

# NTSRI NEWSLETTER... *THE TUNIS MESSENGER*



May 2016

## NTSRI

### Board of Directors

#### Region 1

Lisa Knight CT

Alt: open

#### Region 2

Loreen Howe NY

Alt: Dana Dutcher

DeBorer NY

#### Region 3

Marianne Turcheck

PA

Alt: Joyce McCarty

PA

#### Region 4

Tom Mann OH

Alt: Kathryn Niese

OH

#### Region 5

Georgina Anderson

KY

Alt: Lindsey Casey

GA

#### Region 6

Jeff Muncey IN

Alt: Carolyn Hart IL

#### Region 7

Lynn Murry MO

Alt: Kate Lambert

MO

#### Region 8

Lacey Allen OR

Alt: John Vogel CO

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## *"Great Times, Great Friends, Great Sheep," "GREAT LAKES"*

### 2016 NATIONAL TUNIS SHOW AND SALE

Once again the members of the Ohio Tunis Sheep Association are making plans to host the National Tunis Sheep Show and Sale, at the Wayne County Fairgrounds in Wooster, Ohio over Memorial Day weekend, May 27-29, 2016. The show is held in conjunction with The Great Lakes Fiber Show.

OTSA will again offer additional premiums for any sheep purchased at the Great Lakes Show and Sale that win their class at the Ohio State Fair. You will win an additional \$25.00. If that sheep wins Champion Ewe or Champion Ram you will receive an additional \$50.00, which could mean a 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 27

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| 6:00 pm | Barnyard BBQ Dinner (for all Tunis exhibitors) |
| 6:30 pm | NTSRI Board of Directors meeting (dining hall) |
| 7:00 pm | Fleece entries due                             |

#### Saturday, May 28

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| 9:00 am | Tunis Show   |
| 1:00 pm | NTSRI Members mtg. ( to be held 1 hour after show)   |
| 6:00 pm | NTSRI Breeders Banquet (Contact Kathy Niese for Reservations 419-969-0783, or email Kathy.niese@yahoo.com (held in the Dining Hall at the fairgrounds) |
| 7:00 pm | Breed Association and NTJA Auction   |
| 7:30 pm | Special presentation by Tim Barnes and Jacci Smith   |

#### Sunday, May 29

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| 8:00 am  | Donuts and coffee (donated by the Darling Farm)          |
| 8:00 am  | Enter to win one of the many youth sale credits of fered |
| 10:00 am | Tunis Sale   |

**SEE YOU ALL AT THE NATIONAL TUNIS  
SHOW AND SALE!**

## Committees:

Audit Committee: Walter Clark and Nancy Schmidt

Show and Sale: Georgina Anderson Publicity: Jeff Munsey

Website: Carol Wise/ Mathew Anderson

Scholarships: Ladies of Tunis, Kathy Niese

Newsletter/ Admin/ Membership: Kathy Niese, Marianne Turcheck

Treasurer and Associated Registries: Bill Kerns

Youth Committee: Georgina Anderson, Judy Schambow, Lacey Allen Futurity

Photo Contest: Kris Mann Directory: Tom Mann



## Region 4 and Region 5 Elections Complete

Connie Murry, of Higginsville, MO. 2016 election officer, for Region 4 and Region 5 reports the outcome of the 2016 NTSRI Board of Director elections.

The National Tunis Sheep Association held elections for director in Region 4 and Region 5.

In Region 4, twenty members were eligible to nominate a director and 12 members cast votes in the election. Kathy Niese, Big Time Tunis, Ottawa, OH was elected director, and Todd Briscoe, Shadybrook Farm, Brookville, OH was elected alternate. Kathy will replace Tom Mann, Wild Hoof Acres, Celina, OH in May at the BOD meeting in Wooster.

In Region 5, eighteen members were eligible to nominate a director and 9 members returned ballots to elect Peyton Fair, Tri Star Stock Farm, Burlison, TN as director, and Linda Casey, Piney Woods Farm, Taylorsville, GA was elected alternate. Peyton will replace Georgina Anderson, Westwind Farm, Hustonville, KY at the BOD meeting in Wooster in May.



## Tunis Sheep Color Genetics

### The Big Question!

What color RED is acceptable for Tunis Sheep?

Is there one acceptable color?

Tim Barnes and Jacci (Erwin) Smith from Ohio have been researching Tunis sheep color genetics. They have created a website for you to explore, and they hope that you find the site interesting and ask questions!!

[U.OSU.EDU/TUNISCOLORGENES/](http://U.OSU.EDU/TUNISCOLORGENES/)

## DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR TWO NATIONAL TUNIS SHEEP SCHOLARSHIPS IS MAY 15TH APPLY NOW!

### NTSRI Scholarship Rules:

NTSRI will award 2 scholarships. One \$1000.00 scholarship will be paid directly to the college in 2/ \$500.00 installments. The recipient must submit their first semester grades and a brief summary of college life after the first semester as well as earning a minimum GPA of 2.0 to receive the second \$500.00 installment.

The second award will be a \$500.00 installment paid directly to the college the first semester.

The scholarship is available to any member of NTSRI who is seeking post-secondary education in the fall of 2016. Students must begin college in the fall of 2016 to receive the award.

