

Minnesota Dairy Goat Association **Gopher Goat Gossip**

Serving Dairy Goat Owners Since 1971

March 2011



Spring kids at Four Seasons Farm. Thanks to Laura Kieser for the picture.

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MDGA: Who's Helping?

Volunteers make the Minnesota Dairy Goat Association possible. Feel free to contact anyone on this list to answer questions or to help. Chair persons and officers change each year. If this is an old GGG, try Mark Jaeger, 24759 631 Ave, Gibbon MN 55335.

MDGA Board:

President: Laura Kieser 18265 Apple Circle, Jordan MN 55352, 952-261-8519, fourseasonsfarm@gmail.com

Vice President: Karyl Dronen 9721 Mound Prairie Dr, Houston MN 507-894-4274

Secretary: Tracy Hunt 15382 165th Ave NE Foley MN 56329 320-355-2628 mthmom@jetup.net

Treasurer: Marge Kitchen 9721 Mound Prairie Dr, Houston MN 55943 507-894-4274

Board members

Anna Severson 7336 45th Ave Swanville MN 56382
knotneer@gmail.com

Barb Adams 3351 Red Oak Ln Barnum, MN 55707
218-389-6938 barbaa55@hotmail.com

Jeremy Wosje 45611 217th St Arlington, SD 57212
605-826-4203 wosjagoats@yahoo.com

Peter Smith 20923 268th St Fort Ripley, MN 56449
320-745-2511

Mark Jaeger 24759 631 Ave Gibbon MN 55335

Mary Thompson 9593 Mound Prairie Dr Houston MN
507-894-4745

**Calendar of Events**

June 4 & 5– Little Falls ADGA show

June 11– Huron SD ADGA show
Contact sdgoatshow@gmail.com

June 18 & 19– Marshfield WI ADGA show

June 25 & 26– Mora ADGA show
Contact kjlibra@yahoo.com

Sept 2-5 MN State Fair ADGA show
Judge: Lyn Benedict

Sept 6-17 Linear appraisal for MN, SD, ND, IA

MDGA Bulletin Board**Membership Renewal for 2011: \$20.00**

You can renew your membership for MDGA by

Using the form on the back page

or

going to <http://minnesotagoats.org>

And **click on "join MDGA" and use PayPal**

or

Print off the form and mail, with your check to:

Marge Kitchen

9721 Mound Prairie Dr,

Houston MN 55943

507-894-4274 goatgifts@gmail.com

If you'd like to have your MDGA membership listed on the MDGA web page, check "yes" for permission on the membership form. You can also link your homepage for a fee of \$5.00, payable with your membership dues.

CHECK OUT THE MDGA WEBSITE!!!

And find a link to our Facebook page

MDGA YAHOO COMMUNITY SITE

talk about issues, ask questions, and use like the barter board.

How to get to the MDGA Yahoo list:

1. Go to www.yahoo.com
2. Under menu, go to groups
3. Search for MDGA or goats
4. Join by signing up!

MDGA DVD:**"Dairy Goat Grooming & Showmanship"**

Produced by the Minnesota Dairy Goat Association This video illustrates correct showmanship skills, including a variety of handling maneuvers with in-depth discussion and explanations. It also demonstrates recommended fitting and grooming techniques including clipping and hoof trimming.

DVD: \$20.00 each, including shipping/handling. Order online @ www.minnesotagoats.org.

Dear MDGA Members,

Although temps have been below freezing for the entire month of January, I would like to start this letter by sharing some warmth. I want to begin by thanking our outgoing board members for their years of dedication to the MDGA Board. Linda Arndt, Melissa Czeck and Susanna Traczyk put their hearts into MDGA during their tenure and we are grateful for their time. We are thrilled to have an incumbent, Mark Jaeger. We are happy to draw from Mark's experience as he has taken a second term on the MDGA board. We are excited to welcome new board members: Barb Adams & Tracy Hunt. These may or may not be familiar names to you at the moment. We are hopeful that you will get the chance to meet all of them in person throughout the year.

