



The NAPgA Bleat!

The Official Newsletter of the North American Packgoat Association

June 2016

Page 1

From the President

(1) Rendy 2016. Located in Ukiah Oregon. Come join us for some fun and education, also renewing old relationships. We will have some great speakers, informative classes and a really fun auction. Details are on the www.napga.org website. June 23-26. Its now less than 3 weeks away! Don't forget to send your items for auction to either Carolyn Eddy or Curtis King, or bring them along.

(2) Settlement Conference update with the US Forest Service. This should come to a head this week. The Forest Service will likely be refunding a lot of attorney and NAPgA fees, plus they will be required to re-do the Risk Assessment Disease Transmission Report (RADT) and a Supplement to the EIS, (compliant with NEPA laws) that separately analyzes the potential for disease transmission between Domestic Goats, Domestic Sheep, and Packgoats, and wild Bighorn Sheep on the Shoshone National Forest. This is an ongoing dynamic settlement so updates will also be provided in the next newsletter.

(3) If you haven't done so, please visit the new www.napga.org website. It has a fresh new look! Latest news announcements are on the home page, there are membership options, and auto-renew is now available!

(4) Podcast - NAPgA President Interview with Marc Warnke of Outdoors International and www.gothunts.com. Listen to it on the www.napga.org site!

(5) Please be responsible with your four legged hiking companions this summer - Get them wormed, vaccinate them with CD&T shots, get them nasal swab tested for MOVI before you venture out into the back country. We want to be regarded as "friends of the Forest"

(6) Please renew your NAPgA annual membership and invite your friends to join as well! There is strength in numbers, folks.&. Opportunities for Trail Maintenance in the Wyoming Range in the Bridger-Teton National Forest! Volunteer efforts are always welcome. USFS field personnel in my opinion are overworked and underpaid. Carolyn Eddy volunteered many hours of trail service in Oregon and Washington over the years, and her relations are quite warm with the USFS in her area. Please contact Charlie Jennings for details.

*** Update on NAPgA Litigation Against Shoshone National Forest ***

Following Judge Winmill's February 2016 Order holding the Forest Service in contempt of court for using illegal scientific reports as the basis for eliminating packgoats on the Shoshone National Forest, NAPgA's legal counsel has been busy with additional court filings and settlement discussions with the Forest Service's legal counsel. In addition to holding the Forest Service in contempt, Judge Winmill also granted NAPgA's request for an award of attorney fees to compensate NAPgA's legal counsel for the hundreds of hours of time spent on litigation against the Forest Service. NAPgA submitted timekeeping records to the court to support an award of attorney fees, which the Forest Service would be required to pay.

Faced with the possibility of a hefty legal bill, the Forest Service finally reached out to NAPgA to discuss settlement of attorney fees and NAPgA's other requested relief—for the court to hold unlawful and set aside the Shoshone Risk Analysis of Disease Transmission (RADT) Report and related reports used by the Forest Service as the basis for eliminating packgoats on the Shoshone National Forest. Judge Winmill declined to rule on NAPgA's other requested relief in his February 2016 Order and instead deferred ruling on such relief until after the court was able to hold a status conference with the parties to discuss the issues involved. Currently, the status conference is on hold as NAPgA's legal counsel attempts to negotiate a favorable settlement with the Forest Service's counsel to decide the attorney fees the Forest Service will be required to pay as well as the fate of the Shoshone RADT Report and related reports.

In light of Judge Winmill's Order, NAPgA's legal counsel hopes that the Forest Service will agree to re-do its analysis of the risk of disease transmission between packgoats and wild bighorn sheep on the Shoshone National Forest using legitimate facts and science in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Considering the "speed of government," settlement negotiations are ongoing, but NAPgA is hopeful that the parties will be able to reach a settlement next month. Until then, stay tuned.

NAPgA Members in the News, As Well as Doing their Best to Promote Packgoating!

