Message from our President

Even though it is time for another quarterly update, we have not had a lot of activity to report to you. Here is an update of the committees in progress:

(1.) Bylaws Correction Committee – they are nearing the completion of the project. Once they complete their inputs, they will turn the product over to the lawyer for his approval. Then it will be presented to the membership for approval.

(2.) Exceptions Policy Committee – the Board of Directors has been working on the selection of a chairperson, and has selected Carol Elkins as chair of the Exceptions Policy Committee. Those of you with undocumented Barbados Blackbelly sheep to register may send your registration applications for these sheep to the BBSAI Secretary/Treasurer, who will forward them to the Exceptions Policy Committee.

(3.) Nominations Committee – the Board of Directors has also been working on the selection of a chairperson for this committee, and has selected Elaine Haas as chair of the Nominations Committee. You may send in your nominations for candidates to the Board of Directors, to Elaine Haas.

Note: As the President, I have the authority to appoint members to chair our various committees. But I feel it is better to seek someone who wants to volunteer to work on the various committees. Otherwise those selected tend not to fulfill their obligations. So, we look for volunteers who want to be involved in helping this association grow. So let us know if you want to be involved, have an idea or activity you would like to see a committee formed for, or if you would like to chair a committee.

Regrettably, Mark Wintermute recently resigned from the Board of Directors. We would like to thank Mark for his service to the BBSAI -- Thank you, Mark.

Please remember that the 2008 BBSAI Photo Contest directed by Barb Lee is on-going -- and we need those photos!! Barb has created an on-line location for the contest at the following website: http://www.picturetrail.com/gid18500930. There are prizes for the winners of each category, and your photos will be used to promote the AB and BB breeds and educate the public about our sheep.

Don’t forget to visit the BBSAI website at: www.blackbellysheep.org. It is a terrific resource, and we encourage each of you to visit it frequently. Remember, we are here to serve you and we can only do that with your help and input. The BBSAI is YOUR breed association.
BBSAI Promotes Blackbelly Sheep in American Sheep Industry Newsletter

The American Sheep Industry (ASI) is a national organization representing the interests of more than 69,000 sheep producers located throughout the United States. Last March, the ASI extended the BBSAI a special one-time advertising offer in the Sheep Industry News, its monthly printed publication.

The BBSAI accepted the offer, recognizing what a great marketing opportunity it would be to reach 9,000 subscribers who have one thing in common--they own sheep. This was a chance to reach a substantial group of sheep producers in this country as well as the prominent feeders, breeders, and marketing and processing companies of the industry.

The following full-color, half-page ad was designed by BBSAI Webmistress Carol Elkins and will appear in the July issue of Sheep Industry News.

No Time to Shear?

Upgrade Your Flock to BLACKBELLY HAIR SHEEP

SAVE TIME
• No shearing—shed naturally
• No tail docking

SAVE MONEY
• Parasite tolerant—reduce deworming costs
• Disease resistant—lower vet bills

INCREASE PROFITS
• Lower feed bills (power forage ok)
• More lambs more often
• More customers (lean, luscious meat)

Barbados Blackbelly
Sheep Association Int'l. www.blackbellysheep.org
info@blackbellysheep.org
(618) 893-4568

Hope you agree this is a beneficial opportunity for the BBSAI to increase membership and promote both the American Blackbelly and Barbados Blackbelly breeds--all at a price that would otherwise be beyond reach.

In future months, the BBSAI plans to advertise in other publications that we believe are read by people who would be interested in buying and raising American Blackbelly and Barbados Blackbelly sheep. If you sell sheep as a result of a BBSAI ad, please let us know. It helps us determine which magazines will give our members the best return on their advertising investment--just one more benefit your BBSAI membership brings you.
Registering Undocumented BB Sheep under the New Exceptions Policy

In the May 2008 BBSAI Newsletter, President Mark Fleming announced that the moratorium on the registration of undocumented Barbados Blackbelly sheep (in effect since March 2007) is now lifted and the new Barbados Blackbelly registration policies are now in effect. This includes 1) the closed BB registration policy, requiring that sire and dam be registered before offspring can be registered, and 2) the exceptions policy, whereby BB sheep may be registered even if their sire and dam are not registered, after approval by the exceptions policy committee. Please note that registrations of American Blackbelly (AB) sheep are not affected by these changes, and the AB registration policy still remains an open registration policy.

The BB exceptions policy committee is now in place and is ready to review registration applications for undocumented BB sheep.

The new closed BB registration policy is stated in the BBSAI Bylaws, Article X, sections C and F, and the procedures for submitting applications to register undocumented BB sheep under the new exceptions policy are stated in the BBSAI Standing Rules, Article IV, sections A and B.

