



## American Goat Industry News



### Greetings from AGF!

AGF is honored to welcome **the American Kiko Goat Association** as our first Supporting Member Organization. As a supporting Member Organization, AKGA can give each of their members a free Individual Membership in AGF. [Read about AKGA](#)

AGF is also honored to welcome three new Organization Members:

**the Cashmere Goat Association** - [Read about CGA](#)

**the Hawaii Sheep & Goat Association** - [Read about HSGA](#)

**the North American Pack Goat Association** [Read NAPGA](#)

Members of Member Organizations can join AGF as Individual Members for only \$20/year instead of the regular \$30/year fee.

THANKS to all members who have renewed their memberships and a very special thanks those who renewed their Affiliate memberships!

AGF is pleased to welcome new Affiliate Members:

Shannel Delaloza, JDL Browsing --- Jim Perry --- Paulette Wohnoutka, Pedigree International

AGF is also pleased to welcome new Individual Members: Jordan Agulniga, Bobby Alsip, Mary Blume, Joetta Boyd, John Bukovatz, Jason Carlisle, Alesa Chaffee, Mandy Chesney, Leann Cline,

Nancy Clough, Reed Darrow, Ron Dilly, Joann Dowker, Jeremy & Jessi Downing, Elgardo Garcia, Terry Hill, Cheryl Hopkins, Skylar Noblin-Laminack, Louis Maring, Taffy Mercer, Robert Mercer, Richard Nash, Mike & TJ Nelms, Edwin Northcutt, Jonathan Northrop, Marie Orillion, Mark Phillips, Karen Quick, Kathryn Ready, Jeremy Sanders, Wendell & Dee Seitz, Jo Ann Shults, Fonda Spaulding, Lisa & Kevin Strohl, Sharla Vaughan-Hein, Maryann Weiss, Renee Woolford, and Zullinger Family.

If you would like to join the Federation, and/or renew your membership contact the office or select: **JOIN AGF** You can join or renew at any time on the website, *2019 AGF Memberships expire on February 28, 2020*. Memberships for those who join as new members from October 31 through March 1 are good through the end of February, 2021.

## AGF AWARDS 5 Scholarships for the 2019 Youth Scholarship Program



There were 22 applicants for the 2019 Youth Scholarship Program. Five scholarships were awarded, four to 17 to 21 age group for \$1,000 each, and one to the 12 to 16 age group for \$500.00. Click on the picture to learn about the applicants and view their projects. This program is funded in part by a grant from USDA/APHIS.

**APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2020 YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ARE AVAILABLE ON THE AGF WEBSITE. [Get One Now](#)**

*AGF is pleased to welcome Sustaining Industry Partner:*  
**Buchholz Cattle Company of EIDorado Texas.**

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## MEMBER Services

If you are an AGF Member and haven't checked out Member Services, you can do so at any time by visiting: [Member Services](#)

- **Marketing Goats and Goat Products:** Free Marketing Page on the AGF Website that will link to **Goatzz.com**, a global internet site.
- **Goat Production Recordkeeping and Performance Program** Free excel-based program for recording information about members' goats.
- **Advanced Recordkeeping & Performance Program:** Discounted Upgrade to **Go360 bioTrack Program**.

**Members can view AGF Meeting Minutes and other information on the Members Page. That page is password**

Development  
Roundtable

RFID Scrapie Tag Trial

American Goat Initiative

Goat Industry  
Development

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **November 9-10, 2019:**

Small Ruminant  
Management & Fiber  
Conference, Cornell  
University, Ithaca,  
NY. [Learn More](#)

### **January 4-11, 2020:**

Pennsylvania Farm  
Show - AGF will have  
handouts and a display  
in the goat area

### **January 21, 2020 (8am to 12 noon):**

AGF  
Annual Meeting,  
Scottsdale, Arizona. AGF  
members are welcome to  
attend. [Learn More](#)

### **January 21, 2020 (1pm to 6pm):**

AGF & AGI  
Small Ruminant Vaccine  
Development Round-  
table, Scottsdale,  
Arizona.

### **January 22-25, 2020:**

American Sheep Industry  
Annual Convention,  
Scottsdale, Arizona.

