

NTSRI NEWSLETTER...

THE TUNIS MESSENGER



February 2015

VOL. #1 ISSUE # 38

NTSRI

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Sheep in Sheep year 2015

Success! Sheep benefits from Sheep year creativity. Finally, others are on your wavelength and progress is made. All the arts will flourish and creativity will flow, but such refined beauty and elegance is expensive and debts may easily accrue. Travel is highlighted as are relaxing vacations, and people will want luxuries. Gather your energy in Sheep year because Fire Monkey 2016 will be a wild ride! Looking for love in Sheep year? Sheep is most compatible with another Sheep, a Pig, or Rabbit. Horse is also compatible. Ox is least compatible.

Sheep Personality

People born in Sheep year are artistic, kind, inspired, very empathetic, and naturally creative. They appreciate beauty in all its forms and are connoisseurs of the best life has to offer. They can find success in artistic fields, especially the healing arts. With a tendency to be introspective, Sheep people require solitary peaceful moments to replenish. Sheep often struggle in youth until their first Saturn return at age 28, but as they age become stronger and discover their true calling. The best part of a Sheep's life is when they are an elder. In China, eight is a number of good fortune. Sheep is the eighth earthly branch and symbolizes good fortune, peace, and abundance. There is a Chinese saying, "Three sheep open doors to good fortune." Three Sheep in an extended family were considered extreme good fortune, and three Sheep together are a symbol of springtime. The gentle characteristics of Sheep were incorporated as part of Confucian ideology. The lamb kneels before its mother to nurse, as if obeying the correct filial manners of obedience to the parent. The mildness of Sheep can hide an independent streak. In the wild, Sheep are surprisingly tough and able to tolerate severe weather and scarcity of food. A Sheep person has this natural ability to survive when they must, and is far stronger than they appears. A Sheep can be calm and charming, yet is very focused in her determination. A Sheep won't be told what to do, stay at a job she dislikes, or be forced to compromise. If you are not a Sheep favorite, and Sheep do have their small select group, they won't confront you but will just go their own way.

Committees:

Audit Committee: Walter Clark and Nancy Schmidt

Show and Sale: Georgina Anderson

Website: Carol Wise/ Sharon Kerns

Newsletter/ Admin/ Membership: Kathy Niese, Marianne Turcheck

Treasurer: Bill Kerns

Youth Committee: NTJA, Lacey Allen Futurity/Leadline, Scholarships,

Doug Garey

Message from the President

Georgina Anderson

Greeting, Tunis Breeders and Friends! And Happy New Year!

I hope each and every one of you had safe and happy holidays, and that your lambing season is off to a great start! We had a great 2014, with successful events in Wooster with the National Show and Sale, the Ohio State Fair with the National Show, the All American Junior Show in Kansas, NAILE, and great reports from state fairs and local shows with high quality Tunis on display.

I'd like to take a moment to thank all the volunteers who make these events possible. The success of each show, sale and event involving Tunis rests on the dedication and effort of those who selflessly give their time and energy to promote Tunis and Tunis breeders. Thank you to all who guide our youth, help organize our shows and sales, send out information to members, maintain the website, participate in discussions about the future of our breed, and the myriad of other ways we work together to have a successful organization. You are very much appreciated!

A priority for 2015 is creating a balanced budget that is consistent with expected revenues. The Board of Directors has had several serious conversations in the last several months about decreasing our spending while still providing all the services our members and youth find valuable, all while working with the reality of decreasing registrations and transfers of Tunis sheep. Please refer to Bill Kerns', Treasurer's comments about the NTSRI's financial circumstances and how increasing membership dues and registration and transfer fees will help us move toward a balanced budget in 2015 and beyond.

Also, be on the look out for a new NTSRI display board promoting Tunis at the National Show and Sale in Wooster, OH in May! Using feedback from the membership at NAILE, we're working on an informative, up-to-date, and attractive display board that will shine a positive spotlight on the Tunis breed for years to come!

One last note: As we start 2015, I'd like to encourage you to think ahead through the whole year. During 2013 and 2014 we were forced to cancel the Stars of Louisville Sale at NAILE due to having too few ewes consigned. This is a great event and members are interested to see it continue. If it fits the needs and goals of your flock, please give some consideration to consigning two or three high quality ewes to the Stars of Louisville Sale! In order to move forward with holding the sale, we'll be asking for your commitment to consign animals at the Wooster show. It's my sincere hope that we can host this show and sale again in 2015.

If you have any questions regarding the NTSRI, please contact your region's director. Best wishes to you and your flock in 2015, and I look forward to seeing you during the show season!

