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A publication of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative
President's Message

by Doug Wilson

Despite significant weather warnings the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative (WSBC) Annual Meeting, held on Saturday, March 9, was well-attended. The Arlington Sheep Day provided exceptional morning presentations by Dr. Dan Morrical, Premier 1 Supplies and UW-Madison Shepherd Todd Taylor. Mark Johnson, from Purina, worked with a large number of youth on project management.

After four years serving as president of WSBC, Al Thorson chose not to seek re-election for his last term year on the board. Thank you to Al for the extra hours and leadership during his time as president. Likewise, Jeff Nevens chose to not run for a fifth year as an officer. This transition, with Al and Jeff still on the board, will be valuable.

Sue Rupnow was not eligible for re-election. Sue provided valuable leadership and her work was appreciated. Due to new responsibilities, Stephanie Formo chose not to run again; we thank her for her service. Elected to the board were Lynn Lee, Tim Jergenson and Nancy Burton.

Congratulations to those recognized for their service and achievements; they have done a great deal for the Wisconsin Sheep industry. Additional info on the winners can be found elsewhere in the publication.

During the business meeting, several reports were provided, and the financials and budget were reviewed. The membership approved a significant update of the WSBC bylaws. This project was completed with outside consulting from the UW Center for Cooperatives. This is an important step in the continuing efforts to make WSBC a professional organization.

An April board meeting will launch our business year. At the meeting Bob Black will update the board on the Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival. We will appoint committees, begin discussion on a policy manual and visit about board structure (staggering terms and size reduction as stated in the updated bylaws). We will also determine the 2019 meeting dates. Board meetings are not open to the membership or public. However, if you have a topic you desire be on the agenda or you wish to meet with the board on a topic, please notify me and it will be considered. Meeting dates for 2019 will be posted on the WSBC website.

WSBC completes many positive activities with members, the university, and the public in general. The sheep industry has many business models. Our membership relies on a variety of resources to generate revenue: wool, direct marketing of lamb, feeding lambs and sale of breeding and show stock. Our intentions are to help all members. Our lead activity is the Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival; it is considered one of the best in the nation. Contact Bob Black at 920.623.3536 if you can help in any way. Volunteers make it happen and we all benefit from their support.

The Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Office Has Moved!
The office of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative and Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival has moved and is now located at 5621 N County Road F, Janesville, WI 53545. The new email address is wisconsinsheepbreeders@gmail.com and the phone number changed to 608 743-9080.
Thirty years ago, being part of both the Wisconsin and national sheep industry was not on the horizon for Jeff Nevens. His fiancé, Leslie Richards of Lodi, Wisconsin, had declared that she “was pretty much done with the farming life and ready to move on.” Jeff had grown up in the suburbs of Milwaukee, and had a very limited knowledge of rural agricultural life, mainly just glimpses through Leslie's family. So years later when life brought them back to Lodi, and Leslie informed him that their young daughter, Joelle, wanted to raise sheep for a 4-H project, it signaled the beginning of a journey that Jeff and his family are still traveling.

A&J Nevens Livestock is named after the couple's children, Andy and Joelle, and started with three market lambs exhibited at the Lodi Agricultural Fair that had been purchased from Todd Taylor, UW-Arlington Shepherd and his wife Lynnette. Leslie is a sixth generation shepherdess, and along with her father, Duane Richards, became mentors for Jeff. Nevens Livestock then branched out to raising purebred Southdowns and eventually bought out Duane’s remaining Targhee flock. They have since narrowed down to only Targhees, a breed that has been raised on the family farm for over 50 years and in a limestone-basement barn that has seen dairy cows, horses and multitudes of sheep over the years, currently lamb out between twenty and thirty purebred Targhees during the winter and spring months. The focus is on both a quality carcass and a fine wool clip and they sell breeding stock and fiber all over the country as well as market ready animals for local consumption. The entire flock has been enrolled in NSIP since 2012 and the data generated is used for breeding and culling decisions. As Jeff explained, “NSIP has allowed us to use quantitative numbers where previously we were just using qualitative judgments. It’s really changed how we manage our flock.”

Jeff and his family members have been part of many organizations over the years, including the American Southdown Breeders Association, the Wisconsin Southdown Association, and the Wisconsin Livestock Breeders Association. He and Leslie also served as Columbia County State Fair sheep coordinators for eight years. They are also very active members of the US Targhee Sheep Association (USTSA), where Jeff has served on the Board of Directors for the past nine years, three of which serving at Vice President and three of which serving as President. He and Leslie are co-chairpersons of the USTSA Starter Flock Program, which has awarded sixteen starter flocks over the past decade, totaling 52 head of sheep, and has also donated close to $12,000 towards buyer’s credits for the award winners to purchase additional sheep at USTSA national sales. They also co-chair the Wisconsin Junior Targhee Sheep Association state-level Starter Flock program, and have helped organize four national shows and sales, including the 2019 USTSA National Show and Sale being held this coming July 18-20 at the Lodi Agricultural Fair Grounds.

Nevens is in his seventh year as a Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative (WSBC) board member, serving four of those years as Vice President. He has been an active member of the Communications Committee, the Scholarship Committee, the Wisconsin Wool Works Committee, and currently is the ShoWorks coordinator for the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival. Jeff also helped coordinate the planned giving of the WSBC to the University of Wisconsin-Madison Sheep Unit. He and Leslie are part of the Fleece Show committee at Festival, and are yearly sponsors of both the Junior Sheep Shows and the Youth Sweepstakes event at Festival. He also coordinates WSBC hospitality events at both the Wisconsin State Fair and Arlington Sheep Days and the Wisconsin Southdown Association’s annual state fair show.

Meet Your Director – Jeff Nevens

The Nevens Family continues a strong history in the sheep industry that began six generations ago for Leslie. The family is also a third generation recipient of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op Master Shepherd Award. (l - r) Son-in-law Ryan Wendlandt, Leslie Nevens, Andy Nevens, granddaughter Melody Wendlandt, daughter Joelle Wendlandt, Jeff Nevens
family continues a long-standing tradition of exhibiting at the Wisconsin State Fair where they help host “Targhee alley,” the post-show hospitality gathering of exhibitors and friends. In recognition of their impact on the purebred industry, in 2012 the family received the WSBC Master Shepherd award, a third generational award, the recognition having also been awarded to Leslies’ father, Duane, and grandfather, Glenn Richards.

Jeff is a full-time registered pharmacist and is quick to point out that his involvement in the sheep business would not be possible without the support of the entire family. Daughter Joelle is living in Whitewater with husband Ryan Wendlandt, daughter Melody and son Charlie. Andy recently graduated from college and is employed at Full Compass Systems in Verona. “My family and I have been blessed to part of this industry. But even more important have been the friends we have made through this project, who just happen to be some of the finest people I have ever met in my life!”

