It was a pleasure to see so many of you at the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival in Jefferson in September. We’d like to thank each of the many volunteers for their time, energy and knowledge that they bring to the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative’s premier event. Having so many people taking on such important roles shows a dedication to the sheep and fiber industry that you won’t find in other in many other places.

Specifically, I’d like to thank Tim Miller and Maralyn Fowler for their many contributions and service to your cooperative as board members. I regret that Tim and Maralyn have recently submitted letters of resignation from the Board of Directors, effective immediately. Tim was instrumental in developing the Carcass Contest at the festival, conducted a membership drive, was a tireless worker and supporter of the auctions that raise funds for our scholarships and donated the co-op’s promotional table top display, among many other contributions over the course of his tenure as a director. He will continue to serve on the Producer Education Committee, volunteer at Arlington Sheep Day and contribute to other Wisconsin Sheep Breeder initiatives. Maralyn chaired the Producer Education Committee, served as board liaison to the Wonders of Wool fiber arts program and helped with coordinating the Hall of Breeds at Jefferson. We will miss the input and perspective that each brought to the board.

Looking to the Future A Nominating Committee of Wisconsin Sheep Breeders board members Steve Bingen, Sue Rupnow, Alan Thorson and Debbie Petzel is seeking your help in generating a group of potential nominees for the annual meeting that will be held at the Arlington Research Station Public Events Facility on Saturday, March 10, 2018. If you are interested in being part of the nominating committee or in serving on the board, please contact Debbie Petzel at dpetzel@gmail.com or 612 578-1528. Current board members, Ryan Bingen, Sara Hildebrandt, Keith Schultz, and Jeff Nevens have terms that expire in 2018, and are eligible to run again if they choose. We need you to step up and help ensure that we have representation from across the broad spectrum of Wisconsin’s sheep industry. Commercial, purebred, fiber arts, dairy and small businesses – all are critical to the future of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op!

Where else can you help? Your Board of Directors is always looking for volunteers to promote American Lamb, fiber and animal agriculture at the Baa Booth or Wisconsin Wool Works at the Wisconsin State Fair. You can also be a part of the Arlington Sheep day, Summer Field Day or the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival.

But as always, if you have a question about industry or organization issues, please feel free to contact any board member. We are here to serve you and this is your invitation to build the future of your cooperative! Visit our website at www.wisbc.com to stay up to date on what your cooperative is doing.

Debbie Petzel

Communication Committee Chairperson, Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op
LOOKING AHEAD TO 2018

The Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative will be electing several new members to its Board of Directors at the annual meeting on March 10, 2018. We are looking for board members who believe in our mission and are willing to be active to help move our organization and the sheep industry forward. We believe that this work has never been more important than it is today and hope that you will consider becoming a nominee. While we do ask that our board members play an active role, we pride ourselves on supporting each other as a team and believe that we offer an opportunity for our members to learn and grow from each other. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact your Executive Secretary Jill Alf at Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op, 7811 N. Consolidated School Rd. Edgerton, WI 53534. Phone: 608-868-2505 or email: wisbc@centurytel.net, or any board member. Directors and their contact information are shown to the left and listed in the WSBC membership directory in the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival catalog and on the WSBC website, www.wisbc.com.

*Thank you,*  
*Board of Directors, Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative*
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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Art Pope Award
1995 Nils Nelson
1996 Bill Blake
1997 Richard & Sylvia Roembke
1998 Bob & Carol Black
1999 Larry & Kathy Becker
2000 Dick Vatthauer
2001 Onoka & Sharon Pufahl
2002 The Country Today
2003 Elmer & Etta Held
2004 Dave Thomas
2005 William & Jean Brew
2006 Randy Gottfredson
2007 Marv & Ruth Espenscheid
2008 Barbara Bishop
2009 Sam & Pat Wiford
2011 Robert Johnson
2012 Yves Berger
2013 Larry & Bud Mead
2014 James Elphick
2015 Dick Boniface
2016 Rudy Erickson
2017 Todd & Lynnette Taylor

Agri-Communicator Award
2003 Ray & Alice Antoniewicz
2004 Robert Leder
2005 Steve Pinnow
2006 David Kier
2007 Greg & Deb Deakin/Banner Magazine
2008 Carol Battenberg
2009 Sarah Young

Friend of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative
2011 Warren & Ellen O’brion
2012 Brian Bolan
2013 Leah Dickson
2014 Paul & Carol Wagner
2015 Richard & Barb Schultz
2016 Wynn Wittkopf
2017 Kim Ogle

Wisconsin Sheep Industry Award
1987 Wisconsin Agriculturist
1988 Carl Hirschinger
1989 Dr. Art Pope
1990 Dr. Woody Lane
1991 Roger Harris (Wooltique)
1992 Rudy Van Fleet
1993 Jim Elphick
1994 Rudy Erickson
1999 Paul George (Special Service Award)
2000 Scott Spaulding
2001 Jack May (Kent Feeds)
2002 Jane Fyksen (Agri-View)
2003 Bob Johnson/Badger State Auction
2004 Harold Bockman
2005 Jane Metcalf
2006 Kelli Gunderson
2007 Jim Walker & Mac McDermott
2008 Richard & Sylvia Roembke
2009 Jerome Huber
2011 David Johnson
2012 Sue Finley
2013 Carol Black
2014 Todd & Lynnette Taylor
2015 Dr Dan Schaefer
2016 Steve Bingen
2017 Dr Dave Thomas

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Advertising Executive Opportunity

The Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative is seeking an Advertising Executive to fill a position selling advertising for its various publications. This is a commission sales position working with past and prospective advertisers. Applicants should provide past experience and any ad sales history.

The publications that WSBC produces include:
- The Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival catalog, 8000 mailed/distributed.
- The four issues of the Wisconsin Shepherd published each year (circulation of 3300)
- Website ad sales for the Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival and WSBC (stats are available upon request)
- The gate brochure for the Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival

The ideal applicants will possess excellent written and oral communication skills, have a willingness and enthusiasm to pursue new advertising, have the ability to work from home, be self-motivated and meet print deadlines and be approachable, outgoing and diplomatic.

If this position interests you, please send your resume and a letter of application to:
Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative
7811 N. Consolidated School Road
Edgerton, WI 53534
Attn: Communications Committee

If you have any questions about this position, please contact Debbie Petzel by email at dspetzel@gmail or by phone at 612-578-1528

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LOLMILKREPLACER.COM    We Care for Lambs
Rebecca (Becky) Starkenburg was crowned Wisconsin’s 51st Fairest of the Fair this past January at the 94th annual Wisconsin Association of Fairs Convention in Wisconsin Dells. She chose to run for Lodi Agricultural Fairest of the Fair because she wanted to give back to an event that had done so much for her and to represent her fair and Wisconsin in the best way possible. She was the first representative from Lodi to win the Wisconsin title, chosen from a field of thirty-nine talented contestants from county and district fairs throughout the state.

The daughter of David and Robin Starkenburg, Becky and her family have lived in the De Forest area for fifteen years. She got her inspiration for a career in agriculture with her decision to show sheep as a 4-H project. Since her family hadn’t been involved in the sheep industry, it was “a first for everyone,” and now has become a family activity. She credits many mentors in helping her to learn the ropes and who have helped her to achieve her goals. The flock has now been in existence for twelve years, with her parents maintaining the sheep in De Forest while Becky is at college.