Sincerely, Georgina Anderson, Pres. NTSRI

Ohio Tunis Sheep Association Notes!

The Ohio Tunis Sheep Association is looking forward to 2015. We have applied to the Ohio Lamb and Wool Board in the hope of receiving one of the \$1250 grants. The award will be to purchase a Tunis Starter Flock. The recipient must be a resident of Ohio. Recipients must also be 18 years of age or older, and be a member of Ohio 4-H or FFA. The recipient must also agree to purchase at least 2 registered, Ohio bred Tunis ewes. The recipient will also agree to join the Ohio Tunis Sheep Association and the Ohio Sheep Improvement Associations. Recipients will be mentored by the members of OTSA throughout the year.

OTSA is planning to put one entry of Tunis lambs in the Commercial Pen of Five class at the Ohio State Fair. Our next meeting is March 7th, at the Inn at Honey Run, we will discuss the selection process for this class. We will also make plans for the National Show and Sale in Wooster as well as the Ohio State Fair Open Tunis Show.

Treasurer's Report-2014

2015 started with a balance of \$14,491.29 (Table 1). A few years ago, the youth program was restarted and many youth activities are funded each year. In parallel with this initiative, the numbers of registrations and transfers have steadily declined since 2012. Membership has remained steady at approximately 300 to 350.

The most important revenue source that drives the budget each year are funds derived from membership, registrations and transfers. In Table 2, registrations and transfers are presented since 2010 with estimates for 2015. The cost on all transactions (memberships, registrations, transfers, rush orders, etc.) through Associated Registries (AR) is \$3.00 each; this yields some profit on memberships, registrations and transfers and a \$3.00 loss per event on all other AR support requested by members. The revenue stream from registrations and transfers has steadily decreased since 2012 (Table 3).

In Table 3, note the profit and loss data since 2012 by major category. Decreasing revenue from AR accompanied by increased spending for the youth programs has resulted in consistent and increasing losses each year to NTSRI. With recent cuts in the 2015 spending budget and increased fees we are now projecting a positive cash flow for 2015.

These data were important in recent BOD decisions to increase fees by \$2.00 for registrations and transfers; membership fees were increased by \$15.00. This step was essential to bring the financial report back towards balanced spending for 2015. The new fees are in line with the other major breeds showing at NAILE.

Sincerely

Bill Kerns, Treasurer

Table 1. Balance- 04 January 2014

NTSRI Checking	\$11,766.23
Youth Checking	\$2,467.28
Savings	\$257.78
Total	\$14,491.29

Table 2. Year	Regis- trations	Trans- fers	Total Transactions
2010	1418	798	2216
2011	1528	774	2302
2012	1591	873	2464
2013	1419	802	2221
2014	1285	751	2036
Est. 2015	1100	700	1800



**Table 1. Balance- 04
January 2014**

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RM-Registry/Membership; ST-Secretary/Treasurer; NW-Newsletter/Website; PA-Publicity/Advertising; SS-Show/Sale; Y-Youth

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Est. 2015	1100	700	1800

Table 3. Profit/Loss (\$)

Budget	2012 Income	2012 Expense	2012 P/L	2013 Income	2013 Expense	2013 P/L
RM	20,784.10	8,764.85	12,019.25	18,885.70	7,607.16	11278.54
ST	207.63	1,915.41	-1,707.78	0.00	2,401.21	-2401.21
NW	130.00	3,640.41	-3,510.41	148.84	2,132.33	-1983.49
PA	3,076.00	4,889.63	-1,813.63	0.00	1,874.50	-1874.5
SS	9,651.50	10,943.07	-1,291.57	3,318.00	4,810.13	-1492.13
Y	2,420.00	7,142.67	-4,722.67	1,832.00	6,502.36	-4670.36
		Total	-\$1,026.81			-\$1,143.15

Budget	2014 Income	2014 Expense	2014 P/L	2015 Est. In- come	2015 Est. Ex- pense	2015 Est. P/L
RM	17170.39	7639.75	9530.64	20,800	8,000	12,800
ST	428.66	2706.67	-2278.01	250	3,150	-2,900
NW	55.00	1932.00	-1877.00	40	2,300	-2,260
PA	0.00	1166.00	-1166.00	0	350	-350
SS	3752.69	7328.02	-3575.33	3,000	4,625	-1,625
Y	2527.00	8453.47	-5926.47	1,200	5,120	-3,920
		Total	-\$5,292.17			\$1745.00

NTSRI Membership Directory – Has your address, telephone number or e-mail changed?
Please e-mail Sharon Kerns at sharonkerns@charter.net or call 978-456-1240.

