## CGA Booth at Rhinebeck



Member farms manned the CGA Booth at Rhinebeck, and the CGA is looking forward hosting a booth again next year.

## TECHNICAL CASHMERE™???

### What is it and Why Should We Care?

by Maggie Constantine Porter

In 2014 a Canadian company, “Kit and Ace,” launched a line of clothing made with what the company refers to as “Technical Cashmere.” Technical Cashmere, as it turns out, is a proprietary blend of 81% viscose, 10% elastane, and 9% cashmere.<sup>1</sup> In other words, Kit and Ace sells viscose products with a bit of cashmere and elastane thrown in – and then cleverly associates this textile mélange with the word “cashmere.”

Kit and Ace’s web site is elegantly rendered and user friendly. No surprise here – Shannon Wilson, one of the owners, is married to billionaire Chip Wilson, the founder of the successful publically traded business, lululemon (aside: my 32 year old daughter had to tell me that lululemon sells hip yoga apparel). Kit and Ace’s other owner is Chip Wilson’s son, JJ.

Kit and Ace’s garments are no doubt well constructed and flattering to wear. Unfortunately, at least for cashmere producers, the company misleads consumers by using the word “cashmere” in advertising its products, whether the product in question has more than a token amount of cashmere or not.

For example, go to the company’s web site, [www.kitandace.com](http://www.kitandace.com). Click on “WOMEN.” Once this window appears, go to the upper right hand corner “search” box and type in “sweatshirt sweater.” When the image of a model wearing the sweatshirt sweater comes up, scroll down to the “fabric” tab. You will then learn that this garment is made of 86% viscose, 9% cashmere and 3% elastane. Nonetheless, it is advertised as “made from our soft, luxurious Technical Cashmere™.”

What’s wrong with this picture? It’s as if someone entered a dog (“Princess”) into the Westminster Kennel Dog Show’s Skye Terrier class, and Princess was actually 85% Beagle. Is Princess a “Technical Skye Terrier”? No, she’s what one might refer to

as a “beagle mutt.” Fortunately, dog show judges won’t fall for the term “Technical Skye Terrier,” because dogs such as Princess will look like a beagle and will be laughed out of the show.

It’s not quite the same situation with Technical Cashmere. If a fabric is advertised as luxurious and made of cashmere, plus feels soft and has a high price point, it’s easier to convince untutored consumers that the “sweatshirt sweater” referenced above is, in fact, made of cashmere. An aggressive advertising campaign, such as that employed by Kit and Ace, can blur the line between a viscose/cashmere mix and actual cashmere.

Google “FTC and Threading Your Way Through Labeling

Requirements.” Midway through this long document is the following:

***“Fiber trademarks used elsewhere in ads must not give a false, deceptive, or misleading message about content; for example, they may not imply that the product is made completely of a certain fiber when it is not.”***

In other words, what Kit and Ace is doing appears to be illegal. Nonetheless, in November, 2014 the company filed an application with the US Patent and Trademark Office (“USPTO”) for trademark protection for the term, “Technical Cashmere.” Sometime after that, the Cashmere and Camel Manufacturers Institute (“CCMI”) filed a protest with the USPTO to deny Kit and Ace their sought-after trademark protection. The USPTO’s internal Letter of Protest Memorandum accessible through the USPTO’s web site, states in part:



***A Letter of Protest filed before publication has been accepted because the evidence submitted by the protester is relevant and may support a reasonable ground for refusal appropriate in ex parte examination.***

CCMI has also reported Kit and Ace's deceptive use of the word "cashmere" to the Federal Trade Commission along with the US Customs Office (remember, Kit and Ace is Canadian).

### **How Can CGA Members Protect the Integrity Of the Word "Cashmere"?**

For now, Kit and Ace's trademark protection has been put on hold.<sup>2,3</sup> For those of us who have an interest in keeping the term "Technical Cashmere" out of the marketplace (unless it is, in all technical aspects, cashmere), there are several things we can do.

First, we can educate ourselves about labeling laws. A good starting point is [www.cashmere.org](http://www.cashmere.org), CCMI's web site. Go to the heading **FOR RETAILERS** and click on **Labeling**. This will open a page titled, **Textile Labeling Fact Sheet**. Also, take a look at the web site's **FOR CONSUMERS** section. Click on **Fraud** and read about **Consumer Fraud: What Can You Do?** The FTC's Automated Information System contact information is listed (available 24 hours/day, every day).

Second, write to Steve Ecklund of the Federal Trade Commission about your concerns re: Technical Cashmere's request for trademark protection. Mr. Ecklund is CCMI's contact person at the FTC. His email address is [secklund@ftc.gov](mailto:secklund@ftc.gov).

Third, consider filing a letter of protest with the US Patent and Trademark Office. This requires submitting "Evidence" (multiple forms encouraged) and computer skills beyond the capabilities of this writer, but perhaps one of our members can wade through the protest process successfully. To file a Letter of Protest, go to USPTO.gov; click on the "quick link" green tab on the right side of your screen; select TEAS; click on #6 (petition form); then click on #10. Kit and Ace's "US Serial No." is 86444532.

We're all busy hauling buckets of water and repairing fences, with little time for "one more thing," including clicking a million Internet links or reading up on labeling laws. It might behoove us, however, to email Steve Ecklund to object to Kit and Ace's use of the term "Technical Cashmere." As mentioned above, Kit and Ace's proprietary "cashmere" textile is mostly made from viscose. Perhaps, in terms of honesty and goodwill, it ought to reconsider naming its fabric "Technical Viscose." Or "Technical Viscose with some Cashmere added." Or something along these lines....

<sup>1</sup>Depending upon the garment, the blend could be one of predominantly cotton with some cashmere and nylon. Sometimes the percentage of cashmere in "Technical Cashmere" is less than 9%, sometimes more. It appears that the largest percentage of cashmere used is 11%.

<sup>2</sup>To read the documents concerning Kit and Ace's trademark application, do the following:

- 1) Go to [www.uspto.gov/trademark](http://www.uspto.gov/trademark)
- 2) Click on Search Trademark Database under **TESS**
- 3) Click on: checking application status and viewing documents
- 4) Click on button that reads: Trademark Status and Document Retrieval
- 5) Type in Serial No. in box where indicated:  
**86444532**

<sup>3</sup>Despite the application suspension, the term "Technical Cashmere" can be found throughout Kit and Ace's web site.

