



APRIL 30, 1998

Dear Members and Friends:

The April 18, 1998 meeting was well attended. Some very exciting things were accomplished.

Lisa Edwards was a very good host. I did not get acquainted with her husband because he had to leave just before the meeting began. Lisa was able to sell some lambs to some of our members.

The next meeting will be hosted by Rodney Sechrist, 9320 S E 36<sup>th</sup>, Oklahoma City, Ok. 73150, Phone: 405-733-4170. Rodney is a new member of our Association. You will enjoy seeing his farm. He lives east of Tinker Air base.

We voted to purchase a modem and to get our own Internet Web site. We expect to put our information at the finger tips world wide. We believe that we will be able to bring in enough new members to more than pay for our expenses. We will have E-Mail and Fax capabilities, saving us postage and phone bills. We have been delayed in getting the modem installed and set up. First the lady setting this up for us was sick. Secondly the modem I purchased did not fit, thirdly, we had to order a \$150.00 modem from Gateway in order to protect our extended three year warranty on the computer. We will set it up as soon as it arrives, which is expected to be less than a week.

We should be receiving our Certificate of Incorporation as a "not for profit" organization any day now.

A change in the transfer of registrations was approved. A person who purchases a registered animal may transfer that registration to his name without joining the association for \$10.00. However, any offspring registered in that person's name will require him/her to join the association. A sixty (60) day time limit for transfers has been adopted. An additional certificate of transfer is being offered for \$2.00. We expect these changes to help our sales and bring in extra revenue for the association.

Preparing our sheep for shows: We have decided not to shear our sheep for shows. We are promoting a breed of sheep which sheds naturally and needs no shearing. Any signs of using shears will disqualify the animal for showing. Grooming, cleaning, minor scissor trimming are encouraged. You may wash the animal with any of the formulas to improve the appearance of the coat, and scissor trim some hair for better appearance, such as on the face and ears, and etc. Some of us are making plans to show in the World Sheep Festival, Bethel, Mo., Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>.

Our beautiful brochures are available. I am sending at least one copy to all of our members. If you wish additional copies for distribution, please let me know. We are eager to get this information distributed. However, they are too beautiful and expensive to be dust collectors. We are willing to furnish these and other information, and pay booth rental for distribution, if you are willing to man the booth.

I am writing some lessons on the Bible and sheep. The first one is entitled "Are Sheep Dumb?": and "Does the Bible Say

so?" These are free upon your request. I do not want to use the Associations postage for distribution of these lessons.

We have voted to accept Roger Williams' invitation to host the Oct. 17, 1998 meeting. Roger lives about 3 miles south of Pauls Valley, Ok. Roger had also invited the July meeting. It is wonderful to have more than one invitation to choose from, and make long range plans. Roger is disabled and unable to attend most of the other meetings. We are planning to help him with transportation in some of our meetings. Hosting the October meeting is very important to Roger. Please make plans now to attend.

MAILING LIST: We have just removed 52 people from our mailing list. These had been sent information packets, but failed to reply with any further interest in our association. This is a savings of \$16.64 per mailing in postage, plus expenses of copies, cost of other supplies, and a considerable amount of labor. A few others will be dropped from our next mail out after the July 18 meeting, including regular members who joined the Association in the years of '96 and '97 but have not sent in the additional annual dues.

Just in from Elite Genetics, Deb Gourley. We are looking for the best Blackbelly Barbados Ram available for semen collection. We would also like to purchase the best Ewe available for embryo transplant. These animals must be blood tested negative for "Blue Tongue". I'm sure these animals will need to be registered, and have a history. Send pictures and information to :

Elite Genetics, Deb Gourley, 605 Rossville Rd, Waukon, Ia. 52172. Phone 319-568-4551.

This is very important. It will give us lots of publicity for our breed and a connection with our Web site.

Happy Shepherding,

Charles R. Beam, sec.