To register your undocumented BB sheep under the exceptions policy, please use the regular BBSAI Sheep Registration Application (available online at www.blackbellysheep.org) and submit the usual photos and $5.00 fee per sheep. If these are undocumented BB sheep (sire and dam are not registered BB sheep), then you will also need to submit one or more additional page(s) answering all the questions shown in the Standing Rules, Article IV, section A. Please provide as much information as possible. And please sign and date that additional information, to attest that you certify this information is true.

All registration application packets, fees, and photos should be submitted to the Secretary/Treasurer, BBSAI at 815 Bell Hill Road, Cobden, IL 62920. I will review them first, and I will then forward those applications with undocumented sheep to the exceptions policy committee for their ruling on those sheep. When the committee is done with their work, they will return their ruling and the packets to me, and I will take the appropriate action to register your sheep or return your materials to you.

When filling out the registration forms, please put sheep being registered under the exceptions policy on a separate registration form -- that is, please do not combine documented sheep with undocumented sheep on the same form -- use two separate pages. Also, any documented sheep being "tracked" should be placed on a separate form.

Please contact me at (618) 893-4568 or at secretary@blackbellysheep.org if you need help with these procedures.

Sincerely,
Mary Swindell
Secretary/Treasurer, BBSAI

Nominations Needed for Candidates for the Board!

The BBSAI needs your nominations for candidates to serve on the Board of Directors! Please submit your nomination(s) for candidates for the Board to the Nominations Committee chair, Elaine Haas. Each candidate must also submit a paragraph telling a little about him/herself and the reasons he/she is interested in serving on the Board of Directors. Each candidate’s paragraph or “bio” will be published along with the election ballot. Board members serve for a one-year term, and may be re-elected. To become a Board member, candidates must own at least one registered AB or BB sheep and must be willing to work to support the BBSAI. 2008 Board elections will be held as part of the 2008 BBSAI Annual Meeting in mid-November. Nominations should be submitted to Elaine Haas at jhrc@aol.com or by US mail to Elaine Haas, Sunny Slope Farm, 10250 Hwy C, Hillsboro, MO 63050.
BBSAI Board Votes Update
FY 2008
(A summary of BBSAI Board of Directors voting issues during previous quarter)

6/4/08
Vote to appoint Carol Elkins chair of the BB Exceptions Policy Committee.
(5 yes, 1 abstain). Passed.

6/4/08
Vote to appoint Elaine Haas chair of the Nominations Committee.
(5 yes, 1 abstain). Passed.

6/4/08
Vote to spend $174.89 on Adobe Acrobat 8.0 Professional for BBSAI publications, communications, registry work, etc.
(5 yes, 1 abstain). Passed.

BBSAI New Member
Jerry Tadlock,
Whitewright, Texas
New - April 2008

We welcome you into our flock!

BBSAI Annual Membership Renewals are Due July 15, 2008 &
BBSAI Lifetime Members Status Update

Two important deadlines are rapidly approaching for BBSAI members. First, all BBSAI annual memberships will expire on July 15, 2008. In the past, the secretary/treasurer has mailed a membership dues renewal notice to each annual member’s home. However, this year for the first time we are enclosing the membership renewal form in this newsletter, to save postage costs. Please take a moment to fill out and return this BBSAI Annual Membership Renewal form, and mail it back to the BBSAI to preserve your membership status for the coming year.

Additionally, this spring the Board of Directors voted to require lifetime BBSAI members to send in the BBSAI Annual Membership Renewal form in order to keep their voting status active. Lifetime members who do not complete and return this form to the BBSAI once each year will have their status changed to “inactive lifetime” status, meaning that they will not be able to vote on issues brought before the membership. Please note that lifetime members are not required to send in any money; they simply must return the Annual Membership Renewal form to maintain their voting privileges for the coming year. This procedure was enacted to help overcome the large number of inactive lifetime memberships in the BBSAI, many of whom had outdated contact information.

Please take this important step to preserve your membership privileges, and return the form on the next page to the BBSAI today!

BBSAI BOOK OF REGISTRY FOR SALE!

The BBSAI Book of Registry is available in printed format! The Book of Registry lists all 1,050 registered and recorded American Blackbelly and Barbados Blackbelly sheep together with sire and dam information, enabling breeders to cross-reference and track heritages of registered stock throughout the United States and surrounding countries.

This invaluable tool for serious breeders of AB and BB stock contains three sets of data: 1) the Registry sorted by registration number, 2) the Registry sorted by breeder name, and 3) the Breeder’s Directory (containing names and contact information of all BBSAI member breeders who have authorized their names to appear in public on the BBSAI web site.

