

signed up for a lifetime show membership.

You are a very positive person and actively working on a successful breeding program. How do you think we can motivate our breeders to keep positive and progressive and keep negativity out of our industry? What is a tip we can pass on for a successful future?

I think the best way to motivate breeders to keep positive is to be honest about everything you do. For one thing, it's a lot easier...but I also think it raises the standard. Higher standards, especially when they are not required, for instance by law or by the organizations through which the animals are registered, set a good example that reinforces the positive. It takes effort and a sense of responsibility to the industry and to your customers to guarantee your llamas are free from certain diseases, to remove animals with known genetic problems from all breeding programs (not just yours), and to guarantee your llama's pedigree and age. Ultimately, people will begin to think, "hey, maybe that's the way it SHOULD be." It's not about producing income at the animal's expense or that of a naïve customer.

The thing that will motivate breeders to keep progressive is to keep them active in the show circuit. In 10 years, I've seen a tremendous evolution of what makes a great show animal and the beginnings of serious

breed definitions. We've added the suris, and now there is movement to add miniatures, Argentines, Classics, and other breeds. I think it's great! Look at how many breeds of dog exist. I'm hoping the show circuit can begin to evolve into something a little more sophisticated and hopefully nationally televised. Last year one of my Kryptonite babies, Freestate's Miss Conception, kept winning Grand Champion after Grand Champion. I had a blast! I was so proud of her and of me. The ribbons were big, the premiums nice, the recognition and sense of accomplishment indescribable. After every show, I'd gather up my ribbons and take them to my office and hang them on my door. It caused quite a bit of attention; even the executives took notice and everybody smiled and congratulated me! Now how positive is THAT? ☺

What also motivates me is to learn more about handling, herd health, research, fiber arts, etc. Every time I leave a conference, it energizes me. I want to go retest my hay and my water, and run new reports from my database about parasite loads at various times of the year for various age groups. I want to re-review my use of alfalfa and deworming of my near term moms. I'm further motivated when breeders share their problems and listen to mine and so I stay connected with my local llama group, LAMAS, and with the larger group to the north, GALA.



Ticca's Puffin on the Ritz

Bolivian Taylor Made x M.R.S. Ticca
ILR # 267022

Unrelated to Kantu, Maximo, Keno or Radical our true suri, appy stud is read to bring some excitement to your herd.

Stud fee \$1,000

Roxywood Farms



www.roxywoodfarms.com

901-233-7331

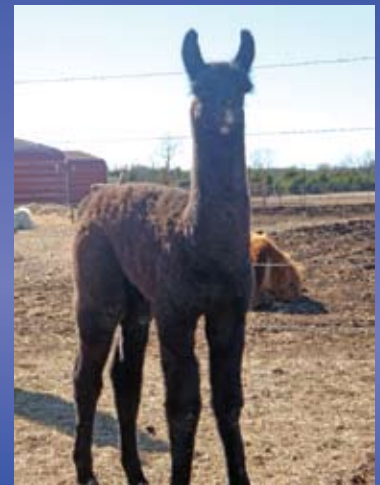
SAPAVECO RANCHES

Exquisite, Well-Bred Llamas

Special Crias



SPV FIFTY-TWO CANDLES
born on
Robin's birthday



SPV LITTLE DRUMMER BOY
born on
Christmas morning

Courtnee & Robin Benson
www.sapavecoranch.com
(512)751-5363





WHAT DO NUNS AND A MONASTERY HAVE IN COMMON WITH RARE BREEDS, FARM CHEESE AND LLAMA SHOWS?

by Cathy Spalding

To visit the Priory of Our Lady of the Rock is to stop mid stream. It is to wonder of the true relevance of our lightening fast society in terms of the mental, emotional and spiritual growth in each of us... most of us somewhat unwilling and rushed participants in this fast paced society. It is to give pause in consideration towards our reverence for the land that supports us and to wonder of our interaction with all life. It is to wonder if we may have not indeed made our lives much more difficult in many ways as a result of our excited rush to make life much easier. And to wonder of the valuables left behind.

Our Lady of the Rock is located on Shaw Island, the smallest of four islands serviced by ferry in the beautiful San Juan Islands of Washington State. The monastery was established in 1977 on 300 donated acres. It is a Benedictine order, the oldest of the western monastic orders dating from the seventh century. Run by an incredible group of eight nuns, the focus of this order involves the traditions of prayer, manual labor and hospitality.

