



The NAPgA Bleat!

The Official Newsletter of the North American Packgoat Association

February 2008

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NAIS!

NAIS is the subject of the moment, and therefore much of what I had to print was on this subject. Since there was so much, I decided to do a separate addendum for the newsletter to cover this subject. It will be located under the newsletter section of the website.

Goatstock 2008!

Goatstock 2008, June 19-22.

The North American Packgoat Association (NAPgA) www.napga.org will be holding their 10th annual packgoat rendezvous at Sheep Creek Lake in northeastern Utah, June 2008, from Thursday the 19th to the 22nd. We are hoping to have everyone there on that four-day weekend with or without their goats; if you cannot bring your goats I'm sure someone will loan you one for the weekend. Bring your tents, hammocks, trailers, and motor homes for a weekend of fun with other goat people. Clay Zimmerman of High Uinta Packgoats is in charge this year (uintapackgoats@qwest.net) Contact him or check the website at www.napga.org for information and driving directions.

Since this year marks the 10th anniversary for Goatstock, in order to commemorate the occasion, NAPgA will be selling a special 10th anniversary commemorative T-shirt, and possibly some decals and/or patches to match. We have advertised a **Special 10th Anniversary Logo** contest online, and entries are posted the logo contest photo album on the packgoat group page on Yahoo! A winner will be selected in early March. Deb Burk has agreed to make the T-shirts, so after the logo has been selected we will start taking orders. So that we don't end up with unsold shirts, all orders will be taken before the shirts are made, and pre-paid. Shirts will be made and mailed to buyers, or taken to the rendezvous and delivered there. Prices and details haven't been finalized yet. If you think you might be interested in ordering a shirt, please contact me at jhuffaker@rmi.net or call me at 970-345-2513. We are also thinking of doing an inexpensive decal, which can adorn your pickup, trailer, or whatever. We will post information online as details become available.

Weed free hay will need to be used, and health certificates will be needed for the goats coming into the state, portable potties will be rented for our use.

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GaaaaaK!!!!

I campaigned for an interactive website, as a convenience to the members, that was patterned after the one I been familiar with in my aviation organization. And after some time it came to be.

However, you would not for all practical purposes be able to tell that from the response of the members! I still have folks eMailing me and asking me to change their information.

Folks! You can change your own information. Almost everything in the personal information section of the database is open to change by the individual after you log in.

If you have forgotten your log-in information, pls write me and ask for it! <mailto:napga@hisurfer.net>.

NAPgA 10th Anniversary Special Logo Deadline!

Just a reminder that there is still time to create a logo for the June Rendy.

Logos Deadline: Feb. 28th! Voting soon thereafter.

NAPgA Recordation Project

Recordation Project

The NAPgA board has approved the formation of a recordation and record-keeping project for packgoats owned by members. This will not replace the ADGA program for wethers as the ADGA tattoo is approved for scrapie use.

Our project will help establish a foundation record by allowing the entry of packgoat bucks, does and wethers, also developing information such as size, preference for horns, etc.

We need your input as to what things you would like to see tracked along these lines.

This also gives recognition to breeding stock so that 50 years from now we can look back and see the packgoats that have contributed to the formation of the types of goats for the future of goatpacking.

All goats and breeds and percentages of breeds are welcome. Any goat that is identified by its owner as a packgoat will be eligible.

Laura Doll has volunteered to get this program started and is currently looking at BreedMate software for the platform to develop this. If you have a particular thing you would like to see tracked, (for instance vaccines routinely given, or age goat first packs, or anything) please let us know.

Also google Breedmate if you are interested in what our

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On Saturday we will be doing do a service project, the trail heading west from Brownie Lake where we were in 2004. There was a LOT of large dead fall on that trail, we would like to do as much clearing as we can in a day with our chainsaws (this is non wilderness).

We will be having a silent auction to raise money for NAPgA; Carolyn Eddy (ECPG@peoplepc.com) is in charge of that, let her know if you have something to donate. Friday and Saturday night will be pot luck, and Friday and Saturday morning will be Clay's famous sourdough pancakes (if some of you would like to help with milk, juice, bacon or sausage let Clay know). Charley Jennings will have a satellite phone available for emergency use. Carolyn Eddy will be giving first aid and other classes. If there is something you would like to do or see happen please let us know! This is your Rendy.

Sheep Creek Lake is in the NE corner of Utah, north of Vernal and south of Evanston, Wyoming. Detailed driving directions are available on the website at www.napga.org. This area is accessible via good dirt road to all vehicles. We will be camping on the lake so there is water for the goats, but you'll have to bring your own people water. There are no amenities at the lake. Weather can be anything, so be prepared for sunshine, rain, or snow. The lake is about 1 hour from Vernal, 1.5 hours from Evanston, WY, and 3 hours from Salt Lake City, which is the nearest large airport. NAPgA will have a Special Use permit for the event, and we will be charging a fee to cover costs for the permit and other expenses. Right now we're in the planning stages, we will post the fee later when we've nailed down some details, but it will be reasonable.

We were here in 2004, and Vernal really rolled out the welcome mat for us! This is a great time to learn, socialize, catch up with old friends and make new ones. If you are new to packgoats, this is an excellent opportunity to see packgoats in action and pick the brains of a variety of goatpackers. Plus have gobs of fun! So mark your calendar, start making plans, and we hope to see you in Utah in June.

For those who have limited access to the internet, you can contact me about the rendezvous by calling me at home at 970-345-2513.

Carpe Diem!

Jan Huffaker

jhuffaker@rmi.net

www.huffakerfarms.com

URLs for some neat photos of this area!

http://www.americansouthwest.net/utah/flaming_gorge/photographs2.html

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/ashley/recreation/scenicbyway.shtml>

<http://www.utah.com/byways/fallcolorstour.htm>

<http://www.utah-wildlife-festival.com/scenic-byways.shtml>

<http://www.goldengatephoto.com/WestUS/utother.html>



software needs are. Most of the goat specific programs would not carry the amount of goats or information we will need to track, nor would they allow us to make up the specific items we wanted tracked. But we are still looking at software so if you know of something that might meet our needs, let us know.

When we getr this set up we hope to have a form accessible from the NAPgA site to input information for addition to the program. This will make it user friendly for our members.

