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December 2022

This is
Our Christmas
Issue.

We filled it with our favorite stories and features from past issues and added a little current info.

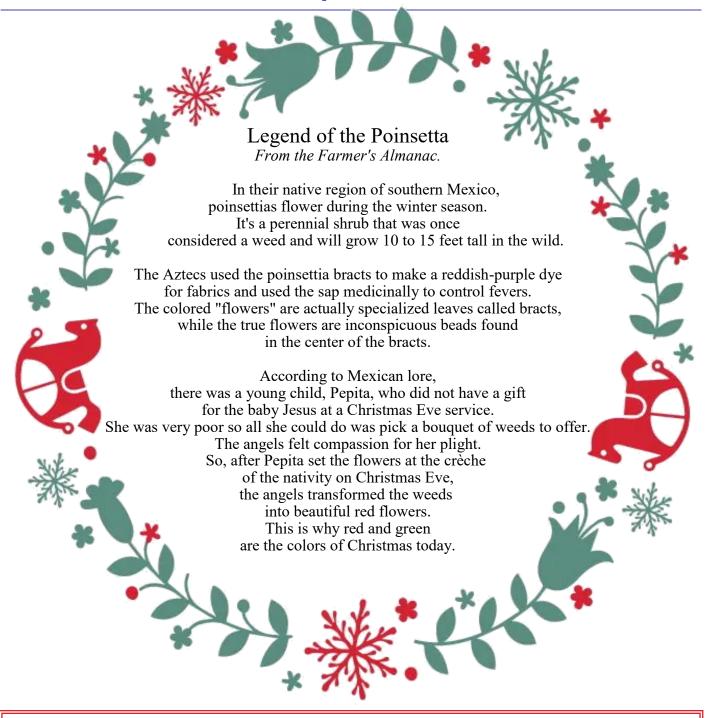
We hope you enjoy it.

Thanks to everyone who contributed stories and information throughout the year.

We want to wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season and prosperous New Year.

Donna and Debbie





If you didnt get your t-shirts at the convention, they are now available through the ADGA office. Email Katie Hull in the office for availability and shipping costs. hull@adga.org

Might be a

nice stocking stuffer!

The colors are White and Syracuse Orange, Short sleeve. Sizes are S, M, L, XL, 2Xl. Short sleeve are \$15 plus shipping.



#### President's Letter

We still have some 2023 calendars available. These make great Christmas gifts for your goat loving family and friends. Cost is \$12 which includes postage and envelope. I don't do paypal or venmo or any of those so can only accept checks at this time. Checks made out to Peter Snyder, 759 Clinton St, Cowlesville. NY 14037. Please be sure to include your mailing address.



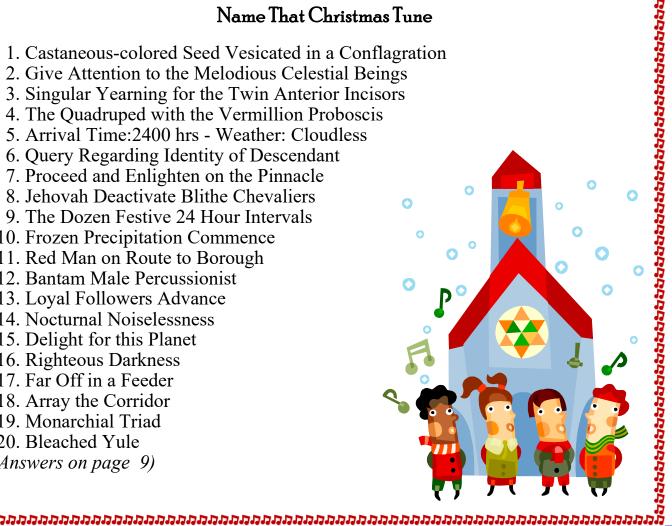


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#### Name That Christmas Tune

- 1. Castaneous-colored Seed Vesicated in a Conflagration
- 2. Give Attention to the Melodious Celestial Beings
- 3. Singular Yearning for the Twin Anterior Incisors
- 4. The Quadruped with the Vermillion Proboscis
- 5. Arrival Time: 2400 hrs Weather: Cloudless
- 6. Query Regarding Identity of Descendant
- 7. Proceed and Enlighten on the Pinnacle
- 8. Jehovah Deactivate Blithe Chevaliers
- 9. The Dozen Festive 24 Hour Intervals
- 11. Red Man on Route to Borough
- 212. Bantam Male Percussionist
- 213. Loyal Followers Advance
- 14. Nocturnal Noiselessness
- 215. Delight for this Planet
- 16. Righteous Darkness
- 17. Far Off in a Feeder
- 18. Array the Corridor
- 19. Monarchial Triad
- 20. Bleached Yule

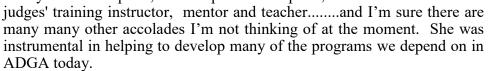
Answers on page 9)



#### IN MEMORY Sheila Nixon

I am very very saddened to report the death of Sheila Nixon of California. I dont think there were very many others who loved, and were as dedicated, to dairy goats and ADGA as Sheila was. She and her family were lifelong breeders of dairy goats under the "Nixon's" and "Hilmar Farms" herdnames.

