I would like to thank everyone who was able to join us for our annual meeting on March 11, 2017 in Arlington, WI. It’s always a great time to see old friends, meet new ones, share stories and network with others in the sheep industry. The morning Arlington Sheep Days program was filled with positive comments and after a great meal, we commenced the annual business meeting and recognized a great group of people with our annual awards recognition. Board of Director elections take place at our annual meeting as well, and I would like to welcome Steve Bingen, who was elected to the board along with Debbie Petzel and myself who were re elected to serve another term. I would also like to thank Brandon Knutson for his service to the board and many of you will continue to see Brandon as he continues to help with events that he has helped with over the years. THANK YOU to all who made this a great day for the Wisconsin Sheep Industry.

At the annual meeting I had the privilege of presenting the Art Pope Award to Todd and Lynette Taylor. It truly was an honor and I would like to congratulate them again for earning this award which acknowledges exemplary service to the sheep industry both on state level and on a national level. For 16 years now we’ve been fortunate to have Todd and Lynette be a part of the Wisconsin sheep industry, and I have no doubt that we are better because of it. Congratulations to them and all the award winners!

The current state of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative is good. We have a strong group members that make up the membership of the coop, the Board of Directors is a very dedicated group that is working hard on behalf of the industry in this state, and the Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival continues to be a huge success. Are we perfect? No, but we continue to work hard to represent the entire industry in this state. If you know of any sheep related event, please contact us and let us help you promote it, either through this publication, our website, or social media. Let us be your partner.

All indicators point to 2017 being a good year for those in the sheep business. I’ve seen lamb prices over $2/lb, adequate moisture early on should get pastures off to a great start and in my opinion, demand for lamb and wool is high and has not reached it ceiling yet. Communication with the buyers of your product, whether it’s the local sale barn, the feedlot, other producers, or the final consumer if you direct market, is critical even in the good times to make sure you are producing a product that is desired in the marketplace. The marketplace is always changing, you don’t want to be left behind. At the time of this writing, as many probably have already heard, a fairly significant group of dairy farmers in this state and others were suddenly notified of losing their market for the product they are producing. As good as things can be, you never know when or how fast it can change. The agriculture industry is a close knit community and in times like this, the support of that community will be needed.

Happy Shepherding,

Alan Thorson, WSBC President
Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Holds Annual Meeting, Recognize Industry Leaders

The Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative held its annual meeting and recognition dinner on March 11 in conjunction with the 2017 Arlington Sheep Day at the Arlington Research Station. The morning program featured Dr. Mike Neary, Extension Sheep Specialist, Purdue University and Todd Taylor, Arlington Sheep Unit Manager. Neary’s presentations covered decision-making when it comes to feeding lambs for either a lightweight or slaughter weight and an update on current research topics in the industry which also covered the Southern Indiana Consortium Lamb Packing facilities.

Taylor spoke on the basics of wool grading and how producers can get the most out of their wool clips. He then took a contingent of over sixty youth and their parents to the Arlington Sheep Unit where he led a hands-on program that centered on basic management during the lambing season. This was the ninth Arlington Sheep Day, a cooperative effort organized by the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders, and sponsored by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences of the UW-Madison and Cooperative Extension. Over ninety people registered for the day’s programming.

The afternoon program opened with the 2017 Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative awards presentations. The Master Shepherd awards were first presented in 1979, dating back to the first Wisconsin Sheep Industry Conference and were initially divided between purebred and commercial divisions. By 2004 a dairy division was added, followed by a wool division two years later.

Master Shepherd – Purebred Division

For 2017, the Master Shepherd Purebred Division honoree is Kelly Bartels, OK Acres, Monroe, WI. In introducing Kelly, WSBC Vice-President Jeff Nevens pointed out that she, along with husband Mike, has been raising Shetlands since 2004, when they were “tricked” into taking home a Shetland ram. In 2011, along with other Shetland breeders, she founded the Fine Fleece Shetland Sheep Association (FFSSA) and that same year she began showing Shetlands at Jefferson. She is currently the President and Show Chair for the Midwest Shetland Sheep Breeders Association (MSSBA), Treasurer for the FFSSA, Secretary of the Green County Sheep producers and since 2013 has been the current driving force behind the MMSBA show at the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival. On a 2013 trip to England, Scotland and the Shetland Islands, she and Mike visited with dozens of UK and Island Breeders of Shetland sheep, stayed in their homes and handled close to a thousand Shetlands from all parts of the UK. They attended the Ram Show & Sale during Shetland Wool Week, getting to know graders and more about the flocks and history of Shetlands. In 2015 Kelly helped with the formation of a performance registry with the FFSSA and helped to register “Traditional 1927” cm as a collective mark with the Federal government.

As co-presenter of the Master Shepherd recognition, and close friend and fellow Shetland breeder Garrett Ramsey made clear, few people are as dedicated to the Shetland breed as Kelly Bartels.

Master Shepherd – Dairy Division

Laurel Kieffer operates Dream Valley Farm in Strum, WI, where she maintains a flock of approximately 200 milking ewes. Laurel, her husband Tom, along with their three young children, started Dream Valley Farm in 1990. By the mid 1990’s, they became very interested in dairy sheep production and started upgrading their flock to East Friesian breeding, becoming some of the earliest importers of purebred East Friesian rams into the U.S. from Canada. Laurel and Tom became very involved in state and national activities with the dairy sheep industry. They were charter members of the Wisconsin Sheep Dairy Cooperative and both served on organizing committees of the Great Lakes Dairy Sheep Symposium when it was held in Wisconsin. They were charter members of the Dairy Sheep Association of North America (DSANA), hosting farm tours for the dairy sheep symposium and for any groups interested in dairy sheep. They have been recognized for their pioneering work with dairy sheep with the Sheep Industry Award presented at the Annual Spooner Sheep Day and with the Distinguished Service Award from DSANA. As recognized leaders in sustainable agriculture, they served on the Citizens Advisory Committee for the Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Tom had a serious accident on the farm in 2012 that resulted in a spinal cord injury and quadriplegia and as a result of this injury and other complications, Tom died in 2014. Laurel had been working off the farm as a Project Management Professional at UW-Eau Claire but retired from that position and continues to run the farm with some hired help.

As a result of extensive use of data collection on milk production she is a sought-after source of rams for established flocks and of ewes and rams for new producers and has sold dairy sheep breeding stock from coast to coast and to foreign countries. Laurel has made her farm available for research trials, is the current president of DSANA and has also chaired the organizing committee for a new organization, the Sheep Dairy Association of Wisconsin, composed of both sheep milk producers and processors.

In presenting the Master Shepherd Award, Dave Thomas commented that Laurel Kieffer is an accomplished producer of high quality dairy sheep and a recognized force at the state and national levels in sustainable animal agriculture and the dairy sheep industry.