I would like to give you a few reminders of items that will be coming up throughout the year. Our newsletter is what you make it. If you have articles, recipes, show information or other material that you would like printed in the GGG, please submit it to our newsletter editor, Anna Severson, by the 15th of the month. This will ensure that the next newsletter can be sent out in a timely manner. If you are interested in the linear appraisal program, the first deadline has passed, but you can still participate in the program by paying a higher fee. Consider talking to other MDGA members to see if anyone is hosting a session near you. Even if you don't appraise your own animals you will learn a lot by watching and asking questions during a session. Finally, the 2011 ADGA National Convention is in Grand Rapids, MI this year. That's practically next door for us folks! Think about taking the time to check it out this year. I already know of a few members planning their road trips to MI in October (me included). MDGA would like to encourage as many people to go as possible. There is a great youth program, wonderful adult educational programs along with the glitz and glamour of the "Spotlight Sale."

One hot topic that we addressed at our last board meeting was the possibility of hosting the National show in 2013. This would be a fantastic opportunity, but we need to have the space to house animals effectively and the volunteers to make it happen. Board members are out currently, scouting locations around the state. If you know of a hidden gem where we can comfortably house 2,000 or more goats, please contact one of us.

As we progress through 2011, I would like all of you to think about what MDGA means to you and what you value from being a member of the association. What would you like to see MDGA doing? We have talked about possibly hosting a buck collection and maybe helping to set up a one day milk test location. I look forward to hearing your ideas, and trying to find ways to implement them. Together we can grow our organization and provide the most up to date information to our members.

Sincerely,
Laura Kieser



Copied from Erman.
FIG. 4.—FELLING PALMS, GOATS BROWSING ON THE FOLIAGE.

Minnesota Senate Considers New Raw Milk Sales Law

Minnesota State Senators Sean R. Nienow (District 17) and Claire A. Robling (District 35) have introduced new legislation to permit sale of raw milk and raw milk products. Producers would be allowed to sell their raw milk to consumers at places like farmers' markets and farm stands. The bill, SF 147, is currently before the Agriculture And Rural Economies committee.

People wishing to comment on this bill should contact their State Senator or Representative. If you don't know your representative, you can call 1-800-657-3550 to find your representative and 651-296-2146 to find your senator.

“Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 32.393, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Pasteurization.** (a) No milk, fluid milk products, goat milk, or sheep milk shall be sold, advertised, offered or exposed for sale or held in possession for sale for the purpose of human consumption in fluid form in this state unless the same has been pasteurized and cooled, as defined in section 32.391;

(b) When a purchase, sale, agreement to secure, or advertisement is made directly between a person who occupies and cultivates the products of the farm where the product is produced and a willing buyer, the fluid raw milk products intended for human consumption, including milk, cream, skim milk, goat milk, or sheep milk, and raw milk products such as cream, butter, cottage cheese, ice cream, yogurt, and aged or not aged raw milk cheese or other food products produced on the farm, are exempt from pasteurization and are not prohibited from production, sale, or delivery directly to consumers.

(c) For purposes of this subdivision, "direct farm-to-consumer sales and delivery" means production and sales at the farm and sales to, and delivery at, farmer's markets, farm stands, private buying clubs, consumer share groups, community fairs, a consumer's residence, or a designated delivery location for multiple consumers. Direct farm-to-consumer sales and deliveries of products are considered private contracts between a consenting farmer and consumer. Direct farm-to-consumer sales and delivery of raw milk or raw milk products listed in paragraph (b) made off the farm premises and intended for human consumption must be made by and between the seller farmer or by an agent of the seller farmer under the seller farmer's direct authority and the buyer or buyer's agent under the buyer's direct authority. A buyer may also contract with a seller to provide delivery location necessities to facilitate delivery of products or space for the farmer's product needs. “

MDGA Board of Directors Meeting
January 23, 2011

Call to Order: 1:45 pm, by Vice President Laura Kieser,

Board members present: Laura Kieser, Karyl Dronen, Tracy Hunt, Mark Jaeger, Peter Smith, Barb Adams, and Mary Thompson

Non board members: Marge Kitchen (Treasurer), and Susanna Traczyk.