**Message from Emily Burns,
National Tunis Sheep
Association Queen**

My name is Emily Burns, a sophomore at The Ohio State University majoring in Agriscience Education. I am from Baltimore, Ohio where I have been raising Tunis for the past 5 years. I started my flock as my FFA Supervised Agriculture Experience and have been showing and raising Tunis sheep since then. Over the past 5 years I have grown to love the Tunis breed as well as the industry as a whole.

I am very excited to be honored as the 2015 National Tunis Queen. This is a new program that the Junior Tunis Association has decided to try to promote the Tunis industry. I am very excited for this upcoming year to represent the Tunis industry at some of the national shows and events. I hope to do some fun activities with the Junior Association at the shows and I hope to see lots of familiar and new faces! If anyone has any specific events they would like me to be at please get in contact with me so that I can try to be at as many events as I can. I hope to meet many of you this year and I hope lambing season is going great!

Walter Clark reports on Region #3

This January is beginning to remind me of last year here in northwest PA. It was -3 degrees this morning, thankfully no lambs are due. Pennsylvania Farm show started on 1/10 and although we decided to not make the trek this year, I'm sure those that go will have a great time. The famous butter sculpture is done and was unveiled, vendors are in place and the exhibits are rolling in. I'm sure there will be some great sheep there this year.

We are looking forward to what God will supply us with lambs this year. We were able to get a new family set up with a starter flock in October and hope all will progress well for them.

Be sure to set aside some quality animals to take to Wooster in May. If you are looking for some good sheep, that will be one place to check. Don't hesitate to make some trips to local or regional farms to see their animals up close. We traveled to Rhode Island last year with my daughter, son-in-law, and granddaughter to check out some New Hampshire blood lines. It was a great trip and quality time with family. Remember to get the young ones involved and keep it fun. They will enjoy it a lot more and you will likely get a new shepherd started along the way.

Happy lambing and I hope all goes well for you.

Walter Clark

Happy New Year from Region 8

Welcome to 2015 from all of us at Allen Family Farms. We hope your Christmas season was enjoyable and productive. As we wind down the show season and wind up for lambing I would like to remind everyone that we are here to help with whatever you need help with. We have had a few changes happen in the past few months and I would like to make sure that all of your questions and concerns are addressed so please do not hesitate to call (503) 949-6304 or email me (farmkids2@gmail.com) and I will help in whatever way I am able.

I would like to thank Tammie Serafin for her many years of service to the Tunis family and would like to wish her, Tim and Trinity luck in their new adventures.

I would also like to take a moment of your time to introduce your new alternate director Jacob Johnson. Jacob is a freshman at Linn-Benton community college working on a transfer degree to Oregon state for his Veterinary Science degree. Jacob has been an active member of 4-H as well as FFA, he recently purchased a Tunis ewe lamb from Jasmine Hill and was able to show her and is now looking forward to his first Tunis baby coming in February. Please help me welcome him to the Tunis family.

From our farm to yours,

Happy Lambing.

2014 North American International Livestock Expo in Review

By: Sue Anderson

The 2014 NAILE Open Tunis Show was another successful event. In total, 32 exhibitors showed 146 Tunis Sheep. Ranking by numbers of sheep exhibited placed our Tunis Show as 4th largest open sheep show at NAILE for the 2nd consecutive year. The Hampshire Show was the largest sheep show, followed by the Suffolk Show, the Southdown Show and then the Tunis Show.

The 2014 NAILE Junior Tunis Show was somewhat smaller than in recent years. In total 19 exhibitors showed 71 sheep. The Junior Tunis Show was the 6th largest junior show behind the Southdown, Hampshire, Suffolk, Shropshire and Polled Dorset Shows respectively.

We hope everyone had a positive experience in Louisville, and we hope to have an even better Tunis event at NAILE 2015. Looking forward, we plan to revive the Stars of Louisville Sale in 2015. We are looking forward for 30 to 50 good Tunis females for consignment. This has been a great venue for buying and selling quality Tunis Sheep. Please plan on attending and supporting the 2015 Stars of Louisville Sale.

2014 Annual Tunis Yearling Ewe Jackpot Show at NAILE

National Tunis Sheep Registry, Inc. (NTSRI) would like to thank all participants who have supported the 2014 Annual Tunis Yearling Ewe Jackpot Show.

We would also like to acknowledge and thank the judges Cruz Nichols and Sam Wiford for their support, time and participation. Thank you to Bill and Sharon Kerns of WindSong Farms for sponsoring the 2014 Annual Tunis Yearling Jackpot Show blanket and gifts for the judges.