**CASHMERE GOATS**  
BREEDING STOCK & CASHMERE PRODUCTS FOR SALE  
*We Buy Quality Fiber!*



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## SPRINGTIDE FARM HOSTS CGA FIBER COMPETITION

By Christine McBrearty-Hulse

On August first, Springtide Farm, located in Bremen, Maine, graciously opened its gates to welcome the Cashmere Goat Associations's Annual Fiber Competition. Peter Goth and Wendy Pieh, proprietors of Springtide, converted their lovely property into a Master Classroom for discussing and examining more than one hundred fleeces on this particular day.

The event began with an introductory seminar by Peter Goth about the technical side of fiber from reading histograms, identifying fiber term definitions, to the use of genetic selection for breeding. Immediately following the seminar Wendy guided participants on a tour of the farm. For anyone who has ever been to Springtide you know that the rolling hills and boulders that look like art forms are everywhere. In other words, it's a goat's Disneyland! Wendy's tour was insightful in comparing and contrasting her farm layout to our own farms. It's helpful for all of us to see other farms get ideas on designing a layout that utilizes less energy while we go about our daily chores.

*Additionally, we got to see some ingenious ways of solving problems or get ideas on how to adapt similar technology to fit our own needs. For example here are photos of how Peter and Wendy solved not being able to sink posts into the ground for hanging gates on. Pretty Ingenious! They also created an area for feeding the kids that can be closed off to fill or clean feeders as well as to confine them for treatments so one person can effectively and safely work through a group of animals.*



CGA Bringing together breeders, fiber artists and others interested in these charming animals and the luxurious fiber they grow.



*Four pillars with gates on both sides made a closed off feeding and/or treatment area*



*Up close photo showing fencing used to create a crib to hold the stones and wood posts to attach the gates*

Following our tour we proceeded to view the fiber competition. Peter Goth was in the process of pulling apart fiber and scoring it. Anyone who knows Peter also knows that he is a natural teacher. Peter invited participants to practice rating sample fleeces. It was a valuable teaching opportunity that allowed us to try training our eyes. Peter commented on how far the quality of fleeces have come, as well as how our older animals are still producing premium cashmere at 14 and 15 microns. The thought of examining 100 fleeces this way was mind boggling to me, thus I was glad to leave it to the real judge and go enjoy the beautiful Maine air!

After the awarding of ribbons and sorting of fiber we all headed down to a beachside home that has been in Peter's family for years. While we were knee deep in microns and other fiber attributes a crew of folks were on the coast preparing an authentic old time lobster bake. (The process involves layering corn, potatoes, onions, and lobster with seaweed and newspaper, then slow cooking it until the eggs on top are hard boiled. Who knew?) Having now experienced such an event I can say it is the best way to end any day. It is evident that cashmere fiber producers share a common interest that not only fosters knowledge and the advancement for US production, but has resulted in many friendships.

## CASHMERE GOAT ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL FLEECE COMPETITION

Held at Springtide Farm in Bremen, Maine  
August 1, 2015

Judge: Dr. Peter Goth

### SHOW RESULTS

#### CLASS ONE, DOES BORN IN 2014, 14 ENTRIES

|                  |                                 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1st HHF VELMA    | CHRISTINE MCBREARTY-HULSE       |
| 2nd HFC QUALICUM | HEIDE KRAUSE                    |
| 3rd AZALEA       | MARCHETERRE FLUET               |
| 4th STON JANUS   | JANA DENGLE & MARYANNE REYNOLDS |

#### CLASS TWO, DOES BORN IN 2013, 10 ENTRIES

|                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1st OOF JULIET    | OWEN WILLEY           |
| 2nd SGF MELODY    | JANE MCKINNEY         |
| 3rd CSM KACHIWIRI | SISTER MARY ELIZABETH |
| 4th CHF STORM     | MANON TOUGAS          |

#### CLASS THREE, DOES BORN IN 2012, 11 ENTRIES

|                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1st SGF MAGNELLA       | JANE MCKINNEY         |
| 2nd SGF LENA           | JANE MCKINNEY         |
| 3rd CSM MUANA KWA FUMU | SISTER MARY ELIZABETH |
| 4th STC CECILY         | MAGGIE PORTER         |
| HM SGF KANCHANA        | JANE MCKINNEY         |

#### CLASS FOUR, DOES BORN IN 2011, 11 ENTRIES

|                    |                                 |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1st SGF MARGUERITE | JANE MCKINNEY                   |
| 2nd HHF OLGA       | CHRISTINE MCBREARTY-HULSE       |
| 3rd TFC GWEN       | CHRISTINE MCBREARTY-HULSE       |
| 4th CSM ODALA      | SISTER MARY ELIZABETH           |
| HM STON LILY       | JANA DENGLE & MARYANNE REYNOLDS |

#### CLASS FIVE, DOES BORN IN 2010, 2009, 11 ENTRIES

|                 |                       |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1st CBG HANNAH  | MAGGIE PORTER         |
| 2nd CSM KUUNIKA | SISTER MARY ELIZABETH |
| 3rd SHF LAMISA  | HEIDE KRAUSE          |
| 4th SGF FELICIA | JANE MCKINNEY         |
| HM SF MINSTREL  | ANNE REPASKE          |

#### CLASS SIX, DOES BORN IN 2008, 2007, 2006, 7 ENTRIES

|                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1st SGF CADENCE         | JANE MCKINNEY         |
| 2nd CSM KHUMBO          | SISTER MARY ELIZABETH |
| 3rd STC CAITLYN         | SISTER MARY ELIZABETH |
| 4th STC PRINCESS ELOISE | SISTER MARY ELIZABETH |
| HM BLF CAITLIN          | MAGGIE PORTER         |

#### CLASS SEVEN, DOES BORN IN 2005 OR EARLIER 7 ENTRIES

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1st STC LESHODU        | MARCHETERRE FLUET |
| 2nd DF-V9 RHAPSODIE    | JANE MCKINNEY     |
| 3rd CA CAPRETTE SERENA | BARBARA FIORICA   |
| 4th CA CAPRETTE VIOLET | BARBARA FIORICA   |