A senior at South Dakota State University, Becky will be graduating in the fall of 2018 with a degree in Agriculture Communications, with minors in Meat Science and Animal Science. She is employed as a public affairs intern for South Dakota National Resource Conservation Service and South Dakota Soil Health Coalition, both positions allowing her to promote sustainable agriculture and conservation.

In her role as The Wisconsin Fairest of the Fairs, Becky traveled throughout Wisconsin promoting its many fairs, its diverse agricultural enterprises and working with the media. She served as hostess of the Wisconsin State Fair, which included taking part in contests, speaking to audiences gathered at competitions and with the media. Some of many highlights of her reign included presenting Supreme Champion and Reserve Champion awards at the Wisconsin State Fair to sheep exhibitors that she has known for years and meeting USDA Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue and escorting him around the fair park. She visited forty fairs this summer, in addition to other events.

Becky is now married to Isaac Bader and they have started Royal B Ranch in South Dakota where she will eventually move her flock of Lincoln-Long-wools in addition to her studies and other responsibilities, she is a freelance rural/landscape photographer and photojournalist. Her long range plans include pursuing a career in communications and public relations in the meat industry, advocating for the industry to consumers. In addition she looks forward to working with Isaac on expanding the Lincoln flock, his herd of cattle and growing her freelancing business. A new Fairest of the Fair will be crowned at The Wisconsin Association of Fairs annual convention, January 7-10, 2018 at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells.

Promoting Wisconsin agriculture, the 70th Alice in Dairyland, Crystal Siemers-Peterman, (l.) and the 2017 Wisconsin Fairest of the Fair, Becky Starkenburg, are shown at the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival. Siemers-Peterman is from Cleveland, WI and a graduate of the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. Starkenburg is from De Forest, WI and is a senior at South Dakota State University. Photo by Robin Starkenburg

As 2017 Wisconsin Fairest of the Fair, Becky Starkenburg, attended over forty Wisconsin fairs this past summer, including the Wisconsin State Fair, where she had the privilege of escorting U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue as part of her duties promoting the state’s diverse agriculture. Photo by Gloria Kessler – Former Wisconsin Fairest of the Fair
Auretta Wittkopf – Pewaukee, WI
Auretta is the daughter of Jon and Wynn Wittkopf. She has been involved with sheep throughout her thirteen years of 4-H and currently maintains her flock of 25 Border Leicester ewes at the family farm in Pewaukee. Her sheep related activities and accomplishments include membership in the American Border Leicester Association, the Continental Dorset Club and the American Hampshire Association. Through her work in breed associations and other sheep events, and by creating and sewing wool clothing, she has been able to help educate others about sheep and the wool industry. She had the opportunity to model and promote wool clothing made in the USA at the American Sheep Industry Convention in San Antonio, Texas.

In addition to her sheep related activities, she is active in her church and school activities. Through her church she has been the adult caretaker for the nursery, she has taught kindergarten music, and has contributed her time for setup and cleanup of many events that are held. During her high school career she was a part of a club called PAWS, and was the captain of the varsity white girls lacrosse team. She was also apart of German club, and participated in a health practicum class that ultimately helped lead her to her choice of Iowa State University as her new home and school. At ISU she will major in Animal Science - Pre-veterinary Medicine. After she graduates with her bachelor’s degree she plans to pursue a career where she can work in a veterinary clinic, or go back to school for her doctorate degree in veterinary medicine. Although her career path is undecided, she is sure about working with and helping animals in the future.

Hannah Taylor – Arlington, WI
Hannah is the daughter of Todd and Lynnette Taylor and grew up helping her dad on the UW-Madison Arlington Sheep Research Farm. She started her own flock of Southdowns when she was in third grade and to increase the quality of her flock, she enrolled her flock in the National Sheep Improvement Program. She has been very involved in the Wisconsin Junior Southdown Association and was a founding member in 2008. She has served in several offices within the organization and is an American Southdown Ambassador. She has been very active in 4-H and FFA and served as a Wisconsin State FFA Officer, receiving the Wisconsin State FFA Degree and the American FFA Degree. She is attending Kansas State University and working toward a degree in Agricultural Communications and Journalism with a minor in Spanish.

Jillian Bingen – Allenton, WI
Jillian is the daughter of Stephen and Michelle Bingen. Her family has been a member of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op for 41 years. She has helped with events at the Arlington Sheep Day and the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival. She maintains a flock of Oxfords and a flock of Natural Coloreds and has served as a member of the American Junior Oxford Sheep Association Leadership Team for the past five years. In addition to her local county fair and the Wisconsin State Fair, she has shown annually at the All American Junior Sheep Show and the North American International Livestock Exposition. She has been an active member of 4-H and FFA and held many offices and received honors and awards for her work with livestock and in leadership. She served as Reporter and Vice President of the Slinger FFA and as Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Washington County Animal Science Association. She developed an interest in being a leader of younger children through her experiences in 4-H, and says that helping other people to succeed is a measure of her own success. She is attending UW-Washington County and pursuing a major in Early Childhood Education.

Mariah Richardson – Dousman, WI
Mariah is the daughter of Mike and Wanda Richardson. She has been very active and involved in the day to day work and showing of her flock at local, regional and national shows. She is an active member of the Suffolk Sheep Breeders Association and has participated in a promotional video of the Oxford Sheep Breed. Mariah traveled to San Antonio, Texas and modeled an American made wool outfit in the National Make It With Wool Competition, and was the 2014 and 2016 Make It With Wool Junior Wisconsin Representative. She is very active in her school, church, 4-H and community. Among her activities at school, she was the captain of the school dance team and won awards for her skill and leadership. She is attending the University of Valparaiso as a Science of Nursing major where she will also be part of the University Dance Team and dancing for home football and basketball games.
The 10th Annual Badger Production Sale surged to a near record gross of $28,700 as buyers from five states vied for breeding stock from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Sheep Program. Under the guidance of Arlington Sheep Unit Manager Todd Taylor and organized by UW-Madison Animal Science students, the sale highlighted a year that saw record numbers of university sheep sold privately and through national events across the country, from New York to California.

Buyers at the Arlington sale were paced by Dave James of Dodgeville, WI, who took home a Hampshire ram lamb at $750. Haydon Taylor, Arlington, WI, followed with his bid of $700 for a Hampshire ewe lamb, while Paul Bergum, Rio, WI bid up a Hamp ram lamb to $675. Allen Fehrman, Tilleda, WI, took home a Hampshire ewe lamb at $650.

Topping the bidding for the Polypays was Caroline Scheffert, Waseca, MN, who purchased a ewe lamb at $625, followed by Zach Meinter, Buffalo Center, IA, who took a ewe lamb home for $600. Brandon and Michelle Knutson, Clinton, WI, followed with their purchase of a ewe lamb at $575. Topping out the Targhees was a bid of $550 for a ram lamb from Stephanie Pfister, Chana, IL. Finishing out the top ten bids were two Hamp ewe lambs sold to Dave James at $550 and $525 and a Polypay ewe lamb sold to Brandon and Michelle Knutson at $525. The four Rambouillet ewe lambs were split between Tailwind Farm, Tim and Beth Miller, Beloit, WI, who took home two at $425 and $375, and David & Kay Hammer, Cuba City, WI, taking two at $350 and $300.