The final Jackpot was \$1,040.00, which was distributed to the top 5 in the class. First - \$520.00; Second - \$208.00; Third - \$156.00; Fourth - \$104.00; and Fifth - \$52.00.

1st Place – Tom & Rachel Schambow
Schambow Tunis – Evansville, WI
(Ewe Tag # 405 - Sire – Schambow 351
Dam - Schambow 227)

2nd Place – Dana Gochenour
Woolly Hollow Farm – Woodstock, VA
(Ewe Tag # 1215 - Sire – Big Time Tunis 2003
Dam Big Time Tunis 912)

3rd Place – Mike & Kathy Niese
Big Time Tunis – Ottawa, OH
(Ewe Tag # 1214 - Sire – Big Time Tunis 2003
Dam Big Time Tunis 805)

4th Place – Dana Gochenour
Woolly Hollow Farm – Woodstock, VA
(Ewe Tag # 1308 - Sire – Westwind 622 -
Dam – Bruns Tunis 1102)

5th Place – Mike & Kathy Niese Big Time Tunis Ottawa, OH (Ewe Tag # 1221 - Sire – Big Time Tunis 2003 -
Dam Big Time Tunis – 2002)



Additional 2014 Participants...

The Anderson Family, Todd & Dianna Brisco, John & Irene Bruns, Anna Charest, Jim & Louise Dunham, Bill & Sharon Kerns, Tom Mann, Matt & Jennifer Maag, Jeff, Julie & Morgan Munsey, Amanda Summe

LADIES OF TUNIS NEWS

GOT RECIPES? WE NEED THEM! "LADIES OF TUNIS" TO PUBLISH COOKBOOK IN 2015

A meeting of "The Ladies of Tunis" was held Tuesday, November 18, 2014, in Rm#110 of the Kentucky Expo Center. Members present were: Kris Swihart, Brenda Garey, Connie Murry, Linda Cook, Debbie and Dana Gochenour, Georgina Anderson, Sharon Kerns, and Kathy Niese.

The Ladies would like to thank everyone who participated in the Show-barn Crockpot Showdown there were 6 entries, this year and everyone said it was the best spread yet! Congratulations go to Kris Swihart, with her first place entry of Green Chili and Cheese Enchiladas. Brenda Garey won second place with her Apple marinated pork loin, and Linda Cook won third with her Crock pot Macaroni and Cheese. Other entries were from Warren Anderson with Lamb, Peppers and Tomatoes, Mike Niese with Dill Pickle Soup, and Kathy Niese with General Tso Chicken and Rice.

In 2015 "The Ladies of Tunis" plan to publish a cookbook filled with recipes from Tunis breeders across the country. All the recipes that have been entered in the Crockpot Showdown will be included in the cookbook as well as recipes from all of you!

Please send by email any recipe that you would like to include in the cookbook. Each recipe should have the ingredients with the directions and any special notes or stories that you have about the recipe. We will include pictures of the food or family meals in the cookbook too. Categories for the cookbook will include: Appetizers, Crockpot cooking, Lamb and other meat recipes, Salads, Seasonal and Holiday recipes, Casseroles, Vegetables, Cakes, Cookies, Pies, and Desserts. Send recipes to Kathy.niese@yahoo.com

CALLING ALL “EWE” CRAFTERS!

2015 YEARLING EWE JACKPOT OFF TO A GREAT START!

The 2015 “Ladies of Tunis” Yearling Ewe Jackpot is off to a good start! Tunis breeders have nominated their best ewes for the prestigious show and we are happy to report that seventeen Tunis breeders have entered 45 Sheep for the Show this year.

The Roll Call for the first round is as follows:

FARM NAME:	NUMBER:
Westwind Farm	10
Matt Maag/ MJM Farm	6
Don and Jane Craft	4
Mike Niese/ Big Time Tunis	4
Bruns Tunis	3
Garey Tunis	3
Linda Cook/ Triangle Farm	2
Dana Gochenour	2
Dan Kleman	2
Richard Schambow	2
Todd Brisco	1
Anna Charest	1
Mattie Maag/ MJM Farm	1
Kyle Mac Cauley	1
Lynn Murry	1
RQL Farms	1
Avery Spilde	1

The next jackpot payment of \$10.00 will be due April 1, 2015 for all sheep moving forward into the final round.

The “Ladies of Tunis” will host the “EWE-NIQUE BOUTIQUE” at the North American Livestock Expo in 2015.

If you make Ewe-Nique sheep, wool, craft or gift items, and would like to earn a little extra spending money for Christmas, please continue to read below!

