

The Katahdin Hairald



Quarterly Newsletter of Katahdin Hair Sheep International

Director's Corner

Volume 13
Number 1
Winter 2001

Linda Neunzig, Washington

When Sharon asked if I would like to write the directors corner, I said "Sure, I'll give it a try!" I started going through some old newsletters to see what I should do, and came upon the minutes from the 1992 annual membership meeting. It was an eye-opener. In 1992 we had a proposed budget for '93 which showed we would take in \$10,000. This year's expected income is \$50,000. We had 143 current members in '92; last year we had 460 members. I know at that time we owned a ewe with the registration number 1,600; we are now in the 23,000's. Look how far we've come!

Now to the current business at hand. Brad Neunzig has agreed to provide legal counsel for KHSI. Thank you again to Don Williams for his many years of service to KHSI.

I would like to remind all of you who have made complaints in the past or who may do so in the

future that this is not a fast process. We put a lot of thought behind each one of them. We want to be thorough. Each and every member in KHSI is very important and nothing is taken lightly.

Charles Brown has been doing a great service with helping to resolve certificate problems that a few breeders have had. Fixes have been identified and the Registry is currently testing them. Thank you, Charlie and Ed.

A survey has been sent out to each of you, please take the time to fill it out and send it in. This will help in making us as efficient as possible. Your renewal was also in there; if you have not already done so, remember to send it in today and encourage all of your customers to become members.

Sharon also said "maybe a general outline of how the reality of being a KHSI board member for 3 months fits with what your thoughts were before

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From the Registry

Ed Martsof, Arkansas

There is always a certain excitement in being part of a growing movement! Certainly that applies to hair sheep in general and Katahdin Hair Sheep in particular. Our efforts at the Registry are directed toward fostering growth in the quality as well as the quantity of animals available through KHSI members. The total number of animals registered continues to increase, and your Board of Directors has become actively involved in improving the quality of our work as well. Several quality-control items are presently under discussion; some adjustments are already underway and I'd like to summarize them here.

Using December 31, 2000 as a break point, all physical certificate copies going back to 1985 are being microfilmed. These microfilms will be stored in a vault at the bank for security against destruction by fire, storm, etc. In addition, the computerized database is also being duplicated for storage in the same vault and will be updated on a quarterly basis. Work is underway to adjust the software program to be able to catch duplicates of animal ID numbers, even going back to some of the earlier days when the database was kept in a different

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KHSI Member's Guide

The Katahdin Hairald is the official publication of Katahdin Hair Sheep International, whose purposes are to:

- register individual Katahdin sheep and record performance
- maintain the distinct identity of the Katahdin breed
- assist in promotion and marketing
- encourage research and development related to the breed

Board of Directors:

President: Sharon Schaefer, <s.scahefer@canada.com>, 306-675-4410, Saskatchewan
Vice-President: Linda Neunzig, <ninetyfarms@aol.com>, 360-435-9304, Washington
Secretary-Treasurer: David Sweeney, <SCKatahdin@aol.com>, 919-851-2174, North Carolina
Director: Pam Armitage-Sword, <parmitagesword@hotmail.com>, 403-749-2434, Alberta
Director: Mark Dennis, <CountryOakRanch@juno.com>, 337-364-0422, Louisiana
Director: Ed Martsolf, <ed.martsolf@mev.net>, 501-727-5659, Arkansas
Director: Donna Watkins, <dwatkins@davesworld.net>, 309-365-5611, Illinois
Honorary: Charles Brown, Piel Farm, <cwbiiii@kynd.com>, 207-876-4430, Maine
Honorary: Donald Williams, 724-667-8461, Pennsylvania
Honorary: Charles Parker, <seedstock@iname.com>, 614-442-5991, Ohio

KHSI Operations:

- Teresa Maurer and Jim Morgan; PO Box 778; Fayetteville, AR 72702-0778
Phone and FAX: 501-444-8441; <khsint@earthlink.net>
- Contact Operations for the following:
 - Inspection requests before May 15
 - Information packets sent to public
 - Forms for: breed history, breed standards, membership, renewal, BLANK animal registration forms and instructions, other KHSI information
 - Address changes or other corrections on printed list or Web
 - Brochures (20 free per member per year; additional at cost) & promotional items
 - Information on members with sheep for sale, anyone wanting to buy sheep
 - Material to be published in the Katahdin Hairald
 - Volunteer for KHSI Committees
 - Annual meeting information
- Office Hours (Central time): Monday mornings 8-11 am, and Monday and Tuesday evenings 7-10 pm. Calls on other evenings after sunset or anytime on the weekends will be answered personally whenever possible. Answering machine, FAX and email: available for messages 24 hours per day.

KHSI Registry:

- Ed Martsolf; 1039 Winrock Drive; Morrilton, AR 72110
Phone and FAX: 501-727-5659; <ed.martsolf@mev.net>
- Contact the Registry for the following:
 - All questions about registration, recording, transferring, upgrading procedures
 - Send the following to the Registry:
 - Completed membership and renewal applications, dues
 - Completed materials having to do with registering, transferring, recording
Katahdins (Animal Registration Forms, transfers, etc)
- Office Hours (Central time): Monday through Friday 9 am- 5pm. Answering machine and FAX accessible 24 hours.

KHSI Committees: (Call Operations to volunteer!): Breed Improvement, Breeder Education, Promotions, Show

KHSI Hairald: Send articles, ads, comments to Teresa Maurer at Operations. Next deadline May 1.