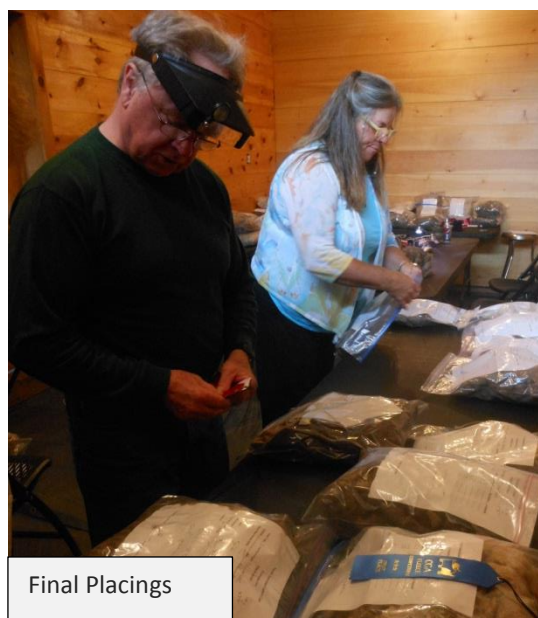
Fibre Assessment Clinic



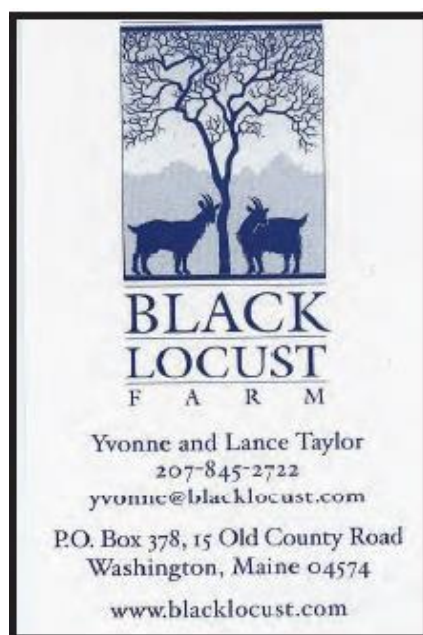
Peter judging cashmere



Class Judging



Final Placings





**GRAND CHAMPION JUNIOR DOE**  
**SGF MAGNELLA JANE MCKINNEY**

**RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION JUNIOR DOE**  
**HHF VELMA CHRISTINE MCBREARY-HULSE**

**GRAND CHAMPION SENIOR DOE**  
**SGF MARGUERITE JANE MCKINNEY**

**RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION SENIOR DOE**  
**HHF OLGA CHRISTINE MCBREARY-HULSE**

**CLASS EIGHT, BUCKS BORN IN 2014, 10 ENTRIES**

1ST BLF FOREST YVONNE TAYLOR  
 2ND SGF ALEXANDER JANE MCKINNEY  
 3RD CBG SHILLING MAGGIE PORTER  
 4TH STON FRED ASTAIR J. DENGLE & M. REYNOLDS  
 HM BLF SHADOW YVONNE TAYLOR

**CLASS NINE, BUCKS BORN IN 2013 OR EARLIER  
 7 ENTRIES**

1st SGF CARLOS JANE MCKINNEY  
 2nd CHF LYNX MANON TOUGAS  
 3rd US TORNADO SNOWDEN CLARKE  
 4th STC LANCE-A-LOT SISTER MARY ELIZABETH  
 HM SGF TORO JANE MCKINNEY

**GRAND CHAMPION JUNIOR BUCK**  
**BLF FOREST YVONNE TAYLOR**

**RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION JUNIOR BUCK**  
**SGF ALEXANDER JANE MCKINNEY**

**GRAND CHAMPION SENIOR BUCK**  
**SGF CARLOS JANE MCKINNEY**

**RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION SENIOR BUCK**  
**CHF LYNX MANON TOUGAS**

**CLASS TEN, WETHERS BORN IN 2014, 2013  
 5 ENTRIES**

1st CBG PERCIVAL MAGGIE PORTER  
 2nd CSM MICHAEL SISTER MARY ELIZABETH  
 3rd CSM RAPHAEL SISTER MARY ELIZABETH  
 4th DARA MARCHETERRE FLUET

**CLASS ELEVEN, WETHERS BORN IN 2011  
 4 ENTRIES**

1st HHF OLAF CHRISTINE MCBREARY-HULSE  
 2nd SGF PASCAL JANE MCKINNEY  
 3rd SGF ALBERTO JANE MCKINNEY  
 4th SGF PINTO JANE MCKINNEY

**CLASS TWELVE, WETHERS BORN 2010 OR EARLIER  
 3 ENTRIES**

1st BLF JASPER YVONNE TAYLOR  
 2nd MANNY JANE MCKINNEY  
 3rd BLF PABLO YVONNE TAYLOR

**GRAND CHAMPION WETHER**  
**HHF OLAF CHRISTINE MCBREARY-HULSE**

**RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION WETHER**  
**CBG PERCIVAL MAGGIE PORTER**

**BEST IN SHOW**  
**SGF MARGUERITE JANE MCKINNEY**



**Crooked Fence Farm**

Cashmere Goats  
 CVM/Romeldale & Merino  
 Sheep

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**CNCFC 2015**  
August 26, 2015

#### Judge's Comments

Thank you all for having me come and judge the fleece show. It was hard work. It was hard because you all sent in such incredible fleeces that it was hard to place the classes! There wasn't a fleece that I wouldn't have gladly stuffed in my bag and brought home. The fleeces in this competition could compete for quality with any fleeces in the world, and that is no small feat. So pat yourselves and your goats on the back for a job well done. Next year, be sure to send in more buck fleeces. I know they are smelly and sticky and often full of guard hair, but they also represent a huge part of any breeding program, and are important to have evaluated.

Thanks again,  
Wendy Pieh, Springtide Farm



**Judge Wendy Pieh, assisted by Lori Giesbrecht**

## Results

### Does:

#### **Class 111 – First Fleece 2014 doeling** 12 Entries

- |                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. HFC Q68      | Harmony Farm       |
| 2. HFC Qualicum | Harmony Farm       |
| 3. Azalea       | Cloud Harvest Farm |

#### **Class 112 – Second Fleece Doe** 12 Entries

- |               |                    |
|---------------|--------------------|
| 1. Mini Moose | La Chevre D'Oeuvre |
| 2. CFH Storm  | Black Walnut Farm  |
| 3. CFH Ella   | Black Walnut Farm  |

#### **Class 113 – Third Fleece Doe** 15 Entries

- |                 |                       |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Camara       | Orange Hill           |
| 2. STC Pence    | Casa Blanca Goat Farm |
| 3. SGF Kanchona | Spring Gate Farm      |

#### **Class 114 – 4th, 5th and 6th Fleece Doe** 17 Entries

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. RWF Gabrielle | Roving Winds Farm |
| 2. SHF Massumi   | Redeemers Garden  |
| 3. HFC Might     | Harmony Farm      |

#### **Class 115 – 7th Fleece Doe & Older** 11 Entries

- |                    |                        |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1. STC Leshodu     | Cloud Harvest Cashmere |
| 2. Caprette Serena | Caprette Cashmere      |
| 3. BLF Bertha      | Casa Blanca Goat Farm  |

### Bucks:

#### **Class 121 – First Fleece Buckling** 7 Entries

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. SGF Alexander | Spring Gate Farm  |
| 2. BLF Forest    | Black Locust Farm |
| 3. RWF Judah     | Redeemers Garden  |