The BBSAI Book of Registry is a wire-bound 60-page 8.5” x 11” document, and is available for $15.00. Please send orders for the BBSAI Book of Registry to BBSAI Secretary/Treasurer, 815 Bell Hill Road, Cobden, IL 62920. Please make checks payable to the BBSAI. Order your very own copy today!

We welcome you into our flock!
BBSAI Annual Membership Renewal

*All BBSAI memberships expire on July 15, 2008. Lifetime members are required to renew even though they do not need to remit an annual fee. To maintain your active membership status, please return this form to the BBSAI as soon as possible!*

____ I wish to renew my annual membership in the Barbados Blackbelly Sheep Association International (BBSAI) and am enclosing my check for the annual membership indicated below:

____ Regular membership with one vote - $30.00
____ Family membership - $45.00 (two people that join as a team) with two votes
____ Associate membership non-voting - $25.00
____ Junior Membership non-voting - $15.00 upon verification of active Club membership:
  _____ 4-H Club membersAge: _________
  _____ FFA Club membersAge: _________

____ I am a lifetime BBSAI member and I wish to keep my status active as a voting lifetime member by responding to this request for annual activation. I understand that I do not need to enclose any payment; I only need to return this form to the BBSAI in order to keep my voting status activated for the coming year.

*Also, please keep your membership listing accurate and updated by supplying the following information:*

____ I raise American Blackbelly (horned) sheep
____ I raise Barbados Blackbelly (polled) sheep
____ I raise both American Blackbelly and Barbados Blackbelly sheep
____ I have Blackbelly sheep for sale
____ I will ship sheep
____ I am enrolled in a Scrapie program Scrapie premises ID # _____________

Name _________________________________________________________________
Farm Name ____________________________________________________________
Address ______________________________________________________________
City, State, Zip, Country _________________________________________________
Phone 1 ________________________  Phone 2 _______________________________
E-mail _________________________  Web Site _______________________________

Do you want to be listed on the BBSAI Membership / Breeder Directory? If yes, we will list your contact information as shown above.
____ Yes  ____ No

In what format do you want to receive the BBSAI quarterly newsletter?
____ Paper copy via U.S. mail
____ Electronic copy via e-mail
____ Both paper copy and electronic copy

Signature________________________________________________  Date___________________
Parent/guardian signature (if under 18) ______________________________________________

If funds are enclosed, please make checks payable to BBSAI. Personal checks must be in US dollars, and must be drawn on United States Bank. Please mail application with payment (if needed) to:

BBSAI
815 Bell Hill Road
Cobden, IL  62920
Barbados Blackbelly Sheep Association International Newsletter

The BBSAI Newsletter is a benefit of membership in the BBSAI and is published quarterly. The BBSAI Newsletter welcomes articles, photographs and classified ads that relate to American Blackbelly and Barbados Blackbelly Sheep. Publication of articles or advertisements does not necessarily constitute an endorsement by BBSAI. No part of the BBSAI Newsletter (including photographs) can be reprinted, put on websites, or used in any manner without written permission of the BBSAI President or Secretary.

Issue deadlines are:
January Issue – December 15
April Issue – March 15
July Issue – June 15
October Issue – September 15

Please send changes of address to the BBSAI, 815 Bell Hill Road, Cobden, IL 62920. Phone: (618) 893-4568.

The Barbados Blackbelly Sheep Association International is a non-profit organization registered in the State of Missouri.

BBSAI Officers:
Mark Fleming, President, president@blackbellsheep.org
Elaine Haas, Vice-President, jhrc@aol.com
Mary Swindell, Sec/Treasurer, secretary@blackbellsheep.org

Directors:
Jeff Evans, jeffe23@gmail.com
Mike Lannon, dogdaddyl5@peoplepc.com
Mark Wintermute, wintermute@earthlink.net

Newsletter Editor: JoAnne Hamsher, joanne.hamsher@mesh.net
Marketing Advisor: Susan Schoenian, WMU Sheep and Goat Res. Ctr.
Web mistress: Carol Elkins, webmistress@blackbellsheep.org

BBSAI T-SHIRTS FOR SALE

GET ONE WHILE THEY LAST!

These are top quality, 100% cotton shirts, the kind you love to live in. The T-Shirts are white, with a large, full color BBSAI logo on the back, and a small one on the front. T-shirts come in the following sizes: L, XL, and 2XL.

Available to members for $10.00 each + $2.55 1st class postage per shirt. You may order by e-mail to secretary@blackbellsheep.org. Mail your payment, making checks payable to: BBSAI, 815 Bell Hill Road, Cobden, Illinois 62920 USA.

BBSAI
815 Bell Hill Road
Cobden, IL 62920