

# **BARBADOS BLACKBELLY SHEEP ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL**



## **QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER – July, 2009**

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### **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, Mary Swindell. Each candidate must also submit a paragraph telling a little about him/her 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. 2009 Board elections will be held as part of the 2009 BBSAI Annual Meeting in mid-November. Nominations may be submitted to Mary Swindell at

[mwindel@siu.edu](mailto:mwindel@siu.edu) or by US mail to Mary Swindell, Bellwether Farm, 815 Bell Hill Road, Cobden, IL 62920.

### **Annual Membership Renewal**

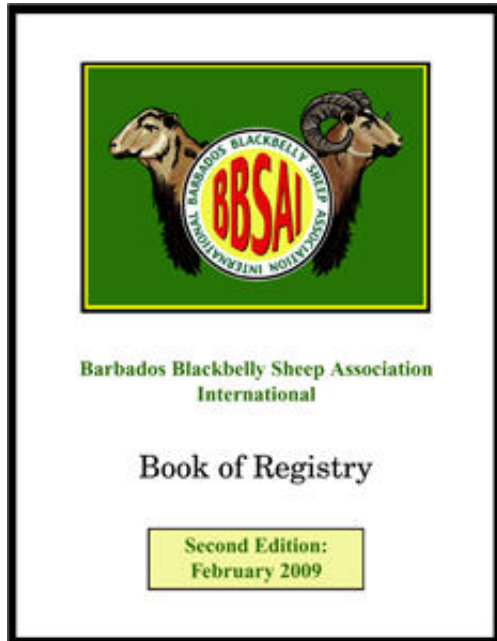
I hope all of your flocks are growing and that you find as much enjoyment and interest in your Blackbelly flock as I have. This is the time of year when we send out membership renewals to all of you by mail so please keep an eye out for it. Your dues go a long way in helping us promote the breed and maintaining such things as this newsletter, promotional advertising in magazines, updating software for tracking registered sheep, our association incorporation fees, and even maintaining our web site along with other miscellaneous expenses that pop up from time to time.

We appreciate our membership and are working diligently to expand the recognition and promotion of our sheep. Over time, as we've seen through our association advertising, we've witnessed a growing number of inquiries and membership directly resulting from small ads being placed; all of these have been sponsored using membership dues. And realize that as we generate more exposure for our breeds we all benefit from the increase in demand no matter what part of the country you're in.

Please take a few minutes to fill out the renewal form being sent to you and send these back to us as soon as you can. Our future plans depend on your membership.

Thank you,  
David Mansur  
BBSAI Secretary

## Second Edition of the BBSAI *Book of Registry*



The Second Edition of the BBSAI Book of Registry is available for sale now! This new February 2009 edition of our Book of Registry lists all 1,675 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.

As with the First Edition of the Book of Registry, this invaluable tool for serious breeders of AB and BB stock contains three sets of data: 1) the Registry sorted by registration number with subsections for the AB and BB breeds, 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 website.

Like the earlier edition, the new February 2009 BBSAI Book of Registry is a wire-bound 8.5" x 11" document of approximately 80 pages, and is available for \$20.00. Please send orders for the BBSAI Book of Registry to BBSAI Registrar, 815 Bell Hill Road, Cobden, IL 62920. Please make checks payable to the BBSAI.

**Order your very own copy today!**

BBSAI Renewed Members

Roxana Plugboer, British Columbia, Canada

*Thank you for staying with our flock!*

BBSAI Members,

Why do we need the BBSAI Book of Registry? Let me count the ways.

*First*, this is the only way any of us have of finding out about our sheep's ancestors, unless we all want to be constantly calling up our Registrar, asking her to look up ancestors on the database.

*Second*, it is the only written record, other than the database, that tells the history of the actual Barbados Blackbelly being bred in this country by naming individual sheep.

*Third*, it provides the same information that most breeds' stud books provide - and then some - be it dog, sheep, cat, horses, etc.

*Fourth*, if and when we make connections with registries of other countries, it is proof positive of our efforts to register our sheep and proof that as breed keepers we make serious efforts to keep accurate records.

*Fifth*, if we are ever in the future going to make any headway with the Barbados Ministry of Agriculture, what an impact it would have for them to know how important the breed is to shepherds in the United States!

All of that said, the BBSAI Book of Registry reflects on all of us; it does so much to promote our breed and to show that we are our breed's keepers; it makes all of the breeders proud to be a part of it; and it is a legacy that we leave to document our breed for the future!

Hooray for the second edition of the BBSAI Book of Registry! And also - why stop now? This is something that should be ongoing, don't you think?

A huge thank you to Mary Swindell for her many months of effort to bring to fruition both editions. The glory is yours alone, Mary, for giving us something we can be forever proud of. What a wonderful tool you have given us to compile and research our pedigrees.