Exhibitors at the Wisconsin State Fair since 2005, A & J Livestock of Lodi focuses on producing competitive Targhees backed by NSIP records, selling breeding stock and fiber across the country.

Leslie and Jeff Nevens, shown with the 2018 Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival Supreme Champion Wool-Breed Ewe, not only exhibit at the event but are avid volunteers, serving on the Fleece Show Committee and are sponsors of the Youth Sweepstakes and junior sheep shows. Jeff is also the coordinator of the ShoWorks registration and entry program for the festival.

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Leslie & Jeff Nevens Family, Lodi, WI  608-592-7842
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Arlington - Tim and his wife, Mary Jean, own and operate CloverLawn Stock Farm near Almena, WI in Barron County. Their flock currently consists of about 125 commercial ewes with mostly a Dorset background, but in recent years they have begun using Polypay rams from the UW Arlington Sheep Unit to produce replacement ewes. They use terminal sires on a portion of the ewes to produce either feeder lambs or finished lambs depending upon market conditions. They lamb ewes in the early spring in a converted dairy barn and use rotational grazing extensively for the ewe flock.

Tim purchased his first sheep when he was eight years old in his first year in 4-H. It was a grade Suffolk ewe, she delivered twins, and his career with sheep was off and running. While he grew up, the sheep flock also grew in size as his father allowed him space for the sheep on their dairy farm. Tim showed sheep at the Barron County Fair and the Wisconsin State Fair. During his early college years at UW-River Falls, his parents grew a bit weary of caring for his sheep, and he sold them. The money from the sale of the flock paid for most of his college expenses. Tim’s degree from UW-River Falls was in Ag Education, and he later obtained an M.S. degree from UW-Platteville Agricultural Industries.

After college graduation, he started his UW-Extension career as a 4-H Youth Development Agent in Clark County. Tim retired in January 2018 as the Barron County Agent after a 33 year career in Extension. This included positions in Clark, Sawyer, Polk, and Barron Counties.

Tim and Mary Jean got back into sheep production in the early 1990’s with some ewes purchased from the Spooner Ag Research Station. Their children showed sheep through 4-H at the Barron County Fair.

During Tim’s time as an Ag Agent in Polk and Barron counties, he became active in the Indianhead Sheep Breeders Association right from the beginning of the association, and he worked extensively with their annual Shepherds’ Clinic. Over the years, some of his most rewarding experiences have been working with sheep producers and with UW Extension Specialists and reseachers on ag production problems and letting sheep train him about animal care and welfare. Another highlight was having the opportunity to work with Claire Mikolayunas, former Extension Small Ruminant Specialist, and Ryan Sterry, St. Croix County Ag Agent, to produce the “Lambing & Sheep Handling” DVD a few years ago.

Tim’s outstanding service to Wisconsin’s sheep and agricultural industries has been recognized with several awards including the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Extension Agent Partner in Agriculture Award in 2007, the Indianhead Sheep Breeders Association Extra Mile Award in 2009, the Sheep Industry Award from the Spooner Ag Research Station in 2012, and the Indianhead Sheep and Goat Breeders Association Friend of the Association Award in 2019.

Tim Jergenson has been a great ag educator, an active sheep producer, and a dedicated facilitator of sheep educational events, as well as providing stellar service to the Indianhead Sheep and Goat Breeders Association. He is a very worthy recipient of the 2019 Art Pope Sheep Industry Award.

This award is annually presented in memory and honor of Professor Arthur L. ‘Art’ Pope who was a faculty member in the Department of Meat and Animal Science at UW-Madison for his entire 43-year academic career. He was recognized as an international expert in sheep nutrition, especially mineral nutrition. He owned and cared for his own flock of commercial ewes and purebred Hampshire sheep. Art had owned purebred Hampshire sheep for 73 continuous years, and it was one of the three oldest Hampshire flocks in the U.S. at that time of it’s sale in 2009. Prof. Pope died in 2010 at age 89.
Presented by Sue Rupnow - Director, Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative

Arlington - I appreciate the opportunity to present the Reilly family of Impact Hamps with the Master Shepherd Award for 2019. To the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative, is recognizing one of the outstanding shepherd families and results-proven flocks ever in the history of Wisconsin sheep production. And, regardless of your business model: wool, feeder, seedstock-breeder, show-supplier or direct-marketing; you have to be impressed with the accomplishments of these individuals.

Jayci and Brian Reilly live in Shullsburg, Wisconsin, and retain 250-head of Hampshire wether-type ewes and 100 commercial ewes which serve as recipients in their embryo transfer program. The flock started in 1995 when they purchased 90 bred ewes and they have had as many as 525 head. Jayci, and son Calvin, work full-time with the sheep and Brian’s 40-hour career is as a livestock nutritionist for a local cooperative. Daughter Tierney spent her youth working with the sheep but now is employed as a purchasing agent in North Platte, Nebraska.

The Reilly’s are always on the leading edge of technology when it comes to managing the flock. Researching new ideas and implementing technology which increases revenue and takes advantage of their genetic base is always apparent. Impact Hamps was one of the first to utilize embryo transfer and manages one of the largest ET programs in the country.

At Impact Hamps the results speak volumes. Recognized as one of the best genetic pools in America, they have sold sheep into 37 states. Each year, Reilly’s market over 150 breeding ewes and an amazing 150 show lambs. They have sold rams to about every major wether-type breeder in the U.S. Impact Hamps is absolutely a brand name commanding deserved high prices, including six-figure rams. Actually, it is difficult to find a wether breeder that does not have Impact Hamp genetic influence in their flock.

If your business model is one of a wether-type breeder, the showring builds your brand. Impact-bred sheep have won at Louisville, Denver, Kansas City and numerous state fairs. An amazing accomplishment is during the last 25 years at the Wisconsin State Fair, Impact has raised or had a buck sire the grand champion market lamb 16 times and the reserve champion 12 times. Although the flock is registered Hampshires, they exhibit commercial ewes and have had grand champion 9 times and supreme champion ewe 3 times at the Wisconsin State Fair.

Brian is nationally recognized as a judge and has judged majors such as Houston, San Antonio, the Ohio State Fair, the Oklahoma State Fair and Louisville. At Impact Hamps the Reilly’s are all about “getting better.” They are never satisfied and hold an incredible passion for improvement. Seldom, if ever, has the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative had the opportunity to recognize such outstanding influencers in the sheep industry with the Master Shepherd Award.

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Arlington - Nancy Burton and her husband Sean reside near Argyle, Wisconsin.

Nancy has been involved with sheep for over 22 years. It all began with three cross-bred ewe lambs that were given to her when she was pregnant with her first child and she’s never looked back. She currently maintains a flock of 75 Registered Suffolks and is lambing around 60 ewes, using three different rams to improve her flock.