We are looking for members who would like to teach a mini workshop, with kids or adults, or demonstrate their talents throughout the day at NAILE this year. If you craft, knit, crochet, spin, felt, paint, quilt, take photos, bake, or other artisan activity, we need your to help in the Ewe-Nique Boutique!

You do not need to attend NAILE to participate! We will consign any items that you would like to sell in our Boutique. Members can send items to be donated to the Ewe-Nique Boutique, and 50% of the price will be returned to you! Ladies of Tunis will send you a check for your products that you consign!

We are in the beginning stages of planning and we would love your ideas to help us get this new activity off the ground!

Reply to any Ladies of Tunis member for more information: Kathy Niese, Sharon Kerns, Brenda Garey, Kristen Swihart, Debbie Gochenour, Dana Gochenour, Linda Cook and Georgina Anderson.

Why Do We Show Livestock?

By Neal Knapp, Big Walnut Livestock Co.

This short piece serves as an introduction to a series of articles, which take on important questions that connect livestock production on the farm to sheep exposition in the show ring. I am currently working on a project through Boston University on the relationship between the modernization of agriculture and international politics from 1898 through 1918. I use the United States and the United Kingdom as my focus in the transnational trade of genetics for political purposes, and I was fortunate enough to receive funding to go to the United Kingdom in the summer of 2013 to collect data.

Outside of the research, a highlight of the trip was attending a sheep show in Dumfries, Scotland with fellow researcher, Adrea Hernandez. The experiences at the stock show, despite not being historical in nature, were easily among the most useful ventures during my travels abroad. Getting to know livestock producers outside of the United States not only was useful in understanding the similarities and divergences between agriculture in the two countries, but the opportunity also provided the necessary skills and knowledge to truly comprehend the important information that is garnered from experiences in another person's world.



Pictured above is a group class at the livestock exposition in Dumfries, Scotland (2013).

After our time in Scotland, we worked in Leicester, Reading, and London in various British archives and museums, such as the Museum of English Rural Life (MERL). MERL holds countless journals, periodicals, books, and personal items, such as photographs and diary entries from individual farmers, that illustrate the changes and developments in British farm life over the last several centuries. From England, we left for Switzerland, where I gave a lecture on the impact of the Chicago International Livestock Exposition on the modernization of domestic animal genetics and, by extension, the animal's bodies for the purposes of projecting power leading up to the Great War. This lecture was hosted by an academic event, the Rural History Conference, which is attended by scholars from around the world.

Although we had a great time in Geneva and Bern, we knew we had to return to the States for harvest. Later that year, at the North American International Livestock Exposition, I began to reflect on the contemporary applications of my work. It became very clear that livestock expositions play a vital role in our communities. In particular, we know that raising and showing animals, through organizations like FFA and 4-H, play an important role in the enrichment of children. There is no doubt in my mind that raising cattle and sheep and showing across the country as a child afforded me countless opportunities that heightened the quality of my education and my socialization. But, the educative function for children, which developed primarily in the twentieth century, was not the primary motivation for creating these wondrous and spectacular stock shows in the United Kingdom and the United States.

In this regard, it is incumbent upon us to inquire into the purpose of livestock shows for the broader civic community, as well as for the producer. As the public's chief lens into the agricultural world, sheep producers and showmen should consider the need to recalibrate or re-imagine the message that manifests from livestock expositions to the public. In doing so, my next two articles will approach this conversation directly. The first article will investigate the historical intersection of livestock expositions and broader society. In doing so, I will try to answer the question: how are livestock expositions a part of politics and civic discourse?

As for the producer, my final article of this coming year will take up the topic of fads in livestock production. Often, spectators come up to us at a show and ask, "What is the point of fairs?" We typically either talk about the role of shows in the lives of 4-H youth, which I believe is a noble pursuit, or we talk about how expositions encourage competition among producers for the improvement of agriculture. I believe we need to investigate further the impact of shows on animal husbandry and selective breeding. Therefore, I will answer the question: how have fads affected animal husbandry as it relates to the central goal of agricultural improvement?

April 16, 2014

Commercial Connection article by: Melanie Barkley, Extension Educator

Weaning Practices to Limit Stress to Ewes and Lambs

Ewes baaing, lambs crying, and shepherds wishing for quiet: these are all signs that weaning is commencing. However, some of that baaing and crying can be minimized if shepherds take a few simple steps to prepare for weaning. And, this can limit the stress to both ewes and lambs in the flock.

