



Newsletter of the San Clemente Island Goat Breeders Association

NOTES FROM THE PASTURE

Update from the SCIGBA President

Today marks the first day of Goatober. A full month to celebrate all that is goat and, in our case, all that is San Clemente Island Goat. (As we know they are the only goats that matter.) It is a time to honor our past, celebrate the present, and look to the future. It is an opportunity to continue outreach in the goat and agriculture communities at large. To find new supporters and breeders. Join the SCIGBA this month on our social media feeds and website as we share the history, accomplishments, and future for San Clemente Island Goats and its stewards.

Honoring the Past - This month we will feature those who came before us. Our herd of the month is East Hill Farm, a third-generation breeder. Dave Adams originated the NH bloodline and Perri, his granddaughter, now follows in his footsteps. I would be remiss not to mention Leslie Edmundson who was the heart and soul of this community for so many years and is a name unknown to the newest generation of breeders. Stay tuned to learn more about the Little River herd and Leslie's SCI journey.

Celebrating the Present - October 9 is San Clemente Island Goat Day. Perfect opportunity to hold a special event focusing on SCIs. To celebrate, the SCIGBA is hosting its first annual social. (Details on page 3.) Throughout the month we will be sharing posts from #aroundtheherd. Send us your photos, videos, and stories to be included.

Looking to the Future - October 9 marks the formal membership rollout for the SCIGBA. Our "Join" page will go live at midnight eastern time. Find the link on our [homepage](#).

The SCIGBA was formed to provide breeders a reliable, strong support system for the present and future. It is a vehicle to unite the community in common goals and them a voice. It provides

members with education, breeding program consultation, marketing assistance, access to the breed herdbook, and networking opportunities to connect with current and potential breeders. We track the genetic diversity of the population and potential health issues. Plus, much more.

History of endangered heritage breeds show those with successful associations are the most accomplished in moving their breed towards a sustainable population in perpetuity. I am honored to be a part of this community and am excited about the future of our beloved breed.

Onward & Upward, Sarah

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SCI GOATS: VALUE ADDED PRODUCTS OFFER SO MUCH

My name is Erin Link and I have been raising SCI goats in western Wisconsin since 2013. I have been making goat milk soap exclusively from SCI goat milk since 2015. As my goat herd grew I started venturing into selling extra SCI goats for meat and am now pursuing tanning goat hides. Tanning in general can refer to either hair on hide tanning or the leather making process. In this article I am sharing a hide on tanning method. There is a whole language around tanning, and I'm still learning new words and what they mean. This "[Leather Dictionary](#)" has been a helpful tool in this learning process.

With this tanning journey, I will start off by saying that I am pursuing natural hide tanning methods because I do not like the chemical process of tanning hides for personal reasons. I encourage everyone to do their own research on more natural methods versus chemical methods.



BE IN THE KNOW

- The breed description was approved at the September BoD meeting. Thank you to every one who contributed. Check out the final version at scigba.org/breed-description
- **Volunteers Needed!** The SCIGBA is a 100% volunteer run organization. Find the perfect position for your skill set and available time. Visit our [committee page](#) to learn more. Check back often as the association continues to grow and discovers what is needed to support the community and the breed.
- A huge welcome to Karina Rapp, the newest director to the SCIGBA board. Zooarchaeologist, sculptor, artist, author, and journalist. She brings years of endangered heritage breed experience as the president of the North American Budenny Horse Registry and founder of its forerunner in 2009. Karina focuses on the SCI Goat NH bloodline on her Idaho farm, Butchko Farm.

Another helpful thought I'll share right away is that these natural tanning methods aren't that hard. I'll go into more detail of course, but these are your basic steps.

BASIC STEPS:

- Salting a fresh hide.
- Fleshing the hide after it has been salted.
- Pursuing either a mineral or brain/egg yolk or other tanning procedure.
- Making sure you have time to stretch or break the hide as it slowly transforms into a beautiful and usable hair on goat hide.

The steps are simple, but they do require a lot of physical work and some steps demand attention in a very timely manner. So, if you don't have the time to spend on stretching and breaking the hide, your hide will turn out very stiff like a board.

Click the [link](#) to continue reading.

SCI GOAT DAY SOCIAL

Inspired by Leslie Edmundson's dedication to creating a strong breeder community, SCIGBA is bringing back the annual gathering. We would like to welcome you to the SCIGBA's 1st Annual San Clemente Island Goat Day Social .