Overall, the 75 head of NSIP sheep sold averaged $383. Volume buyers included Allen and Daylon Scheele, Stockton, IL; Meinters Stock Farm, Zach Meinter, Buffalo Center, IA; Robert Crull, New Paris, OH; Dave James, Dodgeville, WI; and Shepherds Way Farm, Mary Kuehl, Waukesha, WI.
Fashion Design Takes Center Stage at Jefferson

The Wisconsin Make It With Wool Contest was held during the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival at Jefferson County Fair Park in Jefferson on September 9. There were nineteen garment and novelty entries. Contestants in the Make It With Wool contest competed for top prizes in the four garment divisions – Preteen, Junior, Senior, and Adult. Garments must have been constructed during the contest year and made of a minimum of 60% wool or wool blend fabrics, wool yarn or specialty fibers such as mohair and alpaca. Judging was completed by five judges who spoke with each contestant individually and then judged the construction of the garments. The afternoon Style Show featured all contestants modeling their unique and skillfully crafted garments before an appreciative audience. Winners in all categories were announced and prizes presented.

**Preteen:**
1st **Alexandra Lewin**, Hartford: Babylock sewing machine donated by M & R Sewing & Vac of Madison
2nd **Brooklyn Jones**, Big Bend: Iron donated by Nasco of Ft. Atkinson
3rd & 4th **Elizabeth Colwell**, LaValle, & **Hannah Riemer**, Mequon: Scissors donated by Kurth Farms of Pewaukee

**Junior:**
1st **Holley Schwartz**, Watertown: Airfare to the National MIWW contest in San Antonio, TX in February 2018 provided by Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative; Hotel accommodations paid by National MIWW
2nd **Brianna Jones**, Big Bend: $50 cash award from Wisconsin Make It With Wool
3rd **Lauren Thompson**, Woodville: Scissors donated by Kurth Farms of Pewaukee

**Senior:**
1st **Sara Sybesma**, Delavan: Airfare to the National MIWW contest in San Antonio, TX in February 2018 provided by Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative; Hotel accommodations paid by National MIWW
2nd **Kimberly Westenberg**, Watertown: $50 cash award from Wisconsin Make It With Wool
3rd **Sarah Riemer**, Mequon: Thread collection donated by MIWW

**Adult:**
1st **Judith Durley**, Cambridge: $150 cash award from Wisconsin Make It With Wool
2nd **Peggy Matthews**, Appleton: $50 cash award from Wisconsin Make It With Wool

**Best Knitted Entry:**
**Holley Schwartz**, Watertown: $50 cash award from Kurth Farms, Pewaukee

**Beginning Knitter Award:**
**Alexandra Lewin**, Hartford: Free Knitting Class ($80 value), The Knitting Tree, Madison

**2 Best Constructed Items:**
**Sara Sybesma**, Delavan: $100 cash award from Sewing with Nancy, Beaver Dam
**Lauren Thompson**, Woodville: $100 cash award from Sewing with Nancy, Beaver Dam
**Novelty Youth:**
1st: Sarah Riemer, Mequon: $25 cash award from WI MIWW
2nd: Sarah Riemer, Mequon: $15 cash award from WI MIWW
3rd: Joshua Westenberg, Watertown: $10 cash award from WI MIWW

**Novelty Adult:**
1st: Mary Lou Butterbrodt, Waterford: $25 cash award from WI MIWW
2nd: Phyllis Westenberg, Watertown: $15 cash award from WI MIWW

Thanks to the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative, all garment contestants received two and a half yards of beautiful Pendleton wool.

Junior and Senior winners, Holley Schwartz and Sara Sybesma will travel to the national competition in San Antonio, TX, in February. Adult winner, Judith Durley, will prepare a video featuring her garment and submit it to National Contest held in Illinois where a panel of judges will decide on a National Winner. The National Adult Winner will be notified and will receive a trip to the national contest in San Antonio, TX.

The major sponsor of the *Make It With Wool* contest is the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative. Watertown Agri-Business also provides support to *Make It With Wool* along with numerous businesses and organizations throughout Wisconsin.

The 2018 Make It With Wool competition will be held during the Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival at Jefferson County Fair Park in Jefferson. For additional information, visit www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com and click on *Make It With Wool* or contact Wisconsin’s State Director, Wynn Wittkopf at jwwittkopf@core.com, 262-370-1433.
The Wisconsin Shepherd Fall 2017

Audience Participation Results – Commercial Lamb Carcass Competition

Jefferson, WI - For the first time, the general public was invited to give their estimates of the ranking of the top three pens of lambs entered in the WSBC Carcass Contest at the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival based on the average carcass index of the 3 lambs in each pen. Forty-three adults and youth participated. The top three pens of lambs ranked: 1st - Pen 4 (Roembke), 2nd - Pen 3 (McMullen), and 3rd - Pen 1 (Burton).

Top youth judges were:
1st – Keegan McMullen, Adell, WI – lost 4 pts. ($25)
2nd – Lucas Wilson, New Carlisle, IN – lost 9 pts. ($15)
3rd – Mitchel McMullen, Waldo, WI – lost 16 pts ($10)

Honorable Mention (in order of placing):
Carson Knittel, Greenfield, IL
Drew George, Niles, MI
Evan Retzlaff, Clintonville, WI
James Kleist, Elkorn, WI

Top adult judges were:
1st – Kelsey Dodson, Madison, WI – lost 0 pts. for a perfect ranking ($25)
2nd – Katherine Grace, Chicago, IL – lost 0 pts. for a perfect ranking ($15), tie between 1st and 2nd was broken on the estimation of the loin eye area of a selected lamb
3rd – Clint Dallas, Shawano, WI – lost 3 pts ($10)

Honorable Mention (in order of placing):
Tim Miller, Beloit, WI
Dave Thomas, Madison, WI
Elton May, Arrowsmith, IL
Richard Roembke, Cedarburg, WI
Mark Roembke, Cedarburg, WI
Sue Wilkins, Carlock, IL

Thanks to everyone that participated!

 Aphis No Longer Providing Free Plastic Scrapie Tags

To support animal disease traceability and scrapie eradication efforts, the United States Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has provided both metal and plastic ear tags and applicators to sheep and goat producers - at no cost - since fiscal year 2002.

After a funding reduction in FY 2012, APHIS used specific, no-year funding (for scrapie and ADT) to continue purchasing the tags and distributing them free of cost to producers. These no-year funds were exhausted in fiscal year 2017. While the Agency remains committed to ADT efforts, beginning Oct. 1 of this year, APHIS is providing only metal tags free of charge to producers and others who handle sheep and goats. Plastic tags and applicators for metal and plastic tags will remain available for purchase directly from approved tag manufactures.

These changes will reduce APHIS tag and applicator costs while still providing sheep and goat producers with a free identification device. APHIS will provide a limited number of plastic tags to producers newly enrolled in the Scrapie Free Flock Certification Program who submit tissues for scrapie surveillance in order to encourage on-farm scrapie surveillance.

The agency will continue to work closely in partnership with states and industry to achieve scrapie eradication.

For more information on how to purchase tags and applicators, visit https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/scrapie-tags.

Note: The American Sheep Industry Association and other stakeholder groups continue to work with USDA on alternatives to this new policy, including increasing the appropriations designated to the scrapie eradication program.

Support Your Industry!