KHSI Canada Representative:

Pam Armitage-Sword, RR1, Delburne, AB T0M 0V0, <parmitagesword@hotmail.com>, 403-749-2434, FAX:

KHSI Mexico Representative:

Dr. Javier Lara, Nispero 6, Arboledas, Queretaro, QRO 76140 <ranchoayj@yahoo.com.mx>, 52-42-14-3727

KHSI Regional Groups:

Alberta Katahdin Sheep Association: Dianne Campbell, Box 12, Bindloss, AB T0J 0H0, 403-379-2155, <bdc@tekusplanet.net>, <http://www.aksa.ab.ca>

Great Lakes Katahdin Hair Sheep Association: Naomi and Dean Hawkins, GLKHSa, 2397 SR 503, Lewisburg, OH 45338, 937-839-1280 <glkhsa@hotmail.com>, <www.members.tripod.com/naomihawkins/>

Midwest Katahdin Hair Sheep Association: Donna Watkins, Rt 2 Box 148, Lexington, IL 61753, 309-365-5611, <dwatkins@davesworld.net>

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Missouri Katahdin Breeders Association: Nancy Case, PO Box 87, Hartsburg, MO 65039, 573-657-1384, <agworld@case-agworld.com>

Pacific Coast Katahdin Hair Sheep Association: Ray & Marcia Schulz, 10376 Spiva Rd, Sacramento, CA 95829, 916-682-7456, <PacCoastKat@homestead.com>, <http://PacCoastKat.homestead.com/>

Southcentral Katahdin Hair Sheep Association: Sherrie Wiygul, 304 Griffin Road, Louisville, MS 39339-8124, 662-773-2956, <gswiygul@yahoo.com>

Southeastern Katahdin Hair Sheep Association: David Sweeney, 609 Merwin Rd, Raleigh, NC 27606, 919-851-2174, <SCKatahdin@aol.com>

Western Katahdin Sheep Cooperative: Sharon Schaefer, Box 568, Ituna SK S0A 1N0, 306-675-4410, <s.schaefer@canada.com>



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you were elected." Well, it's a lot of time at the computer and on the phone. It's given me a new insight to our organization: it's strong, it has wonderful, dedicated people who love what they do. I'm honored to be among them. Thank you.

In the last publication of the "International Sheepletter" from Pipestone Veterinary Clinic, Dr. Kennedy had recently been out looking at a hairsheep flock. His last paragraph I thought was very good: "Be creative, look at your operation, what can you do better? Times change, change is an opportunity and conflict brings resolution. We need to change this industry. Opportunity is knocking, be part of the solution not part of the problem."

We are all part of the solution! ☺

(Continued from page 1, Registry)

software program. A formal software check will be conducted every six months to keep the software improvements progressing and fine-tuned in the future.

The Board is also discussing a number of ideas that are intended to streamline Registry procedures and perhaps reduce some costs associated with processing, such as mailing. If you have ideas on how to make the ANIMAL REGISTRATION FORM more clear and concise, please write or call any KHSI Board Member.

Finally, let me encourage each of us, as a seller of Katahdin Sheep, to do everything possible to make it as easy as possible for your customer to get off on the right foot. One of the most discouraging kinds of call that comes to the Registry is from some new owners of Katahdin sheep. Some new owners get a (sometimes) signed certificate with their new sheep, maybe a few verbal instructions about transferring the papers, but are left mostly on their own to figure it all out for themselves. It is the responsibility of the seller to have the sheep transferred, and I do tell every new customer that information. Personally, I can't understand why someone who is trying to establish themselves as a source of good seedstock wouldn't invest \$25 into their customer's new membership just as standard operating procedure. As the new millennium gets underway, each KHSI member has a lot of influence on whether KHSI is a major player in the sheep industry or not. ☺

KHSI Financial Report-Year End 2000

(unaudited)

Note: The following report information will be reviewed by our CPA during spring, 2001. A final reviewed report will be published in a future newsletter, with notes, and an updated 2001 budget.

REVENUES (estimated):

Registration fees	\$37,216
Dues collected by registry	8,258
Reimbursements and Refunds (operations)	504
<u>Materials sold (operations)</u>	<u>1,146</u>
Total Revenues	\$47,124

EXPENSES (estimated):

Contract personnel:	
Registry	\$18,085
Operations	6,000
Advance-Canada representative	72
Advertising	4,472
Bank charges	15
Liability insurance	384
Materials for sale	1,298
Office supplies, serv	1,601
Postage:	
newsletter	1,422
operations	1,411
registry	1,692
Printing/Copying	4,163
Professional services	718
Subscriptions	35
Supplies and materials	143
Telephone:	
operations	1,560
registry	673
conference calls	824
Travel, incl insp reimb	1,047
Annual Gathering	200
<u>Trademark renewal-US</u>	<u>700</u>
Total Expenses	\$46,515

Operations Report

Teresa Maurer, Arkansas

As usual, things are busy at KHSI Operations in Fayetteville! We had a great response to the KHSI survey and the renewal mailing that went out in mid-January. Actually, there were SO many changes in membership information from the renewal sheets that we held up the newsletter to be able to include the list with as many of the changes and new listings as possible. We apologize for any inconvenience, but we have already begin work on the NEXT issue and will be back on schedule next time: Deadline will be May 1 for articles, ads, etc.

If you've heard a new voice on the phone, or gotten an e-mail signed "Jim", that is just a sign that the new Operations team is in action. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, Jim has joined me in KHSI Operations work, and it's been great to have his help in responding to increasing inquiries from our membership and the public! We are also working with the KHSI Board to tally the results from the KHSI performance review and will do a report in the next newsletter.

Here are a few specific updates and reminders that you need to know:

Membership List insert: The enclosed membership list reflects members who actively renewed during 2000 or 2001, as well as new memberships and corrections received through February 15. We update the printed list for buyers and inquiries from the public every 2-3 months, but to save money, we mail the list out to all members only twice per year. You may call Operations at any time to request the latest list.

Corrections to list: We have learned that member information changes frequently. If you spot errors on the enclosed list, or find that your information needs other changes, please call or write Operations.

Renewals: If you have sent in your 2001 renewal, we thank you! Anyone who has not yet renewed will be sadly dropped from the May printed list update and the KHSI website. As soon as your renewal dues are received, we will put you back on the list and the website.

Inspections: As outlined in the KHSI Inspection Instructions: as of October 1, 2000, breeders will be responsible for 100% of mileage charges for KHSI inspections. A call to KHSI Operations is still required to set up the inspections. This can save the breeder money since coordination of several inspections may allow breeders to share the cost of an inspection trip. KHSI will invoice the breeder for inspector mileage once a completed inspection report has been received from the inspector. If you need a copy of the KHSI Inspection Instructions please call Operations.

Inspector training: To request inspector training in your area, please write a note or call Operations. We need at least 3-4 months to line up 3 inspectors and sheep for the test, find a location and help the host coordinate the arrangements. There will be a training in Missouri in September, and probably one on the West Coast in August. If you would be willing to host a training, or want to request one for your area, please call Operations. We like to have at least 5-6 breeders in an area who express interest in participating.

Promotions Committee: The KHSI Promotions Committee, chaired by Robert Elliott (Texas) has been working hard to decide where KHSI ads should be placed for 2001. If you have suggestions, please make sure Robert receives them. There will be a brief report in the next newsletter about where ads have been placed.