The recipient may have won the scholarship before, provided that they present the scholarship committee with proof of grades during the time that they received the scholarship.

The applicant or their parent must be a current member of NTSRI, and have been a member in 2015 and have their 2016 dues paid by the application deadline of May 20, 2016. In addition a member must have at least 2 sheep registered with the organization both years to be eligible to receive the scholarship.

A copy of your resume should be included in the application.

The application deadline is May 20, 2016 and will be considered late if received after this date.

The Scholarship selection committee will review the applications and announce the winner(s) in Wooster, Ohio at the National Tunis Show and Sale Breeders and Buyers Dinner, May 28, 2016.

You can find the complete scholarship application on the NTSRI website [www.tunissheep.org](http://www.tunissheep.org) or you can email Kathy Niese at [kathy.niese@yahoo.com](mailto:kathy.niese@yahoo.com) to have the application sent to you.



## 2016 will be a great year for kids & Tunis in Ohio!

I've gathered information about the opportunities for the youth in Ohio that have or are interested in Tunis sheep...some of these programs are old and some are new....I hope that, at least, one of them would be beneficial to your family. They are not all show related....but they all do offer financial support or the chance for financial support for the Ohio kids.

**And please SHARE this with any other youth that has Tunis and live in Ohio! If you have sold Tunis to a youth...please make sure they get a copy of this also....make copies as needed! QUESTIONS...contact Louise Dunham at 937-666-2046 or [tunis@bright.net](mailto:tunis@bright.net)**

**#1 – Ohio Sheep Improvement Starter Flock** – this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year for this program that provides \$1,250 to one youth that is interested in starting a Tunis flock or adding to their flock. I've included an entry blank and information about this opportunity...but don't wait...the deadline was April 15<sup>th</sup>. If selected, the youth or their family must join the Ohio Sheep Improvement Association and a membership blank can be found on the website.

**#2 – Youth Buyers' Credits at the National Tunis Show in Wooster, Ohio** - this sale starts on Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup> with a free meal at the fairgrounds. The Tunis show is early on Saturday morning with a Breeders and Buyers' Tunis meal that evening. Sunday starts with complimentary donuts as you look at the animals, and a used equipment auction followed by the National Tunis sale. Of course, there are a number of other breeds of sheep for sale and the wool festival is also held at that same time and place so there are a lot of things to see. The National Tunis Sheep Registry is offering a \$50 youth buyers' credit, the Ohio Tunis Sheep Association offers another \$50 youth buyers' credit, and the Jim Dunham family is again offering a \$100 buyers' credit. Any youth present may sign up at no cost or membership requirements for a chance to win one of these three credits. So these opportunities would help any kid in Ohio....and the only thing required is....fill out the free raffle form on Sunday morning! Drawing will be held before the sale so you know your budget!

**#3 – Ohio State Fair opportunities** – Again the Ohio Tunis Sheep Association has stepped up and added more prizes to the OSF Jr Show...there will be very nice banners awarded to the Champion and Reserve Champion Ram and Ewe...4 new banners! The entry deadline is June 20<sup>th</sup> for both open and junior shows...all information can be found on the 2016 Ohio State Fair website.

The Tunis come to the fair on Wednesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>...The junior show is Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup> and the open class show is Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. And the sheep are released Saturday afternoon. Since the OSF coincides with a number of other county fairs, if requested prior to the fair, animals can be released after the judging. Don't forget to get your 4-H/FFA paper signed by your county agent/teacher. The Ohio Tunis group is again offering financial support to all youth that show at the Ohio State Fair Junior Show....if a kid shows 3 or more Tunis...they get a \$50 stipend and if they show 1 or 2...they get \$25. New prizes and money, too at the Ohio State Fair – Junior Show!

**#4 – OSIA "LEAD" program** – another new opportunity! The Ohio Sheep Improvement Association have organized 3 Breeding Sheep shows into a points system that rewards those Ohio kids registered breeding stock...something like the jackpot shows for market lambs and goats. There are financial awards to be given at the end of the show season and will include showmanship results. An exhibitor award will be given for each breed – **(That's Tunis, too!)** – represented based on points earned by class placement. This program does require that the youth or family have an OSIA membership to participate...again, the OSIA membership blank is included along with the Point Rules and the locations of the shows. Last year, 25% of the breeding sheep entered in the show at Richwood were Tunis!

**#5 – The Ohio Tunis Expansion program** – another new opportunity! The Ohio Tunis Sheep Association is monitoring a new privately funded program that will give youth in Ohio a chance to win gift cards by displaying their Tunis in some manner off their farm. Any time a kid takes their Tunis off their farm to a local fair, a festival, a petting zoo, a charity event, visit to a nursing home or child care facility....the youth gets one entry per animal displayed into a drawing for more than \$500 in gift cards. This program isn't based upon winning but is based upon simply putting the Tunis out there for someone to see and admire! The drawing will be held in November. Complete guidelines and entry information are included in this packet. No membership is required. **So if your child simply goes to one local fair....this is the program for them!**

**#6 – The All American Junior Sheep Show will be held in East Lansing, Michigan** on July 1<sup>st</sup> thru the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Of course, this is a top notch Tunis youth show but there are also so many other contests for the kids to enter...and fun competitions...and complimentary meals and gifts. That any Ohio youth that has the opportunity to enter and show or just visit...should do so. Exhibitors' information is available on the website...[www.allamericanjuniorshow.com](http://www.allamericanjuniorshow.com). Entries are due May 25<sup>th</sup> but may also be submitted later for a higher fee.

