

NATIONAL TUNIS SHEEP REGISTRY, INC.

January, 2011

ISSUE 37

President's Message.....

Tunis Breeders have lots to be proud of! We have recently concluded a tremendous show season with very well attended NAILE junior and open shows. Work is underway for our in-house produced Tunis Breeders Directory that will offer all breeders an opportunity to advertise through a lottery system passed by your board to ensure everyone a fair chance at getting a premium ad location. SOPs for virtually all committees of the NTSRI have been adopted to allow everyone to see in writing how your organization operates.

Our numbers of both sheep, and not coincidentally, volunteers willing to help promote the breed continue to surge. Tunis lambs are being born across the country to be enjoyed by new breeders who are attracted to our unique sheep and our great people. And, all of this happened, in a small part due to the actions of the NTSRI, but more directly from the actions of all of the NTSRI's members. GREAT JOB!

Paul Cassell, NTSRI President



Please find enclosed a new "Tunis Registration & Membership Work Order Form"

Throw the old version away and use this new version to pay your 2011 membership fees and to register sheep. The minor changes on the form will allow Associated Registries and the NTSRI to gather the information in a more uniform manner that will make our jobs easier! The new form is also available on the Tunis website and, of course, AR will be sending the new version out as needed.

Bill Kerns was the driving force in making these changes in order to produce a more uniform membership list. THANKS, Bill



NTSRI NEWSLETTER MISSION STATEMENT.....*"The two main purposes of the NTSRI newsletter are to promote the Tunis breed of sheep and all activities connected with this breed and to educate all members or interested people about the breed in a positive, supportive manner." NTSRI Board Approved... May, 2005*

NTSRI Treasurer's Report.....Sally Barney

Oct. 13, 2010 - January 13, 2011

INCOME:

Advertising	\$ 300.00
AR Income Received.....	\$1,156.00
Calendar Ads	\$ 750.00
Calendar Sales	\$ 452.13
Interest - Checking	\$ 2.69
Interest - Savings	\$ 1.71
NAILE Entry Fees.....	\$1,368.00
Star of Louisville...Sheep Sold	\$9,250.00
Star of Louisville Sale-Entry Fees	\$ 160.00
Web Ad.....	\$ 20.00
TOTAL:.....	\$13,460.53

EXPENSES:

Advertising.....	\$ 311.00
Bank Debit	\$.91
Calendar Postage	\$ 34.72
Dues Fees AR	\$ 119.70
Dues Paper Fees AR.....	\$ 11.40
KILE Jr Show	\$ 461.68
NAILE Lead Line.....	\$ 100.00
Newsletter.....	\$ 726.57
Photo Awards.....	\$ 57.88
Reg Fees AR	\$ 339.15
Rush Fees AR	\$ 25.65
Star/Louisville Expenses	\$1,080.00
Star/Louisville Sheep Sold.....	\$7,945.00
Transfer Fees AR	\$ 541.50
TOTAL: \$11,755.16	
(+\$1,705.37)	



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Jane & Ben Angulo, 110 Goodwin Lane, Penngrove, CA 94951	Region 7
Laura Lee Bailey, 3539 A GA Hwy 90S, Cordele, GA 31015	Region 5
David Bradshaw, 2800 CR 131, Edison, OH 43320	Region 4
Emily Burns, 140 Pleasantville Rd., Baltimore, OH 43105	Region 4
Shane & Olga Inkster, Site 2, Box 18, RR 1, Edmonton AB T6H 4N6	Region 7
Mary Just, 1390 Shulerville Rd., Jamestown, SC 29453	Region 5
Steve & Sonja Pyne, 15221 N 61st St., Glendale, AZ 85306	Region 7
Fred Robinette, 695 Whippoorwill Lane, Shipman, VA 22971	Region 5
Heather Sciubba, 21 Tenby Rd., Havertown, PA 19083	Region 3
Travis & Janell Soppe, 13476 210th St., West Union, IA 52175	Region 7
John & Shannon Taylor, 1241 N St Rt 75, Frankfort, IN 46041	Region 6
David & Ann Zimrin, 115 Witherspoon Rd., Baltimore, MD 21212	Region 3



Attention Members from Region 1, 3, and 6!!!!

Are you interested in promoting Tunis Sheep on the local, regional and national level? Are you an active member with a current standing with the NTSRI? Are you a Senior member of at least 18 years old? Were you a member of NTSRI in 2010? If you answered yes to all the questions above, you should consider running for Regional Director!

Nominations will be going out to the membership of **Region 1** (New England and Eastern Canada), **Region 3** (Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland) and **Region 6** (Indiana, Illinois and Michigan) on **Monday, January 24th**. If you or you know of someone interested in serving as a Regional Director for a 3 year term and are able to attend meetings, please send the nomination form back to the Election Officer with a postdate of no later than Saturday, February 12th.

Ballots will go out to each member in Region 1, 3, and 6 if there is more than one qualified candidate on **Monday, March 7th**. Please return the **original** ballot to the election officer with a postdate of no later than **Wednesday, March 23rd**.

Winners will be notified and results will be posted on our website on **Saturday, March 26th**. If you have questions, please contact the Election Officer: Tammie Serafin at (831) 809-3751 or trail2win@msn.com or President, Paul Cassell at (202) 255-1764 or pcasse2001@yahoo.com.

2011 Tunis Calendars Available.....

Now that a new year has started, it's a great time to purchase a 2011 calendar. We have about 80 calendars left and they can be purchased for \$5 apiece. All the money raised from the calendar sales go to the national youth fund. The calendar includes important 2011 Tunis events. The photos in the calendar are from the 2009/2010 Tunis Pride Photo Contest. If you want a calendar, please make a check out to NTSRI and mail it to Dale Huhnke, 1725 W CR 450N, Muncie, IN 47303

Tunis Pride Photo Contest.....

The Tunis Pride Photo Contest is continuing with monthly winners receiving a \$25 gift card. Please email your entries to Debbi Brown or Dale Huhnke. To qualify for each month you need to send the photo by the 5th of the month. If you send an entry, you will need to sign a photo release form. That form is on the NTSRI website www.tunissheep.org. Go out and take those wonderful photos of your Tunis sheep.



NTSRI Board of Directors meeting...October 10, 2010 Teleconference

Meeting was called to order by President Paul Cassell at 1:03 pm. Directors present were Paul Cassell, Tammie Serafin, Dan Kleman and Dale Huhnke. Alternates present were Bob Bartholomew and Bill Kerns.

Minutes: Dan Kleman moved to accept the BOD and Membership meeting minutes from Wooster in May. Dale Huhnke 2nd. Motion passed. Bob Bartholomew moved to accept the BOD teleconference meeting minutes from August. Dale Huhnke 2nd. Motion passed. July teleconference meeting minutes are incomplete and will be reviewed at the Louisville meeting.

Associated Registries: It has been brought to our attention that there are many glitches in the membership lists coming from AR. The format of the names is not uniform and names are sometimes dropped off for no reason. Many of the problems are from old lists and were never corrected when moved to the new office. Tammie felt that Louise Dunham should be in charge of contacting AR with these issues as she is the one who deals with the list on a monthly basis. A committee was formed a couple of years ago to revamp the membership form. Bill Kerns has this copy still and will work with Louise to get it fixed. We will have AR fix these format problems as renewals and new memberships come in. The Board has decided that we will enter into a new contract with AR when these issues are addressed and corrected. Dan Kleman made a motion that Louise Dunham be the contact person for the membership list. She will also be in charge of straightening out the membership list glitches. Bill Kerns 2nd. Motion passed. Dan Kleman moved that any member can request a membership list from Louise Dunham. Bill Kerns 2nd. Motion passed. Bob Bartholomew will bring the contract with him to Louisville so that we may speak with Carrie Claghorn of AR in person.

Standard Operating Procedures (SOP): We have received SOP's from almost all of the committees for review.

- Redistricting - Bob Bartholomew moved to accept the SOP as presented. Dale Huhnke 2nd. Motion passed.
- Show and Sale - Dan reported that 2 changes were made to the SOP. They added the requested change from the BOD. The other was the wording for the 1% NTSRI rule. We cannot demand that from other sales if the National is to be moved in the future. Tammie pointed out a simple type. Tammie Serafin moved to accept the SOP as presented. Dale Huhnke 2nd. Motion passed.
- Election Officer - Bob Bartholomew moved to accept the SOP as presented. Dan Kleman 2nd. Motion passed.
- Newsletter/Website - Bob Bartholomew moved to accept the SOP as presented. Tammie Serafin 2nd. Motion passed.
- Treasurer - The board would like to see the wording change from 14 days to 30 days. Dale Huhnke will contact Sally Barney to have that changed. We will review this SOP again at Louisville.
- History - The resources are all privately owned by AnnaRae Hodgkin therefore we will not require a SOP. This will not be a part of NTSRI guidelines.
- Youth - Paul contacted Kelly Stumpe kind of late. He needed the format sent to him so that he can complete one. This SOP will be reviewed at Louisville.
- Audit - Paul did not contact this committee for an SOP. Tammie Serafin will contact Walter Clark and request a SOP to be presented for review at Louisville.

The entire Board wants to send a sincere THANK YOU to all the committees for their work and for presenting these SOP's for approval.

BOARD MINUTES CONTINUED...

Region 3 Director: Tammie Serafin received 3 names for possible interim directors for Region 3. Eric Irvine, Walter Clark and Maryanne Turcheck. Eric Irvine was chosen to serve as the Interim director and Walter Clark will serve as Interim alternate. Tammie will contact both of them about their new position and the meeting schedule.

NAILE: It was asked if we needed to have a membership meeting at Louisville. Most felt it was not required or needed. Tammie felt it would be good to have some sort of general interaction in case there was some concerns. It was decided that we would have a slot for general membership comments toward the beginning of the meeting after the election of a new President during the BOD meeting. We will have that advertised in the newsletter and the website. The BOD meeting will be held Tuesday, November 16th at 10 am. Dan Kleman will reserve a room for 30 people.

Ketcham's wants to donate gift bags for all the youth competing in the Junior show. They will also donate a traveling trophy for the Champion flock. We would like to thank Ketchum's for including us in their "it's a red thing" campaign and for their generous donation.

The NTSRI entry for NAILE is still plagued with late or non-paying entries. Dan is tired of chasing people down at the show for their entry money. Paul felt that if people didn't pay their NTSRI entry fee, they should not be able to enter the show ring. Dale felt a flat rate fee should be charged per exhibitor. Dale Huhnke moved if payment of the fees to NTSRI for NAILE are not postmarked by October 1st, a \$50 late fee should be required per exhibitor. If payment is not made postmarked by November 1t, the exhibitor will not be allowed to show. Bob Bartholomew 2nd. Motion passed.

A display will be set up with all the other breed setups. Dale Huhnke will bring his banners and a box of brochures. Louise Dunham will bring newsletters.

Tammie Serafin and Louise Dunham asked if we could have an exhibitors' party after the show. They would like to have pizza, sodas and cookies for everyone. Bob Bartholomew moved to give \$100 for food at the exhibitor party after the show at NAILE. Dan Kleman 2nd. Motion passed.

2011 National Show: Deb Hopkins of the Eastern States Expo asked the NTSRI to supply 3 names for possible judges for this show. She wanted to extend that courtesy as this will be a National Show and wants to encourage its success. The Show and Sale Committee will furnish Deb with possible candidates at Louisville. We haven't heard any plans or developments for this show from the hosting group. Dan Kleman will contact Joe Seavey to find out what plans are in place and report back at Louisville. Dan will also discuss getting provisions for a shorter period for being at the show so that we can attract people from other states. Other topics to address are the number limit of animals per entry and the number limit for ram entries.

Budget: Dale Huhnke pointed out that NTSRI's fiscal year runs from January 1st to December 31st of every year. He asked that we present and approve a budget at the fall meeting instead of in the middle of the year at Wooster. This way, committees know what they can spend and make plans accordingly. Dale Huhnke moved that the 2011 budget be presented and approved at Louisville. Bob Bartholomew 2nd. Motion passed. Dale will contact Sally Barney about the changes. Tammie will blast all committees to have their proposed budgets ready and submitted for Louisville.

Bob Bartholomew moved to adjourn the meeting. Dan Kleman 2nd. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Tammie Serafin



NATIONAL SHEEP IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM....

I'm wondering if any producers have thought about joining the National Sheep Improvement Program, NSIP for short. Here at Elsbernd Farm, we are joining. The program will give us another tool to use in breed selection. Many times breed selection is only done by visual traits; with NSIP you get EBVs (Estimated Breeding Values), otherwise known as EPD's in cattle. To get the EBVs, factors such as birth weight, weaning weight, post weaning weight, maternal production, # of lambs born, # lambs weaned, and total lbs. lamb weaned are taken into consideration giving non-visual traits. These non-visual traits tell about the maternal instinct and milk production of each animal. NSIP can do this for each flock and then compare it to other flocks of the same breed, telling an individual how his flock compares to someone else's. Costs to join NSIP are based on your flock size and then \$2 per animal enrolled. Currently, I, Elsbernd Farm, will be the 1st to join NSIP with a Tunis flock.

I would encourage others to join to get comparisons. For more information about NSIP, you can visit NSIP.org and then contact Carl Ginapp @ 642-425-0592 or carl@cmgkatabdins.com or Dr. James Morgon @ 479-444-6075 or jlmm@earthblink.net.