She is a long-time member of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative (WSBC) and has been involved with many of various activities sponsored by co-op throughout the years. She was a supporter of the Bred Ewe Sale that was held at the Rock County Fairgrounds for many years and also participated in summer field days. Nancy established the Youth Poster Contest at the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival and serves as the contest coordinator. This event is part of the Youth Sweepstakes program. A notable accomplishment is that she has only missed one festival since its beginning in 2002!

In addition, Nancy has been a great advocate and friend to the sheep industry and youth involved in all aspects of the livestock industry. She works at the Wisconsin State Fair with Superintendents Bill Keough and Barb Bishop during both the Junior Sheep Show and the Second Rotation of the Open Sheep Show. She is very active in 4-H and in the Wisconsin Livestock Breeders Association (WLBA) where she is currently serving as President.

She works to improve her flock through furthering her education and has gone through Pipestone Lamb & Wool Short Course. Nancy has shown her sheep locally, and regionally and for the past two years she has shown her sheep at the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, KY.

Nancy Burton exemplifies the quote that “thousands of candles can be lighted from a single candle.” The Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative is honored to recognize Nancy Burton with the 2019 Friend of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative Award.
David Hammer Recognized As Master Shepherd

Presented by Dave Troxel – Director, Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative

Arlington - A recipient of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative Master Shepherds Award for 2019 is David Hammer of Cuba City. Unfortunately, Dave passed away on October 8, 2018.

Dave had raised sheep since 1976, when he purchased several small commercial flocks and a registered Columbia ram. At various times he raised, in addition to his commercial flock, Columbia, Rambouillet, and Lincoln sheep and he was also very active in showing fleeces.

As with many sheep breeders, Dave’s family was very involved with the sheep and his children showed in many junior shows and later open shows. His two sons, August and Leo showed the Rambouillets, while his oldest daughter Amy showed the Colombias, and youngest daughter Sara showed the Lincolns. Wife Kay was given the unspoken honor keeping everyone in line!

Dave was a person who believed in giving back and served on several Boards of Directors including: the Southwest Wisconsin Sheep Producers, Wisconsin Rambouillet Sheep Breeders, Wisconsin Columbia Sheep Breeders, and the National Lincoln Sheep Breeders Association. Dave was added to the Sheep Barn Hall of Fame during the Open Wool Breeds Show at the 2017 Wisconsin State Fair in recognition of his long-time support of the open shows at West Allis. He served six years as a director of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative (WSBC), nine years on the Farm Service Agency board and over ten years as a Lafayette County board member. Dave spent 27 years serving his country in the Air National Guard and worked for over forty years as a tool and die maker at the John Deere Dubuque Tractor Works.

It is my distinct honor to present David’s family with the Master Shepherd Award from the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative.

Thank You

To the Wisconsin Sheep producers for their support and participation in the estate sale of David Hammer with their purchases and bids making it a successful sale. Thank you for the recognition of David through the Master Shepherd award. Thank you for all of the support.

~ The family of the late David Hammer.
In 2015 a new event was added to the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival which has since been held annually at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds in early September.

Initially the Pen of 3 Competition was started as a way for commercial and purebred breeders alike to highlight the end result of their breeding programs, the meat aspect of the sheep industry as opposed to the show ring. Producing a quality lamb carcass and understanding the rating scales, measurements, and importance of consistency is paramount in the continued success as a sheep breeder. The goal of the competition has historically been to add measurement of carcass traits to phenotypic evaluation in pursuit of a sustainable breeding program for commercial lamb production.

Animals for this competition are weighed, judged in the pen, harvested, weighed again and indexing done for loin eye size, back fat and leg scores, literally allowing producers the advantage of discovering how their lambs measure up.

A key factor in the 2019 competition is that lambs will be judged live as a pen and harvested as a pen. Producers entering the competition will be able to get a detailed look at how their genetic decisions have affected their ability to provide quality lamb for the consumer’s table and what changes may be needed within their breeding and feeding program for continued improvement. To actually see the end result on the rail can lead to alternative approaches with benefits toward better gains and meat quality.

Today consumers are in a position to demand the highest quality lamb that we can produce. It is up to us as producers to use any and all tools at our disposal to ensure that the customer is satisfied with our products. Satisfaction at the consumer level can and will provide a continuously growing market for the sheep industry.

Producers interested in more information on the 2019 Pen of Three Carcass Competition should contact Lisa Paskey at lrpaskey@gmail.com or 608 669-3996 or the festival website, www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com. The competition will be held on Sunday, September 8, in the Indoor Arena at the Jefferson County Fair Park in Jefferson, WI.

Lisa Paskey, Coordinator, Pen of Three Carcass Competition

Check out our website!

The Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival has a great website.

wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com
For the first time in the four years of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Pen of Three Carcass Competition, the top live-placing pen also produced the top carcass. Bracen Brandt, of Rock Springs, topped the entries with a 175 pound lamb with the largest (4.20 sq. inch) rib eye; best leg score (14); and highest quality grade (average prime). Bracen, sister Aubrey and mom Paula are shown receiving the recognition from WSBC President Alan Thorson at the 2019 annual meeting of the cooperative in Arlington.

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Be A Winner – Get Your Cameras Out!

Enter the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders 2019 Photo Contest

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American Sheep Industry Convention Summary

Doug Wilson, Director, Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative

The American Sheep Industry (ASI) convention was held January 23-26 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Representing the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative (WSBC) were Keith Schultz, our voting delegate, and Doug Wilson. Keith provided a delegate report on the convention at the WSBC Annual Meeting. While at the convention, I concentrated my efforts on the committee and research sessions. The following are “take-home” messages from the sessions.

Animal Health Committee

The California Association provided information on experiences importing vaccine. In 2019, Bioworma, a product for roundworms, will be imported. The cost is high but it is very effective when fed daily when temperatures are above 40 degrees. Foot diseases are very difficult to research and there are many strains. There is nothing new to report on the sore mouth vaccination. The committee also updated the attendees on the USDA changes for the scrapie eradication program, and more information can be found at the ASI website, www.sheepusa.org.

Genetics Committee

The update on genomic research indicated our industry is far short of needed data to profit from genomic research enjoyed in other species. Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs) for lamb birth numbers research was provided. The Polypay breed out-performs other breeds on lamb numbers. The best management practice remains to not retain ewes that have singles nor keep single ewe lambs as replacements. The National Sheep Improvement Program (NSIP) report was encouraging. There are now 460 flocks enrolled; double the number from five years ago. Data is routinely being submitted by 200 of the enrolled flocks. The national data base now has 382,000 records and is led by the Katahdin breed. A thorough review was provided as to why NSIP is aggressively moving to index breeding concepts versus single trait evaluation.

Economic Outlook

Dr. David Anderson of Texas A&M indicated freezer stocks are the highest they have been in four years. Imports have shown a decline since October 2018 and flock size is basically unchanged. For 2019 he indicated there will be record pork and beef volumes and we will experience some retail price weakness. His prediction for 2019 is an overall price like 2018 but the industry will experience greater volatility.