I first noticed Mother Hildegard some years ago at a llama show and sale. How could you miss noticing amidst a woman so full of life leading a llama strikingly dressed in full habit? I quietly wondered. It was not until a few years later that I came to know more of Mother Hildegard George and about Our Lady of the Rock.

Knowledge of the history of monasteries adds understanding towards the depth of reverence, contribution and the significant role they have played in our world over the centuries. Monasteries were the centers of learning during the Dark Ages. It was there that the volumes of knowledge acquired over time were preserved on the parchments

of the scriptoria. It was often the monasteries that held daily life together for the people in times of catastrophe such as war, disease or famine. As a result, there are few monasteries in Europe that are not surrounded by a town. When monks established life in a particular region, people would come and build a town. The first country fairs were held outside the walls of monasteries and churches. Monasteries strive to be self-sufficient and raise whatever is needed within their walls. Fifteen centuries ago, St. Benedict related that manual labor was as important as intellectual study for the nourishment and growth of the human spirit. Our Lady of the Rock is an embodiment of the Benedictine life holding a deep respect and sense of responsibility for the land, its resources and all of its inhabitants. They are committed to help in the preservation of threatened and endangered species and minor breeds of genetically valuable livestock. There is much manual labor balanced with prayer and meditation.

In keeping with their rich history, the nuns on Shaw Island raise a number of fiber animals. They have selected fiber animals that produce sustainable results. Roaming the fields of alpacas, llamas and Scottish Highland cattle are the beautiful Cotswold sheep. Why Cotswold's? Mother Hildegard says they chose the Cotswold in 1990 for a number of reasons. If they are going to raise animals, it is important that they make a difference in helping to preserve the loss of genes that could have commercial and cultural value. As Benedictines, they take a vow of Obedience that includes poverty in their life. That would mean, too, that they are always looking for ways to cut costs on the farm. As one of a number of heritage breeds,

Cotswold sheep are hardy and require little maintenance. They have good reproductive abilities dropping heavy weight lambs with little difficulty. They are not fussy eaters doing well on forage and coarser feed. They demonstrate an ability to adapt to various climates finding water even when the supply is frozen over. This translates into fewer vet bills, no need for fancy feeds and an ability to adapt to Pacific Northwest weather without special housing.

Cotswold's are a large meat breed highly regarded for their wool. Often called the "poor mans mohair," their curly lustrous medium weight fleece can yield up to 15 pounds per shearing with each fiber over 12 inches long. They can be shorn every 7 to 9 months making 3 to 4 shearings possible in a two-year period. There is a demand for Cotswold fiber. A fleece can bring \$5 per pound while the spun wool can bring \$32 per pound. Additionally, there is a demand for the sale of breeding stock with the dark woolled ones being more rare. Mother Hildegard has chosen to raise black Cotswold's still keeping several white ones. Both the wool and the lambs sell for higher prices than the white and are of particular interest to spinners and other hand crafters. Though their contribution to life within the monastery is clear, the nuns also selected the Cotswold for their ancient quality, their looks, their intelligence and gentle disposition. The lambs are each given names befitting of the year in which they are born. One year, the lambs were named after Olympic stars. Among others, Apollo Ohno, Alexi, Vonetta, Elvis and Sarah reside at Our Lady of the Rock. Mother Hildegard is the shepherdess of the monasteries flock of Cotswold's. "I can go on a trip and those here

Ozark Llama Classic Sale & Show May 1-3, 2009

Missouri State Fairgrounds • Sedalia, Missouri

Sale – Saturday, May 2, 2009

Double Show – Sunday, May 3, 2009

“Show Me — The Money”

Over \$10,000 in prize money to be offered

Darrell Anderson • Auctioneer

New this year – Fleece Show & Miniature Llama Show

Contact Information:

Gary/Mary Beeson
beesongm@aol.com
417/581-6692

Rick/Jane Livingston
Renaissancefarmsllamas@wildblue.net
417/473-1714

Larry Kisner
LKLlamas@aol.com
800/397-8145

Steve Smith
Llamatail@aol.com
636/274-0662



say they never hear a peep from the sheep. I can come home and if I so much as cough when I get out of the car, it's instant bedlam. You really don't understand the scriptures until you've raised sheep. As the Bible says, they know the voice of the shepherd.”