#### **Class 123 & 124 – 3rd to 6th Fleece, combined Buck** 4 Entries

- |               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. Tornado    | Orange Hill      |
| 2. SGF Toro   | Spring Gate Farm |
| 3. SGF Carlos | Spring Gate Farm |

## Champions

**Reserve Junior Champion Doe**  
CFH Storm                      Black Walnut Farm

**Junior Champion Doe**  
Mini Moose                      La Chevre D'Oeuvre

**Reserve Champion Doe**  
Camara                              Orange Hill

**Champion Senior Doe**  
STC Leshodu                      Cloud Harvest Cashmere

**Grand Champion Doe**  
STC Leshodu                      Cloud Harvest Cashmere

**Reserve Junior Champion Buck**  
BLF Forest                      Black Locust Farm

**Junior Champion Buck**  
SGF Alexander                      Spring Gate Farm

**Reserve Champion Buck**  
SGF Toro                              Spring Gate Farm

**Champion Senior Buck**  
Tornado                              Orange Hill

**Grand Champion Buck**  
Tornado                              Orange Hill

**Best in Show**  
Tornado                              Orange Hill

Thank you and well done to all  
CNCFC 2015 Show Participants!

## FENCE LINE FODDER

By Becky Bemus

This summer has been really hot and humid here in Ontario with much of western Canada suffering drought conditions. Last fall we had the goats' night yard revamped to provide better drainage and footing, and topped it with sand. Since I want to keep this area clean and grass/weed free, I have been raking down the sand pad every few days to clear it of manure. This means I spend a lot of time in full sun and heat and it is starting to take its toll on me. Thankfully the girls are out in their pastures with tree line shade for the worst of the days' heat but the buck pen and pasture is also lacking shade. To make things potentially worse some of the existing trees shading these areas are starting to die off, so we need to address this issue sooner rather than later.

We've decided that trees will still be our focus for shade. The challenge to this in past attempts has been choosing trees and shrubs that the goats won't kill off and that can survive our changing local climate. I believe the current trees in this section are dying off because the soil conditions show more extremes in moisture content. As such, I needed to find trees that could tolerate very wet to extremely dry conditions in the same season, hopefully grow quickly; have few insect enemies; and provide a nice canopy for shade. In some areas I am counting on the roots to help with some water issues and soil stability. That is not too onerous a task, right?

We are blessed on our farm with many crab apple and apple varieties, three hawthorn varieties, black cherry trees as well as wild grape vines in our field tree lines, so both the cattle and goats already get their share of those falling fruits from midsummer through late fall, at which time the leaves start

falling off thereby providing another food source for our goats at the time our pastures are coming to the end of their useful contributions for another year. This got me thinking I should be focused on trees that will not only provide leaves as fall feed, but that could also produce an edible crop and/or whose nutritional content offered an additional health benefit to the animals. Since I was doing the research anyhow I thought I might share some of what I learned with Hoof Prints readers and maybe get you thinking along the same lines for your farms. Once I started it became clear there is an amazing, seemingly untapped abundance of field/fence line fodder. As such, this will be a series of articles highlighting a variety of trees and shrubs. I will try and stay with species native to the eastern areas of North America, but some introduced varieties may warrant review.

## WILLOW

With my concern for heavy water and erosion areas and shade, I immediately thought of Willow trees. Although these lacked a fruit, I still started looking into both the tree and shrub varieties. Plants of the willow family grow very quickly with the largest tree varieties growing in excess of 65 feet or more and with most varieties but especially the weeping varieties developing an excellent canopy for shade.



Willows prefer full sun and moist conditions but can tolerate any soil and temperature conditions. The willow family trees and shrubs have a very

stubborn and resilient root system which will put up new shoots regardless of repeated annihilation from whatever the source. This is a must for planting in a goat exposed area. They can be easily propagated from cuttings and in fact, young willow leaves and shoots can be soaked in water creating a natural rooting hormone for other plants. Some amazing living structures are being created from willow all around the world these days, and as deer hedges and wind protection with minimal input costs to land owners.

Young willow buds and shoots are edible; although very bitter, they are high in Vitamin C. For human consumption boiling is reported to make them more palatable but they are edible raw, "if you can tolerate them". Willow bark and leaves can be an effective anti-inflammatory pain reliever due to its salicin content which is metabolized into salicylic acid by the human body and seems to have a similar effect on animals. We have found that when we have a goat off their feed or feeling off for some reason they will eat willow leaves and small branches even if they have turned their noses up at all other enticements. It seems to help them get back on track sooner and encourages them to try eating other things as well. We planted an ornamental corkscrew willow in our front yard years ago just so we would have a supply of twigs, leaves and bark close by all year round.

Although it is not a fruit bearing tree in the usual sense, the willow does produce a spring flower/fruit known as a catkin, which provides a valuable source of early nectar for bees. The catkins cooked into gruel and eaten in tough times historically, so I would imagine they are of some, although perhaps minimal nutritional value to goats when they are shed from the tree. Falling leaves are in abundance but small, relatively speaking, so break down easily and return much needed nutrients to the soil if they are not consumed.

Of additional interest is the fact that the bark can be a source of tannin, black dye, and cordage. The white willow yields cinnamon-colored dyes.

## CATULPA

While researching I came across the Catulpa tree, also known as the cigar tree, a non-native tree with special significance to me as my grandparents had both a large willow and a Catulpa in their backyard. Both were awesome trees to have to play in and under as a child so I was naturally drawn to this tree. I started doing research on the flower and the bean fruits. I discovered they are not toxic if eaten but there seems to be no useful information on their nutrient values. Knowing our goats I am sure they will find a way to eat the beans if they are useful in any way. Some sources claim the pods and seeds are fibrous and too bitter to use as a food source, but I have seen our goats eat some surprising things so we shall see.



The Catulpa comes in northern and southern varieties with the finished height being the biggest difference between the two. The tree grows quickly, reaching a maximum of 40-60 feet with a consistently shaped canopy of 20-40 feet; the northern variety being taller than the southern. A 10 year old tree can stand 20 feet tall. Like the Willow tree, the catalpa has as an extensive root

system and has been used to stabilize soil and prevent erosion.



The Catulpa produces very large leaves and is an excellent dark shade producing tree, but it does not do well trying to grow in shaded areas, which makes it very appealing for my situation. It can tolerate varying moisture levels but prefers moist soil areas. This works well for the conditions around my currently unshaded barn area which sees a lot of run off and in fact the land turns into an environmentally protected swamp area on the other side of us. The Catulpa can even tolerate being completely defoliated, assuming this does not happen too often in its early growth period or for too many growing season in a row, happily regrowing its leaf cover. In some areas it is the host tree for a specific breed of moths and their caterpillars which may be a negative for some producers. Our trees will be protected of course, but we have tried other trees that simply give up if the goats find a way to get to them even once.