Aseasonal Lambing Economics

Levin Porter, a master’s student from Texas A&M presented new research on the economics of aseasonal breeding. Large data sets indicate a 5 to 20% reduction in lamb numbers due to fertility issues. He researched 10 years of lamb prices and found there was only a 48% probability of breaking even if you have a 10% reduction in lamb numbers. His conclusion was aseasonal lambing was not justified unless you have an advantageous local supply contract.

Superior Farms Update

Rick Stott, General Manager, Superior Farms, provided an update on new technology. Superior Farms installed a RFID pen-to-plant technology in one plant and plans call to expand to another plant in 2019. Using RFID readers and digital cameras they gather information on grade, yield, primal cuts and cutability on each lamb and provide this data to the producer. They are also using exciting, new software called Flock 54 which ties genomics to the pen-to-plant technology for less than $20 per animal. Flock 54 provides 50 markers and this could be a big step in expanding genomic data.

Lamb Board Research

Updates were given on the flavor research and carcass fat issues where data on 7,000 carcasses are being used. Molecular fingerprinting for biological tissues was presented. The 2.5-million-dollar budget was reviewed, and the consumer survey update was presented.

Political Affairs

This presentation focused on cultured, or fake meat, which likely will be introduced to the market in 2019. The first of the cell-cultured invitro tissue product in the U.S. will likely be chicken nuggets. Regulations on the meat breweries is important. The USDA will be responsible for label and import regulations. The FDA will have cell creation quality standards and storage as their responsibility.
Wool Update

One of the very positive messages was the increase in wool demand and strong wool prices. The U.S. Army is planning to go back to using all wool for uniforms. It is estimated they will have demand for over 20% of all the wool annually produced in the U.S. All signs indicate very strong prices for quality wool.

Farm Bill

U.S. Representative Mike Conaway, who led the Farm Bill House Committee, provided an update. He proclaimed this to be the best Farm Bill ever created for the sheep industry and praised the efforts by ASI during the process.

For more detailed information and updates, check the ASI and Lamb Board websites.

This photo was posted by Wynn Wittkopf of Pewaukee, WI on the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival Facebook site and as of March 21 had reached over 55,700 people. It has been shared over 220 times, reaching people all across the world including Ireland, United Kingdom and New Zealand.

Report from New Orleans

Keith Schultz, Director, Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative

At the ASI Annual Convention, held January 23 to 26 in 2019, in New Orleans, I represented the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders, along with Doug Wilson and we participated in state-level meetings where we learned how directors from across the country are working to attract new members and retain current ones, as well as any steps they are taking to get their membership more involved in their state associations. We also learned about issues other states are facing that could have implications for our own state.

Of particular interest was a report from the Wool Council, which discussed the new U.S. Army uniforms, which are being made from American wool. The Council reported that the uniforms are being very well accepted and will be distributed to all soldiers by the fall of 2020. The Lamb Council also wrote up a policy regarding the current and emerging alternative sources of protein (vegetarian meats).

At the Annual Meeting, the representatives heard about policies prior to being asked to vote on their acceptance. In addition, they participated in the keynote and other speaker sessions, which delivered educational and inspirational presentations, plus attended social events and networking activities to further interact with attendees and gain additional ideas and tips that could be useful to the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Association. The next ASI Annual Convention will be held January 22 to 25, 2020, in Scottsdale, AZ.
Viercks Honored At WLBA Annual Meeting

Presented by Nancy Burton, President, Wisconsin Livestock Breeders Association

Arlington - The Wisconsin Livestock Breeders Association sheep honorees for 2019 are Steve and Dawn Vierck. Steve and Dawn are the epitome of dedication and leadership to the sheep and animal agriculture industry. Both from dairy farming backgrounds, Steve grew up in Harvard, Illinois and Dawn in Watertown, Wisconsin. Steve was a farmer while Dawn received her degree in Agriculture Communications from the University of Wisconsin, then worked for the Dodge and Jefferson County Extension Service as the dairy and livestock agent. After getting married in 1990, they had two children, Christopher and Kelly. Once the kids entered 4-H and FFA, Dawn and Steve became involved as leaders for both Hyland Prairie 4-H and Dodgeland FFA. They were both actively involved in the judging teams for both clubs, Dawn as a coach, making workouts and taking reasons, as well as Steve as a general supporter, including driving the Dodgeland FFA state champion meat judging team all the way to Indianapolis for National FFA Convention. They were involved with six Wisconsin state champion teams, including meat judging, livestock judging, livestock skillathon, and livestock quiz bowl. Dawn also served as the co-general leader for the Hyland Prairie 4-H club for multiple years. Currently, Dawn is a first-grade educator at Columbus Discovery Charter School and Steve works for the Horicon Post Office as a rural carrier.

Their involvement in the sheep industry came later, as Kelly and Christopher started showing market lambs in 2005. As the Vierck family sheep project began to grow, it shifted to registered Southdowns and became Rose Hill Southdowns, which is a family affair. Because Kelly is currently in graduate school, Steve and Dawn are the main shepherds of the flock and do a phenomenal job keeping it on track with outstanding care and genetics, with input from Kelly and Christopher. Moreover, through the Wisconsin Southdown Association, Dawn and Kelly co-chair the Starter Ewe Program, creating the application, interviewing applicants, and selecting the winners of the program each year.

Dawn and Steve are active supporters of the Dodge County sheep project, helping with the Dodge County Fair Premium Livestock Auction, moving animals and handwriting every sale card for all the exhibitors for over thirty years. They also donate time and prizes to the Dodge County Supreme Showman event. Steve and Dawn also host judging workouts for the Dodge County judging teams. Additionally, they support the Dodge County livestock project through sponsorships of awards, such as the Grand Champion Lamb Carcass. Steve and Dawn are also active members of the Dodge County Pork Producers, where Dawn has served as secretary for over ten years. Furthermore, due to Christopher and Kelly’s involvement in the judging teams and state shows, Dawn and Steve volunteer their time for the Wisconsin Spring Preview swine show and Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival, helping with the Southdown show, skillathon, and at the information table. During the Wisconsin All-American Junior Show in 2017, Dawn and Steve put together Wisconsin themed welcome bags for all of the exhibitors for a show with record-breaking number of entries and helped welcome all the exhibitors. Dawn and Steve are dedicated volunteers, always willing to lend a hand and help anyone in need. They also are major supporters of youth agriculture programs, such as FFA, 4-H, and judging teams, as they have seen first-hand the benefits established by these programs. The Wisconsin sheep industry has benefited greatly from their selfless dedication and leadership to these programs through youth development.