Continued on page 4
Friend of the Industry Award

At one time made up of primarily sheep producers, twenty percent of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op membership now counts themselves as fiber vendors who support either the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival or the Wisconsin Wool Works – or both. Fiber drives both events, providing the majority of the cooperative’s income, through vendor fees, retail sales or through fiber arts class fees at Jefferson. So it was fitting that Kim Ogle would be named as the recipient of the 2017 Friend of the Industry Award. As owner of Ogle Design, she has been both a long-time vendor at the festival and consignor to the Wisconsin Wool Works, the co-op’s retail booth at the Wisconsin State Fair. But more than a consignor, she has also been an Associate Manager of the Wool Works for the past ten years, active on a daily basis with sales, display and demonstrations of the fiber arts. She has been selling yarns and fiber arts supplies since 2000, attending a minimum of eight shows a year. She is an innovative entrepreneur and an ardent supporter of the fiber industry, and according to Carol Black who presented the award, critical to the management of the Wisconsin Wool Works during its eleven day run in West Allis.

Wisconsin Sheep Industry Award

Dr. Dave Thomas is the recipient of the Wisconsin Sheep Industry Award for 2017 in recognition by the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative for his dedication and service to the sheep industry, including nearly 26 years as Professor of Sheep Management & Genetics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Growing up in Mineral Point, he enrolled at the UW-Madison as a Meat Animal Science student in 1967. After graduation he and his wife Lynda spent two years in the Peace Corps, after which he attained his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees at Oklahoma State University. Four years on the faculties of Oregon State University and ten years at the University of Illinois intervened before he returned to the Madison to embark on the remainder of his productive career. As major accomplishments he lists his three years as a director and welcomed Steve Bingen to the board. WSBC member Bob Leder spoke from the floor about the status of tail docking of lambs as it related to animal welfare issues that continue to threaten the livestock industry.

Art Pope Award

Instituted in 1995 by the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op, the Art Pope Award is presented in recognition of exemplary service, leadership and dedication to the sheep industry and is named for Dr. A. L. Pope, a member of the University of Wisconsin-Madison faculty for 43 years. Todd and Lynnette Taylor have long been recognized for their broad and untiring support of the sheep industry both within the State of Wisconsin and nationally as well as their active involvement with youth and community. Their collective service to their fellow producers is unequaled. Todd is the Sheep Unit Manager at the Arlington Agricultural Research Station, overseeing three hundred-plus ewes, and in addition has served on the boards of several national breed associations and has UW teaching and Extension responsibilities. He and Lynnette have been crucial to the success of the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival, providing leadership, hands-on involvement and education at all levels. They are both actively supportive of local and county 4-H and FFA groups.

In other business, Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op President Alan Thorson thanked Brandon Knutson for his three years as a director and welcomed Steve Bingen to the board. WSBC member Bob Leder spoke from the floor about the status of tail docking of lambs as it related to animal welfare issues that continue to threaten the livestock industry.

Anyone interested in joining the cooperative or in being part of its activities should contact Jill Alf at 608 868-2505 weekdays after 5:00 or email wisbc@centurytel.net.

Admission Fees
$3 per person
7 and under free

Many things to see during this fun 2 day event!
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• Crafters and Vendors
• Workshops and Classes
• Sheep Herding, Shearing, Skirting
• Demonstrations

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Needle Felt Gnome  Welt Felted Necklace

Class size is limited. Please check the website for updated information. Sign up NOW by going to www.mchenrycountyfair.com
The American Lamb Board (ALB) has allocated $35,000 in FY 2017 to support new lamb promotion ideas targeting non-industry audiences (consumers, chefs, media, retailers etc.). These funds are intended to help support local or regional lamb promotions designed to build demand for American Lamb. Under a competitive funding process the American Lamb Board gives priority to projects that demonstrate innovative promotion ideas and a commitment to share the cost of executing the promotion. The Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op was successful with its grant proposal, receiving a $1,000 grant to provide an educational booth at the 2017 Wisconsin State Fair in cooperation with the American Lamb Board and Wisconsin State Fair Agriculture Department.

The Baa Booth will be at the Wisconsin State Fair Park in West Allis from August 3 – 13. As Wisconsin’s primary agricultural event, the fair surpassed one million visitors last year and provides a unique opportunity to make the farm-to-table connection for consumers and for producers to bring the story of the sheep industry to the general public. The Baa Booth offers the potential for tens of thousands of consumer impressions on adding lamb to their dinner menus. The booth will be located in the Sheep Barn, directly in front of the Wisconsin Wool Works retail shop where volunteers offer hundreds of wool products for sale and volunteers demonstrate a variety of traditional fiber arts. The Baa Booth will provide an additional and important educational link for the public to learn about American Lamb.

American Lamb Board grants are not new to the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op. As part of the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival, the organization has actively promoted American Lamb with annual cooking demonstrations. Under the direction of respected restaurant chefs from the Madison and Milwaukee metro areas the cooking demos have promoted the farmer-to-table connection that builds working relationships between producers and the culinary trades.

Through a second ALB grant submitted by the WSBC this year, American Lamb will be promoted at the 2017 Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival through a lamb dinner open to the general public. The goal is to build greater awareness and demand for American Lamb by educating consumers, chefs, and media members who have not had the opportunity to be exposed to the product. Persons wishing to attend the dinner may purchase tickets on at www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com.

For more information on the Baa Booth, email Debbie Petzel at dspetzel@gmail.com. A complete schedule for the Wisconsin State Fair can be found at www.wistatefair.com.
APPLY NOW!

2017 WISCONSIN SHEEP BREEDERS COOPERATIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

Parents or applicant must have been members of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Coop for a minimum of (2) years including the year of application.

Must be a high school senior graduating in 2017 or college student age 25 or younger.

Applicant must be enrolled in UW-Madison Agriculture Short Course, technical school, community college or an accredited 4-year college in the fall of 2017.

Previous WSBC scholarship winners are not eligible to re-apply.

Applicant must have carried sheep as a 4-H or FFA project for a minimum of 2 years.

Up to $4000.00 in scholarships will be awarded annually based on qualified applications submitted.

Scholarships to be divided at the Scholarship Committee member’s discretion.

Applications available online at www.wisbc.com and must be postmarked by June 15, 2017, (late applications will not be considered.) and returned to Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative, 7811 N Consolidated School Road, Edgerton, WI 53534. Questions: wisbc@centurytel.net or (608) 868-2505.

2017 scholarships will be announced at the 2017 Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival to be held at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Jefferson, WI, September 7-10, and will be paid any time after January 1, 2018 upon submission of scholarship recipient’s Fall 2017 college transcripts and a Spring 2018 class schedule.

DEADLINE - JUNE 15

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
Wisconsin 4-H Quiz Bowl and Skillathon Results

Madison, WI - The Wisconsin 4-H Quiz Bowl and Skillathon contests were held on Saturday, March 4 at the University of Wisconsin Madison Animal Sciences Building. The Livestock Quiz Bowl is a competition where questions are about beef, sheep, swine and meat goat topics, and students use a buzzer in order 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 represents Wisconsin at the National 4-H Quiz Bowl contest at AKSARBEN in Grand Island, NE, in September. Winner of the senior division (14 and older) was Marathon County, coached by Mark Zimmerman. Members included: Stephanie Witberler, Kailen Smerchek, Cortney Zimmerman and Emilie Pauls. Second place in Senior Quiz Bowl went to Columbia County coached by Todd Taylor and included Justin Taylor, Zach Mickelson and Tyler Cross.