Sincerely,  
Becky Lannon

### BBSAI New Members

Patrick Kahn, Hondo, Texas  
Sandy & Mike Glover, Sonoro, Texas  
Ralph Dirickson, Corsicana, Texas

***We welcome you into our flock!***

## **BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

**By JoAnne Hamsher, President**

It has been somewhat of a whirlwind experience for me raising Barbados Blackbelly sheep! Although, I have raised polled cattle and horses for twenty years. Two short years ago, I wanted to add a few less discriminate grazers to my small horse ranch. I had paint show horses, which by nature, are very choosy about what they eat. So they graze the good grass, but leave behind weeds and brush. I wanted to add a few goats or sheep who would clean up the left over's. My research led me to Mary Swindell, who I called for information about this beautiful breed. She offered me a ton of information, and also directed me to the Consortium and Carol Elkins. The information that I received from both Mary and Carol had convinced me that I would like to become involved with raising BB sheep. So, I set out on my quest to obtain very hard-to-find Barbados Blackbelly ewes.

Within a couple of months, I had been fortunate enough to find 5 sheep. 4 ewes and 1 ram. From there, my flock began. I spent many weekends with my husband, John, travelling across the country and back again, purchasing sheep from excellent bloodlines. We quickly grew our flock to a size that crowded out the horses. Since we had fallen so in love with this magnificent breed, and I had gotten involved in the BBSAI in different ways, we felt that our passion was for the sheep, not the horses. So we sold our horses to make room for an even bigger flock.

Now, we have approximately 50 sheep, all registered, pure bred Barbados Blackbelly. We have bought a larger farm, which affords us many acres to continue to grow our flock.

With a flock of that size, I have experienced many things in these two years: I have seen and/or assisted with many lamb births; I have hand raised a wonderful bottle baby; I have lost sheep to coyotes and then learned to love livestock guardian dogs; I have even recently had to perform an episiotomy to pull out a set of twisted twins, which without intervention, would have killed the ewe.



*JoAnne and Turbo, my first bottle baby*

But, my love of raising animals does not end with the sheep. We have three Anatolian Shepherd Dogs that are the best livestock guardian dogs that a person can have.

I have a couple of red Angus, which we raise just for consumption. We also have 40 chickens, and a dozen Boer Goats, which we raise for our needs. My freezer is always full, and we eat only what we raise. I no longer purchase any meat from the grocery store. I know what my animals have been fed, how they have been raised, and that they have had no chemical intervention.

I enjoy all of my animals, but these sheep are my joy and passion every single day. No matter how rough the day at the office is, I know I can come home and spend some time in the barn, and be renewed again!! It's definitely the best hobby I have ever had!

\* \* \* \* \*

## **BBSAI Board Votes Update**

(A summary of BBSAI Board of Directors voting issues since last newsletter)

**6/16/2009**

Vote to change the address on the registration form to Mary Swindell, Registrar's address. This will result in less delay.

(9 yes, 0 abstain, 0 no). Passed.

Vote to create policy that BBSAI will not "own" photographs required of members, such as mandatory registration photos. Registration form will simply state "photographs will not be returned."

(9 yes, 0 abstain, 0 no). Passed.

Vote that the Board of Directors can vote to allow someone with need - such as education committee, webmistress, etc. to peruse registration photos. If some are found to be desirable, the permission of the photographer is required. If photographer agrees, and the photos are used, attribution must be given to the photographer or the BBSAI, but not the author of the article.

(9 yes, 0 abstain, 0 no). Passed.

Vote that photographs submitted voluntarily, such as for the photo contest, etc., may be used by the BBSAI for publications without paying royalties to the photographer, but will remain the property of photographer for their own use as well. Permission for use is not required, but attribution must be given to photographer.

(9 yes, 0 abstain, 0 no). Passed.

## BBSAI 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 BBSAI Secretary at 3607 Scenic Valley Drive, Kingwood, TX 77345.

### BBSAI Officers:

JoAnne Hamsher, President, [joanne@lazylamb.biz](mailto:joanne@lazylamb.biz)

David Mansur, Secretary, [dmansurd@gmail.com](mailto:dmansurd@gmail.com)

Elaine Haas, Vice President, [jhr@aol.com](mailto:jhr@aol.com)

Stephanie Parrish, Treasurer, [birdherd@wildblue.net](mailto:birdherd@wildblue.net)

### Directors:

Jeff Evans, [jeffe23@gmail.com](mailto:jeffe23@gmail.com)

Mike Lannon, [dogdaddy5@hughes.net](mailto:dogdaddy5@hughes.net)

Joan Eubanks, [eubankacres@aol.com](mailto:eubankacres@aol.com)

Gerald Krause, [grkrause2@juno.com](mailto:grkrause2@juno.com)

Mary Swindell, Registrar, [mwindel@siu.edu](mailto:mwindel@siu.edu)

Newsletter Editor: JoAnne Hamsher, [joanne@lazylamb.biz](mailto:joanne@lazylamb.biz)

Marketing Advisor: Susan Schoenian, WMU Sheep and Goat Res. Ctr.

Web mistress: Carol Elkins, [webmistress@blackbellysheep.org](mailto:webmistress@blackbellysheep.org)

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

## 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@blackbellysheep.org](mailto:secretary@blackbellysheep.org). Mail your payment, making checks payable to: BBSAI, 3607 Scenic Valley Drive, Kingwood, TX 77345.

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