[Learn More](#)

### **February 20-23, 2020:**

International Society of  
Infectious Diseases  
(ISID) 19th International  
Congress on Infectious  
Diseases (ICID), Lumpur,  
Malaysia. [Learn More](#)

### **June 8-12, 2020:**

American Boer Goat  
Assoc National Show,  
Grand Island, Nebraska.

### **June 14-16, 2020:**

National Grazing Lands

**protected. If you don't remember it contact the office.**

## 2020 AGF Annual Meeting

The 2020 American Goat Federation Annual Meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 21 from 8 am to Noon at the Scottsdale Plaza Resort in Scottsdale, Arizona. This meeting is held in conjunction with the American Sheep Industry Annual Convention. ALL AGF members are welcome to attend.

Beginning at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, AGF and AGI will host a Roundtable on Small Ruminant Vaccine Development. Stakeholders from several segments of the industry and departments of USDA will attend. The American Sheep Industry Association is already working toward vaccine development and AGF hopes that by joining forces with ASI and the Canadian Sheep and Goat Federations we can establish a program and funding to initiate development.

### **The current list of attendees is:**

**Bob Buchholz**, President of AGF, and Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers Association representative

**Tom Boyer**, President of American Goat Initiative and AGF Director

**Randy Dusek**, Sec/Treasurer AGF, and American Boer Goat Association representative on AGF Board

**Jan Carlson**, AGF Director and American Dairy Goat Association representative on AGF Board

**Anita Dahnke**, Executive Director AGF

**Dr. Reid Redden**, AGF Advisory Council; Texas A&M Agri Life Extension Svc

**Peter Orwick**, Executive Director American Sheep Industry Association

**Dr. Randall Berrier**, Sr. Vice President - Scientific Affairs at Colorado Serum

**Dr. Paul Plummer**, Iowa State University Associate Professor. Vet Diagnostic & Production Animal Medicine

**Dr. Roselle Busch**, UC Davis (assistant specialist-cooperative extension sheep & health herd production), who helped establish the antimicrobial use and stewardship program in California

**Representative** from United States Animal Health Association

**Dr. Jim Miller** - Louisiana retired -

**Dr. Stephen White**, USDA/ARS

**Dr. Diane Sutton**, USDA/APHIS

**Dr. Natalie Urie**, USDA/NAHMS

**Corlena Patterson**, Executive Director, Canadian Sheep Federation

**Allan Ribbink**, Chairman - Canadian Sheep Federation

**Morgan Moore**, Vice-Chair - Canadian Sheep Federation

### **Attending if Available:**

**Dr. Gary Newton**, AGF Director and head of International Goat Center, Prairie View (may be able to attend)

**Benny Cox**, President of ASI is in another meeting, but will attend if available

## RFID SCRAPIE TAG RETENTION TRIAL TO BEGIN IN 2020

Coalition first ever  
Summer Bus Tour.

**June 20-22, 2020:**

American Dairy Goat  
Assoc National Show,  
Grand Island, Nebraska.

[Learn More](#)

**September 18-19, 2020:**

Pedigree International  
Seminar and 1st South  
African Savanna Goat  
Auction held in the USA,  
(seminar on the 18th, live  
broadcast auction on the  
19th), Springfield,  
Missouri. AGF will exhibit  
and attend. [More Later](#)

**October 5-12, 2020:**

American Dairy Goat  
Assoc Annual  
Convention, Syracuse,  
New York.

**October 28-31, 2020:**

National FFA  
Convention, Indianapolis,  
Indiana.

[Eat Healthy Visit the  
Meat & Dairy Goat  
Products Page](#)

## NEWS OF NOTE

### USMAC (new North American Trade Deal)

Clears House by a vote  
of 385 to 41.

### U.S. Senate approves FY2020 Appropriations Bill,

following the House  
of Representatives vote  
on Tuesday. The bill  
includes funding for  
Wildlife Services damage  
management, funding for  
the Scrapie Eradication  
Program through  
USDA/APHIS, funding  
the US Sheep  
Experiment Station, and  
providing a delay on  
Electronic Logging

# It's Up to You

The American Goat Federation will provide  
instructions, tags, and equipment . . .