The Wisconsin Livestock Breeders Association (WLBA) held its annual meeting and “Spring Ahead” Livestock Education Sessions on March 23 in Arlington. The Wisconsin Livestock Breeders Association provides educational activities and opportunities for youth involved in beef, swine and sheep projects. Participation in these programs is open to all Wisconsin youth ages 8 to 21. The Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative is a supporter of the WLBA. For additional information on WLBA activities, go to www.wisconsinlivestockbreeders.com.
Wisconsin’s delegation to the 2019 National Make It With Wool competition in New Orleans included (l-r) Wynn Wittkopf, Wisconsin MIWW State Director, Pewaukee; Amara Bugenhagen, Mukwonago; Holley Schwartz, Watertown, last year’s Junior Ambassador; and Kimberly Westenberg, Watertown, who won the $500 Mohair award for her beautiful “2 Sheep & A Goat Coat.” The Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative is a major sponsor of Wisconsin’s Make It With Wool program.

Wisconsin’s MIWW junior winner, Amara Bugenhagen (l) and senior winner, Kimberly Westenberg, stand next to the National MIWW Quilt created by Carol Battenberg, Patti Geishirt, Jolene Massuch, and Wynn Wittkopf. The quilt was recently displayed at the Arlington Sheep Day.

2019 Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-Op Scholarships Available!

Up to $4000 in scholarships are awarded annually based on qualified applications submitted and at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee.

INFORMATION and APPLICATION FORM AVAILABLE ONLINE WWW.WISBC.COM

APPLICATIONS DUE (Postmarked) JUNE 15, 2019
Late applications not accepted.
Madison, WI - The Wisconsin 4-H Quiz Bowl and Skillathon contests were both held on Saturday, March 2 at the University of Wisconsin Madison Animal Sciences Building. The Livestock Quiz Bowl, in its 15th year, is a competition where questions are about beef, sheep, swine and meat goat topics and participants use a buzzer to answer. Teams compete in a double elimination format by giving oral answers to questions posed by a judge. Each match has both an individual and toss-up question round. A group discussion round is included in the senior division to simulate the national competition.

The senior team winner will represent Wisconsin at the National 4-H Quiz Bowl contest at AKSARBEN in Grand Island, NE in September. Winners of the senior division (14 years of age or older) were from Trempealeau County and included Mara Quarne, Blake Johnson, Tyler Johnson and Johanna Haines and were coached by Dwight Quarne. Second place in Senior Quiz Bowl went to Polk County whose members included: Katherine Elwood, Josie Carlson and Sarah Carlson. The team was coached by Craig Scholz.

The winners of the Junior Quiz Bowl division (under 14 years old) were from Iowa County. Coached by Mike Robinson, the team members included Joey Robinson, Ty Gaffney, Julia Sears and Annie Robinson. Mason Heise, Logan Witterler, Alexa Leonard, Alison Leonard made up the second place team from Marathon County and were coached by Kristine Leonard and Melissa Heise.

Winners of the Mixed division (must contain at least one youth from each age division) were the team from Grant County and included Jessica Patterson, Mason Crooks, Avery Crooks and Alayna Barth. The team was coached by Dennis Patterson, Ron Patterson and Amanda Cauffman. Jackson County placed second and was coached by Jesse Oberlin and Dawn Laufenberg. Team members included Austin Laufenberg, Trent Laufenberg, Kaden Moseley, Grace Kling and Wyatt Berg.

In the Skillathon contest, participants complete a 25 question written test and four individual skillathon stations where contestants take part in livestock breed identification, feed identification, equipment identification and meat identification. The winning 4-H Skillathon team was from Trempealeau County and will represent Wisconsin at the National 4-H Skillathon Contest in Louisville, KY in November. They were coached by Dwight Quarne and included Mara Quarne, Blake Johnson, Tyler Johnson and Johanna Haines. The second place senior team was from Columbia County, was comprised of Zach Mickelson, Justin Taylor and Hayden Taylor and was coached by Todd Taylor.

The top ten Overall Senior Skillathon Individuals were Justin Taylor, Columbia; Mara Quarne, Trempealeau; Kendra Jentz, Grant; Zachery Mickelson, Columbia; Blake Wegmueller, Grant; Blake Johnson, Trempealeau; Haley Schulenberg, Dane; Reece Theobald, Dane; Abby Meier, Grant; James Mejchar, Ozaukee.

With over 480 registrations last year, the Wonders of Wool fiber arts classes are a main attraction at the annual Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival. Shown is Pat Hilts (l.), Columbus, WI, with one of her 2018 classes on spinning with great wheels. Hilts specializes in antique wheels. The 2019 festival will be held September 6-8. For more information on the fiber arts classes offered go to www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com. Photo by Pat and Victor Hilts
Grant County topped the Junior Division. Team members were Cameron Patterson, Luke Patterson, Libby Vogt and Leah Patterson who were coached by Dennis Patterson, Ron Patterson and Amanda Cauffman. Jackson County #1 made up of Jack Laufenberg, Jake Kling, Luke Fischer, Austin Olson and Doyle Hagen took second place and were coached by Jessie Oberlin and Dawn Laufenberg.

The top ten Overall Junior Skillathon Individuals were: Joey Robinson, Iowa County #1; Jake Kling, Jackson #1; Andrew Formo, Dane; Cameron Patterson, Grant #1; Luke Fischer, Jackson County #1; Kendall Theobald, Dane; Katie Hutchthausen, Dane; Alison Leonard, Marathon; Luke Patterson, Grant #1; Ethan Kohlman, Sheboygan #1.

In the Mixed Division Grant County took first place with team members Jessica Patterson, Mason Crooks, Avery Crooks and Alayna Barth coached by Dennis Patterson, Ron Patterson and Amanda Cauffman. Jackson County was second and included Trent Laufenberg, Kaden Mosely, Austin Laufenberg, Grace Kling and Wyatt Berg. The team was coached by Jessie Oberlin and Dawn Laufenberg.

The top ten Overall Mixed Skillathon Individuals were: Jessica Patterson, Grant; Gabby Wohlrab, Juneau B; Grace Kling, Jackson; Mason Crooks, Grant; Trent Laufenberg, Jackson; Wyatt Berg, Jackson; Avery Crooks, Grant; Samantha Rake, Columbia; Kaden Moseley, Jackson; and Faith Baerwolf, Columbia.

These events was organized and facilitated by Bernie O’Rourke, UW Extension Youth Livestock Specialist, Alissa Grenawalt, Outreach Specialist, and partially funded by the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation. Numerous judges and helpers from University of Wisconsin – Extension, University of Wisconsin – Madison and River Falls along with many volunteers from across the state assisted in the success of these contests.

