

NTSRI NEWSLETTER... *THE TUNIS MESSENGER*



April 2013

VOL. #1 ISSUE # 36

NTSRI

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Alt: Troy Staples

Region 2

Robin Swartz

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Region 3

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Region 4

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Region 5

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Tammie Serafin

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Inside This Issue:

Page

Presidents Message	1
Region 1 and Jackpot info	2
Website and Photo Contest	3
National Sale Agenda	4
Breeders Banq. Reservation Form	5
National Sale Transportation Info	5
NTJA letter from the President	6
Don't forget the Fleece!	6
Fleece Article Part One	7
Fleece Article cont'd	8
Arizona Wool Mill	8
A Tunis First In Arizona	9
Midwest Junior Preview Show	9
Junior All-American Info	10
Lambchop chatter	11
Schambow Ad	12
Classified Ad Page	13
Tunis Yearling Ewe Jack Pot	13
Secretary Liaison Position	14
Regional 4 & 5 Election Results	14
A Poem	15
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	15

Everyone has a story! I am looking for members who would like to submit regional articles for the newsletter. If you have an interest in writing, and you like talking to people, then you may enjoy reporting the news for your region in upcoming newsletters. Contact me at Kathy.niese@yahoo.com for more information. **The next newsletter will post in September!**

NTSRI PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Bill Kerns

Spring has finally arrived in the Northeast! After the blizzard of 2013, followed by two more snow storms and over 10 feet of snow...the snow is finally melting! Life is good, again!

I hope your lambing season went well and your lambs met your expectations. It is time to assess your flock and plan for additions that will improve your genetic base. Be thinking of consigning some of your best stock to the Tunis sales noted on the web site (www.tunissheep.org). Presenting sheep that you are proud of is good for the Breeder, the Buyer and the organization.

Tunis sheep numbers and NTSRI memberships continue to grow across North America with 322 memberships at last count. Continued interest in Tunis will likely support an increase in sales in 2013. The increased numbers of sales give our youth great opportunities to see Tunis sheep from many farms across the country and to buy NTSRI Futurity lambs.

The NTSRI National Show and Sale in Wooster, OH has consigned a large selection of quality sheep with good genetics. Come join in the fun and add some new genetics to your flock. The Ohio Tunis Sheep Association will be hosting the National Show and Sale again this year; I want to send them a huge Thank You from all the membership for organizing this event. The event begins with a welcome gathering on Friday evening...a great time to enjoy, relax and catch up with friends and enjoy some good food. Please check the website in weeks to come, for more information.

Continued on page 2

Committees:

Audit Committee: Walter Clark and Nancy Schmidt

Show and Sale: Georgina Anderson and Eric Irvine

Website: Carol Wise/ Sharon Kerns

Newsletter/ Admin/ Membership: Kathy Niese, Barbara Cassell, Marianne Turcheck

Treasurer: Kristen Swihart

Youth Committee: Trish Blum NTJA, Dan Erwin: Futurity/Leadline, Scholarships

Region 1 & Northeast Tunis Sheep Association (NETSA)

The days are getting longer, the temperature is warmer, the snow is melting, and lambs playing in the pastures.....spring is in the air in New England & Canada. What a beautiful time of the year in the Northeast.

On February 17, 2013 the NETSA Board held their annual planning meeting at the home of Bill and Sharon Kerns, WindSong Farms, Harvard, MA. Plans were discussed for the upcoming NETSA Annual Meeting and 2013 Show/Sale events and fund raisers for the youth.

NETSA will be holding its annual meeting on April 13, 2013. It will begin at 11:00 AM at Half Pint Farm, home of Jerry, Darlene & Brianna Taylor in Shirley MA. Plan to be part of this important event where New England Tunis event planning is finalized. The Good Shepherd 4-H Sheep Club will be serving lunch – hot dogs & hamburgers on the grill, chips baked beans and desserts! Great opportunity to attend with your whole family, everyone is welcome.

Many events, activities and promotions are planned for the New England Youth Sheep Show and Sale, July 19th – 21st.....games/pizza party, best headed ram/ewe, extra monies for premiums and buyer's credits for the sale.

The Northeast Regional Tunis Show at the Big E will be Saturday, September 21st starting at 2:00 PM. Slick shorn classes will be offered again this year. Activities are in the planning stages for adults and youth....ice cream social/pizza party.

Come join the fun, plan to be a part of these important events, meet old friends, make new friends, but most important....promote those beautiful red heads!

The Northeast Tunis Sheep Association

Presidents letter continued...

The months ahead for NTSRI are full of excitement and many activities. Many volunteers will put in many hours making plans for the various events throughout the year; we do appreciate our volunteers...thank you. Please come to any or all of the events that are posted on the website and have fun. Get together with old friends, make new friends, you never know....a new member may become a lifelong friend!

I want to thank all for the support you have given me as well as the other Directors this past year. It was an honor and privilege to serve as President for NTSRI. I have enjoyed the support of many new volunteers, their creative ideas and hard work throughout the year. Let's continue to promote those "beautiful red-heads" at every opportunity. On behalf of the NTSRI BOD, I wish all a successful 2013 Show and Sale season and I look forward to seeing many of you throughout the year.

Bill Kerns

President, NTSRI

Region 1 Director

2013 Tunis Yearling Jackpot Information

The third Annual Tunis Yearling Jackpot is off to a great start. The next sustaining entry fee of \$10.00/head was due April 1, 2013. At the present time, there are ten farms participating with 43 ewe lambs (yearlings now) entered. The next and final sustaining entry fee of \$30.00/head will be due July 1, 2013. Final details for the 2013 Tunis Yearling Ewe Jackpot Show at NAILE will be in the next newsletter. The payout (100% less 10% to NETSA for Youth Programs) will be distributed to the first five places in the Jackpot Show in NAILE.

