

AMERICAN RAMBOUILLET SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION



# BOUILLETIN



[www.rambouilletsheep.org](http://www.rambouilletsheep.org)

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2023-2024

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***SEASON'S GREETINGS***

***WE WISH YOU A WONDERFUL  
HOLIDAY SEASON AND A HAPPY  
NEW YEAR!***

# FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

As winter approaches it usually means the start of two things: lambing season and winter sports season. I often think raising livestock and playing sports go hand in hand. There are people who go half heartedly in playing sports; they don't train in the off season, they let up on the end of their sprints, and try and drag the rest of the team down. In raising livestock it's the little things that make a difference. Examples could be simple ones like fresh water daily to cleaning feeders out. There is no "off season" in raising livestock either. Probably one of the best shirts I've seen a sports team wear is "this is next season." One must be constantly thinking of ways to improve as to what works for one person in raising livestock might not work for the next person. As in sports you are not going to run a west coast offense with a bunch of burly slow people, but you might have to change to a grind them out type of offense.

The lamb market has held up high with the packers looking for the bigger lambs and the wool market has been decent for some producers as once again everything must be done right. Sheep are almost like employees. You take care of them and they will take care of you!

There is no doubt in my mind that the 2024 National will be run as well as any of them. The next few years look to be taken care of too. I honestly think the Rambouillet breed is the best as any one out there for the KIDS and the adults too!! As I sign off I'm going to end up with another sports related to livestock story. Some people go scout other teams out, see how they block on the line, run their full court press, or their best takedown move. Go scout some farms to see how they feed, see how their bunks are lined up, see what they use for a mineral, and the many little things people do.

Have a blessed holiday season-sports season- lambing season.

***DARIN BAUCK***

## **NUMBERS FROM THE REGISTRY OFFICE AS OF 10/31/2023**

**REGISTRATIONS: 1530**

**TRANSFERS: 363**

**ASSOCIATION DUES: 123**

**MEMBERSHIPS: 14**

**IT IS NEVER TOO EARLY TO BE  
THINKING ABOUT A HOST CITY  
FOR THE 2025 NATIONAL  
RAMBOUILLET SHOW & SALE  
AND NATIONAL JUNIOR SHOW**

**IF YOU NEED MORE INFO  
ABOUT REQUIREMENTS  
CONTACT ROBBIE**

## Secretary's Notes

Robbie G. Eckhoff

Greetings from the office of the ARSBA! Here we are at the end of another year. As time goes on, the years continue to speed by faster and faster.

We have hit the lull in the show season, as the summer and fall fairs are over, and the Texas shows are going to begin in January.

The summer and fall fairs went well as it appears we had great participation from coast to coast in the Rambouillet breed. The Ohio State Fair numbers were spectacular.

The 2023 North American International Livestock Exposition is in the books for another year. Our numbers were steady as compared to the last two years. I want to thank Woody & Ann Joslin for making the trip to represent the association. It is much appreciated.

The Wyoming and Dakota Ram Tests are underway, and we have a really good set of rams on both tests. These ram tests are another integral part of this breed as many producers, both registered and commercial, utilize this data from a centralized test to capture and identify genetics that not only work to improve their genetic lines, but work for other producers and the entire industry.

On a personal note I want to thank each and everyone of you for reaching out over the past few weeks with Dad's passing. That means a tremendous amount to our entire family.

