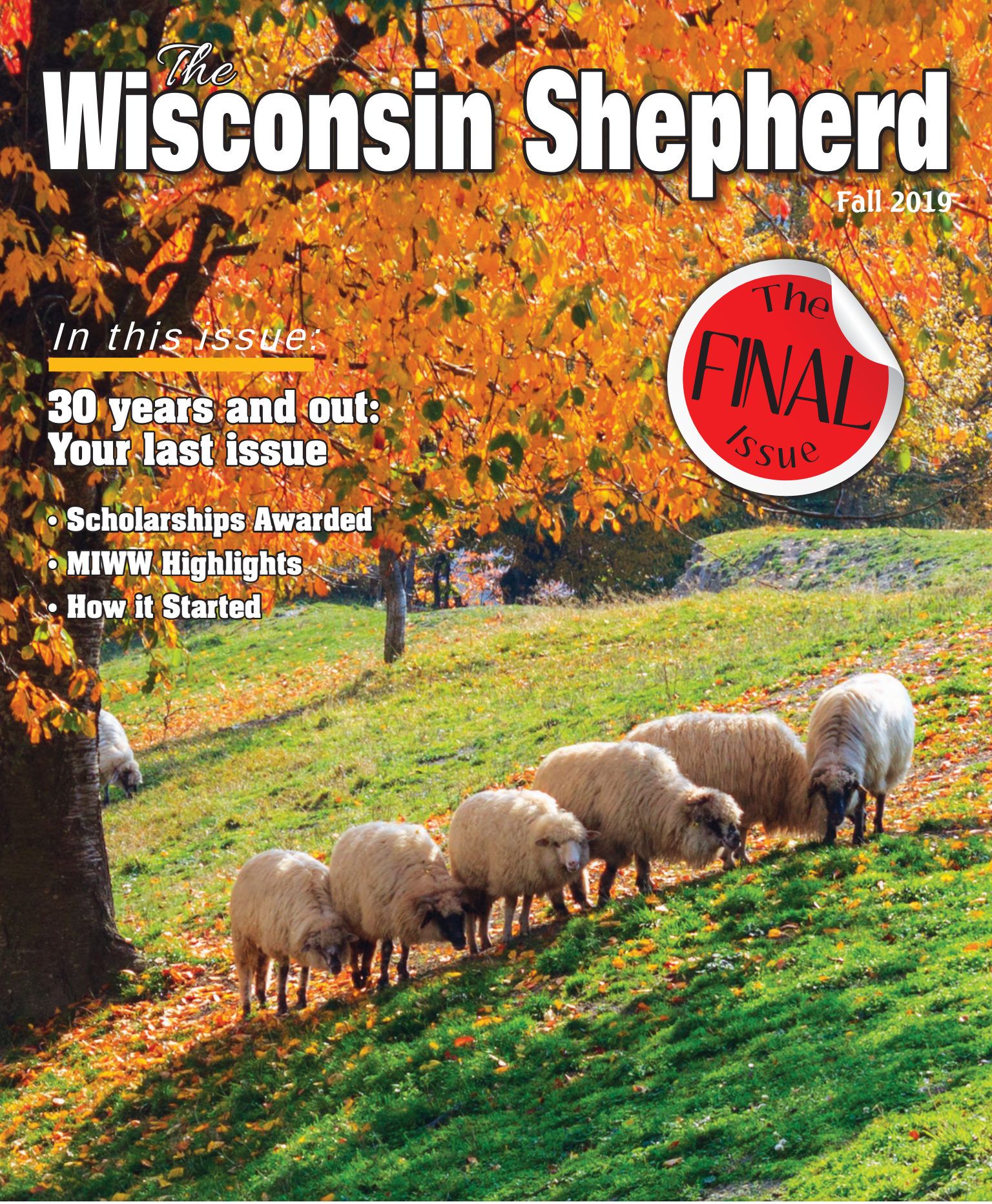
The Wisconsin Shepherd

Fall 2019



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A publication of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative

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The Wisconsin Shepherd

Fall 2019

Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival

September 11-13, 2020

Jefferson County Fair Park in Jefferson, WI

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The Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Office Has Moved!

The office of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative and Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival has moved and is now located at 5621 N County Road F, Janesville, WI 53545. The new email address is wisconsinsheepbreeders@gmail.com and the phone number changed to 608 743-9080.

President's Message

by Doug Wilson

One of my favorite sayings is, "Manage change, don't let change manage you." The Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative (WSBC) is making a big change which is totally in concert with my favorite saying.