Randy Elsbernd - Mason City, IA 641-423-3109 elsbernd@toast.net

NTSRI Board of Directors meeting...Nov. 16, 2010

Louisville, KY

Meeting was called to order by President Paul Cassell at 10:01 am. Directors present were Tammie Serafin, Paul Cassell, Eric Irvine, Dale Huhnke and Dan Kleman. Alternates present were Bob Bartholomew and Bill Kerns. The Board of Directors felt it best that we continue with Paul Cassell as our President for the rest of the term.

General Membership Comment: No one had any questions or concerns from the floor. Bill Kerns moved to accept the October teleconference minutes. Bob Bartholomew 2nd. Motion passed. The other half of the July meeting minutes are still missing. Will hopefully approve at the next meeting.

Committee Reports:

Show and Sale: The NAILE show has 170 entries for the Open show. The Youth show had extremely good animals exhibited and had lots of new faces. The Sale had many high quality animals consigned. It seemed that the sale aver was down this year. Dan felt it was due to the Open show being so late in the week and not every prospective buyer was there yet. He is going to see if the Sale can be bumped into the Hampshire slot at 2pm for next year. The Hampshire Sale was canceled due to the lack of consignors.

Old Business:

SOP:

YOUTH: Dan Kleman would like to see solid deadline dates for the Ambassador and Scholarship programs. Bob Bartholomew felt that the current applications for the Scholarship are too vague. He would like to see a more involved application in the future. Paul Cassell asked that we put the Scholarship application on the next meeting's agenda to further discuss. Anna Chapdelaine asked if it would be possible if we could look into doing One Scholarship for High School students and one for College students. Jennifer Maag encouraged the board to not allow the same students to win the Scholarships year after year. Paul again asked that we discuss this in more detail at the next meeting. He asked for a vote for the SOP presented by the Youth Committee. Eric Irvine moved to accept the SOP as presented with deadlines included. Bob Bartholomew 2nd. Motion Passed.

Treasurer: The Treasurer SOP was presented with the recommended changes. Dale Huhnke moved to accept the Treasurer SOP as presented. Dan Kleman 2nd. Motion passed.

Audit: Eric Irvine moved to accept the Audit SOP as presented. Dale Huhnke 2nd. Motion passed.

Membership List: Bill Kerns and Louise Dunham sat down individually with Carey Claghorn of Associated Registries. Louise explained the problems she was having with the current format. Carey will change all format issues as 2011 renewals and any new memberships come in. Bill Kerns passed around a proposed new work order form. This will make it clearer how members will have their animals registered in the future. The new form will only allow one owner registration name per membership. Several members from the audience mentioned having trouble getting misspellings corrected with AR. Paul told them to get with their Regional Directors and explain their troubles. He said your Director will try to get it resolved. Anna Rae Hodgkin also mentioned that AR keeps changing how she wants her sheep named on the pedigree. Paul informed her that there is a character limitation on the name. She will need to make her name shorter. Bob Bartholomew moved to have AR produce a monthly membership list for Louise and a quarterly Regional list to be sent to directors and their alternates. Paul Cassell 2nd. Motion passed. Dan Kleman moved to add the new field on the work order form for how the member will have the breeder name on the pedigree. Dale Huhnke 2nd. Motion passed. Tammie Serafin asked if it would be possible to move the Registration portion to its own field on the website. On that page members can fill out their registration application or print it out as it is now. Also included on this page there can be a tutorial on how to fill out the paperwork. She gets several calls from newbies who are confused as to how to fill out the form. The board decided to have Tammie set up the tutorial and work with Debbie Brown to have it implemented into the website.

Associated Registries Contract: Bob felt that AR was actively willing to work out the glitches we had. He encouraged the board to go ahead and enter into a contract. This will be a three year contract that started February 2010. The contract will be identical to the original contract. Bob Bartholomew moved to accept a three year contract with AR. Dale Huhnke 2nd. Motion passed. Anna Rae Hodgins mentioned that she had several old pedigrees. She asked if the Board wanted them to be added. Paul declined as it would be much too expensive to have them inputted by AR. He also felt that as old as the pedigrees were they would not even show up on the extended pedigrees.

Breed Board: Dale Huhnke looked into prices for a breed display board. He will set up several different displays for the BOD to review at Wooster.

Calendar: Dale Huhnke and Linda Cook have the calendars available here at the show for people to purchase. He has sold about 150 so far. Bill Kerns asked if the advertisers get a free calendar. Dale said no, everyone will pay \$5 if they want one. Paul commended Dale and Debbi Brown for their work on the calendar and the Tunis Pride Photo contest.

2011 National Show: Dan Kleman presented the 3 names of possible judges from the Show and Sale Committee that Deb Hopkins requested from NTSRI. Anna Chapdelain and Anna Charest presented plans that were in motion for the show. She asked for funding for the slick shear classes as they are not normally offered at the Big E Show. Bob Bartholomew moved to fund the National Show \$375 for premiums for 4 slick shear classes. Dale Huhnke 2nd. Motion passed. Dan Kleman moved to have Anna Chapdelain and Anna Charest serve as liaison between the NTSRI and the Northeast Club in putting on the 2011 National Show. Bob Bartholomew 2nd. Motion passed.

New Business:

2011 Budget: Kelly Stumpe of the Youth Committee asked that the payment for the All American Jr Show fee come from the general fund. Eric Irvine asked why we do not have proposed income included for the newsletter. It was explained that this was the first year that the newsletter has had a paid advertiser and may not happen again. Tammie Serafin moved to accept the 2011 budget as presented. Eric Irvine 2nd. Motion passed.

Membership Growth: Tammie Serafin was concerned that the number of memberships doubled in Region 7 since the last redistricting only 2 years ago. The board felt that action was not needed at this time. Tammie asked that we keep a close eye on the growth. She felt that we were going to need to revisit redistricting before the 5 year mark as the west keeps growing. Bob Bartholomew was worried about the number of memberships that we dropped this year. It was explained that the lists were being cleaned up and that many of those members have not been paid members for awhile. We currently do not send out renewal cards for expiring memberships. Kathy Niese volunteered to take on this project. She will contact Louise Dunham as she has the list of currently paid members.

Guidebook: Tammie Serafin mentioned that Debbi Brown, Louise Dunham, Kate Lambert and herself would like to see a breed standard guidebook with pictures. This breed attracts so many new shepherds who do not see Tunis on an every day basis. The board felt that we would cause much strife amongst breeders if you put pictures of what is the "correct" Tunis. They did feel that it would be good to add pictures of faults and disqualification's to the National website under the breed standard. Tammie will work with her group to only include pictures of faults and disqualification's after board approval.

Membership Directory: Dale Huhnke presented a membership handbook with all the current members by regions. He would like to sell ads to pay for the project completely. He proposed a bi-yearly printing to be passed out to all members and anyone interested. The board felt that this needed to be a yearly project as the membership list changes. Paul Cassell asked Dale to look into glossy color. Dale will offer a discounted price to all early payers. Discussion on how to fairly sell ads for the premium spots. It was decided that if there were several interested in any one spot, a lottery will chose the advertiser for each spot. The number of handbooks printed will be determined by the money raised for the project. Bob Bartholomew moved to allow Dale to move forward with this project and to have a lottery if needed for premium spots. Dan Kleman 2nd. Motion passed.

2011 National Sale Contract: Dale passed around the proposed contract with Banner Sale Management for the 2011 National Sale at the Great Lakes in Wooster, Ohio. Bob Bartholomew moved to accept the contract and giving Paul Cassell authority to sign contract. Eric Irvine 2nd. Motion passed.

2011 Regional Director Election: We have elections for new directors for Region 1, 3, and 6. Dan Kleman moved to have Tammie Serafin conduct the election as the 2011 Election Officer. Eric Irvine 2nd. Motion passed.

Christened Registration Names: Tammie Serafin asked if we could look into starting christened names for our sheep. Most breeds do this already for a fee. It is an excellent marketing tool for breeders when selling sheep. It was proposed that we charge \$50 for rams and \$25 for ewes on top of the \$5 registration cost. Owners of older sheep can also get in for the same price. Some of the members of the audience felt that this was an outlandish fee and would be discouraging to some. Paul asked that directors go back to their regions for input. This will be discussed at the general meeting in May at the National Sale in Wooster.

General Announcements: There will be a work break get together at Dale Huhnke and Linda Cook's pens for anyone interested. There will also be a Tunis get together after the Open Show. NTSRI will provide the pizza.

Anna Charest wanted everyone to know she was selling Tunis bags with one of her original drawings. The bags are \$15 and you can purchase them directly from her.

Dale Huhnke is offering a t shirt logo contest. The winners will be decided at Wooster. Anyone interested should submit their logos to Dale.

The Pop-A-Top program is still going. Please submit all can tops to Dale. The winner of the most donated by Wooster will win \$50.

Eric Irvine moved to adjourn the meeting. Tammie Serafin 2nd. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:59pm. Respectfully Submitted, Tammie Serafin, NTSRI Secretary

2011 Tunis Directory....

At the November, 2010 NTSRI Board of Directors meeting, it was passed by the Board to have a 2011 Tunis Directory to promote the Tunis breed. The Directory will include the NTSRI constitution, the breed standard, member address and phone numbers broken down by regions, and advertising from Tunis breeders. Tunis breeders have an opportunity to advertise in the Directory. The 36-page 2011 Tunis Directory will be 4 1/2" x 11" in size. Ad sizes available will be a Page, 1/2 Page, and Business Card size. We will have available 4/Color pages in half of the Directory if you want your ad in 4/Color (this will be first come first serve). **Closing for advertising space will be February 5, 2011.**

Lottery for Cover Positions: The 2011 Tunis Directory will have available ads on the **inside back cover** (full page 4/Color), **back cover** (1/2 page 4/Color) and **center spread** (B & W plus 1 color). To make it fair for all advertisers who want a cover position, we will have a lottery drawing. If you would like any of these positions, please contact Dale Huhnke at 630-881-8108 or email at dalehuhnke@yahoo.com (I prefer email because that leaves a paper trail) by **February 5, 2011**. We will have a drawing for those positions by February 10, 2011 and contacting those advertisers that day.

Rates for the directory:

Sizes Available	2011 Rates
Inside Front Cover Page 4/C	\$ 450.00
Inside Back Cover Page 4/C	\$ 450.00
Back Cover 1/2 Page 4/c	\$ 300.00
Center Spread (Pg 16 & 17) Black + 1/C	\$ 600.00
Page B & W + 1/C	\$ 300.00
1/2 Page B & W + 1/C Rate	\$ 150.00
1/4 Page (Business Card) B & W + 1/C Rate	\$ 75.00
4/C Charge	\$ 150.00

Ad Sizes	Approximate width x height
Page	4 1/4" x 10 3/4"
1/2 Page	4 1/4" x 5 1/4"
1/4 Page (Business Card)	4" x 3"

Advertising invoices and a tear sheet of your ad will be **emailed** out on **February 10, 2011** to save postage costs. As a special incentive for advertising in the Directory, we will give you a 2% discount if you mail in your check by **March 10, 2011**. This will give you 30 days to pay for your ad. After March 10, you will pay the regular costs for your ad. **You will have until April 1, 2011 to pay for your advertising. If it is not paid by April 1, we will pull your ad from the Directory.**



2011 TUNIS YEARLING EWE JACKPOT SHOW!

The First Annual Tunis Yearling Ewe Jackpot Show continues to be off to a great start. The second \$5.00 entry fee was due last November and at the present time, there are fourteen farms participating with 38 ewe lambs (now close to yearlings) entered. The next entry fee of \$10.00/head is due April 1 and the final entry fee of \$30.00/head will be due July 1. The Jackpot continues to grow! Final details for the 2011 show at the North American International Livestock Exhibition (NAILE) will be in the next newsletter. We hope all ewe lambs entered continue to mature into the yearling ewe that will win the First Annual Jackpot Show! Good luck and happy lambing.

If you did not get involved this year, but would like to participate next year; please read the Tunis Yearling Ewe Jackpot Show information on the NTSRI website; call or write and I will be happy to send you the information. This Jackpot Show is open to both junior and senior NTSRI members. Entries for the **2012 Jackpot** will be due around July, 2011. Details in the next newsletter.

The goals of the show are to provide a showcase event for the Tunis Breed, provide monetary incentive for youth to choose the Tunis breed for 4-H and FFA, promote increased interest in Tunis sheep and create a high value contest for Tunis Breeders of all ages..

Sincerely,
 Sharon Kerns, Harvard, MA
 978.456.1240 sharonkerns@charter.net



Eric Irvine, Recently Appointed Region 3 Director writes....

Greetings from Region 3. Hope everyone has had a great holiday season. I would like to start by congratulating all of our Region 3 exhibitors who were at Louisville including Mindy Irvine with the Champion Ewe, the Barkleys, and the Loughman families with a great set of sheep to represent our region. I would also like to take this opportunity to encourage all Tunis breeders young and well, not so young to participate at Louisville. It's a great experience!

Then there are a few events coming up in our region. The 1st is the PA State Farm Show Jan. 8-15th, then the big one is THE ALL AMERICAN JUNIOR SHOW. It will be held in Harrington, Delaware this year and it is also the National Junior Tunis Show. This is an outstanding show! It has been one of my favorites these last few years. There are many activities and lots of fun things to do. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Darrin Simpson.

