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<http://www.angoragoats.com>

Vol 18

March 2011 Newsletter

No. 1

EAGMA was founded in 1987 as "VAGMA" (Virginia Angora Goat and Mohair Association) to foster and support, through education and marketing, small Angora goat farming, small mohair-based business, and the acceptance of a non-traditional farm animal. In 2008, in recognition of the growing diversity of the membership, VAGMA became the Eastern Angora Goat and Mohair Association.

President's Letter:

Kidding season is almost over; a bittersweet time. No more midnight trips to the barn through twelve inches of new snow and ten-degree temperatures. No more worrying about the potential disaster around the corner. No more surprise presents awaiting you when you open the barn door in the morning. No more rainbow sunshine with rays of black, brown, tan, and white to brighten up the day. But all is not lost. Now is the time of the footloose kid; running full tilt into the field and back again in the blink of an eye – streaking, stopping, darting, twisting, jumping. This is the definition of being a kid. I hope all has gone well with your kidding and I look forward to seeing a sampling of them at the show in May.

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With kidding behind, eyes shift to the future and the EAGMA annual show, which will be at the Frederick, MD fairground again this year. In an effort to avoid the heat, we have moved the show to the end of May this year, on Memorial Day weekend, Saturday May 28th and Sunday, May 29th. We hope that the weather will be much cooler and the holiday weekend will provide an increased visitation as people venture out on the unofficial start of summer. The show will be in the same area of the fairgrounds with the vendors in the same building, the goats in the barn immediately next to the vendors. The condensed layout will facilitate visitors roaming back and forth from sales to goats. Visit the web site for details.

There will be a mohair pool this year at the show. Collect your stored fleece and bring it to the show. EAGMA will collect fleece and transport it to the warehouse in Texas for sale helping you clean out your closet and providing some cash to help pay the bills. This is one of the benefits to membership and is limited to members. Since there are no regional warehouses, this is a tremendous opportunity to sell your unsold fleece. Let me tell you from experience, it is a long way to Texas and back! I will be traveling down in early July to coincide with the Habey, Lockhart, Ross and Speck goat auction, so if you need animals transported home, let me know.

-- John Frett

Mark your calendars!
The EAGMA Annual Show is at the Great Frederick Fairgrounds,
Frederick, MD, May 28-29, 2011

February Board Meeting Conference Call Minutes

The Board conference call “met” at 11 AM on February 13th, 2011.

Board members in attendance; John Frett, Pat Kalitka, Mindy Soucek, Leslie Orndorff, Greta Dise, Colleen Reed, Karen Schlossberg;
EAGMA members in attendance: Kristina Lawwill.

Old Business

Treasurer’s report in absentia: \$2,889.24 in the bank.

Membership report: 52 members. One new, one back in the fold.

EAGMA 2011 May Show Schedule:

After this meeting, John and Karen will take these notes to draft a schedule for review and input from everyone before it is solidified for publication. Colored show flips to Saturday; White show flips to Sunday.

Greta made a motion to eliminate the Red Card show. – Seconded by Karen. The reasoning is a lack of participation. Motion carried.

Greta made a motion to add Mature Doe to the colored class. – Seconded by Karen. The reasoning is that there is sufficient interest (due to comments regarding the white show version) to try it. Motion carried.

Saturday Afternoon/Evening and Sunday Morning:
Mohair Pool check-in

Handspun Skein Check-in: Friday 2-6; Saturday 8-9 AM - Leslie will do check-in

Fleece Check-in: Friday 2-6 PM; Saturday 8-9 AM – Leslie will do check-in

Animal Check-in: Friday 2-6 PM; Saturday until the show starts. Sunday until the show starts.

Leslie O. will contact Glen to figure out if we can get Marcos Fernandez to do a talk on Angora raising for a Saturday morning spot on parasites. If not parasites, then economics.

Karen S. will contact Susan S. to speak on Saturday morning (9-10 or 10-11) on the other topic (economics or parasites).

ACAGR – Greta will lead goat inspections from 8-9AM on Saturday

CAGBA – Brice will lead goat inspections from 11-

12 on Saturday – Colleen will confirm.

John will be the point-person for vendors. All interested parties are welcome to contact him.

