

Canadian Heritage Breeds Newsletter

Summer 2022

Hello and happy summer to all!

A number of new members have joined CHB in recent weeks, so I'd like to start off with a big THANK YOU! We are so happy to have you join us, and if this is your first newsletter, we hope you enjoy it.

Well, once again it's been a difficult and disappointing spring for the CHB events committee. The anticipated "Spring Fever Market & More" we had planned for April was cancelled in the first wave of provincial shut downs aimed at controlling the spread of Avian Influenza. And, unfortunately, restrictions did not lift in time to continue the planning to host our annual summer poultry show in Edmonton. As a result, Edmonton Northlands and CHB regrettably came to the mutual decision to cancel the K-Days poultry show. Don't despair though! The CHB/K-Days Dairy Goat Show will still go ahead as scheduled on July 23-24th! The show book is included in this newsletter and has all the information you need to attend as an exhibitor or as a spectator. Entries and payments can be made through the CHB website: https://www.canadianheritagebreeds.ca/

We've heard from two other agricultural fairs that are returning this summer, after 2 years of Covid cancellations: Vermilion Fair: July 28th-30th, and Priddis/Millarville on August 20-21. At this time, both of these fairs are still moving forward with plans to include poultry shows along with the other animal exhibits. It's wonderful to see this optimism and continued support of poultry exhibition!

This newsletter also includes an important message for all members, and an invitation for you to be involved in charting a new course for CHB. Please take some time to read it through and give some thought on how you would like to see the club move forward. As always, your officers and directors are here to answer questions and discuss any concerns you might have.

2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



President - Callum McLeod callum.kaarsoo.mcleod@gmail.com

Vice President – Rico Sebastianelli ricoseb@shaw.ca

Treasurer - Mike Skeels mountainviewranches@ gmail.com

Secretary - Kathy Stevenson hawthorn@xplornet.com

Director 1 – Mike Grover grovermike@rocketmail.com

Director 2 – Becky Haffner rslacey90@hotmail.com

Director 3 – Jean Kinnear <u>jeankinnear@qmail.com</u>

Director 4 – Kris Skeels krisskeels@gmail.com

About CHB

What We Do

Our mandate is "Conservation through Education". Shows: Every year CHB organizes at least two poultry shows and has more recently begun to host dairy goat shows. Poultry and livestock shows are an excellent public forum to showcase and promote the dazzling and diverse assortment of chickens, turkeys, geese and ducks, as well as several breeds of goats. These exhibits also provide opportunities for people interested in breeding to connect one-on-one with top breeders.

Information: We compile and distribute quarterly newsletters to inform and inspire members. We conduct interviews with successful breeders to facilitate the sharing of their valuable knowledge and the insights they have gained through experience. CHB offers social media resources and networking opportunities to anyone interested in learning more and connecting with others in the world of heritage livestock.

Support: CHB strives to encourage and support heritage breed advocates through educational seminars and handson workshops. Our members provide youth and family mentoring, and we partner with other organizations such as agricultural societies and 4-H to lend

organizations such as agricultural societies and 4-H to lend our support to their members and programs.

Promotion: We present displays of animals and printed materials at public venues to demonstrate the diversity of heritage breeds to both urban and rural people.



Why Is This Important?

- * Heritage livestock and poultry are the perfect alternative for non-commercial farmers and families interested in self-sustainable alternatives
- * These animals allow producers to capitalize on unique and niche markets
- * Protecting genetic resources and survival traits is a crucial strategy for ensuring future food supplies
- * Heritage breeds are a living link to our agricultural history and culture
- * Traditional livestock breeds are rapidly disappearing from the rural North American landscape, but keeping a current census of numbers is difficult. Some are on the verge of extinction, and are in desperate need of saving.

Become a Member

- Quarterly Newsletters and access to the Members Only area of the website
- Discounts or free access to select CHB Events
- Advertising opportunities
- The satisfaction of contributing to a great organization with lots of opportunities to become involved!

