



The Bleat



EVENTS

October 22: SVMGA Consignment Sale - Halifax County, VA at the Halifax County Agricultural Center.

October 27: SVMGA Meeting - Halifax County, VA at the Halifax County Ag Center. Potluck dinner!

October 29: SVMGA Farm Tour - Halifax, VA at Country Charm Farm. Directions in the October newsletter.

November 12: Goat and Sheep Auction - Emporia, Virginia. 2nd Saturday every month 1 PM. FMI: Mike 757-373-3348.

2012

January 26: SVMGA Meeting - Halifax, VA, 7 PM, annual meeting and elections. At the Halifax Ag Center.

More events listed on website!

Meeting Minutes September 22, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by First Vice-President, Denise Hudson. New members and visitors were welcomed.

A motion was made to accept the August meeting minutes as posted in the newsletter. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried.

The Treasurer's Report was read. Gail announced there is an error in the treasurer report from last month. [Report posted on pg 2.]

Committee Reports:

Programs Committee - Ned Strange reported the farm tour will be October 29th at Country Charm Farm. For the October 27th meeting, everyone should bring a covered dish since this will be the last meeting of the year. SVMGA will provide water and paper products.

Marketing Committee - Ned Strange reported that putting ads in newspapers before the sale. There were prices announced for the classifieds for the Chase City paper, Gazette-Virginia and the News & Record. Prices for a display ad were also announced. Leslie Keck and Denise Hudson have also put in the sales announcement on Craigs List. Bill Crews made a motion for the Marketing Committee to be put in charge of advertising with a budget of \$150 for this October sale. Motion was seconded by Adam Hensley. Discussion was held. A vote was held and the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Halifax County Fair - Fontaine Talley continues to work on getting animals for the fair. He has sheep for the fair. He is having difficulty getting dairy goats since this is breeding season. He is still looking for meat goats for the display. He asked if there was anyone

interested in speaking. Several volunteers expressed interested to help out at the fair on October 4, 5 & 6.

NEW BUSINESS

Survey - Lisa Bowen announced the Town of Halifax was interested in having a value added processing center. There is a survey to see the interest of this. Surveys were available at the meeting.

Junior Livestock Show - Leah has talked with Dustin Francis and Scott Crowder. They need help getting goats for the Junior Livestock show. They are looking for goats approximately the same age, under 1 year at the time of the April show. They would like for the goat to be about 40 lbs. They would like to have the goat for pick up in February 2012. Call Leah if you have kids available.

Leslie Keck announced that she and Denise Hudson have created a website to help promote southern Virginia farms and link consumers. This is a community project. If anyone would like to be posted on the website, please let them know or you can go to the website, www.TheFarmConnection.org

Next month will be busy, October 22nd - SVMGA Consignment Sale, October 27th - SVMGA and pot luck; October 29th - Farm Tour.

SVMGA elections will take place at the January 2012 meeting. If you are interested in a position, let Greg Wade know.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Respectfully,
Leslie Keck
Secretary





SVMGA FARM TOUR
 Country Charm Farm
 3070 Howard P. Anderson Road
 Halifax, VA

The farm tour at Country Charm Farm is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. – noon on Saturday, 29 October. We currently specialize in the breeding and sale of Registered Nigerian Dwarf Goats. A miniature dairy goat, the Nigerian Dwarf Goat height standard is less than 24” at the withers. But what they lack in size - - they make up for in personality! They also have a milk fat content that exceeds even their “standard” goat counterparts.

We will be touring our barn and milk parlor as we discuss the benefits and challenges associated with raising and breeding these lovable little goats. We will also discuss some of the value-added products such as raw milk, cheese, butter - - and of course - - goat milk soap. We will also be available to introduce and discuss our livestock guardians - - “Kamran”, a registered Kangal Dog - - and “Daisy”, our standard Jerusalem donkey.

We want your tour to be informative and enjoyable, but most of all - - incident free! Country Charm Farm is a working farm. We ask that you not bring pets to the farm. And while the goats are a certain “hit” with children, we ask that youngsters be kept under close supervision - - off equipment and away from fencing (fences are “hot”). We also ask that the animals not be fed and that fingers and loose clothing be closely monitored! Sometimes the goats are a little “too” friendly! And of course - - Country Charm Farm is a “No Smoking” environment.

We look forward to seeing everyone and hope you have a great time with us at Country Charm Farm.



Doug and Lisa Bowen
WWW.CountryCharmFarm.org

WELCOME to new members...
 Alan & Phyllis Townsend ~ Charlotte C.H., VA

| Treasurer’s Report | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Balance August 25, 2011 | \$1,521.25 |
| Receipts: | |
| Member Dues | \$20.00 |
| Disbursements: | |
| County for May sale | \$40.50 |
| Balance September 22, 2011 | \$1,500.75 |

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Goats Feed Campus Sustainability At

Marylhurst University

by *Green Ways and Words*

September 29th, 2011

These two goats have quickly established themselves as the faces on [Marylhurst University's](#) on-campus sustainability program. Just set them loose in a field of blackberry or ivy and watch it disappear, thanks to the relentless duo. There is one precaution, though. Be sure you have them inside the kind of fence they can't eat.

"They ate through the previous fence," said Eric Stoermer, facilities engineer/energy manager. "They went down Highway 43, and we had to wrangle them."

Among the goat wranglers was none other than university president Judi Johansen.

That indicates just how important Mini and Big are to the future of [sustainability at Marylhurst University](#). They are big goats on campus.

The idea of using goats instead of dangerous chemicals to get rid of unwanted vegetation emerged from the organization called MUSAC ([Marylhurst University](#) Sustainability Action Committee), led by instructor Kirsten Newberry-Gauthier. The group has some other fine ideas, too, like reducing energy usage and phasing out chemicals.