Absent: Anna Severson, and Jeremy Wosje

Secretary's Report: Mary made a motion to approve the Secretary's Report as printed in the October GGG. Motion seconded by Peter. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Peter made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented by Marge. Motion was seconded by Tracy. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Show:

There will be an overlap of the Olmsted County Show and the Scott County Fair. Bluff Country Show will be the third weekend in September.

Publicity:

New display board: Discussed replacing our display board and/or using banners. Tabled

Tables: We moved to purchase 2 new tables that fold and can be easier to transport than the old ones.

Other: Discussion—our webmaster, Doug Thompson, suggested we do away with membership fees and promote advertising on the website. Board will take this under consideration. We are open to innovative ideas but we don't want to lose our sense of community.

Conference:

Review: Overall, quite satisfactory considering the bad weather.

Review expenses – profit/loss (We made over \$500).

Next year's date: November 12, 2011

Discussed possible speakers and topics. There will probably not be cheese making and AI clinics this year.

The rates for the conference will remain the same as last year.

Proceedings – We did not have enough. Marge printed more after the Conference and mailed them to those who did not get them at the conf.

Gatlin memorial: Was not given out at the conference this year. Tracy made a motion to mail out the Gatlin Memorial Award with a congratulatory letter and put a notice in the GGG to Nathan VonderHaar. We will also put it on the website

MDGA MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD Karyl made a motion that the Meritorious Service Award for 2011 be given to Cindy Wolfe and awarded at the Fall Conference. Motion was seconded by Tracy. Motion carried.

Youth:

Tracy reported that the Youth Show will be on June 11, 2011, at the Benton County Fairgrounds. There will be 2 judges.

Mark reported that there will be a new judging arena at the State Fair. They want to make it usable for all types of livestock. Mark is our delegate for this.

Bylaws:

Nothing reported

Development:

Deadline for Linear Appraisal is January 31. We will be done in September.

Futurity: The deadline is January 31.

DHIA: problems getting certificates done for State Fair because people don't get the information to Mark in a timely manner. Allan Weinand wants to have a 1 day test. There will be one in SE MN. (FYI)

GGG:

Not getting out as we want it to. Laura will look into the issues regarding this for resolution.

New Business

Audit committee

Mary, Karyl, Doug & Emily or Allan will do this in the spring.

Review of organizations that we belong to and fees

4H State Fair Trophy Donation: \$72

4H State Fair Purple Ribbon Auction: \$250-\$300

MN Livestock Breeders: \$50

MN FRAC (Foundation for Responsible Animal Care): \$50?

MN State Fair Foundation: \$100

Sponsor a Trophy at the ADGA National Show: \$35

Election of Officers

President: Laura—nominated by Barb. Passed by unanimous ballot

Vice President: Karyl—nominated by Mary. Passed by unanimous ballot

Secretary: Tracy—nominated by Peter. Passed by unanimous ballot

Selection of Committee Chairs

Tabled until a later meeting. Board members are asked to come up with names of people interested in chairing a committee

Memorial in honor of Esther Bogart

Peter will bring more information to the next meeting.

Dave Daubert – Goat items

Dave Daubert dropped off several goat-related items at Laura’s office with the suggestion to use them as prizes. Some of them will be used as door prizes at the Youth Show.

2013 National Show Bid

Because MN’s TB Status has changed, we can now place a bid to host the National Show. Morgan Allen had at one time made a bid for Rochester. The only problem was getting more pens. Other venues may have the required number of pens. Further discussion was tabled until the next meeting. Board members are to research other venues and bring back the information back to the next meeting.

The 2011 National ADGA Convention is in Michigan. MDGA would like to promote it so that our members might go.

East Central Dairy Goat Club funds request

For the State Fair Skill-a-Thon during the 4H State Fair Livestock Weekend. We will support this again this year at \$150. Tracy made a motion to have Mark ask Brad Rugg if the top three team winners (6 individuals) could receive a subscription to the GGG as an added prize.

Old Business

MDGA sponsored buck collection

Discussed doing this in a central location. An advantage is that people can buy semen from other bucks.

When? Karyl will call the processor to get a time frame, and then let the board know.