Register online today! Canadian Heritage Breeds is a Registered Non-Profit Society.

Advertise With CHB!

Canadian Heritage Breeds welcomes advertisers! High visibility, home page advertising is now available on the CHB website. Right now, as a bonus, if your farm, business, or club purchases one year of ad space on the CHB website, the ad will also be included in 4 quarterly newsletters at no extra charge!

CHB Advertising Rates and Specs

WEBSITE DISPLAY AD

Ad area, max. 300 x250 pixels, hyperlinked to your website or social media page.

May contain a combination of still images and text. Ad size shown below.

Standard Website Rate: Appears on "Our Supporters" page.

\$8.50 per month, or \$100 per year. (minimum 3 months)

Home Page Rate:

Please see the bottom row of photos on Home (landing) page:

www.canadianheritagebreeds.ca

Your ad would replace one of the 3 photos in bottom row of pictures.

\$13.50 per month (minimum 3 months), or \$160 per year.

Full banner, spanning page bottom is also available at this time. Please inquire for pricing.

1 year of website advertising also includes 1 year of the same ad appearing in our newsletters for free. CHB

newsletters are distributed via email to all paid CHB members in good standing, four times per year.



CHB NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

Newsletter Only ads:

Full page (8.5 x 11) - \$40 per issue. business card, or up to ¼ page - \$20 per issue.

*Note: All advertisement requests are subject to CHB board approval, and must meet CHB specifications for content and design

CHB: 12 years later. Where do we go from here?

Historical:

At its inception in 2010, the CHB philosophy was to create an organization with a wide-open window of opportunities. This broad foundation would allow for growth and expansion in different directions, and ultimately allow the club to serve as an umbrella organization, hosting shows and competitions for a variety of livestock species. In reality, the club has remained quite firmly rooted in poultry, with some expansion into dairy goats.

Discovering Membership priorities

The CHB Board of Officers and Directors is elected to provide leadership and help make sure the organization is staying on track, according to the mission statement and the priorities of the general membership. The board members put a lot of time and effort into hosting events like shows and workshops, and on providing informational material such as social media posts and newsletter articles.

There are a few different ways we gather information to gauge interest and establish CHB priorities. Member surveys have been an important part of that process, and the most recent one was held in January of this year. It offered paid members the opportunity to share thoughts on recent CHB activities, and indicate the areas of interest that are most important to them. The second method is the online membership form, where new members indicate the types of livestock they specialize in. And thirdly, we use the CHB Facebook group as an indicator of interest trends. The FB group continues to grow and

currently has nearly 5,000 followers. When Facebook users request permission to join the group, one of the questions we ask is "what type of livestock are you interested in?"

These are all fairly informal ways to gather data but they do help us gain a general sense of what people are looking for when they seek out CHB. Poultry clearly stands out as the leading area of interest, and according to the last CHB survey, poultry breeding and exhibition remains the strongest focus



area among the paid members. Swine was also identified as a potential area for expansion, however there is no current board member with the connections or expertise to actively pursue this, and those requesting swine-focussed events were not able to provide those connections either.

Is CHB successfully achieving the stated mission?

The CHB Mission:

- *To encourage the preservation, growth and overall welfare of heritage breeds;
- * To be the vehicle that allows the public, both rural and urban, to recognize the strengths, values and relevance that heritage breeds possess in today's marketplace
- * To demonstrate the benefits of heritage breeds through public awareness campaigns, which are designed to educate as well as offer the opportunity to become proactive in the conservation of heritage breeds

After 12 years, it would be fair to say that CHB has not gained a great deal of traction as a Canada-wide proponent for heritage livestock welfare and conservation. Our website does attract some attention and inquiries from different provinces, but most often the information people are looking for is not related to

services that we are able to provide. Often people are looking for gene bank information, animal registrations and breeder listings. We have found that a large percentage of the emails we receive through the website are the result of confusion with another entity, Heritage Livestock Canada, which was originally called Rare Breeds Canada. This confusion is understandable, as the CHB website and logo do seem to imply that heritage livestock initiatives are a main function of our club.