1st place – 50%,

2nd place – 20%,

3rd place – 15%,

4th place – 10%,

5th place – 5%.

Good luck to everyone,

Sharon Kerns

The Northeast Tunis Sheep

National Tunis Sheep Registry –

Website Update

by: Sharon Kerns

Spring has finally arrived and the 2013 lambing season will soon be coming to an end for most breeders across the US and Canada. Now, we are thinking about the 2013 show and sale season. As the liaison for the NTSRI website, my goal is to keep the website updated with news, results and photos for the Tunis Gallery, Photo Contest and especially photos of our youth for the NTJA section.

During the upcoming months while attending/showing at the various sales and shows across the US and Canada, if you have information and photos you would like to have posted on the NTSRI website; please forward to sharonkerns@charter.net.

The new NTSRI website, www.tunissheep.org, is fully functional now and supporting membership and registrations, electronically. Electronic payments are made through Paypal or Credit Card. Please have a look and give it a try.



Top...March Winner:

by: Beverly Matthews, West Point, IN

Bottom...February winner:

by Mike & Kathy Niese, Big Time Tunis, Ottawa, OH.



January winner: by Leanne Von Kappel, Rainbow Birch Farm and Gardens, Whidbey, WA.

National Tunis Sheep Registry Inc. – Photo Contest

The Tunis Pride Photo Contest is in full swing with monthly winners posted on the NTSRI website (www.tunissheep.org). We have had some beautiful photos submitted for 2013.... January by Leanne Von Kappel, Rainbow Birch Farm and Gardens, Whidbey, WA., February by Mike & Kathy Niese, Big Time Tunis, Ottawa, OH.

Spring is in the air; now is the perfect time to get photos of those beautiful red lambs....lying beside or on top of mom and jumping like popcorn in the pastures; you have to love the photos with our children and grandchildren.

To qualify for each month you need to send the photo by the 10th of the month. If you send an entry, you will need to sign a photo release form. That form is on the NTSRI website. Winners will receive a free ad with two pictures on the NTSRI website, plus the winning photo will be published in the NTSRI newsletter with farm information. Great advertisement!

Please e-mail your entries to one of the committee volunteers: John McDonough, davidbrown-farm@comcast.net, Troy Staples, bctunis@gmail.com or Sharon Kerns, sharonkerns@charter.net

Now, get your cameras, cell phones and iPods out and start clicking. Thanks.

Sharon Kerns

978.456.1240

"Great Times, Great Friends, Great Sheep,"

"GREAT LAKES"

2013 NATIONAL TUNIS SHOW AND SALE

Members of the Ohio Tunis Sheep Association are always proud to host the National Tunis Sheep Show and Sale, at the Wayne County Fairgrounds in Wooster, Ohio over Memorial Day weekend, May 24-26, 2013, held in conjunction with The Great Lakes Show and Sale.

OTSa will offer an **EXCITING** new program for breeders who purchase Tunis Sheep at the 2013 Great Lakes Show and Sale. Beginning at the 2013 Ohio State Fair, any Tunis breeder who purchases a Tunis sheep from the sale, ram or ewe, may compete for added prize money at The Ohio State Fair Open Tunis Sheep Show. If the sheep you purchase wins its class then it will win an additional \$25.00, and if that sheep wins Champion Ewe or Champion Ram you will receive an additional \$50.00, which could mean an additional premium of up to \$75.00!

The National Tunis Sale weekend is packed full of activities from start to finish!

Check out the Agenda below:

Friday, May 24

12:00 noon NTSRI Board of Directors meeting (location TBD)

6:00 pm Barnyard BBQ Dinner (in the show ring area)

Saturday, May 25

9:00 am Tunis Show (NTSRI "Grab & Go" Subway sandwich will be available)

1:00 pm NTSRI Members mtg. (approximate time, to be held 1 hour after show)

1:00 pm NTJA Pizza Party (approximate time, to be held 1 hour after show)

6:00 pm NTSRI Breeders Banquet (Contact Kathy Niese for Reservations 419-969-0783, held in the Dining Hall at the fairgrounds)

6:45 pm "Barn Couture" 50/50! Everyone pays a dollar to play, and the winner splits the profit with the juniors! What do you wear to the barn in the middle of the night to check for lambs or to feed? Bring your best "Barn Couture" and win!

7:00 pm NTJA Auction

Sunday, May 26

8:00 am Donuts and coffee (donated by the Darling Farm)

Used equipment Sale (FFA Bldg)

10:00 am Tunis Sale

11:00 am "Pot Luck" lunch

SO SAVE THE DATE for the Great Lakes Wool and Fiber Show and your National Tunis Show and Sale to purchase your future show ring Champions!

"NTSRI BREEDER'S BANQUET"

6:00 PM IN THE "DINING HALL" ON THE FAIRGROUNDS

TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATION, RETURN THIS FORM TO:

KATHY NIESE ~ 8777 RD I 7 ~ OTTAWA, OHIO 45975

CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO:

THE OHIO TUNIS SHEEP ASSOCIATION

OR

CALL OR EMAIL KATHY NIESE AT 419-969-0783 KATHY.NIESE@YAHOO.COM TO

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION:

PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

FARM NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

ADULTS \$15.00: # _____ CHILDREN \$8.00: # _____ TOTAL: \$ _____

♦ RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED BUT PAYMENT CAN BE MADE AT WOOSTER

IT'S A RED ROAD "COAST TO COAST" TRANSPORTATION FOR TUNIS

New Mexico to National Tunis Sale in Wooster, Ohio (Both ways)

Contact: Lyn Brown at 505-325-2837

Other Stops: Uptown Farms in Brookfield, MO and others as necessary along the route

Estimated Dates: Late May

Other Information: Hauling a large livestock trailer with plenty of room both ways. Will be leaving NM and heading to National Tunis Sale in Wooster, Ohio and stopping at Uptown Farms to pick up any purchases from their online sale on the way back.

