



The NAPgA Bleat!

The Official Newsletter of the North American Packgoat Association

October 2017

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the NAPgA President

Charlie steps down...

BOD President Change for NAPgA

Charlie Jennings has been our President for a considerable time, and has been instrumental in the successful handling of many issues in our negotiations with the Shoshone National Forest.

Recently he has come under a lot of stress due to his employment and made the decision that he needed to prioritize his time more towards his family and employment for the time being. Therefore he requested that we accept his resignation from the BOD.

The BOD, therefore, held an emergency meeting, first accepted his resignation, and then, in order to remain within the ByLaws structure, appointed Curtis King to the Vice-President position, and he will act as the President until the end of Charlie's term.

The BOD thanks Charlie for his efforts and work in service to NAPgA, and wishes him well in his future endeavours.

The NAPgA Calendar!

Thank you to everyone who has submitted photos to the calendar contest this year. We had an amazing turnout and it's going to be very difficult to pick just 12!

Photo submission has closed and it's time to start voting!

Votes will be taken through October 15th.

Since we need 12 photos for our calendar, you can vote for up to 12 different pictures! (Please do not vote more than once for the same photo.) You may vote for your own photos. *Please pick no more than one or two photos from each album* so that more people have a chance to get into the calendar.

If you have a Yahoo!/Flickr account: Go to: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/133750117@N08/>

Vote for your favorite photos by clicking the star in the bottom right corner.

If you do not have a Yahoo!/Flickr account: Sign in on the NAPgA account (Username: napgaphotos, Password: calendar2018) and vote by adding a +1 in the comments

(Cont Pg 2, Col 1)

the NAPgA President

And from Curtis, taking the reins!

Hello Everyone!

I am currently sitting in Kadlec medical Center today watching over a young man that was shot during a domestic disturbance call.

I've been following the current thread of emails and feeling a little helpless due to my inability to contribute to the thread. Reflecting on this I felt compelled to communicate my thoughts on the issue and answer some questions.

Charlie personally called me a few weeks ago and asked me if I would be willing to serve as president of NAPgA. I told him that I would be willing to take on the task if nominated and no one else was interested in serving in that capacity. If called upon to serve I will be happy to serve as either president or as a board member.

I have enjoyed working closely with the board for the last eighteen months and I feel we have made great strides and initiated contacts that will keep our momentum going in a positive direction in keeping public lands open to recreational goat packing.

I would like to encourage everyone to be strong, patient and open-minded. There is so much work still to be done, and it will take a concerted effort by all to get there. We have made contacts with the Forest service, Game and Fish agencies, the WSF and other sheep working groups that have opened doors of positive communication, collaboration and solution planning that have greatly propelled our vision in finding sensible solutions that can work.

Communication, delegation, teamwork and commitment *is* paramount to our success as a national organization. We can do this and I believe we will. I can only suggest to the board that we strongly consider doing more frequent meetings, preferably on the same day of the week, and call in time, each month. Those that can call in could communicate on the tasks at hand and email notes of each meeting could be reviewed for those the cannot call in on certain days. With the organization growing, the need for more planning and involvement from the membership is critical to NAPgA's future. ***I'd like to see***

(Cont Pg 2, Col 1)

Curtis King, from Page 1

more participation and involvement from our members to help ease the logistics burden of event planning as well as attending planning meetings with the Forest Service and other wildlife management meetings.

Please let me know what I can do or how I can help with our cause. The future of Goatpacking depends on us.

“Long Live The Pack Goat”

Curtis King

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section with your name. This way we have a record if you accidentally vote for the same photo twice or cast more than 12 votes (*it's very easy to lose track of which photos and how many you vote for if you don't sign your name!!*).

Finally, there were three photos that were not credited. I collected them into an album titled “Uncredited”. Please do not vote for them. If any of these pictures are yours, please put your name in the description field and add them to an album with your name on it. If you need help doing this please contact me. If you do not claim ownership of your photos, they cannot get into the calendar even if people vote for them!

Thanks everybody! If you have any questions please contact me.

-Nan
napga.org@gmail.com

NAPgA BOD Elections

The time has come for elections to the NAPgA BOD. Ideally, there will be at least two new folks join the board each calendar year, thereby preserving a majority of BOD members that have a number of years experience in the operation and issues of the BOD.

Via the ByLaws, we need to have a nominating committee, that will take input and appoint folks to the election ballot. Right now we need 1 member from the general membership to volunteer to be on the nominating committee. Please contact Kent Daniels (KentDaniels@msn.com) if you can serve on this committee.

As well, we need folks interested in serving on the BOD to step forward and indicate their willingness to help us in that capacity. The commitment is not great, simply to attend hour-long meetings once every other month, and maybe occasionally to serve on a committee. We need folks that are willing to give a little bit of their time in order to continue the board's great leadership.

Goats Help Cameroon's Displaced Get Back on Feet

MOZOGO, CAMEROON —

<http://www.voanews.com/a/goats-to-fight-boko-haram-in-cameroon/3476419.html>

A new program in northern Cameroon is giving families displaced by the Boko Haram insurgency a pair of goats to help them get back on their feet.



Boukar Abba, 40, pulls his two goats outside the fence behind his house in Mozogo, a town on Cameroon's northern border with Nigeria.

He said he expects to raise the goats and make money to take care of his children's health, school needs and food. He plans to sell baby goats in the future and make some profit, but he said he still has to travel a long distance to fetch water for them.

He got the goats this month as part of an initiative by the French Red Cross and the government of Cameroon. Some 200 others, out of 510 targeted households, already have received animals.

Families affected by the conflict against Boko Haram are given a pair of goats. The family keeps the goats until they produce offspring. Then the parent goats will be passed on to another family in need.

Muje Dieudonne works for the French Red Cross, which is piloting the project.

Dieudonne said participants are taught good hygiene and techniques to care for the goats and for their food to prevent illness. Participants also receive counseling to help deal with violence inflicted on them during the conflict.

Economic impact of Boko Haram insurgency

Boko Haram has been carrying out attacks in northern Cameroon for more than three years. The conflict has hit the local economy hard.

Cameroon's National Institute of Statistics reports the unemployment rate at the border with Nigeria is over 90 percent. The government says poverty makes youth vulnerable to recruitment into Boko Haram.

Many youth abandoned raising livestock in their villages amid the violence.

The Red Cross' Dieudonne said insecurity makes it difficult for aid workers to reach places where there are displaced people. He said that because the initiative's participants continue to move to new localities out of safety concerns, it's not easy to retrieve the goats and hand them off to other families.

Money maker

Earlier this year, the United Nations, along with international NGOs and the governments of Cameroon and Japan, built a livestock market at the village of Zamai where youth can sell the goats they raise.

Cameroon also provided \$4 million of emergency funds to create jobs for youths on its northern border with Nigeria.