In closing, I want to thank all of you for your continued support and dedication. Many of you have different goals in mind, but remember, to have success, **YOU MUST WORK AS A TEAM!** I encourage all of you to work hard in continuing to promote and produce **REGISTERED RAMBOUILLET SHEEP!**

### 2023-24 Dakota Ram Test

As of 11/16/2023

56 day weights

46 Rambouillet Rams on test

From 11 producers

Average Daily Gain: 1.13

Highest ADG: 1.46/day

### 2023-24 Wyoming Ram Test

As of 12/12/2023

75 Rambouillet Rams on test

5 Breeds with rams on test

21 total producers with ram on test

Average Daily Gain across all breeds is 1.08lbs/day

Make plans to attend the field days at the conclusion of the ram tests

#### **2023-24 NATIONAL JR. ARSBA OFFICERS**

**President: Parker Munz, Moody, TX**

**Vice President: Chase Swanson, Moody, TX**

**Secretary: Ty Jones, St Marys, KS**

**Treasurer: Zoey Martin, Moody, TX**

The 95th Annual Wyoming State Ram Sale was held at the Wyoming State Fairgrounds on Sept. 12 and once again they had another successful year.

“Thank you to all of our consignors, buyers, bidders and sponsors. Because of you, the 95th Wyoming State Ram Sale was a great success. We cannot think of a better way to celebrate the integrity and tradition of this amazing sale,” wrote the Wyoming Wool Growers Association (WWGA) in a Sept. 13 Facebook post.

WWGA notes a total of 239 rams sold for an average of \$1,294 per head. There were 12 no sales.

Additionally, a ewe donated by Hageman Sisters Rambouillet brought nearly \$6,000. Proceeds were given to the WWGA.

The high-selling Certified Rambouillet ram was Rabel Brothers’ lot two, which sold to Netz Ranch for \$3,800, and the high-selling Rambouillet Yearling Ram was lot 49, consigned by Forbes, Rabel and McGivney and purchased by Jeff Jacobs for \$3,600.

**TOP SELLING  
RAMBOUILLET RAM**

**WYOMING STATE RAM  
SALE**

**LOT 2**

**CERTIFIED RAM**

**CONSIGNED BY RABEL  
BROTHERS**

**SOLD TO NETZ RANCH AT**

**\$3800**

Thank you to all of  
the Rambouillet  
consignors,  
contending bidders  
and buyers at

The Wyoming  
State Ram Sale





## MONTANA RAM SALE MILES CITY, MONTANA

57 Rambouillet Rams averaged  
\$1354/head

Low on the Rambouillet Rams  
was \$200 and High was \$2600

13 Rambouillet Cross Rams  
averaged \$1654/head

Top selling rams, a pen of 2  
consigned by Helle Rambouillet  
sold to Sieben Ranch for \$2600

277 Rams sold for a \$1485/hd  
average

Sale gross of \$411,400

**Newell Ram Sale High Selling Pen of  
Range Rams, Lot 50 consigned by  
Erk Brothers, Newell, SD sold at  
\$2000/hd  
(rams not pictured)**



### *SUPREME CHAMPION RAM 2023 NEWELL RAM SHOW & SALE*

**Yearling Stud Ram Consigned by  
Annika Bobb, Taylor, ND**

#### Newell Ram Sale

18 Rambouillet Ewes averaged \$650/hd

16 Rambouillet Stud Rams avg \$1387/hd

66 Rambouillet Range Rams avg \$1002/hd



**Supreme Champion Fleece  
Jim & Rosemary Forbes, Kaycee, WY**



**Top Selling Ram  
Lot 17 Consigned by Chapman Rambouillets,  
Bison, SD sold at \$3200**



### **Top Selling Ewe**

**Consigned by Crawford Rambouillets,  
Pipestone, MN sold at \$1300**



### **Reserve Champion Ewe**

**Consigned by Ben Pearson,  
Hettinger, ND**

The National Ram Sale is the grand event of the year for outstanding stud and commercial rams and ewes. It is held in the Wasatch Events Center in Heber City, Utah and is scheduled again for October 4-5, 2024, so save the date and plan to join us in Heber City or online. This event includes outstanding lamb dinners, live music, educational events, commercial shopping booths and the very best social networking opportunity of the year as we have folks from all over the US at the sale as well as from Canada and Mexico.