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Family memberships only $25 / year
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Minnesota Bred Ewe Sale
OLMSTED FAIRGROUNDS • ROCHESTER, MN
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH, 2017
Show: 9:00 a.m. • Sale: 1 p.m.
Featuring: Hampshires, Suffolks, Dorset, Southdowns, Colombias, Wether Dams
For sale catalog or more sale info go to website www.MNHampshires.org or call 507-760-0949

The Wisconsin Shepherd Fall 2017
The 3rd annual Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op Commercial Lamb Contest continued to provide more valuable information to consignors, visitors, lamb growers and UW-Madison Animal Sciences students. Results provided valuable information for including:

1) High yielding lambs can result from 53 lb carcasses as well as 73 lb carcasses.
2) Ewe lambs may yield as high as wether lambs.
3) Body wall thickness measured 5 inches ventral to the transverse process, between the 12th/13th rib has a major impact on boneless, closely trimmed retail cuts.
4) The loin eye area (LEA) at 12th rib is difficult to estimate from visual appraisal of live penned lambs.
5) Hampshire breed genetics provides for a wide variation in carcass characteristics, dependent upon environment (rearing, feeding).
6) All 15 lambs quality graded average choice to low prime, and 10 of 15 lambs yield graded 1 or 2. There were no yield grade 4 or 5 lambs.
7) Some lambs appear to fatten over the mid-rib sooner than over the eye muscle.

This year, thanks to UW-Madison Meats Lab, all three lambs in a pen were harvested and data were collected for consignors. The carcass indexes were added for the top two lambs in each pen and placings awarded.

First place pen went to Dick & Mark Roembke of Cedarburg. Their lambs were National Sheep Improvement Program (NSIP) recorded ewe lambs which were below the standard they had set in their own flock for retaining ewe lambs for breeding. They can now look back at what type carcasses traits the sire (50% heritable) passes on.

Second place pen was awarded to Keegan McMullen of Adell, Wisconsin. These lambs were from his exhibit at the Sheboygan Co. youth fair and appeared very uniform.

They placed 1st in the live evaluation at the festival by a committee of three people representing Extension, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a breeder. All three lambs measured very similar fat over the eye at 0.18, 0.15, and LEA of 2.7 and 2.8 square inches.

The third place pen, a favorite among some commercial viewers, was from Nancy Burton of Argyle, Wisconsin. Her lambs were 3rd and 6th, in a close placing with the second place pen which had a 1.3% advantage in carcass index. Nancy's lambs were the larger framed lambs in the live display.

The fourth place pen went to Metro Rupnow Hampshires of Columbus, Wisconsin and contained the carcass with the highest leg score of 14. Leg scores are subjective as evaluated by a trained Meat Science Professional and is added input to assess muscling and lean in the hindsaddle. Fullness of the sirloin, quadriceps muscles and how the muscling carries down the heel towards the hock are assessed. This is an additional measure of muscle mass above the calculation of percentage boneless, closely trimmed retail cuts (%BCTRC).

The fifth place pen of Ralph Giorno of Whitewater, Wisconsin contained the lamb with the largest LEA of 2.9 square inches. These lambs came directly out of the feedlot and were of Ile de France breeding.

Thanks to committee member Dave Thomas, a new “audience contest” was added this year. Over 40 people visited the display on Sunday morning and ranked the top three pens and estimated the loin eye’s on 1 lamb in the Burton and Giorno pens.

1st, 2nd, 3rd place earned $25, $15, and $10 respectfully, in both an Adult and Youth Division. Only two adults placed the pens the same as the final carcass placing based on the Carcass Index. Winning with a "closer" LEA estimate tie-breaker was Kelsey Dodson of Madison.

A huge thanks to Robbie Weyker, Alissa Grenawalt, Bernie O’Rourke, and Ron Russell of UW-Madison Department of Animal Sciences for slaughtering of lambs, collection of carcass data, and final placings of the carcasses. Finally, Ron Russell of the UW-Madison Department of Animal Sciences was able to utilize all the contest live lambs for student instruction and then the carcasses for meat evaluation.

The 3rd year Traveling Trophy will go to the Roembke’s (1st year winner) and be presented at Arlington Sheep Day on March 10, 2018. The winner in 2017 was Crystal Retzlaff of Clintonville on a pen of Texel lambs.

Thanks to our sponsors Equity, Kent, Purina, Big Gain, and Ketcham’s Sheep Equipment for their support.

Tim Miller
Carcass Contest Co-Chair
BS, MS MSU ‘75 Meat Science

Festival Carcass Contest Continues to Evolve
Early in the year, your Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative (WSBC) applied for and received an American Lamb Board Promotional Funding Program Grant, monies that supported the Baa Booth at the 2017 Wisconsin State Fair held August 3-13. The booth, located in the Sheep & Goat Barn on the fairgrounds, was a cooperative effort sponsored by the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders, Wisconsin State Fair Agriculture Department and American Lamb Board (ALB). The target audience was the Chicago, Milwaukee and Madison metropolitan area, the Wisconsin State Fair providing a unique opportunity to make the farm-to-table connection and put the sheep industry in front of the consuming public. Attendance at the 2017 fair topped one million for the forth consecutive year.

The Baa Booth grant proposal was based on previous ALB grant funding of the Indianhead Sheep Breeders Association (ISBA) educational program and free lamb products distributed at the Wisconsin State Fair in August of 2015. The Baa Booth was accessible to tens of thousands of consumers, educating and encouraging them to add lamb to their dinner plate. The booth was located in the Sheep Barn, directly in front of the Wisconsin Wool Works. In its 16th year and a function of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op, the Wool Works features consignments of wool clothing and related products, many originating from Wisconsin artisans and small businesses. In addition there are volunteer fiber artisans who card, spin, knit and do other wool crafts as demonstrations for the visiting public. At the Baa Booth, volunteers provided answers to fairgoer’s questions about the industry and offered promotional literature and lamb recipes. Providing these educational links to the general public is crucial to building support and demand for American Lamb and our industry.

The Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative also continues to promote lamb, wool and sheep dairy products through the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival held each year in Jefferson, WI. Cooking demonstrations under the direction of Milwaukee Area Technical College Culinary Arts Instructor Jack Kaestner and his students have, with the help of ALB funding, helped your cooperative develop the Farmer-Chef Connection that builds lasting, working relationships between producers, chefs and the restaurant trade. Through additional American Lamb Board grant funding, Chef Kaestner brought “American Lamb & a Taste of Morocco” to the 2017 festival, offering exciting ways to stretch a menu with American Lamb that was provided for the demonstrations by Farm 45, LLC, owned and operated by producer Terry Groth of Jackson, WI.

The Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative is committed to representing all of its producers and business members and actively encourages the involvement and support of anyone interested in promotion of the sheep industry. For more information or to comment on your co-op’s efforts, refer to the directory of WSBC board members or email wisbc@centurytel.com. Visit the cooperative website at wisbc.com or the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival website, wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com. To see the Youtube overview of the 2017 Baa Booth at the Wisconsin State Fair, go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Mt7B8Xw12s
Jefferson, WI - The 2017 Shepherd’s Auction brought in $3100 on the sale of forty donations given generously from contributors including: Steeple View Farms; Sydell; Mountain View Machine; The Banner Sheep Magazine; Tim and Beth Miller, Tailwind Farm; Andis Clipper Co.; and Premier Supply. Additional donors included Miller International; Julie and Eric Larson; Badger State Auction; Leading Edge Supplements, Tom Thompson, Precision Feed Technologies, Sydni’s Shag Socks, Rockin’ B Show Lambs; Tara Jayne; Show Bloom; Valley Vet Supply; Catalyst 1210; Chaffeayce; Landmark Co-op, Udder Tech, Stand Alone Feeds, Heininger, Form-a-Feed, Complete Feeds-Sharon; Vita Ferm; Show Coat Solutions; LubriSyn Inc.; ICU Small Animal Rugs-Australia; Kula Coolers; and Debbie Petzel. Thanks to everyone involved for your generous support of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op’s Youth and Education Funds.