Weaning practices should start at least two weeks prior to the actual weaning process. By weaning, I am talking about separating the ewes from their lambs. Lambs should be started on some sort of solid feed at least two weeks before weaning so that they are adapted to living on their own. In addition, lambs should also be accustomed to drinking water. Solid feed often comes in the form of a high protein grain mix, but could also mean highly palatable and high protein hay.

Weaning can occur in a number of different ways. Some producers like to wean early to take advantage of a lamb's ability to more efficiently turn grain and hay or pasture into pounds of gain. It is more efficient to feed the lamb directly than to feed a ewe that produces milk that a lamb consumes. Early weaning generally takes place when lambs are 60 days old. Lambs should weigh at least 45 pounds at this time.

Most ewes peak in their milk production around three to four weeks after the lambs are born. After that point, milk production decreases rapidly. Therefore, lambs should have plenty of grain and/or hay to eat by that point in time to get them adjusted over to eating solid feeds.

Some producers will wean earlier to accommodate situations such as drought or the desire to breed back ewes more quickly. Earlier weaning may take place when lambs are just 30 to 45 days old. This can be challenging for drying off ewes at this time though. Lambs that are raised on milk replacer are often weaned at these early ages.

On the other hand, some producers prefer a natural weaning method where lambs stay on pasture with their mothers until they are four to six months old. This greatly decreases the stress of weaning for both the ewes and lambs, but can also mean lower weight gains in lambs.

When weaning, producers should prepare the ewes several days prior to the planned weaning date. Start by removing any grain from the diet of the ewes. And, switch to a lower quality hay. This abrupt drop in protein and energy levels will cause the ewe to decrease milk production. Some producers will also limit water for 24 hours after weaning, but ewes that are weaned from 60 day old lambs or older don't necessarily need water withheld unless they are heavy milkers.

Lambs should have all their vaccinations prior to lambing. Lambs should receive their first vaccination shot within the first month after they are born. A booster vaccination should be given three to four weeks later. Deworming, castration and tagging should also be completed well ahead of weaning as all these practices cause additional stress to the lambs at weaning. If unable to perform these tasks prior to weaning, producers should wait until several weeks after weaning when lambs are well adjusted to living without their mothers. Watch lambs closely for any signs of health problems for several weeks after weaning. This includes health problems such as pneumonia, scours, and coccidiosis.

To decrease stress to the lambs, move the ewes to another location rather than move the lambs. The lambs should remain in the pen where they were raised because they are familiar with the surroundings and know where to find feed and water. This results in less decrease in feed and water consumption and thus less weight loss in the lambs in the first few days after weaning.

Ewes should remain on the lower quality hay until their udders begin to shrink and dry off. For the first few days after weaning, be sure to look for any signs of exceptional swelling or redness. This can be a sign that mastitis is present and will need treated. If a ewe is very uncomfortable, some milk can be removed from the udder to lessen the pressure. Never remove all the milk as this will continue to stimulate milk production.

For more information on weaning management, contact Melanie at the Penn State Extension office in Bedford County at 814.623.4800 or by email at meh7@psu.edu.

Melanie E. Barkley
Senior Extension Educator
Livestock Team
Penn State Extension
Bedford County Office
120 W. John Street, Suite 2
Bedford, PA 15522
Phone: 814-623-4800

Hello, Tunis Breeders & Fanciers

Region 6 had a good year in the show ring this year! Don & Jane Craft, Flora, IN had the National Champion Ram, Congratulations Don And Jane! Linda Cook, Triangle Farm, Muncie, IN had a smoking hot ram lamb that she and her brother Dale Huhnke showed in Slick Shorn Classes around the country with many first place wins. Triple "M" Ranch of Lafayette, IN had a great day at the Indiana State Fair taking home the Grand Champion Ewe Award for the Tunis Open Show and Grand Champion Ewe and Grand Champion Ram for the Indiana classes.

Region 6 would like to send a big thanks to Dale Huhnke for his hard work every year to make the Tunis Show Indiana State Fair one of the biggest and best in the country.

Region 6 is working hard with Tunis organizations around the country to make our National Organizations better than ever. We look forward to seeing all Tunis Sheep owners and fanciers at the coming events in 2015.

It's my pleasure to have the opportunity to send this report out to you all! Everyone in Region 6 would like to wish all of you our very best wishes and a good Lambing Season!

Sincerely,
Jeff Munsey
NTSRI Region 6 Director
765-491-4708
jjmuns@hotmail.com

2015 SHOWS & SALES

April 18th, 2015 - Complete Tunis Dispersal Online Tunis Sale, Uptown Farms, Matt & Kate Lambert of Missouri www.uptownsheep.com

May 22nd - 24th, 2015 - National Tunis Sale, Great Lakes Show & Sale, Wayne County Fairgrounds, Wooster, OH (Entry Deadline March 15th) www.bannersheepmagazine.com

June 6th, 2015 - Sixth Annual Midwest Junior Preview Show, Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia, MO www.midwestjuniorpreviewshow.com

June 22nd – 27th, 2015 - Midwest Stud Ram Sale - Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia, MO - www.midwestramsale.com – Information coming soon.