At the 2019 WSBC Annual Meeting there was considerable discussion about the magnitude of the negative financial impact of The Shepherd. Consequently, a committee chaired by Deb Petzel was charged with reviewing the facts, gathering board input and making a recommendation before year-end.

The committee presented the first report at the Summer Board meeting and a lengthy input session followed. The committee met again and presented a second report at the Fall Board meeting. After considering options, the Board recognized the five-year trend on print advertising and felt continuation of The Shepherd by electronic media was a more effective communication tool for the membership.

Thus, after three decades of publication, this, is the last printed copy of The Shepherd. The next issue of The Shepherd will be posted to our new website at wisbc.com. Email and Facebook alerts will notify members when the electronic version is posted on our website. We will accommodate members without internet.

A special thank you goes out to Editor Bob Black and the current and past communication committees. This great publication will continue, the media will simply change.

Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival (WSWF)

Whether you measure success by admissions, Wonder of Wool classes, vendor income or sheep show participation, the 2019 WSWF was a trendsetting, record-breaking event. Under Bob Black's leadership and the help of many volunteers, it was an event to behold. Thank you to all who made this a success!

In addition to normal WSBC business, your board has undertaken a host of other items.

- A policy manual has been developed and to date, the board has authored and adopted the first six policies.

- The communications committee has spearheaded the launch of our new website, wisbc.com. Stay tuned for more exciting additions to the website.

- Communications have been started with the Wisconsin State Fair to improve the customer environment and increase education at the Wool Works Store.

- A personnel committee has been developed and is updating job descriptions and working on staff reviews.

It has been an active year. We look forward to seeing you at the WSBC Annual Meeting.

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BUILDING YOUR INDUSTRY – BECOMING A BOARD MEMBER

On April 4, 2020, the Annual Membership Meeting of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative (WSBC) will be held in conjunction with the Arlington Sheep Day at the Public Events Facility, Arlington Agriculture Research Station and will include the election of board members. The WSBC is seeking your help in generating a ballot of potential director nominees. Board members are elected to serve three-year terms and are eligible to be re-elected to second and third terms. Any WSBC member may be considered for nomination. The success of your co-op is dependent on the diverse expertise and experience of the board members who serve and set the organization's strategies, policies and priorities, and who head up working committees and help with the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival. Three director terms are up this year: Alan Thorson has completed three terms and is not eligible for re-election, Steve Bingen is eligible for re-election and Debbie Petzel has served two terms and will not be seeking re-election.

The Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative Board of Directors meets face to face four times a year, along with conference calls and committee meetings as needed. We're looking for diversified representation on this board no matter your interests and we need your help in serving our membership! If you are interested in serving, or know of someone who might be, please contact Alan Thorson at metrohamps@hotmail.com or 920-344-1235. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the annual meeting.

If you have a question about industry or organization issues, please feel free to contact any of your board members. 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

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Jill Alf, Secretary:
wisconsinsheepbreeders@gmail.com
608-743-9080 (after 5:00 weekday eve)

The Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer and a member of the American Sheep Industry Association.

TO BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP:

Go to wisbc.com or call 608 743-9080 (after 5:00 p.m. weekdays).
Email: wisconsinsheepbreeders@gmail.com

Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Awards Scholarships

Supported by the proceeds of the annual Silent and Shepherds' Auctions at the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival, the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op (WSBC) awards up to four scholarships annually to applicants who are enrolled in a community college, technical school or an accredited 4-year college or the UW-Madison Agriculture Short Course in the fall of the application year. Applicants must be a high school senior graduating in 2020 or a college student age 25 or younger and who has been a member (or whose parents have been members) of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op for a minimum of two consecutive years, including the year of application. Applicants must have carried sheep as a 4-H or FFA project for a minimum of two years and previous WSBC scholarship recipients are not eligible to re-apply. Applications for the 2020 round of scholarships are due at the WSBC office postmarked no later than June 15, 2020. Applications available online at wisbc.com or contact wisconsinsheepbreeders@gmail.com .

Blake Johnson

Blake Johnson is the son of Jill and Craig Johnson and is from Blair, WI. The Johnson flock consists of fifteen Cormo and Bluefaced Leicester ewes and an equal number of wether-type ewes. The flock of Cormo sheep that the family runs has been prominent for years as one of the top fiber-producing flocks in the Midwest, whose fleeces have won shows in multiple states at some of the largest fiber festivals in the region, including the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival. Blake is heavily involved in all areas of the care and management of the flock.