For upcoming events and programs in the animal sciences, contact your county UW-Extension office or the Wisconsin Livestock Youth Web Site at https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/youthlivestock/

2019 Quiz Bowl & Skillathon Photos for Publicity (Click on photo and click on the 3 little circles above photo to select download) https://photos.app.goo.gl/dqxNVf7qYKPTV7Ch7

**Tzatziki Stuffed American Lamb Burgers**

**INGREDIENTS**
- 1 cucumber
- ¼ cup tzatziki sauce
- ¼ cup goat cheese room temperature
- 1 pound ground lamb room temperature
- kosher salt
- fresh cracked black pepper
- 4 brioche buns

**DIRECTIONS**
Cut the ends off the cucumber and then slice it in half. Cut thin stripes, lengthwise.

Mix tzatziki and goat cheese together in a small bowl with a spoon until well combined.

Divide the ground lamb meat into 8 even portions and form 8 thin patties. Place about 2 tablespoons of the tzatziki goat cheese in the middle of 4 of the patties. Take the remaining 4 patties and place each one on top of the others. Using your fingers, pinch the edges to seal the edges.

Heat a non stick pan or griddle on high heat. Meanwhile, liberally season each side of the patties with salt and pepper. Cook on each side for 3 minutes. Let the patties rest for about 1-2 minutes before serving.

Place patties on the brioche buns and top with a few slices of cucumber.

Recipe: American Lamb Board, provided by The Food Joy. For morerecipes: www.americanlamb.com
Producer Education Returns To Jefferson

After a year’s absence, producer educational sessions will return to the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival with a full-day program scheduled for Friday, September 6. Speakers include Ben and Denise Bartlett, Log Cabin Livestock, Traunik, MI; Richard Ehrhardt, Michigan State University, East Lansing; MI; Randy Cutler, Cutler Fence, Milladore, WI; Rusty Burgett, Program Director, NSIP; Mary C. Anderson, Conservation Specialist, WI DNR; and Anthony Johnson, Dodge County NRCS. The program emphasis will be on building profit in the sheep industry. Pre-registration will be required. For more details, watch for the festival catalog or go to the website, www.wisconsinsheepwndwoolfestival.com

Youth Sweepstakes Registration Requested - Note Age Break Changes

Due to the increasing popularity of the Youth Sweepstakes held each year at the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival, planners are now asking that participants pre-register on a voluntary basis to ease the tabulating of scores, and to indicate all of the activities in which they might take part. The new age breaks for youth taking part in the various Sweepstakes activities are: Beginner 7-9; Junior 10-12; Intermediate 13-16; and Senior 17-21. While pre-registration is requested, there is no entry fee. The Youth Sweepstakes covers twelve separate activities taking place at the festival and regularly draws more than one hundred participants each year.

Mint Gold Ranch

Mint Gold Ranch highlights for 2018:

- Wisconsin State Fair had 93 lambs in performance class with Mint Gold lambs being Grand Champion and 3 being in the top 7.
- Mint Gold Ranch had the top 46 lambs in loineye ranking in NSIP for 2018 out of a total of 1450 lambs in NSIP database.
- NSIP performance flock for the last 24 years.
- Ram customer comment: Biggest loineyes we have ever had in our lambs.

We will be consigning to the Center of the Nation Sale, Spencer, Iowa on July 27th and Eastern NSIP Sale on August 10th, Wooster, Ohio. We can arrange for transportation to most parts of the country.

Contact: Dale & Judy Dobberpuhl
5807 County Road X
DePere, WI 54115
Phone: 920-864-7732
www.mintgoldranch.com
mintgoldranch@gmail.com

Email or call for the list of new ram and ewe lambs. We will also have some mature ewes available.

Support Your Industry!

Join the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op
Family memberships only $25 / year.
608-743-9080
www.wisbc.com
The Wisconsin Shepherd & Wool Festival will offer a one-day Wool Handling Workshop on Friday, September 6, taught by Lisa Surber, LM Livestock Services, Newell, SD. Surber will cover wool science and quality; using wool testing technology to improve a wool clip; premium and specialty marketing; adding value to your wool clip; processing; end uses of wool and more. She will also offer micron testing during the workshop. Dr. Lisa Surber, PhD, was born and raised on a ranch near Medicine hat, Alberta, Canada and is still active in her family’s commercial cattle operation. She obtained her B.S., M.S., and PhD in Animal and Range Sciences from Montana State University and during her time at MSU she was the managing director of the Montana Wool Lab. She served as Wool Education Consultant for the American Sheep Industry Association and with WestFeeds as a Ruminant Nutritionist. She now runs her own consulting service providing nutritional expertise for sheep and cattle, wool classing and education services, NSIP certified ultrasounding services and OFDA on-site wool testing services covering western Canada and the U.S. Surber will join Dee Heinrich of Hillsville, VA in judging the festival open and junior fleece shows.

Pre-registration will be required for the Wool Handling Workshop and registration is limited. Check at www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com for details.
What’s New in Sheep ID? Federal Regulation Changes

March 25, 2019, Colorado Springs, CO--- Group/Lot ID and Owner/Hauler Statement are required for:

• Sheep and goats in slaughter channels (except wethers under 18 months of age)

• Sheep and goats not in slaughter channels that do not have an official ear tag or other official ID (except wethers under 18 months of age).

Other changes include:

• If you engage in interstate commerce: (WHICH MEANS if you move sheep or goats interstate or offer to sell them to out of state buyers including through a market, or buy sheep or goats that originated in another state); YOU NEED TO:

• officially identify sheep and goats that you later sell (if they are a class that requires official ID prior to moving them); or

• take your official tags and have them applied at another site in-state before changing ownership; or

• take your sheep and goats to a federally approved market to be tagged with market tags.

Call 866-USDA-TAG to get official tags and Tag It!

If you own a premise where interstate commerce of goats or sheep occurs:

(DEFINED AS: a premise which receives sheep or goats that have been in interstate commerce or from which sheep or goats move in interstate commerce)

Sheep or goats (of a class that requires official ID) that are not already officially identified need to be officially identified when they are unloaded.

Moving sheep or goats that are not in Slaughter channels? Official Individual ID (official ear tag, registry or flock ID tattoo, or official Electronic Implantable ID) is required for sheep and goats in interstate commerce moving for purposes other than slaughter with some exceptions.¹

Do not buy or sell sheep or goats 18 months of age or older for any purpose unless they have official ID

Moving sheep or goats in slaughter channels?

• Complete an Owner/Hauler Statement to accompany the animals (except wethers under 18 months of age); and

• Eartag sheep and goats 18 months of age or older unless moving them as a single source group/lot.

NOTE: Tattoos and electronic implants may not be used to officially ID sheep or goats that are in slaughter channels or that are moving through a livestock market or buying station.

¹Exception to individual official ID requirement:

• Wethers under 18 months of age: NO ID or Owner/Hauler Statement required.

• Sheep or goats in slaughter channels under 18 months of age accompanied by an Owner/Hauler Statement and Group/Lot ID (may be mixed source).