Ohio to Midwest Stud Ram Sale in Sedalia, MO (Both Ways)

Contact: Louise Dunham at tunis@bright.net or 937-465-8299.

Other Stops: Along the route as necessary. Any purchases from Uptown Farms online sale can be picked up or any purchases from Stud Ram Sale.

Estimated Date: June 23, returning June 26

Other Information: Darling Tunis will transport and house any Tunis purchased at the National Tunis Sale from Wooster and then to Sedalia, MO for a reasonable fee. This will include separate pens while housed at our house and with Jim's excellent care. We can also provide the same service from the Midwest Stud Ram sale or the Uptown Online Sale in Missouri back to Ohio at the end of June. Please make all arrangements prior to the sales.

Massachusetts to National Show and Sale, Wooster, Ohio (Both Ways)

The David Brown Farm in Winchendon, Massachusetts will be arriving at the Fairgrounds at approx noontime on the 24th of May. We can travel two different ways.

1. Route 90 through Buffalo to Cleveland and south to Wooster.
2. Route 84 through Ct. and Pa. route 80 to Ohio and south to Wooster. Each of these options can be arranged and we are bringing only 2 sheep in our Eby trailer so room should not be a problem. We will be leaving the Fairgrounds after the sale and will have space to transport animals back in the same manner. Please contact us if you need transportation for your animals and we will see if we can be of service. Contact us at atdavidbrownfarm@comcast.net or 978-939-8314.
3. Anne Marie Chapdelaine also from Massachusetts is willing to bring sheep back to the east. Her telephone # 413.245.9328. She does not have an e-mail address.

Greetings fellow Tunis breeders,

The National Tunis Junior Association has had an exciting first year and we look forward to the show season ahead. Most importantly is the introduction of our own bank account that will be managed by our treasurer, Jessica Swihart. We will be able to accept and write checks directly into and out of our account, increasing our efficiency and giving us more opportunities to promote youth. We also passed our first official by-laws that are downloadable from the NTSRI website.

This show season, we will have activities planned for at least 6 main shows: the National Show and Sale at Wooster, the Midwest Junior Preview, the New England Show, All-American, KILE, and NAILE. Up and coming at Wooster we have some fun events planned in partnership with the Ohio Tunis Sheep Association. Look for outdoor games at the Friday BBQ, ice cream during the Subway lunch, and a Barn Couture fashion show where participants get to dress up in and show off their “middle-of-the-night-lambing” best with the winner splitting half the profits with the juniors. The NTJA will also be auctioning off baskets at the NTSRI Breeders Banquet and having a raffle for a NTJA-sponsored Junior buyer credit that can be used by a lucky junior at the sale on Sunday.

We have many other activities planned for the rest of the show season, including our season-long raffle and youth service projects. Prizes for the raffle are as follows: \$250 for first, \$150 for second, and \$100 for third place. Tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for 5, and the winners will be selected during the Tunis Open Show at NAILE. You don't have to be present to win, and the profits will go to funding more activities for the youth. We want to say thank-you in advance to everyone that helps support our raffle! We also have two youth service projects this year: collecting pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House and a canned-food collection for the Dare to Care food bank in Louisville. Donations for each can be brought to the aforementioned shows where NTJA members will collect them. We hope to show that junior sheep organizations can not only support their breed, but their communities too.

I am very excited for the NTJA's second year, and I hope that we will take great strides toward making this organization meaningful for youth as a support system and a way to develop leadership skills. Thank you to everyone that has supported us so far in every way! Good luck to all in the 2013 show season, and we'll see you at Wooster!

Sincerely,

Rachel Schambow

NTJA President

DON'T FORGET THE “FLEECE”!

Marianne is reminding everyone to enter Tunis fleeces in the National Wool Show in Wooster.

Fleeces may be entered in person at Rostraver Farm's booth in Building 13, Friday afternoon or before 8 AM on Saturday, where they will be judged at 9 AM.

You can also mail your fleeces by May 17th to Marianne Turcheck, 1574 Rostraver Rd., Belle Vernon, PA 15012.

There is a \$3 entry fee per fleece.

Please include: owner name/farm name, address, email, phone number, Ram or Ewe, animal's age, registration number, fleece weight and how many month's growth should be listed on an index card accompanying each entry.

Fleeces should be priced if they are for sale. Otherwise, fleeces should be picked up in person, or other arrangements may be made to return fleeces after the show.

Judging of the fleeces will be at 9 AM Saturday and the fleeces will be on display all weekend.

Complete Wool Show rules are available in the January issue of the Tunis Messenger Newsletter, or online at the NTSRI website at www.tunissheep.org.

Time to Change the Fleece: A Grower's Guide to Expanded Profits by Producing a Cleaner Clip

PART ONE OF FOUR

By Carrie Hull and Robyn Kuhl

CBI Fiber Solutions, Sandpoint, Idaho. Contact: info@fiberproducers.com.

We are creatures of habit. It happens every year, no matter the circumstance. Each year we do exactly the same thing. We change nothing so nothing changes. The day the wool comes off the sheep...

It's time to make some changes, simple changes that benefit individual farms and ranches, the wool industry, and ultimately the U.S. textile industry. What we do daily on the ranch is the very first step towards benefitting not only our farms, but also the growth of the textile industry and jobs in the U.S. The difference between doing the same old thing and implementing simple yet crucial improvement practices can mean as much as 10 to 100 times more return for the grower! It's time to pull the wool back from over our eyes.