According to bone and wool fragments found by archaeologists, the Cotswold is thought to be descended from the Roman Longwool brought to England by the Roman's when they settled there nearly 2,000 years ago. The Roman Longwool became locally specialized developing into such breeds as Leicester, Lincoln and Cotswold. The word Cotswold comes from the “wolds” (hills) and “cotes” (enclosures) that were used to hold the sheep in winter. Cotswold's were well established in England by the 15th century and became the cornerstone of English wealth through the Middle Ages. Some of the most magnificent cathedrals including the 14th century Gloucester Cathedral, which has the largest stained glass window in all of England, were built by the wealth amassed from the wool trade. It is interesting to note that even

today, the Chancellor of the Exchequer still sits upon a sack of Cotswold wool in the House of Commons. It serves as a symbol of England's secure wealth.

The first sheep producers in the United States to register purebred sheep were Cotswold breeders. Christopher Dunn of New York imported the first Cotswold's to the United States in 1832. By 1879, they were the most popular and common breed in America. Over 764,000 were registered within the United States by 1914. In the following years, the dual purpose Cotswold was gradually replaced by more single purpose breeds -- those bred specifically for the purpose of either meat or fiber. With the introduction of the Merino from Australia, interest in the Cotswold began to wane. Merinos were prized for their fine wool and small sized lambs that were quick to mature. They were initially crossed with the Cotswold but as American rural life and American agriculture became more industrialized and labor intensive, development towards more specialized utility was encouraged. Amazingly, there

were fewer than 600 Cotswold ewes in all of England by the early 1980's. By 1993, fewer than 400 lambs were registered in the United States. There are currently fewer than 2,000 registered Cotswold's in the United States and only 400 black.



Mother Hildegard wins 1st Place and Grand Champion with her yearling ewe, Rody, at a National Cotswold Breeder's Association show.

Continued on page 16...





CASSALA



HEYLEE



HIDALGO

Congratulations Walkabout VI Stars!

HIDALGO

(Kastizo-Hezanna)
Cheryl Russell, OR

HEYLEE

(Kastizo-Hezanna)
Rick & Mary Adams, CA

CASSALA

(Federale-Cleocatra)
*Venesa & Chris Carter, MO
and Justin Timm, OR*

STARRMAKER

(Fivestarr-Silhouette)
Ken & Celia Austin, OR

TIJARA

(Falkon-*Tiger Lilly II)
Pam & Gordy Jensen, WI

NEVISCA

(Besakih-Nevasca)
Wayne Rankin, NV

APPRECIO

(Besakih-Apprecia)
Steve & Kim Fritz, VA

METICHE

(LW Marcellus-Maraiya)
Richard Snyder, PA

TARWI

(*Sipan-*Titi)
Cheryl Russell, OR

DESEA

(Besakih-Desa)
Carol Reigh, PA

CASTASPELL

(Carnaval-*Cantilena)
Sherri, Will, & Kayla Tallmon, OR

THE NOMAD

(Federale -*Nomada)
Ed & Margaret Bender, CT

STARROFWONDER

(Bolivian Awombroso-Starrsong)
Ed & Margaret Bender, CT

YLARIO

(Kastizo - *Yapa)
Cheryl Russell, OR

National Grand Champion Suri Male

National Champion 2 Year Suri Male (6)
½ of the National Res. Grand Champion POD (HEZANNA)
Northwestern Regional Champion Suri Male
LFA ALSA Show - Grand Champion Suri Male

National Grand Champion Suri Female

National Champion Yearling Suri Female (14)
½ of the National Res. Grand Champion POD (HEZANNA)
Southwestern Regional Champion Suri Female
LFA Futurity – 1st Suri Yearling Female (21)

National Grand Champion Heavy Wool Female

National Champion Yearling Heavy Wool Female (18)
LFA Futurity – 2nd place to TIJARA Silky/Non-Suri F (19)

National Reserve Champion 2 Yr Heavy Wool Male

Northwestern Regional Champion Heavy Wool Male
LFA ALSA Show – Grand Champion Heavy Wool Male

National Top Ten (5th) Yearling Heavy Wool Female (18)

Buckeye Regional Champion Heavy Wool Female
LFA Futurity - 1st Silky/Non-Suri Yearling Female (19)

National Top Ten (10th) 2 Year Medium Wool Female (13)

½ of the National Grand Champion POD (NEVASCA)
Southwestern Regional Reserve Champion MW F

National Top Ten (9th) Yearling Heavy Wool Male (17)

Eastern Regional Champion Heavy Wool Male

National Top Ten (5th) Yearling Medium Wool Male (17)

The Big E - Reserve Grand Champion Heavy Wool Male

National Top Ten (9th) Heavy Wool Yearling Female (18)

Grand National Fleece Show (6th) Dbl Coat under 24 mo. (33)

Eastern Regional Champion Heavy Wool Female

Northwestern Regional Champion Non-Breeder

(First time shown!)