Advantages of Narrowing the CHB focus:

During the past few months the board has been discussing these issues. We have been looking into a couple of different strategies to change the way our organization presents itself to the public. We feel we need to be more transparent in stating the kind of work we specialize in (supporting and promoting poultry-keepers, poultry breeding, and poultry exhibition activities). We also feel we should be clear about our geographical limitations. The core team of CHB volunteers live within Alberta, and past outreach efforts to other provinces have had limited success. A partnership initiative with a Saskatchewan group helped establish an annual event in that province, but we have not had success maintaining a CHB presence



Above: an example of the heritage livestock social media campaign

outside of Alberta. We believe it is in the best interests of our organization to re-create an identity that better reflects our regional limitations, along with the narrower focus of poultry. With these changes we can continue to meet the expectations of the majority of our paid members while keeping our organizational team more engaged.

Unlike most of the larger livestock organizations, CHB operates solely on volunteer hours with no paid positions and very limited financial resources. It should be noted that a number of new studies are showing a significant reduction in volunteerism in all non-profit sectors since 2020. Covid has negatively influenced engagement and retention of people willing to serve on boards. Volunteers are more likely to stay motivated when their efforts provide activities that resonate strongly with themselves or their families. These are all factors that need to be considered as we, as a club, formulate our best path forward.

As part of the volunteer discussion, we should mention that the level of poultry expertise and interest within the CHB Board is at an all-time high. Current executive and director positions include seasoned poultry breeders, APA Master Exhibitors, a poultry 4-H leader, a previous junior exhibitor, showmanship advocates, as well as the only two certified APA judges in the province of Alberta!

Rebranding for a new identity

Presenting ourselves as a poultry-specific organization would provide an exciting new opportunity for rebranding and raising awareness. A new name and modernized logo would represent our objectives, as identified in a renewed mission statement and revised bylaws. With the growing interest in poultry, this relaunch would come at a perfect time to capture the attention of new poultry keepers, while serving to strengthen and revitalize interest in poultry exhibition. In the weeks ahead, the BoD will explore new name and logo ideas. Your input and suggestions will be a welcome part of this process.

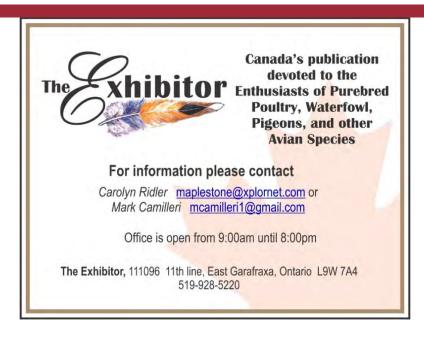
Next Steps

This is an important moment in the history of our club, and any changes must be made with purpose and care. This proposal is meant to be a starting point for further conversation and consideration. It's a good time for each of us to reflect on what initially drew us to CHB. Are we, as members, still finding value in paying our yearly membership fees? Would we continue to retain an active membership in the organization in its present form? Would we feel more engaged, or less, belonging to a club with a poultry-specific identity and purpose?

The future of CHB is ultimately in the hands of its members, and any amendments to the name or club objectives would need to be ratified by vote at the Annual General Meeting in November. Prior to the meeting, any proposed changes will be circulated to all members in good standing. At the AGM the membership has the power to accept or reject any of the changes proposed by the board, but modifications to the proposed wording cannot be suggested and voted on during the meeting. If the majority of members vote in favour of moving forward with a change of name, there are some registration and amendment forms to be submitted to Alberta Registries, along with a \$25.00 filing fee.