U.S. wool producers need to compete with other wool producing countries. The easiest and fastest way to do this is through the quality of our clip. Incremental steps that have a profound impact upon the quality of the wool need to be taken. Whether you are a large producer or a shepherd with a small flock, these impactful practices can easily be incorporated into daily life and increase profit and sustainability. They require little additional money, just a bit of thought and a moment of time. Many sheep producers could increase their wool check more than 100% if they would get their wool out of the defect grade. While we may not be able to control the market conditions for wool or lamb, improving our wool preparation and quality increases the number of markets that are available to us. As we learn more about the fiber grown on the animals we raise, we are better equipped to make breeding, management and marketing decisions.

This is the first of a four-part series introducing practices that improve your profit while positively impacting the wool and the textile industry in the United States. Note the key phrase throughout the articles: Changing just 10% of what you are doing can have more than double the impact on the profit you currently experience. Let's find out how.

Expanding your thinking from the

inside out is the first step. Sheep are more than a carcass (inside) – they also naturally produce wool (outside). Utilizing the entire animal increases your ability to profit. Expand your thinking, planning and implementation with the sheep and its wool in mind.

Increasing your wool income starts the day after shearing. Proper shearing should have left the animal with a short smooth fleece. The challenge is to keep this growing wool free from contaminants. Clean wool is valuable wool. Contaminants increase the cost of processing as they decrease the yield. It is always easier and more successful to prevent contamination than to remove it afterwards. You don't have to raise sheep in a bubble, simply do things that increase the value and income potential of your wool harvest. While improving the wool quality, many of these practices benefit the health of the sheep as well.

Fleece contaminants come in several varieties, with the most common being acquired contaminants: feed, pastures, polypropylene, bedding and other animals.

Contamination from vegetable matter is the most prevalent problem. You've heard it before: feed at the level of the feet (not in overhead racks). But there is more to it than where the feed is placed. The act of feeding must also be analyzed. If the head and neck of your sheep are green, your feeding practices need desperate attention. In smaller operations, where feeding is done by hand, it is important not to carry or throw hay over the head or backs of the sheep. Doing so allows leaf and shavings to rain down on the wool. Feeding on the range from the back of a truck also requires focus on limiting hay contamination. Hay that is tossed inadvertently onto the head or back of an animal begins or enforces the contamination cycle. It also contributes to eye problems caused by chaff or seeds. Avoid feeding in windy open areas where hay, chaff, dirt and sand are forcibly blown into the fleece. Instead, choose a sheltered location, in a protected valley or hillside to feed. The

fleece and the sheep will thank you!

Grain is also a contaminant. Never pour grain in troughs over the heads of impatient sheep. Carrying a bucket of grain into a flock of sheep can be a dangerous! Plan feeding areas so that sheep can be locked out while troughs are filled, then open the gate and let the feeding frenzy commence. Adequate space at grain troughs is equally important for body condition and growth as well as wool cleanliness. Grain can be fed on the range from the truck through a piece of PVC pipe attached vertically to the trail gate or bumper of the truck. A hopper mounted at the top allows grain to be poured into the pipe, while the bottom open end of the pipe is mounted 10-12" above the ground level.

Pasture management is vitally important in limiting contamination. Weed patrol and seed head elimination is the main emphasis. Walking pastures several times a year not only provides some exercise, but potential threats to the health and safety of your sheep and their wool can be identified early on. Invite your local 4-H or FFA group to learn about and remove contaminants from your pastures, even if it is only one pasture. Cutting or burning pastures before weeds and thistles go to seed improves not only the current wool clip, but also the future pasture as well.

It's been said before and bears repeating: Polypropylene does not wash out or come out in processing. Once incorporated into the yarn, it will not accept dye. While baling twine is the most common source, an often-overlooked problem is old feed bags, tattered from the weather and use, blown out into the pastures and picked up by the fleece. Old feed bags (polypropylene or burlap) should never be used to store fleece.

Animal bedding choices should be "wool friendly." Short chaffy straw and wood chips cling to fleece and are embedded with animal movement. If wood chips/shavings are used for urine absorption, a thick layer of long straw (free of chaff/seed heads) needs to completely cover them. The heavy stalks of

fleece contd... the uneaten hay provide appropriate bedding as well. Running other livestock that shed foreign fibers on the sheep reduces wool quality. Annual shearing of guard llamas and dogs limits contaminating fibers. Preventing birds or chickens from roosting overhead not only decreases fecal contamination and possible illness, but keeps feathers to a minimum. Contamination by foreign fibers has heavy price deductions. Coating sheep will significantly reduce contamination but may be impractical for larger flocks. Coating requires labor and maintenance, but is a “time trade-off” for other management practices. Remember, clean wool is valuable wool. If you are running a fairly large herd, start with coating 10% of the sheep, then track how much more profit you realize to weigh the benefits. Applied contaminants should be scrutinized. Paint markers are at the top of the list. While a necessity for many flocks, using scourable paint and reducing the size of the mark increase the amount of useable wool produced. Even scourable paint may permanently stain the wool. Freezing or over-heating of the marker causes congealing of the pigment, which makes it extremely difficult if not impossible to remove. When possible, marks should be placed on the head or even the face to prevent wool staining. Topical dewormers and sprays affect wool. Dewormers that contain phenothiazine are not only marginally effective against internal parasites, but also cause a red-brown urine stain on wool. Topically applied chemicals limit lanolin recovery and affect how scouring effluent is treated. Lanolin used in cosmetic products must contain minimal chemical content. Now is the time to start thinking about your wool in a broader application. Don’t we all need a little more cash? Getting your wool out of the defect grade requires managing contamination. If your focus has been on meat production, consider moving just 10% of the fleece into a fiber-based income stream. If you sell fleeces to hand-spinners/wool buyers consider dividing your fleece a little differently. Move 10% into a new income avenue or value-added-product system in which you own and control the profitability. Moving 10% can double your profitability. Follow along in our next article and discover how simple shearing day practices contribute to marketable wool and increased farm profits.



Submitted by Sonja Pyne, Woolhalla Tunis, Glendale, AZ

The magic that makes great fiber happens between the time a fleece is sheared and the time an artist takes up knitting needles, latch hook, crochet hook, or loom. In other words, great processing creates a great medium. Some people have a desire to participate in each step of the processing, but others would rather concentrate on creating the end product; still other people are interested in sheep but don’t know what to do with all that darn wool! As more and more fiber mills have closed down over recent years, their equipment dismantled and sent overseas, it has become difficult to find quality processors who use American-made equipment.

An alternative to across-the-continent processing with its ever-rising postage is now available in the western United States. Rita and Tom Beeson of Prescott Valley, Arizona have spent several years developing the pieces necessary to create Arizona Fiber Mill. This included an over-all plan, finding financing, locating and purchasing milling equipment made in the USA, and teaching volunteers and workers how to run the equipment to produce a high quality product. At the end of November, 2012 they opened for business, and the first paid fleece through the milling process was a Tunis!

While our favorite breed is no longer a novelty in some parts of the U.S., it is much less common in the West and Southwest. However, Rita first handspun Tunis a number of years ago and ever since has had a soft spot for the quality and versatility of the fleece. She is delighted with the prospect of mill processing Tunis and notes that as long as staple length approaches 3.5 inches an excellent product will result. She cautions that veg or VM is the curse of any fleece and GIGO (Garbage In, Garbage Out) is the watchword. No processing can ever remove all veg.

Arizona Fiber Mill (<http://www.arizonafibermill.com/>) has the capability to process from rough skirt through roving or finished yarn in any of several weights, and will accept single fleeces, fiber blends (yours or theirs), large orders, and anything in between. As they gear up for their first full year with the mill, Rita and Tom will work closely with you. Phone calls, samples, or a mill visit will ensure your fleece becomes the best product possible. Turnaround times are fast, quality is high,

A Tunis First for Arizona

For the first time since 1917, Tunis sheep have been exhibited in a public venue in Arizona. Gabriel Mora, a first-year member of the **Queen Creek (Arizona) 4-H Sheep Project** chose a Tunis wether for his first experience in sheep raising. The lamb was one of seven ram lambs born at nearby **Woolhalla Tunis** in May 2012 and after a visit to see the sheep, the selection of the lamb was Gabriel's own. He used the two months' wait before the lamb was weaned to build shelter and fences before bringing Wiggles home. Gabriel earned the money himself for purchase of the lamb, and was responsible for most expenses throughout the year, but a generous award from the Midwest and Beyond Tunis Association helped to pay for the pen and some other county fair fees. Their support was greatly appreciated! Because of southern Arizona's heat, the sheep year in Maricopa County is a little different from other, more traditional places. Here, 4-H begins the first of September, county fair is held the middle of April, and state fair in mid-October. Never having shown sheep previously, Gabe jumped right in to the 2012 Arizona State Fair last fall with his inexperienced lamb and scored a 3rd place and a 5th place in Showmanship for two different classes.

At the just-completed 2013 Maricopa County Fair, Gabriel again earned a 3rd place in Showmanship competing with more than 50 lambs and owners, but was unable to send his lamb to market because it had grown too big! He wasn't too heart-broken, however, because Wiggles has wiggled himself into the family and would have been sorely missed.

When asked about future sheep-raising plans, both Gabe and his mother were certain they would include Tunis – maybe this time some sort of a breeding program so they would have lambs of their own. "



Tunis to award over \$1,000 in premiums at 4th annual

Midwest Junior Preview Show!

Funding drives have been underway since the first of the year and the Tunis division at the 4th annual Midwest Junior Preview Show is currently ranked 4th with over \$1,000 pledged for premiums! The show has moved to Sedalia, MO this year due to its increase in size and will be held on June 15, 2014!

All of the money breeders donate to the Tunis at the MJPS is paid back out to exhibitors immediately following the show so that kids leave the fairground with money in hand! This year the show is on target to hand out over \$11,000 in premium money including \$100 to each showmanship winner and \$300 to each Supreme Champion Ram and Ewe.

Exhibitors can enter online at www.midwestjuniorpreviewshow.com. All exhibitors receive an official show tshirt, free dinner and admission for themselves and their families into our Friday evening "Feeding a Champion" feeding clinic and a complimentary gift from Ketcham's Sheep Equipment.

The show has been designed to be a laid back, fun and educational event for the newest showman to the experienced shepherd. Join us this June in Sedalia, MO for a one of kind experience at the fastest growing junior sheep show in the country!

For more information visit the website or contact Kate Lambert at 660-541-0468. Make sure and "LIKE" us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/midwestshow

Please thank these Tunis donors:

NTSRI, Emily Burns, Darling Tunis, Jacob Long and Family, Baxter Farmers, Big Time Tunis, Dan Kleman, Gareys Tunis, Jane Ownes, Maple Hollow Farm, Mom's Tunis, N&M Tunis, Red Ridge Farm, Schambows, Stumpe Tunis, Triple T Tunis, Windsong Farms, and Uptown Farms

Submitted by Kate Lambert

2013 ALL-AMERICAN JUNIOR SHOW BEING HELD IN EAST LANSING, MI

The 2013 All-American Junior Sheep Show is going to be held at Michigan State University Livestock Pavilion from July 5-7, 2013. The All-American is the premier junior breeding sheep show in the country. The breeds participating this year are: Polled Dorsets, Horned Dorsets, Hampshires, Southdowns, Cheviots, Columbias, Shropshires, Oxfords, Montadales, Shetlands, Natural Coloreds, Romneys, Tunis, Dorpers and Lincolns. Several meat breeds will feature slick shorn classes once again this year at the All-American. Judges for this year's event will be Farabee McCarthy, Sycamore, OH and Matt Scramlin, Holly, MI Dave Clouser of Polk, OH, will be joining us to judge the third ring on Saturday, as we are expecting exceptional numbers for this years show. The National Junior Southdown Show and National Junior Natural Colored will be held in conjunction with the All American Junior show this year.

