

Historic-Foundation & Multi-Bloodline Composites

KARAKUL SHEPHERDS ALLIANCE ~ *where the flocks gather*



Anakus Karakuls

Pronounced Ana-kush, Turkish for mother bird

~~ an MBC Line (Multi-Bloodline Composite) ~~

*Linebred on 5 major bloodlines from 1980s to 90s (all except Dawley);
The Registry Flock (Stultz/Koch/Glotfelty), Ponte, Hagerman,
Hindi, TAMU (San Angelo); Voluska (minor)*

Julie's story

I purchased three Karakul ewes and a ram from Karen Koch around 1980. Sometime, prior to our move from Michigan to northeastern Washington, Karen offered me the registry and the flock that went with it. She also put me in contact with Bud Ponte. When we moved, we took a ram from Karen for Bud.

May 1983: We moved to a farm in Rice, Stevens County, Washington.

November 1983: Bud Ponte's son Rick delivered 25 Karakul ewes and a ram whom we traded for the Koch ram we had brought with us.

July 1984: The Koch Registry flock arrived: 43 ewes, 4 rams, and 12 lambs.

Fall 1984: Lambing resulted in Ponte lambs and a few Koch lambs.

Spring and Fall 1985: We had full lamb crops [both Ponte & Koch bloodlines].

A 1990 trip to Arizona to visit Page Jacobs resulted in some trades, where I acquired a few of her unique Hagerman-line sheep, a couple with short/elf ears.

In 1993 at the Estes Park, Colorado Karakul Gathering, I purchased the ram Luka (Glotflety lines) from Letty Klein, and a ram Jake (pure Hagerman, 11 years old, non-fading black) from Caren Glotfelty. I also purchased two TAMU ewes from Dr. Jeff Black, Ada, Oklahoma, one with elf ears. These ewes originated from the Texas A&M University San Angelo Research Station Karakul flock, which had been dispersed a couple years prior. At the Gathering I met Joe Schukar who was checking out the Karakul show.

Through the years, Joe and I traded sheep. I got some Hindi sheep, a special ewe Della (Voluska, minor line), and a wildly-spotted ram called Tequila (half-Hagerman). Della had only one lamb, a ewe, who was dam to Letty's ram Abdul. Tequila came from Connie Bliss in Colorado. He was here for only a couple of years, but he indeed left his mark, as I still get black and white spotted lambs.

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Some time prior to the 1997 Maryland Festival, the second Karakul Gathering, my son and I visited Bud and Eloise Ponte in northern California and we traded sheep.

When I gave the registry to Rey & Dee Perrera in 2000, the Ponte sheep I had acquired went to them for *safe keeping*. My flock was reduced to a very few, then I was sheep-less for about 18 months, only for a short time.

During the years, Diane Magden developed a large flock from my sheep and a few ewes from Tina Jacobs, Goldendale, WA (who had purchased stock from me). Diane had most, if not all of my bloodlines. She ran them on 1200 acres of open range in the far southeastern corner of Washington, protected by a large family of Pyrenees dogs. The sheep interbred for about 10 years and the flock size grew to almost 400 head. When, in 2006, she needed to quit, many were sent to market in Oregon, and the rest, over 100 head, came back to Rice, Washington. A couple ewes recognized me and came right up to me, seemingly wanting to go back home. One more trip to pick up the last of Diane's sheep was made in fall 2007. This was the last of any 'new' additions to my flock, but they were my sheep originally. Anakus Karakuls were isolated in northeast Washington from 2007 to 2021.

The pure Ponte sheep were gone, but their bloodlines remained in my flock. The Hagerman influence is present, non-fading blacks from Jake and spotted sheep from Tequila. But the twenty years of absorbing many others and a tendency to retain my favorites, they were chosen for:

- fiber quality (especially for felting)
- color (blacks and whites)
- conformation (elegant, fine boned, long ears)
- presence (friendly, attentive, alert)

I have created a Karakul bloodline mix that is unique.

~Julia DeVlieg, Anakus Karakuls,
Rice (northeast) Washington, February 8, 2019
edited by Deborah Hunter

Color Note: After 14 years of isolation 2007-2021, Anakus Karakuls exist in every color except brown.