• Sheep or goats moving as a single source group/lot accompanied by an Owner/Hauler Statement to:

approved livestock markets.

slaughter establishments.

other premises of the flock Database, or another site in-state where they will be officially identified prior to change of ownership.

Q: Sheep or goat crossing a state line and not in slaughter channels?

A: Get an ICVI: Interstate Certificate of Veterinary Inspection issued by an Accredited Veterinarian.

Exceptions:

• wethers under 18 months of age;

• sheep or goats moving to other premises of the same flock listed in the National Scrapie Database;

• sheep or goats moving to a federally approved market.

Note: Some states also require an ICVI for in-state shows and wethers for exhibition.

A record must be made when official ID is applied to a sheep or goat, or a sheep or goat is acquired or disposed.

The record must be kept for five years after the animal dies or is no longer owned by you.

National Scrapie Education Initiative National Institute for Animal Agriculture

13570 Meadowgrass Drive, Suite 201 • Colorado Springs, CO 80921

Phone: 719-538-8843 • Fax: 719-538-8847 Email: scrapie@animalagriculture.org

There are additional requirements for use of tattoos and implants. View the presentation at www.EradicateScrapie.org for more information. Official ear tags, rather than other forms of official ID, are required for sheep and goats moving through markets or buying stations.

Created for the Goat Industry by staff at the University of Minnesota, College of Veterinary Medicine and NIAA Staff with support from the USDA NSEP. Released by the National Institute of Animal Agriculture.
The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal Plant Health and Inspection Service (APHIS) is updating its scrapie regulations and program standards. These updates include several major changes, which are needed to continue the fight to eradicate scrapie from U.S. sheep flocks and goat herds. Scrapie is a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy disease that affects the central nervous system in sheep and goats, and is eventually fatal.

The changes APHIS is making to update the program are supported by the sheep and goat industry and incorporate the latest science to provide APHIS with increased flexibility as we work together with producers to get rid of this disease.

Scientific studies show that sheep with certain genotypes are resistant to or less susceptible to classical scrapie and are unlikely to get the disease. Because of this, APHIS is changing the definition of a scrapie high-risk animal so that it no longer includes most genetically-resistant and genetically less susceptible sheep. These animals pose a minimal risk of developing or transmitting scrapie, and by no longer considering them high-risk, they will no longer need to be depopulated or permanently restricted to their home farm.

The updated regulations and program standards will give the agency’s epidemiologists and leadership more flexibility to determine flock designations and deal with scrapie types that pose a minimal risk of spreading, including Nor-98 like scrapie. It also allows APHIS to determine based on science that additional genotypes are resistant without going through rule making. This will allow science and experience to guide decision-making as we identify fewer and fewer cases and move toward eradication.

APHIS is also updating specific identification requirements for goats and certain recordkeeping requirements for sheep and goats, which will provide increased animal disease traceability. Traceability is provided for certain classes of sheep and goats by the scrapie program, but strengthening traceability, particularly for goats, is important. This rule will bring goat identification and record-keeping requirements up to the level of the sheep industry, improving slaughter surveillance. Official identification will now be required for goats 18 months of age or older and for all sexually-intact goats under 18 months of age moving for purposes other than slaughter or feeding for slaughter, with some exceptions. Both industries will see recordkeeping changes. Sheep and goats moving in slaughter channels will now be required to have an owner/shipper statement. This statement must include group/lot identification, unless the animals are individually identified with official tags.

APHIS proposed updates to the scrapie regulations and program standards in September 2015 and accepted comments for 90 days. APHIS carefully reviewed the comments and made adjustments to the rule and program standards to address the concerns raised.

This rule is on display in today’s Federal Register at https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2019-05430. It takes effect 30 days following publication in the Federal Register, with one exception. States will need to meet scrapie surveillance minimums to maintain their consistent-state status in the eradication program. If a state does not meet the sampling requirements at the end of FY 2019, it must provide APHIS with a plan within 1 year for coming into compliance and be in compliance within 2 years of the effective date of the final rule.

**Rock County Sheep Producers Scholarship Winner**

Dustin Bennett, son of Aaron and Jody Bennett of Clinton, has been awarded a $250 scholarship from the Rock County Sheep Producers. He is enrolled at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, majoring in Business Communications and Marketing, and plans to Minor in Computer Science. He was active in 4-H carrying numerous projects including sheep, poultry, rabbits and was the recipient of the Gold Clover and Presidential Volunteer Awards.

**APHIS Updates Scrapie Regs**

**Rock County Sheep Producers Scholarship Winner**

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April 28 • UW-Madison Badger Bonanza Lamb Show, Arlington Public Events Bldg. N695 Hopkins Road, Arlington, WI. Contact: Tori Arnevik, arnevik@wisc.edu, 715 651-0299

May 1 • Wisconsin Spring Preview Show Entry Deadline, Wisconsin Livestock Breeders Association (WLBA), www.wisconsinlivestockbreeders.com 608 743-9080, email: wisconsinlivestockbreeders@gmail.com

May 3-4 • 3rd Annual Rock County Sheep Producers Sheep Project Fund Raiser for Youth, $5 lamb brat or burger lunch. Country Pride Meats, Hwy 140 Clinton, WI.

May 4 • UW-River Falls Block & Bridle Prospect Show, Pierce County Fairgrounds, Ellsworth, WI. Show 1 – 9:30 a.m. Show 2 – 12:30 p.m. (subject to change) Contact: Libby Knoebel, Elizabeth.knoebel@myuwrf.edu

May 4-5 • 46th Annual Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival, www.SheepAndWool.org

May 10-12 • 22nd Shepherds Harvest, Washington County Fairgrounds, Lake Elmo, MN www.shepherdsharvestfestival.org (May 10 – Classes Only)

May 12 • 3rd Annual Rock County Sheep Producers Fitting/Showing Clinic, Rock County Fairgrounds Swine Barn. Free lunch 12:30 p.m., Program 1-3:00 p.m. Details: Brandon Knuston, 603-724-9552.

May 18 • Midwest Roundup Jackpot, Juneau County Fairgrounds, Mauston, WI. www.facebook.com/MidwestRoundup/ Contact: Alicia Bjerke 608 479-0404.

May 19 • UW-Platteville Pioneer Showdown, Grant County Fairgrounds, Lancaster, WI. Contact Hannah Kearns, 608 290-5304 or Andrew Slack 262 745-8762. www.pioneershowdown.com or pioneershowdown@hotmail.com

May 25 • Northern Show Circuit Lamb Show, Pierce County Fairgrounds, Ellsworth, WI. Contact: John or Holly Bazille, jlkjfarm@yahoo.com, 715 684-9529.