If you have never attended an All-American Junior Show please make plans to attend this very special event! It is much more than just a sheep show, as there are several activities for the whole family. The show features a lamb camp for the young sheep owners, a 3-on-3 basketball tourney for the exhibitors, a sheep skil-a-thon competition, a sheep judging contest, free pizza and BBQ dinners for exhibitors and their families, free show morning breakfasts and an cherry pie ice cream social, a team showmanship competition, wool show for all breeds, promotional contests for exhibitors once again featuring a power point presentation category and an adult photography category, a college scholarship program for older exhibitors, a pool party for the whole family and much more!

Camping is available at the MSU Livestock Pavilion for \$10.00 a night with electricity. No pre-show reservations required just check in at sheep show welcome desk upon arrival. Room blocks have been reserved at the following area hotels: Fairfield Inn-East, 2335 Woodlake Drive, Okemos, MI 48864 Phone:(517)347-1000; Candlewood Suites, 3545 Forest Rd., Lansing, MI 48910 Phone:(517)351-8181 and Comfort Inn & Suites, 2187 University Park Drive, Okemos, MI 48864 Phone (517)347-6690. Cut off dates at the hotels are in early June and ask for the group rates under "All American Junior Sheep Show".

Entries close: JUNE 1st, 2013. There will be a higher entry fee for any late entries submitted after the deadline date and post entries at the show. Check out the All-American Website: www.allamericanjuniorshow.com for entry and further information.

The All-American Junior Show Committee has three major fundraising activities that are held to help raise funding for this special junior show. Coming back this year will be the All American Fundraiser Auction at the Midwest Stud Ram Sale during the re-instated Supreme Championship drives. Following is information on these activities and the show would certainly appreciate your support in these fundraising efforts:

ALL-AMERICAN GIFT BASKET SILENT AUCTION

Gift Baskets will be on display during the duration of the All-American Show for bidding. Bidding will close on Sunday, July 7th at noon. Basket donations would be greatly appreciated. Just bring them to the show in East Lansing!

ALL-AMERICAN JUNIOR SHOW RAFFLE TICKETS

Cost \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00

1st Prize: \$1000 Cash Prize

2nd Prize Sydell Hydraulic Trimming Stand (\$530 value)

3rd Prize: Outdoor Pop-Up Canopy (12' X 12')

Tickets are available at the Continental Dorset Club Office, P.O. Box 506, North Scituate, RI 02857. Many sponsoring breeds mail out raffle tickets with their office work and annual dues notices so when you see them PLEASE lend your support! Final drawing will take place on Sunday, July 7th. Need not to be present to win.

ALL-AMERICAN JUNIOR SHOW FUNDRAISER AUCTION

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2013

(During the Midwest Stud Ram Sale Supreme Champion Show)

NOON, SWINE BARN

MISSOURI STATE FAIRGROUNDS, SEDALIA, MO

PLEASE GET ANY ITEM DONATED FOR THE AUCTION TO CARRIE KELLY, MILLIE MOORE, JO BERNARD OR KAREY CLAGHORN BEFORE THE EVENT OR BRING TO SEDALIA.

ALL DONATED ITEMS CAN BE HANDED IN AT THE FFA BUILDING WHERE PAPERS ARE CHECKED IN FOR THE SALE.

COME & SUPPORT THE ALL-AMERICAN JUNIOR SHOW!!!

LAMBCHOP CHATTER

BY: MICHAEL NIESE

DID YOU KNOW...

THAT: OLIVIA BROWN WILL GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL THIS YEAR! SHE PLANS TO ATTEND COLLEGE AT OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE IN WOOSTER, OHIO.

DID YOU KNOW...

THAT: BILL KERNS GREAT-GRANDFATHER, JOSEPH EWING WHO WAS THE FIRST PERSON TO IDENTIFY, PROMOTE AND GROW ALFALFA AS A FORAGE CROP EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI. THE MAN WAS QUITE INTERESTING!

DID YOU KNOW...

THAT: ANNARAE HODGIN WAS IN THE HOSPITAL LAST WEEK AND IS HAVING SOME TESTS SO SEND HER WISHES FOR A SPEEDY RECOVERY!



DID YOU KNOW...

THAT LEON CASSELL IS A RETIRED SCHOOL PRINCIPAL AND BARBARA CASSELL WILL RETIRE IN MAY FROM TEACHING POSITION! THEY WILL SPEND MORE TIME ENJOYING THEIR GRANDAUGHTERS, ELIZABETH AND CASEY,

DID YOU KNOW...

THAT GEORGINA ANDERSON ADOPTED TWO LITTLE GIRLS! WE ARE VERY HAPPY FOR HER!

DID YOU KNOW...

THAT TAMMIE SERAFIN SHOWS ARABIAN HORSES.

DID YOU KNOW...

THAT THERE ARE 322+ MEMBERS IN THE NATIONAL TUNIS SHEEP REGISTRY!

DID YOU KNOW...

THAT THERE IS A TUNIS GROUP ON FACEBOOK?

DID YOU KNOW..

MINDY IRVINE COMPETES IN BARRELL RACES.

Need that next great stud buck...

Check here...

We are stacked with ram Power in 2013!



We have the best set of rams on the ground EVER!