Again, like the willow, the Catulpa has been used as a source of alternative medicines for many years. Native Americans are reported to have used it as an antidote for snake bites and tea made from the seeds to treat whooping cough, asthma and bronchitis. Tea made from the bark reportedly acts as a sedative with a mild narcotic reaction. Reports also suggest the tea was used as a treatment for malaria. Its leaves were used as a poultice in



treating wounds and abrasions. The wood of the Catulpa is valued for use as fence posts and fencing right through to cabinetry, interior finishings and for hand carvings.

I have never seen this tree in bloom, but I am told the flowers are incredibly beautiful and so fragrant that they are a great attractor of bees which can only help pollinate the other flowering feed sources on our farms and in our gardens. Some people find the cast flowers and bean pods to be a nuisance, but I think given its positive contributions it is worth a look as a potential dual purpose planting.

## HACKBERRY

The Common Hackberry is another tree that can be used for aiding the prevention of soil erosion as it has a deep root system which makes it stable and therefore useful in wind break plantings. It can survive in all soil types and can even withstand long drought conditions; although its preferred environment is moist soil, flooding conditions are also tolerated. Hackberry trees average 50 to 70 feet with a wide rounded canopy providing excellent shade.



The trees can live 150-200 years and some can grow to 100 feet. The tree produces numerous

moderately sized asymmetrical elongated triangular leaves and small berries which ripen in September through October. The berries are quite persistent so if not harvested, most will remain on the tree well into the winter providing some much needed energy during the colder months.



Although not prolific fruit producers, these berries make up for it by containing up to 20% protein, fats and carbohydrates as well as containing significant levels of calcium, phosphorus and fiber. Some sources claim they contain 160 times more calcium than any other wild berry fruit. The berries are quite sweet when eaten right off the tree, but some claim they get even tastier the further into winter you get. In fact, it is their high sugar and low moisture content that makes them almost impervious to spoilage. A handful of berries is said to be able to replace the nutrition of an entire meal so you can imagine what kind of a boost they would give our goats. There are many recipes and ways to enjoy this powerhouse fruit of the forest, but I like the idea that if I don't have time to enjoy their fruit the goats can, perhaps even into winter if they are planted close to their winter yards.

The Common Hackberry has a wide range of states in which it occurs naturally, including Ontario and Quebec to the north, but is listed by the USDA as a threatened species in New Hampshire. There are several closely related varieties of trees in this family that are also edible, as well as some

developed species which would be an excellent addition to a goat farm.

In the next issue of Hoofprints I will delve further into this subject, but would welcome input from other farms on what they have found useful to plant for their goats.

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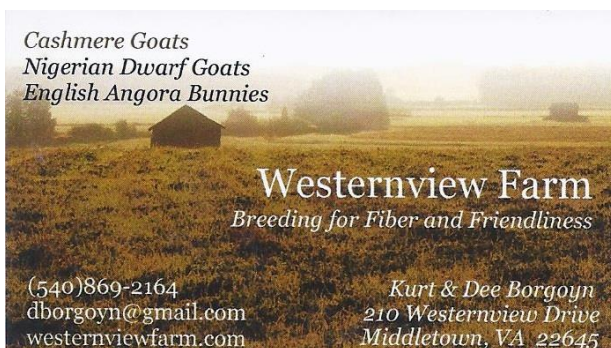
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## SKULLS AND HORNS

By Maryanne Reynolds

Friends admired a moose skull retrieved by a livestock guard dog from a nearby forest. They also admired our cashmere goats. An idea hatched to gift them with a skull from a mature buck. Thus begins my story.

It was a winter evening when one of the bucks did not appear for dinner. I set about to find him, and my fears were confirmed. Our then-largest buck had died.

We decided to harvest the skull and horns, with a hunter's help. Retrieving the head made me squeamish. It helped to remind myself that the buck was dead, there was no getting around it, and that the harvest was another contribution the buck made to our farm.

Cleaning the head was the next step. First, I tried boiling it, but it was time consuming manning the fire in the snow covered field. I boxed it and stored it outside in a livestock trailer, aided by the cold outdoor temperatures.

When the weather warmed, I dug a hole off our driveway and buried the whole thing. The place was marked by a section of old heavy chain. It remained there undisturbed and did not draw flies. About a year later, aided by the location by the chain, I unearthed it.





While the head was buried, a second buck was processed for his meat and pelt at a slaughterhouse. I decided to also take the head and to try a different method of cleaning it.

Taking the second head far into the woods, away from the livestock, I walked to a familiar place. There, I placed the head on the then-snowy ground, and wrapped its horns with a chain and secured the chain around a small tree. My hope was that wildlife would find this as food, but not drag the skull away. It was there for four months. Both skulls were retrieved this past August.

The woods skull was clean and in excellent shape. It was hard to see amid summer growth on the forest floor, but I readily found it in my familiar spot. All I had to do was unwrap the chain and carry it back to the house.



The dirt skull was more work, both physically and emotionally. The dirt had to be meticulously removed from the hole to avoid damage to the skull and harm to the worms in the soil. Sometimes I felt like an archeologist and other times I just felt creepy. Once out of the ground, more time was devoted to brushing off the dirt, which seemed to cling to the bones.

Between these two methods, the woods skull was the best result. It was less work, and in much better shape. The dirt skull had pits, which was unfortunate, especially for the horn caps. But if you don't have woods and your emphasis is on the bones, the dirt method works fine.



I better understand our beloved goats from these experiments. It was new to me to learn, for example, that the horns that we see on the goat are removable from the skull after these methods. Those visible horns cap a bone attached to the skull.

After a goat has helped feed people with its meat and helped warm people with its cashmere, the beauty of the goat's bones serve as a link to the past -- a reminder of the once living, vibrant animal.

## MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING 2015

(DRAFT submitted for membership approval)

The 2015 Annual Meeting of the Cashmere Goat Association was held on Saturday October 3, 2015, 4:00 pm, in the Concession Office, Tunbridge Fair Grounds, Vermont, with members participating in person and by telephone.

### Call to Order

President Yvonne Taylor called the meeting to Order.

### Quorum

A quorum was established: 9 members present, and 3 members participating by phone. We were also joined by our guests, Bob and Pam Marshall of Colorado.