The Used Equipment Auction grossed over $7000 thanks to twenty six consignors who brought in a wide variety of items. The Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op receives 15% commission on gross sales. Special thanks to Bob Johnson, Badger State Auction, Milton, WI, for selling both the Shepherds Auction and Used Equipment Auction. We look forward to another great set of sales in 2018 and again thank everyone involved for their generosity, time, and willingness to consign and/or purchase items.

Some of the forty items donated for the Shepherd’s Auction, which was combined with the Used Equipment Auction for the first time at the festival and raised over $3000 for the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op Youth & Education Fund.

Jefferson, WI - The proceeds from the Silent Auction at the 2017 Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival set an all-time record of $4125, made possible by the generous donations of both festival vendors and contributors, and all those who supported the auction with their bids. Crafts, fiber, sheep tools, equipment, sheep books, home crafted snacks, beverages, and decorations were among the two hundred-plus items donated. Special thanks to The Scarf Connection, Steve and Erin Whalen, Whitewater, WI, for the donation of a spinning wheel, which earned a winning bid of $520. Also thanks to the Ryan Bingen Family for the many gift baskets of varying themes and donated items which many buyers found to their liking. I would also like to give special recognition to Etta Held, Barb and Richard Schultz, and Dick and Sylvia Roembke, who rounded up donations, cataloged and clerked the event. Proceeds from the Silent Auction go into the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op fund for youth scholarship and youth/adult education.

Volunteers (l-r) Sylvia Roembke, Etta Held, and Barb Schultz took care of the clerking duties at the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival Silent Auction that set a record of $4125 on the many items generously provided by both vendors and donors. Not shown: Dick Roembke, Richard Schultz and Silent Auction Coordinator Tim Miller.
Showring Shots

Reserve Supreme Champion Ewe, Meat Breeds, Open Show, Wether-Type shown by Metro Hamps, Columbus, WI.

Supreme Champion Ewe, Meat Breeds, Open Show, Southdown shown by Prairieland Farms, Alexandria, SD.

Supreme Champion Ram, Open Show Meat Breeds, Hampshire shown by Alf Hamps, Edgerton, WI.

Supreme Champion Ewe, Open Wool Breeds, Lincoln shown by Ram-Lin Acres, Richland Center, WI.

Photos provided by Diane J. Synder, Lady Di Livestock Photography. All photos are copyrighted and any reuse is strictly prohibited without the express permission of the photographer.
Reserve Supreme Champion Ewe, Wool Breeds, Junior Show, Natural Lincoln shown by Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI.

Supreme Champion Ram, Wool Breeds, Open and Junior Shows, Natural Colored Border Leicester shown by Ben Wamsley, Palmer, IL.

Supreme Champion Ewe, Wool Breeds, Junior Show, White Lincoln shown by Justin Taylor,

Sheep and Goat sales every Tuesday at 8 a.m.  
All classes of sheep and goats welcome!  
We also market sheep Monday - Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information contact Tom Ostlie at 612.532.0966 or Jason Gochnauer at 507.273.8449.  
www.centrallivestock.com
Jefferson, WI - Many thanks to everyone who entered the 2017 Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op Photo Contest this year! We had many submissions from some truly talented photographers, and our judges had some challenging decisions in narrowing down the winners. The beautiful images were a highly visited attraction at the Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival. The top placings for the four contest categories are:

**Just Lambs**
1. Standing in the Grounsel - Marlene Bell, Big Sandy, TX
   - $50 Gift Certificate from Ewesful Gifts, LLC
2. Baby Bluebell - Mary Siekmann, Oconomowoc, WI
3. Untitled - Amanda Lifhtner - Jefferson, WI
4. The Bad Boy Club - Marlene Bell, Big Sandy, TX

**Scenic Photo**
1. Reflections of Ewe - Kirstin Thompson, Woodville, WI
   - $50 from Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op
2. Peaceable Kingdom - Mary Troxel, Plainfield, WI
3. South Dakota Sunrise - Emily Petzel, Brookings, SD
4. Keeping Watch Over Her Flock - Lindsay Anderson, St. Croix Falls, WI
**Kids and Sheep**
1. My Romeo - Susie Olson-Rosenbush, Sarona, WI  
   $50 from Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op
2. Tie - Eyes on the Prize - Kirstin Thompson, Woodville, WI
3. Flying Fiasco - Kirstin Thompson, Woodville, WI
4. C’mon Blossom - Susie Olson-Rosenbush, Sarona, WI

**Photo Taken By Youth**
1. Mom and Sheep in the Sunset - Daisy Riemer, Plymouth, WI  
   $50 Tractor Supply Gift Card from Debbie Petzel/ 
   Windswept Crest Sheep Farm
2. Baby Border Under a Bright Blue Sky - 
   Lauren Thompson, Woodville, WI
3. Bad Hair Day, Jackie Rosebush, Sarona, WI
4. No Fear Here - Alaina Link, Moberly, MO

*My Romeo* by Susie Olson-Rosenbush

*Mom & Sheep in the Sunset*  
by Daisy Riemer
Jefferson, WI - When 4:30 PM rolled around on Saturday, September 9, it was perfect weather for the Walk & Knit Relay Challenge at the Jefferson County Fair Park. The sun was shining, the temperature was just right, and the pavement was dry. What more could a walking relay knitter hope for? Well, maybe just a touch less wind.

Each team had to walk (or run) four laps while knitting as many stitches as accurately as they could. Teams were comprised of two to four individuals, and two heats were run with four teams competing in each heat. Cheering by team members and spectators alike made for a fun event as knitters made their way along the course.

The mother-daughter team of Kathleen and Susan Baert placed third in the event. They both practiced ahead of time but separately, as they live in different states (WI & IL). They did practice the bag exchange together on the day of the event. Their strategy “was to prioritize finishing first in our heat and not make mistakes in the knitting.” That’s why Kathleen actually stopped just before crossing the finish line on the fourth lap and knit more stitches before crossing the line just before the next team in their heat was about to cross.

The starting line
Ready, set, make-sure-your-shoelaces-are-tied, Go!
The Madison Knitting Guild started the day with just three team members but rallied a fourth member to join them on the day of the event. They “discussed possible strategies but decided it was fruitless and just to have fun!” Having no specific strategy certainly worked for them.

The team that titled themselves “Awesome Foursome” really was awesome. They came in first overall by crossing the finish line in 3 minutes and 11 seconds (due in part to Javier choosing to run his lap) and knitting 81 stitches (the second highest number of stitches knit by a team) and with just one knitting error.

The winning team’s strategy was to “optimize each other’s strengths” whether it was as a fast knitter, accurate knitter, experienced event participant, or one with speedy feet. Nicole’s comments on the event echo other participants’ feelings, “It was wonderfully silly and that made it fun to participate. Getting the prizes was great and the vendors were wonderful of course, but I really just enjoyed the ridiculousness of all of us trying to walk, knit, not fall down, find the line, etc. That and Lynn’s joy at getting a set of Addi Clicks.” Nicole summed it up: It’s all about having fun! Thanks to all who participated, all the vendors who donated prizes, and all the volunteers who showed up to make it happen.