June 1 • 39th Annual Wisconsin Spring Preview Show, Jefferson County Fair Park, Jefferson, WI. www.wisconsinlivestockbreeders.com

June 1-2 • Northern Illinois Sheep & Fiber festival, 11900 Country Club Road, Woodstock, IL. Sat – 9:00 – 5:00; Sun – 9:00 – 4:00. www.mchenrycountyfair.com

June 7-8 • Hoosier Hills Fiber Festival, Johnson County Fairgrounds, Franklin, IN. Patti Hodge, VendorHHFF@gmail.com, website: www.HoosierHillsFiberfestival.com 317 403-5667.

June 8 • School’s Out Spotlight Show, Trempealeau County Fairgrounds, Galesville, WI. Contact: Dwight Quarne, dqq1777@live.com, 608 484-1446 or Barb Guse, bguse@uwlaex.edu, 608 397-7167.

June 8 • Small Ruminant Parasite Workshop, Bloomer High School, Contact: Gary Meyer, 715 556-5038; Leslie Svacina, 651 261-3079 or cylonrollingacres@gmail.com. www.indianheadsheepandgoat.org

June 8-9 • 21st Annual WLBA/Purina Wisconsin Livestock Show Camp, Wisconsin State fair Park, West Allis, WI. www.wisconsinlivestockbreeders.com

June 14-15 • Iowa Sheep & Wool Festival, Hanson Agriculture Student Learning Center, Ames, IA. Regina Frahm gina.frahm@gmail.com, or info@iowasheep.com. www.iowasheepandwool.com

June 15 • Scholarship Deadline, Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op, www.wisbc.com or 608 743-9080 (after 5:00).

June 18 • Area Animal Science Days – Polk Co. For information: Bernie O’Rourke, borourke2@ansci.wisc.edu or 608-263-4304. fyi.extension.wisc.edu/youthlivestock/

June 20 • Area Animal Science Days – Waupaca Co. For information: Bernie O’Rourke borourke2@ansci.wisc.edu or 608-263-4304. fyi.extension.wisc.edu/youthlivestock/

June 21-22 • Interstate Livestock Youth Show, Polk County Fair Park, St. Croix Falls, WI. Sheep/Goat Camp – Friday. Livestock Shows – Saturday 12:00. Entries: interstatelivestock@gmail.com. Sheep Contacts: Debbie Petzel, 612 578-1528 despetzel@gmail.com or Brian Johnston 715 553-0179, mabeef@hotmail.com

June 25-29 • Midwest Stud Ram Show & Sale, Sedalia, MO. Info: 515 442-0950; info@MidWestSale.com or www.MidWestSale.com

June 28 • Area Animal Science Days – Grant Co. For information: Bernie O’Rourke borourke2@ansci.wisc.edu or 608-263-4304. fyi.extension.wisc.edu/youthlivestock/

July 4-7 • 26th Annual All American Junior Sheep Show, Hutchinson, KS. Info: 401 647-4676; email: ccddorset@cox.net; www.CountryLovin.com/AAJSS

July 7-10 • NLFA Howard Wyman Sheep Industry Leadership School - Harrisburg, PA http://www.nlfa-sheep.org/leadership.html
July 12 • Deadline – Advertising/Copy, Summer Issue, Wisconsin Shepherd. Ads: Brittany Alf, 513 850-3603, alf.brittany@gmail.com. Copy: Bob Black, 920 623-3536, rbblack@powercom.net

July 18-20 • National Targhee Show & Sale, Lodi Agricultural Fairgrounds, Lodi, WI. Updates available at: www.ustargheesheep.org. Chairpersons: Todd & Lynnette Taylor, TaylorSheep@yahoo.com; and Leslie & Jeff Nevens, AandJNevensLivestock@frontier.com, or Mardy Rutledge, USTSA Secretary at ustargheesheep@gmail.com

July 22 • 4-H Livestock Judging Contest, Livestock Pavilion, UW-Madison. Contact: Bernie O’Rourke, 608 263-4304, or borourke2@ansci.wisc.edu. Animal Science Youth website – http://fyi.uwex.edu/youthlivestck/programs/quizbowlskillathon/

July 27 • 14th Annual Center of the nation NSIP Sale, Clay County Fairgrounds, Spencer, IA. Check website in June for catalog – www.nisip.org Contact: Rusty Burgett, NSIP Program Director, 515 708-8850.

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Continued from page 23

**July 31 • Wisconsin Summer Spectacular Show Entry Deadline**, Wisconsin Livestock Breeders Association, www.wisconsinlivestockbreeders.com, 608 743-9080, email: wisconsinlivestockbreeders@gmail.com

**Aug. 1 – 11 • Wisconsin State Fair**, www.wistatefair.com

**Aug. 10 • 3rd Annual Eastern NSIP Sheep Sale**, Wayne County Fairgrounds, Wooster, OH. Check website in June for catalog – www.nsip.org Contact: Rusty Burgett, NSIP Program Director 515 708-8850.

**August 14-18 • Michigan Fiber Festival**, Allegan County Fairgrounds, Allegan, MI. www.michiganfiberfestival.info

**August 15 • Entry/Registration Deadline, Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival** unless otherwise noted at www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com Questions? 608 743-9080 or wisconsinsheepbreeders@gmail.com

**August 17 • 11th Annual Wisconsin Summer Spectacular Show**, Marshfield, WI. www.wisconsinlivestockbreeders.com, email: wisconsinlivestockbreeders@gmail.com, 608 743-9080.

**August 15-17 • 15th Annual Katahdin Hair Sheep International Expo**, Hyder Burks Agricultural Pavilion, Tennessee Tech University, Cookeville, TN. www.katahdins.org

**Aug. 22 – Sept. 2 • Minnesota State Fair**, www.mnstatefair.org

**Aug. 30 • 34th Annual WWSDA Labor Day Weekend Stockdog Trial**, Badlands Sno-Park, 772 Kinney Rd, Hudson, WI. Contact Claudia Mahon, cjmahon@sbcglobal.net or Susane Hoffman, shoffman@sheepycorner.com.

**Sept. 6-8 • Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival**, Jefferson County Fair Park, Jefferson, WI. www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com

**Sept. 7 • Make It With Wool 2019 State Contest**, Jefferson County Fair Park, Jefferson, WI. Wynn Wittkopf, State MIWW Director, jwwittkopf@core.com or 262 370-1433. www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com

**Sept. 7 • Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op Used Equipment Auction**, Jefferson County Fair Park, Jefferson, WI. 608 743-9080 (after 5:00 eve), www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com or www.wisbc.com

**Oct. 12 • Lamar Fiber Fest**, St. Croix Falls, WI Info: www.lamarfiberfest.com #wewoolrockyou

**Oct. 18 • Deadline – Advertising/Copy, Fall Issue, Wisconsin Shepherd**. Ads: Brittany Alf, 513 850-3603, alf.brittany@gmail.com. Copy: Bob Black, 920 623-3536, rblack@powercom.net

Do you have an event coming up? Let us know! Debbie Petzel – dspetzel@gmail.com