### **2014 Annual Meeting Minutes**

The Minutes of 2014 Annual Meeting were approved as submitted and published in Hoofprints, on motion of Wendy Pieh, seconded by Sister Mary Elizabeth.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Jana Dengler submitted the Treasurer's Report. As of September 30, 2015, our bank account balance is \$5,417.65. Jana said the CGA finances are going in a good direction, due to the association's decisions over the last year to reduce costs and to raise funds in various ways. The report was accepted as submitted, on motion of Pam Haendle, seconded by Elyse Perambo.

### **Elections to the Board of Directors**

Elections to a two-year term (2015-2017) on the Board were held by early ballot and hand votes from the floor. Nominees were on the ballot and the floor was open for additional nominations. There were no additional nominations. All nominees were elected. They are:

Becky Bemus, Roving Winds Farm, Coldwater, Ontario, Canada

Jana E. Dengler, Stone Harvest Farm, Petersham, Massachusetts

Christine McBrearty-Hulse, Hulse Hill Farm, Fly Creek, New York

Maggie Constantine Porter, Casa Blanca Goat Farm, Center Sandwich, New Hampshire

Yvonne Taylor, Black Locust Farm, Washington, Maine

### **Committee Updates**

**Show Committee:** Sister Mary Elizabeth reported our live goat show at the Vermont Sheep and Wood Festival was underway with Bob and Pam Marshall of Colorado judging; it is shaping up as a good show. Wendy reported our fleece competition was held at Springtide Farm, Maine, in August with 100 fleeces entered, judged by Dr. Peter Goth; it was a lot of fun, capped off with a Lobster Bake. Jana

reported that she hasn't yet received a response to our application for a vendor booth at the New York State Sheep & Wool Festival ("Rhinebeck"). If the application is accepted, Sister Mary Elizabeth and Wendy will coordinate to bring a tent. Expressions of interest have been received from Jane Hammond, Yvonne Taylor, Jana Dengler, Noreen Rollins, and Maggie Porter.

**Database Committee:** Maryanne Reynolds reported that database project hasn't made the progress we'd hoped for, but efforts are continuing. An Excel spreadsheet exists with all the data fields the Board thought would be helpful.

**Fund Raising/Membership Committee:** Christine McBrearty-Hulse reported that fundraiser raffle is raising funds and helping educate people about the CGA as an organization.

**Archives Committee:** Ann Taylor reported that she has collected a number of artifacts, including a banner, newsletters and establishment papers for the archives. She hopes to conduct interviews to add stories to the archives. Christine mentioned that National Public Radio did a piece on Lydia Radcliff; Christine will investigate technical requirements for CGA to have audio archives that could be posted on our website. Materials held by Ann are boxed and stored in the loft of her barn.

**Meat Committee:** Maryanne reported that Becky Bemus is the chair of the committee. The committee is interested in doing work to promote the dual purposes of the North American Cashmere Goat, cashmere and meat, in order to help farms be sustainable.

**Website Committee:** Jana reported the bylaws (posted on the website) need to be updated. Maggie volunteered to prepare a draft.

### **Other Business**

Wendy initiated a great discussion about cashmere goats becoming a "breed." Her suggestion was that the time is ripe for the conversation. Pam and Maggie had questions, which Wendy addressed, and the general feeling after the conversation was that we should move forward with the idea. Wendy's comments included the following: Our length of fiber standard matters for hand spinners.



She envisions an open registry. Each goat would still need to qualify on its own merit based on an evaluation against the North American Cashmere Goat standard, so that we could verify the goat is what we say it is. If we don't take the lead in developing the breed, someone else will and they will control the definition of it. The Cashmere Goat Association has the knowledge and experience. Establishing a breed, with a registry, will also help those farmers who want to use microchips to identify their goats, and is likely to increase the market value of cashmere goats. Wendy will be contacting United States Department of Agriculture to explore what is required for cashmere goats to be recognized as a breed, and contacting Becky regarding Canadian requirements. She plans to write a Hoofprints article to discuss and clarify, including reasons to act on the suggestion.

**Judging Clinic Committee:** There is a continuing need and interest in training persons to judge to the North American Cashmere Goat standard.

Also, Board members were reminded that the first meeting of the new Board will follow immediately after the Annual Meeting.

### **Adjournment of Annual Meeting**

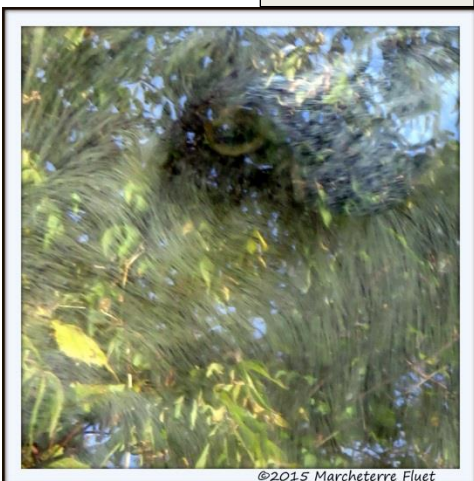
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maryanne Reynolds

Secretary

STON Fred Astair



## **MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD OCT. 3, 2015**

The Board of the Cashmere Goat Association met on Saturday October 3, 2015, at 5:00 pm, in the Concession Office, Tunbridge Fair Grounds, Vermont, with members participating in person and by telephone. Present were: Jana Dengler, Sister Mary Elizabeth, Wendy Pieh, Maggie Porter, and Yvonne Taylor.

### **Call to Order**

President Yvonne Taylor called the meeting to Order.

### **Elections for Officers**

On motion of Wendy, seconded by Sister Mary Elizabeth, the Board elected the following slate of officers for a one-year term:

**President:** Yvonne Taylor, Black Locust Farm, Washington, Maine

**Vice-President:** Anne Repaske, Stoneycrest Farm, Star Tannery, Virginia

**Treasurer:** Jana E. Dengler, Stone Harvest Farm, Petersham, Massachusetts

**Secretary:** Christine McBrearty-Hulse, Hulse Hill Farm, Fly Creek, New York

### **Next Meeting**

The Board will next meet on Sunday, November 8, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. via Skype.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maryanne Reynolds

For Secretary Christine McBrearty-Hulse

## TUNBRIDGE SHOW REPORT

Cashmere breeders, farmers and youth exhibitors gathered once again for the Cashmere Goat Association 2015 Goat Show held October 3 & 4 at the Vermont Sheep and Wool Festival in Tunbridge, Vermont. Nineteen does, seven wethers, and eleven bucks participated in the show, representing seven farms from New York, New Jersey, Vermont and Maine. The “Wrap Yourself in Cashmere” raffle drew many to the Riverside Barns where our goats were a popular draw for visitors to the Vermont Sheep and Wool Festival.