Winner of the Junior Quiz Bowl division (under 14 years old) was Iowa County #2 coached by Val Gaffney and included Joey Robinson, Cameron Patterson and Ty Gaffney. Second place went to Iowa County #1, also coached by Val Gaffney and included Skylar Garthwaite, Julia Searls, Nicole Elfering, Kelly Gaffney and Emily Graber.

Winners of the Mixed Division (at least one youth from each age division) was Iowa County, coached by Val Gaffney and included Piper Garthwaite, Ellie Robinson, Annie Robinson, Morgan Fitzsimmons and Paige Gaffney. Jackson County took second place and included Rachel Moseley, Kaden Moseley and Trent Laufenberg. The team was coached by Jackie Oberlin and Dawn Laufenberg.

In the Skillathon contest, participants complete a 25 question written test and four individual skillathon stations where contestants take part in livestock breed, feed, equipment and meat identification. The final portion is the team exercise where each team works together to best solve four different scenarios involving live animals/concepts. This phase helps youth learn problem solving, critical thinking and teamwork.

The winning 4-H Skillathon team was from Marathon County and will represent Wisconsin at the National 4-H Quiz and Skillathon Contest in Louisville, KY in November. They were coached by Mark Zimmerman. And was made up of team members Stephanie Witberler, Kailen Smerchek, Cortney Zimmerman and Emilie Pauls. Second place senior team was Iowa County Team #1 coached by Val Gaffney and included Nathan Daniels, Morgan Fitzsimmons, Kauy Fargo, Paige Gaffney.

The top ten Overall Senior Skillathon Individuals were Natalie Siedschlag, Dodge; Morgan Fitzsimmons, Iowa #1; Stephanie Witberler, Marathon; Justin Taylor, Columbia; Dawson Firlus, Juneau; Kailen Smerchek, Marathon; Clayton Walsh, Juneau; Zachary Mickelson, Columbia; Emilie Pauls, Marathon; Daniel Walsh, Juneau.

Sheboygan County topped the Junior Division and included Alisha Klemme, Brayden Peter, Ethan Kohlman, Alison Gartman. The team was coached by Liz Gartman & Michelle Klemme. Second place was Grant County #1 whose team members were Jessica Patterson, Elliott Thornton, and Alayna Barth, coached by Dennis Patterson.

The top ten Overall Junior Skillathon Individuals were Samantha Rake, Columbia; Alisha Klemme, Sheboygan; Jessica Patterson, Grant #1; Joey Robinson, Iowa #2; Brayden Peter, Sheboygan; Julia Searls, Iowa #1; Kelly Gaffney, Iowa #1; Luke Patterson, Grant #2; Alayna Barth, Grant #1; Macy Cross, Columbia.

In the Mixed Division Jackson County took 1st place. The team was coached by Jesse Oberlin and Dawn Laufenberg and included Rachel Moseley, Kaden Moseley and Trent Laufenberg. Dane County took second place and its team included Reece Theobald, Hailey Schuilenberg, Kendyll Theobald, and Hailey Weisensel, who were coached by Sheryl Theobald. The top ten Overall Mixed Skillathon Individuals were Tyler Giddings, Marathon; Rachel Moseley, Jackson; Reece Theobald, Dane; Talena Sprecher, Richland; Trent Laufenberg, Jackson; Sterling Kleist, Richland; Isaac Kohlman, Sheboygan; Trey Honnold, Juneau; Hailey Schuilenberg, Dane; Dravan Robinson. These events were organized and facilitated by Bernie O’Rourke, UW Extension Youth Livestock Specialist and Alissa Grenawalt, Outreach Specialist, and partially funded by the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation. Numerous judges and assistants from University of Wisconsin – Extension, University of Wisconsin – Madison, Platteville and River Falls 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: http://fyi.uwex.edu/youthlivestock

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IT’S THE WAY TO GO!
Plans are well under way for the 2017 All-American Junior Sheep Show (AAJSS) that will be held at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison from June 30 through July 2. This is the show’s second visit to the Badger State in the 24 year history of the event and the first time at the new Dane County facility. The All-American is the premier and largest junior breeding sheep show in the country with 21 breeds participating. Katahdins, Merinos and Targhees join the ranks this year for the first time and the Tunis and Southdown breeds will be holding their national junior shows at the event. Judges are Jeff Held, South Dakota; Brian Schermerhorn, Minnesota; and Alex Wolf, Ohio.

The All-American has long been known as much more than just a sheep show and there will be many activities for the entire family. The show will feature a ‘lamb camp’ for young sheep owners; a 3-on-3 basketball tourney for all exhibitors; Saturday fun night; skillathon competition with new participation awards; sheep judging contest; the free Mary and Harry Blome pizza party on Friday night and a free BBQ dinner for exhibitors and their families on Saturday night; team showmanship competition; and wool show. In addition there will be promotional contests for exhibitors that feature an adult photo division and a college scholarship program for older exhibitors.

The National Junior Suffolk Show will be held in conjunction with the All-American this year and there will be some co-participation events including the Tod Weaver Memorial Fitting Contest on Thursday, June 29 at 6:00 p.m. The National Junior Suffolk Association is hosting this special event for the exhibitors of both junior shows. Pre-entry information will be posted on the AAJS and UJSSA websites and in the premium book.

The All-American Junior Sheep Show offers many opportunities to contribute through the purchase of AAJSS raffle tickets for prizes including a $1000 cash top prize. Tickets are available through the Continental Dorset Club Office, (phone 401 647-4676, email ccdorset@cox.net), or through sponsoring breed association offices and junior show exhibitors. The drawing will take place on Sunday, July 3 and you do not need to be present to win. There will also be All-American Junior Show benefit auctions held on May 13 at the Big Ohio May Sales in Eaton, OH and at the Midwest Stud Ram Sale Supreme Champion Show in Sedalia, MO, on June 28.

For a complete list of AAJSS sponsors and for entry information go to www.allamericanjuniorshow.com. Entries are due May 25. For AAJSS information contact Debra Hopkins, Show Chair at 401 647-4676, email ccdorset@cox.net or info@allamericanjuniorshow.com. To contact Wisconsin AAJSS representatives Judy and Richard Schambow, email hightp@hughes.net. For more information on the National Junior Suffolk Show go to www.ujssa.org or email info@u-s-s-a.org or call 641 684-5291. The Wisconsin representative for the National Junior Suffolk Show is Andrew Slack, phone 262 745-8762.
The Spring Show Lamb and Meat Goat sale was held on April 2 at University of Wisconsin - River Falls Mann Valley Farm. A total of 49 sheep sold with an average of $312 per head. Six goats were sold with an average of $125 per head. In addition to the sale, a youth workshop and skillathon were held. The skillathon and clinic were sponsored by Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative and show organizers thank the WSBC for helping to shape the future of livestock production in Wisconsin. All animals sold at the sale are eligible for the futurity points system which will provide winners with vouchers toward the purchase at the 2018 sale.

The next event is a two-day double header show over Memorial Day weekend - Saturday and Sunday May 27 - 28 at the Pierce County Fairgrounds, Ellsworth, WI, for multiple species (beef, sheep, goats and swine). The market lamb show is WCLA sanctioned and the swine show is part of the Northern Pig Circuit show schedule. More shows and workshops are in the planning stages and we plan to keep all those interested in our events updated via several methods.

