

Dairy Goat News

January 2010 Vol 3 Issue 1



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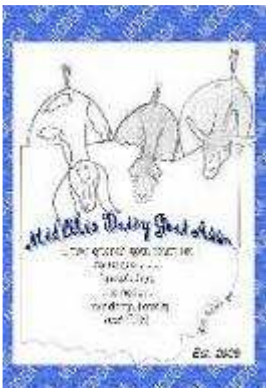
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Mid-Ohio Dairy Goat Association

3911 Federal Rd.

Cedarville, OH 45314



PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Greetings,

In so many ways this is my favorite time of the year. Like most of you, in these tougher economic times, we're all working harder to make the ends meet. The part I appreciate more is the time, the holidays and winter, force us to spend together relaxing when we can with family and friends. It forces us to be more thoughtful in our gift giving, less commercial, more gifts from the heart.

Over the next year I'd like to see MODGA do and share what we can to contribute to spending more time with our family and friends, and offering more gifts from the heart to each other. Some ideas that came from our last meeting was perhaps having on-line meetings. Where those who have internet can comment on topics on the MODGA list during a set day and time frame, and those who don't can call into to comment on topics that will be presented in your newsletter.

Other areas we can contribute is by starting some co-products between us. Those who have home-made crafts and/or products can share them with others in the group. Or we could organize buying items in bulk like grain or hoof trimmers where we can all save on taxes and shipping. This will be some of the topics for discussion in January. It will be our gift to ourselves and our goat family. We'll have more time home with our family and save!

I'm looking forward to all of us extending our gift giving of family, time and savings and hope that all of you are too. Enjoy your new Year and remember the best gift you can give is yourself, to what you're passionate about.

Blessings,
Sue

**M.O.D.G.A. Membership Application**

MODGA application for adult membership dues are \$20.00 per year. This includes membership in the Ohio Dairy Goat Association (ODGA) and a newsletter from both ODGA and MODGA. A junior is \$10.00 per year. After 25 years of continuous membership you earn LIFETIME membership with no dues paid. This application can also be downloaded at www.modga.org

I would like to join the association, I am sending my dues to:
Debbie Wiseman, MODGA Treasurer
3911 Federal Rd.
Cedarville, OH 45314-9540

Name: _____
Herd Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
County: _____ Phone: _____
Website and/or e-mail: _____
Breeds owned: _____
Buck Service available (which breeds): _____

Mid-Ohio Dairy Goat Association


It's time to renew MODGA 2010 Membership

We welcome all individuals interested in learning, sharing and enjoying promotion of all caprines. Ownership not required, just a joy and enthusiasm for sharing with in all things caprine!

What you get

- MODGA membership
- ODGA membership
- Newsletters
- Programs
- Shows/clinics
- Group opportunities (DHIR, LA, Futurities)
- Fun, family and goat friends!

\$20.00 Adults/Family
\$10.00 Youth



www.modga.org

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OFFICERS:

Sue Smart, President — fancycolorsnubians@sbcglobal.net

Tom Justice, Vice President — tomdejon@msohio.com

Debbie Wiseman, Treasurer — delwi@sbcglobal.net

Teri Knox, Secretary — modga@sbcglobal.net

January Meeting Agenda

Date: January 23, 2010

Time: All day ON-LINE

Place: YOUR PLACE!

How to find or join our MODGA Yahoo group.

www.yahoo.groups

Post message:	modga@yahoogroups.com
Subscribe:	modga-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
Unsubscribe:	modga-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com
List owner:	modga-owner@yahoogroups.com

AGENDA — All reports will be posted in the group files

Call to Order @ 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call — Sign in my announcing yourself

Treasurer's Report — will be available in group files

Secretary's Report — will be available in group files

Correspondence — will be available in group files

Committee Reports — committees will be assigned as we

See need for 2010

New Business (Topics to discuss)

Event, Programs/ Show plans for 2010

Fund-raising for hosting events

How the club can serve it's members and the goat community

Youth involvement

ODGA Updates

Next meeting itinerary

Adjournment



Don't forget to log into the next MODGA

On-line meeting on

January 23 anytime between 9am and 9pm.

Topics for discussion are posted on page 4. Other topics welcome so please post your thoughts and ideas throughout the day.