Blake Johnson, the son of Craig and Jill Johnson of Blair, WI, is currently enrolled at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, pursuing a degree in Animal Science.

He has been attending the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival since he was a young child and has been involved in all aspects of the festival as he assists in operation of his family's Riverwinds Farm booth where they market raw and processed wool from the Cormo flock as well as fiber art created by his mother. In addition, he has shown in the junior and open sheep shows exhibiting both Bluefaced Leicesters and Wether Type sheep, as well as participating in the skillathon, judging, poster and photo contests. In addition to the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative, he is involved in the Indianhead Sheep and Goat Breeders Association, and has been active in 4-H and FFA, holding numerous leadership positions and offices.

A few of Blake's 4-H and FFA awards and honors received include: State champion team and national qualifying team in livestock quiz bowl and skillathon contests; placing second in the communications contest individual category at the Wisconsin State Fair; state qualifying team in livestock judging contest; 8th place individual at state in livestock judging; top reasons individual at area animal science day livestock judging contest for two years in a row; top overall individual at area animal science day contest; prepared speaking district contest winner; State CDE contest 12th place individual in livestock judging; Platteville CDE contest 3rd place individual in livestock judging; Creed speaking contest state finalist (3rd place), Creed speaking sectional winner, and Creed speaking district winner; and Star Greenhand winner.

Some of Blake's school and community leadership roles and honors earned include: Varsity cross country letter winner (4 years); state cross country meet qualifier, and varsity track letter winner (4 years) as well as state track meet qualifier; academic letter winner and National Honor Society inductee; forensics state qualifier in prepared speaking; YSY (teaching assistant) for Galesville elementary school.

Blake's educational goals consist of completing the undergraduate degree in animal science and will begin this fall at UW-Madison where he hopes to become involved in research while on campus. After completing his degree, plans include graduate or veterinary school.

Nathan Thompson

Nathan Thompson is the son of Scott and Kirstin Thompson of Woodville, WI, currently enrolled at the University of Wisconsin-Stout, pursuing a degree in Applied Science/ Agricultural Engineering.

Nathan Thompson is the son of Scott and Kirstin Thompson of Woodville, WI. The Thompson family is entering its fifth year of raising sheep. They began with three wethers purchased as projects for the county fair and since that time the sheep operation has blossomed to include well over one hundred sheep, including four registered breeds. Nathan's daily obligations include feeding and watering the 120+ sheep in the flock. He helps determine rations for each sheep and deworms, gives vaccinations, processes lambs, deals with prolapses, keeps detailed records, fills out registration papers, uses CIDR devices for out of season breeding, trims feet, and shears.

He has won many awards with his sheep, but the greatest personal reward has been seeing the continued improvement in the animals. Raising sheep has taught Nathan compassion, a strong work ethic, time management skills, and a positive outlook for the future. One of the highlights of the year for Nathan and his family is attending the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival in Jefferson where he has enjoyed participating in the photo contest, the poster contest, showmanship, the judging contest, and the

Continued on page 8

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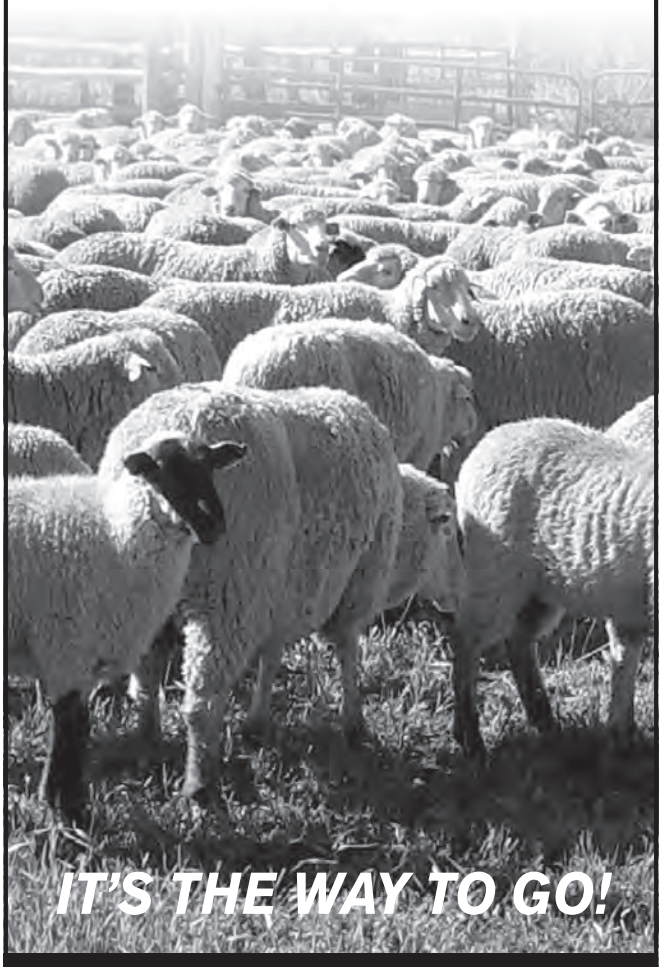