Northern Show Circuit was founded in the fall of 2016 with a mission to help promote the great benefits for youth in the raising and showing of livestock. These benefits include helping to build increased self confidence and enhanced ability to achieve goals, as well as life-long friendships and support networks. Providing them with additional opportunities for learning experiences and creating new livestock shows is a main focus of this new organization. Information about Northern Show Circuit is available at https://northernshowcircuit.wordpress.com or email NorthernShowCircuit@gmail.com.

Thanks to
BOB JOHNSON
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for his support of the
Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op Youth Education Program
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Wild and Woolly Photo Contest

Give us your best shots! The Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative invites you to submit your sheep and wool photos to its annual photo contest. The contest is open to everyone, regardless of whether they raise sheep or are WSBC members. Judges will select the winning photos based on theme, clarity, content, composition and appeal for the category entered. Photos will be on display in the Activity Center Friday through Sunday.

CONTEST RULES:
Enter photographs in the following classes:
- Scenic Photo,
- Just Lambs,
- Kids and Sheep,
- Photo Taken by Youth*
  (*Aged 21 and younger as of August 15).
- A Best of Show entry will be selected by the judges.

* MSSBA Award: Entries with Shetland sheep will be awarded a ribbon provided by the Midwest Shetland Sheep Breeders Association (MSSBA).

Photographers may enter more than one class, and may enter more than one photograph in each class.

* Enter color or black-and-white prints that are approximately 8”x10” - do not mount the entry.
  * A $5 per photo entry fee must accompany each entry. Make checks payable to Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op (WSBC). Write the following information on a 3”x5” card and attach it to the back of each photograph: Title of photo, contest class, and the photographer’s name, address, phone number and e-mail address, and if a member of MSSBA. Entries in the Photo Taken by Youth class also must include the age of the photographer as of the entry deadline date of August 15.
  * By entering the contest, all photographers and those persons photographed agree that entries become the property of Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative to be used or reproduced at its discretion with due credit given to the photographer. The Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative reserves the right to publish any Photo Contest entry in the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival catalog, the Wisconsin Shepherd, on the Festival and WSBC websites and in other selected media and venues such as shall be deemed appropriate in the promotion of the cooperative’s events and activities, but shall not sell or license same to any third party.

MAIL PHOTO CONTEST ENTRIES BY AUGUST 15 TO:
Debbie Petzel, 2037 – 180th Ave., Centuria, WI 54824
Questions? Contact Debbie at 612 578-1528 or dspetzel@gmail.com

NOW ONE BIG EVENT!
SHEPHERD’S & USED EQUIPMENT AUCTIONS COMBINED
Saturday - September 9 - 2:00 p.m.
Warm Up Arena - Jefferson Fair Park

Now one big event and it all happens on Saturday, September 9, starting at 2 p.m. in the Warm Up Arena at the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival. Both auctions to be sold by Bob Johnson, Badger State Auctions. Now you don’t need to be in two places at once! Get one buyer’s number and bid often to support the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op youth education funds and your industry.

To Donate to the Shepherd’s Auction
go to www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com
Click on: Special Events - Shepherd’s & Silent Auctions
Fill out donation form and submit or bring donated items to Warm Up Arena by 12:00 noon, Saturday, September 9.
Contact Tim Miller - 608 751-2963

To Consign to the Used Equipment Auction
go to www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com
Click on: Special Events - Used Equipment Auction
Fill out consignment form and submit or bring consigned items to Warm Up Arena by 12:00 noon, Saturday, September 9.
Contact Ryan Bingen - 262 339-9816
The Wisconsin Livestock Breeders Association (WLBA) held its 2017 Annual Meeting at the UW-Madison Arlington Agricultural Research Station Public Events Facility on March 18. The day’s activities included livestock educational presentations by Jarred Searls from Zoetis on “Veterinary Feed Directives in the New Show Season” and “Feeds, Equipment and Breeds – Oh My!” which was led by Bernie O’Rourke, UW Extension Youth Livestock Specialist and Cara Cross, Columbia County Livestock Leader.

In addition to the business meeting, banquet and Master Stockman interviews, there were reports on several WLBA activities planned for the summer including the Spring Preview Show scheduled for June 3 at Jefferson Fair Park. Jordan Alf reported that the Livestock Show Camp was scheduled for June 10-11 at the Wisconsin State Fair Park and Kevin Schmoll reported on the Summer Spectacular Show which will be held at the Central Wisconsin State fairgrounds in Marshfield on August 19.

The day wrapped up with the annual WLBA awards and recognition, including Beef Honorees Jim and Kim Hawthorne, presented by WLBA President Andy Mindemann; Sheep Honorees Steve, Michelle and Jillian Bingen, presented by WLBA Board Member Heidi Thorson; and Swine Honorees Darren and Laura Lynd, presented by WLBA Board Member Tom Knauer. The Friend of the WLBA Award was presented to Nate Weinkauf of Case IH, presented by WLBA Board Member Nancy Burton.

Seven very accomplished youth applied for the 2017 Case IH Master Stockman Awards which include three $1000 and two $250 scholarships. Receiving the Case IH Master Stockman Awards were Hannah Taylor, Sarah Schultz and Shelby Veum. Receiving Honorable Mention Case IH Master Stockman Awards were Jack Henderson and Paige Gaffney. The Awards will be presented at the 2017 Wisconsin State Fair in August.

Persons interested in the shows, Livestock Camp or in becoming a member or sponsor of the Wisconsin Livestock Breeders Association show go to the website www.wisconsinlivestockbreeders.com.

Excerpted with permission from an article by Nancy Burton
Culling Underperforming Ewes

Management - The lamb crop is one of the most important factors affecting profitability of a sheep enterprise. Increasing the lamb crop, so long as it is in balance with the environment and production system, should be the goal of every sheep producer. Many factors affect lambing percentage, and management is a key contributor. Culling underperforming ewes is one of 12 best management practices that have been identified by the American sheep industry for improving lambing percentage. However, unlike some of the other best management practices, such as breeding ewe lambs or pregnancy scanning, culling underperforming ewes is something all producers, regardless of flock size or production system, can and should do.

Reduce costs - Culling underperforming ewes will reduce the cost of maintaining the flock. Underperforming ewes consume feed, take up space, and require labor, while producing less profit than their contemporaries; maybe, even costing the farm money. Thus, culling underperforming ewes is a way to help make sheep production more profitable, sustainable, and viable. At the same time, overzealous culling is discouraged, as there are numerous costs associated with culling. The value of a cull ewe is considerably less than the value of the ewe lamb that is replacing her. There are also costs associated with developing ewe lambs for breeding. Depending upon the reason for culling, it may be more economical to retain a ewe and breed her to a terminal sire, such as for the production of market lambs. In a sheep enterprise, it is customary to cull approximately 15% of the flock each year. In purebred or high producing flocks, the rate may be even higher. According to the National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS), 14% of ewes were culled from the national flock in 2011, as compared to 18.3% in 2001. Culling is when a ewe (or ram) is removed from the flock. In purebred or high producing flocks, the rate may be even higher. According to the National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS), 14% of ewes were culled from the national flock in 2011, as compared to 18.3% in 2001. Culling is when a ewe (or ram) is removed from the breeding flock. There are many reasons to cull ewes, and the reasons will vary by farm or ranch. Not all flocks will have the same breeding objectives. Ewes that are profitable in some flocks may not be profitable in other flocks. Current economic conditions may weaken or strengthen culling standards.