### The National Ram Sale Highlights

86 Head of Rambouillet Yearling Rams averaged \$1324/head

6 Head of Rambouillet Ram Lambs averaged \$950/head

10 Head of Rambouillet Stud Rams averaged \$2165/head

7 Head of Rambouillet Ewes averaged \$629/head

164 Head of Rambouillet Commercial Ewes averaged \$391/head

### High Selling Stud Rams

Lot 42, Forbes & Rabel sold at \$3700

Lot 36, Forbes & Rabel sold at \$3600

Lot 38, Legacy Sheep Co. sold at \$3100

### High Selling Pens of Rambouillet Rams

Legacy Sheep Co sold 2 pens, 3 head each at \$2000/head

Forbes & Rabel sold 1 pen with 2 head at \$1800/head

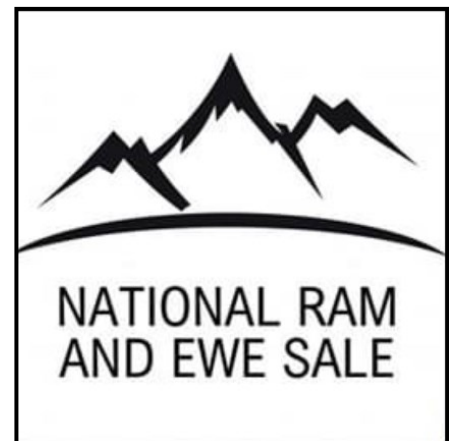
**Thank you to Tom Boyer for these sale results**

**Watch a replay of the ram sale  
at the link below:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KGeLZFvQeLU>

**Watch a replay of the ewe sale at  
the link below:**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pF-wL6\\_zE0k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pF-wL6_zE0k)





## LEON LONNIE ECKHOFF

OCTOBER 20, 1939-NOVEMBER 17, 2023



Leon Lonnie Eckhoff, 84, passed away on Friday, November 17, 2023, at his home in Bend, Texas.

Leon was born October 20, 1939, in the German community of Shelby, Texas to Otto and Lillian Hauck Eckhoff. In 1947, the Eckhoff Family joined a few other families and moved from Shelby to the banks of the Colorado River to the community of Bend.

Leon started school learning in German, thus, the move was not easy as he had to improve his English in order to attend the Bend School. Upon closure of the Bend School, Leon started attending school in San Saba and graduated in 1958. After a semester at Tarleton College, he decided to enter the workforce and began his career in the telecommunications industry. After a few years working he was drafted into the United States Army and served as a helicopter crew chief. He was fortunate to spend a significant amount of his time at Fort Hood, just an hour from home. Leon was drafted with a gentleman from the Panhandle that would become his best Army buddy and lifelong friend, Cecil Martin. They were born the same day, drafted the same day, served together, and ended their military career the same day. They always made it a point to touch base with each other at Christmas each year.

After serving his country he went back into the telecommunications industry and worked for various contractors until he and his brother Dickie started their own company, where they spent 35 years working primarily in the City of Sugar Land, a suburb of Houston. Leon made many valuable and lifelong friends in the telephone industry, with some of the best being Larry Tullos, David Driggers, Walt Waters, Joe Stepanski, Larry Gregory, and a long list of others.

In 2012, he decided it was time to call it a career and he retired to help take care of the sheep, cattle, and pecans with his wife Mebbie. Leon loved harvesting pecans and going to livestock shows through the years. He served the American Rambouillet Sheep Breeders Association for many years as a Board Member as well as a term as Vice President.

Leon was preceded in death by his wife Mebbie Lively Eckhoff in May 2022 along with his parents Otto and Lillian.

He is survived by his lifelong best friend and brother Dickie Eckhoff as well as son Robbie and wife Amy of Hawley, Texas and his son Donnie and wife Abbie of Axtell, Texas. Leon is also survived by his grandchildren Ethan and Ory Eckhoff of Hawley and Brynna Chappell of Axtell. Leon is also survived by his sister-in-law Debbie January of Chappel.