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skillathon. The family is a member of the Minnesota Hampshire Breeders Association, American Shropshire Registry Association, the American Border Leicester Association, the American Southdown Breeders' Association, and the American Hampshire Sheep Association.

Nathan has had a busy and successful high school career and highlights include: Class of 2019 Salutatorian of Baldwin-Woodville High School, forensics, choir, school musical cast member, National Honor Society, Baldwin-Woodville High School Student Council, Baldwin-Woodville FFA, Science Olympiad and Spanish Club member. In addition to school and sheep activities, Nathan is a member of the Wisconsin Junior Poultry Association and has served as its Historian and President. He is active in his church and has been a Sunday School Teacher, Christmas Program volunteer, service reader, and acolyte, He volunteers within his community on service learning projects and is a summer drama volunteer.

Nathan is enrolled at the University of Wisconsin-Stout and his intentions at this point are to graduate with an Applied Science/Agricultural Engineering degree.

His hope for the future is to earn a degree in math, science, or engineering, specifically agricultural engineering and by using his academic talents to obtain a good job, he'll be able to afford to continue breeding and showing sheep for decades, pass on his enthusiasm to the next generation.

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Nicole Dittbrenner

A senior at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, Nicole Dittbrenner is the daughter of Ed and Pam Dittbrenner of Cumberland, WI, and is majoring in Animal Science.

Nicole Dittbrenner is the daughter of Ed and Pam Dittbrenner, Cumberland, WI. She was born and raised on the family's 500 acre dairy, sheep and beef farm, where she was involved in a skid steer accident several years ago. In that accident, she sustained injuries to her head, neck, shoulder, and back as well as a a severe concussion, which had lasting effects. Her counselor suggested she get involved with animal therapy and music therapy through which she's had a successful experience working in these programs. Nicole has learned how to cope and manage her time to milk 80 cows twice a day, care for her sheep, and take part in school and its activities.

Nicole's Southdown and Suffolk sheep have influenced her life since the day she was born. She has 130 adult Suffolk and Southdown ewes and rams combined. She keeps detailed records on her flock including 60 and 120 day weight, scan data (LEA & BF) and is enrolling in NSIP. She supports and advocates for the sheep industry through shows, sales, and organizations across the nation. She strives to give back to others what she has learned in the projects by teaching youth to care for live animals while learning about animal health, nutrition, breeding, selection and marketing.

She has assisted with the Interstate Livestock Show, worked at Wisconsin State Fair for the Junior Sheep Show, has been involved with UWRF Block and Bridle Club, and helped with community activities

Nicole is a member of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative, United Junior Suffolk Sheep

Association United Suffolk Sheep Association, Wisconsin Southdown Sheep Association, American Southdown Association, and Indianhead Sheep and Goat Breeder Association.

Her FFA activities and leadership experiences include FFA Chapter President, Historian, Reporter and Treasurer, FFA Quiz Bowl and Ag on the Lawn and in addition has received the Star Greenhand Award, Chapter Degree, Sheep Proficiency Award, Star Farmer Placement top 10. Her 4-H activities center around sheep, and judging teams. Her management skills include shepherd and assistant manager of the dairy cattle herd 2010-2016, milking 60-80 head daily; practicing veterinary techniques; becoming knowledgeable in artificial insemination in cattle and sheep; using an ultrasounding scans to determine loin eyes and pregnancies in sheep; marketing and selling sheep to restaurants and youth for show; teaching youth groups about sheep and sheep showing.

Nicole will be a senior at University of Wisconsin – River Falls this fall, majoring in Animal Science. Her career goals include working with youth and educating the next generation of shepherds. Her motto is "Pay it Forward" and she hopes to share her experiences, knowledge and talents to help others find success.

