

March 2008

I've decided to write about what happens at Half Creek Farm so people can read about our progress, as well as see the pictures I've added.

March has been a cold windy month, but not so bad that we can't see hope for spring. Our goats are doing well. Our buck "Rock Star" has been getting pretty aggressive with the does so I made a "Ram Guard" for him. It's a shield that blocks forward vision so it's more difficult to ram another goat. I designed it off one I saw in catalogue. Seemed pretty good for about an hour but the last time I saw him it was hanging around his neck, not over his face. Dave got off several shots at a coyote in the goat enclosure today. We're crummy shots so he missed but hopefully convinced it to go somewhere else. We have a kind of love/hate relationship with the local coyotes. I absolutely don't want them picking off our livestock, but I really appreciate them getting all the local vermin. When we first moved here I lost a newborn kid to a coyote. Since The Wookiee developed her "big dog" bark, we haven't lost any more though. They are close by and she does have to bark at them several times a week, but so far that's convinced them to keep their distance.

Sue Sadler, a friend in Ranier, sent us an email. Sue and Charles raise Boers and somehow ended up with Rock Star, a registered Kiko Buck...which we bought from her. She and Charles were calling him "Butt Head" at the time, and I thought Hmph! That's an awful name for him. It took about 3 weeks and we now alternate between Butt Head and Rock Star.



I'm the President of the Columbia Basin Goat Guild, and our meetings are on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. It's nice to meet with others with a similar interest and talk for a while. The organization was the brain child of Gloria Torsen and I and a few others and has managed to persist for quite a while now. We're forming plans for an all goat show to be called Farm Fest.

The Wookiee has her training with a great trainer (Erylon Hines) in The Dalles Oregon on Fridays. She developed a sore on her neck and I took her into the vet on the 20th. Marianne (wonderful Goldendale vet) thinks it's an abscess that ruptured. Started her on antibiotics and said to lay low, so had to bail on herd training Friday.