They are sired by:

MTP 391

Sire of the Champion Ram at NAILE in 2011, Champion Ewe Ewe at 2012 NAILE and the 2012 National Champion Ewe

"Barnstormer"

2011 NAILE Champion Ram

"Power Play"

2012 NAILE Reserve Champion Ram



The first four rams pictured in the Early Ram Class at the NAILE Junior Show were bred by us! Pictured R to L: "Power Play" (Jr Show Champion), "Red Solo Cup" (Jr Show Reserve Champion), 371 for Emily Burns and 387 for Carlton Summe. Rams bred by us were 1st Jan, 1st, 3rd and 5th February Ram Lamb at the NAILE Open Show. A big thank you to all of our supporters!!

Make sure to check out our consignment to the "Quality Tunis Online Sale" on April 25 on Breedersworld.com and the National Tunis Sale in Wooster in May.

Check out our website or our Facebook page for more information.

"Barnstormer"

Schambow 563 RR
Champion Ram
2011 NAILE



If you are looking for your next stud ram, show ewe or breeding piece, give us a call. We have our best set ever! All will test RR and QR. We can deliver any animals purchased privately to Wooster in May.



"Eye Candy"

Schambow 336
Champion Ewe
2012 National Tunis Show, MO

We have her Full Brother born this Spring available at the farm!

Schambow 558 RR

Champion Ewe
sired by MTP 391 2012 NAILE, Open Show
We have her Spring born RR Ram Lamb available at the farm!



Cass Hollow Tunis

3501 N Dohs Rd - Evansville, WI 53535
608/876-6804 - Richard 719/684-5150 - David
davidschambow@gmail.com

"Power Play" Schambow 351 RR
sired by "Barnstormer"
Reserve Champion Ram
2012 NAILE, Open Show
Junior Champion Ram
2012 National Tunis Show, MO

★ check out our facebook page or website, www.casshollowtunis.com ★

2013 TUNIS MESSENGER AD RATE CHART

Get your website advertising for **FREE!** MEMBERS WHO PLACE A 1/4 PAGE AD OR LARGER WILL RECEIVE A **FREE** AD ON THE NTSRI WEBSITE! CONTACT KATHY NIESE AT KATHY.NIESE@GMAIL.COM.

DISPLAY ADS Black and White

Ad Size	Per Issue	4 Issues Prepaid
1 page	\$75	\$275
1/2 page	\$45	\$160
1/4 page	\$25	\$90
Business Card	\$15	\$50

DISPLAY ADS Color (will only available on the website)

Ad Size	Per Issue	4 Issues Prepaid
1 page	\$150	\$550
1/2 page	\$90	\$320
1/4 page	\$50	\$180
Business Card	\$15	\$100

WEBSITE CLASSIFIED ADS

Ads will run for 60 days, and can be renewed by resubmitting.

Text with one photo.....\$10.00

Text with two photos\$15.00

Please contact the webmaster, Sharon Kerns

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Winter IssueJanuary 15

Spring Issue.....March 15

Summer Issue.....June 15

Fall Issue.....October 5

FOR SALE:

Tunis lambs for sale:

Born Jan 17, 2013.

One ram lamb, one ewe lamb. Asking \$250.00 each.

Email: robdvm95@aol.com

Rob Nicholson, DVM
3 Walnut Street
Upton, MA 01568

Phone: 508-439-1656

"Too many ewe lambs!"

All are twins and scrapie tested RR...definitely showable from my keeper brood lines. Can deliver to Eaton or Wooster...can send pictures. All sired by rams from the 2009 NAILE Champion 'Junior'. Quantity discounts.

Darling Tunis, Jim & Louise
Dunham. 937-465-8299
or tunis@bright.net

KATHRYN'S "GREEN EGGS AND LAMB" HOMEMADE TUNIS SHEEP MILK SOAP

INGREDIENTS: Tunis Sheep Milk, Coconut Oil, Olive Oil, Herbal, Tea, Lye and Fragrance oils.
Will deliver to Wooster, Indiana and Ohio State Fairs, and NAILE!

Call Kathy Niese for fragrance selections and prices:
419-969-0783

FOR SALE: TUNIS BARN SIGN

The Women of Tunis will be selling these signs at the National Show and Sale in Wooster, Ohio.

The sign will be \$25.00 and proceeds will help Tunis families in hardship, and provide supplemental Scholarship dollars for continuing education opportunities.

The sign measures 12" x 18" and when you hang this sign you will be identified as one of "Tunis Breeders" in the barn.

If you are unable to attend Wooster but you would like to purchase a sign, send a check payable to:

The Women of Tunis, in the amount of \$25.00 to Kathy Niese, 8777 Rd I 7, Ottawa, Ohio 45875 and a sign will be sent to you. Please include name, address, and phone number with your order.



TUNIS
Sheep
It's a Red thing!



A REQUEST FOR INPUT FROM THE MEMBERSHIP FROM YOUR NTSRI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Your Board of Directors is seeking your input concerning the potential hiring of a Breed Secretary. The Board believes that a breed secretary would be useful to the NTSRI as a central contact person regarding the NTSRI and its activities. The Breed Secretary would also oversee official NTSRI publications, including the newsletter. Your Board would like to advertise for this position with the thought of compensating the successful candidate with a stipend of \$1,250.00 per year. The Board believes that the Breed Secretary should hold no other position with the association and should act in the interests of all members equally. Please let your Directors know of your thoughts concerning this idea. If we do not hear from you we will assume that you do not oppose the idea. The Board intends to take action on this idea within the next few months...so let your opinion be known! The proposed job description for the position is as follows.