Serving as pallbearers were Russell Kott, Riley Waldrop, Larry Tullos, Phillip Morris, Grady Gibson, and Boyd Clark. Visitation was held on Wednesday, November 22, 2023, 1:00 - 2:00 PM at Heritage Funeral Home in San Saba, Texas. Funeral service followed at 2:00 PM at the Heritage Funeral Home Chapel of San Saba. Burial was after the service at the Chappel Cemetery in Chappel, Texas between Bend and Cherokee. Memorials may be made to the Chappel Cemetery or to the charity of your choice. Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Heritage Funeral Home of San Saba.

**Our family would like to thank everyone that has reached out to us during this very difficult**

### A New Generation in Rambouillet Producers

Gary Haiwick of Highmore SD has been raising sheep since his childhood on a ranch outside of Highmore, SD. Growing up, he was an active member of 4H and showed at the county and state fairs for many years.

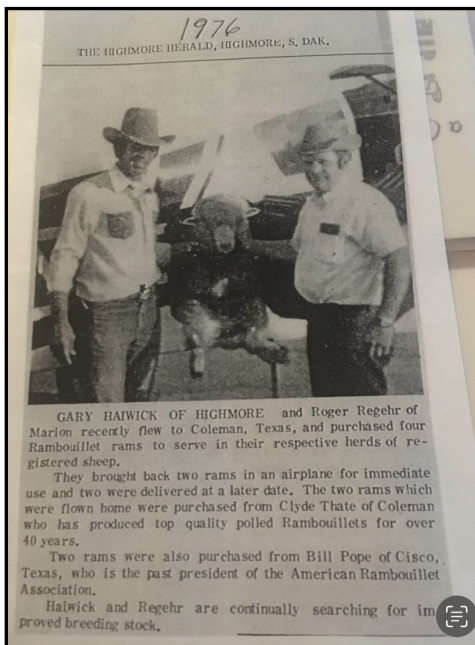
After graduation from high school, he attended SDSU for both his undergraduate and graduate degrees.

He met his wife, Gloria, and in 1963 they were married. They then moved to Norbeck, SD where Gary managed The South Dakota State University Pasture research station. In 1969, he returned home to take over the ranch from his father, Gaylord Haiwick.

Gary took over the cattle and sheep operation, expanded the ranch, and raised three children – Denise, Greg, and Paula. In addition to his father, his uncle, Elden Tompkins, mentored him for many years and helped Gary begin his registered Rambouillet flock. Elden and Gary were constant figures in the state fair show ring and known for sitting in the corner pen near the ring until the old building finally was demolished. Over his 50+ years of exhibiting, Gary has received numerous awards at the state and national level. He has also made many lifelong friends and established an extensive library of stories from fairs and ram sales with his chief partner in crime, Roger Regehr.

Gary's daughter Paula and son-in-law Nick returned to the ranch in 2013. His grandchildren Aidan and Emma began showing in 4H, following in their grandfather's footsteps. In 2022, he finished showing in open class and handed over the reigns to his grandson, Aidan Ferens. The winter of 2022-2023 was hard on the flock and while Aidan didn't have the quantity of he wanted, he made up for it with his quality. At the state fair, Aidan's lambs won several awards: Grand Champion Ewe in the Wool Classic, Reserve Champion Rambouillet Ewe in the 4H show, Grand Champion Rambouillet Ram in the 4H show. The week ended on an even higher note when his Ram went on to receive Third Overall in the Grand Supreme Show. Grandpa Gary was seen near the ring beaming with pride as he watched generation number four carry on his legacy.

