



# Word from the Herd

Louisa Veterinary Service

Winter 2023

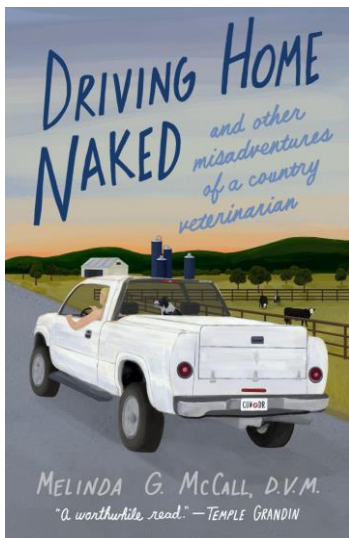
## On The Home Front



Katie Lukowicz

Meet Katie Lukowicz. Katie has started to ride along with Dr. Melinda this month to complete her last few weeks as a veterinary student before graduating at the end of January and joining the practice. She is a returning local from Goochland, VA. Katie completed her undergraduate degree at Virginia Tech in Animal and Poultry Sciences and went on to vet school at Ross University on the island of St. Kitts. Katie brings a deep love of food animals and the community. She has aspired to be a farm vet since early childhood when she first started raising Flemish Giant rabbits, which she may talk your ear off about if you stand still long enough.

## *Driving Home Naked and other misadventures of a country veterinarian*



I have some exciting news...I have written a memoir about my veterinary career and it's going to be published by She Writes Press in August of 2023. This is something I was encouraged to do by a client, and having a bit of extra time during Covid, I worked very hard on it during that time. It's a collection of about fifty stories that I turned into a memoir, with some help from a writing coach. I would encourage you all to visit my author website [www.drmelindaauthor.com](http://www.drmelindaauthor.com) and sign up for the email list if you'd like. The book will be available for pre-sale a few months before the release date. For now, please check out the website, then once you read it, please tell a friend! You all will definitely want to read it, after all, you might be in it!



Lucy is currently in first grade at Grymes Memorial School. She enjoys school and loves anything to do with animals. (And no...we do not own the donkeys!)

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## NEW PRODUCT ALERT



PUSH Paste has been discontinued and replaced with another product made by Genex, called “**Calf Nutritional Paste**”. This product is mostly high in protein and fat, but it also contains caffeine to stimulate a young calf, lamb, or kid. This product is especially useful during the cold months.



**Draxxin KP** is another new product. It is simply Draxxin with ketoprofen, an anti-inflammatory/fever reducer, added to it. It is dosed a 1.7cc per 150 lbs. We are not stocking this product, but we can order it for you if it is something you would like to try.

## Are you ready for kidding/lambing season?



Here is a checklist to help be prepared

- ✓ -Have the dams had their **CD&T booster**, **Bo-Se**, and **dewormer** 4-6 weeks ahead of birthing?
- ✓ -Have you trimmed the dam's feet and checked her for external parasites like lice?
- ✓ -Do you have your kidding/lambing kit stocked?  
It should contain gloves, soap, lube, lamb puller (if you have one), towels, bulb suction device, etc.
- ✓ -Do you have plenty of bedding and heat lamps for a lambing/kidding area if necessary?
- ✓ -Do you have selenium, colostrum, powdered milk, and molasses on hand?  
Be sure to check **expiration** dates on your previous stock.





## Tips on Caring for Livestock in Extremely Cold Weather

- Fresh, **warm water** is key; provide trough heaters, defrost water or provide hot water to thaw frozen water; keep in mind animals drink less than what they need if the water is too cold or icy.
- Maintaining a higher level of energy is also essential in cold weather. A lot of their energy goes toward keeping warm. Feed **extra concentrated feed** if possible but be careful not to change their diet too quickly on ruminant animals. Include extra free choice hay.
- Environmental measures should include providing a **windbreak** and reducing drafts. Additionally, provide unrolled hay or straw for **extra bedding** for nestling and insulation against drafts within their shelter.

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## Upcoming meetings

CVCA meeting is 1/23/23 from 6 to 8:15pm at the Gordonsville Fire Hall sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim.