

DSANA President's Update --- October 2017

Dear DSANA Members and Friends

The DSANA Canadian members have been working with enthusiasm to offer us a truly fine 2017 Symposium. The November 30 – December 2, 2017 Symposium will focus on *Make the Production of Sheep's Milk Profitable*. They have cheese and genetic experts coming from Europe as well as Canada. We will visit two sheep dairies on Saturday with an optional cheese class (separate registration) on Sunday. All workshops and written materials will be presented in both French and English. The DSANA Genetics Improvement Workgroup will be presenting a proposal for a North American genetics improvement process. The conference center chosen for the event sounds amazing with accommodations sufficient for all participants to stay in one place. Shuttle transportation from Montreal to the conference center has also been arranged. For those of you living in New England, Orford is a 2 ½ hour drive from Burlington.

The organizers have just announced a registration discount. The first person pays the full price with discounts for additional people. Please check the website for details.

I have my airline ticket purchased and am quite excited to head to Montreal and then on to Orford Quebec for the symposium. There are a few things to take note of in traveling to the symposium. First, be sure to check with your travel agent regarding what you will need for identification; of course, a passport would be the best option. However if you don't have a passport, a travel agent will be able to help you out with other identification options. Secondly, the symposium registration fee will be transacted in Canadian dollars. The current exchange rate is favorable to U.S. dollars. Lastly, be sure to pay your DSANA dues. DSANA depends on membership dues to assist the board in conducting business.

Please refer to the DSANA website or Facebook page for more information: <http://www.dsana.org/> . Join the DSANA Facebook page for updates. <https://www.facebook.com/DairySheepANA/>

The DSANA board is taking nominations for the board. If you are interested, please contact Tom Clark clark@dubinclark.com for information.

Once again, we will be presenting the Boylan award during the banquet to individual(s) who have made significant contributions to the sheep dairy industry. We will also be initiating a Lifetime Achievement Award to an individual who has provided mentorship, expertise, and support throughout a lifetime and has made a significant long-term impact on the growth of the industry. A registration fee scholarship to the symposium will be given to an individual nominated by the award winner. This first year's scholarship will be given in loving memory of Tom Kieffer.

In closing, I look forward to seeing many familiar faces and to meeting many new. See you in Quebec.

Laurel Kieffer

DSANA President