Well, it is lambing season and everyone is busy, so good luck in the lambing barn and I can't wait to see all of you during the spring sale season.

Dan Kleman, Region 4 Director writes...

The holidays are over and the kids are preparing to head back to school. We took some time during the holidays to make a trip to the Wooster area in search of a place to hold our banquet during the National Sale. Mike and Kathy Niese joined us and we enjoyed exploring the area. Cynthia and Kathy found a possible option for the get together on Saturday night. Watch for details in the next newsletter.

We attended the auction at Mt. Hope. (A large livestock auction located in a largely Amish community.) We were surprised to see several friends from our county attending the auction also. They were looking for Dairy Feeders for our county fair. June will be here before you know it. The auction reminded me of the many calls I've received telling about the great sheep prices people are getting at the stock yards. Several breeders told me they were taking a hard look at their keeper ewes and sending the other ones to auction to take advantage of the current market. Hopefully these folks are sending cull ewes and not replacement ewes that should be going to the sales this spring and fall. But this is still a good opportunity to send off those rams that don't bring the better prices at the sales.

This is the time of the year that I and the Show and Sale committee look at how to best set up our premium lists for the upcoming year. I was tempted to take away some of the placings in the January classes at Louisville for 2011 because of the low numbers of lambs entered in those classes this year. I changed my mind after talking to several people who say they will have a larger than usual number of January births this year. I also have noticed more fall lambs than in years past. What a change from all the very late lambs in 2010. Let me know what month most of your lambs are born whether you show or not. This helps us adjust our premiums for the shows.

On other topic I heard about this fall were people being contacted about large amounts of Tunis wool from alpaca breeders. The alpaca people want to mix it in with their fleece. Wool is not my expertise but more and more people are finding markets for Tunis wool. Maybe we could all use a lesson on fleece quality. I welcome any comments so we can educate all members.

My new e-mail is dkleman57@gmail.com. Please contact me at anytime.



NY BRED EWE SALE..... Oct. 16, 2010!

CONSIGNOR	Rhinebeck, NY	PRICE	Judy Moore, Judge	BUYER
<u>YEARLING EWES:</u>				
The 1.43 Acre Farm, NY		\$350		Emily Colli, Old Lyme, CT
Amour Acres, NJ		\$250		Mindy Stoops-Irvine, PA
Amour Acres, NJ		\$250		Mindy Stoops-Irvine, PA
Half Pint Farm, MA		\$300		Emily Colli, Old Lyme, CT
Amour Acres, NJ		\$250		TJ Baright, Poughkeepsie, NY
	5 Ewes averaged	\$280		
<u>BROOD EWES</u>				
Campbells Tunis, NY		\$275		Anna Charest, MA
<u>SPRING EWE LAMBS</u>				
Jasmine DiSalvo, NY - CHAMPION		\$300		Emily Colli, Old Lyme, CT
Half Pint Farm, MA - RES CHAMPION		\$400		Emily Colli, Old Lyme, CT
Campbells Tunis, NY		\$200		Lakeside Farms Associates, Jericho, NY
	9 Head averaged	\$286.11		



Let's correct Louise's mistake.....

The last newsletter showed we had 161 entries at the National Show @ the Indiana State Fair. It should be corrected in which we had **176 entries** that showed up. We had 201 entries made to the National Show.

An Article from Region 5 Member...Barbara Cassell

Where Will the Feed Come From?

Here in Virginia, last winter was literally one for the record books. Starting in early December we endured many days in a row of below average temperatures and above average snowfalls. In the spring came the mud and then a dry summer. This winter has begun with a continuation of cold temperatures and weekly snowfalls. Now surprisingly, this fall forage was in short supply well before the usual time and now hay for the winter has to be judiciously allocated to ensure there is enough for an extended feeding system.

So what can be done to manage a limited feed supply and still maintain a healthy profitable flock? Fortunately there are some well proven strategies for management of limited food supplies. Here is a half dozen to consider as you plan to best use limited feed resources.

1. Wean lambs as soon as possible. Most early fall born lambs should be weaned by now and some should have been marketed by now. Lamb prices have been high since December, so take advantage of good prices and reduce your need for feed at the same time. Those ewes that aren't bred or milking can be maintained on a minimum of good quality feed.

2. Cull aggressively. That non-lambing or half bagged or poor conditioned ewe can go on the truck now. She doesn't have to be overwintered and the feed she would have eaten can be more profitably used to fatten a lamb.

3. Make a good inventory of the hay that's available. Be careful to include not only the number of bales, but also quality of those bales. Good quality hay produced this year will feed more sheep than carried over bales from last year.

4. If you think there's not enough hay to feed the flock to spring grass, shop now for hay. Shop local if possible to avoid high freight charges. Look to the Internet for your state's government address and other marketing sites to find available hay at the best prices. Don't forget to search the bulletin boards at the local feed stores and listen to the local "gossip" too. Sometimes "old school" is best.

5. Consider alternatives to hay. Perhaps a hay field that was cut in early summer can be grazed now. There may not be much, but even a few days of forage can be valuable when hay supplies are limited. See if there's a supply of "aftermaths" that can be utilized, such as vegetable crop culls, if you are near a possible supply. Don't rule out increasing grain rations; it may appear too costly at first but comparing nutrition values may put the prices very close.

6. As all veteran shepherds know and newer shepherds soon learn, there is no one best way for all flocks to be profitably managed. Good information can be found from numerous sources, from sites on the Internet to "around the stove" at local gatherings. Do your homework and make use of those strategies that seem to best fit your flock.

And as I saw on a local school sign: "To all those out there who have been praying for snow: STOP!!"

"It's a Red Thing" t-shirt and logo design contest...

Here's an opportunity for all Tunis breeders to get involved in the organization. We are having a t-shirt and logo design contest. We are looking for designs that will be based on the theme "It's a Red Thing" for t-shirts or hats. The winner of the design contest will get a \$50 Visa Gift card. There will also be 2nd & 3rd place prizes as well. Please bring your designs to the National Tunis Sale Memorial Day weekend in Wooster, Ohio. We will display the designs for everyone to view and announce the winner on Sunday before the sale. For more information, please contact Dale Huhnke at 630-881-8108 or email at dalehuhnke@yahoo.com.

MTA works to have Tunis Added to Iowa State Fair!

The Missouri Tunis Association has been in contact with the Iowa State Fair, hosted in Des Moines, Iowa, about the possible addition of Tunis to the event's sheep show. MTA secretary, Kate Lambert, has begun the application process and promotion of the event. At this point, it looks very promising that Tunis will be welcomed in Des Moines in 2012.

This is the same year the National Tunis Show will be hosted in Sedalia, MO by the Missouri Tunis Association. Sheep can come and show early in the week in Sedalia, and make the short drive north to Iowa to show later in the week in Iowa. In order to ensure the breed is accepted, a certain number of sheep and breeders must commit to exhibiting their Tunis. Those numbers have comfortably been met, but all the support we can get is necessary. If you are interested in showing at the Iowa State Fair, please contact the Missouri Tunis Association at missouritunis@hotmail.com.

Tammie Serafin, Region 7 Director writes...

Greetings from the Pacific Northwest!!

Lambing is in full swing here at our farm. This is my favorite time as a shepherd! This is the time when so much excitement and promise for the future of our breed happens. And here is what is happening in our part of the world....

The 2011 North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) in Louisville, Kentucky marked another successful year for Region 7 members! In the Youth show we had three members make the trip and come home with great success! All of our youth were mostly in the top five of their classes but here are the listings of the top winners. **Tom and Rachel Schambow** of Wisconsin came home with 1st & 2nd January ewe lamb, 1st slick shear yearling ewe and Reserve Champion with their January ewe lamb. **Jacob Long** of Missouri had 1st slick shear spring ram lamb. **Emily, Elizabeth and Ben Stumpe** of Missouri had 2nd February ewe lamb and 2nd March ewe lamb. Way to go you guys!!

In the Open show we also had a great showing of Region 7 members! Most of these members were in the top five of their classes but here are the listings of the top winners. **Uptown Farms (Matt and Kate Lambert)** of Missouri had a great show. They had 1st and Champion yearling ram with "Red Label" Uptown 906. They had 2nd and Reserve Champion yearling ram with "Big RRig" Triple T 0901. They also had 2nd March ram, 2nd and Reserve Champion late yearling ewe, 2nd early slick shear yearling ewe, 2nd pair of ewe lambs, 2nd pair of yearling ewes, 2nd get of sire, 1st flock and Premier Exhibitor. **Emily, Elizabeth and Ben Stumpe** of Missouri had 2nd February ram lamb, **Tom and Rachel Schambow** of Wisconsin had 1st January ewe lamb. **Triple T Ranch (Tim, Tammie and Trinity Serafin)** of Oregon had 2nd early yearling ewe and 2nd late slick shear yearling ewe. Congratulations to everyone!!!

The Midwest Junior Preview Show will hold its 2nd annual Tunis Show on June 11, 2011. This show will once again be held at the Litton Agri-Science Learning Center in Chillicothe, Missouri. For those interested, there will be a fitting clinic on the 10th. For sponsoring opportunities or more information please contact Kate Lambert at missouritunis@hotmail.com.

The 2011 Mid West Stud Ram Sale will hold its 2nd annual Tunis Sale. Tunis will show on Monday, June 20th and will sell Wednesday, June 22nd. The judge will be Van Cruit of Illinois. Entries are due April 15th. This is a high quality sale!!! The 2010 NAILE Champion ewe was bought at last years sale as well as many class winners. You can also watch and bid online if you are unable to attend in person. The Missouri Tunis Association put on a great time last year, so don't miss out! Watch for more information on the stud ram website, the MTA website, the NTSRI newsletter or contact Kate Lambert.

On the National Front.....The NTSRI is looking into doing "christened names" when we register our sheep. Many other breeds already offer this service for a fee to their members. This is an excellent marketing opportunity for breeders! Names of some of the most famous rams and ewes can now be seen on your pedigrees. Instead of seeing "JBlow1111" on a pedigree you may see "Mighty Awesome" JBlow111. Then many people will recognize Mighty Awesome better than a breeder number. Breeders with older sheep can also get into this program. The proposed one time price would be \$50 for rams and \$25 for ewes on top of the \$5 registration fee. We are looking for member input on the price and whether we should go through with this concept or not. We will discuss this at the General Membership meeting in Wooster, Ohio.

A membership handbook will be coming out this year with all the current members by Region. At this time, we are offering advertising opportunities. Let everyone know that you have Tunis! This will be going to all members as well as anyone interested in Tunis Sheep. For more information, check out the website or contact Dale Huhnke.

The Tunis Pride Photo contest is still going strong! We know how great our sheep look in pictures, so lets share them with everyone. The monthly winners will be used in our Tunis calendar every year. Check out this month's entries and past winners on our website.

Speaking of a new year...What would you like to see in your association? What can I help with in your neck of the woods? What is happening in your barn? Drop me a line! I would love to hear from you!!

Tammie Serafin (831) 809-3751 or trail2win@msn.com.



IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS..... Contact these people!

MEMBERSHIP & REGISTRATIONS - NTSRI, 15603 173RD AVE., MILO, IA 50166 641-942-6402

FINANCIAL CONCERNS - Sally Barney, Treasurer, 52 Cartland Rd., Lee, NH 03824 603-659-5857

WEBSITE INFO - Debbi Brown texastunis@yahoo.com 254-863-0606

Ads on the website - \$10 Ads in the Newsletter - \$15 Same ad in both places - \$20

NEWSLETTER - COMPLIMENTARY PROMOTIONAL PACKETS & BROCHURES! -

Louise Dunham, 8566 Co Rd 28, Zanesfield, OH 43360 937-465-8299 20 Brochures - \$5

Next Newsletter Deadline - April 13th!!!!