When: October 9

In Person: 12-4pm ET

Virtual: 3pm ET

SCI Goat Day is an opportunity to promote the breed & our breeders. It is an opportunity to gather, socialize, and learn from each other. Come enjoy a cookout. Come enjoy SCI Goat products. Bring your own to share. Don't own SCIs yet? The Temple Hill herd will be there to visit with up close and personal. In addition, it is a wonderful opportunity for breeders to meet up for trades and sales.

Can't travel to Virginia? No problem! We have you covered. Join us online.

We hope to see everyone! Breeders, Friends, Volunteers, and Enthusiasts!

Full details at <https://scigba.org/calendar>



BY THE BREEDERS. FOR THE BREEDERS. FOR OUR GOATS

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD

Participate in the SCIGBA's quarterly poll.

What topic would you like featured at October's SCI Happy Hour (Oct 27 7pm ET)?

<https://forms.gle/gri8bbmuX2Nni9FVA>

CALENDAR

October

- October is Goatober! Perfect time to focus on all things SCIG!
- Oct 1 "The Island Goat" Check your inboxes!
- Oct 9 San Clemente Island Goat Day
 - Membership Rollout! Join the SCIGBA
 - 12 noon - 4pm (ET) Annual Social
 - 3pm (ET) Virtual Social
- Oct 27 7pm (ET) SCI Happy Hour

November

- Nov 11 4 pm SCIGBA BoD Roundtable
- No SCI Happy Hour

December

- Dec 11 4 pm (ET) SCIGBA BoD Meeting
- No SCI Happy Hour

For details please visit: scigba.org/calendar

Artwork by Jasper Inez of Sawtooth San Clementes

HOW MANY CAN YOU HAVE? (SCI GOAT MANAGEMENT)

by Erin Link, EB Ranch LLC



Some of the SCI goat bucks enjoy luscious, long grass. This area housed pastured poultry just a month prior to them grazing in this spot. That nitrogen made the grass grow back quickly and more lush than before!



Be creative and find ways to help you save a couple bucks. My friends gave me their old camper. I gutted out the camper, put a milk stanchion inside and now use it as portable goat housing. While investing in a new jack and using old materials to make a partition.

While we figure out our short and long term plans, we also need to think critically about the maximum number of goats we should have. What can our land and finances support, both short term and long term.

Follow the [link](#) to continue reading this article.

The answer is all of them, of course!! Who doesn't want to keep adding these wonderful goats not only to their own personal herd but also to the world population?

Part of managing any livestock or poultry breed requires us to ask WHY are we raising that particular animal or breed. If it's for profit, is there a demand specifically for SCI goats? If so, what are people looking for in this breed? I think the answer at large is that people are looking for doelings or mature does. SCI goats make wonderful homestead animals; they fit into meat, dairy or fiber production, brush clean up, pack animals, pets, etc. There isn't a huge demand for bucks, even though they play a very important role in keeping the SCI goat breed diverse and healthy.

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A Bucky Topic

With rare breed animals, be prepared to perhaps keep multiple bucks, or if you are near other breeders perhaps set up trade agreements or use AI (Artificial Insemination). Long-term plans are really important when it comes to rare livestock breeds. For example, sturdy buck housing is a must to prevent accidental breedings, although goats have strong wills and even our best intentions can be knocked down and laid flat when it comes to those strong breeding instincts.

CONTACT US

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Wanted for Goatober:

Photos, Videos, & Information on how you utilize your SCIS.



OUR MISSION

The mission of the SCIGBA is to promote the San Clemente Island Goat as a viable multipurpose goat while preserving the historical traits of the island goat and the unique genetic diversity. This includes but is not limited to:

- Guarding the purity of the San Clemente Goat breed
- Retaining pedigree records of all animals that qualify as San Clemente Island Goats under the Association's set of guidelines
- Providing technical support and opportunity for collaboration to San Clemente Island Goat growers and breeders to further the breed's purity, conservation, and attract new breeders
- Exhibiting livestock and educating the public in order to promote interest in the San Clemente Island Goat

"THE ISLAND GOAT"

The "The Island Goat" is the official quarterly newsletter of the SCIGBA. Articles, photographs, and business cards that relate to San Clemente Island Goats are welcome. Submit your contributions to SCIGBAAssoc@gmail.com Attn: Newsletter. Publication of articles or advertisements does not necessarily constitute an endorsement by SCIGBA.

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