Classes:

Mindy will look at last year’s schedule and this year’s requests. She will then put up a slate of suggestions to pass around via e-mail. Mindy will check with Heidi about a children’s program. Mindy will contact Becky about her kids doing a kids-for-kids program. We need this to be scheduled immediately.

Greta reminded us to be cognizant of who is willing to teach but also has goats (example: Phylleri can only teach during the white show).

Colleen will ask Lisa (again) for her show suggestions and will ask if Bill would be willing to be the “Staff photographer.” – we would definitely credit them on the web site.

John will check with the Fairgrounds on rules regarding food vendors. Colleen will then arrange for a food cart on site.

Demonstrations:

Shearing - Emily Chamelin would *love* to come back to shear at both EAGMA shows – Memorial and SVFF. Karen will invite her back and ask her to skirt as well.

Karen will talk to spinning guilds.

Volunteers and tasks

Information Booth – should be manned all day all weekend. Includes what the schedule is, where is everything, raffle ticket sales, who is selling, etc.

- Pat K. will work with Adrienne to recruit volunteers and establish a schedule for the table.
- This should be from noon on Friday through end of Show. Friday 12-5, Sat 8-5, Sun 9-4
- Money and donations will be coming in – we need a strong tracking system.
- Print up information sheets on all of the competitions for handout and reference.
- Lost and Found box!

General Discussion

Kristina suggested T-shirts labeled “staff” for everyone. Karen and Greta will look into shirts.

Karen asked where we are in the financial obligations and where we are with Frederick. We

are committed to this show this year, and we need to figure out if this show is financially viable. John asked if we should have premiums at the show, or not. Premiums have traditionally been \$25 for grand prize, \$15 first, \$10 second, \$5 third. After this show, he wants to revisit the financial feasibility of it.

Mohair Pool

Leslie will bring the stand.
John will bring the scale, receipts (tri-copy – 1) EAGMA, 2) owner, 3) goes to TX), and bags.
Driver volunteers (willing to discuss it): John, Kristina, Connie, Mindy. John is thinking to go down in July to coincide with the regular auction.

SVFF Show

Hotels are blocked, but need to be reserved SOON.
Judges are arranged.
There is a competing show that has booked most of the local event rooms, so big dinners will be an issue. Recommend small, intimate meals instead.
Advertising is started; websites are being set up; forms and applications are getting drafted.
There won't be a specific/separate education part – it's going to be focused on the goat show. SVFF has plenty of other venues, and this is a double competition anyway.
There is still a discussion about the point system, and if it is viable across the two days.
What we-all need to do: be sure to respond promptly to e-mails, at least with a "received; no comment."

New Business

Colleen asked - How do we get the southeastern folks back into the EAGMA group? Does anyone know what's going on down there? Kristina volunteered to contact Sandy and Todd regarding the mohair pool and the two shows.

Next meeting: Sunday, April 10th, at Karen's at 11AM. We need to talk elections.

.....
Welcome New Members!

Lee Findholt
Hinesburg, VT
.....

EAGMA Annual Show Frederick, MD May 28-29, 2011

NEW and UPDATED

The preparations for the show are well underway. Along with a change in date that will hopefully keep us all from heat exhaustion, we have some other exciting announcements about the show.

- **There will not be a "red card" class** in the colored goat show this year. Light colored goats are welcome in the regular lineup.
- **There will be a "mature doe" class for colored goats** as well as one for white this year. The rules are the same for both: the doe must be 5 years old or older at the time of the show. You are on your honor regarding this.
- **There will be a mohair pool** at the show this year. The pool is for EAGMA members only, and of course membership is open to everyone.
- **There will be shearing on site** again this year. If you are planning to attend either SVFF or NYS&W, this is a good option.

We are also working on setting up a food and drink vendor on site for both days of the show, though that remains unconfirmed at this time.

Keep your eyes on the website, or on the mailbox for the next newsletter, for a final schedule of workshops, classes and events.

CALL FOR SPONSORS

The way in which we offset a great deal of the costs of prizes (premiums) for the goat competition is through sponsorship of the classes. A \$50 sponsorship pays for all three premiums for that class, with your name in a banner across the top of the class listing. You also will be given space for a business-card size advertisement for your farm or business in the show program. Please consider sponsoring a class, and contact Colleen with your chosen class. Checks made out to EAGMA can be sent to Adrienne Hall Bodie, Treasurer.