Age - Age is usually the primary reason for culling ewes. According to the 2011 NAHMS study, almost 70% of sheep operations cited age as the primary reason for culling ewes. In 2011, 55.6% of ewes culled were culled due to age. In 2011, the average age of culled ewes was 6.3 years, compared to 5.9 in 2001. Ewes tend to be most productive between the ages of 3 and 6. After 6 years of age, their productivity tends to decline. On average, they give birth to fewer lambs and produce less milk for their offspring, resulting in lower pounds weaned. For these reasons, it is customary to cull ewes when they reach 5 or 6 years of age, especially in range flocks where ewes cannot receive individual attention and/or nutritional resources are limited. In many of these extensive operations, productivity falls off after 5 to 6 years of age. On the other hand, small flocks and/or farms with good feeding conditions, may keep ewes in flocks for much longer. Some ewes are productive well beyond 6 years of age. In fact, ewes that can maintain productivity for a longer period of time should be favored in selection and culling decisions. In many instances, their offspring are some of the most productive ewes in the flock. For some flocks, keeping older, productive ewes could be a way to increase productivity, while simultaneously reducing replacement costs.

According to the NAHMS study, health issues are the other major reason why ewes are culled. In fact, they are the major reason for involuntary or premature culling of ewes before they reach their productive life spans.

Udder health - In the NAHMS study, hard bag and mastitis were identified as primary reasons for culling ewes. In 2011, 7.1% of ewes were culled due to hard bag syndrome. Another 6.7% were culled as a result of mastitis. Hard bag, which affects both udder halves, can be caused by ovine progressive pneumonia (OPP) or mastitis. Mastitis is an infection of the udder. Both conditions result in little or no milk being produced by the affected gland(s), causing lambs to starve, or grow poorly. Only ewes with healthy, sound udders should be kept in flocks. Udders should be palpated to make sure there are not any lumps, hardness, or fibrous material. Udder halves should be relatively equal. Both teats should be functional and of normal size, as newborn lambs may have difficulty nursing oversized teats. Ewes with long, pendulous udders should be culled, as lambs may have difficulty finding the teats. Such udders are also more prone to injury. Ewes that have lost all or part of their udder function should be culled.

Prolapses - A prolapse is when structures fall out of their normal positions. Ewes that prolapse their vaginas should be culled, as they may repeat the problem in subsequent years. Their offspring should not be kept for breeding, as vaginal prolapses are believed to be an inherited problem. Ewes that experience a uterine prolapse, may be retained for breeding, depending upon the circumstances; however, most producers wisely cull these ewes.

Hoof health - Footrot, a bacterial infection of the hooves, is one of the most difficult diseases to control and eradicate from sheep farms. It has caused many sheep producers to liquidate their flocks. Footrot is costly to treat, especially in terms of labor. It can also be an animal welfare issue and negatively impact productivity. Culling is one of the most powerful tools for dealing with footrot. Ewes that are chronically infected with footrot or scald, or fail to respond to treatment, should be removed from the flock. Ewes that have abnormal and/or excessive hoof growth should be culled. It is possible to select for footrot resistance in a flock.
Internal parasites - In situations in which internal parasites (worms) are a major obstacle to profitable production, parasite resistance should be a selection and culling criteria. Ewes which require frequent or regular deworming should be culled. If fecal samples are not obtained from ewes, the FAMACHA© system can be used to identify susceptible ewes, as there is a correlation between FAMACHA© scores and fecal egg counts.

It is possible to select for parasite resistance in sheep, as 20% to 30% of the flock is usually responsible for 70% to 80% of the output of worm eggs. Parasite resistance (fecal egg counts) is a moderately heritable trait. The National Sheep Improvement Program (NSIP) currently provides estimated breeding values (EBVs) for parasite resistance in Katahdin sheep. The same can be done for other breeds once data are submitted.

Other health issues - There are numerous other physical problems for which ewes should be culled. Ewes should be evaluated for soundness on a yearly basis, preferably at the time of lambing, marking or breeding. Ewes with unidentified weight loss or ill thrift should be culled. Old, thin ewes that cannot maintain their body condition should be culled. Teeth or other problems may interfere with chewing. Only ewes with sound mouths should be kept. All of the ewe’s incisors should be present. Ewes with genetic defects or predisposition to disease should be culled.

Performance - Performance is another important criteria that should guide selection and culling decisions. Many of the factors already discussed account for the differences in performance among ewes. For example, sub-clinical mastitis may be the reason that a ewe weans lambs with below-average weights.

Fertility - It is generally recommended that the breeding season be limited to two or three heat cycles, preferably only two (34 days). Mature ewes which fail to breed and maintain pregnancy should be culled. Pregnancy scanning can be used to determine which ewes are open. Pregnancy testing is especially useful for ewe lambs, as open ewe lambs, can be sold for higher prices than yearling ewes that fail to lamb. Ewes that lamb late in the season may be another target for culling, as ewes that lamb early in the lambing season are usually the most productive. If out-of-season or accelerated lambing is the goal, ewes which fail to breed out-of-season and/or miss one or more breeding opportunities should be culled.

Lambing - While dystocia (difficult birthing) is complex, research has shown that producers can reduce the incidence of dystocia by culling ewes that require assistance at lambing. Some producers will even cull lambs from assisted deliveries. Ewes that reject or harm their lamb(s) should be culled. Ewes whose lambs are small, weak, and/or slow to suckle should be discriminated against. Ewes that fail to raise a lamb should be culled. No ewe can return a profit if she fails to produce a lamb. It is easy to identify a dry ewe, as she will not have any udder development. In older ewes, it is harder to pick out dry ewes; however, they are usually in better body condition and have smaller udders. In some production systems, ewes that raise single lambs should be candidates for culling, as more costly production systems require higher lambing percentages. Two single births in a row may be the culling standard for some sheep operations. If the single lamb is of poor quality or weight, this compounds the reason for culling. When lamb losses are beyond the ewe’s control, such as predation or accidental death, exceptions can be made for keeping a ewe that fails to raise a lamb or fails to raise twin lambs. However, if a producer makes too many excuses for a ewe, this should be sign that the ewe is better off being put in the cull pen.

Culling underperforming ewes from a flock is one of the 12 best management practices to increase lambing percentages and improve profitability. Almost 56% of ewes are culled because of age, but hard bag, mastitis, failure to lamb and poor teeth are significant factors when it comes to culling a flock. U.S. Lamb Resource Center Photo

Continued on page 16
The importance of animal ID and records

**Other reasons for culling** - Various other criteria may be used to make culling decisions.

In hair sheep flocks, failure to adequately shed may be a reason for culling. Similarly, wooled sheep flocks should cull ewes with fleece defects or wool quality issues.