The judges for the Open Goat Show this year were Pam and Bod Marshall of Wellington, Colorado. The Marshalls have raised and judged cashmere goats in the Rocky Mountain area for nineteen years and have served most recently as the Superintendents of the respected Estes Park Cashmere Goat Show in northern Colorado. Bob brought specific expertise in fiber assessment as a hands-on spinner, knitter and weaver while Pam brought skill in judging body conformation to both pen judging and the show ring.

Mika Ingerman of Burlington, Vermont, also returned with her popular Showmanship Classes. Showmanship this year was divided in to Adult and Youth classes, with participants in each class walking goats through a pattern to test their skill in handling their goat in broader a broader show setting than simply circling in a show ring. Peter Goth took the blue ribbon in the Open Adult Showmanship Class, with Wendy Pieh taking the second. Rachel Meuller took top honors in the Youth Showmanship Class with Maddy Carney and

Isabella Dill taking second and third place, respectively.

Of particular note at Tunbridge this year was the large contingent of youth in the show, with seventeen young exhibitors participating, ranging in age from six to 15 years old. Many of the young people showed goats raised on family farms, but a large number were participants in a program sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension in New York state which oversees the “lease” of goats or other animals to children who do not otherwise have access to land or farm animals. The youth take responsibility for their goat over the summer and show alongside farm youth in their county fair. Ten of the young people showing in the Tunbridge Show were participants in this program. They hope to follow their cashmere goats through cycles of growth, breeding and kidding in the years ahead.

Top Open Cashmere Goat Show honors went to St. Mary’s on-the Hill Cashmere of Greenwich, NY, and Stone Harvest Farm of Petersham, MA, for Grand Champion and Reserve Champion goats. CSM Limbani and CSM Tiyeni of St. Mary’s on-the-Hill won Grand and Reserve Champion Doe. CSM Tamanda of St. Mary’s on-the-Hill won Grand Champion Buck and STON Fred Astair of Stone Harvest Farm won Reserve Champion Buck. Grand and Reserve Champion Wether honors went to St. Mary’s CSM Michael and CSM Sven. A complete listing of placings for the 2015 Cashmere Goat Show follows.

The Show Superintendent would like to thank the many volunteers who helped through the weekend. Kudos to the youth parents who helped the Sunday ring show run smoothly: Jen Mueller, Julie Vanderhoff, Ellen Woodhouse and Tracy Carney. Thanks to Yvonne Taylor and Peter Goth for helping organize the fleece judging on Saturday afternoon and to Maryanne Reynolds for taking charge of fleeces between fleece judging and show ring on Sunday. Thanks also to Matt and Brandii Baker

who quietly marshalled young people to clean out the barns while the ring show ran late, enabling a speedier departure at the Festival close. Thanks finally to Christine and Rick Hulse who manned the “Wrap Yourself in Cashmere” raffle table tirelessly on Saturday and Sunday, greeting the public as they toured the barn area, and to all those who

contributed items for the raffle or took turns selling tickets at the raffle tent. CGA also thanks the Vermont Sheep and Wool Festival for once again hosting our New England Breeders’ Show and Bob and Pam for their quiet efficiency in judging every animal and their fleeces according to North American Cashmere Goat standards.

## Cashmere Goat Association Show

### Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival

*October 3-4, 2015*

*Tunbridge, VT*

#### **Open Adult Showmanship Class** (9 entries)

*Judged by Mika Ingerman of Burlington, Vermont*

First Place: Peter Goth *showing CSM Umboni*

Second Place: Wendy Pieh *showing CSM Tiyei*

Third Place: Sister Mary Elizabeth *showing CSM Limbani*

Fourth Place: Beth Kuzmick *showing CSM Thanzi*

Fifth Place: Lorianne Fell *showing PHF Luke*

Sixth Place: Christine McBrearty-Hulse *showing HHF Velma*

*Other Adult Showmanship Exhibitors: Elyse Perambo, Ellen Woodhouse, and Julie Vanderhoff,*

#### **Doe Classes**

*Judged by Bob and Pam Marshall of Wellington, Colorado*

#### **Does born in 2015 (Kids)** (6 entries)

|   |     |                    |                                       |  |
|---|-----|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | CSM | Princess Diana     | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, Greenwich, NY | Ruby Pemrick ( <i>Youth Exhibitor</i> )    |
| 2 | CSM | Kudala             | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, Greenwich, NY | Roxy Vanderhoff ( <i>Youth Exhibitor</i> ) |
| 3 | CSM | Pablo Picasso      | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, Greenwich, NY | Henry Dill ( <i>Youth Exhibitor</i> )      |
| 4 | CSM | Chisomo            | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, Greenwich, NY | Madeline Baker ( <i>Youth Exhibitor</i> )  |
| 5 | CSM | Princess Charlotte | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, Greenwich, NY | Rachel Mueller ( <i>Youth Exhibitor</i> )  |
| 6 | EMW | Abalene            | East Meets West Farm, Richland, VT    | Elyse Perambo                              |

**Does born in 2014 (Yearlings) (4 entries)**

|   |     |        |  |   |
|---|-----|--------|--|---|
| 1 | BLF | Lovisa | Black Locust Farm, <i>Washington, ME</i>     | Lila Stettenheim ( <i>Youth Exhibitor</i> ) |
| 2 | CSM | Thanzi | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, <i>Greenwich, NY</i> | Julianna Kuzmich ( <i>Youth Exhibitor</i> ) |
| 3 | HHF | Velma  | Hulse Hill Farm, <i>Fly Creek, NY</i>        | Christine Hulse & Matt Hulse                |
| 4 | CSM | Rye    | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, <i>Greenwich, NY</i> | Chris Kuzmick ( <i>Youth Exhibitor</i> )    |

**Does born in 2013 (Two year-olds) (7 entries)**

|   |      |           |  |  |
|---|------|-----------|--|--|
| 1 | CSM  | Tiyeni    | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, <i>Greenwich, NY</i> | Nate Baker ( <i>Youth Exhibitor</i> )    |
| 2 | CSM  | Umboni    | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, <i>Greenwich, NY</i> | Maddy Carney ( <i>Youth Exhibitor</i> )  |
| 3 | CSM  | Kachiwiri | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, <i>Greenwich, NY</i> | Alex Baker ( <i>Youth Exhibitor</i> )    |
| 4 | OOF  | Juliet    | Pine Hill Farm, <i>Stockton, NY</i>          | Loriann Fell                             |
| 5 | CSM  | Sangalala | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, <i>Greenwich, NY</i> | Madison Wolff ( <i>Youth Exhibitor</i> ) |
| 6 | DILL | Lucille   | Dill Farm, <i>White Creek, NY</i>            | Angelina Dill ( <i>Youth Exhibitor</i> ) |
| 7 | DILL | Ruth      | Dill Farm, <i>White Creek, NY</i>            | Isabella Dill ( <i>Youth Exhibitor</i> ) |