PLAN YOUR TRIP

Thanks to Lisa Check of Flying Goat Farm, we have a list of local hotels for you to consider as you plan your trip this year:

Courtyard Frederick

5225 Westview Drive · Frederick
301-631-0903

Hampton Inn Frederick

5311 Buckeystown Pike
Frederick, MD 21704
(301) 698-2500

Holiday Inn - Frederick

5400 Holiday Drive, Frederick, MD
(301) 694-7500

Days Inn Frederick MD

5646 Buckeystown Pike, Frederick, MD
(301) 694-6600

Best Western Historic Frederick Hotel

420 Prospect Boulevard, Frederick, MD
(301) 695-6200

Comfort Inn Red Horse

998 West Patrick Street, Frederick, MD
301-662-0281

Hampton Inn Fort Detrick

1565 Opossumtown Pike, Fredreick, MD
301-696-1565

This is not an exhaustive list of all of the Frederick lodging available. There are many B&B's in the downtown area as well as hotels and motels. Visit the Frederick Tourism Board for a list of these as well as campgrounds. www.fredericktourism.org

Mohair Pool

At the EAGMA Annual Show

Every two years EAGMA provides an opportunity for you to sell your mohair in the warehouse in Texas. Typically, this is held in conjunction with the annual show. To facilitate the collection of mohair, I would like to provide you some information about the process.

Skirting – All mohair to be included in the pool must be well skirted. All tags and stain must be removed. Any second cuts, short hair or damaged hair, and debris must be removed.

Grading – Fleeces should be graded into kid, yearling, adult, and tags (including stain).

- These are grades, not necessarily the age of the goat that produced the hair. Kid grade hair is 28 micron or less, yearling, from 28 – 38, and adult is more than 38 micron. While it is not necessary to measure the diameter of the fiber to grade your hair for the pool, you should evaluate the hair based on your best attempt to determine fineness and handle of the fleece.
- You should also grade individual fleeces for uniformity. Leg and belly hair may well grade coarser than the rest of the hair on the animal and should be placed into the appropriate grade.
- The other factor is fleece length. If you are shearing on a regular, 6 month schedule, then your fleece is likely all in the same grade, about 5 – 6 inches of hair. If your hair is more than 6 inches long or less than 5 inches, it should be graded and bagged separately.
- Lastly, any fleeces with excessive kemp should be graded separately.
- Please note that the warehouse deals with all colored fleeces as tags and stain, regardless of grade.

Bagging – If you have 50 lbs or more of hair in grade, please bag your own fleece. The bag should be clearly labeled with your name and grade of hair in the bag. Do not use the woven polyester feed bags, as the warehouse will reject these bags.

It is important to grade your hair well since it will be combined with others hair. The hair will be checked at the warehouse and if the bag is not uniform, the whole bag will be penalized with a lower selling price impacting all producers in the bag. Your fleeces will be reviewed at check-in. If fleeces are not well prepared according to the above criteria, hair may be rejected for shipment.

Your hair will be weighed at the drop-off and you will be given a receipt for the pounds of hair in each grade, a copy will remain with EAGMA, and a copy will go to the warehouse. You will be required to write a check for the transportation charge of \$0.40 per pound. This fee will help partially offset transportation costs. Once at the warehouse, the fleece will await sale. Once sold, the warehouse will issue checks. The EAGMA secretary will then divide the check, according to the receipts collected, and issue checks to the individual producers. This process will take from several weeks to several months, depending on the sale of the hair.

Call for Volunteers New York Sheep & Wool October 15 & 16, 2011

Dan Melamed has been running the Angora Goat Show at the New York Sheep & Wool Festival in Rhinebeck, NY for **fifteen years**. If anyone deserves a break, it's he. Anyone who can spare some energy is asked to please consider pitching in and helping out at the Rhinebeck event in October. Please contact Dan (slhdem@valstar.net) to ask how you can keep a strong and long institution going!