You Provide the



GOATS



Sign Up Now:

<https://AmericanGoatFederation.org>

Goat producers with a minimum of 10 goats that are expected to remain on their property for the 3 year time period will be given an opportunity to apply to participate in the trials. AGF will select participants based on parameters required by the study.

AGF will provide instructions with the tags and applicators to the evaluators. In most cases evaluators will be producers. The retention evaluation trial will require recordkeeping by participating producers and evaluators. RFID readers will be provided by AGF.

Each RFID tag will be evaluated in at least one large commercial goat dairy and one large commercial meat goat herd. In addition, devices will be assessed in settings with 4" woven wire fence, regular use of feed bunks or hay bunks for at least 3 months of the year, and moderate to high levels of brush a minimum of 50 goats in each of these environments, same animal may be exposed to more than one of these conditions. Further, devices will be tested in cold and hot environments as described in the ADT standards. It is planned to have three or four types of RFID ear tags included in the evaluation.

This is an opportunity for goat producers to provide input on the type of tags that end up being used to satisfy the mandatory ID requirements of the National Scrapie Eradication Program. [Sign Up Now](#)

## AGF Fall Meeting

**AGF** held a face-to-face Board meeting on Saturday, October 19 at the ADGA Annual Convention in Boise, Idaho. The morning was dedicated to AGF business and planning.

- **A timeline for the RFID Scrapie Tag Field Trial** activities was developed. Manufacturers Allflex and Premier1 will each submit a tag for trial. Shearwell already has an RFID Scrapie tag approved for sheep and will submit that tag for trial in goats. AGF announced the trial in *Goat Rancher Magazine* and *United Caprine News* and will begin recruiting producers in January.
- The potential for AGF and the American Goat initiative (AGI) to develop a **humane handling system** to make it



Devices for livestock haulers through 9/30/20.

### **Korean group of meat buyers will visit US**

goat and sheep farms this year. AGF member ranches will be included in the visit.

**Intrnational Team of Scientists** say they identified the origin of mad cow disease (BSE), which belongs to a group of rare neuro-degenerative diseases such as Scrapie that are caused by infectious pathogens that affect humans and animals.

The team of scientists injected a particular variant of scrapie disease into mice which have been genetically modified with bovine DNA. The researchers say that, unexpectedly, the injection of the scrapie strain resulted in the propagation of classical mad cow disease prions. These prions are present in natural form in the scrapie variant. [Learn More](#)

### **The U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA)**

announced Nov. 15 an open period for grant applications to support development and approval or conditional approval of new animal drugs intended to treat uncommon diseases (minor uses) in major species - horses, dogs, cats, cattle, pigs, turkeys and chickens - or to

easier to install scrapie tags on goats will be put on the planning agenda for both.

- Future enhancements to the free **Recordkeeping Program** developed by Dr. Ken Andries will be added. The Board voted to charge university farms and large corporate farms a nominal fee of \$100/year to use the program. Free Training in the use of shortcuts and linking of worksheets to make use easier is available.
- The Board decided to have a panel for discussion of **vaccine development** in conjunction with AGI at the Annual Meeting in Scottsdale, January 21.
- AGF will begin working on development of a **Secure Goat Supply Program** in the event of the outbreak of a serious disease in order to protect producers and prevent shutdown of the entire supply.
- Dr. Katherine Marshall discussed **QFever and DNA sequencing** for pathogens. AGF decided to pursue attendance at the USMARC meetings to insure that goat-related research on QFever gets done.

## **American Goat Initiative (AGI) Foundation First Face to Face Meeting**

The American Goat Initiative (AGI) met Tuesday afternoon. Tom Boyer, AGI President, accepted Randy Dusek as one of the trustees for the foundation. In addition, Anita Dahnke will serve as Executive Secretary. Anita will seek a financial person to serve as a volunteer Trustee and Randy will search for another Trustee.

- AGI added the humane handling system for applying Scrapie Tags to the list of future projects.
- AGI will join AGF in hosting a Small Ruminant Vaccine Development Roundtable at the AGF and AGI Annual Meeting on January 21.
- AGI is seeking a person with financial experience to serve as a volunteer Trustee as well as someone with legal experience to volunteer to be a Trustee. If you have experience or know someone who would actively serve the American Goat Initiative, please let the office know.
- AGI and AGF will work closely together to find, support and if appropriate, conduct research beneficial to the goat industry.