Sheila accomplished just about everything there was to accomplish in the dairy goat world. Famed breeder, historic herdname, revered judge, national show judge, master judge emeritus, international judge, breeder and owner of national champions and production winners, classifier and linear appraiser, Mexican goat ambassador, ADGA director, ADGA director emeritus, Mary Farley award recipient, ADGA pioneer recipient,



Personally, I will always remember being in awe of her.....even to this day. She befriended me many years ago when we sat next to each other at board meetings and were able to visit with each other. Many years ago she invited me to go with her to Mexico and assist her in teaching the Mexicans how to judge and linear appraise their own goats which is something I very greatly enjoyed. I went with her a 2nd time and have gone several times since alone, the most recent being just last weekend, when I texted her while I was there and she wished she was able to be there with me. She said she would call me when I got home.....unfortunately that never happened. I had sent her a box full of convention goodies after the convention since she wasnt able to attend.....mugs, calendars, convention program, bags, maple syrup, erie canal book, etc, etc. She said she was excited to receive it......I'm so happy she got it.

In the words of Dr. Joan Dean Rowe.... "Sheila's contribution as a breeder, judge, classifier and the linear appraiser, long-time director and leader in ADGA will have lasting impact for many years to come." Pete Snyder.

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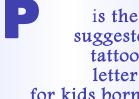
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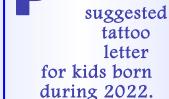
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#### IN MEMORY **Dorothy Shaw**

Our circle of goat friends in the western new York area is saddened to report the death of one of our dearest members **Dorothy Shaw** at 103 years old, this past Sunday.

We were as fond of our Dorothy as she was of all of us.

We will always carry sweet memories of the wonderful picnics around the pond at her summer home. It just wont be the same with out you Dorothy.

# A Christmas Story by Ellie Winslow (Reprinted from Dist7 Newsgroup)

Amanda and Bill sat quietly in front of the fire on this snowy Christmas Eve. Chores were done, the animals were fed, and water tanks filled with warmed water to see them through the cold of this star filled Christmas Eve. Amanda was softly and sadly telling Bill about old Belle's decline and current condition.

Belle had been Amanda's first registered goat—bought as a kid 12 years ago. She was quite a goat, and dearly loved, but they both realized Belle had reached the end of her life. It had been three years since Belle had produced kids or given milk. She was too much a part of the family to consider anything but allowing her to live out her days in comfort with the goats and people that were her family. But Belle had been ailing for several days and on this Christmas Eve, it was clear to Amanda she was not going to live much longer.

With tears in her eyes, Amanda told Bill how she had helped Old Belle get as comfortable as possible, what steps she had taken to make her last hours bearable. There wasn't anything further she could do besides check on the goat's comfort through the night.

Together she and Bill walked hand in hand to the barn at nine o'clock to check in on their matriarch. Amanda took a warmed blanket and gently covered the old girl to help keep her warm in her stall. Checking, and hoping against hope that something would change, Amanda noted the lethargy, Belle's head stretched out on the straw-- not symptoms she could treat. She scratched around Belle's ears, wishing her well and Godspeed one more time.

Sadly, Amanda walked the star-bright path back to the house with Bill. Since it was Christmas Eve, they thought it ironic—yet somehow fitting—that Old Belle would leave this world on the anniversary of the day she had entered it— just twelve years later. Named Belle because her birthday was Christmas Eve, Belle was the foundation of Amanda's herd and held a very special place in her heart. Every goat in the barn was related to Belle somewhere in his or her pedigree. Amanda felt that she was losing a big part of her heart and her history.

Each hour they walked to the barn, checking on Belle, keeping her warm and offering love and attention. Amanda started each visit, knowing that she would sooner or later find her goat lifeless, and dreading the moment, but unwilling not to go. Shortly before midnight, she and Bill put on their coats and boots again and headed once more to the barn. They held each other's hands for comfort, commented on the intensity of the stars on this night --inherently holy-but one they could not take pleasure in. Bill turned on the light in the barn, and with dread, Amanda slowly walked around the corner of the stall where Belle lay. There on the straw beside Belle was a tiny new baby, a little doe, still wet from birth, and Belle cleaning her and looking very proud of herself.