Kevin Kitchen

Kevin is the son of Keith and Debbie Kitchen, Augusta, WI, where the family has raised sheep for over thirty years after taking over his grandfather's flock. When he was eight-years-old, Kevin bought his first crossbred ewe and the following year, he purchased two registered Suffolk ewes from Marlin Subra. Marlin encouraged him to go to Central Wisconsin State Fair in Marshfield that year which started his love of showing sheep. When he was showing at the Marshfield Fair, he purchased a registered Border Leicester sheep ewe lamb and started raising Registered Border Leicester sheep. His flock now consists of seven Border Leicester ewes, two Hampshire ewes, four crossbred ewes, and two Border Leicester Rams. Kevin cleans barns, shears his sheep and does the record keeping, recording births, vaccinations, when tails are banded and when the lambs are castrated. In April, he shears the Border Leicester lambs as well as any ewes that will be shown. Summer months are busy with fitting and training for shows.

Kevin also operates the Wooly Rose Mentoring Program where 4-H and FFA students mentor kids who might not otherwise have the opportunity to learn about animals and show their animals at the county fair.

Son of Keith and Debbie Kitchen of Augusta, WI, Kevin Kitchen plans to pursue a degree in Agricultural Business at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

While he has shown at local and national shows, Kevin has also shown at the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival for the past six years. He enjoys participating in the different events offered during the festival, such as skillathon, lead line and judging contest.

A Wisconsin FFA State Farmer Degree recipient, Kevin received a gold medal in the Sheep Proficiency Award, placing tenth and was a finalist for the Wisconsin Star Farmer placing fourth in the state. He has been active in his school where he has participated in sports and music.

As an active 4-H member he's held offices in his club and attended the 4-H National Conference Delegate 4-H National Congress, 4-H Citizen Washington Focus Trip Delegate and the 4-H Interstate Exchange Trip Delegate to Yuba County, California.

His plans are to obtain a degree in Agricultural Business at the University of Wisconsin - River Falls. He enjoys working with youth, and is excited to be able to give back. He looks forward to grow and learn in the agriculture industry for many years to come.

Make It With Wool Competition Spotlights Fashion Talent

The 2019 Wisconsin Make It With Wool Contest was held during the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival at Jefferson County Fair Park in Jefferson on September 7. 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 three 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 and their prizes include:

Preteen:

1st **Kate Reese**, Hartland: Babylock sewing machine donated by M & R Sewing & Vac of Madison

2nd **Abigail Schultz**, Columbus: Iron donated by Nasco of Ft. Atkinson

3rd **Hannah Riemer**, Mequon: Scissors donated by Kurth Farms of Pewaukee

Junior:

1st **Lauren Thompson**, Woodville: Airfare to the National MIWW contest in Scottsdale, AZ in January 2020 provided by the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative; Hotel accommodations paid by National MIWW

2nd **Elizabeth Colwell**, LaValle: Iron donated by Nasco of Ft. Atkinson

3rd **Amara Bugenhagen**, Mukwonago: Scissors donated by Kurth Farms of Pewaukee

Senior:

1st **Holley Schwartz**, Watertown: Airfare to the National MIWW contest in Scottsdale, AZ in January 2020 provided by the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative; Hotel accommodations paid by National MIWW

2nd **Allison Colwell**, LaValle: $50 cash award from Wisconsin Make It With Wool

Winners in the Preteen Division of the 2019 Make It With Wool contest at the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival were (l-r) Kate Reese, Hartland; Abigail Schultz, Columbus; and Hannah Riemer, Mequon. First place winner Reese received a Babylock sewing machine donated by M & R Sewing & Vac, Madison. Second place winner Schultz received an iron donated by Nasco of Fort Atkinson and third place winner Riemer received a scissors donated by Kurth Farms of Pewaukee.

Winners in the Junior Division at the 2019 Make It With Wool competition were (l-r) Lauren Thompson, Woodville; Elizabeth Colwell, LaValle; and Amara Bugenhagen, Mukwonago. Thompson receives airfare to the national MIWW contest in January, provided by the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders and hotel accommodations provided by the National MIWW. Colwell received an iron donated by Nasco of Fort Atkinson and Bugenhagen scissors donated by Kurth Farms, Pewaukee.