KHSI Show Committee Wants Members

Pam Stone and Linda Neunzig are new co-chairs of the Show Committee. If you are interested in working on: criteria, ways to educate judges about Katahdins, tips on showing, etc., please contact Pam (530-639-1753, email: p.stone@worldnet.att.net) or Linda (360-435-9304, email: ninetyfarms@aol.com) soon!

Report from the Breed Improvement Committee

James Morgan, committee member, Fayetteville, Arkansas

1. *KHSI-Member Opinion Articles on Breed Improvement Issues*

In this issue, the *Katahdin Hairald* is printing two opinion articles submitted by members that relate to Breed Improvement Issues. The Committee thinks that both of the opinion articles are worth reading, are thought provoking and are presented to agree or disagree with. Check out the thoughts of John Kirchoff from Missouri and Carsten Pank from New York, pages 6 & 7, this issue of the *Katahdin Hairald*.

2. *Update on Research Programs evaluating Katahdin Hair Sheep*

During the Summer 2000 issue of the *Hairald*, the Breed Improvement Committee reported on the dramatic increase in University and Government research programs evaluating performance of Katahdins and hair sheep. Since that time, we have confirmation of another research program and a SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program of US Dept of Agriculture [USDA]) grant. (See the Summer 2000 issue for a review of the other programs.)

Dr. Bert Moore of North Dakota State University in Fargo wrote and told us about the ongoing hair sheep project there. They are crossbreeding their Columbia and Hampshire ewe flocks with Katahdin and Wiltshire Horn rams. Their goals are to evaluate survivorship, lambing percentage, lamb survivorship, meat production characteristics and the number of generations needed to transfer no wool characteristics to conventional wool breeds. They see that their research results will be used by two types of Ranch operations, those that want to add a low maintenance sheep to their management system and those who are interested in using sheep to control weeds on their cattle ranch. They report that the preliminary of the first year of research shows that hair x wool lamb performance compares well with the Columbia and Hampshire lambs.

Missouri members of KHSI have obtained another SARE grant to promote Katahdins. The grant will promote direct marketing of Katahdin meat. (Look for Mike Seipel's article about the grant objectives in this issue of the *Katahdin Hairald*.)

3. *Update on National and Provincial Performance Evaluation Programs and Katahdins*

The Breed Improvement Committee is still actively working on recruiting more KHSI flocks into performance evaluation programs. During the fall of 2000, some of our efforts were directed at the National Sheep Improvement

Program (NSIP). In 2001, the committee plans on working with KHSI members in Canada and Mexico to increase participation in performance evaluation programs including OVISSEY and Ontario ROP and report back to the *Katahdin Hairald* on those programs and efforts. The committee wants to make sure that the use of these programs doesn't over-emphasize selection for growth traits while ignoring reproductive traits, adaptability, parasite resistance and maternal characteristics that make Katahdins a low maintenance easy care sheep. Data about growth performance will provide a more objective way of selecting the genetics that match breeding objectives.

NSIP Update - Approximately 10 flocks have enrolled for 2000 and their data will hopefully make the Feb 1, 2001 deadline. At least 5 more flocks have agreed to submit data from their flocks for 2001. The goal is that by then end of 2001, there will be Cross Flock EPDs (Expected Progeny Differences) for several traits with reasonable accuracy. These values will indicate whether a particular ram or ewe line has the genetic potential to perform above or below average for the breed for a specific trait (or at least for those flocks enrolled). Accuracy increases with increased numbers of enrolled animals, flocks and the genetic relatedness of the evaluated flocks. The computer program corrects for age of ewe and if the lambs are creep fed. Traits currently being evaluated include prolificacy, milking ability of the ewe, and lamb birth weight. In the future, NSIP may add carcass traits, out of season lambing and may figure out some way to evaluate parasite resistance/tolerance. If you are considering NSIP, you will need birth weights (within 24 hours of lambing) 60-day weights (" 30 days and prior to weaning) and 120 day weights ("30 days). If have questions about NSIP you can contact Laura Fortmeyer or Jim Morgan.

Laura Fortmeyer
2285 Falcon Rd
Fairview, Kansas 66245
785-885-4734
jubilee@jbnitelco.com

Jim Morgan
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Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701
501-444-6075
jmorgan@mail.uark.edu

Breeder Education Committee

Sharon Schaefer, Saskatchewan

In the July 'Hairald' the question was asked in reference to breeding ewes: "Is bigger better or is smaller smarter?" I would like to thank the members who replied. One stated that they were too new to contribute to the discussion but were interested in the answers. The other responses are summarized below.

All the people who responded had determined their market and were working to fill that need. In this instance, all members who replied were trying to increase the adult weight of their ewe flock. The rationales included locker lamb customers wanting bigger cuts, breeding stock export customers wanting bigger ewes, and US carcass weight standards needing a ewe who can compete heads up with a Dorset-type woolly. These producers knew who their customers were and what would satisfy those customers. Identifying your market is a critical part of breeding Katahdins.

The weight desired in a ewe and the means of achieving this varied. One member weighs the ewes nine months after lambing and tries to cull any ewe with a frame score of three which weighs less than 140 pounds. They plan to raise that to 150 pounds if it becomes necessary to their sales program. Another has ewes in the 130 to 180 pound range and is trying to get the average to 150 to 160 pounds while demanding that the ewes wean their own weight in lambs at 90 days. Another stated that their smallest ewe was 175 pounds.

An interesting side point is that lambs apparently stop growing in the extreme heat experienced in some areas so one member schedules lambing and growing out to sell lambs before the heat hits. In our area older lambs quit growing at about -30 C in the winter but if the weather stays consistent they will start again! So besides learning your market, learn

how your weather will affect production. Learn the annual lamb price cycles in your area.

Another part of the original question was whether producers had found that adult ewe weight correlated with lamb growth rate. No one responded directly to this question. The wide variety in adult weights of several fast growing terminal sire breeds would seem to indicate that this is not necessarily correlated, however I have no concrete information on this point. At the annual meeting in September, Dr. Charles Parker presented a chart revealing lamb live weights for 'Yield Grade 2' finish based on average ewe weight of the dam line and average ewe weight of the sire line. The correlation is 2/3 the adult weight so if the ewes are 120 pounds and the sires are from the same line, lambs will be finishing at 80 pounds. If the same ewes are bred to sires from a 140 pound ewe weight line, the lambs will finish at 91 pounds. Lambs from 200 pound ewes bred to sires from the same line do not finish until 134 pounds. This is not growth rate but is a useful piece of marketing information.