Angora Goat Show at the Shenandoah Valley Fiber Festival Sept 23-24, 2011

Lodging – There is a room block reserved for the EAGMA group right now at the Winchester Towne Place Suites. You can either 1) Call the hotel - directly (540-722-2722) and inform the front desk agent of the dates and give the group code: EAGMA or 2) log onto www.towneplacesuites.com/gots, enter the dates 9/23 and 9/25, click on special rates and awards, and enter the group code EAGEAGA. Each room has a king bed and a sofa bed and includes breakfast, for a rate of 72/per night. To get this rate you must reserve by July 1st. However, you can cancel the reservation without penalty until 6PM on 9-22-11.

Dinners - Rather than have a massive crowd competing with the rest of the SVFF producers for space around Berryville, the plan for this show is to set up only small dinners with judges. One or two producers can sign up to take a judge to dinner and engage in conversation with the judge with what the producers would like to talk about. This will allow both Fred and Joe David to engage with the producers in answering questions at greater depth and detail.

National News

NATIONAL: The 2010 census numbers for Angora goats and mohair production are in. Angora goats were up 7 percent, totaling 172,000 head. U.S. mohair production during 2010 was 1.09 million

pounds. Goats and kids clipped totaled 181,000 head. Average weight per clip was 6.0 pounds. Mohair price was \$3.49 per pound with a value of 3.79 million dollars.

TEXAS: The San Angelo Rodeo and Livestock show included both an Angora goat show as we know it – full of intact bucks and does - and a “Wether Futurity” contest in which wethers are judged on their qualities as both a goat and as a mohair producer. "Most market or show animals are judged based solely upon their body confirmation, muscling and conditioning," said Zane Willard. "The Angora wethers are judged on the typical criteria common to meat goats, plus their mohair fleece, which makes them dual-purpose. The objective is to exhibit an animal that can place high in both body and fleece." The wethers are first shown in fleece, then sheared and returned to the ring for a second judging. Source:

<http://www.gosanangelo.com/news/2011/feb/17/lots-to-do-on-second-day-of-show/>

CALENDAR

If you have a local show that you would like to include here, please send Colleen an e-mail or give her a call.

2011 Shows & Fiber Festivals

- March 17-19. Smokey Mountain Fiber Festival (TN)
<http://www.smfaf.org/>
- April 15-16. The Fiber Event at Greenville (IN)
<http://www.thefiberevent.com/>
- April 23. Connecticut Sheep & Wool Festival
<http://www.ctsheep.org>
- April 30. Sheep Shearing Demonstration Day (MA)
<http://www.goreplace.org/sheepshearing.htm>
- May 7-8. Maryland Sheep and Wool
<http://www.sheepandwool.org>
- May 7-8. New Hampshire Sheep & Wool
<http://www.nhswga.com>
- May 15. Sedalia Spring Fiber Festival (VA)
<http://www.sedaliafiber.com>
- May 15. Rhode Island Wool and Fiber Festival
<http://www.coggeshallfarm.org/calendar.html>
- May 15-16. Waynesburg Sheep and Fiber Festival (PA)
<http://www.sheepandfiber.com/>
- May 20-22. Kentucky Sheep and Fiber Festival
<http://www.kentuckysheepandfiber.com/>
- May 20-22. Carolina Fiber Festival (NC)
<http://carolinafiberfest-org.web23.winsvr.net/>
- May 21-22. Upper Valley Fiber Festival (OH)
<http://www.uppervalleyfiberfest.org/>
- May 22. Long Island Fleece and Fiber Fair (NY)