"Sweet Goat Mama"

Carolyn Eddy

www.goattracksmagazine.com

Jan Huffakers Input:

Some things I would like to keep track of... size (both weight and height), CAE status, maybe some people would like CL and Johnes as well? Overstep, ears (I have LaMancha crosses), a place for pictures (side, front, back views), for progeny it would be nice to know if a breeding line was prone to UC, for wethers you might want to know the age of castration and method used, a place for comments/unusual things that pertain to that goat (for example, I have a goat that broke a leg as a kid, this might affect his future packability). Bottle raised/dam raised? Obvious things like date of birth, color, ADGA tattoo and/or electronic chip or other ID, breeding. Date of CAE or other tests, dates of vaccinations. When buying does I like to know whether the mom has a history of twins, singles or triplets.

Just thinking out loud here, and thinking of the things that I jot down in my goat notebook. I have no idea of what the software is capable of.



Carpe Diem!

Jan Huffaker

jhuffaker@rmi.net

And from Laura Doll:

I appreciate everyone's input on the project. This project will need everyone's help and contribution and benefit us all. By help and contribution, I mean that we can't do it without people's information. I would really love to have pictures for several reasons. First, it personalizes any pedigree. Some day when we buy a kid from another one of us, we might be really pleased to have a pedigree and be able to see pictures of that kid's great great granddam and on down the line. Also, if we have pictures from all sides, we can look at Packgoat X's hocks and look at his sire and dam's hock views and on and on back in his pedigree pictures and see if we can see who's passing what type of conformation.

Keep in mind as we think about size, weight and height, that there are a lot of tiny kids who grow to be bigger than their biggest siblings were at the time of their birth. I think it would still be interesting to track birth weight, though, just for the fun of it, and to make sure we also get their

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(Acting) President's Corner

According to the bylaws, in the absence of a president... the vice president assumes the responsibilities. So off to work I go!! I would like to call our first meeting sometime in the first two weeks of February, everyone please let me know the dates that will work for you, My schedule is all over the place now working for Pierce Transit. I will try to schedule it so it's convenient for everyone. I will get with you later on agenda items, although the first order of business will be voting in a new president.

I thank Jan P for her nomination, and I do accept, if there are any other willful volunteers, any other nominations prior to the meeting will be greatly appreciated. I would like to thank Jan Huffaker for her email, in regards to electing a president and committees, it has been very helpful. I again thank her for her service, and look forward to working with her in the future. I am very happy to see her remain an active member. I do like the idea of larger committee, especially land use, with set meeting times, throughout the year, and meeting in chat rooms, we definitely need to get more folks active in the association and get more people involved, that's the hard part. Lots of active people on the packgoat list, lets try to recruit some of those that post often, at least a good place to start. It is so hard being the only committee member, it most definitely helps if several other people help carry the burden, and most definitely more will be accomplished. I hope everyone is enjoying thier New Year so far, and I will talk with you soon, thanks,

Jim Bennett
Wethers' Field Packgoats
Longbranch, Wa
"let our boys Bear your Burden"
www.wethersfieldpackgoats.com



Parting Shots from the outgoing President!

From the Outgoing President!

This year marks the 10th anniversary for Goatstock, and I hope you can join us in Utah! The complete prospectus is in another part of this newsletter

2009 Calendars -- Sabine is also working on the very popular Packgoat Calendar, the 2009 edition. We have advertised for photo submissions online, and at last count there were over 45 photos in the album. Soon Sabine will start designing the calendar, which we hope to have printed and available by rendy time in June. We sold out of the 2008 calendars, and could have sold more. So you better snag your copy when they become available! Details will be posted when they become available, or you can contact me if you are interested.

Membership Renewal Time! -- I want to remind everyone

(Cont next column)

size when they're fully mature. We may notice odd little things such as Dam X has smaller kids with Sire Y, but they end up being larger than other goats when full grown. Just as an example.

I think we're bound to learn things we never thought we'd be able to isolate. I am compiling a list of what people are asking about and will let everyone know what the list has on it. Is this something that might be helpful to have in the Files section of the group page? I will get something put together and see if I can get it added there. Reading through it may trigger something that hasn't occurred to the rest of us, so if you could please send me any tidbits or major pieces of information that occur to you at any time, that would be very helpful.

Laura Doll
Tualatin, Oregon
www.cragwood.net



to renew their membership, and encourage your packgoat friends and hiking buddies to join as well. NAPgA has a lot going on now, and we are working hard to promote, support, and represent packgoats in a variety of endeavors. We are working on issues concerning public land access, NAIS, disease issues, the pedigree project, packgoat education, and are continually improving our website. Plus the fun things like Goatstock, T-shirts, and calendars. We need you, and more members like you! After seven years of serving on the board, first as secretary then as president, I have stepped down and joined the rank of 'civilians'. I plan on continuing as an active member, and I encourage you to be active as well in whichever aspect of NAPgA you choose.

Carpe Diem!
Jan Huffaker
jhuffaker@rmi.net
www.huffakerfarms.com



A Dream Come True

It's never too late to make a dream come true -- just ask Jan Privratsky.

Her childhood dreams of living on a farm and being in 4-H are now a reality.

Although her family lived in town Privratsky longed to live on a farm as a child. She and her sister especially wished they could have their own horse. Their cousins who lived on farm in Sweet Home, came to



stay every year while showing their animals at the Linn County Fair. Privratsky went with them and thoroughly enjoyed it, but she wished she had her own animals to enjoy and take to the fair.

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NAPgA Land Issues Report

Good evening everyone, Sorry it has taken so long to get back with you, this year has been some trying times for me and my family, but we are definitely looking forward to what the New Year will be bringing for us!!! Cindy and I will be heading to Tahoe at the end of February to get married up in the snow!! I first want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!!, I am finally over this nasty flu that has been going around, and back up on my feet. It has not been the best of weather up here in Western Washington. We have had some constant rain up here for several weeks, which has caused some severe flooding in many places, although, I had no flooding in my area, we have been fighting to keep the goats dry. The ground has reached its saturation point, and the water is invading the barn floor in places, and running thru and making everything muddy and mucky, and not much fun to deal with, thru up some new tarps, and put in some dirt berms to help reroute the water flow when it rains, that has seemed to help, the goats are is beginning to dry out, and they seem to be much happier!! Add all of the heavy winds we have been having to that wonderful rain, and it has been a definite fight this year to keep the boys dry, (boy do I love the summer around here!!!) anything but the Constant rain.

In regards to Land use, I don't have too much to report on, this time seems to always to be a lull in the activity, partly because of the Holidays as well as this time of the year we find ourselves not in the position to be out on the trail in any face to face contact with land managers. The only issues we are currently working on are the issues being worked on by the evergreen club, which will obviously benefit us all in the long run. (the following has been taken from the evergreen club minutes)

1) Olympic Nat'l Park info: Evergreen club member Steve Morgan has prepared and delivered a letter to the park superintendent. Steve has been coordinating with Jim and the Semaskos. Steve Morgan talked to park staff; current superintendent is on vacation and a new superintendent will arrive on 1/31/08 (Steve had hoped to talk to the current superintendent). Steve's letter offered a few things in exchange for usage such as limiting packgoat access to wethers, requiring leads, and requesting a trial period (possible on a permit basis).