Does this response mean that bigger is better? Depends - according to the presenters at the annual meeting, there are no studies to indicate that increasing lamb weights (7 - 8 pounds was the value on the chart at the time) increases survivability. A 10 year study in the southern US found that reproduction was the most restrictive element to profitable production. So if you have nice, small, feisty lambs up and sucking with no help, working to keep them like that should put money in your pocket. If your ewes are raising triplets by themselves or lambing out of season it's more money in your pockets. Look at the strengths and weaknesses in your own situation, identify your market, and learn your own limits and possibilities. ❧

Mexico Katahdin Show Report

Mark Dennis, Louisiana

I visited Mexico December 13-19, 2000, to attend "SEGUNDA EXPOSICION NACIONAL DE LA RAZA KATAHDIN" in Queretaro, Qro. I had a wonderful time visiting with hair sheep breeders (old & new friends) from all over Mexico. Many are KHSI members or will be. The show judge was Mr. Larry Mrozinski from Kouts, Indiana. I'm sure some members know him from the past. The Grand Champion Katahdin ewe & ram were shown by Rancho A & J, which is owned by Dr. Javier Lara Pastor, KHSI Mexico Representative. The Rancho A & J ram was also the 2000 Grand Champion at Calgary Stampede, Alberta, Canada.

Queretaro is a fine city just 2 hours north of Mexico City, with very good restaurants, hotel/motels, transportation, and friendly people. Dr. Lara's AMCO group has very nice facilities for meetings in the area, and there are hair sheep ranchos nearby to visit. The weather was

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Welcome New Members !

(Summer, 2000 – January, 2001)

<p>Julie Birch Alberta</p> <p>Emile Omer Bourgeois Alberta</p> <p>Ingemar Fagerholm & Ina Eriksson Alberta</p> <p>Klas Fehr Alberta</p> <p>Byron & Sandra Irwin Alberta</p> <p>Joanne Knoppers Alberta</p> <p>Webkor Lamb Producers LTD Alberta</p> <p>Lori Brown British Columbia</p> <p>Don & Betty Odiome British Columbia</p> <p>Patrick & Lilia Livingstone Saskatchewan</p> <p>R Gerardo Alanis L Tamps Mexico</p> <p>Dos Matas Soc. De Prod. Rural de C.V ... Mexico</p> <p>Joey & Rhonda Kelmer Alabama</p> <p>James E Knowles Alabama</p> <p>Todd & Cheryl Simonson Alabama</p> <p>Keith, Tina, Kodie & Kolbie Hatley Arkansas</p> <p>Steven D Henderson Arkansas</p> <p>Curtis & Kathey Hilburn Arkansas</p> <p>Elsie Moore Arkansas</p> <p>Jess Odom Arkansas</p> <p>Jackie Barritt Hagberg California</p> <p>Curtis Kramer California</p> <p>Edson & Rhoda Miller Colorado</p> <p>Tom, Tarri & Tiare Street Florida</p> <p>Dawn Bromley Illinois</p> <p>Wendy Carlson Illinois</p> <p>Keith & Wanda Carson Illinois</p> <p>W.H. (Bill) LeClaire Illinois</p> <p>J.C. & Elizabeth Ray Illinois</p> <p>Leann Biehl Indiana</p> <p>Robert & Ruth Frantz Indiana</p> <p>Eric & Jenny Garrett Indiana</p> <p>Brother Joseph Horvath Indiana</p> <p>Michael L Leshar Indiana</p> <p>Vince Robinson Indiana</p> <p>Lloyd K. & Sally M. Young Indiana</p>	<p>Joe & Jean Dunne Iowa</p> <p>Dustin Pillard Iowa</p> <p>Alan Miller Kentucky</p> <p>Rodney W Stephenson Kentucky</p> <p>Leroy J Darbonne Louisiana</p> <p>Al Frey Louisiana</p> <p>Larry & Scott LeJeune Louisiana</p> <p>Susan Schoenian Maryland</p> <p>Carolyn Cook Missouri</p> <p>Dave & Sue Ingram Missouri</p> <p>David & Jo Ann Lininger Missouri</p> <p>Vaughn & Naomi Johnson Montana</p> <p>Carol Hartley Nebraska</p> <p>Neal & Twila Weyers Nebraska</p> <p>David, Mardi & Michelle Montgomery Nevada</p> <p>Carsten & Renate Pank New York</p> <p>James & Doreen Van Vleet New York</p> <p>Nelson L Creech North Carolina</p> <p>Ben or Adam Cotton North Dakota</p> <p>David D & Debra A Martin North Dakota</p> <p>Janet D Rowe Oklahoma</p> <p>Karen Hutchinson Oregon</p> <p>Mary Allardt Wong Oregon</p> <p>David R. Burke Pennsylvania</p> <p>Tony & Frances Putorti Pennsylvania</p> <p>Kate & Dale Thomsen Pennsylvania</p> <p>Frank & Christine Lavender Tennessee</p> <p>Richard W. Luke Texas</p> <p>Allen Mills Texas</p> <p>Martha Mewbourne Virginia</p> <p>Zane & Mae Parks Virginia</p> <p>Albert & Rhonda Hensler Washington</p> <p>Jessica Howard Washington</p> <p>Brett Lively West Virginia</p> <p>Paul Rodgers West Virginia</p>
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great: day time temperature of 75 degrees and nights in the 50's. Thank you to my hosts again this year: Rancho 3E SR Silverio Gonzales, Juarez & Rancho Cozumel and Sr. Roman Azueta Contreras.

Let me remind all breeders & friends that the KHSI 2002 annual meeting will be held in Mexico, and I hope you will attend. Demand is very strong for good registered Katahdins in Mexico. Our hosts will help us work out group travel to make it more affordable. You will see very impressive Katahdin Sheep & other hair breeds PLUS have a wonderful vacation! ☺

Are Larger Katahdins Better? A View from a Missouri Katahdin Breeder

John Kirchhoff, Rennick, Missouri

I found Jim Morgan's article in the Fall 2000 Katahdin Hairald regarding animal size interesting (Thoughts from a Member of the Breed Improvement Committee: Importance of Performance Evaluation for the Katahdin Breed). Are larger Katahdins better? Until recently, I thought they were and had convinced myself we need to be selecting for size. After doing some research, I now doubt my previous conclusions. Something I'm sure of is that livestock (cattle, sheep and goat) producers need to take a lesson from grain producers. This lesson is to think in terms of production per acre (or unit of input), rather than production per animal. What does this have to do with Jim's article? Quite a bit actually.

