

# American Black Welsh Mountain Sheep Association Newsletter

Paonia, Colorado

May 2006

## Board Election Results

Twenty three ballots were submitted with none being ruled invalid.  
(We have a total of forty eligible voting members overall.)

The following individuals have been elected for either officer or  
board positions within the ABWMSA:

**President** - Suzanne Correira (23 votes)  
**Vice Pres.** - S. Stevens Sands (23 votes)  
**Sec/Treasurer** - Oogie McGuire (23 votes)

### Board of Directors

Jerry Jones (23 votes)  
Claudia Pettis (23 votes)

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## 2<sup>nd</sup> Black Welsh General Conference

August 25, 26, 27, 2006, Paonia, Colorado

We are extremely happy to announce the SECOND General Conference of the American Black Welsh Mountain Sheep Association will be happening - and in such a glorious location!

It was hard to beat the pastoral splendor of Mr. Wyman's Wye Heights in Maryland in 2004, but we are attempting to do so with the dramatic vistas of the Western Slopes of the Colorado Rocky Mountains at Ken & Oogie McGuire's Desert Weyr in Paonia!

Plan to arrive on Thursday evening (Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>) so you can be rested and ready for our Friday meeting and lectures, and our Saturday and Sunday AM programs and Hands On presentations.

Nearest major airport is in Grand Junction, a nice drive.

There is an optional tour available on Thursday the 24<sup>th</sup> for those really early birds.

REGISTRATION information is included here and will also be up on the website. Paid non-member guests are welcome to attend the conference.

**Registration is \$125** (includes Conference, two lunches and two dinners.) **Junior members who own sheep are free with a paid adult registration.**

**Lodging is on your own** - The Bross Hotel will function as our "host" hotel and there are several other fine B&Bs and motels in the area.

**The Bross Hotel** would like reservations to be made by **July 15**, please.

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# General Conference Agenda

(subject to some change of course)

## Friday Aug. 25th

Welcome and official association meeting  
Introduction of officers and board members  
Royal Welsh and Flock Reports from the UK  
Ed Kline (CO Scrapie Inspector) - NAIS and Fed Scrapie programs  
Dr. Cotten - TBA (sheep first aid likely)

**Coffee/Tea breaks included AM and PM**

**Lunch at the Bross Hotel**

**Dinner - a Western Beef BBQ at Orchard Valley Farms**

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## Saturday August 26th

Presentation of Sheep, best and worst, at Desert Weyr  
Sheep family groups by bloodline  
Discussion/presentation of RR, QR, and QQ and the issues involved  
Sheep Judging and showing - US and UK styles  
(including a Hands On Exercise)  
Evaluating for Quality Meat Production

**Coffee/Tea breaks AM and PM**

**Box Lunch provided by the Flying Fork Restaurant**

**Dinner - (Desert Weyr provided) Mutton Dinner at the Bross Hotel**

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## Sunday AM August 27<sup>th</sup>

Shearing & Skirting Demo at Desert Weyr  
Wool Preparation for Hand Spinners and  
Other Black Welsh Wool Products  
Adjournment

**Optional: Box Lunch (\$10) from the Flying Fork and Winery Tour**

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### Other Tours Available

Two other formal tours will be available and must be reserved separately.

On **Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup>**, a formal Farm Tour can be a fun way to learn about farms, ranches and orchards in the North Fork area. See how a rotating chicken coop works, learn all about Big B's Famous Apple Juice, and pop in for a tour of a buffalo ranch. Picnic at Orchard Valley Farms where you will find top quality produce and local jams, jellies, sauces and more. A hearty box lunch will be included.

Price: \$45 per person. Maximum number of participants: 12. Reserve by August 1.

**Tuesday, August 29<sup>th</sup>**, you may join in a Black Canyon of the Gunnison Tour. This unique National Park is home to eagles, peregrine falcon, bobcat and more. The landscape is spectacular: no other canyon combines the narrow opening, sheer walls and startling depths offered by the Black Canyon.

A box lunch and stops at local artist studios will be included. Price, number of participants and deadline as above.

## **Health Tip**

### **Emergency Bloat First Aid**

By Oogie McGuire

(Oogie originally shared this tip on the Black Welsh Yahoo Group on line earlier this year.)

Wanted to share what we learned today. One of our rams was badly bloated this morning, frothy bloat, and he looked like a balloon on the left side. I called the vet and he gave me the following to use as emergency treatment until he could get out to us.