Temperament can be another reason for culling. Fence jumpers should be culled. Flighty ewes are more difficult to handle and can get the entire flock excited. Calm ewes should be favored over nervous ewes, as their behavior has been associated with lower lamb mortality.

*Excerpted from U.S. Lamb Resource Center Increasing Your Lamb Crop Series, Susan Schoenian, M.S. University of Maryland Extension, Author.*

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**2017 Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival Poster Contest**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Age Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Color Book</td>
<td>Ages 3 – 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginner</td>
<td>Ages 8 – 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Ages 11 – 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate</td>
<td>Ages 14 – 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Ages 17 – 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>22 and up</td>
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3 Categories

- Educational
- Promotional
- Color Book Picture – Ages 3-7 only

Participants will receive a participation gift. The top three posters in each category and Color Book pictures will receive an additional prize provided by Heart Prairie Sheep and Cattle Company, Argyle, WI.

For complete details and to download the Color Book Picture, go to the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival website – www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com

Questions? Contact Nancy Burton phone 715 584-1093 or email nzernicke@gmail.com

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**2017 Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op**

**SUMMER FIELD DAY**

Saturday – July 8

2:00 p.m.

**Co-hosts**

Dave & Mary Troxel

Sara & Chris Hildebrandt

Troxel Columbias

6127 – 9th Avenue

Plainfield, WI 54966

**Lunch Provided**

No Registration Fee

Please RSVP by July 1 to:

wisbc@centurytel.net or 608 868-2505 after 5:00 p.m.
Hannah Taylor Named Master Stockman

“Growing up raising and showing sheep, I am confident in saying that I will continue to raise sheep for as long as possible,” states Hannah Taylor, 2017 Wisconsin Livestock Breeders Association Master Stockmen and daughter of Todd and Lynnette Taylor, Arlington, WI.

“I grew up helping my dad on the UW-Madison Sheep Research Farm. My parents already had a flock of sheep and allowed me to choose my own breed,” the former Wisconsin Association of FFA State Officer, explains. “After exploring many different breeds, I found that the Southdown is very docile, early-maturing and excellent meat producers, which suited me well. In the fall of my third grade year we bought three bred, Southdown ewes. The fairs were always an important time for me because it was a chance to reach out to the public and teach them about agriculture,” states Taylor. I would sit by my pens at the fair and chat with people who have little experience with agriculture. This interaction opened new career opportunities related to teaching about agriculture that I hadn’t explored before.”

“I decided to pursue a career where I can continue to teach the public about agriculture. Because of the joy I found while promoting agriculture, I have chosen to major in Agricultural Communications. To continue advocating for agriculture, I would like to go into agricultural broadcasting, however because of high competition in that field, my backup plan is to go into extension work” continues the Kansas State University student.

“Raising and showing sheep has given me a practical agricultural background that I will be able to draw from in future careers. When talking to others about farming, I will be able to draw from personal experience and firsthand knowledge of many aspects of agriculture including animal care, commercial production and food science. I learned about food safety and meat science through raising livestock for meat production. I also gained computer skills in designing ads, logos and power-points, and using social media to advertise my flock. Perhaps most importantly, I have developed a nation-wide network of industry contacts which will be useful when I begin looking for jobs. My sheep project has successfully prepared me for future careers.”

“I am currently attending Kansas State University working on a bachelor’s degree in Agricultural Communications and Journalism with a minor in Spanish. During my time at K-State, I plan to study abroad in order to increase my knowledge of the worldwide agricultural industry. After college, my current objectives include either joining the Peace Corps to help a community increase their food security or continuing my education by pursuing a master’s degree in order to broaden my knowledge of agricultural communications. My ultimate goal is to find a career in agricultural advocacy, helping teach the public about agriculture and building trust between producers and consumers. I plan to continue raising the low-input Southdown breed. I enjoy the sheep and the people involved with them, having met some truly amazing friends and mentors in the sheep industry. They have inspired me to make raising sheep a lifelong commitment. Skills learned in this project have taught me most of what I need to know in order to continue my sheep operation in the future. I will continue to travel and show in order to advertise my flock. I will also continue to encourage others to raise sheep as well because it is such an enjoyable task.”

Taylor was recognized at the 2017 WLBA Annual Meeting held at the UW Arlington Agricultural Research Public Events Facility on March 18 as one of three recipients of the Case IH Master Stockman Awards $1000 scholarships, which were presented by Nate Weinkauf representing Case IH. The Awards will be presented at the 2017 Wisconsin State Fair.

Excerpted by permission from the Midwest Herdsman, Sue Finley, Editor.
The hoop barn where lambs were reared on milk replacer at the Spooner Research Station was dismantled in early April, the structure relocated to the Hancock Agriculture Research Station where it will be used for storage. The Spooner dairy sheep flock was dispersed in October of 2016 ending 80 years of sheep research at the facility which will continue to operate as a crops station.
Entries for the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op (WSBC) Carcass Competition will soon be open! Watch the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival website (www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com) for more information. It’s simple: Enter your pens online. Then bring your lambs to Jefferson Fair Park before 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 10.

**How it works** - Exhibitors enter pens of three lambs on the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival website - just $25 per pen for WSBC members. No fitting or showing involved and lambs must be shorn after August 1. Lambs are judged in the pens at 9:00 am Sunday, and the top live lambs will be selected by a committee of three judges. Carcass lambs are harvested at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Meats Lab, measurements taken and data put into a carcass index. Carcasses are purchased by the Meats Lab and may be used for teaching after which they are then sold through the retail store on the Madison campus. Competitive prices are paid to consignors based on hot carcass weights. The remaining lamb(s) from each pen will sell at auction at Equity Johnson Creek sales barn on Monday following the festival. Live placings are announced at 1:00 pm Sunday in the Activity Center and consignors will receive data and pictures of their lambs via e-mail approximately ten days following the festival. Carcass results will be printed in the Fall Issue of the Wisconsin Shepherd.

**Producer’s Choice Award – New this year** - Following official placement by the judges, producers (consignors and non-consignors alike) will be invited to stop by the Carcass Competition pens in the Indoor Arena on Sunday from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. to place the top three pens based on the final carcass evaluations of the lambs that go to the UW-Madison Meats Lab for harvest. Cash prizes for the top three unofficial placings will be announced in the Fall Issue of the Wisconsin Shepherd.

**Recognition** - Carcass awards will be presented at the Arlington Sheep Day on March 10, 2018. Exhibitors could win $200 for 1st place in the live and a chance at another $200 in the carcass. Second place earns $150. If the same consignor wins both live pen and carcass they will receive $100 bonus, for a total of $500.

**What we’ve learned** - Information gathered in the first two years of the Carcass Competition graphically illustrates the variability possible in Wisconsin market lambs. A 55 pound carcass can be correctly finished, as well as one that weighs 85 pounds. The breeds can be Polypay or Hampshire, grass fed or dry lot, ewe lambs or wethers.

**The payoff** - There is clear evidence that lambs carrying just 0.10 to 0.15 inches of excess fat can trim out 5 to 8 pounds less lamb, which, if you direct market your lamb crop can mean up to ten percent fewer pounds of closely trimmed retail cuts to put in your or your customers’ freezers. Carcass data is more accurate proof of what the finished product really is and another reason to enter a pen of lambs!