Ask any corn farmer the size of his operation and he will say (for example) 10 acres, not 200,000 plants. Ask a livestock producer the same question and he will answer in the number of animals he runs. Ask a cattleman about productivity and he will tell you his top cows weaned 600 lb. calves, but can't begin to tell you how many acres it took. Our hypothetical corn farmer is not impressed when you brag about having $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. ears with a 12,000 plant population, because he knows that $\frac{1}{2}$ pound ears at 20,000 plants will yield more per acre. In corn production, smaller ears at higher populations nearly always out yield the reverse.

My wife and I are in the process of converting nearly all of our crop land (prime upland soils) into pasture, and what was a hobby flock into a commercial enterprise. When soybeans made the farm payment, I had to figure how many acres it took to do so. When sheep make the payment next year, I need to know how many acres of sheep are required to do so, not how many individual animals. While this may sound crazy, consider that nearly all expenses can and should be converted into a per acre cost. For example, the cost of a perimeter fence enclosing 30 acres should be applied to the total area protected.

Now we get to where animal size has an impact on the per acre costs. It is a proven fact that the larger the animal, the greater the meat production per animal, but the smaller the production per acre. This is true of all animals, whether it is cattle, sheep, goats, buffalo or whatever. This applies whether you are comparing sheep to sheep or sheep to cows. Why is this so? It relates to animal maintenance or the amount of feed needed for an animal to maintain its body condition. All ruminants will consume around 3% of their body weight in forage (dry matter) daily. The 3% value applies to maintenance (not to late gestation, lactation, young growing animals). For example a 145 lb. ewe will consume around 4.35 lbs of forage/day. Under the same conditions, a 180 lb. ewe will consume 5.4 lbs per day.

On our farm, taking into consideration the productivity of the soils and the grazing efficiency of our rotational grazing system, each acre could support five 145 lb. ewes or four 180 lb. ewes for 240 days. (This is strictly for ewe maintenance and does not consider grazing by the lamb). If we average 1.7 weaned lambs per ewe, the five smaller ewes will produce 8.5 lambs and the four large ewes will produce 6.8 lambs from each acre. Therefore, it will be necessary for the lambs from the larger ewes to have a higher rate of gain and weigh 20% more at any given time to break even with the offspring from the smaller ewes. If selling animals for breeding stock, each large ewe must wean 2.1 lambs as opposed 1.7. If one has a single, a couple others must have triplets to compare with the smaller ewes. Without an increase in the lambing average of the large ewes, their ewe lambs must command a 20-25% price premium to compare with the larger number offspring from the smaller ewes.

A larger animal typically has a higher rate of gain. While a fast rate of gain is desirable, one must consider the feed costs per pound of gain. Animals finished on grain invariably have a higher rate of gain than those finished on grass. Grain being more expensive than grass, you must decide whether the grain cost/labor/shorter time period will offset the cheaper forage/less labor/longer time period. Again, smaller animals (of any breed or species) are usually more efficient at converting feed into meat. For a example, a friend runs a rotational grazing system much like ours, only with cattle. When weighed he found the calves averaged 600 lbs and had gained 2.5-3.0 lbs/day (a respectable figure for being grass fed). At the same time, we had 60 lb. lambs gaining 0.6 lb./day. When calculated his calves needed 8 lbs of grass for every pound gained while our lambs needed 4 lb. of grass for the same pound of gain.

Something else to consider is that smaller animals (cattle, sheep or goats) will reach sexual and physical maturity at an earlier age (and lighter weight) than will larger animals. When this physical stage of growth is reached, only then can the fat referred to as marbling be produced. Body fat can be produced by a physically immature animal, marble fat cannot be. Under the same conditions, a larger animal will take longer to reach this point, requiring more feed and time and will weigh more. The time required to reach this stage of maturity is dependent upon the quality and type of feed. Grass fed animals virtually always require more time than grain fed animals.

I recently read an article about a grazier that traveled to Argentina. In that country (where the vast majority of dairies and cattle ranches are grass-based), American dairy and

(Continued on page 10)

Dorpers x Katahdins: An Opinion from a Member

Carsten J Pank, New York

In my travels I have seen quite a few first (F1) and second (F2) generation offspring from Katahdin and Dorper crosses, and made some observations, which I would like to share with fellow KHSI members.

- 1) The black head Dorper has a potential to introduce a very dark brown, almost black color element into the Katahdin breed, which is not the case with the white Dorper. The F1 from white Dorper and Katahdin crosses look much more uniform in color.
- 2) In all the F1 offspring from Dorper and Katahdin crosses that I have seen, the sire was always Dorper, and the dam Katahdin (there is a simple economic explanation for this).
- 3) In the F1 of Dorper x Katahdin, rate of gain, muscling and size are very impressive. Some F1 Dorper X Katahdins are larger than either parent, relative to sex.
- 4) In the F2 Dorper x Katahdin, the general size superiority and uniformity of the F1 are noticeably reduced, regardless of whether the F2 are $\frac{3}{4}$ Dorper, $\frac{3}{4}$ Katahdin or fifty-fifty.
- 5) The F1 Dorper x Katahdins appear to carry more fat than their Katahdin dams, especially at the rump and tail head.
- 6) It is very obvious that the F1 Dorper x Katahdins have more wool on their back than the average Katahdin.
- 7) Dorpers are crossed with Katahdins for three reasons:
to genetically improve Katahdins, to acquire a Dorper flock less expensively through upgrading, or to sell higher priced percentage Dorpers in a seller's market.
- 8) Many Katahdin as well as [intended] Dorper breeders seem to be unwilling or unable to make a clear distinction between genetic traits and heterosis. I believe this calls for some clarification and a word of caution.

Heterosis (also known as "hybrid vigor") is a phenomenon, i.e. the appearance but not the causes are understood. Despite a lack of scientific explanation, heterosis is widely used in modern agriculture, because the heterosis complex (everything related to vitality) includes many economically desirable traits, such as faster rate of gain, larger size, greater resistance to pathogens, and higher prolificacy. In agriculture the practical application of heterosis is economically limited to highly prolific species, because it requires the continued maintenance of two pure bred parent strains, that are as much as possible unrelated. Since prolificacy rates are generally much higher in the plant than in the animal kingdom, heterosis is much more applied in plant than in animal production. Practically all the corn that is grown in this country for food or feed is hybrid.

