Third Quarterly Report and News Letter

We are sending out information packets at the rate of two or three per week. News about our association is going out from the Choctaw Chronicle, Harrah News, and Deer Creek Animal Clinic, all of Harrah, Ok., the Small Farm Today Magazine, The American Livestock Breeds Conservancy, and by word of mouth.

Gerald Strasburg, Crane, Mo. has become our first out of state lifetime member. He called me on Oct. 12th to let me know he was putting his check in the mail. Gerald had recently bought sheep from Rudy Crawford, Lexington, Ok. He said that he believed he had some of the best stock in the country, and that only the best should be registered as full blood. He also said that if better could be found he would be willing to buy some of them rather than to compromise the standards. Our trustees agreed, and appreciate Gerald's input.

Members and trustees met on Oct. 13, 1996, heard and approved the Secretary's report. We talked about some of the information that Theresa Dean had found on the internet and the possibilities of buying a page to advertise on that network. Theresa Dean is checking into the cost for us. We discussed the "My Kind of Mowing Machine" article with the new paragraph suggested by Judy McCray at our July meeting. Theresa is attempting to get a good close up picture of our kind of sheep to add to the two already with the article. We were in agreement to have at least 1,000 copies printed by early spring. There will be a charge to recover the cost of printing and postage for those who are not members of the Association. A committee of at least three of the trustees agreed to meet on Nov. 2, 1996, 10:00 a.m at Skyline Restaurant, 1631 S E 15th, OKC. The purpose of this meeting is to work on the standards for registry. Our next Trustee meeting will be Jan. 11, 1997. This will also be our first anniversary as an Association, the election of Trustees and Officers. The place of this meeting will be announced later. The financial statement will accompany this newsletter for our members.

Anthony Bruno, Amado, Az. called me for information. Mr. Bruno was a member of an association that started in Calif. by a Mr. Spurlock. Mr. Spurlock died and the Association died with him. Mr. Bruno has a point system used to qualify our kind of sheep for registry. He is sending it to me to help us. Mr. Bruno has a poled ram which he believes to be a throw back from the original Barbados brought into this country. The
ram is not for sale, but Mr. Bruno says he can make straws available for A.I. Mr. Bruno also has some experience in exporting sheep to Mexico and Malaysia, and he may be able to help us import some sheep from the Island of Barbados. He also told me of a source of information that will be helpful to us. I’m glad to have met him by phone, and look forward to his working together with us.

Sincerely yours,
Charles R. Beam

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Rabbit Stew

We moved out to the country a couple of years ago. We soon found our twelve acres quite difficult to mow. After mowing the grass one day with blisters on our feet, we decided to look around and buy some calves or sheep. We went down to the dairy and there we bought a calf. The way she sucked her milk down would really make you laugh. After she was big enough to eat grass on her own, we were afraid, the way she ate, we’d be out of house and home. She was a lot of fun and she could always make you smile. But then we found the more she ate, the bigger the pile. And when we heard the story about the Barbados, with them around, we realized, we might never have to mow. After we brought them home, we found it to be true. Not only did they trim the grass, they fertilized it too. So now we have a herd of them. They are all over the place. And all because they are so cute and have a sweet little face.

I often wondered, sharpening my knife, how they would be to eat. But when I mentioned it to my wife, she knocked me off my feet. So if you are thinking ‘what a wimp’ she tells him what to do, Don’t be silly. I made some chilli and said it was rabbit stew.

David Dean and Theresa Dean
Oct. 5, 1996