## **American Dairy Goat Association Annual Convention**

treat minor species (MUMS). FDA said the individual award amount has been increased to a single funding level up to \$250,000.

**Reps Smucker and Craig introduced Bipartisan Bill** providing regulatory relief to Livestock Haulers. AGF wrote letter of support outlining goat industry needs for this bill.

**Goats and grazing cattle** on different lands is paying off for producers in Iowa.

[Learn More](#)

**FDA Releases Annual Report on Antibiotic Sales** for Animals in 2018 [Learn More](#)

**Meat is Crucial for Feeding the Planet** and Going Vegan is Not More Green, Say Scientists at Edinburgh University. "Often the argument is made that going vegan would minimize land use, and the modelling studies that have been done demonstrate that this is not the case." Professor Wilson said more research is needed.

**Kansas State University is offering a Graduate Certificate Program** in Animal Health Regulatory Affairs. The program provides 15 credit hours that combine knowledge of animal science and veterinary medicine with



Anita Dahnke, Executive Director attended the American Dairy Goat Association and exhibited for AGF and AGI. ADGA showcased producers products from their contest at the awards banquet, which offered local wines to go along with the edible products. Award winners were auctioned off at the banquet



The American Association of Small Ruminant Practitioners held continuing education sessions on the last two days of the convention. ADGA is a member organization of AGF. [Learn More](#)

## Hawaii Sheep & Goat Association



skills needed to navigate government processes and regulations.

#### Board of Directors

#### Advisory Council

#### AGF Members

AGF is a member of the following associations:

>**National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA)**

>**The United States Animal Health Assoc (USAHA)**

>**The International Goat Association (IGA)**

The American Goat Federation is a 501(c)(5) nonprofit organization.



Constant Contact : Emails : Customize Your Campaign

Hawaii Sheep & Goat Association board members displayed AGF information and handed out flyers at the 2019 Hawaii Ag Conference, Honolulu, Oahu. Left to right: Sandra Tran, Amy Decker, Daphne McKeehan & Julie LaTendresse. HSGA is a Member Organization of AGF. [Learn More](#)

## 2019 National FFA Convention

Anita Dahnke manned the AGF booth at the FFA Convention the last week of October and talked to over 400 youth and adults about goats and the goat industry. [Learn More about AGF and Member Organization activities on behalf of the Goat Industry.](#)



## Goat Industry Development

AGF is forming a Committee which will focus on Goat Industry Development with particular attention to market Infrastructure development and increased goat production. Dr. Frank Pinkerton has agreed to assist with establishment of the committee and plans are to begin seeking funding for a multi-purpose, multi-year project focusing on by mid 2020 for:

- Increasing goat production and marketing sites/facilities nationwide.
- Providing education and tools to reduce input costs.
- Increasing number of goat-harvesting facilities closer to regional areas of goat production (as well as increasing numbers of existing slaughter plants to add goat processing).
- Educating prospective producers in rural areas about how to make small scale goat meat, dairy products, and fiber production profitable.
- Sharing needs of specific wholesalers wanting domestic goat meat from slaughter facilities.
- Assessment of ethnic consumer and mainstream consumer acceptance of boxed retail cuts of goat meat.

**This Newsletter is funded in part by the generosity of our Industry Partners.**



**INDUSTRY PARTNERS** make it possible for AGF to lobby Congress and meet with USDA on behalf of goat producers. Their donations help provide education and information to the goat industry and general public, as well as provide support services beneficial to goat producers.

<p><b>LIFETIME PARTNERS</b></p> <p>Stan Potratz</p>	<p><b>SUSTAINING PARTNERS</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">    </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>	<p><b>CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS</b></p> <p>Colorado Serum Co</p>
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[Click Here for Info about our Partners](#)

**INDUSTRY NEWS**  
published by aTd Stuff for  
**the American Goat Federation**  
PO Box 2436, West Lafayette IN 47996 [765-430-2075]  
Email: [info@americangoatfederation.org](mailto:info@americangoatfederation.org)

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