2) Other parks: Donna Semasko has sent an exploratory letter requesting access to Glacier, North Cascades and Rainier Nat'l Parks. There is an anniversary recognition coming up in 2016 where the parks want to open up the parks to greater access; our opinion is that packgoats would be consistent with that goal.

3) Olympic Nat'l Forest: Perry Burkhart has talked to Olympic Nat'l Forest staff regarding usage of some trails with packgoats that are currently closed to other packstock.

Initial discussions are going well. Perry is point on this; Perry recommended contacting each of the 3-4 individually managed ranger districts. Send Perry info on which trails one might like opened to pack goats (that are designated presently as hiker only).

A great big thank you to Steve Morgan, Donna Semasko, and Perry Burkhart for taking these issues on, it is because of their dedication to packgoats and folks like them that we are making progress. Hopefully in the next few months I can get going and actively participate in the good work these folks are doing. Again a big thank you to them for their dedication and hard work in these areas.

The Evergreen Packgoat club will again be participating in the Washington Sportsmen's Show in Puyallup in January. We will be offering a packgoat demonstration and information booth on Saturday the 26th of January all day long, it is a great time and we usually come in contact with several thousand people!! If you get a chance come on down and see us. A great time is had by all!

Donna Semasko is also trying to set up a packgoat demonstrations and informational talk at the New Cabelas Store in Lacey, WA. We determined it to be an excellent venue to inform sportsman, hikers and all lovers of all things outdoors, about packgoats, and goatpacking in general.

If any one out there has any Packgoat related land issues, please send them to me, so I can do some research on such issues and present them to the board for possible consideration of action, any info we can gather from you folks is always appreciated, unfortunately being a total volunteer organization, makes it difficult sometimes to take on every issue in a timely matter, but bare with us, and we always appreciate any suggestions, thank you

I at this time would like to thank Jan Huffaker for her dedication and leadership she has provided during her tenure as the President as NAPgA, it has been an honor to serve under her, and she has done a fine Job. It has been an exciting time for packgoats, with the advent of inclusion into the National Parks, NAIS issues and other important issues. She has proven herself to be an excellent leader with great experience and delegatory abilities. It will truly be a loss for NAPgA, but at least we wont be losing her totally, for I understand she plans on remaining an active member of NAPgA, for which we can only be truly blessed. Thanks again Jan, you have done a wonderful job!

Jim Bennett
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NAPgA Membership Report:

Most recent membership numbers: 119 total, 2 Complimentary and 41 that have renewed for 2008, or about 35%.

Renewals -- Larry is working on our yearly renewal letter for those who haven't renewed yet, and Jan P. offered to help mail them. I've been posting from time to time, encouraging people on the e-lists to join/renew. I've also been e-mailing privately people that are new to the packgoat list and send an introductory e-mail. In addition, I usually snail mail them a copy of a previous newsletter. I've gotten several positive responses from doing this. People like a bit of personal contact.

Calendar -- There have been over 60 pictures posted in the calendar photo album. Sabine will start putting together the calendar this week. I checked with printpelican.com (both via the website and by phone). Currently they are having a sale, 20% off and free shipping. This is good till the end of the month. This is for a calendar identical in quality to what we did last year. Carolyn, they don't offer an 18 month calendar, only the 12 month. At these sale prices, for 100 calendars, the cost is \$5.80 each, for a total of \$580. For 150 calendars, the cost is \$5.24 each, for a total of \$785.90. The price goes down the more you order. It sure is cheaper when you do things earlier. Last year's calendar sold out and we could have sold a few more for sure. We can still sell them for \$10 each, or at these cheaper prices maybe offer a deal, like one for \$10 or 3 for \$25?? Or with these cheaper prices, maybe we could include shipping? Or we could charge the same as last year (\$10 plus shipping) and make a bigger profit. What do you think?

Logo contest -- There is one nice entry in the logo contest, and someone e-mailed me today that they are working on a second entry. We will close the contest at the end of February, then I'll have people vote on a winner. I'll probably just have them e-mail votes to me. After that we will start on T-shirts, Deb Burk has offered to make them at the cost of the shirt plus \$2.00 for the silkscreening. She thinks she can get shirts for around \$5.00, plus \$2.00 makes a total cost of \$7.00. If NAPgA charges \$12 per shirt, we can make some money on them. The logo will be one color, but we can offer a choice of color of shirt. We haven't decided yet what colors to offer. We want to have people pre-order and pre-pay, once we have a bunch of orders lined up she will make the shirts. That way we don't have unsold inventory on hand. This will mean Larry and Deb will have to keep track of who ordered what. I think we should make a few at least in popular sizes to sell at the ready.

I need to check with Pauline (that embroiders our hats) and see what she will charge to make a few patches. I know she will do smaller quantities. Our other vendor

requires a minimum of 100.

I would also like to see if Rachel (chime in here, Rachel) can do a decal? I think that can be a cute and inexpensive thing that people will like. I've got one of hers on the side window of my goatmobile.

I'm open for any more suggestions on what to do with our winning logo.

Newsletter -- The December newsletter was really good! Thanks Larry! We are working on the February edition. I've sent Larry some stuff, I think Charlie wrote an article or two, we'll have plenty of stuff for this edition. I'll get them mailed out when Larry gets it done. Most people still want it snail mail, even though it's in black and white. I get it copied at work for the cost of materials, with materials and postage it's costing around \$50-60 per edition to put together and mail out. Since October we've been sticking to an every-other-month schedule. A few members have offered to help with articles and suggestions, which has been good. Carpe Diem!

Jan Huffaker

jhuffaker@rmi.net

www.huffakerfarms.com

Education Committee Report:

We have located the software that will be most appropriate for the registry/tracking project. We also have a list of items that members have sent indicating things they would like to have tracked.

We need a vote to accept the tracking software and approve the amount we want to spend.

"Sweet Goat Mama"

Carolyn Eddy

Imprinting & such:

Actually, the real training starts at birth. Imprinting is a concept that uses the natural innate brain function to imprint human behavior on top of the genetic imprinting of the mother of any species. Between birth and 48 hours old there are open channels in the brain to hardwire certain thing such as fear of other species, or lack thereof, and other things into the brain patterns.