**And please consider joining the Ohio Tunis Sheep Association....because this group of dedicated Tunis breeders are working hard to bring more opportunities for the kids and Tunis in Ohio...and to spread the money to any and all involved!**

**Contact Kathy Niese at [Kathy.niese@yahoo.com](mailto:Kathy.niese@yahoo.com) for membership information!**

## 2016 Junior Shows in Ohio

### Hancock Jr. Breeding Sheep Show

Hancock Co. Fairgrounds – Findlay, Ohio

Sunday, June 5th      Check In: 10 AM – 12 PM      Show Time: 2 PM

### 2016 Richwood Jr. Breeding Sheep Show

Richwood Independent Fairgrounds – Richwood, Ohio

Saturday, June 11th      Check In: 11 AM – 1 PM

Show Time: 3 PM

Ages: 21 & Under

- Showmanship Classes – PeeWee ; 8 & Under; 9-10; 11-12; 13-14; 15-16; 17-21
- Monetary Awards for Showmanship – 1st-\$20 – 2nd- \$15; Rest of class - \$10/each

Must Enter Breeding Sheep in Show to Participate in Showmanship Classes

Breeding Classes ( For All Breeds)

Rams: Fall and Spring Lambs – Can Only Show 1 Ram Per Class

Ewes: Yearling, Fall & Spring Lambs – Now can Show 2 Females Per Class

Points From These 2 Shows Will Count Toward Year End Awards

Entry Fee: \$10/Head      Ownership: June 1st (Proof of Ownership)

Must be Registered or Present Evidence of Ability to Register (Sale Receipt if Purchased at Sales)

Exhibitor or Family Must be Members of OSIA

Pay-out – Sliding Scale

Champion Ram and Ewe for All Breeds – Any Breed Exhibiting 10 or more

Sheep will receive \$20 for each Champion

- All Breeding Sheep Must Carry Scrapie Identification Tags
- All Out of State Sheep Must Have Valid Health Papers
- Released After Completion of Show – Need to Clean Pens – Bring Brooms and Scoop Shovels

Contact:

Tim Barnes – [740-494-2125](tel:740-494-2125) or

Email: [troytongrn@gmail.com](mailto:troytongrn@gmail.com)

Mark McCabe – [740-360-1103](tel:740-360-1103) or

Email: [mamccabe51@hotmail.com](mailto:mamccabe51@hotmail.com)

Sam & Pat Wiford – Home: 937-596-5229

Email: [sampat@watchtv.net](mailto:sampat@watchtv.net)



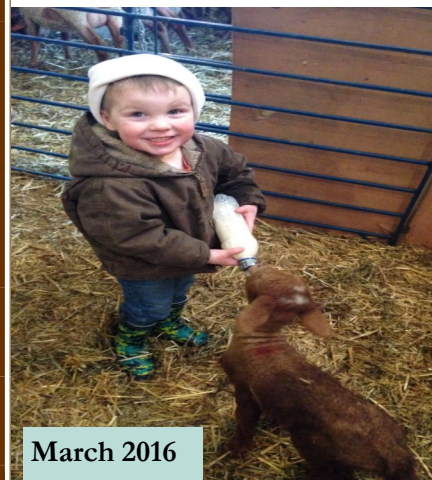
### February 2016

#### TUNIS PRIDE PHOTO CONTEST

We would like to take this opportunity to feature our recent winners..... Emily Stumpe submitted the February photo, and Jennifer Maag submitted the March winning photo! Thanks for entering!

To qualify for each month you need to send the photo by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month. If you send an entry, please fill in and sign the photo release form located on the NTSRI website (one time only). Please send photos and the signed photo release form to Kris Mann [k68horses@hotmail.com](mailto:k68horses@hotmail.com) Winners will receive a free ad with two photos on the NTSRI website (Ad Section). If your photo is not chosen for the month submitted, we may re-nominate the photo for another month. Photos that reflect the month in which they are nominated are preferred. Lambing season is upon us, great time for a photo of those precious little lambs.

As always.....keep those cameras, cell phones and iPods out and start clicking those Kodak moments!



### March 2016

## News From Louisville

By Susan B. Anderson

The 2015 North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) Open Tunis Show was a hugely successful event. In total, 35 exhibitors showed 178 Tunis sheep. Ranking by numbers of sheep exhibited placed our Tunis Show as the 4th largest open sheep show at NAILE for the 3rd consecutive year. The Hampshire Show was the largest sheep show, followed by the Suffolk Show, the Southdown Show, and then the Tunis Show.

The 2015 NAILE Junior Tunis Show was one of the largest ever. In total, 25 exhibitors showed 95 Tunis sheep. The Junior Tunis Show was the 6th largest junior sheep show at Louisville behind the Southdown, Shropshire, Hampshire, Suffolk, and Polled Dorset Shows, respectively.

The NAILE Sheep Advisory Committee met on March 23, 2015. It was well attended by Kentucky State Fair Board members and staff and many NAILE Sheep Breed Show Superintendents. Some of the items discussed follow.