**Sponsorships** - The WSBC festival commercial carcass contest is funded by the following sponsors: Equity Cooperative Livestock Sales Associations and Dave Johnson, Baraboo, WI; Kent, Muscatine, IA; Big Gain of Wisconsin, Dave Thomas and Purina Feeds.

Please join us in this educational experience, enter a pen, or visit consignments on display in the Indoor Arena building on Sunday, September 10. Maximum of ten pens open for this year.

Tim Miller & Brandon Knutson - Co-Chairs, Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op Carcass Competition
Parkview FFA Team Ties for First at Platteville CDE

Orfordville, WI – A Livestock Judging Team from Orfordville Parkview High School tied for first overall with a team from Plymouth in the Livestock category of the recent Platteville Career Development Events (CDE) competition, qualifying for the state CDE held in Madison. The Parkview team was coached by FFA Advisor Tjark Sattler and included Colleen Toberman, Ryan Miller, Evan and Mason Spencer. They scored 572 points out of a possible 600 on the three sheep/goat classes, with Senior Colleen Toberman scoring a perfect 150/150 points in sheep judging. Evan Spencer scored 144/150 and Ryan Miller 143/150. Of the 229 contestants, Ryan Miller ranked 3rd, Toberman 8th, Mason Spencer 11th and Evan Spencer 55th. Anna Kitzerow of Plymouth had top ranking in the livestock competition which emphasizes livestock selection and herd management skills across three species. Sixty two schools from across the state competed in the Livestock category. Career Development Events cover fourteen categories ranging from Agricultural Mechanics to Soils; Poultry to Floriculture.

4H families and progressive seasoned flocks look to Mint Gold Ranch for top rams to give their lambs a boost in Market Lamb and Carcass classes.

In 2015 and again in 2016 MG rams produced Champion Carcass in 3 Wisconsin Counties with the following loineyes:
- Manitowoc County (2015) 4.02 @ 137 lbs
- Manitowoc County (2016) 4.02 @ 139 lbs
- Brown County (2015) 4.11 @ 139 lbs
- Brown County (2016) 4.07 @ 135 lbs
- Dodge County (2015) 4.62 @ 127 lbs

In 2014 Madeline Ploor of Door Co. used MG rams and 14 lambs averaged 4.10 in2 at 129 lbs. in actual County carcass show. Top lamb, the Champion, had 4.9 in2 loineye at 122 lbs.

In recent years we have sold rams to 10 states. Yet we provide many reasonably priced rams to families here in Wisconsin. Contact us for your next ram that will make an impact in your flock.

MINT GOLD RANCH
Dale & Judy Dobberpuhl
5807 County Road X
DePere, WI 54115
920-864-7732
mintgoldranch@gmail.com
www.mintgoldranch.com

2017 Rock County Sheep Producers scholarship winner

The winner of the 2017 Rock County Sheep Producers $250 Scholarship, was 18-year old Otis Johnson of Evansville shown here with Jeff Stevens, Clinton, President of the producers’ group.
Fifteen years of success make the Silent Auction a must-do on your visit to the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival. Over the years there has been tremendous support from both vendors and producers guaranteeing that the educational events sponsored by the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op for youth and adults alike will continue into the foreseeable future. Those programs are underwritten through the generosity of Silent Auction donors and buyers and the efforts of volunteers like Dick and Sylvia Roembke, Elmer and Etta Held and Richard and Barb Schultz who have given many hours of their time to the auction.

Take time to walk through the Silent Auction in the Activity Center on Friday and Saturday, September 8 and 9, where you can shop at your own pace and find great values in the many unique, handcrafted, rare, and hard to find items involving fiber and everything sheep. It’s all there, books, garments, skeins, baskets, designs, decorations, and a special item this year – a gently used but top of the line spinning wheel donated by The Scarf Connection of Whitewater, WI.

Donations are accepted until 9:00 a.m. Saturday and bidding closes at 3:00 p.m. sharp that afternoon. If you have items to contribute, contact Tim Miller at 608 751-2963, email tailwindfarm@gmail.com or bring them to the Activity Center auction area.

The Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival is scheduled for September 8-10 at Jefferson County Fair Park in Jefferson, WI. For complete event information go to www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com. Admission is $8 per person (kids 8 and under and parking free) or $15 for a weekend pass.

Win This Quilt!

Tickets are now available for the Make It With Wool Quilt Raffle. The lucky winner will take home this beautiful quilt made by Carol Battenberg, Johnson Creek; Wynn Wittkopf, Pewaukee and Jolene Massuch, Watertown. Raffle tickets will be available for sale at numerous sheep and fiber events across Wisconsin and are only $1 for a single ticket, $5 for six and $10 for 12. The winner will be picked at the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival the weekend of September 8-10. For more information contact Wynn Wittkopf at 262 370-1433 or email jwwitttopf@core.com.

Festival Silent Auction: Great Finds, Good Buys, Generous Donors

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Calendar of Events

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<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 10</td>
<td>Pen of 3 Carcass Competition, Wisconsin Sheep &amp; Wool Festival, Jefferson County Fair Park, Jefferson, WI</td>
<td>Brandon Knutson, 608 732-4955 <a href="mailto:diamondk.clublambs@yahoo.com">diamondk.clublambs@yahoo.com</a> or Tim Miller 608 751-2963 <a href="mailto:tailwindfarm@gmail.com">tailwindfarm@gmail.com</a>, <a href="http://www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com">www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 23</td>
<td>UW Production Sale, Public Events Facility, Arlington Agriculture Research Station, Arlington, WI</td>
<td>Todd Taylor, <a href="mailto:toddtaylor@wisc.edu">toddtaylor@wisc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 19</td>
<td>Advertising Deadline: Fall Issue, Wisconsin Shepherd</td>
<td>Lynn Crooks Advertising <a href="mailto:alcrooks00@gmail.com">alcrooks00@gmail.com</a> 608 723-6817</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 31</td>
<td>North American International Livestock Exposition, Kentucky Exposition Center, Louisville, KY</td>
<td><a href="http://www.livestockexpo.org">www.livestockexpo.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>10th Annual Arlington Sheep Day, Annual Meeting &amp; Recognition Dinner, Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op, Public Events Facility, Arlington Agriculture Research Station, Arlington, WI</td>
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</table>
Calendar of Events - Spring 2017

May 12-14 • Shepherd’s Harvest, Washington County Fairgrounds, Lake Elmo, MN Info: www.shepherdsharvestfestival.org

May 15 • Registration Deadline: WLBA Show Camp. Info: www.wisconsinlivestockbreeders.com Email: alfhamp@centurytel.net

May 20-21 • 2017 Spring Fiber Fling, McHenry County Fair Association, 11900 Country Club Road, Woodstock, IL, 815 338-5315 www.mchenrycountyfair.com

May 20 • Midwest Roundup Jackpot Show, 1001 Division Street, Mauston, WI 2 Shows - Weigh In Time: 8:00am - 9:00am. Contact: Alecia Bjerke 608-479-0404, alecia.treml@gmail.com www.facebook.com/MidwestRoundup