We'll see how this meeting goes for January and then either do it again on our regular meeting day in February 13 or schedule a group meeting at any members home (Volunteers?)

Start saving your items to put in to the many grooming boxes and kits that MODGA donates and raffles each year. Every time you see a good buy on something pick up a little extra for sharing with other's this year!

Everyone will benefit including YOU!

Items to Sell or Trade???

Let's share it HERE!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

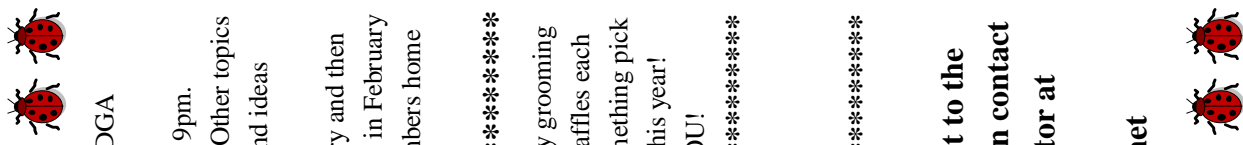
Sheep & Goats needed for export to the

Philippines. For more information contact

Judy Baker, Project Coordinator at

937-548-4261 or

bakerlivestock@earthlink.net



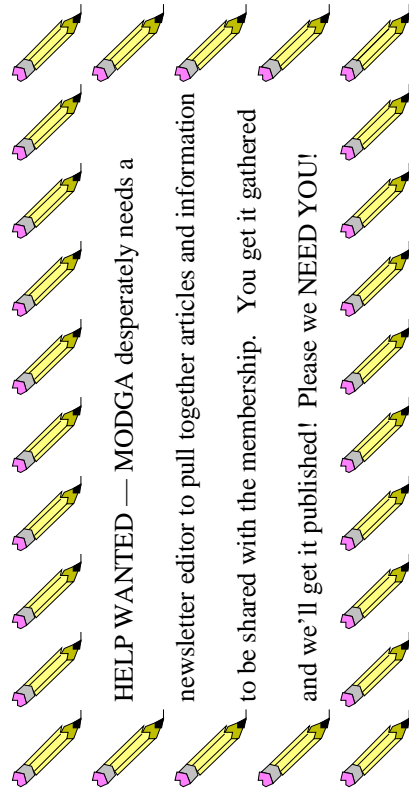
Ashtabula County (Western Reserve EERA). Saturday, Feb. 6, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and Thursdays, 6-9 p.m., Feb. 11 - March 4. Ashtabula County office of OSU Extension, 39 Wall St., Jefferson. Contact Abbey Averill at averill.10@osu.edu or 440-576-9008.

Stark County (Crossroads EERA). Tuesdays 6-9 p.m., Feb. 9 - March 16. USDA Service Center, 2650 Richville Drive SE, Massillon. Contact Maureen Austin at austin.238@osu.edu or 330-830-7700.

Fairfield County (Heart of Ohio EERA). Tuesdays 1-4 p.m., Feb. 9 - March 16. Fairfield County Agriculture Center, 831 College Ave. (off Rt. 37), Lancaster. Contact Cora French-Robinson at french-robinson.1@osu.edu or 740-653-5419.

Montgomery County (Miami Valley EERA). Tuesdays, 6-9 p.m., Feb. 23 - March 30. Miami Valley Career Technology Center, 6800 Hoke Road, Clayton. Contact Suzanne Mils-Wasniak at mils-wasniak.1@osu.edu or 937-224-9654.

Annie's Project workshops are currently held in 20 states, and more than 5,000 participants have completed the program. Annie's Project was introduced to Ohio in January 2007, with 189 women completing the program in the nine workshops held since then. Woodruff and Herringshaw say they hope to double this number in 2010.



HELP WANTED — MODGA desperately needs a

newsletter editor to pull together articles and information

to be shared with the membership. You get it gathered

and we'll get it published! Please we **NEED YOU!**

MODGA Youth News



Alaina Schraufnagel, Youth Editor

If you have any items or pictures you would like to have included in the youth section, please send them to: peacefulmeadowgoats@yahoo.com.


YOUTH ASSIGNMENT

for February 2010

Find out how many youth members are in MODGA and if you provide us an interview with one (perhaps even yourself) you will be entered to win a grooming kit to be present to you at MODGA first spring gathering.