As most of you know, last year we saw several changes regarding personnel within the Kentucky State Fair Board, which oversees NAILE, and other personnel changes affecting the staff in Louisville. Additional personnel changes were announced. The 2015 CEO, Clifford "Rip" Rippetoe accepted a position in California and has moved on. There will be a national search to find his replacement. In addition, the Assistant General Manager, Jeff Zinner, left to take a position with Central Kentucky Ag Credit. His replacement, Steve Kelly, is working hard to get up to speed. And Jeff Zinner is helping him through the transition.

There are two proposals, which have NOT YET been approved by the Executive Committee that might interest exhibitors.

(1) The staff in Louisville would like to end NAILE Thursday night. They would like the Open Sheep Shows to finish up mid-day Thursday, hold the Supreme Champion Drive on Thursday afternoon, and make the Sale of Champions the Grand Finale of NAILE on Thursday evening. They would like everyone to attend the Sale of Champions and have release papers available directly following that event.

(2) The staff in Louisville would like to have the Junior Sheep Shows return to Saturday and Sunday. Juniors would come in on Friday, as they did in years prior to 2015. Showmanship would be Friday afternoon. The Market Lamb Show would be moved to a separate full-size show ring. The Junior Breed Sheep Shows and the Market Lamb Show would go on simultaneously in 2 separate rings on Saturday and Sunday.

These proposals will be discussed at the Executive Committee Meeting this month, and, hopefully a decision will be made regarding these proposed changes.

Ribbons for Sheep Classes will be generic and no longer have the year, the class name, or the breed of sheep printed on them. This will save a huge amount of money in printing costs and allow ribbons to be interchangeable between the various sheep shows. In addition, ribbons leftover when NAILE ends, could be saved and used the following year. Banners and rosettes will remain unchanged.

For Junior Shows, the registration deadline was changed. Instead of having sheep registered by September 1st, sheep now must be registered no later than September 15th.

Steve Kelly would like to get corporate sponsors for NAILE. Although no details were discussed, Steve would like to bring in money from the corporate sector so that NAILE will be profitable.

The Photography and Fine Arts Departments, which are relatively new, have been struggling to get exhibits. These departments were eliminated.

We hope everyone had a positive experience in Louisville 2015, and we hope to have an even bigger and better Tunis showing at NAILE 2016, which will host the 2016 National Tunis Show. We're looking forward to seeing you there!



**Good Spring day from region 8!**

As the weather out on the west coast gets better, the grass is getting greener and the sun is shining I want to remind everyone about the importance of fly control, vaccinations and withdraw time.:

Fleeceworms or wool maggots (Spring and Summer)

Infestations usually start around the crotch in wool contaminated with feces and urine. Ordinary tagging and docking of animals generally prevents these infestations. Shear infested area and treat with an insecticide. ( I use Caltron if I get any "bugs" visiting my flock)

\*\*\*\*\*Catron IV (permethrin) Ready-to-use 0 days sheep and goats

\*\*\*\*\* Python 0.075% Dust Ready-to-use 0 days sheep and goats

\*\*\*\*\* La 200 ( for foot scald) 28 days

\*\*\*\*\* Clostridium Perfringens types C & D Tetanus Toxoid 21 days

\*\*\*\*\* Bose 14 days

\*\*\*\*\* Ivomec Drench 0.08% 11 days

\*\*\*\*\* Valbazen 7 days

\*\*\*\*\* Nuflor 39 days

I would also like to remind everyone that if they have animals or need animals to please let me know I would be happy to help find you that next wooly family member or even help you find transportation if need be. With that said if you are needing to get sheep from Oregon or Washington I have a Suffolk breeder that is going to Reno, he will also haul back if you need to get them back to this area.

I hope that you all had a great lambing season and hope to hear from you all soon

Lacey Allen

Region 8 director



**SAVE THE DATE ...for a NEW SHOW FOR TUNIS SHEEP EXHIBITORS!!!**

**The Wisconsin State Fair has added an Open Show for the Tunis Breed...**

The Wisconsin State Fair is offering for the first time an Open Class Tunis Show! Tunis sheep exhibitors will receive **full premiums** for all classes. Arlan Spilde, Stoughton, WI has been working hard with state fair officials to implement this show. The introduction of the Tunis breed will be on a 3 year probation. We must exhibit at least 30 head of Tunis to be eligible to install the breed into the regular show rotation. If you would like more information about the show , you can contact Arlan Spilde, 608-334-0259.

ENTRY CLOSING DATE: JUNE 8th (2nd Wednesday of June) - postmark for mailed in (paper) entries\*

June 22 nd (4th Wednesday of June) - online entry deadline\* or when barn capacity is reached.

ENTRY FEES: Sheep: \$6 per head Group Classes: No entry fee. Enter upon arrival at Fair.

All Substitutions UNTIL July 29 th: NO CHARGE ... Substitutions July 30 th and after: \$12 per head

Late Entry\*: \$100 per exhibitor plus original class entry fees \*Anything postmarked after June 8 th and after is considered late and late fees apply. Anything entered online after 7 pm central time June 22 nd is considered late and late fees apply. Entries will not be considered unless accompanied by full remittance. Wisconsin State Fair reserves the right to reject, accept or conditionally accept any entry or late entry from any exhibitor. Please enter only one breed/division per entry form!