Tears of joy replaced those of sadness for Amanda and Bill as they looked upon this new miracle of Christmas Day.

And they called her Noel.

## The Gift of The Old One

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 talis-a man 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 bough, 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

(Continued on page 7)

#### **Udder News**

from Christen Adels to District II Members,

Just wanted to highlight a few items as you are renewing memberships and working through registrations/ transfers:

**ADGA Plus** (the performance programs bundle) is separate from your ADGA membership, and there is a separate charge for each. Note that you must have an active membership to be an ADGA Plus member.

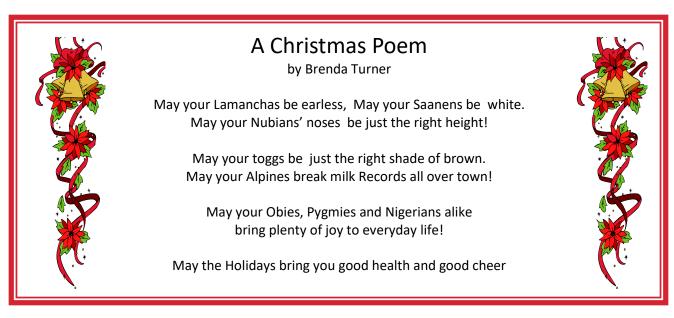
If your membership has lapsed, and you are unable to submit a support ticket and/or login to renew your membership and herd name, please contact one of your District Directors.

Some members have accidently clicked "paperless registration" when registering their does and bucks online. Those members can request a reprint online and have the reprint sent to them.

Please remember that for transfers, the registration paper MUST be sent into the office before the transfer will be complete and the registration paper issued to the new owner.

Please note that submitting a ticket with the detailed information (membership ID, goat registration number, dates, correspondence, etc.) is the best way to have an issue resolved.

\*\*\*There will be lots of updates in the next newsletter. Look forward to notes from Pete, our president, the editors always have plenty to say and out treasurer, Kathy will also provide some current information.



(Continued from page 6)

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.

#### Know Your Neighbor at Scotchbriar Nubian Goats

With our transition to using this farm page it feels like a perfect time to reshare the story of our background at Scotchbriar and what has shaped our breeding philosophy. We hope this can be a great conversation starter, I would love to learn more about folks that I may know from Facebook but perhaps have never met in person. Please bring your stories as well!

Today we will start with our origin story( it may be long winded!), and over the next weeks hope to share some of the trials and triumphs of our journey. I plan on introducing along the way some of the important foundation animals that helped to bring us to where we are now.

For me it started in 1993: I was a horse crazy 4H'r without a horse, but goats were the next best thing. My best friend's mother knew that I spent more time out in the barn then her own kids did and when she decided to get out of goats she gifted me with a lovely dam/daughter pair of American Nubians (I did finally get a horse of my own later that same year too!).

I was so fortunate in those 2 does and it is a matter of such pleasure that even now, all of my does trace back



to that original foundation doeline. Deer Meadows Samantha was well bred with Cold Comfort, Silver Thistles Dusty Conquest and Cadillac bloodlines. I became an ADGA(youth) member in 1993, registered my first babies in 1994, and recorded the Scotchbriar herdname in 1996. Early bucks that I used had bloodlines to Warpaint Acres Superbuck, Rio del Oro Dandylion, Crown Point. I maintained just a small herd of around 6-8 does while finishing college, showing as able in local fairs and 4H.

In 2000, I married my husband who had grown up on a dairy cow farm, we purchased our current 69 acre small farm in Upstate NY a few months later and have lived there ever since.

In 2001 I took a daytrip out to the Springfield MA Nationals to watch the Nubian show. I recall seeing the gorgeous Lakeshore Farm does and being inspired to that vision. The Saada herd was another herd that I loved and influenced the style of animal I wanted to breed.

In 2002 I purchased my first out of state buck, Greystone Emrys. That herd did not show, but was well known for many years as annual top 10 breed leaders for production. His bloodlines included Winterberry, ColdComfort, Crown Point, most of my does go back to several of his daughters now.

### Food for Thought

Give people more than they expect and do it cheerfully.

Don't believe all you hear, spend all you have or sleep all you want.

When you say "I'm sorry", look the person in the eye.

Don't let a little dispute injure a great friendship.

Smile when you pick up the phone, the caller will hear it in your voice.

Spend some time alone.

We brought in Saada Bryn Myrddin in 2005, and we still have 1 doeline connected to him.

