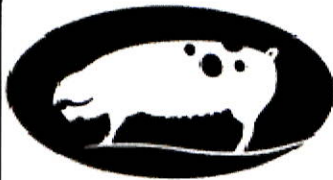


## From Across The Pond

Looking through some old Spot Press issues I realised it was long time since we had any updates on the situation regarding the fortunes of the GOS breed in America. We covered the last import by Luther Clevenger for the GOSPB but had little or no information on the sister organisation The Gloucestershire Old Spots of America (GOSA) and a recent import by Loretta Heath. Through the powers of social media contact was made and here for you is the latest news. With thanks to April Prusia GOSA VP

**Mandy Garbutt**



**Gloucestershire Old Spots  
Of America, Inc**

**March 2021**

I am so pleased with our growth and our organization. It took a lot of time to get good committed volunteers and now we have a great team. The slides below are from our annual GOSA membership meeting. It gives numbers of pedigreed pigs and in a nutshell where GOSA is at the present time. In addition to this the GOSA is trying to grow a social media presence to gather data about where hogs are and help us start seeing the conformation differences or similarities of specific lines so we are requesting that breeders hashtag their pedigree when posting photos of their pigs on facebook and instagram. Example #GOSUKPrincessAnn or #GOSUKRufus

Thank you so much for asking us to produce these articles for Spot Press. April Prusia, Wisconsin USA GOSA VP



### GOSA 2020 Registration Report

#### 2020 Black Group Registrations

Line - # Registered #w/Progeny

Patrick	6	1
Bluebell	3	0
Countess	7	3
Dolly	3	1
Princess Joan	1	1

#### 2019 Black Group Registrations

Line - # Registered #w/Progeny

Patrick	4	1
Bluebell	2	1
Countess	1	0
Dolly	1	0
Princess Joan	0	0

#### 2020 Green Group Registrations

Line - # Registered #w/Progeny

Gerald	25	4
Princess	15	1
Dahlia	0	0
Muriel	19	4

#### 2019 Green Group Registrations

Line - # Registered #w/Progeny

Gerald	7	1
Princess	4	0
Dahlia	0	0
Muriel	8	1

#### 2020 Blue Group Registrations

Line - # Registered #w/Progeny

Rufus	23	1
Princess Ann	33	1
Ellen	11	1
Primrose	0	0
Princess Freda	0	0

#### 2019 Blue Group Registrations

Line - # Registered #w/Progeny

Rufus	5	1
Princess Ann	22	1
Ellen	1	0
Primrose	0	0
Princess Freda	0	0

#### 2020 Red Group Registrations

Line - # Registered #w/Progeny

Sambo	5	1
Princess Mary	1	1
Star	0	0
Star Antoinette	10	2

#### 2019 Red Group Registrations

Line - # Registered #w/Progeny

Sambo	3	0
Princess Mary	3	1
Star	0	0
Star Antoinette	1	0



### Registrations 2016-2018

	2016	2017	2018
Bluebell	24/8	23/2	17/0
Princess	19/4	17/3	2/2
Princess Ann	21/4	22/6	11/10
Princess Mary	27/7	19/5	9/1
Patrick	11/6	8/1	7/1
Gerald	5/3	7/1	3/0
Rufus	4/0	6/1	3/1
Sambo	5/2	10/2	5/2



### 2020 Highlights

#### Registry Herdbook

- In addition to the five lines (with progeny) from Loretta Heath, two additional recently imported pure UK sow lines are in the GOSA herdbook.
- 65 new breeders helping conservation efforts.

#### 2020 GOS Express

- GOSA registered UK lines increased regionally across the US into six additional regions adding from one to five additional UK sow lines, previously not available.
- 34 Animals registered & delivered
- 20 Different Farms
- 12 Different States

More information can be found at <http://www.gosamerica.org/>  
and <https://www.facebook.com/gosamerica/>



## From Across The Pond

**Here s Loretta Heath's story** "I can only start this narrative by stating that 'I love GOS pigs'. Without this affection I would not, as a novice, have pursued breeding them. Without the desire to improve the genetics of my herd, I would not have imported more females from the United Kingdom, and without the support of the Gloucestershire Old Spots of America organization, aka GOSA, I would not have been encouraged to trek across the country in an effort to spread these new British genetics to other GOS pig devotees.

We started out from our Northern Californian ranch heading south on 101 on a late October morning on our nine-day cross country trek, bouncing around in an older model Dodge diesel truck, pulling an even older rust bucket of a livestock trailer, whose straw-filled interior held our precious cargo. The 34 GOS piglets, from 6 different maternal lines, ranged in age from 3 to 6 months and were pretty closely situated and not a lot of room for socializing. The weather varied from blizzard-like conditions to gorgeously warm sun filled autumn days. husband's prowess mechanical skill with the workings of automobiles was put to the test when he, in about 2 hours, replaced a faulty water pump while both laying on the snowy ground and standing up hunched over a cold engine, in the midst of braving frigid sleety winds. Our many thanks to the auto parts store who lent him the tools and their parking lot so that the job could be successful.



Our journey took us through (to) seven states for a total of seven thousand miles. We successfully dropped off our precious cargo at the farms of seven GOSA members who generously offered their barns, pens and fields, to serve as hospitality hubs, giving

room and board to more than their own pigs until all the new owners could come and pick up their piglets. Drop-off states included California, Arizona, Iowa, Wisconsin, Virginia, Kentucky and Louisiana with animals headed home to five additional states. Throughout our journey, we were generously supplied with food specialties of the different farms, or that which the owners generously from their hearts provided.



Covid was rampant, so we could not socialize in close quarters for very long, but I feel I absolutely must describe the kindness and friendship given by the hub farms, by discussing, in a bit of detail, the delicious food and drink they so generously provided. Grandma's pumpkin bars, warm, moist, and spicily fragrant, that she graciously baked in the wee hours of the morning, so it was perfectly fresh that were washed down with home roasted and ground coffee kept hot in a take-home thermos. Thick, hot and savory vegetable stew that was packed in canning jars and followed by a king-sized bag of incredible lard-popped popcorn sprinkled with aromatic herbs and spices. A home-grown dinner of smoked pork roast, fresh garden greens and sweet potatoes that was followed by a goody bag for the road packed with

home-made goat cheese and a huge loaf of banana bread that we savagely pulled off and ate in chunks until it disappeared. Sandwiches on thick slices of home baked bread with an even thicker layer of pimento cheese inside, served to educate us on that southern staple, which I had only ever heard of, but never had the pleasure to eat. A large goody-bag, suspiciously and hilariously enclosed in a Victoria's Secret bag, contained all manner of snacks, the most memorable of which were home-made cheese, strawberry jelly, and yes, a large bottle of vodka that was properly enjoyed upon returning home in celebration of the successful journey. **Thanks to Loretta Heath for words and April Prusia for photos**





## From Across The Pond



Left Celebrating some wonderful news from Justin Anderton at The Atlas Homestead in Cooper, Texas! A Princess Mary gilt delivered eleven lovely piglets last night! Way to go everyone!

Below: Lovely litter of GOS hogs from The Four Gables Farm, Green Hill North Carolina



Below: GOS piglets from Rachel Breedon's herd in Kentucky where she is hoping to make the trip from to New Hampshire in the summer spreading the Princess Mary blood line



Left A Princess Ann litter born for Travis Odom one of the breeders who long hauled from Georgia to collect pigs from Virginia see story opposite page



With thanks to GOSA members for use of photographs

Good to see GOS going from strength to strength across the pond!



Above Socializing with the GOS down on Ethan D Matters One Sip Farm Madison, North Carolina. Piglets from the Princess Iline