The Big E – Grand Champion Heavy Wool Male

(First time shown!)

The Big E – Reserve Grand Champion Heavy Wool Female

(First time shown!)

Grand National Fleece Show (4th) Suri under 24 mo

Other Stars from the Hinterland Program

AMARU (Federale – Aviana) <i>Wayne & Darlene Rankin, NV</i>	National Top Ten (7th) Medium Wool Adult Male
CAMCHATKA (*Silverspirit-Candidasa) <i>Jerry & Katy White, UT</i>	National Top Ten (4th) Heavy Wool Adult Female
CASCADE HIGH (*Whist - Catalpa) <i>Caitlin Colburn, OR</i>	National Reserve Champion Heavy Wool Adult Male (11)
COSMOS THE ROCKETMAN (Fivestarr - Caracola) <i>Holly Russell, OR</i>	National Top Ten (9th) Advanced Pack (22) National Fleece Show (2nd) Dbl Coat under 24 mo. (33)
ESSKA (Carnaval - Eskala) <i>Ken & Celia Austin, OR</i>	National Top Ten (6th) Heavy Wool 2 Year Female
HJ CADFAEL'S CASPER (Cadfael – Overland Trail's Metallica) <i>Stan & Judy Wolff-Mills, CO</i>	National Champion Medium Wool Adult Male (11)
ICEBREAKER (Fivestarr–B.T. Spumoni) <i>Holly Russell, OR</i>	National Top Ten (5th) Medium Wool Adult Male (10)
NEXSTARR'S SAMBUCA (Cristobal–Nextstarr) <i>Carlos Mendoza , CO</i>	National Champion Yearling Heavy Wool Male (11)
PAPUCHO (El Fuente-Kobra's Sahalia) <i>Rick & Mary Adams, CA</i>	<u>National Grand Champion Non-Breeder</u> National Champion Adult Non-Breeder
PREMIERA'S CHOCO LATTE (Besakih-Premiera) <i>Carlos Mendoza, CO</i>	National Top Ten (4th) Medium Wool Yearling Male (17)

Owned & Shown by Hinterland

ALAKARTE (*Sipan-Aisza)	<u>National Grand Champion Medium Wool Female</u> National Champion Yr Medium Wool Female (25)
ARIETTA (Federale-*Ariana)	National Top Ten (8th) Yr Medium Wool Female (25)
BELLASERA (*Sipan-Balissima)	National Reserve Champion Yr Heavy Wool Female (17)
EAST FORK ILLUSION (Starr Fyter–The Devine MS Lily)	<u>National Reserve Grand Champion Medium Wool Female</u> National Champion 2 Yr Medium Wool Female (13)
LYNX (*Silverspirit-Lovli)	National Top Ten (6th)Adult Heavy Wool Male (11) Co-owned with Margaret Drew – Stonehenge Llama Ranch
NESKOWIN (Besakih–Nevasca)	National Champion Adult Heavy Wool Female (5)
NOVADA (Federale-*Nomada)	National Reserve Champion 2 Yr Heavy Wool Female (6)
PERUVIAN VISTEON (*Kantu P5-*Nevasca P5)	National Champion Adult Suri Male (5)
SILVER LIGHT (*Samponero–Silver Chime)	National Champion Juvenile Medium Wool Female (22)
NEVASCA (Federale-*Nomada)	<u>National Grand Champion Produce of Dam</u> (7) with ~ NESKOWIN & NEVISCA
HEZANNA (*Samponero-Hinerangi)	<u>National Reserve Grand Champion Produce of Dam</u> (7) with ~ HIDALGO & HEYLEE
CATALPA (The Canadian-Catalina)	National Top Ten (3rd) Produce of Dam (7) with ~ CASCADES & CASCADE HIGH



ARRIETA



NEVASCA



EAST FORK ILLUSION



LA GRAZIA



NOVADA

Camelid Breeder since 1965

Kay Sharpnack



Visitors Always Welcome

Eric Sharpnack, DVM