Herd longevity has long been a priority, and in 2006 a beautiful 9yo doe Kori-brook Un-Break Mi Corazon was chosen to be National Champion. This was the primary point on which we chose our most influential herdsire in 2007, Kori-Brook Wild Romeo (Lakeshore-Farms Wild At Heart x Kori-Brook DRSV Reese). He crossed phenomenally well on our Greystone Emrys daughters with the perfect combination of structure and incredible will to milk. He produced multiple GCH and SG offspring from our little herd, with a couple of the most recognizable does being SGCH Scotchbriar Nimue's Evening and 2016 reserve National Champion SGCH Scotchbriar Wild Joy. And that longevity characteristic? His daughters got better and better as they aged. Nimue was healthy and hearty through her last kidding at age 13 and passed peacefully last summer. Joy will be 14 in Feb, she suffered a kidding injury at 10 that impaired her ability to conceive, but her structural integrity is still impressive. Her son Scotchbriar EC Wild Alex by our 2013 herdsire Redwood Hills MC Empire Chaos( Kastdemur's Monte Carlo x Wingwood Farm TAC Sasha-2012 National Champion), has become an integral part of our current breeding program and is the sire of 2021 &2022 NYSF Grand Champion Nubian doe.

Over the years we have strived to breed an elegant, structurally correct, productive animal that can win in the showring, fill the bucket with milk, have a calm, even temperament and last for many years of health. I want them to be able to succeed in other herds, it's actually a testament to your breeding program to get beaten in the ring by animals tracing to your bloodlines!

We do our best to participate in ADGA performance programs such as DHI and Linear but with all honesty as we both work full time jobs, run a small business and the farm and raise a family, those are the programs that sometimes get pushed to the wayside. We do maintain careful barn production records when we are not on DHI test. We keep a small herd, usually under 20 animals. That small size allows to keep a close eye on our quality standards, I strongly believe that all but a very few buck kids should be culls!

Covid has pushed us way over our normal LA schedule, they did not fit us in the 2021 schedule and we requested to reschedule for 2023 from this year as only a handful of our does kidded after dealing with Cache Valley Virus last winter. We show very competitively throughout the state and and attend Nationals occasionally as able.

In conclusion, at the end of the day, look into your barn, love what you see there, and go forward and treat others as how you wish to be treated.

#### The Answers to The Christmas Tunes

- 1. White Christmas
- 2. We Three Kings
- 3. Deck the Halls
- 4. Away in a Manger
- 5. O Holy Night
- 6. Joy to the World
- 7. Silent Night
- 8. Oh Come All Ye Faithful
- 9. Little Drummer Boy
- 10. Santa Claus is Coming to Town

- 11. Let it Snow
- 12. The Twelve Days Of Christmas
- 13. God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen
- 14. Go Tell It on a Mountain
- 15. What Child Is This
- 16. It Came Upon a Midnight Clear
- 17. Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer
- 18. All I Want for Christmas Is My 2 Front Teeth
- 19. Hark the Herald Angels Sing
- 20. Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire





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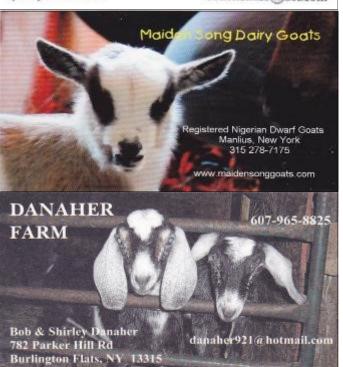
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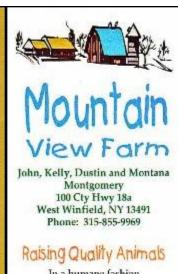






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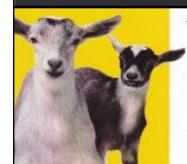
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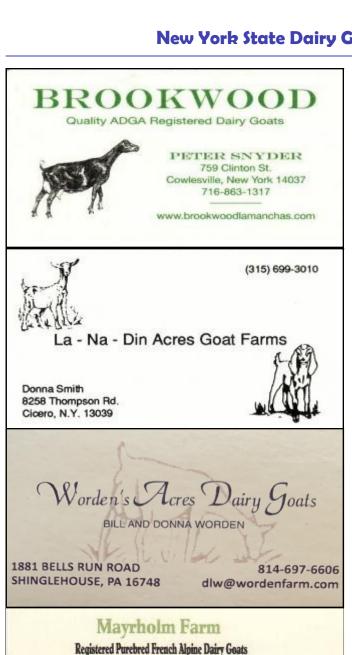
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