OPEN CLASS TUNIS SHOW @ NAILE 11/18/2010

Dan Spilde, Judge

157 HEAD SHOWN by 25 Exhibitors!!!

9 Yearling Rams

Uptown Farms, MO
Uptown Farms, MO
T & R Schambow, WI
WindSong Farms, MA
Hart Livestock, IL
Westwind Farm, KY
Hart Livestock, IL
Nicholas Loughman, PA
Triple M Ranch, IN

2 Fall Ram Lambs

J & L Dunham, OH
Westwind Farm, KY

3 Jan. Ram Lambs

Mom's Tunis, VA
MJM Farms, OH
Westwind Farm, KY

15 Feb. Ram Lambs

Bruns Tunis, OH
E, E, & B Stumpe, MO
Triple M Ranch, IN
T & R Schambow, WI
Mom's Tunis, VA
Uptown Farms, MO
Mindy Stoops-Irvine, PA
Anna Charest, MA
J & L Dunham, OH
Triangle Farms Tunis, IN

13 March Ram Lambs

Mom's Tunis, VA
Uptown Farms, MO
Bruns Tunis, OH
Big Time Tunis, OH
J & L Dunham, OH
Triple T Ranch, OR
Brianna Taylor, MA
Clint Garey, IL
David Brown Farm, MA
Clint Garey, IL

3 Slick Shorn RL

Creekside Tunis, OH
Uptown Farms, MO
Creekside Tunis, OH

8 Pairs Ram Lambs

Bruns Tunis, OH
Uptown Farms, MO
Mom's Tunis, VA
J & L Dunham, OH
Big Time Tunis, OH
Clint Garey, IL
Creekside Tunis, OH
Westwind Farm, KY

23 Early Yr Ewes

Olivia Brown, OH
Triple T Ranch, OR
Mindy Stoops-Irvine, PA
Mom's Tunis, MO
Uptown Farms, MO
J & L Dunham, OH
Bruns Tunis, OH
Big Time Tunis, OH
Kayla Barkley, PA
T & R Schambow, WI

13 Late Yearling Ewes

Mindy Stoops-Irvine, PA
Uptown Farms, MO
Mom's Tunis, VA
T & R Schambow, WI
Bruns Tunis, OH
Clint Garey, IL
Triple T Ranch, OR
E, E, & B Stumpe, MO
Big Time Tunis, OH
Triangle Farms Tunis, IN

5 Early Slick Shorn YE

J & L Dunham, OH
Uptown Farms, MO
Mom's Tunis, VA
T & R Schambow, WI
J & L Dunham, OH

6 Late Slick Shorn YE

Clint Garey, IL
Triple T Ranch, OR
T & R Schambow, WI
Uptown Farms, MO
Mindy Stoops-Irvine, MO
Triangle Farms Tunis, IN

13 Pairs YE

Mindy Stoops-Irvine, PA
Uptown Farms, MO
Bruns Tunis, OH
Mom's Tunis, VA
Triple T Ranch, OR
Clint Garey, IL
J & L Dunham, OH
Big Time Tunis, OH
Anna Charest, MA
Triangle Farms Tunis, IN

6 Fall Ewe Lambs

Kyle MacCauley, PA
Bruns Tunis, OH
Mom's Tunis, VA
Westwind Farm, KY
Nicholas Loughman, PA
Westwind Farm, KY

13 Jan. Ewe Lambs

T & R Schambow, WI
Kayla Barkley, PA
Uptown Farms, MO
Triple M Ranch, IN
David Brown Farm, MA
T & R Schambow, WI
Mom's Tunis, VA
Brianna Taylor, MA
MJM Farm, OH
Kayla Barkley, PA

17 Feb. Ewe Lambs

Mom's Tunis, VA
Olivia Brown, OH
E, E, & B Stumpe, MO
Olivia Brown, OH
Uptown Farms, MO
Triple T Ranch, OR
T & R Schambow, WI
T & R Schambow, WI
Bruns Tunis, OH
Triple T Ranch, OR

17 March E Lambs

Big Time Tunis, OH
Anna Charest, MA
Uptown Farms, MO
J & L Dunham, OH
E, E, & B Stumpe, MO
J & L Dunham, OH
Bruns Tunis, OH
Clint Garey, IL
Mindy Stoops-Irvine, PA
Uptown Farms, MO

6 Early Slick Shorn EL

Kayla Barkley, PA
Kayla Barkley, PA
T & R Schambow, WI
Triangle Farms Tunis, IN
Triangle Farms Tunis, IN
Westwind Farm, KY

6 Late Slick Shorn EL

J & L Dunham, OH
T & R Schambow, WI
Mindy Stoops-Irvine, PA
Mom's Tunis, VA
Creekside Tunis, OH
Creekside Tunis, OH

11 Pairs Ewe Lambs

Mom's Tunis, VA
Uptown Farms, MO
Olivia Brown, OH
Bruns Tunis, OH
J & L Dunham, OH
T & R Schambow, WI
Kayla Barkley, PA
Anna Charest, MA
MJM Farm, OH
Triangle Farms Tunis, IN

7 Get of Sire

Bruns Tunis, OH
Uptown Farms, MO
Mom's Tunis, VA
E, E, & B Stumpe, MO
Big Time Tunis, OH
Triangle Farms Tunis, IN
Westwind Farm, KY

11 Flocks

Uptown Farms, MO
Bruns Tunis, OH
E, E, & B Stumpe, MO
Mom's Tunis, VA
Triple T Ranch, OR
T & R Schambow, WI
Kayla Barkley, PA
J & L Dunham, OH
Triangle Farms Tunis, IN
Anna Charest, MA

**CHAMPION RAM - UPTOWN FARMS
RES. CH RAM - UPTOWN FARMS**

**YR RAM
YR RAM**

**CHAMPION EWE - MINDY STOOPS-IRVINE
RES. CH EWE - UPTOWN FARMS**

**LATE YR EWE
LATE YR EWE**

PREMIER EXHIBITOR - UPTOWN FARMS

NAILE OPEN CLASS TUNIS EXHIBITORS: Kayla Barkley - PA; Big Time Tunis (Mike & Kathy Niese) - OH; David Brown Farm (John & Maryanne McDonough) - MA; Olivia Brown - OH; Bruns Tunis - OH; Anna Charest - MA; Creekside Tunis (David & Rachel Joseph) - OH; Jim & Louise Dunham (Darling Tunis) - OH; Clint Garey - IL; Hart Livestock - IL; Nicholas Loughman - PA; Kyle MacCauley - PA; MJM Farm (Matt & Jennifer Maag) - OH; Mom's Tunis (Barbara Cassell) - VA; Murry Farms - MO; Tom & Rachel Schambow - WI; Mindy Stoops-Irvine - PA; Emily, Elizabeth & Ben Stumpe - MO; Brianna Taylor - MA; Triangle Farms Tunis (Linda Cook & Dale Huhnke) - IN; Triple M Ranch (Jeff, Julie & Morgan Munsey)- IN; Triple T Ranch (Tim, Tammie & Trinity Serafin) - OR; Uptown Farms (Matt & Kate Lambert) - MO; Westwind Farm (Georgina Anderson & Family)- KY; and WindSong Farms (Bill & Sharon Kerns) - MA.

Ketcham's Sheep Equipment Sponsors NAILE Traveling Trophy

Ketcham's Sheep Equipment, owned and run by the Kim Ketcham Family in Edwardsville, IL, has sponsored the first ever traveling trophy for the North American International Tunis Show. The trophy will hold an 18 year history of the Champion Flock at the NAILE. This year, Uptown Farms from Missouri was honored to take home the trophy.

The trophy is a bright red metal; with five beautifully hand formed steel Tunis topping it. The base is a hardwood base, with 18 flock plaques and a namesake plaque, all engraved in silver.

Ketcham's Sheep Equipment started in 1977, when founder Kim Ketcham made it a goal to manufacture the most reliable sheep equipment available on the market. Kim started raising sheep at the age of 10, and spent years fitting and showing Suffolks all across the country.

Over 33 years later, Ketcham's supplies hundreds of flocks from coast to coast with their visible equipment, known as the "Red Stuff". All of the equipment is manufactured in Edwardsville, IL with US steel. Ketcham's make it a point to support US manufacturing. After a piece of equipment is first designed, it is then put through several stages of testing with Ketcham's own sheep flock, as well as other flocks in the country. Equipment is always undergoing alterations to improve the products and most importantly keep it safe for the sheep and the shepherds.

Kim's wife, Joan, is also well known for her successful Great Pyrenees breeding program. Ketcham's dogs are seen all over the country protecting flocks from predators. Puppies are available at numerous times throughout the year.

This trophy is not the first Ketcham's have done to support the growing Tunis movement. Ketcham's also took a huge role in the Tunis Show at the Midwest Junior Preview Show, providing T-shirts to all Tunis Exhibitors. They also provided cups for all Tunis junior exhibitors at this year's NAILE.

For more information on Ketcham's Equipment, please feel free to visit their website at www.ketchamssheepequipment.com or call at 618-656-5388 to request a catalog or visit with them about their equipment. Deliveries can almost always be arranged, and Ketcham's are present at most major events, including the Midwest Stud Ram Sale and NAILE.

A BIG Thank You goes to Ketcham's Equipment!

(I have put a photo of the trophy on the website....it is a gorgeous trophy! Louise)

JR TUNIS SHOW @ NAILE

11/14/2010

Larry Shroyer, Judge

73 HEAD SHOWN by 20 Exhibitors!!!

<u>1 Sr Ram Lambs</u> Steve Hasselman, IL	<u>9 Early Spring RL</u> Morgan Munsey, IN Olivia Brown, OH Kayla Barkley, PA Kaleb Schakel, IN T & R Schambow, WI	<u>5 Late Spring RL</u> Brianna Taylor, MA Kayla Barkley, PA Olivia Brown, OH Morgan Munsey, IN Drew Ridgeway, MD	<u>2 Slick Shorn RL</u> Jacob Long, MO Lindsey Casey, GA
<u>11 Early Yr Ewes</u> Olivia Brown, OH Anna Charest, MA Hunter Mote, IN Anna Charest, MA Kayla Barkley, PA	<u>4 Late Yr Ewes</u> E, E, & B Stumpe, MO Nicholas Loughman, PA T & R Schambow, WI Elliza Casey, GA	<u>1 Slick Shorn Yr Ewe</u> T & R Schambow, WI	<u>1 Sr Ewe Lamb</u> Nicholas Loughman, PA
<u>8 Jan. Ewe Lambs</u> T & R Schambow, WI T & R Schambow, WI Carlton Summe, IN Kayla Barkley, PA Brianna Taylor, MA	<u>17 Feb. Ewe Lambs</u> Olivia Brown, OH E, E, & B Stumpe, MO T & R Schambow, WI Anna Charest, MA T & R Schambow, WI	<u>8 March Ewe Lambs</u> Anna Charest, MA E, E, & B Stumpe, MO T & R Schambow, WI Steve Hasselman, IL Emily Burns, OH	<u>6 Slick Shorn EL</u> Kayla Barkley, PA Kayla Barkley, PA T & R Schambow, WI Carlton Summe, IN Jarrett Rhine, IN

6 Young Flocks

Olivia Brown, OH
Morgan Munsey, IN
E, E, & B Stumpe, MO
Anna Charest, MA
Kayla Barkley, PA

CHAMPION RAM - Morgan Munsey

RES. CHAMPION - Olivia Brown

CHAMPION EWE - Olivia Brown

RES. CHAMPION - Tom & Rachel Schambow

EXHIBITORS: Kayla Barkley - PA, Olivia Brown - OH, Emily Burns - OH, Elliza Casey - GA, Lindsey Casey - GA, Anna Charest - MA, Steve Hasselman - IL, Jacob Long - MA, Nicholas Loughman - PA, Hunter Mote - IN, Morgan Munsey - IN, Jarrett Rhine - IN, Drew Ridgeway - MD, Kaleb Schakel - IN, Tom & Rachel Schambow - WI, Emily, Elizabeth & Ben Stumpe - MO, Amanda Summe - IN, Carlton Summe - IN, Alex Taylor - IN, and Brianna Taylor - MA.

2011 NTSRI CALENDAR:

Jan. 1st	ALL NTSRI Memberships due!
March 15th	National Tunis Sale Entry Deadline Send to <u>The Banner Sales</u>
April 5th	Entry Deadline for the Midwest Stud Ram Sale
May 27-29th	National Tunis Show & Sale @ Wooster, OH WOOL SHOW, TOO!
June 11th	Midwest Jr. Preview Show @ Chillicothe, MO
June 20th	Entry Deadline for Ohio State Fair
June 20-24th	Midwest Stud Ram Sale @ Sedalia, MO
July 1st	Entry Deadline for Indiana State Fair & Missouri State Fair
July 8-9th	New England Youth Show & Sale @ W. Springfield, MA
Aug. 4th	Ohio State Fair Open Class Tunis Show @ Columbus, OH
Aug. 14-20th	Indiana State Fair & Missouri State Fair
Aug. 15th	Entry Deadline for <u>National Tunis Show</u> @ The Big E in W. Springfield, MA
Aug. 19th	NY Bred Ewe Sale Entry Deadline
Sept. 2-5th	Woodstock Fair @ Woodstock, CT www.woodstockfair.com
Sept. 25th	<u>National Tunis Show @ The Big E in W. Springfield, MA</u>
Oct. 1st	Entry Deadline for NAILE @ Louisville, KY
Oct. 1st	*** Deadline for NTSRI Entry Fees for NAILE
Oct. 1st	Entry Deadline for Star of Louisville Sale
Oct. 14-16th	New York Bred Ewe Sale @ Rhinebeck, NY
Nov. 1st	LAST DAY TO PAY NTSRI LATE FEE OF \$50 TO SHOW AT NAILE
Nov. 12th	Star of Louisville Sale @ NAILE @ Louisville, KY
Nov. 13th	Tunis Jr. Show @ NAILE @ Louisville, KY
Nov. 14-18th	Open Class Tunis Show @ NAILE @ Louisville, KY

***Please send entry dates, sale dates & show dates to include in this calendar! Let's spread the word about the Tunis activities!



ABOUT THE NATIONAL SALE.....May 27-29th @ Wooster

Sale Entry Info: The Banner Sales Management will send all NTSRI members entry information in February. Sale Entry Deadline is March 15th for the catalog and may now be made on-line! All members will receive the Sale catalog early in May.