May 21 • Youth Fitting & Showing Clinic, 1:00 p.m., Pavilion, Rock County Fairgrounds, Janesville, WI. Free. Info: Jeoff Stevens 608 751-2539

May 21 • UW-Platteville Block & Bridle, Grant County Fairgrounds, 916 Elm St. Lancaster, WI. Weigh-In: 7:00 am - 8:30 am. Show 1: 10:00 am, Show 2: Noon. Contact: Casey Lobdell - 608-482-4525 lobdellca@uwplatt.edu www.pioneershowdown.com

May 25 • Entry Deadline, All-American Junior Sheep Show. Information: www.allamericanjuniorshow.com

May 25, 2017 • Farm Tour with Seafood! Join Iowa County’s Farmer-Led Watershed Group for a Tour of 2 grazing farms followed by brats and seafood. 9:30 a.m. Butler Family Farm (Ann and David Zimrin), 5044 Wiest Rd, Spring Green. 11:30 a.m. Hillside Pastures Farm (Daniel and Linda Marquardt), 6511 Hillsdale School Rd, Spring Green. Farm tour followed by lunch at Hillside Pastures Farm. Info: Margaret Krome, Michael Fields Agricultural Institute, 608-238-1440 or Gene Schriefer, Iowa County Extension, 608-930-9850.

May 27-28 • Northern Show Circuit Lamb and Goat Show, Pierce County Fairgrounds. Contact: John or Holly Bazille jhkfjfarm@yahoo.com 715-684-9529 https://www.facebook.com/northernshowcircuit/ or email NorthernShowCircuit@Circuit.com

May 27-28 • Great Lakes Fiber Show - Great Lakes Show & Sale, Wayne County Fairgrounds, Wooster, OH. info@greatlakesfibershow.com or www.bannersheepmagazine.com

May 30 • Deadline – Nominations to the American Lamb Board. Email: James.Brow@ams.usda.gov.

June 3 • Spring Preview Show, Jefferson County Fair Park, Jefferson, WI. Weigh-in Time 7:30 am - 9:30 am, Show: 10:00 am with Showmanship. www.wisconsinlivestockbreeders.com Heidi Thorson 920 344-1243.

June 3 • Midwest Junior Preview Show, Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia, MO www.midwestjuniorpreviewshow.com

June 4 • Shullsburg FFA Summer Slam Doubleheader, Lafayette County Fairgrounds, Darlington, WI. Weigh In Time: 7:30-9 a.m. Show 1 10 a.m., Show 2 begins 30 minutes after completion of Show 1. Contact: Nathan Russell (608)206-9797, Jennifer Russell (608)206-9669 Email: nrwusell@russelllawofficeswi.com

June 7 • Wisconsin State Fair Breeding Stock DNA/RFID Identification deadline. Contact: WLIC helpdesk@wiid.org – 888.808.1910 Questions related to Wisconsin State Fair or entry procedures contact: entryoffice@wistatefair.com or 414.266.7000.

June 7 • Wisconsin State Fair JUNIOR Sheep Show Entry Deadlines, (1st Wednesday of June) – postmarked for mailed-in (paper) entries June 7 (1st Wednesday of June) – 7 pm (CT) online entries. www.wistatefair.com

June 10-11 • WLBA Show Camp, Wisconsin State Fair Park, West Allis, WI www.wisconsinlivestockbreeders.com

June 10-11 • Fiber on the Farm, Silver Creek Farm N1897 County Road M Watertown, WI www.fiberonthefarm.com

June 15 • Deadline WSBC Scholarship Applications. (Postmarked) Information: www.wisbc.com 608 868-2505 email wisbc@centurytel.net

June 16-17 • American Polypay Sheep Association National Sale & Membership Meeting, Berrien Co. Youth Fairgrounds, Berrien Springs, MI http://www.countrylovin.com/polypay/index.html, email asregistry@gmail.com

June 17 • 2017 Interstate Livestock Show, Polk Country Fair Park, St. Croix Falls, WI. (A show camp will be held on Friday, June 16) https://www.facebook.com/Interstate-Livestock-Show-765818773519767/

June 17-18 • Iowa Sheep & Wool Festival, Hansen Agriculture Student Learning Center, Iowa State University, 2508 Mortensen Road, Ames, IA. Contact Regina, gina.frahm@gmail.com or www.iowasheepandwoolfestival.com


June 28 • Wisconsin State Fair Online OPEN Sheep Show Entry Deadline, 7 pm CT – (mailed entries due June 14) www.wistatefair.com

June 29-July 2 • 24th Annual All American Junior Show, Alliant Energy Center, Madison, WI. Email Judy Schambow at highpt@hughes.net. All American Junior Show website/show information: www.countrylovin.com/AAJSS/index.html

July 1 • Summer Field Day, Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op, 2:00 p.m. Dave & Mary Troxel and Sara & Chris Hildebrandt Co-hosts, Troxel Columbias, 6127 – 9th Avenue, Plainfield, WI 54966. Lunch provided. Free, please RSVP by July 1 at wisbc@centurytel.net or 608 868-2505 after 5:00 p.m.

July 12-15 • Sheep for Profit School www.pipestonesheep.com

July 13 • Advertising Deadline: Summer Issue Wisconsin Shepherd Contact: Lynn Crooks Advertising alcrooks00@gmail.com 608 723-6817

July 16 • Showdown at Dodge. Dodge Co. Fairgrounds, Beaver Dam. WI Shawn O’Donovan, 920 960-6460, email odonovan.shawn@gmail.com or Alan Thorson, 920 344-1235 or email metrohamps@hotmail.com

July 19-24 • Midwest Stud Ram Sale, Sedalia, MO. www.midwestsale.com

July 29 • Center of the Nation NSIP Sale, Clay County Fairgrounds, Spencer, IA Contact: Dr. Dan Morrical 515 460-1396, www.nsip.org

July 31 • Entry Deadline: WLBA Summer Spectacular www.wisconsinlivestockbreeders.com Email: alfhamp@centurytel.net
The Business Directory

Members pay $110 for 4 issues or $40/issue
Non-members pay $140 for 4 issues or $50/issue.
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Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival, Jefferson County Fair Park, Jefferson, WI. www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com
Sept. 8-10 • Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival, Jefferson County Fair Park, Jefferson, WI. www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com
Sept. 8-10 • Wisconsin Wool Works! Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival, Jefferson County Fair Park, Jefferson, WI. Consignment info: Carol Black, 920 296-0326 or carol@ewesfulgifts.com
September 9 • Wisconsin State Make It With Wool Competition, Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival, Jefferson County Fair Park, Jefferson, WI. Contact: Wynn Wittkopf, jwittkopf@core.com 262 370-1433.
September 9 • Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op Used Equipment & Live Benefit Auction, Jefferson County Fair Fair, Jefferson, WI Contact: Ryan Bingen, ryan.bingen@gmail.com or 262 339-9816 or www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com
Sept.10 • Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival Open Market Lamb Show Jefferson Fair Park, Jefferson, WI. Show starts at 10:30 am with Showmanship. Enter online by August 15th for a reduced fee at www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com

Continued on page 21
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