2010 MODGA Doe Chain

Get your applications on-line at the MODGA website and don't forget to tell other youth members. The deadline is March 30th so spread the word!



Signs of Heat in your Doe

- Vocal, sometimes loud
- Tail wagging
- Seeks more attention than normal
- Vulva slightly swollen and reddish
- Wet discharge from vulva
- More frequent urination
- Decreased milk production
- Cycle repeats every 18 to 21 days usually spring and fall



Both signs of Heat and Labor will differ between does, some may show very few signs and may be harder to detect while other may present all signs and be much more obvious and easier to notice.

Remember the more time you spend just observing your animals the quicker you are to notice changes in their health and condition.

Workshops are planned for:

Erie County (Erie Basin EERA). Wednesdays, 5:30-9 p.m., Jan. 6 - Feb. 10. Recreation Center, 110 Cherry St., Bellevue. Contact Julia Woodruff at woodruff.94@osu.edu or 419-627-7631.

Wood County (Erie Basin EERA). Tuesdays, 5:15-9 p.m., Jan. 12-Feb. 16. Note: The workshop in Wood County will be focused on risk management topics specific to the green industry. Wood County office of OSU Extension, 639 S.Dunbridge Road, Bowling Green. Contact Beth Fausey at fausey.11@osu.edu or 419-354-6916.

Knox County (Heart of Ohio EERA). Tuesdays, 5:30-9 p.m., Jan. 21 - Feb. 25, Knox County office of OSU Extension, 1025 Harcourt Road, Mt. Vernon. Contact John Barker at barker.41@osu.edu or 740-397-0401.

Morgan County (Buckeye Hills EERA). Mondays, 6-9 p.m., Jan. 25 - March 1. Morgan High School Vo-Ag Room, State Route 376, 3.2 miles south of McConnellsville. Contact Chris Penrose at penrose.1@osu.edu or 740-962-4854.

Auglaize County (Top of Ohio EERA). Thursdays, 6-9 p.m., Jan. 28 - March 4. Auglaize County Administration Building, 209 S. Blackhoof St., Wapakoneta. Contact Lois Clark at clark.21@osu.edu or 419-758-2219.

Wyandot County (Erie Basin EERA). Mondays, 5:45-9 p.m., Feb. 1 - March 8. Solid Waste Management District Meeting Room, 11329 County Road 4, Carey. Contact Chris Bruynis at bruynis.1@osu.edu or 419-294-4931.

Ross County (Ohio Valley EERA). Tuesdays, 6-9 p.m., Feb. 2 - March 9. Ross County Service Center, 475 Western Ave., Chillicothe. Contact Dave Mangione at mangione.1@osu.edu or 740-702-3200.

Defiance County (Maumee Valley EERA). Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4-6 p.m., Feb. 2 - 18. Defiance County office of OSU Extension, 6879 Evansport Road, Defiance. Contact Barb Rohrs at rohrrs.3@osu.edu or 419-782-4771.

Ohio State University Extension will be offering Annie's Project, a risk management program for women in agriculture, throughout Ohio in 2010.

"We have expanded our Annie's Project workshops this year into southern Ohio for the first time, and many of the counties in the northern part of the state that have offered Annie's Project in the past will be participating again in 2010," said Julia Woodruff, OSU Extension educator who is helping to coordinate the effort.

Annie's Project is a six-part course designed to strengthen women's role in modern farm enterprises. The project's namesake was a woman who grew up in a small rural community and spent her adult life learning how to be an involved, successful business partner with her husband. Annie's daughter, Ruth Hambleton, became an Extension educator in Illinois and developed the program in 2000 in honor of her mother's life experience. The program is for women who live and work in a complex, dynamic farm business environment, and it focuses on five broad aspects of risk typical in the agricultural setting: human, financial, marketing, production and legal.

Last year, organizers offered just one Annie's Project workshop in Ohio. This year, thanks to new collaborations with the Ohio Farm Bureau, Ag Credit, Farm Credit Services of Mid-America and the USDA Farm Service Agency, OSU Extension is planning 12 workshops in areas around the state, with at least one in each of the organization's newly formed Extension Education and Research Areas (EERAs).