SALE & SHOW TENTATIVE TIMELINE: Wooster, OH

Friday, May 28th	Sheep Move in & Free Friday Night Dinner @ the Fairgrounds
Saturday, May 29th	NTSRI National Wool Show NTSRI National Show Saturday Night Tunis Dinner & Futurity Awards & Auction
Sunday, May 30th	Complimentary donuts & coffee General Membership Meeting Used Sheep Equipment Auction NTSRI National Sale

Motels & Camping:

AmeriHost Inn East now known as the Rodeway Inn at 330-262-5008 will serve as our headquarters and has a special rate for our group when you ask for the National Tunis sheep rate. Also....

Wooster Best Western	330-264-7750	AmeriHost North	330-345-1500
EconoLodge	330-264-8883	Hampton Inn	330-345-4424
Super 8 Motel	800-800-8000	The Wooster Inn	330-263-2661

Camping.....is available at the Fairgrounds...contact Linda Reichert at 330-264-9665.

Ohio Tunis Sheep Association:

OTSA is currently finalizing details about the weekend...watch for details in the next newsletter!

PAPER OR EMAIL? At the NTSRI Board Meeting in Louisville in 2008, I was instructed by the Board to send the newsletter by email to any member who has listed their email address with our association...so if you are receiving this by email...there will be no paper newsletter this time. If you want a paper copy of the newsletter instead, please notify the editor and the change will be quickly made! Let me know - **Paper or email!** Louise Dunham, Editor



ABOUT THE NATIONAL SHOW -Sept. 25th @ Springfield, MA

Hello from New England! We are being walloped with a Northeast snowstorm. Here in Brimfield, we already have a foot and a half of snow, and it is still coming down really heavy and with high winds. According to the weather man, we still have another eight hours before this storm is over. This storm seems to have touched everyone. Forty nine states had had snow this year.

The plans for the National Tunis show is well on its way. Arrival date is September 22nd, and the release date is September 28th. The show date is September 25th at 2:30. There will be classes for Yearling Rams, Senior, January, February, March and Slick Shorn ram lambs. Early, Late and Slick Shorn Yearling ewes, Senior, January, February, March and Slick Shorn ewe lambs. Pair classes for ram lambs, yearling ewes and ewe lambs. Other group classes are Exhibitors and Breeders Flock and Get of Sire. We also have Senior and Junior Champion and Reserve Champions and, of course, Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion.

Because this is a National Show, the premiums are deeper and every animal showed will receive some premium. Unique to the Big E - any Junior Exhibitor showing in a class will receive extra premium (1st and 2nd Junior). Class entry fee is \$4.00 per head and is due by August 15th. Late entry fees double and are due by August 30th. The Big E also has a wool show and Lead Line classes. They also have Display awards. This is co-sponsored with *The Banner Sheep Magazine*. More information can be found on their web site: www.TheBigE.com/agriculture or aginfo@TheBigE.com.

I have reserved a block of rooms at two motels. They are near the Big E and both have near by restaurants and gas stations. CandleWood Suites (413-739-1122) have a large bed with a full kitchen and Motel 6's phone number is 413-592-5141. There are other motels in the area if you have other preferences. Those of you that have campers, they are parked near the sheep barn and they are \$10.00 a night for exhibitors. The fair gives free parking and exhibitor passes. There is an exhibitors' parking lot near the barn and off-site parking for livestock trailers.

For those of you who are thinking of trailing with another farm, The Big E has other National Shows the same weekend - the Romney and Border Leicester Show and Regional Shows for the Lincolns and Cotswolds.

If anyone is interested in sponsoring a class - the cost is \$45 for the Grand Champion and Reserve Champion; Group classes are \$40.00 (for Example Exhibitor's Flock), Lead Line and all other classes are \$25.00. Champion and Lead Line classes need to be spoken for by mid February.

Anne Marie Chapdelaine

Liaison for the National Tunis Show



CLASS SPONSORSHIP FORM:

The Class you would like to sponsor: _____

Your Name and how you would like it listed: _____

MAIL THIS FORM & THE MONEY TO:

Anne Marie Chapdelaine
Small Fry Farm, Continued
1176 Dunhamtown Brimfield Rd
Brimfield, MA 01010
413-245-9328

2011 NTSRI SPECIAL YOUTH EVENTS:

Jan. 1st	ALL NTSRI Memberships due!
Feb. 15th	NTSRI YOUTH Scholarship Applications due!
April 1st	LAST DAY to accept NTSRI Ewe Lamb Futurity results
April 1st	NTSRI YOUTH Ambassador Applications due!
May 20th	<u>Entry Deadline for Nat'l JR Tunis Show @ Delaware</u>
June 11th	Midwest Jr. Preview Show @ Chillicothe, MO
July 1-3rd	<u>National Jr. Tunis Show @ JR All American @ Harrington, DE</u>
July 7-10th	New England Youth Show & Sale @ W. Springfield, MA
Oct. 1st	Entry Deadline for NAILE @ Louisville, KY
Nov. 13th	Tunis Jr. Show @ NAILE @ Louisville, KY

2010 NTSRI EWE LAMB FUTURITY STANDINGS: Jan. 15, 2011

JR Member	Futurity Lamb	# of Shows	Points
Kalie Harrison, NY	Triangle Farms 1093	5	27
Kalie Harrison, NY	RQL Farms 1035	5	35
Taylor Harrison, NY	Triangle Farms 1097	5	45
Taylor Harrison, NY	MJM 0866	5	38
Mindy Stoops-Irvine	Mom's 430	1	20
Jacob Long, MO	Uptown 1008	5	29
Jacob Long, MO	Mom's 2600	5	48
Daniel Swartz, Jr, NY	Wise 1015	5	43
Justine Swartz, NY	JET 1009	4	34
Mandy Swartz, NY	Square M 178	5	36

Remember to turn in your show cards! Contest ends April 1st...Prizes awarded at Wooster!

NEW ENGLAND YOUTH SHOW & SALE & Jr All American!

The 2011 North East Youth Sheep Show will be taking place July 7-10th, 2011, one week earlier than previous years. It is held in the Livestock Complex at the Eastern States Exposition Fairgrounds in West Springfield, Massachusetts. The youth show is open to all youth 21 years old and younger as of January 1st with all breeds of sheep being eligible. The sheep and exhibitors should arrive by Thursday, July 8th; with all animals being penned by 11:00 p.m. Activities begin on Thursday evening and continue right through the weekend with the finale being the selection of the Supreme Champions on Sunday afternoon. For more information, please visit the NES & WAG website (www.nesheep.org). Pens will be available earlier in the week for those youth who plan to come from the All-American. Look for us now on Facebook. We look forward to another successful year.

"POP-A-TOP" for Riley's Children Hospital.....

Our Tunis youth are participating in a national service project. The "Pop-a-Top" for Riley's Children Hospital lets you save the pop top of a soda and/or beer can for this Indianapolis Hospital. So far we have over 4 pounds of tops collected. Our final collection will be at the National Tunis Sale in Wooster in May 2011. We will announce the winner on Saturday night. Whoever collects the most tops (by weight) will win a prize. Currently, Drew Ridgeway of Maryland is in the lead with over 2 pounds of tops collected.

Gathering the tops will be Linda Cook and Dale Huhnke. For more information, you can email Dale at dalehuhnke@yahoo.com. So go out and collect those tops!

NTSRI \$50 SALES CREDITS FOR YOUTH TO BE GIVEN AWAY-

AT. National Tunis Sale - OH

Mid West Stud Ram Sale - MO

New England Youth Show & Sale - MA Star of Louisville Sale - KY

Remember...the youth don't have to be in attendance...just have an individual buyer's # and someone to bid for them! Drawing prior to the sale! No entry fee to enter! Just sign up at the sales!

NTSRI FUTURITY NOMINATED EWE LAMBS WILL BE SOLD -

AT -National Tunis Sale - OH

Mid West Stud Ram Sale - MO

New England Youth Show & Sale - MA Star of Louisville Sale - KY

Remember....there is no charge to the youth...just buy a Futurity nominated ewe lamb and you are automatically entered into the Futurity...last year more than \$1500 was given away to the top 10 kids in the futurity!



Midwest Jr Preview Show is working on Funding!

Last year was the first year for the Midwest Junior Preview Show, an all-breeds junior show open to youth from across the nation. Last year, over 80 exhibitors entered over 300 sheep from 8 different states!

Overhead funding for this show is completely covered, and the additional payouts, which totaled over \$5,000 last year, is funded from private donors and breed organizations. These pay-outs included \$800 for Tunis, \$100 for every showmanship winner, and \$300 for both Supreme Champion Ram and Ewe. Tunis had the 3rd highest number of sheep, the 5th highest number of exhibitors, and were 2nd in line for the highest overall pay-outs. There were 14 breeds represented at the event.

This year, the Missouri Tunis Association is working to guarantee Tunis exhibitors will have one of the highest pay-outs of all the groups. Donations in any amount are being accepted, with checks made directly to the Midwest Junior Preview Show.

The most exciting part about funding this show is that 100% of your donation goes directly to the Tunis youth. Because all overhead expenses are covered, if \$800 is raised for the Tunis show, then \$800 is paid out, that very same day, to Tunis exhibitors.

This year's show will be held on June 11, 2011 with entries opening April 1 online. All exhibitors who pre-enter by June 1, receive a free T-shirt from the Missouri Sheep Producers. Entries are accepted the day o of the show also. Entry fees are \$6/head, with no additional fees added on. Sheep can arrive as early as Thursday and stay through Sunday, but are always free to come and go as necessary. The show will again be held in the indoor air-conditioned facilities provided by Litton Agri-Science Learning Center, in Chillicothe, MO.

For information regarding donations or entries to this show, please contact Kate Lambert at 660-541-0468, email missouritunis@hotmail.com or visit the Missouri Tunis Association's website at www.motunis.com.



Mid West Stud Ram Sale plans underway....

Tunis will show at the Midwest Stud Ram Sale on Monday, June 20, 2011 and will sell on Wednesday, June 22. The MTA will host a lunch for all buyers, sellers, and other interested members on Wednesday at the barns before the sale.

Last year, 35 high quality Tunis sold through the Midwest Stud Ram Sale, including the NAILE Champion Ewe, bred by Barrens Farms Genetics and sold to Eric and Mindy Irvine. This year we expect an even greater consignment, both in numbers and quality.

The decision was made to split lamb classes this year, now offering a January Class and February and after. Classes will be reexamined each year, and splits made accordingly. The judge for this year is tentatively approved as Van Kruit from Illinois. Entries are due April 15 and if you are interested in receiving more information, please contact the Missouri Tunis Association at missouritunis@hotmail.com or visit the Midwest Stud Ram Sale's website at www.MidwestRamSale.com.

2010 www.tunissheep.org WEBSITE REPORT

Debbi Brown texastunis@yahoo.com

In a snapshot....we had 55,152 visits to the website. On average there were 151 sessions per day and visitors viewed 2 - 3 pages and spent about 7.5 minutes on the site. The average in 2009 was 129 visitors per day - so that is a 17% increase.

The most popular pages in 2010 were:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Breeders directory | 5. Members page |
| 2. Ads page | 6. Pride contest |
| 3. Breed info | 7. Association page |
| 4. Events page | |

A "Session" is defined as a series of clicks on your site by an individual visitor during a specific period of time. A session is initiated when the visitor arrives at your site, and it ends when the browser is closed or there is a period of inactivity. Listed below is the number of sessions per month for the tunissheep.org website:

JANUARY	4,635	JULY	4,564
FEBRUARY	4,185	AUGUST	4,443
MARCH	4,673	SEPTEMBER	4,527
APRIL	4,319	OCTOBER	4,479
MAY	4,812	NOVEMBER	5,084
JUNE	4,304	DECEMBER	5,127

Now why aren't you listed on the website's Breeders Directory?

This is a free service to all members!

The NTSRI Breeders Directory listing consists of

1. Farm name
2. Members' names
3. Mailing address
4. Phone Number
5. e-mail and/or website address
6. And one line of description about your flock.

Because of privacy issues, your name is not automatically entered onto the list. You need to provide the necessary information to be listed. If you have Internet access, please send the information either to Debbi Brown (texastunis@yahoo.com) or Louise Dunham (tunis@bright.net) to be included. No Internet access? Please call Debbi Brown @254-863-0606 or Louise Dunham @ 937-465-8299 and give them the information and your flock will be posted! **Free Advertising!**



2 Educational Sheep Opportunities!

Internet Sheep School offered by the Pennsylvania Extension

Service....contact Melanie Barkley @ maplehollow@embarqmail.com or <http://bedford.extension.psu.edu/Agriculture/Lessons/Lessonspage.htm>.

A web-based Lambing Time Management Series offered by Pipestone Vet Clinics based in Pipestone, MN. A series of 6 recorded topics that can be viewed through an internet connection.

For more information visit www.pipestonesheep.com.



Bruce Hunt National Tunis Shepherd of the Year Update

It seems that there is a need to update, refresh some memories, and correct some errors announced by the NTSRI regarding this award. At its last tele-conference Board meeting the NTSRI determined that: a.) this is not a National award, and b.) that it is a Northeast Regional Award.

I'm afraid both of these statements are wrong and give the wrong impression. This award is and always has been a National award. Most of the recipients have been from the Northeast, but not all. Mr. Ken Mayes, Missouri, in fact received the award a number of years ago. The award was formally accepted by the NTSRI Board of Directors a number of years ago and the award is and always has been managed by an independent committee rather than the NTSRI.