Charlie did a great article for GT that is on the NAPgA site. This 48-hour period closes down and at that point the animal sees us as "other", possibly a friendly, to be sought out other, but other nonetheless.

This is why my kids all spend the first 24-48 hours in the house with me.

"Sweet Goat Mama"

Carolyn Eddy

www.goattracksmagazine.com

Imprinting:

We have also had good success with keeping mom and baby in the kidding pen for a few extra days. This gives

(Cont Pg 6, Col 1)

mom a chance to know her babies and the babies to know her. It also allows mom a chance to get all she wants to eat for a few days and rest before being turned out with the other girls. The babies are naturally curious about anything and everything, so we just have to “make excuses” to go out and play with the babies. We learn where they like to be petted and let them suck on fingers a little and they will soon be crawling in your lap and jumping on you and off you. After we let them out they will still run up to us and once they start eating (often in the kidding pen) we offer them alfalfa leaves in our hands and then later on treats and most of our babies will follow us around all the time. We each seem to have our own work buddies. I have 2 kids that take shifts and a couple others who come and go as I am doing things out in the pen. We did have 2 bottle babies and the only people who can really tell the difference is those who were involved in raising them.

It hasn't worked on all the babies, but neither did bottle raising. I have 2 goats who are more cuddly than the rest, one is a bottle baby and one is dam raised. I also have a second bottle baby in the herd and she is like the other kids, if I happen to have a treat she likes she will stick around, but if not she just goes about her business.

One thing I am certain of, anyway you choose to imprint them will take time and patience. The more time you put in the better the results you will get.

Kasie

A Dream Come True (cont. from Page 3)

When Privratsky was in her late 30s, she began to seriously work toward her dream of farm life. She and her sister bought a horse together and boarded it at a stable. Although it turned out this horse ownership wasn't her thing, that experience opened her mind to new possibilities and led her 13 years ago to purchase a five-acre farm near Lacombe.

Instead of horses, she now raises goats, and loves it. She got involved with 4-H when her sister-in-law's daughter, Brittany Weber, was younger. Weber is now 16 and a junior at South Albany High School. She keeps four goats on her aunt's farm, which – added to Privratsky's three -- makes a herd of seven.

For the last five years, Weber has shown her goats at the Linn County Fair where she and Privratsky stay onsite in a travel trailer. “This is a dream come true for me,” Privratsky said, “It's just a really fun experience.”

She has nothing but positive things to say about 4-H. “It's an interesting organization and a really good organization for kids, she said. “The kids you meet at the fair are really wholesome. They're polite and helpful because that's part of being in 4-H.”

The 4-H emblem is the 4-leaf clover. “The four Hs stand for, head, heart, hands and health, she said. “The mission

(Cont next column)

of 4-H is to learn subject matter and life skills.”

Six years ago, Privratsky became a 4-H Livestock Leader, and this is her second year of co-leading the 4-H Goat Lover's Club. The Goat Lover's Club has 17 members plus family, and they study dairy goats, meat goats, pygmy goats, and fiber goats. This year she also leads the 4-H Pack Goat Club.

“In our club, the subject is goats and the skills are public speaking, record keeping and leadership,” she said. In addition to being fun and giving her a chance to spend quality time with her niece, she said she finds the 4-H experience intellectually stimulating. “4-H has helped me grow as a person, planning meetings and developing study has worked my mind. Helping the kids has helped my self-esteem. I love kids and I love goats, so this has been a ‘perfect fit’ for me!”

She also said one of the things that touches her is that the kids look up to her as a role model.

Privratsky and her husband, Perry, work in the Converting Department She has been with the mill since 1981, and the couple has been married for 10 years.

She said Perry is supportive, but not active in 4-H. “He's not into the whole 4-H thing, but he is really supportive of my habits and he does everything around the farm,” she said. “He takes care of the farm while I'm at the fair, but he's got his own hobbies -- motorcycles and stuff.”

Potential Goat Stew! ;-)

As if this winter hasn't been hard enough to deal with!!!

I almost put my boys in the freezer yesterday. ALL of them!! They got out and decided to bust down the door into the bunny shed. They had to slide down 5 feet of packed snow, push through a wire gate and then break boards on a pallet I had blocking the entrance to the cages.

They ransacked the feed bags, ripped all the feeders off the fronts of the cages and broke a 2 x 2 holding up one of my lower cage rows. I walked in to find bent cages, feed sacks, and crumpled feeders on the floor and bunnies running everywhere. They bent part of my new stacking cage and I had to repair it. The feeders they ripped down were smashed and mangled. They had to be straightened and I had to find new wire to put them back up with because they broke all the little tabs that hook over the cage wire. They even managed to reach the feeders on the top row of cages. They ripped down part of my watering system in the process.

On the brighter side, my cussing melted half an acre of snow around the bunny shed and you can see daylight through the eaves now. (well, actually two days ago it warmed up to 40 degrees and started raining, but I definitely like my version better.)

All my stupid goats hid in their snow cave and peaked

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out at me with guilty “sorry mom” looks. I guess they are getting tired of winter too. It’s not like they aren’t getting enough to eat. The fat pigs!!

Good thing George was home to help put it all back together and hide the key to the gun safe. Pecos and Panda burgers were sounding good there for a while.

I know it’s almost over but “it ain’t over till it’s over.”

CRAP!!! Now its raining on all this white &^%\$!! and we’ll have to build an ark to keep from drowning.

Glenna

This winter has been a real trial for many of us. I live outside of Boise, ID, and although Boise hasn't gotten great amounts of snow, up where I live we have had tons. I have been up on the roof twice shoveling it off, and the goats have threatened a mutiny. They have a trail from their house, about 120 feet away, and up to near our porch and all they have done for a couple of months is trundle back and forth. Pictures are at:

<http://www.boiselarry.com/recent/2008/Winter7-8/win7-8.html>

All-too-Short History of Otis the Goat

Little Otis was born on a very cold morning of February 2004. He died the day after Christmas 2007, his throat ripped open by two pit bulls that attacked our herd that tragic afternoon.

Little Otis left us the way he came in, fighting and sacrificing for his buddies. He got scours shortly after birth before we got him, and while we treating this he broke his left front leg while playing with the dogs. We had his leg set and he recovered just fine. He seemed to be so proud of his little cast, as no one else had one.

It seems the three weeks he was fighting for his life with the break and the scours stunted his growth (he was only 130 lbs when he died).

Being the smallest, he did get bullied by the other goats. It would break Shannon’s heart to seem him huddled under a spool in a snowstorm while the bullies in the barn nestled into their 12-inch deep cedar shavings. But we would put one of Terri’s goat coats on him and he would proudly strut around the pasture.