First Place – Javier Jara, Nicole Gooding, Lynn Lundgren, and Abigail Goben. Photograph courtesy of Ray Mathew
The 2017 FFA Sheep Proficiency Award recipient was Taylor Eilers, (r) Waupaca FFA Chapter, shown with Brenna Bays (l), retiring 2016-17 President, Wisconsin FFA and Bobbie Jo Montgomery, Secretary of the Waupaca FFA Alumni. The Waupaca Chapter (Advisors Jenifer Erb and Rene Lehnam) was also the state winner in the National Chapter Award. The Wisconsin FFA Convention was held at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison June 13-15. The Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative provides $795 annually to support the state proficiency awards.

Photo Empire Photography; excerpts from Wisconsin Ag Connections.com

Focus on AI at Dairy Sheep Symposium

Bee Tolman, Dairy Sheep Association of North America

Any sheep producer who is thinking about using Artificial Insemination (AI) to improve their flock genetics should seriously consider attending the 2017 Symposium of the Dairy Sheep Association of North America, November 30 – December 2 in Orford, Quebec. The first day of this year’s Symposium will be devoted entirely to AI. Speakers from Canada, Europe, and the US will present on AI techniques used in France, Iceland, and Canada, both cervical and laparoscopic, with both frozen and fresh semen. Presenters will also discuss protocols that will improve conception rates and litter size in AI’d ewes. Furthermore, a large number of dairy sheep producers who have begun using AI to incorporate European genetics into their flocks will be in attendance. Developments in AI techniques, as well as improved availability of internationally-sourced semen, are offering American sheep producers some real opportunities to broaden and improve their breed’s gene pool.

The Symposium will be held at the beautiful Estrimont Suites & Spa in Orford, in southern Quebec just north of Vermont. Attendees may register for just one day (i.e., for the day of AI presentations on November 30th), or for the full symposium which includes two days of presentations, a wine-and-cheese reception featuring Canadian sheep’s-milk cheeses, tours of two Quebecois sheep dairies, and an optional cheese-making workshop. For more details on the Symposium schedule, go to www.dsana.org. There are two brochures on the DSANA website, one in French and one in English; please note that all rates are listed in Canadian dollars, and that US dollar rates are approximately 80% of the listed Canadian dollar rates.
David Hammer Receives State Fair Recognition

David Hammer was added to the Sheep Barn Hall of Fame during the 2017 Wisconsin State Fair Open Wool Breeds show in a ceremony during the open Wool Breeds Show. The annual award is presented to exhibitors who have been long-time supporters of the open shows. David is a past director of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op and he and his wife Kay currently breed Lincolnns and Rambouillets on their Cuba City, WI farm. Shown (l-r) Becky Starkenburg, 2017 Wisconsin Fairest of the Fair; David Hammer; Barb Bishop, Open Shows Sheep Superintendent and Brian Bolan, Wisconsin State Fair Agriculture Director.

Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival skillathon

As they have done for over a decade, Sam and Pat Wiford continue to bring the challenge of learning about sheep and the sheep industry to all ages at the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival, where this year over 130 kids went through the learning experience. The Wapakoneta, OH couple have put education front and center with their ever-changing skillathon programs that have become a feature of events like the All American Junior Show, county fairs and festival around the country. A new feature of the skillathon at Jefferson this year were the six attendance awards provided by the Wifords with Sarah Riemer of Plymouth, WI, winning the Skillathon Stool. The Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival skillathon is part of the event’s Youth Sweepstakes program, where this year eighty-eight young exhibitors competed for cash awards provided by the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op and embroidered awards provided by Profiles Show Supply & Embroidery. Cash awards are supported by the contributions and bidders at the annual Shepherd’s and Silent auctions.
Between the Open and Junior Fleece Shows at Jefferson, there were 195 entries in front of Judge Holin Kennen. Of those, 113 fleeces were sold in the silent auction and private treaty sales that followed the show, recording an average sale price of $49.23.

Entry O-33 Melissa Wubben Open Division II  
*Best of Show*
Entry O-51 Laura Stremick-Thompson Open Division III  
*Reserve Best of Show*
Entry J-19 Sarah Stege Junior Division III  
*Junior Best of Show*
Entry J-38 Marissa Telderer Junior Division III  
*Reserve Junior Best of Show*

**Results:**

**Placing – Fleece ID – Exhibitor – Breed**

**Junior I**
1 J-31 Leah Huchthausen Targhee  
2 J-05 Andy Nevens Targhee  
3 J-08 Andy Nevens Targhee  
4 J-34 Ebrielle Thoma-Loehrke Texel

**Junior II**
1 J-36 Marissa Telderer Icelandic  
2 J-52 Justin Taylor Lincoln  
3 J-53 Justin Taylor Lincoln  
4 J-47 Jackie Rosenbush Romney

**Junior III**
1 J-19 Sarah Stege Icelandic  
2 J-38 Marissa Telderer Icelandic  
3 J-37 Marissa Telderer Icelandic  
4 J-24 Faith Baerwolf Lincoln  
5 J-09 Ann Boland Icelandic

**Junior IV**
1 J-04 Ruth Cinefro Gotland/Shetland  
2 J-44 Jackie Rosenbush Columbia/Romney

**Open I – 1 Commercial Market Fine**
1 O-134 Leah Huchthausen Targhee  
2 O-84 A&J Nevens Targhee  
3 O-85 A&J Nevens Targhee  
4 O-42 Julie Fitzpatrick Commercial Cross

**Open I – 2 Commercial Market Medium**
1 O-87 A&J Nevens Targhee Reserve Division Champion  
2 O-86 A&J Nevens Targhee  
3 O-135 Leah Huchthausen Targhee

**Open I – 3 Commercial Market Coarse**
1 O-63 Barb Salas Coopwoorth/Polypay Division Champion  
2 O-62 Barb Salas Coopwoorth/Polypay  
3 O-61 Barb Salas Polypay/East Friesian/Coopworth

**Open II – 1 White Handspinning Fine**
1 O-03 Helen Hettinger Cormo Reserve Division Champion  
2 O-73 Abby & Katie Evans Romeldale  
3 O-60 Candice Levine Merino  
4 O-132 Wendy Tobiaz Merino

**Open II – 2 White Handspinning Medium**
1 O-05 Helen Hettinger Corriedale  
2 O-95 Lori Stephenson Finn  
3 O-04 Helen Hettinger Corriedale

**Open II – 4 White Handspinning Longwool**
1 O-33 Melissa Wubben Romney Division Champion  
2 O-66 Emilly Brodeur Family Farm Romney  
3 O-24 Angelina Kocha Romney  
4 O-83 Kim Specht Border Leicester

**Open II – 5 White Handspinning Double-Coated**
1 O-144 Jeanne Telderer Icelandic

**Open III – 1 Natural Colored Fine**
1 O-75 Abby & Katie Evans Romeldale/CVM Division Champion  
2 O-76 Abby & Katie Evans Romeldale/CVM  
3 O-11 Susan Kapla CVRM/Romeldale  
4 O-39 Jolyn Meehan Romeldale