It is also not controlled by the Northeast Tunis group although they were instrumental in supporting Sandra Hunt Hamel who established and funds the award in fond memory of her husband. The original structure of an independent committee reviewing nominations has not changed. I guess you could call the committee ad hoc, or independent of any established group. Because it was my idea initially, I have ended up being the chair of the committee which also includes: Sandi Hunt Hamel, Muriel (Mimi) Asbornsen, Dwight Barney and last year's recipient (in this case Sally Barney). The point of making the last recipient a one year member of the selection committee is to bring new blood into the process. By the way, nothing is written in stone here, we are a pretty low key group. We would welcome others in the process, if you have such a desire--let us know.

Past recipients of the award are: Joe Seavey, Mr. Mayes, Gary & Jeanne Grenier, Lyle Hotis, Judy Harris, Peter Harris and Sally Barney.

The committee does not make the nominations! That's where you come in. I can easily think of ten or twelve people who would be very deserving of this recognition. I just don't feel that the selection committee should also be nominating. We currently have one valid nomination toward the 2011 award. Nominations made are good for two years before a re-nomination would be in order.

The Award & The Process: Even though this "National" award bears the name of and is in memory of Bruce Hunt, the award is not necessarily about Bruce anymore. What it is about is recognizing the qualities that Bruce had that endeared him to many of us who called him a friend. Those qualities which we hope to recognize are basically: treating everyone in a friendly and respectful manner in and out of the show ring, promoting the Tunis breed wherever possible, bringing honest and integrity to one's breeding program, and helping our youth get started raising Tunis.

Nominations are made as they always have been through the Newsletter. All you need to do is think of someone who exhibits the qualities we look for, write a letter or article of support and send it to Louise for publication in the Newsletter. All nominees will be considered sometime after the July Newsletter. The award is usually given in the fall. If you have further concerns or questions or would like to join us, contact any member of the committee. Thanks, hope this helps...

Lyle Hotis

lehotis@verizon.net



SHOW & SALE ROTATION.....

National Sale

2011 - Great Lakes Show
Wooster, OH

*National Sale sites are scheduled one year at a time and must fit the requirements established in SOP's.

National Youth Show

2011 - Junior All American
Herrington, Delaware
2012 - Junior All American
W. Springfield, MA

*The National Youth Show follows the Junior All American provided there is a sponsor and enough youth participation

National Open Show

2011 - The Big Expo
W. Springfield, MA
2012 - Missouri State Fair
Sedalia, MO
2013 - NAILE - Louisville, KY

LET'S TALK WOOL.....Kim Day

Fiber artists love finding dependable sources for their wool and other fibers. The breed name will give a fiber artist some idea about the characteristics of a particular fleece, but within each type there is a range of possibilities. How well you describe your flock's wool and what project it's best suited for is invaluable and can gain you faithful customers.

Animal fibers are divided into 2 main groups: *hair* and *wool*. Wool comes from sheep while hair is harvested from all other fiber producing animals, i.e. angora goats, llamas, alpacas, angora rabbits, camels, etc. Wool has so many important attributes, including durability, good insulation, absorbency and non-flammability; but we're going to discuss the characteristics that fiber artists are concerned with - wool type, texture, staple length, loft, luster and color.

WOOL TYPE: Wool is classified into 4 main categories or types: *fine wools*, *longwools*, *down wools*, and *double-coated*.

- * *Fine Wools* (like Merino, Rambouillet and Corriedale) are known for their softness.
- * *Longwools* (like English Leicester, Coopworth or Romney) are known for their strength and luster.
- * *Down wools* (like **Tunis**, Cheviot and Suffolk) are known for their elasticity and loft.
- * *Double-coated* sheep (like Icelandic, Karakul and Navajo-Churro) are known for their long, coarse outer coat and soft, downy undercoat.

TEXTURE: You can describe the fineness or texture of your wool by *micron count* or *spinning/Bradford count* or simply by the terms, *fine*, *medium* or *coarse*. Micron count can be measured by sending wool samples to companies such as Yocum-McColl in Denver, CO or the Texas AgriLife Research facility in San Angelo, TX. This gives your customer a snapshot of your flock but new measurements should be taken at regular intervals since wool diameter changes as sheep age. The spinning or Bradford count originated in Bradford, England and is used mostly in the UK and USA. This number is calculated by the maximum number of skeins that can be spun from 1 pound of clean, combed top. Fine wool will yield more skeins than coarse wool and will, therefore, have a higher spinning count.

Texture also determines how fiber will spin. Fine fibers are usually slippery and coarse fibers tend to cling to each other (thus making them easy for those learning to spin). No matter what the texture of the fleece, it should be uniform from butt end to tip. If there is a thin or weak spot in the staple, the fleece has wool break. This is a major fault and can affect the artist's final project.

STAPLE LENGTH: The length of each fiber from cut (or butt) end to tip is called the staple length. Staple shape will differ by breed: some, like down breeds are flat-tipped and others are V-shaped. Excessively V-shaped staples are called tippy and can give the fleece a harsh handle.

When choosing a fleece, fiber artists prefer one that has a uniform staple length, whether it's long or short. Fiber with longer staple length is easier to spin because the fiber needs less twist to stay together. When spinning fiber of a shorter staple length, you have to keep your hands close together and put a lot of twist in your yarn.

CRIMP: The crimp, or waviness, of a fleece should be consistent along each staple. The crimp pattern is unique for each breed, but ultimately determined by each individual animal. Crimp can influence what yarn each fleece is best suited for making, i.e., finely crimped fiber is best made into a fine yarn.

LOFT: The airiness and elasticity of a fleece is called loft. Wool types known for loft are down wools, fine wools and the undercoat of a double-coated sheep. These wools make spring, lightweight yarn.

LUSTER and COLOR: Luster is the shine that fiber has. The longwool breeds generally have high luster fleeces, as does the outer coat of a double-coated sheep. Although these fibers are coarse, the same properties that give them luster usually make them very silky to touch.

Wool is produced in such a variety of natural colors that can be used for projects as is or dyed with natural or chemical dyes. No matter what color fleece a fiber artist is searching for, he or she will be looking for one that is free from various unscourable stains (such as a yellow "canary stain".)

Some people will ask you about the handle of a fleece. This term refers to the softness of the fiber or how it feels in your hand. It's dependent on many of the above characteristics and how they mesh together. A fleece can have a soft or coarse handle, a crisp (springy but slightly stiff) handle; a strong or weak handle; or a silky or dry handle.

When describing a fleece to a potential customer, use the list above as a guide. Here's an illustration of one of my Tunis fleeces as an example:

2.5 lb cream-colored Tunis fleece from a 2 year old ewe; medium texture; down-type fleece with a little vegetable matter (VM); 4" staple length; medium to strong crimp pattern; lightweight and lofty; crisp, slightly dry handle. This fleece would be best suited for a project that isn't going to be next to the skin - maybe a sweater that you would wear over another top. It would also be a great wool to blend with a longwool fleece to give this lustrous wool more loft.

When offering a detailed description of your wool, fiber artists can know what to expect even before they touch the fleece. Whether you sell your fleeces on the farm or online - through email groups, etc. - your customers will come to trust your guidance to help them with their newest project.

Kim Day, 196 Hill School Rd., Douglassville, PA 19518

610-326-1842 redropefarm@yahoo.com

Please send dates for wool shows, festivals, and other wool related events.....Let's make a calendar! Remember...NTSRI also has a free listing on the website for NTSRI members and their wool related items! Send the information to Debbi or Louise!

3rd Annual NTSRI Tunis Wool Contest

May 28th & 29th, 2010

Wooster, OH

Entry Fee - \$3.00 per fleece

Great Lakes Wool Festival & National Tunis Sale

SCHEDULE: (Times to be announced)

Friday - Fleeces accepted

Saturday

Fleeces on Display

Fleeces judged in Show ring 9am

Fleeces will be on display from 9 am until Sunday at 1 pm. Posters will be made and displayed in the other wool buildings about the availability of these Tunis fleeces to encourage wool show visitors to view the Tunis Wool.

COMPETITION & PRIZES:

* Two Classes "Tunis Ram Fleece" & "Tunis Ewe Fleece"

* Prizes each class 1st - Rosette & \$15 2nd - \$10 3rd - \$5

* Grand Prize Supreme Tunis Fleece - Rosette & \$20

RULES AND GUIDELINES:

1. Fleeces must be from a registered Tunis animal and registration numbers will be required on the entry form.
 2. Exhibitors need not be members of the NTSRI.
 3. The fleeces must be shorn within the past 12 months of the show date.
 4. The fleeces must be displayed in clear plastic bags and not tied.
 5. The fleeces should be skirted and free of chaff, burrs, tags & second cuts.
 6. The judge has the right to refuse to judge/place any fleece that has an excessive amount of foreign material in it.
 7. These factors will be considered when the fleeces are judged.
 - a. The quality of the fleece must be typical of the Tunis breed of sheep.
 - b. Evenness of quality among the various parts of the fleece is very important.
 - c. An appropriate length and strength of staple is required for judging.
 - d. The condition of the fleece will influence the placing.
 - e. Crimp and color of the fleece will be considered.
 - f. The estimated clean weight will be a factor.
- * Fleeces should be marked whether they are to be sold thru a "Private Treaty Sale", returned to the exhibitor, or other arrangements have been made with a wool processing company.
- * Fleeces may be shipped to Kim Day and **must** be received by Friday, May 20th (see address below).
- * If you are delivering your fleece personally, please let Kim know how many fleeces you are bringing so there can be enough display room for all fleeces.

TO ENTER:

1. Put the following information on a 3x 5 index card inside an envelope:
 - * Owner name & farm name
 - * Address & phone number
 - * Disposal of fleece...To be sold (price); to be picked up; or shipped back to owner
Include funds for return postage if needed.
 - * Entry fee should also be in envelope (\$3 per fleece)
2. On the outside of the same envelope, indicate the following information:
 - * Breed, sex, age and registration # of animal
 - * Weight of fleece
 - * Months of growth represented by fleece
 - * And class

Please direct all questions to the Wool Show Committee, **Debbi Brown** (texastunis@yahoo.com), **Kim Day** (redropefarm@yahoo.com), **Louise Dunham** (tunis@bright.net) and **Marianne Turcheck** (marianne@rostraverfarm.com).

If you're shipping your fleece(s) to Kim, please include a phone number or email so she can let you know they were received. Please send fleeces to: Kim Day, 196 Hill School Rd., Douglassville, PA 19518

Notes from Green Lane Farm: by Val Ames, Williamsford, Ontario, Canada

Greetings shepherds, from the Great White North and a happy, healthy New Year to you all.

Our amazing early winter weather has taken second place now to the arrival of more wonderful Tunis lambs, and by the time you read this, lambing here may well be over for another year.

I have tried accelerated, Spring, and Fall lambing but have to say that winter lambing has so many advantages for me over other times of the year; it produces better gaining lambs (they are hungrier in the winter!), no livestock predation issues (snow too deep!), and if I didn't lamb in the winter, the barns would not be used as much. The market lambs and Tunis not good enough for breeding stock sales have a ready market at Easter time (the Western/Roman Easter and the Eastern Orthodox Easter). Another plus is that not having to lamb on pasture, I don't need the same land base - just enough for the mature sheep and new replacements. This means that the pasture worm burden is not so high either: the PPER (PeriParturient Egg Rise - or the rise in gastrointestinal nematode egg shedding that happens big time around lambing time) now happens in the barns and in the winter -- no grazing so no intake for re-infection of lambs/ewes or re-contamination of pasture.

And talking of Easter, when some of our Tunis become tasty meals, I have two customers now that raise Tunis for just that end-use, as a result of their research and hands-on taste testing that confirmed the September, 2008 rare breeds/heritage lamb tasting in Virginia. (Tunis Spirit May 2009).

Now here's an animal morality tale to confuse an eternal issue in England - fox hunting. Consider the following...

Mothers walking their children to school in the Surrey suburb of Horsham were horrified to see that local farmer Roger Lawrence had hung the decapitated carcass of a newborn lamb beside his fence. A placard propped nearby read: "This is what foxes do."

The farmer subsequently explained that foxes had slaughtered some 50 lambs from his flock this season.

Meanwhile, animal lover Frank Stuart, who lives opposite, regularly feeds a tame fox with dog-food sandwiches. The community is in an uproar. They don't know what to think.

We must consider the implications of this as rationally as possible. Let us first take the sandwich. What kind? Let us assume it was chunky beef. So Man killed a cow which fed the fox which killed the lamb that should have been killed by the farmer to feed a man who fed the fox. That's the way of the world. Was the man right to feed the fox? A tricky one, that. Jury still out.

Was the fox right to kill the lamb? It is not a question of right. The fox, you see, doesn't know right from wrong. Says the farmer: "It kills for fun." Not correct. A fox kills by instinct.

So what, we must inevitably ask, of the hunt? Are many men justified, of a Saturday morning, in dressing up in gaudy clothes, jumping on horses, assembling dogs, drinking giddily from stirrup cups and chasing the fox, to the blowing of horns, in order to avenge, with great pleasure, the killing of the lamb which would have fed the man who...and so on.