Always the last to eat and the first to be bullied off the good pasture grass, he was able to get a little gut by out-smarting the big boys. He learned to get the best grass while the bullies napped and to head for the trees when let out of the feeder so he had first dibs on the freshly fallen leaves.

In the mountains he knew there were no fences to hold him so he grazed farther than all the others, always the last to come back. He seemed to enjoy the freedom of the mountains more than the other boys.

We never tied him at camp and he came and went as he pleased (our treat for his being picked on at home). He liked to curl up under the nearest tree by the fire at night,

never bugging anyone or getting into our food (like the others would try to do). He always picked the tree closest to our tent to spend the night. We often heard him cooing at night to let us know all was well.

Otis also liked to dance with Steve’s daughter Maddie. She would run...laughing and hopping in the pasture. Otis was always the first to play...he would start hopping, prancing, and swinging his head. It warmed our hearts to see Maddie play with him...Otis was her favorite, as she helped save his life when he was sick.

Little Otis was a great packer, very easy to saddle, and always careful not to bump anyone off the trail. He liked to be last, and kept a steady pace while the other boys jostled for position. He had his own little way of snubbing his nose at the big guys. When he sensed they were getting tired he would grab a new gear and strut past them and assume the lead! Proud as a peacock, he would walk first, for as long as Sosa would let him. He would know when the game was up and step to the side until the others went by, then assume his spot in the rear.

In the end little Otis was able to survive a broken leg, scours that would kill most, and lengthy packing trips. On his first pack trip he stood his ground against a young bull moose that was looking for a girlfriend and found us at his watering hole. We’ll never forget the moose and little Otis looking at each other from 10 yards away thinking “Boy, you sure are ugly!!”

We will always miss little Otis, and we are so sad we could not save him. Watch for his spirit in the wildflowers and avalanche chutes of the high country. He will always live there and in our hearts.

Steve and Shannon

Another Story of a Waaaay-too-Short Life

This is where I share our story from this last year, a most difficult 2007. My husband brought our first goat home about five years ago or so. We have no idea who her breeder was - she’d been passed through two or three hands and the person my husband got her from was getting rid of her because she ate her trees... yeah, shocker. To make a very long story only slightly shorter, our doe, Betsy, had very difficult Winters and each was exponentially worse than the last. During the nice weather -- Spring, Summer, Fall -- she was a beautiful, big, all black LaMancha with amazing eyes. She was a strong girl, very very smart, and sure enough, she did eat trees. She ate an acre or so of our blackberry vines every year, too, which was wonderful. For years we tried different things to help her make it through the Winter -- altered her mineral mix, she had free feeding access to a mineral mix, a mineral block, kelp meal, baking soda, and all the blackberries she could eat.

Once I had done some research into goats, because we knew nothing about them, I learned we’d better get Betsy a

companion. We got her a great one and things went swimmingly, only in the Winter we weren't sure she was going to make it – she lost weight no matter how much she ate, she got pneumonia and was coughing and sneezing great strings of gunk out, her hair went dull and lifeless. Her eyes showed us her misery and we felt so helpless. We tried everything we could. We got two more wethers because we'd caught the goat addiction by then and they all four hung out together and had a great goat time. Betsy was so sick last Winter that if Spring hadn't sprung when it did, we would have lost her. She was going downhill and people were shrugging their shoulders – no idea, no idea.

I'd heard of CAE and CL and I knew we were going to get some does in the Spring. It was as good a time to test as any other and it was the only thing I could think of that Betsy could have that we hadn't treated for. Sure enough, we sent our blood vials – only one per goat - to Washington State University, to WADDL (Washington Animal Disease Diagnosis Laboratory – something like that). A week later we had our results. Only Betsy was positive for CAE. Everyone was negative for CL. We know there are people who have the setup that can handle splitting their herd and keeping their CAE positive goats separate. We know that others wouldn't have made the decision that we made. Knowing that Betsy was so symptomatic and watching her fight and cough already in October, already sick and miserable, I couldn't see what kindness we would be extending by keeping her alive. She was in pain from arthritis in her front knees and sick and miserable. Betsy was put down the first week in November. I know whether my other wethers came from, know whether they're CAE prevention or not, and know that I made the best choice possible for us, for Betsy, and for our other wethers and future herd members.

The decision is a personal choice. Everyone's choice will be based on different factors. What I am begging you to do, however, is to please test your animals. Testing didn't alter Betsy's health – she was already dying. Testing helped us manage our goat family. To decide whether you want to take action or take NO action, you need to know what the situation is. We are glad we educated ourselves about CAE and asked lots of questions, evaluated Betsy's chances, evaluated our situation, etc. It helps me know that I made an educated decision, one of the most difficult ones I've ever made, but one that I still believe was the only option for us. Please test your goats. It's easy, it's inexpensive, you get really quick results through WSU, and you will learn more about your herd for management purposes, no matter what size herd you have, whether your animals travel and come into contact with other people's animals or stay home with no contact from other herds. I'd love to save all of you from being faced with the situation we had this last year.

Best regards,
Laura Doll
Tualatin, Oregon
www.cragwood.net

The Saga of Ruby Tuesday

We all thought she had an impaction as she was not passing feces and was in a lot of pain. She had a temp at one point and was put on penicillin and LA200 at the same time until she could get to the vet's the next morning. The vet in Elko put her on another antibiotic in her IV as she wasn't drinking, was very anemic (we found out later, when we opened her up it was because she was oozing blood internally) and had a fever, which went away in the night and then her temp went sub-normal. It was a nightmare. The vet in Elko would not oil her even though she had passed no feces in their dog kennel all day long. She could not be outside as her temp might go subnormal again. Eventually the Hill's, Ruby's people, realized that the vet wasn't going to do anything different and words were exchanged. I called my vet and made an appointment for Ruby the next morning.

So the Hill's met me half way between Elko (which is 5 hours from Fallon) and Fallon in Winnemucca and passed their very ill baby to me, never to see her alive again and they knew this was a distinct possibility at the time. How horrible for them to see me driving away, knowing that the odds were not good for Ruby but their own son had recently had surgery and they needed to be home. I kept her in my laundry room Friday night and took her to the vet first thing in the morning. They gave her a new 1-gallon IV bag complete with more antibiotics and oiled her a LOT, and gave her a digital exam in her rectum to see if they could feel any blockage, which actually seemed to stimulate something as she started to pass small amounts of feces nearly right away.