Cascade Packgoat Club Community Affairs

The Cascade Packgoat Club participated in OSU (Oregon State University) Pet Day again this year.

Pet Day is organized by the veterinary students at OSU and is a very popular event. This year the weather was wonderful, in the 80's and the turn out was huge. We always get a lot of attention and questions. Also get to hear a lot of reminiscing from people about when they were young and had goats.

My favorite this year was a Gramamma who sat a bit in one of our chairs and told a story involving her Dad's milk goat and her straw hat! I believe she said she was 6 years old at the time!

There also were some soccer play off's happening yesterday so there were lots of teams of teenage girls and they all loved our new kids Harley and Hershey. My favorite comment I overheard from them in passing was "I love goats, they are so chill". I guess chill is a saying with the young people?

The very best laugh of the day was a boy about 3 who called the baby goats, goats, and then went on to call Little Joe a cow (Joe is black and white) and Oliver a horse (Oliver is colored like an oberhasli). His day said "city boy"!

Michael and Stephanie Powell brought there big Saanen boys Sam and Hawkeye and gave cart rides and that is always a big hit with the kids. It was a busy day but we did get to enjoy some visiting as a club and we always get to see lots of pets and for sure every breed of dog there is.



Soccer girls lovin on Hershey and Harley

Curtis King is out and about, and promoting



Curtis King

Promoting goat packing today at the REI store in Kennewick WA.

" Long Live The Pack Goat "

Curtis King



Curtis King

Sasquatch my five year old Alpine was a big hit at the Pack Goats 101 seminar- REI in Kennewick WA last night. Special Thank You to Taffy Mercer Columbia Basin Pack Goat Club for orchestrating and organizing the event. Thank you Debbi and Eldon Otta and Lori Woodside. Education and awareness is key to the future of goat packing.



Rendezvous 2016!

June 23-26

THE LATEST RENDY INFO & SCHEDULE

Things are gearing up for the NAPgA Rendezvous June 23-26 near Ukiah, OR! If you would like to attend, please [read here](#) for more information about the location. The [schedule](#) is now available, but please be aware that some things may change.

If you have good, useable items to donate to the [Country Store fundraiser](#) sale please remember to bring them! Also plan to buy! There are always some really cool things for sale that you won't find anywhere else!

Please remember that if you are bringing goats to the Rendy from another state, you must get a health certificate from your veterinarian! The destination address for the certificate is:

Umatilla National Forest
Forest Service Office
401 Main St.
Ukiah OR, 97880

The Forest Service requires certified weed free hay. If you need some, please contact [Curtis King](#) no later than June 17th so he can pick it up for you. It will cost \$13/bale.

If you can't attend the Rendezvous but still wish to help out in some way, you can mail auction items to [Curtis King](#), or drop them off with [Carolyn Eddy](#) if you live near her.

If you are interested in hosting a Rendezvous yourself, please read the [Guidelines](#) to see if this is something you could do.



A goat anxious to come to the Rendy!

Are You Up-to-Date on the GoatPacking World?

You will be if you read our newsletters. But are you doing that? We need all our members not only up-to-date, but ready to help with relevant issues when they occur. Our archives go back to 2013.

Please download and read any NL that you haven't seen before. www.napga.org

Editor's Note

There hasn't been a NL in quite a while, and to a large extent, it is due to the fact that there was so much happening on the legal front, that we wanted to wait until there was some stabilization, and something concrete to pass on. Sorry for the long period of silence.

Jan's Boys!



Joker is 2 years old now and weighs #175. He was very gentle with Harley in this photo. Just barely pressing heads with him. Later in the afternoon Joker (aka Little Joe) had had enough of all the petting and the heat and commotion and was ready to head home. He got cranky and all of a sudden he reached over and bit Harley's ear REALLY hard. He wouldn't let go and poor Harley has a wound now. I think maybe all my goats are a little jealous of the kids because they get bottles 3 times a day and lots of attention!

Jan Privratsky
Lebanon, OR