No, for that really is for fun. And that's barbaric. But is the farmer justified in cornering the fox which killed the lambs and which took the dog-food sandwich which had been made from the cow which was killed by the man - and so forth - blasting the fox to Kingdom Come with both barrels of a 12 bore?

Of course; that's survival. (Note - I do not afford coyotes the same consideration as foxes.)

I read an interesting article in our Ontario Sheep News magazine last week, on a study done by our major lamb milk replacer manufacturer (Grober) to determine the best and most cost-productive method of raising bottle lambs. For the shepherds that don't have dozens to bottle feed, and that do it by hand, you will probably be pleased to hear that they determined that many measured bottles a day, over approximately 50 days, will produce a lamb that will gain as efficiently post-weaning as that the lambs that were raised by their dams. Of course if you consider the time spent on bottle feeding, perhaps it is not so cost effective, but I know that I would anyway be checking the barn during the day for new lambs so to take in a bottle at the same time really doesn't increase my daily labour much.

Please note that it was daily barn checks, which did not include nights! As I have always been able to free-choice feed my sheep (big round bales under tarped hoops outside) they are able to live by their own natural routine, and this includes lambing; looking over the last 25 years of lambing records, I can count no more than 20 occasions that a ewe lambed after 11 pm and before 6 pm (typically my last and first check times) and with no consequences on those times for my non-attendance! The fact that a ewe's programme does not include late night lambing was an "aha" moment for some researchers recently, but I can confirm this fact for the last 25 years!

You might be justified in thinking 'free choice' feeding costs more in hay but with my simple, custom designed feeders (most importantly they do not move in as the bales are eaten) the hay that is pulled out and walked/slept on only saves me straw costs; in addition, as they are effectively putting their own bedding down (not sure I could bring myself to spread straw outside in the snow!), they spend a lot of time outside - a healthier choice.

Besides not having to do the night shift at lambing time, I have never deliberately flushed my ewes before breeding, though by practicing pasture rotation, I do try to have them on a field not grazed for several weeks. I would be interested to hear what other shepherds do, and their results, so perhaps Louise could make this a question in her next questionnaire? Including first time lambers, and occasionally ewe lambs, I don't think my lambing average is below 1.5 lambs per ewe over the 25 years, with the last 20 years primarily Tunis. Excluding those people with prolific breeds, I (21) have wondered if the cost and labour involved in flushing can be justified. Comments, discussion, anyone?

SVF Foundation Partners with Tamarack Tunis, Nation's Oldest Working Tunis Flock, to Perpetuate the Breed! by Sarah Bowley, Program & Livestock Manager

Combining cutting-edge genetic science with the best in sustainable farming practices, SVF Foundation and Tamarack Tunis have joined forces to revive an endangered breed of heritage livestock--the old style Tunis sheep. This collaboration is part of the growing movement to protect the world's food supply from the perceived threats of long-term commercial agriculture, namely, diminished animal biodiversity and the degradation of land and water.

Tamarack Tunis, a sustainable farm located in Corinth, Vermont, maintains the nation's oldest working flock of Tunis sheep in the "old-style" of smaller and finer boned animals. SVF Foundation, located in Newport, Rhode Island, is one of the nation's leading conservers of heritage breeds through cryogenic germplasm preservation. Together, the two are working to conserve the critically endangered traditional Tunis bloodlines, which have become increasingly rare as farmers focus on larger-framed, show-style Tunis sheep. With it's ability to withstand drought conditions and to breed out of season, not to mention its succulent meat and fine wool, the Tunis sheep is an important and rare treasure trove of genetic strengths.

The partnership of SVF and Tamarack Tunis emphasizes several important goals: to preserve the planet's biodiversity through conservation of endangered breeds, to practice stewardship of the environment through sustainable farming and to offer consumers alternatives by the way of supporting a niche market. By preserving Tunis sheep and raising them in an environmentally beneficial manner, SVF and Tamarack Tunis represent a partnership between science and agriculture that can restore the ancient traditions of food, farming and culture.

Tamarack Tunis and Sustainable Farming: Located on forty acres in Corinth, Vermont, Tamarack Tunis (www.tamaracktunis.com) is home to the nation's oldest working flock of Tunis sheep, first established in 1920 with two lambs. Operated by Ben Machin and family, the flock's fourth generation of shepherds, the farm features a sustainable system of grass grazing with rotational pastures, making efficient use of the region's seasonally abundant verdure. Along with the heritage breed grass-fed lambs, Tamarack focuses on the sustainable production of wool products, such as: yarn, wool comforters and sheep skins.

The Tunis breed evolved when animal agriculture relied entirely on grazing and before the meat industry turned to less sustainable inputs. Rotational grazing allows the grass to regenerate, builds topsoil, and supports a healthy ecosystem of plants, insects, and bacteria. In all of Tamarack's farming practices associated with haying and grazing, no chemical fertilizers are used; manure and compost are placed on the fields, and lime and wood ash are used as mineral supplements.

As a service to the community, grass farming offers a way to maintain open space and utilize agricultural lands to produce food, and creates niche markets for small family farms. For livestock, grass farming means almost daily access to fresh grass, sunshine, and fresh air and room to exercise. Some consumers feel that grass farming means more flavorful and healthier meats that are lower in fat and higher in nutrients.

Red meats like lamb and beef from grass-fed animals, especially those entirely grass-fed, are increasingly regarded as health foods, and as key parts of a balanced diet. However, one of the challenges with grass farming and with focusing on the "old-style" Tunis, is that animals grow more slowly and attain a smaller size than grain-fed livestock. This translates into higher prices--at times--but also better tasting, healthier food. Tamarack Tunis' sale of meats and wool products makes the farm financially sustainable and allows for better and better genetics to be developed over time through selective breeding and retention of the highest quality lambs to further develop the flock.

SVF Foundation and Genetic Conservation: The mission of the SVF Foundation (www.svffoundation.org) is to preserve germplasm (embryos, semen and genetic material) of rare and endangered breeds of livestock. Though they've existed since the earliest days of animal domestication, "heritage livestock" are becoming increasingly rare as a result of modern commercial agriculture's focus on a few breeds engineered solely for high yield.

Consequently, many breeds of sheep, goats, pigs and cattle are facing imminent extinction. These breeds contain naturally selected, unimproved traits, such as: resistance to parasites, good birthing and mothering instincts, adaptability to harsh environments, and uncommonly good-tasting meat. Yet the monoculture of today's global agribusiness leaves the industry vulnerable to disease and other dangers, threatening the world's food supply with possible collapse.

SVF Foundation preserves heritage traits in the event of such a calamity, and could reawaken a breed with its full genetic diversity within one generation. Much like a seed bank protects plant diversity and food security, SVF is one of the few institutions to collect and store animal germplasm in a frozen state for future use. SVF supports "on the hoof" conservation of heritage livestock by introducing breeders to ever-wider markets, as well as educating the public to the importance of diversity in our animal agriculture. SVF's current project with Fair Food Farmstand underscores this effort to connect breeders and consumers (www.fairfoodphilly.org).

Located in Newport, Rhode Island, on historic Surprise Valley Farm (aka "Swiss Village"), SVF was founded by Dorrance Hamilton in 1999. The Foundation is sited on 45 scenic acres and operates in collaboration with Tufts' Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine.

Sarah Bowley, Program & Livestock Manager
152 Harrison Ave., Newport, RI 02840

www.svffoundation.org



Congratulations to Lisa & James Twomey (La Farge, WI).....There is a great article about their "Internet Lamb Sales" and the Tunis in the January/February, 2011 edition of SHEEP! magazine! Visist www.sheepmagazine.com to view the article!

STAR OF LOUISVILLE TUNIS SALE

11/13/2010

Louisville, KY

Mary Anne Johnson, Judge

CONSIGNOR

PRICE

BUYER

BROOD EWES:

Mindy Stoops-Irvine, PA	\$600	Carolyn Hart, IL
Bruns Tunis, OH	\$425	Cool Breeze Farm, VA
2 Ewes averaged	\$512.50	

YEARLING EWES:

Stumpe Tunis, MO - CHAMPION EWE	\$750	Nicholas Loughman, PA
Big Time Tunis, OH	\$775	Nicholas Loughman, PA
Stumpe Tunis, MO	\$400	Philip busman, GA
Bruns Tunis, OH	\$650	Matthew Maag, OH
Brown Family Tunis, OH	\$500	Triple M Ranch, IN
Stumpe Tunis, MO	\$375	Cool Breeze Farm, VA
Jozi Best, NH	\$350	Cool Breeze Farm, VA
Stumpe Tunis, MO	\$300	Jayce Coers - Alec Wibben, IL
BWB Farms, OH	\$375	Cool Breeze Farm, VA
9 Ewes averaged	\$497.22	

JANUARY EWE LAMBS:

Triple T Tunis, OR	\$600	Matthew Maag, OH
Triangle Farms Tunis, IN	\$200	Westwind Farms, KY
2 Ewes averaged	\$400.00	

FEBRUARY EWE LAMBS:

Brown Family Tunis, OH - RES. CH EWE	\$1200	Triple M Ranch, IN
Stumpe Tunis, MO	\$ 400	Carolyn Hart, IL
Hassellman Tunis, IL	\$ 200	Linda Casey, GA
3 Ewes averaged	\$600.00	

MARCH EWE LAMBS:

Jozi Best, NH	\$200	Luke Schultz, IL
Bruns Tunis, OH	\$400	Anna Charest, MA
Jozi Best, NH	\$200	Westwind Farm, KY
Big Time Tunis, OH	\$350	Triple M Ranch, IN
4 Ewes averaged	\$287.50	

22 Tunis Ewes Averaged.....\$462.50!



BITS & PIECES OF INFORMATION FROM NTSRI MEMBERS

The topic for discussion this time is.... "Let's get those ewes ready for lambing!"

Casey Tunis - Linda, Shawn, Lindsey and Elliza of Taylorsville, GA writes..."Our Tunis flock presently consists of eighteen sheep: three rams, thirteen brood ewes, and two yearling ewes. This year we bred eight ewes using two different rams. Hopefully the lambs will begin to arrive mid-January. This is the earliest we have ever had lambs. Hopefully, the weather will not be too brutal.

We have not used a marking harness because our flock is not large enough. Usually, we leave the ewes and the ram in for about six weeks to ensure that each ewe has cycled at least twice. We do not ultra-sound there again because our flock is very small, but also because we like to surprise of lambing by waiting to see what the good Lord provides. Usually the week after Christmas we vaccinate with Bar-Vac, trim fee, and trim around the rear and teat area. We also prepare the lambing stalls at this time. We did not worm the breeding ewes in December because their eye membranes were very bright. However, they were wormed before they were exposed and the weather has been cold enough to keep the parasites at bay. However, they all will be wormed in the spring.

We do not use cameras in the barn. It is a good idea, but generally we just monitor every couple of hours to make sure the ewes are progressing. We try to stay close to home when it is time to lamb. When it is close to lambing time the ewes will broaden in the rear and begin to bag. When they are eating in the evening, we sneak around and examine their fannies looking for the bright red sign that signals...'it won't be long.'

A few weeks prior to lambing we feed alfalfa and Bermuda as well as grain. The Bermuda seems to help reduce the size of the lambs for an easier delivery. As far as supplies, we keep lamb blankets, heat lamps, and iodine on hand. My suggestion to a new shepherd is to get the ewe and lambs into a private stall as soon as possible and to make sure the new lamb finds the mother's nipples. I also watch to make sure the afterbirth is delivered and whole."

Francis Finley of New Plymouth, Idaho writes...."My husband and I started in Tunis around 7 years ago and at that time, we were the furthestmost out west. We have 10 Tunis ewes and 2 rams...we had started with 60 head of California Reds to use for training our Australian Shepherds. We found some Tunis and liked them better with more of a profit. Our main goal is to have an animal easy to care for and 3 ways of producing a profit - breeding stock - wool - meat. In our retired years, the Tunis have been fun.

Ordinarily, lambing here is in March and April but this year we had a ram that we really liked what he produced so we used him early so we could keep ewe lambs and still have time to sell him so this year we are lambing in January and February. We have tried a marking harness but have went to just keeping good records of when the ram is put in and when taken out. We don't do pregnancy testing but I can usually tell if they are bred about 3 months along. We don't have barn cameras and I wouldn't completely rely on them if I did have them.

Before we turn the ram in, we worm all and trim feet. It's at this time that we clean them up as well as jacket the ewes. We don't breed a ewe if she is too skinny. We have found our ewes to be very lazy. To encourage them to exercise before lambing, I feed hay at one end of the place and give a very small amount of grain in the other end...probably 1 block long and I do this twice a day. This entices them to travel in a hurry. By exercising our ewes, we have cut problems out a bunch.

Within 30 days of lambing we give booster shots. My best advice is to give booster CD & T shots which supposedly helps the lambs. After lambing, when the ewes are still in the pen, we trim feet and worm again. The supplies I have are iodine, hoof trimmers, supplies for tube feeding plus Nutra-Drench. I did have a prolapse kit but have never used it. I also encourage people to learn to tube the lambs and ready to do it if needed.

I like to have the ewes lamb on pasture as it is cleaner and the ewes are more relaxed. I then bring them into lambing jugs. We just watch them when they are close to lambing...we watch for dilation, the bag filling up and getting very full.