Tunis sheep will show in Rotation 2 Arrival of Tunis Sheep August 12, after 3:00 am

Tunis Sheep must be in place by 9:00 with check-in between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm

Tunis sheep show on August 14, and will be released after the last show of the day.

# Welcome

NTSRI would like to welcome 10 new or returning members! Members represent 8 states, If you see a member from your state or region, take some time to give them a call or send them a note to welcome them as members of the National Tunis Sheep Association!

**1. Timothy Wilson (Jr)**

P.O. Box 45  
Royersford, PA 19468

**2. Bucks Hill Farm (Sr)**

292 Bucks Corner RD  
Saranac, NY 12981

**3. Shana Hayes (SR)**

**Hayes Pleasant Farm LLC**

40600 Pleasant Ridge RD  
Graysville, OH 45734

**4. Will and Rosie Cristens (SR)**

Triangle C Farms  
3117 130th St  
Renwick, IA 50577

**5. Clarence Eldridge (SR)**

Caney Fork Farm  
P.O. Box 318  
Carthage, TN 37030

**6. Sierra Graham**

**& Davie Swaney (SR)**

301 East Branch RD  
Mercer, PA 16137

**7. Katie Pertersen (SR)**

2319 Pine Run RD  
Linden, PA 17744

**8. Janice Dyer (SR)**

Knights Meadow  
3486 County Farm RD  
Howell, MI 48843

**9. Jared Vanderhagen (SR)**

16526 ST HWY 28  
Villard, MN 56385

**10. Mike and Lacey Gage**

**Blue Moose Farm (SR)**  
9992 Saratoga DR NE  
Salem, OR 97305

## KEEP IN TOUCH!

Please keep your contact information updated. If you move or change your address, email or phone number, contact:

**Kathy Niese at**

**kathy.niese@  
yahoo.com**

She will update the website database each month so that you will have the most current Information.

## Region 2 New York

Happy Spring to everyone!! I hope your lambing season was successful and you strive to set the bar high during your culling process.

Empire Classic Youth Sheep Show will be hosted by the Genesee County Fair in Batavia, NY July 11-13, 2016. There will be showmanship, fitting, and judging clinics for all youth to participate in. Showmanship and breeding class shows will be judged Wednesday, July 13th starting at 9 am. Anyone interested in participating or being a sponsor for this show to support our youth contact Norm Pimm at 585-370-2777 or Jessica Reisdorf at 585-297-7063. Any donation is welcomed!

Regional Tunis Show will also be hosted by Genesee County Fair again this year in correlation with the Youth Classic. For information contact Norm Pimm at 585-370-2777.

Featured breed at 2016 New York State Fair Syracuse, NY is Tunis. Tunis have been one of the largest numbered breeds exhibited here in past few years with quality running deep to the far end of the lineup. New York State fair dates are August 25th-September 5th.

TRIVIA.....New York State Fair was the home of the 1st National Tunis Show and many to follow before it was relocated!!

Best Wishes to ewe all and love what you go to the barn to feed everyday!

Laureen FitzPatrick Howe

# The Future of the Breed

By Neal Knapp, Big Walnut Livestock Company

The last decade has been an exciting time to be involved with Tunis. The breed has expanded to new shows and new regions. The quantity and quality of Tunis seem to be growing and improving at an extremely fast rate as we have seen at the North American International Livestock Exposition with very competitive and well-attended Tunis breed shows. The growth of the breed benefits existing producers by keeping demand for our sheep relatively high compared to many other purebred sheep, but we cannot allow our enthusiasm for marketing our sheep and growing the breed to shift toward complacency and stagnation.

I am going to keep this article brief and clear. On a personal note, I hope this article will also serve as a prelude to association meetings and sales coming up in the new show season. When people try to garner my support for ideas or plans for shows and associations, I am more than willing to consider anything; but, I will always filter these hypothetical propositions through my five core beliefs about our breed:

1. ***Diversity in our breed is a strength, not a weakness.*** Regardless of the number of Tunis associations in operation, our breed is at its best when wool, milk, meat, fertilizer, and show interests are included in the dialogue and that people from different regions or people with different priorities are equally served by our associations and livestock expositions. Our sheep are versatile, durable, productive, and successful in multiple climates and production schemes and our shows, associations, and judges should reflect this strength.
2. ***Judges with different preferences are good for our sheep shows and strengthen our breed.*** I think this is essential for the continued growth of our breed. You can see with other breeds that as soon as the show world narrowly configures what the “ideal” sheep is to one type of faddish sheep, the market for that entire breed dwindles. This process of alienation builds barriers that prevents junior members and young producers from having success and participating in the breed. This process also shrinks existing breeders by eliminating the demand for a diverse set of genetics and types of sheep until we are left with a dead or dying breed—at many state fairs, some purebred sheep have nearly vanished after decades of overwhelming participation. In this regard, a rotation of judges with different perspectives is necessary to sustain the growth of our breed, even if many of those judges prefer a different style of sheep than what I show or my close friends produce.
3. ***What is good for junior members and young producers is good for all producers.*** As demonstrated above by the declension narrative about other purebred sheep, when sheep shows become uncompetitive and junior members and young producers are effectively removed from the show ring, all producers suffer. When the breed shrinks, so does the market for “top producers” and, thus, “top producers” or “established producers” are going to create the conditions for their own demise if shows don’t focus on, include, and empower junior members and young producers.