In animal production, only the prolificacy rate of poultry is high enough (hogs are a distant second) to make use of heterosis economically feasible. Although the prolificacy of sheep is nearly twice as high as that of cattle, it is still much too low for economical use of heterosis in sheep production for the slaughter market (with the exception of terminal mating). To cross Katahdins and Dorpers for the purpose of genetic improvement or upgrading is one thing, and to confuse heterosis with genetic traits is something else - an error.

Perhaps heterosis may be better understood by referring to the well known degenerative effects of inbreeding as "negative heterosis", and then conclude: the closer the in-

breeding, the greater the negative heterosis, and the greater the unrelatedness of a cross, the greater the positive heterosis. Heterosis occurs proportionally to the genetic unrelatedness of an intraspecies mating. The impressive heterosis of F1 Dorper x Katahdins can be explained by the historical/geographic and thereby genetic distance between these two breeds. Maximum heterosis is always only a first cross opportunity.

Desirable traits that surface from crossbreeding become genetically reliable traits only after selecting and rigorous culling was done. Subsequent selecting and culling after crossing is a proven but slow and tedious way to develop and improve a breed. This is precisely how Katahdins, amongst all other breeds, have been developed thus far. However a much faster and more reliable way of breed improvement is now available - the objective identification of outstanding transmitters by aide of computers, based on good data collections from a large number of flocks.

Beyond marketing opportunities, Katahdin breeders should be indifferent to the use of Katahdins in Dorper upgrading schemes. The big question is; can Dorper genetics contribute any desirable traits, which could not be sufficiently and efficiently identified by modern computer technology within the Katahdin breed? - I would like to leave this an open question, *cum grano salis* of caution - does the pasture look greener (\$\$) on the Dorper side of the fence? 🐄

(Continued from page 8, Kirchoff Opinion)

beef cattle genetics are falling out of favor. Why? Our animals are too big. Their dairymen are switching to genetics from New Zealand. While being of the same breed, their animals are smaller in stature. While milk production from the individual animal is less, more of the smaller animals per acre produce more milk per acre. With beef cattle, most are finished on grass. These animals finish out at around 900 lbs and to get the appropriate marbling, the beef cattle need to be smaller stature to get the marbling and "taste" that consumers want. Larger animals in Argentina are fed grain for meat export to USA and Germany.

Most of the animals in our flock are what I call medium sized with ewes around 145-150 lbs. We also have animals both 20-25 lbs heavier and lighter. While it may be particular to our flock, we have noticed the lighter animals shed sooner, have more AA coats, and tend to have twins at the first lambing (11-12 months). The heavyweights are often the last to shed in the spring, often do not totally shed the first year (but do the following spring) and tend to have singles the first time. Data from our first year (of recording rate of gain numbers) are vague. Most, but not all, large framed ewe lambs had gains above the mean. Most, but not all, small and average sized ewe lambs had smaller gains. In future years with more data, we may then see a trend.

To sum it up, one needs to produce what the market wants. If the market isn't educated as to what it really needs, we may be in for trouble. As Jim mentioned, a high input system with lots of grain is well suited to using large animals. A low input system with only forages would be better off with smaller animals. Buying large animals with high rates of gain and putting them into a system using no grain and low quality forages will probably be very disappointing and potentially disastrous. I'm afraid that if everyone focuses on large animals, the same thing will happen to Katahdins that has happened to other livestock breeds. For example, 25 years ago, only Nubian goats with spots and long ears were marketable. To remain competitive, my mother bought bucks with spots to produce offspring of the desired color. In the process, she also introduced knee problems and reduced milking ability. It took years of intensive culling to restore the herd's productivity.

I am not promoting small animals over large animals. Size differences are a result of genetic diversity, which is something I think the Katahdin breed needs to maintain, not do away with. I believe the individual breeder needs to determine which type of animal best suits their operation and market. In doing so, they will be turning what some would consider a liability into their asset. ♪

Next Newsletter Deadline: May 1, 2001

Please send items for the newsletter to: Teresa Maurer, KHSI Operations, PO Box 778, Fayetteville, AR 72702 or email them to: khsint@earthlink.net

SARE Grant for Marketing Lamb Awarded to Five KHSI Members

Michael Seipel, Missouri

Five KHSI members have received a SARE (Sustainable Agricultural Research and Education, USDA) grant for the project "Direct Marketing of Missouri Katahdin Lamb". The objectives of the grant are to increase consumer awareness, appreciation, and consumption of Katahdin lamb; to create profitable direct marketing opportunities for lamb producers; to increase contact and information exchange between sheep producers and lamb consumers; and to develop a marketing brochure that can serve as a template for other sheep and livestock producers. The Marketing Coordinator hired for the project, Katie Dallam, is currently developing a marketing brochure and planning other promotional activities. The color marketing brochure will promote the nutritional and environmental benefits of Katahdin lamb in general. The brochure will also contain an insert with additional information on a particular producer's farm, so each collaborator can customize the brochure to his or her potential customers. The grant is paying for a nutritional analysis of a Katahdin rib chop, and the results will be incorporated in promotional materials. Beginning in March, each collaborating producer will host a cooking demonstration or lamb tasting to promote his or her product and educate consumers about sustainably produced lamb. The five collaborating producers are David Coplen and Carol Fulkerson, Lynn and Donna Fahrmeier, Barbara Hurst, John and Darla Noble, and Michael and Cherié Seipel. Other interested Katahdin producers can obtain the brochure template (when it is complete) and add their own pictures or information to customize it to fit their marketing efforts. The producers hope to eventually develop a web site describing the cooking demonstrations and other marketing activities undertaken as part of the project, and other producers may also wish to apply this model to their own direct marketing efforts. For more information contact Michael Seipel (mseipel@truman.edu or 660-768-5744). ♪

Montana Sheep Breeder Puts His Money Where His Mouth Is

Vaughn & Naomi Johnson, Montana

After several years of research, I am joining the Katahdin fold. I sold my flock of 200 Columbia wool sheep last fall. After a great deal of thought and conversations with agricultural research folks from Canada to Texas, sheep specialists in the Dakotas and Dubois, Idaho, and shepherds with hands on experience, my logical choice was Katahdins.