At this point, we'd very much like to hear from you, the members. Let us know if you have concerns or questions about how these possible changes will affect you as a member. If you have other suggestions or recommendations, please share them with us. You can send an email to: canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com, or if you'd like to discuss by phone, you're welcome to call one of the following:

Callum McLeod, President: 403-988-0388 Rico Sebastianelli, Vice President: 780-721-1283 Kathy Stevenson, Secretary: 780-781-9222



Do You Know Your Nubian Goat History?

by Rebecca Lange for Rare Breeds Canada

Dairy goats are part of Canada's agricultural heritage, in particular the Nubian, Saanen and Toggenburg breeds represented the earliest days of the development of purebred dairy goats in this country.

Nubians

"The Nubian (really the Anglo Nubian as we know it) is the product of crossing between goats imported from Asia into England and the native English goat. They are large goats entirely of a different build from the Swiss breeds, their chief characteristics being the Roman nose and long pendulous ears. Though these goats in India are known to yield 8 and 10 quarts daily, in this country they have not equalled the Swiss breeds on the average; their handsome appearance with their varied colouring and short coats makes them great favourites." Stated a British Columbia Department of Agriculture Bulletin in 1918.



Nubian Doe Garden Gate Canadian Crystal - Photo Courtesy of Carol DuMont, Garden Gate Nubians, Bridesville, BC



Nubian Doe Garden Gate Siren's Song – Photo Courtesy of Carol DuMont of Garden Gate Nubians, Bridesville, BC

A tentative set of standards described in the British Columbia bulletin; that the Nubian breed should have distinct characteristics; quite separate from the Swiss breeds.

- 1. Nubians had to exhibit a Roman nose; and large and heavy drooping ears.
- 2. Fully mature bucks were supposed to weigh no less than 175-200lbs and does in good breeding condition were expected to be from 140-170lbs.
- 3. Hair on the Nubian is described as being to standard when medium, fine and short; although a heavier coat was allowable for bucks.
- 4. The body had to be "well proportioned with shoulders so placed as to give a deep wide chest and full heart girth; strong straight back; ribs well sprung and wide apart; hips wide apart and level; rump long and wide; pin bones high, wide and apart."

The First Registered Nubians

Nubians are the second breed to be entered into the Canadian Goat Society herd book - to meet the requirements for entry into the record; they had to meet the following criteria:

- 1. Animals recorded as pure-bred in the general section of the British Goat Society Herd Book.
- 2. Animals recorded as pure-bred Nubian in the American Milk Goat Record.
- 3. Animals whose sires and dams are recorded in the Nubian section of the Canadian National
- 4. Record for Goats.
- 5. Foundation Stock: Animals worthy of registration if inspected and passed by a competent inspector approved by the Dominion Livestock Records Commissioner.

Quite fittingly it is Burnaby Goldie (born on May 4th 1913) a female inspected Nubian that makes the first entry for Nubians in Canada. The Burnaby herd was absolutely dominant during the early development of the breed. D. Mowat, from McKay, British Columbia owned the herd; he frequently imported purebred males and females from the United Kingdom and his goats were also sold throughout Canada - including to the Dominion Livestock Commissioner in Ottawa. It is also a buck owned by Mowat who is the first

listed pure male in the herd book - Edenbreck Cyrus (born on January 25th 1917) who came all the way from Edenbreck in Lancaster, England.

Edenbreck Cyrus was eventually sold into California, where he went on to sire Spring Beauty; the first Nubian to be awarded AR status. Mowat, also imported the equally influential buck Harborough Volunteer - Volunteer went on to sire many Nubians. In one year Mowat brought in 10 Nubians from the Garrochty, Rushmere, Sedberge and Edenbreck herds. Rushmere Mimi included a line from the well known Theydon herd. The Theydon herd was established in England, by a Miss Pelly. Her goats were bred to be high yielding and have good butterfats too and are credited with being highly important to the establishment of the Anglo-Nubian. There is no doubt that without the Burnaby herd and Mowat's obvious admiration of the breed; Nubians would have had much smaller beginnings.