July 3rd – 5th, 2015 – 22nd Annual All American Junior Sheep Show, Mallary Complex, Eastern State Exposition (ESE) Big E, West Springfield, MA www.allamericanjuniorshow.com

July 9th – 12th, 2015 - Northeast Youth Sheep Show (NEYSS), Mallary Complex, Eastern State Exposition (ESE) Big E, West Springfield, MA www.nesheep.org

August 7th, 2015 - Ohio State Fair, Columbus, OH – Open Tunis Show @ 11AM, - Entry deadline June 20th www.ohiostatefair.com

September 26th, 2015 - @ 2:00 PM – National Tunis Show, Mallary Complex, Eastern States Exposition (ESE), West Springfield, MA www.bigE.com

2015 Keystone International Livestock Exposition (KILE), PA Farm Show Complex & Expo Center, Harrisburg, PA www.keystoneinternational.state.pa.us – Information coming soon.

2015 New York All Breeds Bred Ewe Sale, Rhinebeck, NY - www.bannersheepmagazine.com - Information coming soon.

2015 North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE), Louisville, KY www.livestockexpo.org – Information coming soon.

Welcome

NTSRI would like to welcome 11 new or returning members! Members represent 9 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. Julie Case

Straight Forward Farm
5797 Valley Road
Avoca, WI 53506

2. Mary Pleskac

Triangle M Tunis
51419 West Ford Road
Havre, MT 59501

3. Cyrille & Erik LeBlanc

Half Pint Farm
1511 W Rd 5 North
Chino Valley AZ 86323

4. Melanie Lakovich

5220 West Cinnabar Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85302

5. Lori Hughes

5736 N 100 W
Anderson, IN 46011

6. Rebecca Strohmenger

605 W 2nd Avenue
Brodhead, WI 53520

7. Kelley Ann Rice

Rice Farms
264 St. Luke Road
Covington, TN 80119

8. Sharon Ray

Carolina Bay Farms
P O Box 5581
Columbia, SC 29250

9. Joe Garcia

Snackity Hill Farm
219 Barn Door Gap Rd.
Strafford, NH 03884

10. Donald Waddle

Double D Farm
41259 W 363 Road
Osawatomie, KS 66064

11. Taylor Hemenway

Out To Pasture Farms
1214 Cherry Flats Road
Wellsboro, PA 16901



Pete the Sheep-Sheep – by Jackie French (Great photos for small children to observe) Australian sheep shearers always have dogs-smart, well trained dogs to round up the sheep for shearing. But sheep shearer Shaun doesn't have a sheep dog, instead he has a sheep-sheep named Pete, who speaks politely to the other sheep.

Spinning Wool: Beyond the Basics – by Anne Field

Part One of the book covers what spinners need to know about wool and types of wool, analysis of a fleece, and how to store and prepare it for spinning. The chapter on wool types has been updated, with completely new samples and photographs.

Part Two includes information of many of the new spinning wheels currently available. The yarn design section continues to provide thorough coverage with step-by-step instructions and photographs of the process of spinning yarns to a predetermined size and twist count, as well as detailed explanations of spinning methods, relating this information back to the properties of the chosen fleece.

Finally, there are many new projects, all illustrated with full instructions, suggesting interesting and innovative ways to weave, knit or crochet your beautiful, newly spun yarn.

News from Region 1

It is an exciting year for all Tunis breeders who live in the northeast as the All American Junior Sheep Show and the National Tunis Show will be held at the Big E Fairgrounds this year. The current practice of rotating the All American Junior Sheep Show and the National Tunis Show continues to keep our junior events accessible to our youth from coast to coast and border to border. The last time the All American Junior Sheep Show was held at the Big E was in 2006, so you can see how excited we are to host these two shows in this area.

As our juniors and their parents sit down to consider the various shows they would like to participate in this year, we encourage our juniors to consider the opportunity to participate in the following Region 1 shows.

The 22nd Annual All American Junior Sheep Show

July 3rd - 5th

Mallory Complex

Eastern States Exposition (ESE) – Big E

West Springfield, MA

The 31st Annual Northeast Youth Sheep Show (NEYSS)

July 9th - 12th

Mallory Complex

Eastern State Exposition (ESE) – Big E

West Springfield, MA

- *Junior members and their families are welcome to stay after the All American Junior Show and participate in the Northeast Youth Sheep Show. NEYSS will be finding “feeder helpers” if anyone would like to take a few days for sightseeing in between the two shows.*

Come Join The Fun....Mark Your Calendars!