Adult:

1st **Theresa Braun**, Fox Point: $100 cash award from Wisconsin Make It With Wool

Best Knitted Entry:

Holley Schwartz, Watertown: $50 cash award from Kurth Farms, Pewaukee

2 Best Constructed Items:

Abigail Schultz, Columbus: $100 cash award from Zieman Productions, Beaver Dam

Theresa Braun, Fox Point: $100 cash award from Zieman Productions, Beaver Dam

Novelty Youth:

1st **Nathan Thompson**, Woodville: $25 cash award from WI MIWW

2nd **David Thompson**, Woodville: $15 cash award from WI MIWW

3rd **Katherine Crudden**, Elkhorn: $10 cash award from WI MIWW

Novelty Adult:

1st **Justine Heinrichs**, Cedarburg: $25 cash award from WI MIWW

2nd **Ellen Coenen**, DePere: $15 cash award from WI MIWW

3rd **Karen Crudden**, Elkhorn: $10 cash award from WI MIWW

4th **Megan Nichols**, LaMoille, IL: $5 cash award from WI MIWW

Holley Schwartz (r.) Watertown, and Allison Colwell, LaValle, were winners in the Senior division at the 2019 Make It With Wool (MIWW) competition at Jefferson. First place winner Schwartz receives airfare to the national MIWW contest in Scottsdale, AZ in January 2020, provided by the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op. along with hotel accommodations paid for by the National MIWW. Colwell, placing second, receives a $50 cash award from Wisconsin MIWW.

Justine Heinrichs, Cedarburg, was the first place winner in the 2019 MIWW Novelty Adult Division at Jefferson, receiving a $25 cash award from Wisconsin MIWW.

The first place winner in the Make It With Wool Novelty Youth Division was Nathan Thompson, Woodville, who received a $25 cash award from Wisconsin MIWW.

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Theresa Braun (l.) Fox Point and Abigail Schultz, Columbus, were winners in the Best Constructed Division, each receiving a $100 cash award from Zieman Productions, Beaver Dam. Braun was also the winner of the Adult Division, receiving a $100 cash award from Wisconsin Make It With Wool.

Kate Reese of Hartland, WI (shown with brother Ryder) was the winner of the 2019 Make It With Wool quilt raffle. This year's quilt was designed and created by Carol Battenberg, Jolene Massuch and Wynn Wittkopf and quilted by Patti Geishirt.

Thanks to the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative, all garment contestants received 2 ½ yards of beautiful Pendleton wool.

Junior and Senior winners, Lauren Thompson and Holley Schwartz will travel to the national competition in Scottsdale, AZ, in January. Adult winner, Theresa Braun, will prepare a video featuring her garment and submit it to the National Contest 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 Scottsdale, AZ.

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

This year's Make It With Wool Quilt Winner was Kate Reese of Hartland, Wisconsin. The 2019 quilt was designed and created by Carol Battenberg, Jolene Massuch, and Wynn Wittkopf, and was quilted by Patti Geishirt.

The Wisconsin Make It With Wool competition is open to all Wisconsin residents, with age divisions of Preteens 8-12; Juniors 13-16; Seniors 17-24; Adults 25 and older, with any age eligible in the Made for Others and Novelty Item divisions. Juniors and Seniors advance to national competition and scholarships of $1000 and $2000 are awarded to national winners. Make It With Wool is for anyone interested in sewing and fashion design using wool or wool blend fabrics, knitted, crocheted or woven clothing or accessories. All garments entered in competition must have been completed after January 1 of the contest year.

The 2020 Make It With Wool competition will be held during the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival at Jefferson County Fair Park in Jefferson on Saturday, September 12. For additional information, visit www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com and click on Make It With Wool or contact Wisconsin's State MIWW Director, Wynn Wittkopf at wynnwittkopf@gmail.com, 262-370-1433.

CALS 2019 Honorary Recognition Awards

On October 17, at the CALS Honorary Recognition Banquet in Union South, the University of Wisconsin–Madison College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS) presented its Honorary Recognition Award to Tim Boerner and Gerald Weiss; its Distinguished Alumni Award to Barbara Barton, Elzie Higginbottom and Steven Ricke and its Distinguished Service Award to David Thomas.

David Thomas began and completed his professional career at UW–Madison. Having an interest in sheep for as long as he can remember, Thomas majored in meat and animal science as an undergraduate and went on to the Peace Corps, where he held animal production roles in Kenya. Upon returning to the United States, Thomas enrolled in graduate school at Oklahoma State University, where he also earned his Ph.D. in animal sciences. After serving on the faculties at Oregon State University and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Thomas returned to his home state of Wisconsin, and he would remain on the faculty at CALS until his retirement in 2017. During his tenure, he became one of the most sought-after sheep experts in the world, making significant discoveries that would positively impact the sheep industry. His influence is expansive, beginning close to home in Wisconsin and spreading as far as New Zealand. Research projects, academic conferences and visits to research institutions have brought Thomas to nearly thirty countries. At UW, Thomas was a respected mentor, excellent teacher and prolific researcher. Thomas grew up in Mineral Point, Wisconsin and is the eldest of four sons of the late Jack and Elaine Thomas. He and his wife, Lynda, have three children and seven grandchildren.