**Record Number of Fleeces Show at Jefferson**

Judge Holin Kennen, Evansville, WI, sorted through a record 195 fleeces in the Open and Junior shows during the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival. The 113 fleeces sold in the private treaty and silent auction sales totaled over $5500 in gross sales.
Open III – 2 Natural Colored Medium
1 O-72 Abby & Katie Evans Romeldale
2 O-49 Laura Stremick-Thompson Shetland
3 O-77 Abby & Katie Evans Romeldale/CVM
4 O-69 Emilly Brodeur Family Farm Romeldale

Open III – 4 Natural Colored Longwool
1 O-35 Melissa Wubben Romney
2 O-36 Melissa Wubben Romney
3 O-80 Kim Specht Border Leicester
4 O-67 Emilly Brodeur Family Farm Romney

Open III – 5 Natural Colored Double-Coated
1 O-51 Laura Stremick-Thompson Shetland Reserve Division Champion
2 O-47 Laura Stremick-Thompson Shetland
3 O-145 Jeanne Telderer Icelandic
4 O-92 Queso Cabeza Farm Icelandic

Open IV – 1 Crossbred Handspinning Fine
1 O-20 Karen Mallum BFL/Clun Forest
2 O-117 Rose St. Martin CVM/Shetland
3 O-113 Rose St. Martin Border Leiceseter/CVM
4 O-119 Rose St. Martin CVM/Shetland

Open IV – 2 Crossbred Handspinning Medium
1 O-15 Karen Mallum BFL/Clun Forest Reserve Division Champion
2 O-100 Hampton Waring CVM Cross
3 O-82 Kim Specht Romney/Corriedale
4 O-17 Karen Mallum BFL/Clun Forest

Open IV – 4 Crossbred Handspinning Longwool
1 O-19 Karen Mallum BFL/Clun Forest Division Champion
2 O-38 Melissa Wubben Romney/Border Leicester
3 O-18 Karen Mallum BFL/Clun Forest
4 O-43 Samantha Jones CVM/Jacob/Border Leister

Open IV – 5 Crossbred Handspinning Double-Coated
1 O-46 Laura Stremick-Thompson Shetland/Cotswold
2 O-45 Laura Stremick-Thompson BFL/Icelandic
3 O-118 Rose St. Martin CVM/Border Leicester
The Rock County Sheep Producers held their annual fall picnic on Sunday, October 1, hosted by Brandon and Michelle Knutson, Diamond K Sheep Company, Clinton, WI. Brandon Knutson was elected president and current Secretary Aaron Bennett and Treasurer Brian Lux were re-elected. Past-president Jeoff Stevens will join the board of directors as well as new director Martin Newhouse. During the business meeting the proposed new fleece class for the Rock County Fair was discussed, as well as the donation of $250 by the Meat Animal Show Committee towards a sheep judge.

The educational program was led by Brandon Knutson on trimming and Dr. Stevens on foot health. Handouts were provided and will be e-mailed to our RCSP membership list. Tim Miller handed out a list of ten reasons why the Sheep Project is good for youth, which will be submitted to the Rock Co. 4-H Cloverpatch and county ag advisors.

Seventeen families renewed their membership for 2018 at the event. A notice will be sent e-mail for membership renewal. The next meeting is tentatively planned for the Craig Center at the Rock County Fairgrounds in February with an emphasis on shearing, fleece preparation and storage and wool judging.
Northern Show Circuit: New Opportunities for Young Exhibitors

John Bazille – Chairman of Northern Show Circuit Association

In the fall of 2016 a small group of livestock producers and exhibitors founded an organization with the mission to help to provide more opportunities for youth to learn about the livestock industry and show in the Western Wisconsin area without having to travel long distances from home. The Northern Show Circuit kicked off its efforts in the spring of 2017 with a show lamb and goat sale. Consignors from all over Wisconsin and into Minnesota responded to the group’s call for top quality animals that would bring great opportunities for youth. Several of the animals from the 1st Annual Spring Sale garnered many purple ribbons and high placing animals for the many youth this past show season. In addition to purchasing a top quality animal for their projects, any youth who purchased an animal on the auction block that day was eligible to sign up for the Northern Show Circuit Futurity Point program and earn money toward a purchase at our 2018 Spring Sale to be held in early April. The Northern Show Circuit is looking at locations to host the sale in an effort to add pigs to the sale.

Holding true to the groups mission to provide showing and learning opportunities, the Northern Show Circuit hosted shows over Memorial Day Weekend in Ellsworth, WI and another the beginning of June in Glenwood City, WI. All Northern Show Circuit Shows include Beef, Sheep, Goats and Swine and offer showmanship, breeding stock and market classes. Other learning opportunities offered at most of the group’s events are educational workshops and skill-a-thon and judging competitions.

There was a great turn out of youth at both shows and we look forward to seeing everyone again in 2018, with shows being planned once again for the Memorial Day Weekend in Ellsworth and the Glenwood City the beginning of June. The group is hopeful to add more shows and/or events in the future and is always looking for ideas.

The Northern Show Circuit is a non-profit group that is funded mostly through sponsorships from local businesses and livestock producers. There is also a family membership opportunity with a suggested fee of $5 per family. Money from sponsorships and member fees are used to help offset costs of the Northern Show Circuit Shows and events, helping to keep all of our events affordable for all families, encouraging them to come out and have fun while learning about livestock. Congratulations to the youth who placed well with the animals they purchased last April and we hope to see you again in 2018. A huge thank you to our 2017 sponsors including Gold- Bernard’s Northtown, Valley Vet Supply, Bazille Family Farms, and Wind Swept Crest Farm/Petzel Family.

Make sure to “like” us on Facebook and visit our website at https://northernshowcircuit.wordpress.com to keep up with news and events that are sponsored by the Northern Show Circuit and other groups offering opportunities for local youth. For more information about the 2018 shows and events, please contact Chairman, John Bazille - 715-684-9529 - jhkjfarm@yahoo.com

![Profiles Show Supply Ad](https://www.profilesshowsupply.com)
LEEDS/ARLINGTON, WI—Ronald R. Klahn, age 79, passed away on Sunday, Sept. 10, 2017 after a long courageous battle with Parkinson’s Disease. He was born in Leeds, Wis. on June 5, 1938 the son of the late Robert and Meta (Herwig) Klahn. Ron fell in love and married Patricia Jones on June 18, 1966. Ron and Pat recently celebrated 50 years of marriage. They made a home in Leeds where they raised their four children on the family farm. Ron proudly served his country in the US Army and worked at the Del Monte canning plant in Arlington for 35 years until his retirement. He enjoyed playing cards, farming, hunting and spending time with his family. In 1979 Ron and Pat were one of the first to receive the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op Master Shepherd Awards – Commercial Division. Ron is survived by his wife, Patricia; children, Barbara (Charlie) Boyd, Laura (Joe) Pingel, Kimberly Klahn, and Ron (Allie) Klahn Jr.; four grandchildren, Andrew, Emma and Christina Pingel, and Thomas Boyd. Ron is also survived by his brothers and sisters, Lloyd (Ruth), Paul (Marlene), Tom (Judy), Sue (Henry) Schact, Pat (Larry) Michel, and Bill (Danita). Funeral Services were held at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Arlington, on Saturday, September 16. Burial was in Zion Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery. In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made to the Wisconsin Parkinson’s Assn. or Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Leeds. Online condolences may be made at www.gundersonfh.com.