They said that an X-ray would not likely show much as a goat's rumen is huge and full and takes up most of the abdominal cavity. Their ultrasound machine is mostly for pregnancy checking horses and they admitted they would likely not be able to read it well when looking at goat guts. So we waited, gave her plenty of fluids, antibiotics, probiotics and attention while she went up and down, passing feces and not passing any, in pain, looking brighter, interested in nibbling and then having more pain. It went on like that all weekend, she would experience a LOT of pain (she was on banamine) and then she would pass some feces, usually either old looking, clumped and stinking feces but sometimes it was actually normal looking with a normal odor.

All night Friday I was with her off and on, all day Saturday, all night Saturday night, waiting for that oil, whenever she would make a mess in the laundry room I would rejoice. Sunday she wanted outside. It was a nice day so I let her go, the walking might help I figured. So, I carried her 1-gallon IV bag and followed her all over my front and then back yard so she could talk with other goats (she found the other doelings and does repugnant and preferred the big boys), nibble this and that and just soak up the sunshine on that unusually warm winter's day.

Sunday night was very, very hard on Ruby. She was in a lot of pain, the banamine wasn't working. I kept thinking if she could just hang on until 2 am that she would improve as she had the previous two nights, but she did not. So, finally after watching this brave, beautiful girl suffer nearly all night even though I had increased her dose of banamine, I gave her some tranquilizers I had left over from treating Stewie for urine scald. This particular drug is also a great painkiller and it gave Ruby some relief. I figured she was likely going to her death the next morning and

she might as well rest in peace for a while. Her morning appointment was at 7:30 am. We only had three choices at that point; euthanize her, wait some more or risk opening her up knowing that goats die under general anesthesia and that we were risking her death that way. They decided to hope for the best and only give her rhompun and loads of lidocaine and they opened her up. The first incision pretty much told us what we needed to know, putrid bloody liquid poured out of Ruby's abdominal cavity, she had peritonitis. Dr. Cooper, looked at me and said, "Charlie, I'm sorry, but I don't think we can save this goat." Dr. Faught came over and agreed with the prognosis after we drained off some of the fluid and found a long loop of dead bowel. I told them to put her down right then and there and they did. So, Ruby Tuesday, the best doeling ever born here, daughter of two of my favorite goats, Dante and Zulieka Rain, passed quietly into the next world.

The crew on hand then went about the messy and lengthy business of trying to find the cause. The vets all thought it looked like slow burn enterotoxaemia, I didn't realize there are many forms of it that we do not have in a vaccine and that these often hit an older animal and not a baby. She was 10 months old, 97 pounds that morning after not eating for 5 days and had previously been in perfect health. They searched for a blockage, a piece of twine, a plastic bag, anything that could explain her sudden and fatal illness. No cause was found, no blockage at all, no twists, nothing. They tied off a piece of dead bowl, contents intact, and sent it to the lab for a culture. Then we sewed her up and the folks from the crematorium came to collect her body.

Sadly the lab report came back negative. They could not tell us why Ruby Tuesday had peritonitis or why her bowel died. I cannot tell you how sad poor Dr. Cooper looked when he showed me the results; he was at a loss for words. We will never know what killed Ruby; we have no enemy to fight, no battle that can be won next time, nothing to change in her diet, or care, no course of action to take. The Hills went over her feed and life with me, every detail, what could I say to them except they did everything right and they still lost their beloved friend and we will never know the reason why?

She had been so brave through the whole ordeal, she was always happy to see me even though I did things to her that she didn't like, over and over and over again. She was sweet, funny, playful and full of life. She kept Jenn and Jim Hill laughing, we never spoke that they didn't have a Ruby story to tell me and we would all laugh together. Everyone who loved goats that saw her drooled over her incredible conformation, movement, beauty and sweetness. She impressed dairy and meat people as well as packer folks. Her conformation was flawless for packing. She had a medium back, long, lovely legs, perfect hocks, short, strong pasterns, big bones and wonderful, large feet. She was muscular, level, angular and moved like a Cadillac. The Hills loved her for her personality and "lap goat" qualities. Even at her age and size she would still crawl, sort of, into Jenn's lap for cuddle time.

The packgoat community doesn't know it, but they lost one of the finest foundation does ever to walk. I cannot say enough about the heart and mind of this doeling, she was truly a gem. This summer Jim and I will spread her ashes in the mountains that bear her name.

Zen and Sonnet, two other Dante daughters that needed a new home after Sonnet was attacked by dogs have moved in with the Hill family. How wonderful fate is sometimes, to deliver a soothing balm on the bruised hearts of loving people that are so deserving. We will always miss Ruby and be sad that we lost her, there is no satisfaction in loosing, especially when Ruby was so courageous and brave but I'm glad Zen and Sonnet brought more laughter to the Hills. I'm also very glad Ruby Tuesday's half sisters have found the perfect home.

Charlie Goggin
Lightfoot Packgoats

Dogs vs. Goats

I got the call two days after the attack occurred. It was one of the doelings that I bred but whose momma is owned by a friend. The circumstances were a bit odd as the owner of the momma goat had moved out of state so her goats boarded here last winter and ended up kidding here. This means I attended the birth, imprinted, socialized and fell in love with them from the start.

We named them Zenaria, Bella Sonata (Sonnet) and Keladry (now Lily). Three beautiful doelings with loads of personality, sweetness and intelligence, super packer prospects! They stayed here until they were sold. At the time I was caring for my terminally ill mom and life was very difficult.

So, when the doelings were 8 months old I got the call that their two hunting dogs attacked Sonnet and did I think she needed antibiotics? She didn't think the wounds were deep nor bad, but she might have been afraid to really look as I know she didn't want to hurt poor Sonnet. She was, in deep shock when I first saw her and in horrible pain, just standing, puffed up, hunched up and staring straight ahead with no interest in anything. She was not eating. I examined her and found a hole so large in her rear that it went through to her belly wall from the back of her leg just below the hip bone near her tail. I could fit my entire hand inside. This was a huge problem, was the belly wall breached? Even a pin prick hole could cause a deadly peritonitis. It was too late to suture and closing the contaminated hole seemed a bad idea since I didn't want a huge abscess later so I explained how to treat it as an open wound. She confessed they were thinking about selling them as their daughter had lost interest shortly after they purchased them to be her 4-H projects, long story short, I bought them.

We were afraid to flush the wound for fear of driving bacteria into her abdominal cavity; the wound could not close up on the outside as that would lead to a huge abscess that might open into her abdomen. So I took sterile gauze and squished it into my 1 pound jar of furazone cream, completely impregnating it with the antibiotic ointment and then I stuffed it into the hole. I had to remove the gauze every 2-3 days and repeat, Sonnet did get tranquilizers for this painful procedure but only lightly.