These annual awards are the highest honors bestowed by the college. The Honorary Recognition Award, now in its 110th year, recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to their professions, their communities and the university. The Distinguished Service Award, first given in 1994, recognizes meritorious service by CALS faculty and staff members. The Distinguished Alumni Award, which recognizes lifetime achievement and service, was established in 2009. For more information, visit www.cals.wisc.edu/honorary/.

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The Wisconsin Shepherd — How It Started 30 Years Ago

by Woody Lane, Ph.D., Lane Livestock Services, Roseburg, Oregon

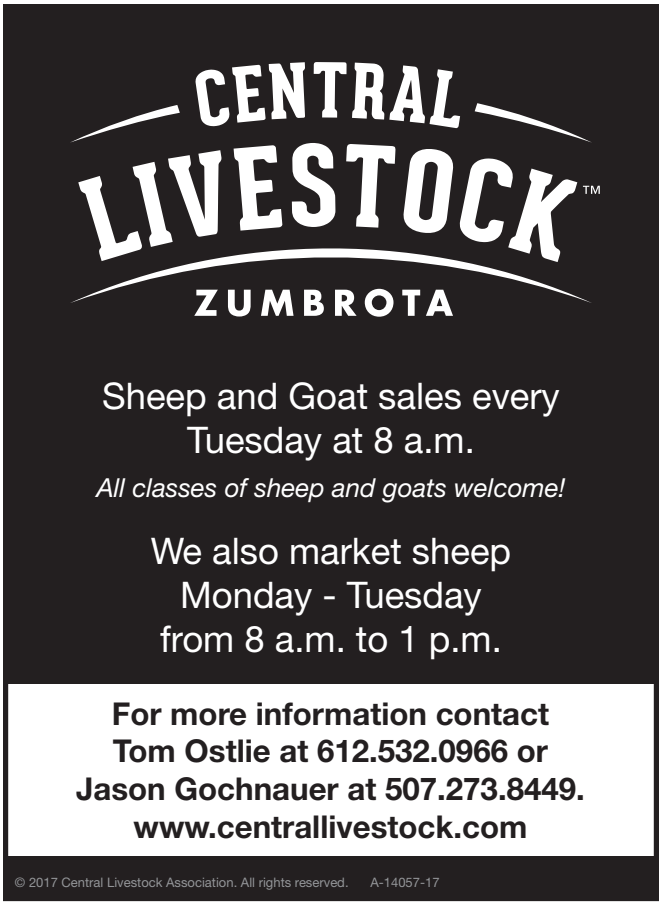
In the fall of 1988, the WSBC had a problem, and I came up with a wild idea to help solve it. At the time I was the UW Sheep and Beef Cattle Extension Specialist, so I was involved intimately with many of the programs of the WSBC — the ram test, shepherd's clinics, shearing schools, Spooner and Arlington Sheep Days, and of course, its annual Sheep Industry Conference, which had grown into the largest gathering of sheep folks in the U.S. with more than 900 attendees (twice as large as today's national ASI Convention). The problem involved communications, labor, and costs. Recall that those were the days before the widespread use of the Internet, when just sending an email message successfully was a near miracle. At that time, the WSBC was sending multiple announcements and mailings around the state and was spending lots of money on printing and old-fashioned snail mail postage.

My idea was simple, and I approached the WSBC Board with a proposal: let's work together to publish a comprehensive quarterly newsletter that would contain all those announcements, calendars, programs, registration forms, etc. And make it pay for itself by selling advertisements. And also, critically, that various people in the Wisconsin Sheep Industry would help pull this together so the newsletter would truly belong to the WSBC and not be just another UW Extension project. I would serve as the editor of the first issue and organize it, and if that worked, we would identify other folks in the industry to take it over. To its great credit, the WSBC Board agreed. It was a risk, and it required trust and determination, but we all started down that road anyway.

But timing was critical. We were only a few months away from the Sheep Industry Conference, and its program and registration forms had to go out soon.