**4. We need to identify new markets and continue the work of expansion.** Many advocates and breeders that came long before me have done more than I can imagine for the advancement of the breed. However, this work is not done and we need to continue the process of marketing and participating at new expositions and state fairs. There are many regions and fairs without Tunis breed shows, including areas where the durability and the versatility of Tunis would be ideally suited for commercial operations and show stock. When we successfully take our sheep to new states and regions, it improves our breed, it benefits those local farming communities and potential customers, and it also generates more income for existing producers by growing the market and demand for our sheep. I hope to work with many of you to take our sheep to new places and support the establishment of more Tunis breed shows across our country.

**5. Livestock shows are not everything, but they are ESSENTIAL.** Shows are by far the most effective way for producers to communicate with the public about the food production process and farm life. To be sure, much of the communication at the moment is met with distrust by all participants. Many farmers have a condescending view of the consumer and many consumers have an equally uneasy or even disdainful understanding of the farmer. But shows offer producers and commodity groups the opportunity to connect to the larger public and that sort of access and communication is invaluable. Livestock expositions build needed links between urban and rural spaces in American cultural life that benefit both a new generation of consumers and also the growth and improvement of agriculture, which is dependent on producers staying in constant communication with other producers, researchers, and consumers.

The All-American Junior Show Committee has three major fundraising activities that are held to help raise funding for this special junior show. 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 3rd at noon. Basket donations would be greatly appreciated. Just bring them to the show in East Lansing or contact Sarina Rinker at [rinckersouth-downs@hotmail.com](mailto:rinckersouth-downs@hotmail.com).

**ALL-AMERICAN JUNIOR SHOW RAFFLE TICKETS**

Cost \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00

1st Prize: \$1000 Cash Prize

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

3rd Prize: Kindle HD Fire 7 (\$130 value)

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 3rd. Need not to be present to win.

**ALL-AMERICAN JUNIOR SHOW FUNDRAISER AUCTIONS**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2016**

**(During the Midwest Stud Ram Sale Supreme Champion Show)**

**EVENING, SWINE BARN**

**MISSOURI STATE FAIRGROUNDS, SEDALIA, MO**

**BIG OHIO MAY SALES, MAY 14, 2016**

**PREBLE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, EATON, OH**

**More information to come!**

**NATIONAL TUNIS FLEECE  
SHOW & SALE**

**Great Lakes Sheep &  
Fiber Show  
May 27-28  
Wooster, Ohio**

**Entry fees are \$3 per fleece.**

**Goal:** The goal of the National Tunis Sheep & Wool Show & Sale is to make fleeces available to the hand-spinners and to provide a market for the fiber producers. Tunis producers are urged to be selective in the fleeces they enter and reasonable in the prices they set.

**Fleece Standards:** Fleeces must be shorn within the past year and represent no more than 15 months growth. Each fleece must be clean - free of hay, tags, and second cuts. They must be skirted and rolled up in a clear plastic bag for presentation.

**Entry Instructions:** In an envelope, include your entry fee and an index card with the following information for each entry: Name, Farm Name, address, phone number, how many month's growth, approximate weight of fleece, and Ram or Ewe class entry. Please include a selling price, if you wish for us to sell your fleece. You do not have to sell your fleece. Fleeces may be entered in person or mailed to: Marianne Turcheck, 1574 Rostraver Road, Belle Vernon, PA 15012.

**Schedule**

**Friday afternoon – Saturday 8:45 am** - Enter Tunis wool fleeces at Rostraver Farm's vendor booth, Industrial Building 13, spaces 1-2

**Saturday 9 am** – Judging

Fleeces will be available for sale after judging through the remainder of the Festival. We will make every effort to display and care for the entered fleeces, but we assume no responsibility for damaged or lost fleeces.

**Classes**

|                                  |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Ram Class 1</b>               | <b>1st -</b> |
| <b>\$15 2nd - \$10 3rd - \$5</b> |              |
| <b>Ewe Class 2</b>               | <b>1st -</b> |
| <b>\$15 2nd - \$10 3rd - \$5</b> |              |

|                         |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Grand Champion</b>   | <b>\$15</b> |
| <b>Reserve Champion</b> | <b>\$10</b> |

Contact: [marianne@rostraverfarm.com](mailto:marianne@rostraverfarm.com)

**2016 SHOWS & SALES**

**April 27-28, 2016 Midwest Genetic Movement Sale,**  
[www.wlivestock.com](http://www.wlivestock.com)

**May 6 -7, 2016, Maryland Sheep and Wool Show,**  
Fredrick, Maryland

**May 28nd - 29th, 2016 - National Tunis Sale,** Great Lakes Show & Sale, Wayne County Fairgrounds, Wooster, OH (Entry Deadline March 15th) [www.bannersheepmagazine.com](http://www.bannersheepmagazine.com)

**June 4th, 2016 - Seventh Annual Midwest Junior Preview Show,** Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia, MO  
[www.midwestjuniorpreviewshow.com](http://www.midwestjuniorpreviewshow.com)

**June 20nd – 25th, 2016 - Midwest Stud Ram Sale -** Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia, MO -  
[www.midwestramsale.com](http://www.midwestramsale.com) – Information coming soon.