"Those things are done behind the scenes," Stoermer said. "The goats are out where the public can see them."

The goating of [Marylhurst](#) came about because right next door at Mary's Woods a new goat business was starting called Grub N' Goats. Mini and Big aced their first test.



Mini and Big are the perfect employees. Their work ethic is matchless, and their appetite is endless.

"They eat everything down to the ground," Stoermer said. "Stalks, thorns and stickers. You can't ask for more than that."

A side value of the goats is their academic impact, particularly in [Marylhurst's green MBA program](#). They are almost like adjunct professors.

"If we're going to teach about sustainability, we need to practice it at [Marylhurst](#)," said Bob Hanks, director of the business and real estate programs. "My goal is that what we use on campus can be like a lab in our classrooms."

Stoermer added, "We thought the goats would fit our mission really well."

The plans for Mini and Big include much, much more eating, for 8 to 10 hours a day. Their long-term employment is assured on the 68 acre campus.

From www.earthtechling.com

Halifax County Fair

Bill Crews (left) and David Hudson (below) talk to 3rd graders about goat & sheep production. SVMGA members also spoke to third graders on different days. SVMGA had pens with goats and sheep.

Many thanks to SVMGA members who loaned animals for the fair and the members who spoke to 3rd graders. Thank you to Fontaine Talley for organizing this for SVMGA.



CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale: Nice kiko bucklings for sale. Call Don Maddox at 434-946-7344.

Microscope For Sale: Olympus CH-2, 10x oculars (each with independent focus) 4x, 10x, 40x objectives with 100x oil immersion objective. Micrometer slide holder with .1mm graduations. Color monitor with blue light filter (for blood work). 4 spare bulbs \$500.00 Firm. Centrifuge also available \$50.00. Call Patty Gulick (434) 574-2745 or contact @shadyacresfarm@embarqmail.com

For Sale: Solid Red, Boer Buckling, unregistered, \$150, contact Denise Hudson, 434-753-9327.

For Sale: Mixed meadow grass hay – 1st cutting – some fields have a lot of yellow clover (also called hop or field clover). My goats and horses love it! These hay fields were fertilized last fall and this spring. Square bales – \$3.50 out of the barn (about 100 bales available now) or \$3.00 out of the field (the next time we bale). Round bales – 4x4 approx 600lb bales (and a few 3x4) – \$30. – over 50 available now. Discount for higher quantities. Located in Red House, VA, 23963 Delivery available within a reasonable distance or if I am already going that direction. I also can bring to the monthly meeting. Angela Whitley 434-248-6288.

For Sale: Orchard grass square-bale hay for sale, \$3.50 per bale. Call 434-542-5462 or 434-401-3589. Discount on large quantity - you pick up.

For Sale: High percentage Boer doelings and bred does. Contact David Troyer, Halifax, VA. 434-454-6234

Boer Buck for Sale: Two year old registered fullblood buck. Big bodied wide chest. Asking \$300.00 call 434-221-5684 for more information.

For Sale Young Boer Does For Sale: Born March 2010, (7)off-springs of(2)registered 100% Bucks. Excellent structure in appearance and with long bodies. approx, 60-70lbs. Good for just starting out, asking \$200.00/ea. Discount for two or more. Henderson-Bates farms, Larry Bates, 703-409-8173, Buffalo Junction, Va.

Livestock Guardians For Sale: New litter of Pyrenees X Karackachan pups ready for Thanksgiving. Born and raised in the goat lot. Acclimated to goats, sheep and horses. Contact John D. Smith at Caprine Genetics for more information. E-mail: jstrider01@netscape.com Cell: 804-731-8512

Nice buckling for sale: \$200 – born early March. Buck 100 percent (EGGS line one generation removed) and doe is 75 percent or more. Discount for members. He is a nice buckling. Would be good for someone starting out. E mail for pictures. magnoliafarm@dishmail.net

Kiko Goats for Sale: AKGA registered, yearling and older, Kiko bucks for sale. A few does available, also. Great Pyrenees X Anatolian guard dogs, ready to go to work today. (Wormed and shots). Caprine Genetics, John D. Smith, 804 731 8512. Petersburg, Va.

For Sale: Young Boer Does, \$125 each. Buy 5 or more and get one free. Established Boer Nannies 2-4 years old, \$200 each. Buy 5 or more and get one free. 434-575-5672.

SOUTHERN VIRGINIA MEAT GOAT ASSOCIATION

The Southern Virginia Meat Goat Association (SVMGA) was established to improve the economic viability of the meat goat industry in Southside Virginia through the development of cooperative marketing strategies, consumer and producer education and overall herd improvement.

SVMGA OFFICERS

Greg Wade

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Treasurer and
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Meetings

The fourth Thursday of each month at the Halifax County Agricultural Marketing Center.

Holiday Goat Meat

2 lb goat meat
1/2 cup vinegar
1 T. mustard
1 T. minced onion
garlic salt
9.5 oz bottle vinaigrett dress-
ing any flavor

In a large Crockpot cover the goat meat with with vinegar and mustard. Sprinkle on onion and garlic salt and then pour the dressing totally covering the meat. Cook on medium for about eight hours. This recipe serves six to eight. Garnish with lemon or mint!

Tip: Leftover goat meat can be frozen or used as a substitute for any beef recipes!

From: www.dorcasannettewalker.blogspot.com

Southern Virginia Meat Goat Association

P. O. Box 699

Halifax, VA 24558



**Next
Meeting:
Oct. 27th
Bring a covered
dish to share.**