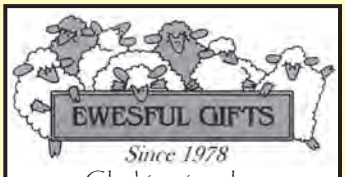
So lots of people rolled up their sleeves and pitched in. Kathy Becker and Bob Black chased down advertisements, Sylvia Roembke organized the mailing to nearly 5,000 sheep producers, Craig Walter at UW helped with the computing. I asked a graduate student at the UW Ag Journalism Department to write the lead article as a tribute to Art Pope: "Art Pope – From Six Sheep to Six Continents." Larry Becker wrote a President's Column. I wrote a column called "News From The Break Joint" (clever, eh?). Pam Moller added a delightful drawing. We included information and applications for the 1989 Wisconsin Central Ram Test. We included information about the Advanced Shearing School at the Wis-Zona Ranch, the ETN educational series, and two pages listing the legal feed additives for sheep. And then there was the Sheep Industry Conference. Bob Black and I put together most of the educational program. The rest of the committee organized the conference tasks, rooms, and other innumerable details. The front page boasted a large 2-column headline: "Sheep Industry Conference Issue – Program Inside!" That program took up five pages. We also had to name this newsletter. Everyone had their favorite ideas of course, but somehow, we agreed on one: *The Wisconsin Shepherd.*

I laid out the entire newsletter on a Macintosh computer using the desktop publishing program "Ready, Set, Go!" The Madison Macintosh Users Group helped with technical advice. I remember printing all 28 master pages, each 8-1/2" x 11", and carefully laying them out on a long table in the Meat & Animal Science Department. Soon after Christmas, we sent the entire file to the printer. Then, on a very cold January afternoon, I drove down South Park Street to the printer and loaded many heavy boxes into the car. The first issue of *The Wisconsin Shepherd* was ready. Thirty years ago. The rest is history.



The Business Directory

Published by *The Wisconsin Shepherd*



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Do you have an event coming up? Let us know!

We'll post it online in the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Calendar of Events at www.wisbc.com. Contact Debbie Petzel – dspetzel@gmail.com

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Calendar of Events – 2020

Jan. 3-5 • Michigan Shepherds Weekend, Crowne Plaza, 925 S. Creyts Road, Lansing, MI 48917. Information: misheep.org

Jan. 22-25 • American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) Annual Convention, Scottsdale, AZ. www.sheepusa.org

Jan 23-25 • GrassWorks Grazing Conference, Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells, WI www.grassworks.org

Feb. 1 • Indianhead Sheep & Goat Breeders Association Small Ruminant Clinic, WITC, Rice lake, WI. www.indianheadsheepandgoat.org

Feb. 21 • Registration Deadline – 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl, State Skillathon Contests, Due by 5:00 via email only, (mailed registrations not accepted). Information: borourke2@ansci.wisc.edu, 608 263-4304.

Feb. 27-29 • MOSES Organic Farming Conference, La Crosse Center, La Crosse, WI https://mosesorganic.org

March 7 • 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl and State 4-H Skillathon contests, University of Wisconsin-Madison Animal Sciences Building. $12 per youth, due at registration (registration deadline – February 21) Information/registration: borourke2@ansci.wisc.edu 608 263-4304.

March 21 • Indianhead Sheep & Goat Breeders Association Shearing School. Information: Duane Klindworth, 712 471-0403.

April 4 • Arlington Sheep Day, Public Events Facility, UW Arlington Research Station, Arlington, WI. www.wisbc.com, Todd Taylor toddtaylor@wiscmail.wisc.edu

April 4 • Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op Annual Meeting/Recognition Dinner, Public Events Facility, UW-Arlington Research Station, Arlington, WI. www.wisbc.com.

August 6-16 • Wisconsin State Fair, Wisconsin State Fair Park, West Allis. www.wistatefair.com

August 6-16 • Wisconsin Wool Works! 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. daily, Wisconsin State Fair Sheep Barn. Info: wisbc.com or Carol Black, Manager, carol@ewesfulgifts.com or 920 296-0326.

Sept. 11-13 • Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival, Jefferson County Fair Park, Jefferson, WI. www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com

Sept. 12 • Wisconsin Make It With Wool State Contest, Jefferson County Fair Park, Jefferson, WI. Contact: Wynn Wittkopf, State Director, 262 370-1433, wynnwittkopf@gmail.com www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com

Sept. 12 • Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Co-op Used Equipment Auction, Jefferson County Fair Park, Jefferson, WI. www.wisbc.com www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com . 608 743-9080 (weekdays after 5:00 p.m.) wisconsinsheepbreeders@gmail.com