**Does born in 2012 or before (Mature Does) (2 entries)**

|   |     |         |  |                              |
|---|-----|---------|--|------------------------------|
| 1 | CSM | Limbani | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, <i>Greenwich, NY</i> | Sister Mary Elizabeth        |
| 2 | HPF | Olga    | Hulse Hill Farm, <i>Fly Creek, NY</i>        | Christine Hulse & Matt Hulse |

**Grand Champion Cashmere Doe – CSM Limbani**, St. Mary's on-the-Hill, *Greenwich, NY*, Sister Mary Elizabeth

**Reserve Champion Cashmere Doe – CSM Tiyeni**, St. Mary's on-the-Hill, *Greenwich, NY*, shown by Nate Baker



**GRAND AND RESERVE CHAMPION  
DOES**



## Wether Classes

*Judged by Bob and Pam Marshall of Wellington, Colorado*

### Wethers born in 2015 (Kids) 2 entries

|   |     |        |   |               |
|---|-----|--------|---|---------------|
| 1 | EMW | Acorn  | East Meets West Farm, <i>Richford, VT</i> | Elyse Perambo |
| 2 | EMW | Abbott | East Meets West Farm, <i>Richford, VT</i> | Elyse Perambo |

### Wethers born in 2014 or earlier (Yearling and Mature Wethers) 5 entries

|   |     |                    |  |   |
|---|-----|--------------------|--|---|
| 1 | CSM | Michael            | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, <i>Greenwich, NY</i> | Sister Mary Elizabeth                   |
| 2 | CSM | Sven               | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, <i>Greenwich, NY</i> | Charles Dill ( <i>Youth Exhibitor</i> ) |
| 3 | CSM | Harry T. Happiness | Team Snazzy Goat, <i>Burlington, VT</i>      | Mika Ingerman                           |
| 4 | CSM | David Delivers     | Team Snazzy Goat, <i>Burlington, VT</i>      | Mika Ingerman                           |
| 5 | HHF | Valentino          | Hulse Hill Farm, <i>Fly Creek, NY</i>        | Matt Hulse ( <i>Youth Exhibitor</i> )   |

**Grand Champion Cashmere Wether – CSM Michael**, St. Mary's on-the-Hill, *Greenwich, NY*

-- Sister Mary Elizabeth

**Reserve Champion Cashmere Wether – CSM Sven**, St. Mary's on-the-Hill, *Greenwich, NY*

-- shown by Charles Dill

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### Youth Showmanship Class (17 entries)

*Judged by Mika Ingerman of Burlington, Vermont*

First Place: Rachel Meuller (age 12) of Greenwich, NY, *showing CSM Princess Charlotte*

Second Place: Maddy Carney (12) of Jackson, NY, *showing CSM Umboni*

Third Place: Isabelle Dill (14) of White Creek, NY, *showing DILL Lucille*

Fourth Place: Ruby Pemrick (12) of Greenwich, NY, *showing CSM Princess Diana*

Fifth Place: Nate Baker (10) of Greenwich, NY, *showing CSM Tiyeni*

Sixth Place: Madison Wolff (12) of Argyle, NY, *showing CSM Sangalala*



Youth Showmanship Winners

*Other Youth Showmanship Exhibitors:* Lila Stettenehiem (15), Matt Hulse (14), Madeline Baker (13), Julie Kuzmick (12), Soren Stettenheim (11), Charles Dill (10), Alex Baker (10), Chris Kusmick (10), Roxy Vanderhoff (10), Angelina Dill (10) and Henry Dill (6).

### Buck Classes

*Judged by Bob and Pam Marshall of Wellington, Colorado*

#### Bucks born in 2015 (Kids) (6 entries)

|   |     |             |  |               |
|---|-----|-------------|--|---------------|
| 1 | CSM | Livingstone | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, <i>Greenwich, NY</i> | Ruby Pemrick  |
| 2 | CSM | Nyenis      | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, <i>Greenwich, NY</i> | Chris Kuzmick |
| 3 | CSM | Akichi      | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, <i>Greenwich, NY</i> | Madison Wolff |
| 4 | CSM | Usiku       | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, <i>Greenwich, NY</i> | Maddy Carney  |
| 5 | EMW | Aeros       | East Meets West Farm, <i>Richland, VT</i>    | Elyse Perambo |
| 6 | PHF | Luke        | Pine Hill Farm, <i>Stockton, NJ</i>          | Loriann Fell  |

#### Bucks born in 2014 (Yearlings) (3 entries)

|   |      |             |  |                                 |
|---|------|-------------|--|---------------------------------|
| 1 | STON | Fred Astair | Stone Harvest Farm, <i>Petersham, MA</i> | Maryanne Reynolds/ Jana Dengler |
| 2 | WWF  | Nigel       | Stone Harvest Farm, <i>Petersham, MA</i> | Ann Taylor                      |
| 3 | STON | Simon       | Stone Harvest Farm, <i>Petersham, MA</i> | Maryanne Reynolds/ Jana Dengler |

#### Bucks born in 2013 (Two year-olds) (2 entries)

|   |     |         |  |                       |
|---|-----|---------|--|-----------------------|
| 1 | CSM | Tamanda | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, <i>Greenwich, NY</i> | Peter Goth            |
| 2 | CSM | Mafana  | St. Mary's on-the-Hill, <i>Greenwich, NY</i> | Sister Mary Elizabeth |

**Grand Champion Buck – CSM Tamanda, St. Mary's on-the-Hill -- Sister Mary Elizabeth**

**Reserve Champion Buck – STON Fred Astair, Stone Harvest Farm -- Jana Dengler and Maryanne Reynolds**



RESERVE AND GRAND CHAMPION  
BUCKS

# HOOFPRINTS

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*Hoofprints* is the official newsletter of the Cashmere Goat Association. It is published 3 times per year and sent to all members. If you have comments about articles you've seen in *Hoofprints*, any farm tips, or personal experiences you'd like to share, please send them to us. Please note that Hoofprints is sent electronically.

## CGA MEMBERSHIP

Full individual membership is \$30/year or \$50 for two years.

Junior (under 18 years) membership is \$15/year (non-voting)

If you have not filled out a membership application for a year or two, it would be helpful to the association for you to do that. The application can be found under contact information at our website:

[www.cashmeregoatassociation.org](http://www.cashmeregoatassociation.org)

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Masthead designs provided by Ryan Sweeney, UK - HelpX helper at Roving Winds Farm in May of 2014