Where? Members will find out more information on a venue after Karyl finds out when the processors would be in this area. Having it on a farm is not advised, due to biosecurity.

County Fairs requesting info for fair time:

Karyl reported that Melissa Czeck (past MDGA Chair) had been getting requests from various fairs for information. Karyl proposed putting pamphlets in PDF format for easy download from the website. Another idea was to have a main contact person that people might contact to obtain this information. Mark made a motion to have the President, Secretary, and GGG editor to have the most up-to-date information available. Motion seconded by Karyl. Motion Carried.

Our next meeting will be in March. Date and location to be determined.

Barb made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Mary. Meeting adjourned at 4:15pm

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Thompson, former secretary

Tracy Hunt, new secretary

Goat Ladies of the North

In late summer 2009, three of us “up north” goat owners sat down at a kitchen table to taste some cheeses and talk about the animals we love. At the end of the “meeting” we thought it might be a good idea to get together monthly because we learned so much from each other and it was fun. In February, 2011 our monthly meeting had 11 in attendance (including one 6 and one 12 year old aspiring goat ladies) with five unable to attend. It seems that each time we meet we get new members! The pull of these get-togethers is the friendly, accepting atmosphere where anyone can ask any question – they just need to be prepared to get at least nine different answers! Our members are all women with goat-raising experience ranging from “since childhood” to “looking to buy soon.”

The February meeting lasted almost 5 hours with folks coming and leaving as schedules dictated. We usually chatter on at first but then settle down to talk as a group about some hot topics. This month we ranged from doe’s due dates (or how to tell if they are even pregnant), preparation for kidding, what shots to give and when, hay – how to know good hay, what we use, what we spend – grain mix, body condition scoring, recipes, de-worming, cheesemaking, predators, using Boer bucks, sad results, happy results, fencing, veterinarians, and breeds.

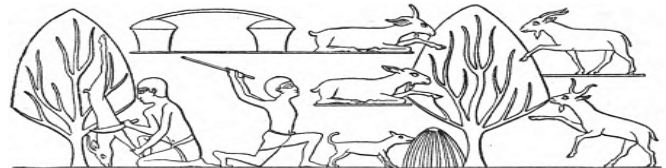
Then let’s not forget the food! During milk season we always have a wide variety of cheeses and yummy creations using goats’ milk. In January there was a goatcheese cake with homemade maple syrup cajeta – yum. In February we tasted a “Cabra al Vino” cheese that was made last fall and aged until the day of the meeting. One member makes rich, creamy crottin cheeses. Another pickles all kinds of veggies to eat with the cheeses. There are always cakes, or cookies, or chocolate and wine, coffee, juice – and lots of laughter. In addition, we’ve sampled lotions, creams, and soaps made from goats’ milk.

Most of our members are hobbyists – many produce goats for market. And there are some who aspire to farmstead creameries and licensing in the future. We share what we learn at the Breeders’ Conferences, the Clinics, and we encourage membership in MDGA. We pass on the gifts of knowledge that others have given us. It is a generous and fun group. We think most goat owners are generous and fun people (you’d need to have a sense of humor, after all, to own and love goats!)

If you live “up north” and want to get together with us, or if you have a goat-news item from northern Minnesota, please email: barbaa55@hotmail.com and put “goats” in the subject line. We’ll be happy to meet you.



Copied from Wilkinson.



MDGA Artificial Insemination Clinic - November, 2010

Dear Karyl, (Dronen)

Thank you so much for your work in organizing, etc. the AI workshop that was held on November 6th. It was awesome to see how Poplar Hill is set up and the instructor, Lee ann was remarkable. It was a very friendly atmosphere and an excellent class in which I learned much about goat reproduction, which is an asset to any breeder.

If I never AI a goat, what I learned was well worth the fee for the class, my drive and my motel stay.

As fate would have it though, you all did such a good job that 'I KNOW I CAN DO IT!' so I just got my new nitrogen tank in the mail today. It gets filled on Friday and my first order for semen will go in then. My AI kit should be here any day now.

Please extend my deepest thanks to Leeann, our friends at Poplar Hill, and those in the MDGA that helped to make this possible. It was wonderful.