One of many reasons was the people I encountered; the owners, breeders and officers within the organization. They had a consummate desire and passionate belief in taking the breed forward and making an impact on the industry. They realized there was room for improvement but have established realistic goals. I am impressed that good feet, legs, and conformation are more important than color, and that a rugged productive ewe who raises a lamb under range conditions which markets well with a lean carcass is paramount. I hope the association stays with a medium sized animal. Bigger is not always better. I hear that all-white is the color of choice and brings a premium. I sincerely hope that color does not become more important than conformation. I hope the judges and the breeders maintain their focus. I have seen what has happened to other breeds of animals with Hereford cattle (ever try and sell a line back or red necked bull?) and Australian Shepherd dogs (AKC has ruined many herding breeds). I hope the officers keep a firm grip on their goals.

I am putting my money where my mouth is. I feel extremely fortunate to have located and purchased an outstanding flock of Katahdins from the Hilltop Farms belonging to Brian and Helen Choquette at Kelvington, Saskatchewan. Due to other commitments they are dispersing their entire flock. Brian and Helen started in the early 90's and built up to 150 breeding ewes. When they were showing in the late 90's, they won numerous awards at North Battleford, Melfort, Regina and Prince Albert, including grand champion ram and ewe and premier breeder. Many of their rams were sold into Alberta and helped establish some of the reputation flocks. They have shared a wealth of knowledge with me and I hope to continue to use their valued advice. The ewes arrived in April and we start lambing in May. As I sort things out we will be marketing some of the ewe lambs and some select ram lambs.

Our ranch is 36 miles north of Yellowstone Park and 16 miles south of Livingston, MT. on US HWY 89 South. Now that we are a part of the KHSI family we offer a special invitation to one and all to stop in the ranch for a visit. The coffee pot is always on. We host and manage the Montana Stockdog Challenge on May 27 and 28. Forty of the best border collies in the country will compete. We expect about 1000 spectators over the two days....yes....Katahdins will be on display. The proceeds of the challenge are donated to charity. Call 406-333-4555 for more info. ☺

Inspection Request Deadline:
May 15, 2001

Please call Operations at 501-444-8441
to request an inspection for 2001.

Great Lakes KHSA Under Way

Naomi Hawkins, Ohio

On November 1, 2000 a letter was sent to all the states bordering the Great Lakes, asking for interest in starting a regional group. The response was immediate and generous, as those who chose to join sent in donations to help with startup costs. The Great Lakes Katahdin Hair Sheep Association (GLKHSAs) was formed.

Our fourth newsletter went out on February 1, 2001 to seventeen GLKHSAs members and other interested individuals. The monthly newsletter includes ads, upcoming events, and bits-and-pieces in "From Our Members". In the "Katfarm of the Month" section, a GLKHSAs member tells us about their sheep and farm operations. Other features include a question of the month, KHSA Operations and Registry news, and current Katahdin research information when available.

Anyone may place a classified ad in the GLKHSAs newsletter. If you are advertising Katahdins for sale, the ad is free. Any other legitimate product or service may be advertised at a rate of \$1 per 6" line. All ads placed by GLKHSAs members are free.

Great Lakes KHSA is not geography-specific, but you must be a member of KHSA to join. Our membership hails from 5 states. Donations are appreciated to help keep the regional newsletter going. At this time, membership dues of \$12 will be requested annually, starting July 30, 2001. For more information and to see our current membership list, visit our website at www.members.tripod.com/naomihawkins/. To send in classifieds or join, write: GLKHSAs, 2397 SR 503, Lewisburg, OH 45338, call Dean and Naomi Hawkins at 1-937-839-1280, or e-mail us at: glkhsa@hotmail.com. ☺

South Central Region Plans June Sale, Meeting

Robert V. Elliott, Texas

South Central Katahdin Hair Sheep Association (SCKA) members will meet at RoJo Ranch in Caldwell, Texas, on June 15 for its semi-annual meeting. The purpose of this announcement is to inform all Katahdin breeders that we are trying to put together a sale for interested buyers. Several of our breeders from Mexico have indicated an interest in attending this meeting if there are sufficient numbers of breeding stock for sale. If you believe you will have stock for sale at this time and are interested in attending our meeting, please let me know preferably by e-mail or by phone message. I will need to know how many lambs and mature stock you plan to bring, your name and phone number or e-mail address so that I may make plans and respond. It will be necessary for each breeder to bring his own portable fence or electro-net to contain his stock. There are three motels in Caldwell: Caldwell Motel, The Surrey, and The Sunset. More information will be in the next KHSI newsletter.

Other proposed items on the agenda are the election of officers for SCKA; inspector training and testing; and protocol for shipping sheep to Mexico. We hope you can attend. Please call me soon at 979-567-9895 so that we can plan accordingly and welcome you to our ranch! ☺

Pacific Coast Group Plans Clinic, Talks, Show

Ray & Marcia Schultz, California

The Pacific Coast Katahdin Hair Sheep Association (PCKHSA) basically includes all states west of the Rockies. We are now officially a nonprofit organization under California law.

We'd like all KHSI members to know that PCKHSA will be having a clinic this fall in August or September. The PCKHSA Board of Directors is now planning the event, but we expect to have some very good speakers and a Katahdin Show. Our annual PCKHSA business meeting will also be held there.

You do not need to be a PCKHSA member to attend, but if you are interested in coming please contact us so that we can inform you of the details of the event as they become available. If you are not yet a member of PCKHSA and would like to become one, please call Ray or Marcia at 916-682-7456 or email us at

<r-m-schultz@softcom.net>. We want to keep our mailing list updated! ☺

World Sheep and Wool Congress 2001

Dr Charles Parker, Honorary KHSI Board Member (Ohio) and President of the World Sheep and Wool Congress '01 asked KHSI to announce the following information:

The Sixth World Sheep and Wool Congress at Christchurch, New Zealand promises to broaden global perspective and enrich ways to direct the world sheep industry for improvement into the 21st century. The theme, "Performance, Productivity and Profit" will feature speakers from around the world whose charge is to deliver information in farmer's language and pitch their address at the "Leading Edge".

The five day Congress (November 11-15, 2001) will coincide with the Canterbury Royal NZ Agriculture Show, which includes the largest sheep event in the Southern Hemisphere. Four tours, pre and post Congress, are scheduled to allow firsthand experience with New Zealand agricultural industries.