JOB DESCRIPTION FOR NTSRI BREED SECRETARY

- To take minutes at all BOD meetings, record and return the minutes, in a timely fashion to the BOD President and Secretary for review. Upon approval of President and Secretary, send minutes to full BOD for review; Make any edits and corrections recommended by the BOD, resend to BOD members the revised draft; final agreed draft minutes are also published on the web site; pending final approval, send the Official BOD Meeting Minutes to the website for publication.
- Communicate with BOD President.
- Check email daily
- Serve as a liaison between NTSRI and Associated Registries to collect membership information; To maintain the NTSRI membership database by:
 - Updating the membership roster when new members join.
 - Send Welcome Packet that includes: Welcome Letter, Tunis Breeders Directory and most recent newsletter.
 - Update the membership contact information, when emails and addresses are returned.
 - Contact members when their membership isn't renewed;
- When requested by the BOD, send mail to the membership. This could include: preparing 320+ documents to go to print shop or printing the document at home, printing labels, stuffing envelopes and placing the labels and stamps on envelope. Picking up printed documents from print shop, picking up postage and dropping off mail to and from post office.
- Communicate and provided information to Website Liaison, Associated Registries, and the Banner.
- Communicate with members by email.
- Other duties of a similar nature as assigned by the BOD.

REGIONAL ELECTION RESULTS:

reported by: Bill Kerns, NTSRI President

Congratulations to Tom Mann (Region 4) and Sherry Palko (Region 5) for winning and accepting Director Responsibilities in NTSRI. The NTSRI Board of Directors is looking forward to working with the new members. Representation of the interests of your regions members is vital to the success of NTSRI. I encourage you to be in touch with your members frequently to understand their needs and concerns so we can continuously improve our organization. Tom and Sherry will begin fulfilling their positions during the next BOD meeting in Wooster.

Congratulations to Kathy Niese and Georgina Anderson for accepting roles as Alternate Directors in their respective regions.

The BOD wants to recognize Maryann McDonough and thank her for her support and professional contributions to NTSRI as Election Officer for 2013.

The Passionate Shepherd to His Love

A poem by Christopher Marlowe

Come live with me and be my love,
And we will all the pleasures prove
That valleys, groves, hills, and fields,
Woods, or steepy mountain yields.

And we will sit upon the rocks,
Seeing the shepherds feed their flocks,
By shallow rivers to whose falls
Melodious birds sing madrigals.

And I will make thee beds of roses
And a thousand fragrant posies,
A cap of flowers, and a kirtle
Embroidered all with leaves of myrtle;

A gown made of the finest wool
Which from our pretty lambs we pull;
Fair lined slippers for the cold,
With buckles of the purest gold;

A belt of straw and ivy buds,
With coral clasps and amber studs:
And if these pleasures may thee move,
Come live with me, and be my love.

The shepherds' swains shall dance and sing
For thy delight each May morning:

If these delights thy mind may move,
Then live with me and be my love.



2013 TUNIS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 25th, 2013 - Online Quality Tunis Sale
www.breedersworld.com

April 27th, 2013 - Hoosier Heartland Sheep Sale
Tipton, IN - www.facebook.com/hoosierheartlandsheepsale

April 28th - 30th - Uptown Farms Online Sale
Brookfield, MO - www.uptownsheep.com

May 25th - 26th, 2013 - National Sale
Wooster, OH - www.bannersheepmagazine.com

May 30th - June 1st, 2013 - All American Nugget Show/Sale
Reno, NV - www.bannersheepmagazine.com

June 15th, 2013 - Midwest Junior Preview Show
Sedalia, MO - Missouri State Fairgrounds - www.midwestjuniorpreviewshow.com

June 24th - June 29th, 2013 - Midwest Stud Ram Sale
Sedalia, MO www.midwestramsale.com

July 4th - 7th, 2013 - All American Junior Sheep Show
Michigan State University - East Lansing, MI - www.allamericanjuniorshow.com

July 19th - 21st, 2013 - Northeast Youth Sheep Show & New England Sale Mallary Complex, Eastern States Exposition - West Springfield, MA - www.nesheep.org

September 19th - 25th, 2013 - The Big E Show
Mallary Complex, Eastern States Exposition, West Springfield, MA - www.thebig.com

September 28th - October 6th, 2013 - KILE Open & Youth Show PA Farm Show Complex & Expo Center - Harrisburg, PA www.keystoneinternational.state.pa.us

October 18th - 19th, 2013- New York Bred Ewe Sale
Rhinebeck, New York - www.bannersheepmagazine.com

November 8th - 15th, 2013 - National Tunis Show & Tunis Youth Show at NAILE Louisville, KY - www.livestockexpo.org - date & time to be announced

November 9th, 2013 - Stars of Louisville Sale
Louisville, KY - www.tunissheep.org

*If you have other events to add please contact
Kathy Niese at kathy.niese@yahoo.com.

***REMINDER TO MEMBERS! IF YOU CURRENTLY HAVE A VALID EMAIL ON FILE WITH NTSRI, THEN THIS WILL BE THE LAST PAPER COPY OF "THE TUNIS MESSENGER" THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE.**

Printing the newsletter is very expensive; it has been decided by the BOD to publish the color version of the newsletter on the NTSRI website, and to email the newsletter to all members who have a valid email address listed in the membership directory. Members who do not have email will receive a black and white copy of the newsletter in the mail as usual. If you have email, but would still like to have a paper copy of the newsletter contact Kathy Niese at kathy.niese@gmail.com and it will be sent to you.

April 2013

NTSRI NEWSLETTER
THE TUNIS MESSENGER

NATIONAL TUNIS SHEEP REGISTRY



**Not everything in the sheep industry is
black & white!
Pick a "Red Head!"**

VOL. # 1 ISSUE # 36

NTSRI Newsletter, The Tunis Messenger
Kathy Niese BOD Secretary Liaison
8777 Rd I -7
Ottawa, Ohio 45875



WWW.TUNISSHEEP.ORG