**July 1st – 3rd, 2016 - 23rd Annual All American Junior Sheep Show,** Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan [www.allamericanjuniorshow.com](http://www.allamericanjuniorshow.com)

**July 15-17, 2016- New England Sheep Sale and Northeast Youth Sheep Show (NEYSS),** Mallary Complex, Eastern State Exposition (ESE) Big E, West Springfield, MA [www.nesheep.org](http://www.nesheep.org)

**July 27-August 7th, 2016 - Ohio State Fair, Columbus, OH – Open Tunis Show TBD,** [www.ohiostatefair.com](http://www.ohiostatefair.com)

**September 24th - The Big E,** Mallary Complex, Eastern States Exposition (ESE), West Springfield, MA [www.bigE.com](http://www.bigE.com)

**Sept. 30 - October 9, 2016 Keystone International Livestock Exposition (KILE),** PA Farm Show Complex & Expo Center, Harrisburg, PA [www.keystoneinternational.state.pa.us](http://www.keystoneinternational.state.pa.us) – Information coming soon.

**October 14-15, 2016 New York All Breeds Bred Ewe Sale,** Rhinebeck, NY - [www.bannersheepmagazine.com](http://www.bannersheepmagazine.com) - Information coming soon.

**November 2016, National Tunis Show, North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE),** Louisville, KY [www.livestockexpo.org](http://www.livestockexpo.org) – Information coming soon.



## Putting the Spin on Wool

Skirted and scoured, picked and carded, pinned, felted and spun are just a few steps wool goes through before it gets to you. The sheep, from which the wool comes, don't care because they are now lighter and cooler. You care however, because it's wool that allows you to walk around in warmth and style. Whether the label reads Gucci, L.L. Bean or Auntie Ann, it all starts with wool from the sheep.

Every spring (and sometimes again in the fall), these living sweater factories are brought in, sheared and sent back out to eat more grass and grow more wool. No killing, no drilling no fracking. It's the sustainable way.

Once the wool has left the sheep, it is skirted (the "junk wool" and vegetable matter removed), rolled up and bagged and taken to the mill. It's in the mill where the spin begins.

While there are many fiber mills around the world, we visited Snow Peak Fiber Mill & Yarn Shop located in the small town of Lebanon, Oregon. Owner Kathy Thompson, who caters to the small sheep producer who sells both locally and on the Internet, explained what happens when the wool (now called a fleece) comes to her.

"Once it comes in, we scour it (wash) in 180 to 190 degree water with a special soap and place it in thin layers on drying racks to dry," Thompson said. "What happens after that depends on how the client is going to use it. We have a machine that picks it (fluffs it up), one that cards it (blends it) and one that combs the fibers all one direction (the pin drafter). We even have a machine we call the "Bat Mobile" that makes batts that can be left as batts or made into felt.

"We can spin the wool into yarn for knitters or return it as rovings (carded but unspun) for spinners. We have some customers who just want it as clouds (fluffed) so they can use it for stuffing for pillows or toys. We are a full service fiber mill and can provide products that our customers need."

Wool is extremely durable. It retains shape, repels moisture and resists wrinkles, soil and flames. Because of its many uses, it is used for items such as boots, carpets, blankets, and coats. It is used to make undergarments because it is smooth and soft next to the skin and it's used by the military because it is flame retardant. Wool is often blended with cashmere, alpaca, rabbit and lama to provide stability for these and other fibers.

Thompson, who never knows what is going to come in through the door next, says the variety is one of the things that excites her about her work.

"We have a client who brought us 11-pounds of hair from the wolf he raised after rescuing it as a pup while working in Alaska. We blended it with some Alpaca and Wool to make yarn and then wove it into three blankets and 23 pillows.

According to some estimates, there are more than 1,000 breeds of sheep worldwide with more than 50 breeds in the United States alone. These happy sheep are out there sustainably eating and sleeping and growing more wool.

For more information, contact:

Oregon Sheep Growers Association  
1270 Chemeketa Street N.E.  
Salem, OR 97301  
Phone: (503) 364-5462  
[info@sheeporegon.com](mailto:info@sheeporegon.com)

Questions about the story itself may be directed to: Jan Jackson Freelance writer/photographer  
E-mail: [janijackson@comcast.net](mailto:janijackson@comcast.net)



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## **2016 ALL-AMERICAN JUNIOR SHOW BEING HELD AT MICHIGAN STATE**

### **LIVESTOCK PAVILION**

The 2016 All-American Junior Sheep Show is going to be held at the Michigan State University Livestock Pavilion, East Lansing, MI from July 1-3, 2016. The All-American is the premier junior breeding sheep show in the country. The breeds participating this year are: Polled Dorsets, Horned Dorsets, Dorset Advantage, Hampshires, Southdowns, Border Leicesters, Cheviots, Cotswolds, Shropshires, Oxfords, Montadales, Romneys, Shetlands, Lincolns, Natural Coloreds, Tunis, Dorpers, Columbias and Corriedales. Several meat breeds will feature slick shorn classes once again this year at the All-American and several wool breeds will be highlighted once again this year. Judges for this year's event will be Mike Bishop, Rio, WI, Gary Saylor, Belle Center, OH and Lacie Hoffman, Zell, SD. The National Junior Southdown Show and National Junior Tunis Show 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 ice cream and pie social, a team showmanship competition, wool show, promotional contests for exhibitors once again featuring a power point presentation category and an adult photography category, a college scholarship program for older exhibitors, and much more! When we go to Michigan, one of the highlights, besides the great show facility, is the Cherry and Apple Pie Ice Cream social held on Friday afternoon.