Congress organizers say: "If you plan to be part of the future sheep industry, the 2001 World Sheep and Wool Congress is an event you can't afford not to attend". The Congress is scheduled every 3 years, and was last held in Pomona, CA USA in 1998.

For more information and/or to request a registration packet, without obligation, contact Congress planners in New Zealand soon at:

mail: WSWC2001, PO Box 647, Rangiora 8254, NZ
FAX: 64 3 313 2098
internet: www.exevents.co.nz/WSWCexint.htm ☺

Classified Ads

For Sale -

- ~ Ewe lambs & select ram lambs for sale in fall, 2001. Vaughn & Naomi Johnson, 406-333-4555, 30 Pinto Ranch, Livingston, MT 59047 pintoranch@mcn.net
- ~ Ewes: young and mature, registered, good quality & prices (overstocked). Anne Morrison, RR1 S4 C 53 in Crescent Valley, British Columbia VOG 1H0. 250-359-2216.
- ~ Ewes and rams: Tim Neufeld (Manitoba) is taking orders for sale of lambs, excellent bloodlines and genetics available, small flock. Call Tim at 204-268-4435.
- ~ Ewe and ram lambs: born in 2000. Also 1 older ram. Flock dispersal-call for details. Tina Woodworth, (Washington) 360-777-8888.
- ~ Ewes and ewe lambs: 30 mostly white, 3 months-4 years of age. Older ewes are bred. Donna Neth, 7071 Shady Oak Trail, Vacaville, CA 95688, 707-446-9530.
- ~ Ewes and rams: 50 for sale, commercial and registered Katahdins, as well as some crossbred. Nelson Creech, 333 Creech Rd, Snow Hill, North Carolina 28580. Call 252-747-3096. Creechfarms@aol.com
- ~ Ewe and ram lambs: March and April, 2001 born, registered, scrapie program, available early summer. Robert Frantz, 4101 S County Farm rd, Warsaw, IN 46580. 219-267-4308.
- ~ Ewe and ram lambs: Bill and Dianne Campbell (Alberta). 403-379-2155 or bdc@telusplanet.net
- ~ Ewes, 1 ram, guard llama: selling entire flock, 11 registered ewes (5 are on 5th lambing, 6 are 1st lambing—all lambing over the next month). Sandy Fisher (Manitoba) 204-546-3416.
- ~ Rams: 5 born March/April 2000. Mac Edwards. 660-867-5692 or aedwards@webtv.net
- ~ Rams: 5 registered, born in 2000. Roy Smith, 4291 Black Rd, Kelowna, B.C. VIX 7V8 or call 250-765-6274.
- ~ Rams: 1 born April, 2000 and twins born January, 2001. Bill Tatham (Virginia) 540-896-2912 or email: beefbill@gte.net
- ~ Ram: Mary Lou Hayden (Indiana) 2 year old reddish brown large twin ram for sale. email: mhayden@hort.purdue.edu or call 765-583-0126, Dogwood Farm, 8960 West 50 South, West Lafayette, IN 47906 .
- ~ Ram: Barb Hurst (Missouri) has 21 month old ram for sale, Duncan (formerly Ellis) from Birch Cove Farm from David Copen and Carol Fulkerson; produced two ram lambs that went to slaughter right at 100 pounds last fall. Registered through KHSI with number 019478. Contact barhb@goin.missouri.org.
- ~ Rams: Rhonda and Jack Kelmer (Alabama) has KHSI-recorded Katahdin-Dorper cross rams for sale, born January 2001. 43440 James Road, Atmore, AL 36502. 334-446-7587.
- ~ Ram lambs: Born December 2000 and January 2001, twins out of triplet ram that reached 200 lbs at one year. Some white, some white with black flecks on face. \$200. Sydney Cox (Arkansas) cox_at_home@hotmail.com 870-446-5595
- ~ Guardian dogs: 10 registered Pyrenees puppies, born 1-11-01, available for sale 3-10-01. Puppies being raised with lambs being born. Robert Elliott 979-567-9895 or rancherob@aol.com
- ~ Mouflon ram and 10% Mouflon ewes, as starter flock for trophy horned sheep. Lynn Magedson (northeast Texas) 903-496-2070 or lmagedson@netexas.net
- ~ Ewes and rams, young and mature, registered and purebred recordable. Leann Biehl (Tennessee) 615-441-3739.

Wanted to buy -

- ~ 30 Katahdins (registered or commercial). Brother Joseph, Clear Creek Monastery, 5804 W. Monastery Road, Tahlequah, OK 74441. Call 918-772-2454 or fax: 918-772-1044. Note: the monastery has limited resources, and probably would not be able to purchase registered sheep without a price break, but they would like to talk to interested sellers.
- ~ 100-130 commercial Katahdin ewes. Prefers sheep located in OH, KY, IN, PA, MI. Jim Kleir, 18456 Pitts Rd, Wellington OH 44090. 440-647-2405. thekleirs@juno.com
- ~ 40 Katahdins. Prefer registered, 8 months old. Richard Neves. Contact livestock@powernet.org 🐾

2001 KHSI Annual Meeting

Jim Lovelace, Missouri

The 2001 KHSI Annual Meeting will be held on Friday and Saturday, September 21-22 in Troy, Missouri, which is 50 miles north of St. Louis. The KHSI Board will meet on Thursday, September 20. On Friday there will be lectures, demonstrations and a barbeque. On Saturday there will be additional demonstrations in the morning, followed by KHSI's annual business meeting after lunch, and we will conclude with a banquet that evening. An inspector training workshop will probably be scheduled on one of the two days, but we will announce details in a later KHSI newsletter.

The closest airport is Lambert Field in St. Louis, Missouri. The most economical and convenient motel to stay in will be the Oak Grove Inn: 636-528-8128. Room prices including all taxes are \$37.67US for one person and \$50.04 for two people. Another local and more modern motel is the Holiday Inn Express, with \$64US for one or two people: 636-462-9999.

If you have suggestions for the annual meeting, you are welcome to email me at <jameslovelace@hotmail.com> or call: 573-384-5398. We will need lots of help to make the meeting run well, and appreciate any offers. If you are not able to reach me, please call Teresa or Jim at KHSI Operations: 501-444-8441 or email them at <khsint@earthlink.net>. ☺



KHSI
c/o Teresa Maurer
PO Box 778
Fayetteville, AR 72702-0778