The myriad of puncture wounds to her neck I ignored. The owner had already flushed and cleaned them and they would just have to heal. The owner had already started her on large doses of penicillin per my instructions which we kept up for 14 days. She got two large and painful injections a day, if this seems like a lot of drugs, it was, but this wound was life threatening. She got probiotic 3 times daily and banamine for the pain for as long as I dared give it

What of the dogs you ask? Well, they belong to the owners and are still there, even though they have other goats. Sadly, this attack could have been prevented had the dogs been properly introduced to the goats when they arrived. Introducing your dogs to your

goats is a very important process to keep the goats safe. After the attack occurs you have to re-train the dogs, which is a much more difficult and uphill battle than taking the time to socialize your dogs with goats in the first place.

After the attack you may need a shock collar and excellent timing, which most folks seem to lack. They have actually taken wild wolves proven to be predatory on cattle and used a shock collar to teach them to avoid cattle at all costs, which seems to work very well, but wolves are a LOT smarter than most dogs.

If your dog isn't already trained in basic obedience, I highly suggest you join an obedience class, now. There is no way to control an animal reliably without a good working relationship, which means you are the leader of the pack and the dog accepts this fact. If you want to find out some things about dog behavior and how to communicate with your dog effectively, please watch or rent Caesar Milan's "Dog Whisperer" series. These shows can literally save a life.

Once your dog knows how to heal, sit, down, stay and come, you are ready to teach them the same with distractions. Try any distraction you can manage and work on these behaviors. Remember, "Sit, siiiit, SIT! SIT SITSITSITIT!!!" is NOT a command! It is gibberish, say it once, make it happen, never say it unless you can make it happen.

Teach your dog(s) a "Leave it" command. This command means, "Leave that alone" it doesn't mean "you are wrong". Also teach them an "Out!" command which is similar but under more intense conditions, it means to quit what you are doing now AND RETURN immediately.

Training a dog only takes 5-10 minutes a day plus regular exercise which should be at least 30-45 minutes per day as often as you can manage. A well behaved dog stems from a dog who does stuff with you on a regular basis who knows their boundaries and limitations. Just like children and goats, dogs need to know what their job is in the family they belong to; they need to know their place, and their limits in order for them to be contented. They need

to know when they are right, give them that opportunity by teaching them useful things!

When you introduce a dog to a goat ANY form of aggression must find the dog on the ground with you on top, letting them know the ALPHA doesn't want the goat harmed. Do not get angry, just do the alpha roll and growl at that dog with eye contact. You flip a dog by grabbing their far front leg and pushing on their neck and shoulder. Even a very large dog can be downed this way.

WARNING; a dog who does not accept you as alpha may fight when you attempt this form of dominance in order to maintain their own alpha status. You may get bitten. If in doubt, please contact a professional dog trainer and ask for help. It is worth the money vs. the cost of putting a goat or yourself back together again after an attack. Remember; human skin tears very easily!

What do I mean by "any" form of aggression? At first it might just mean The Look, which is a prelude to an aggressive behavior which may be a nip or an outright attack. It is unusual intensity in the way the dog gazes at the goat. The ears will be up, tail up or out, either wagging slowly or just stiff, the dog is poised, ready to attack, there is a lot of tension in the dog's body. If the dog looks at the goats with both eyes and shows any form of tension, I will lay them on their side until they relax and are very calm. The dog may also be fearful of the goats. A fearful dog may also bite a curious youngster if they feel threatened. Very young kid goats don't understand danger yet, please be aware that a large dog and a tiny kid goat should be introduced carefully and never with the kid's face near the dogs face. Let the dog sniff the kid goat's rear end or side, with your hand in the way, most dogs won't bite their owner's hand. If yours will I strongly suggest you seek psychiatric care because that is just wrong.

The dog should be laid down on its sternum if it is afraid so it doesn't feel so vulnerable and the kid goat can be resting in a helper's lap. The dog should be petted and talked to only when he is calm and relaxed do not praise a scared dog, or you are teaching it to be afraid. Ignore the dog if it is acting fearful, just relax and chat, keeping the goat in the lap and the dog lying down. Eventually you can move the dog closer, never allowing it to make facial contact with the kid until you are certain the dog will not bite. If the dog tried to run away, remain calm, do not talk or coddle the dog, it is acting silly, silly behavior should not be encouraged. Just return the dog to the original position, make him lie down again and sit back down and continue to chat. Pass the kid back and forth, pet the kid, talk to each other and ignore the silly dog. You can slowly move the kid nearer the dog as long as the dog remains calm. If the dog wants to sniff the kid make sure it is not near the kid's head and keep control over both the kid and the dog. Usually they figure it out

quickly and relax.

If you are pretty sure your dog will try to bite, please muzzle your dog to protect the goat, this alone often calms an aggressive dog and makes them less likely to try anything. Please be forewarned, I've seen dogs get out of a muzzle and attack people when I worked at a veterinary hospital. Make sure it fits properly and is worn correctly. Keep the dog on a leash until you are positively certain he or she will not chase the goats. If the dog goes ballistic at the goat you may need a professional dog trainer to help you with this dog. Be patient, but do not let the dog's behavior get even a tiny bit out of hand, any aggression must be stopped immediately.

Most aggression in situations like these is caused by the dog's owner. I know I am making no friends by saying this, and I am sure to get strong negative feedback for what I am about to write, but I will write it because I know it is true. One way or the other the owner usually causes most dog attacks. They have allowed this dog to be overly aggressive, either through complacency, ignorance or some funny sense that "Fido is just trying to protect me! Isn't that sweet?" It is NOT sweet when a dog acts aggressive toward something that is not being aggressive toward you or your family. I've seen many a dog made aggressive by the attitudes of very sweet and loving families who just thought the young adult dog was learning to be protective. No aggression should be tolerated unless the family is in some sort of danger. It is up to you as the alpha to determine when aggression is needed. The dog will sense your fear if that time ever comes and that is when you do not ask the dog to stop. They will understand and they will guard you, there is no reason to encourage aggression before that moment. You are not taking the guardian out of the dog by discouraging aggression at inappropriate times; you are saving yourself from a lawsuit and saving some innocent person from an attack. When someone knocks on the door it is fine for a dog to let you know there is someone there, but when you open the door and speak with that person the dog should sit and be quiet and calm, friendly and contented. I've seen dogs bite friends, grandparents, family members and children because families thought the dog had formerly been "cute" and "learning to be a guard dog" with this stuff. If you do not act the alpha, the dog will and that is often the cause of an overaggressive dog, not a family that wants the dog to bite people, but a family that doesn't understand dog behavior well enough to curtail this sort of thing. The dog should not run the house.