On Saturday night there will be a free BBQ for all of our show's attendees along with some fun activities. Also, later on Saturday evening an Adult Showmanship Challenge is going to be conducted for the purpose of raising funds for the participating breeds' Junior Associations. This will include individual and team showmanship divisions for adults. Nominations and buyouts will take place all day Saturday with the actual classes taking place that night. Come join in on the fun and raise money for your breed's junior association! If your breed does not have a separate junior association then the money will go towards the AAJS Scholarship program.

Honor Show Chows has become a major show sponsor and will be back with us in Michigan. Sydell has generously donated the trimming stand for the All American Raffle fundraiser. Weaver Leather is also a major show sponsor including providing embroidered wether blankets for the champion and reserve champions market lambs. Banner Publications, Kalmbach Feeds and Novel Designs along with other companies are donating high ticket items to be sold at the Big Ohio May Sales and Midwest Stud Ram Sale for the special All American Benefit auctions.

Featured this year at the Michigan All American will be the Friday Pie & Ice Cream Social sponsored by the MSU Animal Science Dept., Michigan Cherry Institute & Grand Traverse Pie Co.; the Morning Exhibitor Breakfasts sponsored by the Michigan Sheep Breeders, Jiffy Mix & Pioneer Sugar; and a Saturday night BBQ sponsored by MSU Vet Clinic, Willowcreek Farm Dorpers & Wolverine Packing. The Friday night pizza party will be sponsored by Carbon Bio-Green Energy. Tractor Supply will be providing prizes for the ever popular exhibitor thank-you booth and the American Lamb Board will be donating some of the thank-you notes. **A BIG THANK-YOU** to all of these sponsors as without their assistance this show would not be possible!

Our Michigan host committee is being organized by Karen Scovill and Judy Moore. A big thank-you also goes to all of the Michigan sheep families involved in the local planning committee. Several local sheep breeders and youth supporters have stepped up to the plate to organize events and volunteer to help out. It is thanks to all of you that this show will be a special All American for our junior sheep exhibitors and their families.

Camping is available at the Michigan State Livestock Pavilion grounds across the parking lot, \$20.00 per night for electric. Water sources available to fill tanks and 2 dump stations. 14 new sites have both electric and water. Room blocks have been reserved at the following area hotels: Fairfield Inn-East, 2335 Woodlake Dr., Okemos, MI 48864, Phone: 517-347-1000, \$91.00 per night plus taxes; Candlewood Suites, 3545 Forest Rd., Lansing, MI 48910, Phone: 517-351-8181, \$89.00 per night plus tax; and Holiday Inn Express, 2209 University Park Dr., Okemos, MI 48864, Phone: 517-349-8700, \$109.00 per night plus tax.

**Entries close: MAY 25th, 2016.** 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](http://www.allamericanjuniorshow.com) for entry and further information.



## 2016 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@YAHOO.COM](mailto:KATHY.NIESE@YAHOO.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 be 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 website liaison, Matthew Anderson for this ad.

### NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Winter Issue .....January 15

Spring Issue.....April 15

Fall Issue.....September 15



**TUNIS**  
*Sheep*  
*It's a Red thing!*

**FOR SALE AGAIN!!!**

### TUNIS BARN SIGN

The "Ladies of Tunis" are considering a reorder of the "Tunis Breed Barn Sign"

The sign sold for \$32.00 during the last promotion, and depending on how many signs we purchase the price will be about the same. Proceeds from the signs will help support Tunis activities and provide supplemental Scholarship dollars for continuing education opportunities for Tunis breeders.

The sign measures 12" x 18" and when you proudly display this sign everyone in the barn will be able to identify you as a "Tunis Breeder".

If there is enough interest in purchasing a sign we will purchase the signs and mail or distribute the signs at shows this summer. If interested e-mail Kathy Niese, at [kathy.niese@yahoo.com](mailto:kathy.niese@yahoo.com) or call 419-969-0783 before May 30th to place your tentative order. Tunis signs will make great appreciation gifts for those who purchase your sheep!

Call or email today if interested!!!

### THE SPINNING WHEEL!

Do you sell wool, roving or other sheep related products?

**Your Ad could be here for \$15.00**

### "THE BUTCHER BLOCK!"

Do you sell Tunis lamb products for the freezer, to restaurants, or at Farmers Markets?

**Your Ad could be here for \$15.00**



May 2016

NTSRI NEWSLETTER  
**THE TUNIS MESSENGER**

**NATIONAL TUNIS SHEEP REGISTRY**



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

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



[WWW.TUNISSHEEP.ORG](http://WWW.TUNISSHEEP.ORG)