I have found the Tunis are very easy to work with and they don't have many health problems or we've had very little problems. I think exercise is very important. This breed doesn't carry many problems. We've tried to get people to start showing their animals at our fairs." Thanks...Francis!

Tim Arman of Pickford, MI writes...."My wife and I and our two daughters live in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. We had other breeds of sheep about 12 years prior to getting the Tunis. We started with 6 ewe lambs and 2 rams purchased from Mel Smith and have only added one ram from Swinging Star Tunis. Currently we have 16 reg. Tunis ewes and 1 ram but we also have 60 commercial crossbreeds.

Our lambing time this year starts the end of February and runs until the end of March. We'll lamb out about 70 ewes. We try to shear before lambing but that will depend upon the weather. It can get -20 to -40 degrees in February so the ewes prefer to keep their coats. We feed grain starting at breeding and on through until they go to pasture. We do pull the thinnest ewes out and grain them 2x a day. The ewes get wormed with Valbazen in November when they come off pasture...for flukes mainly. Then they get a booster of Ultrabac 7 and Ivomec for worms while they are in the jugs.

Before lambing, I make sure I have sleeves, glycol and frozen colostrum on hand. I work full time on a Dairy farm so I have access to cow colostrum if no other option is available. I do use a marking harness and change the crayons at 14 days. The dates have been, for the most part, accurate unless it gets extremely cold then the crayons don't mark and we get a few surprises. We haven't tried a barn camera yet but may in the future. Did try an intercom system one season but it didn't seem to work for us.

When it is lambing time, my wife catches most of the ewes going into labor. I'm not sure exactly what she sees but she doesn't miss much. If she thinks a ewe is in early labor, we will pen her up in a jug. Most of the time, the ewes will come to the barn and lamb by themselves. We mostly worry about ewes that are thin or don't seem to get to the feed bunk. Then we put them in the thin ewe group and feed extra. Taking a page from the Dairy cows...the ewes should be continuing to gain weight till lambing and not losing it. We worry more about thin ewes than fat ones because the cold here in February and March will take a thin ewe down to nothing while the fatter ones don't seem to be bothered.

I would advise that you keep an eye on body condition and watch for ewes that go off feed, especially if they are a productive ewe. Pregnancy Disease can be a real problem but we have found, if caught early, can be corrected by drenching with Gylcol.

The Tunis, while not immune to lambing time complications, have been relatively trouble free. They are good mothers and I haven't had to orphan any Tunis lambs!"

Dan Erwin of Jacci Erwin Tunis in Richwood, OH writes...."My wife, Cris, and my daughter, Jacci, live on the home farm in central Ohio just northwest of Columbus. Our other daughter and her family live very close and help every day with the sheep and the farm. Our flock currently consists of 50 Tunis and 25 Hamps. Sheep have been in our farming operation for 40+ years starting with my 4-H project with 25 registered Suffolks to today's numbers and breeds.

Lambing starts for us in mid January and goes to the end of March. We will lamb 56 ewes this year with 33 of them being Tunis. We use marking harnesses extensively and record marking dates every other day during breeding season. We find that this alerts us to breeding problems in both the rams and ewes. The dates have been very accurate and our computer program will print an expected due list from this. We do use Ultra sound by Nancy Minter. It has been very accurate and economical. I check all ewes that marked multiple times or didn't mark plus those ewes that were sent off the farm to be bred. This allows us to put about a 10 day window on their breeding date and then we input this info into the computer.

We always try to shear our ewes prior to lambing. It is my goal to never lamb another unshorn ewe! Depending upon condition, we feed 1 - 1 1/2 lb grain per ewe prior to lambing. Thirty days prior to the 1st lamb, the ewes get 250 mg/hd/day of Aureomycin. And I always keep free choice mineral available to the gestating ewes. We do not give any booster shots but we do worm during gestation and again after lambing (usually as we turn them out of the lambing pens. We also treat all animals as we shear with a delice product. Prior to lambing season, I try to have OB sleeves and lube, Interuterine boluses, ketosis treatment, LA200 & Penicillin, and a lamb pull rope on hand.

We watch for ewes that are off by themselves, nesting or have swelled vulvas as signs of imminent lambing. We do not separate these ewes but do keep a close watch on them. All of our ewes lamb in the large group pen and are then moved to lamb pens. We find that this keeps our lambing pens dryer. One of the physical signs that I worry about in relation to a ewe's physical condition is vaginal prolapse. If I see that I'll cut back on the roughage and we will use a harness or ewe spoon if necessary. I also watch for ewes with abnormal udders. Ewes that show signs of ketosis get treated with Prop Glycol and Nutri Drench 2 times per day minimum and separated for feeding if possible. In my experience, fat ewes are more problematic than skinny ewes. Skinny ewes require more energy in their feed and a watchful eye but will usually produce a lamb better than a ewe with too much flesh.

My advice? Give the ewe every opportunity to exercise; have a barn layout plan (where am I going to put my lamb pens...how will I handle my ewes w/lambs after lamb pens), and find a mentor! You need someone either local or someone you can call to ask those questions you are bound to have. All sheep people are willing to help and want you to have a fun and successful project."

Randy & Becky Elsbernd of Mason City, IA writes...."The 'Red Heads' has double meaning at Elsbernd Farm. I, Randy, and my wife, Becky, both have varying shades of red hair leaving our kids, Nathan-9, Britta-7, and Markus-5, not to have much of a choice in the matter. I have raised Suffolk/Dorset/Columbia cross sheep for most of my life, getting out of it when my dad passed away and my move to town living. Then the opportunity came for a career change which meant moving to Mason City. We lucked out and were able to find a nice acreage just outside the city limits. Our farm is comprised of 10 acres with about 2 1/2 being pasture, 5 being row crops and the rest the building site. I was able to get back into raising sheep again buying registered Suffolks but they were so big, difficult to handle and took a lot of feed, but I did not know of anything different until...the family vacation to the Iowa State Fair where my wife and I learned of the Tunis in the Avenue of Breeds. We now have a flock of 18 and have been raising Tunis for 5 years and cannot say enough good about them.

Lambing time at the Elsbernd Farm starts in mid-February. I use a marking harness on the ram, record the date and figure 152 days after, the ewes will be lambing. The flock is given pure garlic juice as a wormer about 5 times a year and is on a rotational pasture schedule. We do flush the ewes for about 2-3 weeks prior to the ram being let in with them in the fall. The ram stays with the flock until about 6 weeks prior to lambing at which point the ewes are given an annual overeating shot and are started on a gradually increasing better diet consisting of grass/alfalfa hay and 1/4 lb - 1 lb corn each. This year I plan on shearing 6 weeks prior to lambing.

The 152 day count has been accurate for me. Supplies I have on hand when lambing are plastic gloves and a sheep nutra drench. The drench gives the lambs a head start right after birth. You can tell when the ewe is getting ready to lamb as she will not eat/start acting different or stand off by herself. We try to pen the ewe up a day prior to delivery, which helps the ewe bond with the lambs and helps us know who is who.

After lambing we record birth weights/sex, tag the lambs and give the drench. The group will stay together for another day or two depending on space available and how the ewe acts towards the lambs. Some new mothers take a bit longer. We watch the ewes and lambs after being released into the big group, the ewe for any signs of sickness/infection from the birth and the lambs that they are getting enough to eat. You can tell if a lamb is starving if it gets a hunched back and is not active. Advice, is to keep your flock healthy all year round and everything else will fall in place.

We are too small of producer to get fancy equipment or invest a lot in technology although I am going to join the National Sheep Improvement Program which will let me know my best ewes based off of EDPs. I prefer to keep things simple and pure. I used to use commercial wormers but get better results with garlic juice and pasture rotation. I do not worry if a ewe is too fat, she will have at least 1 large lamb, and you should never have a thin ewe if you are keeping your flock healthy. This year I am shearing prior to lambing as the cold weather helps take care of external parasites. In the past I have just trimmed around the udder if needed. Lambing can take a lot of time as I have found out with the other breeds, but with our Tunis, I have not lost a lamb or had any trouble lambing. Last year, I did have to bottle feed after 2-3 days an occasional lamb from the result of multiple births. As the sayings go 'Not everything in the sheep industry is black and white' and 'Tunis are the best' certainly hold true for us."

Anna Charest of Brimfield, MA writes...."Small Fry Farm Continued is run by myself and my mother, Anne Marie Chapdelaine. We currently have 11 brood ewes and a total of 17 Tunis. I began raising Tunis for 4-H in 2002.

I expose my ewes to a ram from August to October. Nancy Minter pregnancy scans my ewes mid November. By this time most of the ewes are 40-50 days into their gestation (they must be at least 30 days to determine if they are bred). In my experience, there is a 100% success rate for telling if a ewe is bred. Perhaps about 70% of the time the ewe have lambd the week they were due according to the scan, but usually they lamb within a 2 week radius of that due date. In some cases, we have been accurately told whether the ewe is carrying single or multiple lambs. This is more of a 50/50 result, as it is difficult to distinguish between multiple lambs or one large fetus.

I prefer to shear my bred ewes annually in early November when the weather is still mild. The ewes are also wormed in November. I use Ivermectin (Ivomec) which is safe for bred ewes. After the ewes lamb, we give both mother and lambs CDT shots in prevention of tetanus. Although I intend to invest in a camera for the barn, I currently use a baby monitor. More often than not, being able to hear the ewes in the barn has made it easier to tell when there is one in labor. However, it also makes for a lot of false alarms.

I keep a bucket next to the house door filled my lambing supplies such as towels, rubber gloves, iodine, lube, a couple of aspirators, a lamb pull, a bottle of Nutri-Drench, a thermometer and a lamb scale. When there is a ewe ready to lamb, I bring the bucket out to the barn, pull up a stool and drink my thermos of hot chocolate. When I'm out in the barn waiting for lambs, my best friend is my coveralls. They keep me warm and clean when helping ewes deliver and the many pockets are ideal for keeping supplies on hand.

The signs of a ewe in labor that I watch for are the ewe aggressively pawing at the ground and the ewe calling for a lamb. I most closely watch my bred ewes for Toxemia and Milk Fever. Because Toxemia is something I have noticed the Tunis are more prone to (with multiple births) I keep Ketostix (which can be found at a pharmacy) on hand. The symptoms I watch for are grinding teeth, inability to walk or stand and highly dilated pupils. If they test positive on the urine stick, I drench them with propylene glycol and feed them molasses mixed in their water. For Milk Fever, I watch for similar symptoms along with shaking and intense shivering. This is caused by lethally low levels of calcium and it is vital to provide treatment within the first couple hours of the disease's effect in order to reverse it. I would much rather have slightly overweight ewes than skinny ones. During the last month of gestation, I introduce cracked corn into their diet to give them a boost of protein.

My advice to people who are lambing ewes for the first time is not to overwhelm yourself. My first year, I only had a couple of ewes lambing and it was a positive and non-stressful experience that kept me motivated for the future. Also, never be afraid to ask for help. There is so much we can learn from other breeders and extra hands are always a God send in tough lambing situations."



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**NATIONAL TUNIS SHEEP REGISTRY INC.
2011 - MEMBERSHIP FORM**

MEMBERSHIP NAME* _____ MEMBERSHIP # _____

MEMBER'S NAMES** _____

ST. ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ TELEPHONE _____

DATE _____ E-MAIL _____

Sr Renewal _____ **Jr Renewal***** _____ **New Member** _____
Seniors.....\$20.00 **Juniors.....\$10.00**

- * Individual or Farm Name...Junior memberships can only be one name.
- ** For Family/Farm Partnerships...List individuals included in the membership.
- *** Junior members must be less than 22 years old...List Birthdate: __/__/____

Amount Enclosed _____

Send to: NTSRI, 15603 173rd Ave., Milo, IA 50166



National Tunis Sheep Registry Inc.

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Registration and Membership Work Order Form

Membership Name* _____ Membership # _____

Member's Names** _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____ Telephone _____

Date _____ Email _____

Mark One: Senior Renewal _____ Junior Renewal*** _____ New Member _____ Non-Member _____

		Members	Non-Members	
Memberships (<i>circle one</i>)	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Fees (US\$)</u>	<u>Fees (US\$)</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Senior Renewal / New Senior	1	20.00	-	
Junior Renewal / New Junior	1	10.00	-	
Registrations		5.00	10.00	
Transfers		5.00	10.00	
Duplicate Certificates		5.00	10.00	
Extended Pedigree				
Four Generation <i>(if not already)</i>		30.00	60.00	
Five Generation <i>provided on paper</i>		60.00	90.00	
Rush Fee (Reg/Transfer)		10.00	30.00	
Emergency Fax <i>(per page)</i>		3.00	3.00	
Special Handling				
UPS Overnight Delivery <i>(Next day)</i>		<i>Call to Order Must provide credit card number for direct payment to UPS</i>		
Postal Overnight, USPS <i>(Two day)</i>		18.30	18.30	
Other Fees				
	SUBTOTAL			
	Balance Due <i>(please return invoice)</i>			
	Credit Due <i>(please return invoice)</i>			
	TOTAL Check #:			

Orders without proper fees will not be mailed until paid in full; Cash sent at own risk.

* Individual or Farm Name; Junior memberships can only be one name

** For Family Farm/Partnership Memberships: List individuals included in the membership

*** Junior members must be less than 22 years old: **List Birthdate (d/m/y)** _____ / _____ / _____