

Black Welsh Mountain Sheep Club Newsletter

February 2001

By-Laws Changes Proposed

The enclosed letter from your officers explains our request for a change to the bylaws. Please read the proposed changes. Your comments are welcome. Send them in with your membership renewal and they will be published in the next newsletter. The proposal will go out with the election ballots.

Memberships Due

Our club has dues payable at the beginning of the year. Only current paid members will get a ballot to vote for officers and on the proposed bylaws changes. Please send you membership renewal in ASAP so that you are eligible to vote.

We would also appreciate your filling out the census of sheep. This information will be published in the newsletter but is voluntary. I for one am looking forward to seeing how many sheep are owned by members.

2000 Wool Pool

The mill in Canada had some equipment problems and have not run our order yet. However, they assure me it will be run soon and we should have yarn by the end of February.

2001 Wool Pool

It's not too early to be thinking about the 2001 wool pool. If you plan to join I need to know the amount in pounds of fleece you expect to have and what you would like made from the fleece. Yarn, felt and quilt batts are all things I have used Black Welsh Mountain fleece for. We can split the order into several items if there is enough raw wool. As in 2000 you will be responsible for your portion of the costs for processing and you will receive your share of the final product back to use or sell as you see fit.

Articles Needed

We need articles and notes for the newsletter. Please send in your news and comments and articles on things related to our sheep.

Ads Coming Out

We have ads in the ALBC Newsletter, Black Sheep Newsletter, Sheep!, The Shepherd, Interweave Knits, Spin-Off, CountrySide Magazine, Small Farm Today and The Wooly Times. Each time an ad appears we get requests for information.

If you have specific magazines where you think we need to put an ad send them in. If the magazine is expensive, a donation will make it more likely that the ad will get placed as we have limited funds and member dues do not cover all of our expenses at this time.

Apology for Newsletter Delays

I apologize for the huge delay in getting this newsletter out to everyone. The move of our farm and flock from California to Colorado was an even bigger job than expected. We were not able to unpack things until January and that delayed locating the printer and cables so I could print the newsletters.

Club Yarn Sales

Most of the club yarn from 1999 has been sold. We still have several cones left of the first sportweight yarn. So far it has been well received by knitters and makes lovely sweaters. Weavers have not yet reported back on how it works for them.

Officer Candidates Needed

As we near the end of the year we need people to run for all the major offices in the club. In addition to the President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer, we have a great need for board members. Please either nominate yourself or find someone willing to serve and send in your notes about yourself to the Club PO Box for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Currently we have the following nominations:

President Tom Wyman
Vice President Luke Vaughn
Secretary/Treasurer Oogie McGuire
Board Members
Stanley Ward
Mark Whitaker
Sue Goetz

Nominations must be received by March 10 in order to be included in the next newsletter. I will include candidates statements with the voting information. Nominations can be sent to the Club Post Box in Paonia or to my e-mail address.

Newsletter Editor Wanted

I have been functioning as both the newsletter editor and the Secretary/Treasurer. Our by-laws provide for a Publicity Chairperson who is responsible for the Newsletter. Duties include collecting and if there isn't

enough info, writing articles and items for the newsletter, producing a master copy for the club archives, mailing a copy to each member and providing the Secretary/Treasurer with a copy so that it can be included in the packet of information sent out to people who inquire about the club and our sheep. If you are interested send a note with your club renewal.

Club Donors

I keep an ongoing list of members who have graciously donated extra to help the club. If you have donated money or fleece to one of the wool pools **thanks**, your support is allowing us to put additional ads in various sheep and farming magazines and is generating interest in the breed.

Mr. Tom Wyman \$90.00

Club Post Office Box

The new Club Post Office Box address is:

North American Black Welsh Mountain Sheep Club
P.O. Box 534
Paonia, CO 81428-0534

It is open now and club business should be sent there. The Club post box in California was closed the end of October. There is a forwarding order so items sent after that date should still reach us in Colorado.

This move is a direct result of my personal situation. The club has not incurred any additional expenses as a result of this change as I have personally paid for the extra expense involved.

Club E-Mail List Changes

The club e-mail list has been hosted by eGroups since it's buyout of OneList. Yahoo Groups has now bought out eGroups and the list is now located at blackwelsh@yahoogroups.com. The conversion to Yahoo requires members to answer what are in my opinion, intrusive and private questions. As a result I am exploring the options of hosting the list somewhere else. It looks like we will be able to move the list in early March to a new server. There should be no disruption to any current subscriber. If you have questions please feel free to e-mail me.

US Sheep and Goat Identification Changes

USDA is considering a rule to change the requirements for identification of all sheep and goats shipped between states. This rule as currently proposed would require permanent tamperproof individual ID on all animals that is sufficient to trace the origin of an animal back to the flock of its birth. The current Federal Scrapie program ID meets this new standard. This is almost identical to the newly enacted regulations regarding identification and movement of sheep and goats in the United Kingdom. I will pass on more information as I find it.

Un-Classified Ads

If you wish to offer something for sale or wanted send it to me and I'll put it in the next newsletter. No charge to members to list animals, yarn, hides or other products from BWMS sheep. We may change this if the list gets too large. All ads will also be posted on the www.blackwelsh.com web site.

Secretary/Treasurer Notes

Club bank balance is currently at \$439.12 before taking out the costs of publication for this newsletter. This includes deposits made in 2001 and carryover from 1999.

At this time we have 23 Individual Voting members and one Individual Associate member.

Currently 4 members have already sent in 2001 membership renewals.

Financial Statement for 2000

Dues Received	\$190.00
Donations Received	\$265.00
Wool Sales	\$162.00
Total Income	\$617.00
Advertising	\$163.10
Bank Fees	\$114.00
Newsletter and Info Packets	
Postage	\$53.63
Printing	\$97.28
Office (PO Box Fees)	\$30.00
Total Expenses	\$458.01

Editors Notes

Please send articles to oogiem@desertweyr.com