The first ever Nubian female to be recorded in Canada as a result of having both parents entered into CGS records is Clara. Clara was born on March 19th 1918, in Kingsville, Ontario and was owned by Reginald B. Samuel. Her sire was Kitchener and dam Jersey. Once again the Burnaby herd takes another honour of having the first male recorded: Burnaby Venicio was born on April 23th 1918, sired by Harborough Volunteer and born to Sadberge Plover.



Nubian Doe Givernay Silverette, bred and owned by Adam Scanlan

Nubians were a favourite in British Columbia and Ontario, with breeders throughout each province. However; there were also herds in Winnipeg, Manitoba, North Battleford, Saskatchewan and Strathmore, Alberta. A steady number of registrations meant that by 1923, 195 grade and purebred Nubians had been entered into CGS records.

In 2009, Nubians as they have been for many years were once again placed on Rare Breeds Canada's conservation list and are designated as "At Risk".

With thanks to Sharon Hunt, General Manager of the Canadian Goat Society for the use of the original CGS Herd Record Book, which was invaluable in writing these accounts.

2022 K Days Dairy Goat Show

Hosted by Canadian Heritage Breeds and K Days

Double Ring Canadian Goat Society Sanctioned Open Doe Show

Entry Fee: \$16.00 per animal, Penning Fee: \$5.00 per pen

Judges: Patrick McClean, ON and Lorraine Keeping, SK

Rules and Procedures

-CGS Sanctioned Open Doe Show: CGS Show Rules Shall Govern

Available to be viewed at: CGS Show Rules

- No animals with horns may be shown in the CGS Sanctioned Open Doe Show
- ALL animals will submit to a health check before the show begins.
- -Tattoo check will take place before the show begins, exhibitors must have original CLRC papers available for viewing.
- -All exhibitors are to show in appropriate black pants and white shirts.
- -Group classes will be held at the end of the CGS Sanctioned Open Doe Show and all breeds will compete together. There is no additional fee for group class entries.
- -This is a double ring show, and classes will run back to back on Saturday
- -Exhibitors are to be ready for tattoo and health check by 10:00am at the latest on show day.
- -CGS Sanctioned Open Doe Shows will start at 12:00pm on Saturday.
- -Show order: La Mancha, Nigerian, Nubian, Saanen, Toggenburg
- -On Sunday there will Showmanship classes, both Juniors and open fun classes. These classes are optional, but no animals will be released until 3:30 pm on Sunday.

- -The number of exhibitor passes must be requested on entry forms.
- -Move in information will be sent to exhibitors upon receipt of entries and payment
- -There are a limited number of pens available (40) and these will be distributed on a first come first serve basis. Please be respectful and follow the stocking guidelines recommended on the entry form.
- -Cash Prizes will be paid for all Senior Classes in Show 1, all Junior Classes in Show 2 and for Jr Champions, Best of Breed and Best in Show for both shows.

Please remember this is a huge public event so it a great opportunity to educate the general public about dairy goats! We encourage educational stall displays and for breeders to use this as an opportunity to showcase and market their herds.

Classes for CGS Sanctioned Open Doe Show

La Mancha, Nigerian Dwarf, Nubian, Saanen and Toggenburg are sanctioned

Junior Animals

- 1) Junior Doe Kid (Born April 1st-July 1st of the current year)
- 2) Senior Doe Kid (Born January 1st- March 31st of the current year)
- 3) Dry Yearling –(Born in the previous year and NOT in milk)

Senior Animals

- 4) Milking Yearling
- 5) 2 year old in milk
- 6) 3 & 4 year olds in milk
- 7) 5 year olds and over in milk
- 8) Champion Challenge (Only Permanent Champions can be entered in this class)

Group Classes (Borrowing is allowed as long as the animals were shown.)

- 9) Dam and Daughter
- 10) Get of Sire
- 11) Dairy Herd (4 animals in milk all owned by one exhibitor)
- 12) Breeders Herd (4 animals all bred by one exhibitor)