Ohio workshops are scheduled for January through March, and registration cost is \$65, which includes materials and meals or refreshments. Seating is limited, so early registration is encouraged. In most cases, workshops are sponsored by several county offices of OSU Extension; anyone residing in nearby areas may sign up for any of the workshops. To register or for more information, contact organizers listed below or Annie's Project coordinators Julia Woodruff at woodruff.94@osu.edu or 419-627-7631 and Doris Herringshaw at herringshaw.1@osu.edu or 419-354-9050. A map of locations and other information can be found on the Erie County OSU Extension Web site, <http://erie.osu.edu/> -- click on "Agriculture and Natural Resources" and then "Women in Agriculture."

Signs of Labor in your Doe

- Ligaments around the tail bone soften
- Udder fills and becomes shiny and tight
- Thick opaque discharge from the vulva which will become more clear and stringy
- Doe tends to isolate herself from herd mates
- Doe starts pawing the ground getting restless, sometimes standing and laying down repeatedly and/or begins quietly "talking".
- As your doe gets closer to delivery her tail ligaments completely disappear the discharge becomes more yellowish with tinges of blood
- Doe begins pushing.

GIFT OF THE OLD ONE

by Eunice Day, Washington, ME.

The young couple had made their usual hurried, pre-Christmas visit to the little farm where dwelt their elderly parents with their small herd of goats. The farm had been named Lone Pine Farm because of the huge pine, which topped the hill behind the farm, and through the years had become a talisman to the old man. And his wife, and a landmark in the countryside.

The old folks no longer showed their goats, for the years had taken their toll, but they sold a little milk, and a few kids each year and the goats were their reason for joy in the morning and contentment at day's end.

Crossly, as they prepared to leave, the young couple confronted the old folks. "Why do you not at least dispose of 'The Old One?'" She is no longer of use to you. It's been years since you've had either kids or milk from her. You should cut corners and save where you can. Why do you keep her anyway?" The old man looked down as his worn boot scuffed at the barn floor and his arm stole defensively about the Old One's neck as he drew her to him and rubbed her gently behind the ears. He replied softly, "We keep her because of love. Only because of love."

Baffled and irritated, the young folks wished the old man and his wife a Merry Christmas and headed back toward the city as darkness stole through the valley.

So it was, that because of the leave-taking, no one noticed the insulation smoldering on the frayed wires in the old barn. None saw the first spark fall. None but the "Old One."

In a matter of minutes, the whole barn was ablaze and the hungry flames were licking at the loft full of hay. With a cry of horror and despair, the old man shouted to his wife to call for help as he raced to the barn to save their beloved goats. But the flames were roaring now, and the blazing heat drove him back. He sank sobbing to the ground, helpless before the fire's fury.

By the time the fire department arrived, only smoking, glowing ruins were left, and the old man and his wife. They thanked those who had come to their aid, and the old man turned to his wife, resting her white head upon his shoulders as he clumsily dried her tears with a frayed red bandana. Brokenly he whispered, "We have lost much, but God has spared our home on this eve of Christmas. Let us, therefore, climb the hill to the

old pine where we have sought comfort in times of despair. We will look down upon our home and give thanks to God that it has been spared."

And so, he took her by the hand and helped her up the snowy hill as he brushed aside his own tears with the back of his hand. As they stepped over the little knoll at the crest of the hill, they looked up and gasped in amazement at the incredible beauty before them. Seemingly, every glorious, brilliant star in the heavens was caught up in the glittering, snow-frosted branches of their beloved pine, and it was aglow with heavenly candles. And poised on its top most boughs, a crystal crescent moon glistened like spun glass. Never had a mere mortal created a Christmas tree such as this. Suddenly, the old man gave a cry of wonder and incredible joy as he pulled his wife forward. There, beneath the tree, was their Christmas gift.

Bedded down about the "Old One" close to the trunk of the tree, was the entire herd, safe. At the first hint of smoke, she had pushed the door ajar with her muzzle and had led the goats through it. Slowly and with great dignity, never looking back, she had led them up the hill, stepping daintily through the snow. The kids were frightened and dashed about. The skittish yearlings looked back at the crackling, hungry flames, and tucked their tails under them as they licked their lips and hopped like rabbits. The milkers pressed uneasily against the "Old One" as she moved calmly up the hill and to safety beneath the pine. And now, she lay among them and gazed at the faces of those she loved. Her body was brittle with years, but the golden eyes were filled with devotion as she offered her gift Because of love, Only Because of love.