Kenneth L. Townsend

Kenneth L. Townsend, 81, of Trafalgar, IN. and lifelong Johnson County farmer passed away Wednesday, October 11, 2017 at Indiana University Health Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis, IN. He was born August 14, 1936 at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis to Harry W. Townsend and Ruth E. (Beaman) Townsend. He married Rosemae “Ricki” (Neher) Townsend on June 16, 1957 in Peru, Indiana, she survives. He was a 1954 graduate of Franklin High School and attended Franklin College. He had been a sales representative for TOX-O-WIK Company and later he alongside his wife owned and operated Townsend Sales and Manufacturing Livestock Equipment in Trafalgar for 50 years where they displayed at the Indiana State Fair, National Farm Machinery Show, and the North American International Livestock Exposition and many other shows for many years. He will be remembered as both a supporter of and an exhibitor at the Wisconsin Sheep Industry Conference and the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival as well as numerous other sales and shepherds clinics in Wisconsin over many years. He was a lifelong farmer in Johnson County having dairy farmed in his earlier years. He was a 70 year member of Union Christian Church where he had served as deacon, elder, and secretary of the board. He was a member of Trafalgar Masonic Lodge and the Indianapolis Valley of the Scottish Rite. He had served in the U.S. Army Reserve. He always had a smile while wearing his Stetson hat. Survivors include his wife Rosemae “Ricki” (Neher) Townsend of Trafalgar, IN., daughter Ellen Mae Paris (Rick) of Franklin, IN., a son Lee W. Townsend of Trafalgar, IN., three grandchildren Ryan Paris, Brandon Paris (Jordan), and Kendall Paris (Ellen) all of Franklin, two great grandchildren Brianna Paris and Durrani Paris, and several nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Stanley G. Townsend on February 13, 2008 and sister in law Susie (Anderson) Townsend on December 25, 2014. The Reverend Allen Whitehurst conducted a Celebration of Life Service Tuesday October 17, 2017 at the Union Christian Church in Franklin, IN. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made to the Union Christian Church Capital Building Fund 1331 East 300 South Franklin, Indiana 46131 or the American Heart Association Midwest Affiliate 3816 Paysphere Circle Chicago, IL. 60674. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.swartzmortuary.com.
Looking Back at the Festival
Calendar of Events - Fall 2017

2017

Nov. 30 – Dec. 2 • 23rd Annual Dairy Sheep Symposium, Estrimont Suites & Spas, Orford, (Sherbrooke) Quebec. “Profitability in Dairy Sheep Production” Contact: Marie-Chantal Houde, 819 578-7234 or Bee Tolman, info@meadowwoodfarms.com, 315 655-0623 or www.dsana.org

Dec. 1-2 • Joint 2-State Annual Conference, Minnesota & North Dakota Lamb & Wool Producers, Double Tree, West Fargo, ND. Information: www.mlwp.org or www.ndsheep.org

Dec. 1-2 • 2017 Buckeye Shepherd’s Symposium, OARDC Shisler Center, Wooster, OH. Contact Roger High, 614 246-8299, www.ohiosheep.org

Dec. 2-3 • Beginning Shearing School, Sheep Unit, UW-Madison Arlington Agricultural Research Station, Arlington, WI. Registration/Information: Todd Taylor, 608 846-5858, toddtaylor@wiscmail.edu

2018

Jan 30 – Feb 1, 2018 • GrassWorks Grazing Conference, Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells, WI. www.grassworks.org

Jan. 31 – Feb. 3 • American Sheep Industry Association Annual Convention, San Antonio, TX. Information: www.sheepusa.org

Feb. 3 - 4 • 18th Annual Jack Knox Cattle & Sheepdog Clinic, JB Ranch, LLC, W6856 Christie Court, Fort Atkinson, WI. Contact Merry Russell at mrruss75@gmail.com Open to all stock dog owners, stock owners and dogs of all levels.

Feb. 17 • 4-H State Meats Judging Contest, UW-Madison Meats Lab. Registration 12:30 p.m., https://fyi.uwex.edu/youthlivestock/programs/4hmeatscontest/

Feb. 18-24 • National FFA Week, wisconsinffa.org

Feb. 22-24 • MOSES Organic Farming Conference, La Crosse Center, La Crosse, WI. Registration opens November 30, 2017. Details at www.mosesorganic.org

Feb. 23-25 • Midwest Fiber Frolic, Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport, 6401 South 13th Street, Milwaukee, WI, 414 764-5300 www.midwestfiberfrolic.com

March 3 • 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl & Skillathon, UW-Madison Animal Sciences Bldg., Registration: 9:00 a.m. https://fyi.uwex.edu/youthlivestock/programs/4hmeatscontest/

March 10 • 10th Annual Arlington Sheep Day, Public Events Facility, UW-Madison Arlington Agriculture Research Station, Arlington, WI. www.wisbc.com or wisbc@centurytel.net

March 10 • Annual Meeting & Recognition Dinner, Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op, Public Events Facility, UW-Arlington Agricultural Research Station, Arlington, WI. www.wisbc.com or email wisbc@centurytel.net

March 24 • Annual Meeting, Wisconsin Livestock Breeders Association, Public Events Facility, UW-Arlington Agricultural Research Station, Arlington, WI. www.wisconsinlivestockbreeders.com or 608 868-2505, email alfhamp@centurytel.net

April 8 • 22nd Annual Stephenson County Fiber Arts Fair, Jane Addams Community Center, Cedarville, IL. 815 541-0897 Suzy@SuzyBeggin.com

April 13-14 • 26th Fiber Event, Putnam County Fairgrounds, Greencastle, IN. TheFiberEvent.com

April 28-29 • Wisconsin Alpaca & Fiber Fest, Washington County Fair Park, West Bend, WI. www.wisconsinalpacafiberfest.com

May 11-13 • 21st Shepherd’s Harvest Sheep & Wool Festival, Lake Elmo, MN. Contact: Julie MacKenzie, 612 961-9625 www.ShepherdsHarvestFestival.org

June 1-2 • Hoosier Hills Fiber Festival, Johnson County Fairgrounds, Franklin, IN. HoosierHillsFiberFestival.com, 317 403-5667.

June 2 • Spring Preview Show, Jefferson County Fair Park, Jefferson, WI. wisconsinlivestockbreeders.com
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**DIRECTIONS**

**SWEET POTATO PURÉE**
Preheat the oven to 400°F. Line a baking dish with aluminum foil. Prick each sweet potato a few times with a fork, and bake until very tender, about 1 hour. When cool enough to handle, peel the sweet potatoes, break them into large chunks, and purée in a food processor with the yogurt, salt, and vanilla until smooth. (The sweet potato purée will keep for a few days in the refrigerator; rewar a before serving.)

**MEATBALLS**
Combine the lamb, garlic, salt, paprika, cumin, cinnamon, and pepper in a large bowl and mix to thoroughly combine. Roll 2-tablespoon-size balls of the mixture to yield about 24 meatballs.

Heat the oil in a large frying pan over medium heat. When the oil is shimmering hot, add the meatballs in a single layer with room between them. (Cook in two batches if needed.) Let them cook without disturbing until a crust forms on the bottom side, about 2 minutes, then continue cooking, stirring often, until nicely browned on all sides and cooked through, 10 to 12 minutes.

**ASSEMBLE**
Toast the flatbreads in a 375°F oven until lightly browned around the edges and crisp, 3 to 5 minutes. Top each flatbread with a smear of the sweet potato purée, about 6 meatballs, a handful of arugula leaves, and the optional toppings of your choice. Serve hot or at room temperature with apple cider.

Total preparation time – 1 hour. Serves 4.