Sincerely,
Laurie Howard

2011 Mid-Minnesota Classic Show at Mora, MN

sponsored by the East Central Dairy Goat Club

Saturday June 25 (2 junior doe) and Sunday, June 26 (2 senior doe)

Youth Showmanship, Potluck Supper, and Raffle

Judge: Gary Whitehead and TBA



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☞ If you would like to get your Gopher Goat Gossip via email (and save us some postage costs!) Please let us know. Send a message to barbaa55@hotmail.com and put GGG is subject area. You will not get a hard copy if you select email delivery. If that's ok with you, let us know! When you get your newsletter via email, you get colors!! Thanks!

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BARTER BOARD

Wanted and Free ads are free to members and will run for 2 months, unless otherwise designated. Only Pure/Am bucks are allowed. Deadline is the 20th of the month preceding publication. Rates: \$3.00 up to 25 words. Non Members add 50%.

Wanted: Portable complete goat milker for a 4Her just beginning to show. Contact Rodney or Alex Coe at coezacresnubians@yahoo.com



Your ad can go here! See rates on back

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- www.meirosedairygoats.com *New!*
- www.wrenhillfarm.com
- www.cvdga.org
- www.raintreedairygoats.com
- www.americandairygoatproducts.org
- www.mellowmeadowsalpines.com (under construction)
- www.dragonflyefarms.com (under construction)

Also designed and maintained the 2006 and 2007 ADGA Convention websites

Isn't it time YOU had your own website???

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ADGA Registered

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Swanville, MN 56382
320-630-1233 lamancha@upstel.net



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SGCH Open Prairie Georgia 8*M who also completed her championship in 2010

SCGH Century Farm Keiko 1*M who earned her SG in 2010

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Visit our website for sales of 2011 kids and mature does

Danna Laliberte
7336 45th Avenue Swanville, MN 56382
320-630-1233 lamancha@upstel.net

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Official Publication of MDGA.
 Editor: Anna Severson
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 Swanville MN 56382
 gggeditor@gmail.com

MINNESOTA DAIRY GOAT ASSOCIATION
GOPHER GOAT GOSSIP



MDGA MEMBERSHIP

Yearly dues: \$17.50 per family or individual, \$20.00 if after January

31st.
 New Member _____
 Renewal _____ Circle if you belong to 4H or FFA

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ e-Mail _____

OWN DAIRY GOATS: DO NOT OWN:

WHICH BREEDS? _____

ON DHIA TEST? Y / N SAMPLE TEST? Y / N

Send form and Check to:

Marge Kitchen
 9721 Mound Prairie Dr,
 Houston MN 55943
 507-894-4274

I grant permission to list my Membership on MDGA's
 Webpage. Y / N

Enclosed is \$5.00 to link to my homepage from the MDGA
 Website Member page. Y / N
 My homepage URL: _____

Newsletter Deadline: The 15th of the month preceding
 publication. (e.g. June 15 for July issue). The GGG
 encourages reader participation. Please forward your
calendar of events, articles and stories of interest to
 the editors. Permission must be obtained for any
 copyrighted material from the original source and should
 be included with your submissions.

Advertising: Barter Board (classified) are \$3.00/25 words.
 Non Members add 50%. Wanted ads are free to members and
 will be run for 2 months unless specified. Only purebred and
 American bucks can be advertised.

Block ads: Send photos and copy - ad will be prepared for
 you. Send a PDF, DOC, GIF, JPG or BMP file and ad will
 be included as submitted.

Send copy to:
 Anna Severson
 7336 45th Ave
 Swanville MN 56382
 gggeditor@gmail.com

Checks for ads can be made out to MDGA

Size:	1 mo.	3 issues	½ year	1 year
¼ pg	\$3.50	\$9.00	\$15.00	\$27.00
¼ pg	\$5.00	\$13.00	\$23.00	\$40.00
½ pg	\$9.00	\$23.00	\$40.00	\$66.00
Page	\$13.00	\$36.00	\$66.00	\$119.00
Cover \$25, w/half page article \$40.00				