2015 National Tunis Show

Mallory Complex

Eastern State Exposition – Big E

West Springfield, MA

Saturday, September 26th @ 2:00 p.m.

Watch for full details in the upcoming months.

During The Big E, 25 breeds of cattle, sheep, goats and hogs are on display. Breeders from all over the country and from other nations enter their animals in this, the largest livestock show in the East.

In preparation for the National Tunis Show, the Northeast Tunis Sheep Association (NETSA) will be planning a meeting on Saturday, March 21st starting at 11:00 a.m. at Bill & Sharon Kerns' home....112 Bolton Road, Harvard, MA. A working lunch will be provided. If you are planning to come for lunch, please contact Sharon or Troy. We realize for some, it is a distance to come, if any member would like to participate by phone, let Sharon know by e-mail sharonkerns@charter.net and we will make arrangements for a conference call. We welcome members' input and suggestions on the following...awards, social activities, accommodations, places to visit, etc. Please feel free to contact Troy Staples tstunis@gmail.com or Sharon Kerns sharonkerns@charter.net with your thought.

Thanks.

NTSRI Region 1 Northeast Tunis Sheep Association

LAMBCHOP CHATTER

BY: MICHAEL NIESE

DID YOU KNOW...

THAT: The Stars of Louisville Sale is coming back to NAILE this year! Be sure to save some good sheep for this sale, it has always been a good one!

DID YOU KNOW...

THAT: Sharon and Bill Kerns will move to Colorado to be closer to family. Will they sell their sheep or will they take them with them?

DID YOU KNOW...

THAT: NEAL KNAPP AND FELLOW RESEARCHER ADREA HERNANDEZ TRAVELED AND PARTICIPATED IN SHEEP SHOWS IN EUROPE THIS PAST SUMMER. LOOK FOR A SERIES OF ARTICLES THAT NEAL WILL WRITE IN THE TUNIS MESSENGER THIS YEAR! READ THE FIRST ONE AND IT READS LIKE A BEST SELLER!

DID YOU KNOW...

THAT: LACEY ALLEN HAS AGREED TO HELP THE NATIONAL JUNIOR TUNIS ASSOCIATION, THANKS LACEY FOR STEPPING UP!



DID YOU KNOW...

That: Ladies of Tunis is hosting a Holiday Market at 2015 NAILE, "Submit your crafts to show your stuff!"

DID YOU KNOW...That:

Larry and Teresa Norris are having the cutest miniature donkeys I have ever seen!.

DID YOU KNOW... THAT: On-line Sales have become increasingly popular but isn't it nice to go to Wooster and Sedalia to see and feel the sheep you're buying!

DID YOU KNOW...

That: Matt Anderson and his new wife Acacia, were married June 7th, 2014, in Canada. He was hired as shepherd at Four Hills Katahdin Farm in Salvisa, Ky. Congratulations to Matt and Acacia, and all the Anderson's as they anticipate the arrival of a new baby in July!



I am a passive onlooker
 I let bygones be bygones
 Goodness brings me fortune
 I believe in the human race
 I understand the meaning of giving
 My cup is never empty
 I am loyal and just and in others I trust
I AM THE SHEEP



NTSRI Tunis Pride Photo Contest

We would like to take this opportunity to feature our winners.....September, Anna Charest; October, The Surgenor Family; November, Bill & Sharon Kerns; December, Hope Mann. When you have an opportunity, please visit NTSRI website for these photos and photos for the past year.

On behalf of the NTSRI Tunis Pride Photo Contest Committee, I would like to thank everyone who submitted photos to date. It is always a pleasure to see each and every photo submitted.

To qualify for each month you need to send the photo by the 10th of the month. If you send an entry, please fill in and sign the photos release form located on the NTSRI website (one time only). 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.

We prefer photos which reflect the month in which they are nominated. Lambing season is upon us, we all love to see photos of those baby lambs and in several months Spring will be here, lambs on green pastures are a favorite too.

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

Thanks, Tunis Pride Photo Contest Committee

February 2015

NTSRI NEWSLETTER
THE TUNIS MESSENGER

NATIONAL TUNIS SHEEP REGISTRY



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

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Kathy Niese Newsletter Publisher
8777 Rd I -7
Ottawa, Ohio 45875



WWW.TUNISSHEEP.ORG

