

2015 SCHSIA ANNUAL MEETING OCTOBER 17, 2015

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (STATE OF THE SCHSIA)

As your President, I'd like to report to you, our members that YOUR association is in the best shape of its 30+ year existence.

I'll get into the details later but first I'd like to recap WHO we are, WHAT we stand for, and HOW we got to this point.

First WHO- We are the original association for St. Croix breeders started in Arkansas in 1983 as the St. Croix Sheep Breeders Association. Our name was changed to St. Croix Hair Sheep International Assn. in 2005 at which time the current logo was adopted. For reasons, of which most of you are aware, the operation of SCHSIA was suspended from late 2011 until mid-2013. I don't plan to go into great detail about that at this time, but will be glad to answer questions later in the program.

Second WHAT- At the time of the reinstatement in July of 2013, our Mission statement (as published in a letter to all breeders and later on our web site) was to:

1. Maintain the "polled and white" breed standard in existence since our beginning in 1983. And even more important to
2. Return control of the association to its members.

We believe through "member friendly" By Laws, on- line publishing of Board meeting minutes and regular communication with our members, we have accomplished this goal.

Third HOW- Following are a few of the many accomplishments of your board during these last two years:

- Established a comprehensive web site including an almost instantly updated member list and a comprehensive data base that now includes 3500 sheep
- Revised and obtained member approval for new "member friendly" By Laws and published them on our web site. Note: If you want to see the differences in philosophies of the two existing St. Croix associations just compare their respective By Laws.
- Established both Advertising and Communication committees for the purpose of promoting our breed and association, as well as better communicating with our members.
- Published spring, summer and fall newsletters using the "Mail Chimp" email system. If you are not receiving these please check the web site and ensure your email is correct and communicate any updates to the Registrar.
- Hired a new Registrar (Premier Registry) under the auspices of our web site/ data base manager. This is resulting in almost instantaneous updates to the member and pedigree lists on the web site as well as cross checks on our financial reports. Also, resulted in new fillable work order and registration forms on the web site.

- Lately, produced a new SCHSIA brochure which Laurel will talk to you about later in the program.

Now to some of the details on the "State of our SCHSIA":

- **Financially**, our bank balance has grown to \$7500 and we are exceeding budgeted net income in both 2014 and projected for 2015.
- **Membership** is now at over 130 (including 33 new members so far this year), with 100 currently paid through 2015. Notices went out last week to those who have not yet paid this year.
- **Registrations** of 591 new sheep through Sept have already exceeded the total in 2014 and are increased 34% over the same time period last year.

So, in conclusion, I can report without hesitation, that YOUR association is in good hands and doing better than any of us would have dreamed.

The things we need now are more new members to step up and help lead us to even greater heights in the next 30 years.

Although we are proud of where we stand today, there is always room for improvement. We welcome your comments, both positive and negative, as well as your suggestions.

Thanks so much for your support.

Gary Keibler, President