He had me take a length of wooden dowel (holes drilled in the ends) and place it in the ram's mouth into the space between the front and back teeth (where a bit would like if he were a horse but somewhat further back), and we tied it to his horns. We then stood back, as the ram was able to projectile vomit a LOT of gloppy stuff. It was impressive, and somewhat reminiscent of the Exorcist movie, but the gag worked and the bloat was much reduced by the time the vet arrived.

It is more difficult with ewes, as they don't have horns to tie to and are more creative in getting out of the rig.

The vet treated the ram with Therabloat to break up the gas bubbles, and told us to NOT let him lie down for several hours and not allow him food for 12-24 hours.

### **Another Health Tip**

Sometimes a lamb is born with weak pasterns, crooked legs, or knuckled under or over. Sometimes one is injured just being a lamb.

In any case, you are probably looking for a way to splint the injury either long-term, or just until the vet arrives.

Grab your VetWrap and your Chopsticks or even large knitting needles, or those oh-so-handy dowels again (most hardware stores have a selection of sizes).

And even easier and somewhat "classier" solution are those limb braces made for small children found in most drugstores or even Walmart - they're already padded and have Velcro strips.

Remember, if you're using wraps, to pad the limb first, and not wrap too tight so you don't create more problems. If you are a horse person, remember how you wrap a horse's legs.

Wrapping both hind or fore limbs even if only one is injured is always a good idea - so that the lamb is taking weight evenly on both legs and not overstressing the "good" leg.

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## **Member News and Successes**

### **Scoring that First Restaurant**

Kendra Jones sold her first lamb (back in October 2005 or so) to a French restaurant in the DC area (as in Washington!).

The chef wanted the entire animal, hooves to horns and paid a good price for him. This was for a first "trial" sale, and it is assumed there have been more as he was eager to get this fresh Black Welsh lamb.

Kendra had to explain the requirements for the extra certification for brain products and the chef understood, reserving those delicacies for himself.

She has also begun marketing Black Welsh yarn, socks and other finished products at various bazaars.

## Registry Reports and Requirements

A reminder: If you haven't gotten your Flock Census Reports in to the Secretary, you're LATE - really late. These should've been mailed in with your Membership Renewal.

This report is not only required in our Association Bylaws (available on the website) but the information serves to fit Federal sheep reporting requirements.

And if you've not renewed, you are probably not getting this newsletter. If you ARE getting this newsletter and STILL have not renewed - please do so! You cannot register animals or vote if you are not a member.

### Lambing Report for 2006

The lambing report is also now due, for those of you who have finished lambing, and will be due for the rest as soon as they've finished lambing. (Okay, so the reports are due in 2006 - the year of birth but it's easier if you do it right after lambing is done - DO it and forget it!)

Again, the association is REQUIRED by both the bylaws and Federal requirements, to record and keep records of ALL births of ALL member flocks - both live births and still borns. There is a birth notification form available upon which you need to record FULL date of birth, Birth Type (single/twin/triplet), Sire and Dam Reg.# and Name. Birth Weight and other info is optional.

There is NO charge to Birth Notify (it's required, remember). You may birth notify and register at the same time, or register Birth Notified lambs after evaluation for registration purposes.

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### Now for Some FUN!

(as if we didn't enjoy our own sheep enough)



Okay, how many Sheep have YOU seen in Sunglasses????- Agent 90



Tom Wyman and his remarkable Wye Heights ewes

AMWMSA General Conference Registration

August 25, 26, and 27, 2006

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Adults Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$125: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Junior Members Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Arriving: \_\_\_\_\_ Departing: \_\_\_\_\_

We'll be staying at (if known yet): \_\_\_\_\_

(remember LODGING and Transportation arranged on your own  
and if you're booking the BROSS HOTEL, do that by 7/15/06)

We'd like to take advantage of the Thurs (8/24)  
Tour @ \$45 (North Fork area Farms) and Box Lunch  
and have enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ of us.

We'd like to take advantage of the Tues (8/29)  
Tour @ \$45 (Black Canyon) and Box Lunch and have  
enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ of us.

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ people attending.

Please mail registration and fees to:

Suzanne Correira, 2646 FM 1704, Elgin TX 78621.  
Optional tour reservations MUST be made by 8/1/06.