http://www.hallockville.com/fiber_fair.html
 May 27-29. Middle Tennessee Fiber Festival
<http://www.tnfiberfestival.com/>
 May 28-29. Massachusetts Sheep and Woolcraft Fair
<http://www.masheepwool.org>
 May 28-29. Great Lakes Fiber Show (OH)
<http://www.greatlakesfibershow.com/>
MAY 28-29. EAGMA Annual Show (MD)
<http://www.angoragoats.com> - Date Change!
 June 3-4. Hoosier Hills Fiberarts Fair (IN)
<http://hoosierhillsfiberartsfestival.com/>
 June 4-5. Maine Fiber Frolic
<http://www.fiberfrolic.com>
 June 11-12. Iowa Sheep & Wool Festival
<http://www.iowasheep.com>
 July 15-17. Midwest Fiber & Folk Art Fair (IL)
<http://www.fiberandfolk.com>
 July??. TAGRA annual show & sale (TX)
 contact Dale Naumann at 830-796-7429
 Jul 31 - Aug 2. Mid Atlantic Fiber Association Bi-
 Annual Conference
<http://www.mafafiber.org/>
 Sep 10-11. Wild n' Wooly Fiber Festival (WV)
<http://www.wvalpacafiberfest.com/> - 2nd year!
 Sep 10-11. Garden State Sheep & Fiber Festival (NJ)
<http://www.njsheep.org>
 Sept 10-11 Endless Mountains Fiber Festival (PA)
<http://www.pafiberfestival.com>
 Sept. 17-18. Finger Lakes Fiber Arts Festival (NY)
<http://www.gvhg.org/fest.html>
 Sept. 17-18. Midwest Festival of Fibers (OH)
<http://my.voyager.net/~nfisher/>
 Sep 24-25. Shenandoah Fiber Festival (VA)
<http://shenandoahvalley.tripod.com>
 Oct 1-2. Fall Fiber Festival of Virginia
<http://www.fallfiberfestival.org>
 Oct 1-2. Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival
<http://www.vermontsheep.org/festival.html>
 Oct 2-9. Fiber at Fryeburg Fair (ME)
<http://www.fryeburgfair.com>
 Oct 15-16. Southern Indiana Fiber Arts Festival
<http://www.southernindianafiberarts.com>
 Oct 15-16. New York Sheep & Wool Festival
<http://www.sheepandwool.com>
 Oct 21-23. Southeastern Animal Fiber Fair (NC)
<http://www.saffsite.org>
 Oct 22. Harvest Days Fiberfest (TN)
 No reliable web site link is available at this time.
 Nov 5-6. Fiber Festival of New England (MA)
[http://www.thebige.com/ese/ESEEvents/Fiber_Festival.a
 sp](http://www.thebige.com/ese/ESEEvents/Fiber_Festival.asp)
 Nov 19-20. Green Mountain Fiber Festival (VT)
<http://greenmountainfiberfestival.com/>

Classified

These ads are free to members. Send them via any method to the newsletter editor. You may advertise any incidental goat-, fiber-, or farm-related sales.

EVENT: Annual Spring Farm Tour April 23, 2011 from 10 am - 3 pm. Free tour of the barns to watch the newborn kids and lambs at play. Watch spinners turn wool into yarn. Enjoy springtime on the mountain at Steam Valley Fiber Farm in the Northern Tier of Pennsylvania. Directions available on our website at <http://www.steamvalleyfiber.com> 3/11

FOR SALE: Maremma puppies. Pure bred pups. 4 female, 4 male. Whelped 10/9/10. Currently being raised with Angora goats and Sheep. \$500 each. Not registered. Parents are working on the farm. Buckwheat Bridge Angoras 518-537-4487/ slhdem@valstar.net Location is in NY about 20 miles north of Rhinebeck, NY. <http://www.bwbagoats.com> 11/10

FOR SALE: Recessive Colored Angora Goats from Persimmon Tree Farm. These goats are show quality from champion bloodlines. Most breeding stock is from CSPN Sharon Chestnutt, Oregon. Doe kids, a few buck kids, yearlings, and adults for sale. Reverse badger, badger, and solid black. Contact Greta Dise 717-235-5140 or persimmon2@juno.com 3/11

FOR SALE: Colored Angora Goats, Border Leicester Sheep and Nubian Goats raised using sustainable farming practices. We produce Mohair & wool yarn, socks, roving and locks, Angora hides & sheepskins from our own fiber. Hand-Dyed yarn, spinning and weaving equipment, books and dyes for sale. Contact Steam Valley Fiber Farm at steamvalley@verizon.net or call 570-998-2221. Visit our website for Workshop Descriptions or more information at www.steamvalleyfiber.com 3/11

Membership Dues

Annual \$25 dues are due in January and should be sent to: Adrienne Hall Bodie, Treasurer, Solevento Farm, 1002 Still House Drive, Lexington, VA 24450.

To encourage timely payment, July 1 is the cutoff date for the \$25 fee. After that date, renewal dues will be \$30 and the newsletter will not be mailed until dues are paid.