Article and photos provided by Paula Haiwick in cooperation with Laura Anderson





### **2023 North American International Livestock Exposition Results**

2 Head — Yearling Ram: 1) Andrew Anderson, Grant City, MO, Bar J Bar 22L4C 2) Jared Conner, South Bloomfield, OH WCYC 0599-15

2 Head — Senior Ram Lamb: 1) Heegs Crzy H Club Lambs, Shepherd, MT, Marshall BM 2-93 2) Jared Conner, South Bloomfield, OH, WCYC 0625

2 Head — Junior Ram Lamb: 1) Inbody Bros Rambouillet, Jenera, OH, Inbody 2325 2) Jared Conner, South Bloomfield, OH, WCYC 0672

1 Pair — Pair ram Lambs: 1) Jared Conner, South Bloomfield, OH

Champion Ram: Anderson Anderson, Bar J Bar 22L4C; Res Ch Ram: Heegs Crazy H Club Lambs, Marshall BM 2-93

12 Head — Yearling Ewe: 1) Mike Moenter, Pemberville, OH, Dew Drop Farms 21-76 2) Vivian M. Stephenson, Mt. Ulla, NC, Dew Drop Farms 22-42

4 Pair — Pair Yearling Ewes: 1) Mike Moenter, Pemberville, OH 2) Heegs Crazy H Club Lambs, Shepherd, MT

5 Head — Senior Ewe Lamb: 1) Heegs Crazy H Club Lambs, Shepherd, MT, Marshall BM 2-83 2) Harper Copeland, Lewistown, OH, Dew Drop Farms, 22-75

4 Head — Early Junior Ewe Lamb; 1) Inbody Bros Rambouillet, Jenera, OH, Inbody 2301 2) Heegs Crazy H Club Lambs, Shepherd, MT, Knutson R23-7

5 Head — Late Junior Ewe Lamb: 1) Heegs Crazy H Club Lambs, Shepherd, MT, Dew Drop Farms, 23-41 2) Inbody Bros Rambouillet, Jenera, OH, Inbody 2320

3 Pair — Pair Ewe Lambs: 1) Heegs Crazy H Club Lambs, Shepherd, MT 2) Inbody Bros Rambouillet, Jenera, OH

Champion Ewe: Mike Moenter, Pemberville, OH, Dew Drop Farms 21-76; Res Ch Ewe: Vivian M. Stephenson, Mt. Ulla, NC, Dew Drop Farms 22-42

Best Fleece Rambouillet: Jared Conner, South Bloomfield, OH, Anderson 175

3 Flocks — Flock: 1) Heegs Crazy H Club Lambs, Shepherd, MT 2) Inbody Bros Rambouillet, Jenera, OH

Premier Exhibitor: Heegs Cray H Club Lambs, Shepherd, MT



**AMERICAN RAMBOUILLET SHEEP BREEDERS  
ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 214  
15831 FM 2404  
Hawley, Texas 79525

Robbie Eckhoff  
Executive Secretary  
rambouilletassn@gmail.com



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**Find us on the web:**  
**[www.rambouilletsheep.org](http://www.rambouilletsheep.org)**

**ARSBA REGISTRY OFFICE**  
**P.O. Box 231**  
**Wamego, KS 66547**  
**(785) 456-8500 (phone)**  
**(785) 456-8599 (fax)**

**Memberships (January 1 to December 31)**

Senior Membership Dues: \$40.00

Junior Dues (21 & under): \$15.00

Membership Reinstatement: \$10.00

**Juniors must be a member to qualify for  
scholarships or to exhibit in the National Junior  
Show.**

**Registration Fees:**

All animals 12 months of age and younger: \$7.00

All animals over 12 months of age: \$14.00

Transfers under 60 days from date of sale: \$6.00

Transfers after 60 days from date of sale: \$12.00

Rush orders and Non-Members: **DOUBLE FEES**

**2024 NATIONAL  
RAMBOUILLET  
SHOW & SALE  
JUNE 17-22, 2024  
TARLETON STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
STEPHENVILLE, TEXAS**



Supreme Champion Ewe Arizona  
State Fair

Res. Supreme Champion Ram State  
Fair of Texas