I've owned honest to goodness guard dogs, the kind that could take down a man. Not one of them ever bit anyone, not even when we lived in shady places and I was seriously threatened because a growl or a look did the trick. This was off leash, by the way, I was not holding my viscous dog back, and he didn't attack because the person fled.

He didn't try to chase even though he could have. That is a good guard dog. Had physical contact been made, my dog would have likely removed the assailant's hand or arm, however, since no contact was made, the men were allowed to flee. Yes, it happened more than once, as I said, we lived in scary places like Pomona and Montclair California. A good dog is friendly toward friendly people and shows no sign of aggression unless there are very good and compelling reasons for it.

If you bring your goat aggressive dog into my yard and turn it loose, as soon as it has the thought to harm one of my animals, my dogs will have it on the ground. Would they attack it? No. Harm it? Not unless it actually attacked someone, however, they would not let it get to the point of lunging, biting, or growling or barking. None of these things would happen because thought would follow action and the dog would learn fast not to even give my critters a sideways glance with evil intent. As the alpha critter on your place you must learn this kind of timing and speed. Don't hold a grudge, act quickly, forgive fast, give the dog a chance to do it right, but never allow even a full second of aggression before there are consequences. Do not hit, kick or yell at your dog, these things are not well understood by dogs, they only prove you are crazy and unpredictable, hardly the qualities of a good leader. Dogs use the alpha roll to let a subordinate know it was wrong and they are the dominant dog. They growl, make eye contact, use their bodies to speak. This is the language dogs understand, please try to learn it so your intentions are clear and your rules understood. Beating or kicking a dog only teaches them to fear and distrust you; there is no working relationship, no joy in being together, only the oppression of fear and anger.

I've seen little Kapu train a 100 pound dog that wanted to playfully chase chickens and goats. Kapu, who only weighs 40 pounds, had no intention of fighting this dog, but he was very clear that no chasing of other critters was allowed and the dog quickly learned to just play with Kapu and ignore our other animals. How did he do this? Every time that other dog did anything that could mean he would chase, Kapu grabbed his muzzle and made eye contact while doing so. This might not mean much to you, but I know I'd certainly be distracted from chasing goats if I had a 40 pound dog on the end of my face...

No blood was shed, no fighting occurred, not a critter was harmed. Kapu and this other dog had a ball playing games for two days. Kapu also taught the neighbor's labs not to kill hens in the same way. They never chase our goats and they come over several times a week to play with our dogs which has been going on since Kapu was a wee pup. They can do this with our hens running loose and neither dog will give chase. They killed 5 or 6 of our hens years ago before Kapu was old enough to realize his job around here. Some chicken killers can indeed be rehabilitated

but it is not easy without a good dog to help!

Dogs let each other know instantly and they never whine, beg, plead or otherwise negotiate. That is how you need to be in order for your dog to get the message, clearly, without doubts. A livestock killing dog is a dead dog around here. Most farmers use the SSS method of dog control, Shoot, Shovel and Shut-up. If your neighbors might do the same then the dog will just disappear, but some would rather sue. It would be the kindest thing to teach the dog to behave rather than have to deal with the cost of vet bills and possible litigation down the road.

Charlie Goggin

Lightfoot Packgoats

Goat Jokes (Plagiarized from: http://www.theikga.org/goat_jokes.htm)

In Budapest, a man goes to the rabbi and complains, "Life is unbearable. There are nine of us living in one room. What can I do?"

The rabbi answers, "Take your goat into the room with you." The man is incredulous, but the rabbi insists. "Do as I say and come back in a week."

A week later the man comes back looking more distraught than before. "We cannot stand it," he tells the rabbi. "The goat is filthy." The rabbi then tells him, "Go home and let the goat out. And come back in a week."

A radiant man returns to the rabbi a week later, exclaiming, "Life is beautiful. We enjoy every minute of it now that there's no goat -- only the nine of us."

Andy Oliver

Two men were walking through the woods and came upon a big, black, deep hole. One man picked up a rock and tossed it into the hole and stood listening for the rock to hit bottom. Nothing.

He turned to the other guy and said "that must be a deep hole...let's throw a bigger rock in there and listen for it to hit bottom."

The men found a bigger rock and both picked it up and lugged it to the hole and dropped it in. They listened for some time and....nothing.

Again, they agreed that this must be one deep hole and maybe they should throw something even bigger into it.

One man spotted a big log nearby. They picked it up, grunting and groaning, and threw it to the hole, listening intently.....nothing.

All of a sudden, a goat came flying out of the woods, running like the wind, and flew past the men and jumped straight into the hole. The men were astounded.

They walked on through the woods, and a little later met an old farmer who asked the men if they had seen a goat. One man told the farmer of the incredible

incident they had just witnessed...they had just seen this goat fly out of the woods, and run and leap into the big hole. He asked the farmer if this could have been his goat.

The old farmer said "Naw, that can't be my goat...he was chained to a big log."

Andy Oliver

Barry and Ray are headed home after a big night on the town when Barry accidentally hits a buck goat. Ray being the animal lover he is jumps out the car and gives the goat artificial respiration and revives him. Ray says to Barry he's going to be fine but its cold so we'll have to put him in the car to keep him warm. Barry yells "What about the terrible stinking smell in my car?" Ray says "That's OK we'll hold the buck's nose!"

Gary Burnett

The husband who raises meat goats has forgotten his anniversary, his irate wife who raises dairy goats (already some friction there) says "Tomorrow morning there had better be something in the driveway that goes 0 to 200 in 3 seconds". Next morning there is a small package lying in the driveway. Wife opens the package, its a set of bathroom scales

Gary Burnett

The young couple invited their elderly pastor for Sunday dinner. While they were in the kitchen preparing the meal, the minister asked their son what they were having.

"Goat," the little boy replied.

"Goat?" replied the startled man of the cloth, "Are you sure about that?"

"Yep," said the youngster. "I heard Dad say to Mom, 'Today is just as good as any to have the old goat for dinner.'"

Cheri Hall

Little Johnny's goat was hit by a car, and unfortunately, died. Mom and dad tried their best to console their young son.

"You know, Johnny, it's not your fault the goat died, it was just fate."

But Little Johnny would have none of it.

So, in a last gasp attempt, Little Johnny's dad said, "He's probably up in Heaven right now with God. He'll be happy there, so you don't have to feel bad anymore."

Little Johnny asked, "What would God want with a dead goat?"

Max Walker