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2010 EAGMA MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

If you see a mistake on this list, please contact Adrienne Hall Bodie with the correction. Names preceded by ☼ are listed as having paid 2010 dues. If you are paid up but not shown to be, contact Adrienne Hall Bodie, treasurer.

ALABAMA

☼ Susan E. Long
Long Dream Ranch
17356 County Road 89
Opp, AL 36467
(334) 493-1711
susanelong1@cox.net

GEORGIA

☼ Tina Evans ✓
Dry Creek Naturals
160 Pine Bow Road
Taylorsville, GA 30178
(770) 324-4380
mohair@bellsouth.net

MARYLAND

♥ Lisa and Bill Check ✓
Flying Goat Farm
5241 Bartonsville Road
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☼ Mary & Mark Henderson ✓
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☼ Pam Welty ✓
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MelaniePitts@yahoo.com
www.MacGregorHollow.com

NEW HAMPSHIRE

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bonny.collard@yahoo.com
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NEW YORK

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(518)537-4487
FAX 518-537-6099
slhdem@valstar.net

☼ Chuck & Lisa Skillman ✓
Troll Bridge Farm
20 Sawmill Drive
Arcade NY 14009
(714)560-7493
lisa@trollbridgefarm.com
www.trollbridgefarm.com

☼ = renewed for 2010
♥ = renewed for 2011
✓ = has colored Angoras

NORTH CAROLINA

♥ Elaina M. Kenyon ✓
Avillion Farm
4737 Shanklins Dead End Rd
Efland, NC 27243
(919) 563-0439
avillionfarm@avillionfarm.com
www.avillionfarm.com

☼ Lori E. Levy ✓
Locust Tree Farm
7714 Chartress Road
Oak Ridge NC 27310
(540) 421-3385
llevy@fibiz.net
www.locustreefarm.com

OHIO

☼ Becky Salinger & Edward Cigany ✓
Gypsy Ridge Farm
3800 South Ridge W
Ashtabula OH 44004
salingerr@adelphia.net

PENNSYLVANIA

♥ Phylleri Ball ✓
Steam Valley Mt Fiber Farm
2304 Steam Valley Road
Trout Run, PA 17771
(570) 998-2221
steamvalley@verizon.net
www.steamvalleyfiber.com

☼ Ramona Butt ✓
Muddy Creek Lambscapes
95 Arnold Road
New Park, PA 17352
(717) 382-4194

☼ Glen Cauffman
Glen Cauffman Farm
545 Centerville Road
Millerstown, PA 17062
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♥ John Frett ✓
Pinxterbloom Farm
155 Good Hope Road
Landenberg PA 19350
(610) 274-1508
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☀ Mother Marija
Holy Annunciation Monastery
Byzantine Carmelite Nuns
403 West Country Road
Sugarloaf PA 18249
(570) 788-1205
www.byzantinediscalcedcarmelites.com

☀ Leslie & Ron Orndorff
Tintagel Farm
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VERMONT

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☀ Debbie Kirby
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VIRGINIA

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EAGMA Membership Report

Total members (farms) on the membership list: 53
Please remember to renew your membership for 2011 as soon as possible so that we can use your funds towards the show.

Membership by State

Alabama: 1	North Carolina: 2
Georgia: 1	Ohio: 1
Maryland: 6	Pennsylvania: 12
Massachusetts: 2	Tennessee: 1
Michigan: 1	Vermont: 2
New Hampshire: 1	Virginia: 17
New York: 2	West Virginia: 4



EASTERN ANGORA GOAT & MOHAIR ASSOCIATION

(formerly VAGMA) MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name _____ Business/Farm Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Daytime _____ Evening _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____ Website: _____

New application ____ Renewal ____ // White goats ____ Colored goats ____

Dues are \$25.00 per year (\$30 late renewal)/\$35 with webpage – due prior to July 1 of every year

Free Line-Item Newsletter Advertisements for the Membership - All 4 EAGMA Newsletter Issues

Make check payable to EAGMA

Send form and check to

Adrienne Hall Bodie, Treasurer, EAGMA

Solevento Farm

1002 Still House Drive, Lexington VA 24450

... as of 3/11



FROM:

Colleen Reed, editor
9424 Mountjoy Road
Marshall VA 20115

TO: