

July/August 2012

Issue 34-B

NTSRI NEWSLETTER



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ADDENDUM -

More information to add to your July/August Newsletter

NTSRI Board of Directors Meeting July 29, 2012 Teleconference

PRESENT WERE: Bill Kerns (Region 1), Robin Swartz (Region 2), Eric Irvine (Region 3-unable to attend due to a last minute emergency at work), Dan Kleman (Region 4), Paul Cassell (Region 5), Dale Huhnke (Region 6), and Tammie Serafin (Region 7).

The meeting was called to order at about 3:15 PM EDT on Sunday the 29th of July 2012, by President Bill Kerns. Bill briefly discussed to BOD members of how he was going to proceed with today's meeting.

The reading of the minutes from the May 25, 2012 NTSRI BOD meeting was dispensed with and a motion was made by Paul Cassell and seconded by Dan Kleman that we approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

The reading of the minutes from the May 26, 2012 NTSRI membership meeting was dispensed with and a motion was made by Robin Swartz and seconded by Paul Cassell that we approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

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The treasurer's report was read by Bill Kerns to show the year to date income (\$19,125.00) and expenses (\$19,002.00) of the NTSRI treasury. The cash account stands at \$21,528.00. Dan Kleman made a motion and seconded by Paul Cassell to approve the report. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Dale Huhnke reviewed with the board the status report of the action items of the NTSRI board. This report will be updated prior to each meeting to let the BOD know what items need to be addressed by either the committees or BOD members by the next meeting.

Newsletter/website committee submitted to the NTSRI BOD a rate proposal for advertising in the NTSRI newsletter and website effective August 1, 2012. The board recommended that we add a 20% frequency discount to advertisers who commit to advertising in each issue (which comes out 4X a year). Paul Cassell made a motion and seconded by Tammie Serafin that NTSRI BOD approve these advertising rates along with the 4X frequency. Motion passed unanimously.

The status of the formation of the Production Committee was discussed. Tammie Serafin was handling the formation of this committee. Since she was unable to find commitments from Tunis breeders to work on this committee the BOD decided that it will no longer pursue the establishment of this committee. TM

A code of conduct was submitted at the May 25, 2012 meeting and tabled to the next meeting. The BOD discussed both positive and concerning attributes about the code at this meeting. After much discussion Dale Huhnke moved and seconded by Tammie Serafin that we approve this Code of Conduct. A roll call vote was taken: Bill Kerns-Yes; Robin Swartz-Yes; Dan Kleman-No; Paul Cassell-Yes; Dale Huhnke-No; and Tammie Serafin-Yes. By a 4-2 vote the motion passed. Dale Huhnke pointed out after the vote that there is a line in the Code of Conduct that it needed to be a unanimous approval by the board. Paul Cassell moved and seconded by Robin Swartz that we remove the word "unanimous" from the 3rd sentence of the Code of Conduct section under "Statement of Purpose". A roll call vote was taken: Bill Kerns-Yes; Robin Swartz-Yes; Dan Kleman-No; Paul Cassell-Yes; Dale Huhnke-No; and Tammie Serafin-Yes. By a 4-2 vote the motion passed. The Code of Conduct will be posted to the NTSRI website.

New Business

Bill Kerns went over his suggested BOD assignments and committee chairs for the coming year. It was recommended that all standing functions in NTSRI must have a clear link to a Director in which the director is ultimately responsible for the function of their committees under their watch. Each regional Director will be responsible for these committees: Bill Kerns-Treasury; Robin Swartz-Audit and Annual BOD Elections; Eric Irvine-Associated Registries; NTJA and Futurity; Dan Kleman-Show and Sale; Paul Cassell-Newsletter and Website; Dale Huhnke-Secretary and Public Relations/Advertising; and Tammie Serafin-Membership. It was also discussed in the BOD assignments that we identify a member to be treasurer and a recording secretary to the BOD and the position would be a five (5) year assignment.

Louise Dunham submitted her resignation as newsletter editor effective after publication of the next newsletter. It was moved by Dale Huhnke and seconded by Tammie Serafin that we accept her resignation. Motion passed unanimously.

Dan Kleman made a motion and seconded by Paul Cassell that we transition the banking of NTSRI treasury from the current bank to Bank of America. Bank of America has a branch close to Associated Registries headquarters and so they can deposit money directly into the bank and not send the money in the mail to the current treasurer. Motion passed unanimously.

Carol Wise of Ohio submitted a proposal covering the set up electronic registration/membership forms on the NTSRI website. To set up the form it would cost \$850.00 for a set up fee and \$420/year for annual maintenance costs (annual hosting fees). Paul Cassell made a motion and seconded by Robin Swartz to implement an electronic registration form on the NTSRI website plus include a membership form and a NAILE entry form for Tunis breeders (this is for submitting entry fees to the NAILE Tunis breed manager). Motion passed unanimously. Eric Irvine and Bill Kerns will be overseeing the implementation.

Associated Registries submitted a report on outstanding balances by Tunis breeders. Bill Kerns said that they will have a monthly report soon to be submitted to him. A motion was made and seconded to set up a zero tolerance policy in which the BOD will instruct AR to hold registration transactions of Tunis breeders until they pay their outstanding balance. Motion passed unanimously.

Paul Cassell instructed BOD that the Re-Districting committee will be meeting on August 5 at 7 PM EDT to discuss the re-districting process for the upcoming year.

Dale Huhnke moved and seconded by Robin Swartz to accept the resignation of Jeff and Julie Munsey as the main contacts of the youth and NTJA committee. Motion passed unanimously. The BOD will proceed to contact Linda Whitenack and Georgina Anderson to see if they would like to be the leaders of the committee (since they are currently committee members and mentoring the NTJA) with Dan Irwin handling the futurity contest and sale credits. Paul Cassell made a motion and seconded by Tammie Serafin to have a policy/procedure in place for background checks for any volunteer who works with the youth on youth committee. Motion passed unanimously.

Dale Huhnke reviewed with the BOD the National Tunis Alumni Association form that was developed by the youth committee. Concerns came up that if it followed non-profit organizations rules in fund-raising. It was tabled for further review to see if any money was raised for the youth. If so we would return the money back to the donors. Dale Huhnke is to review with the youth committee if any donations were made and report back to the BOD. The Alumni Association concept will put "on hold" for now.

The BOD reviewed the christened names of rams and ewes that were submitted by Tunis breeders to AR through July 2012. Bill Kerns expects to see a monthly update from AR in the future. We will publish these names on the NTSRI website. Eric Irvine will handle this information from AR and submit it to the NTSRI website to be published. A concern came up in which one Tunis Breeder submits a name for every registered Tunis they submit to AR. The BOD re-discussed this item agreed that for any name submitted by a Tunis Breeder they would be charged a \$25.00 fee per Tunis.

Dale Huhnke reviewed with the BOD an Expense Form that is to be used by all members who submit receipts to the NTSRI treasurer for reimbursement. Dan Kleman made a motion and seconded by Dale Huhnke to have this form used by the membership. Motion passed unanimously. Dale Huhnke will submit to the NTSRI website a PDF fillable version of this form that members can download. All expenses submitted from this point onward must be accompanied by this form. PDF copies of receipts are acceptable if electronically submitted. Email is preferable and results in rapid turnaround for reimbursements.

Bill Kerns requested BOD members to have ideas at the next meeting for a marketing plan to improve the image and membership of the Tunis organization. BOD members scheduled a September 23 conference call meeting at 3 PM EDT. The BOD is planning a NAILE meeting for the BOD and the Tunis membership. Also for September committees need to start submitting 2013 budgets with budget approved at the Louisville meeting. Meetings are open to all members and all are invited to attend conference calls and in-person meetings. As needed for conference calls and in-person meetings, time will be set aside for member discussion going forward. Contact your regional Director for access to agendas and call-in information. Agendas will routinely be sent to Directors and Alternates.

Paul Cassell made motion and seconded by Robin Swartz that any NTSRI BOD meetings that are face-to-face and if any BOD member can't make it, that they can participate via telephone. Motion passed.

Bill Kerns reminded BOD members that any comments on current business items and edits on the minutes need to be submitted to either to Bill or Dale Huhnke by Wednesday, August 1, so that they can be submitted for publication in the upcoming NTSRI newsletter.

With no further business, Dan Kleman made a motion and seconded by Tammie Serafin that we adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at about 5:30 PM EDT.

Respectfully Submitted Dale Huhnke, Secretary

Secretary's Note: The following minutes have not been officially approved by the board. They will be approved at their next meeting.

SHEPHERD'S NOTES

Some additional information not in the July/August Newsletter...

FITTING

Basic Fitting Instructions from someone who has learned thru experience!

Six to eight weeks prior to the show, it is important to cut out the fleece. By doing this the sheep will grow out just enough on the neck and sides, washing will be easier, and the fleece will blend better. When cutting out a sheep, use a fine blade and shear to the skin: the neck, chest, and sides to the back hip but leaving the wool across the front shoulder and back. Use a wider tooth comb and cut from the shoulder straight across the back to the top rear and off the end "blocking" the rear. Blend the side with the longer top fleece leaving around 1/1/2 to 2 inches on the loin. A heart shape is desired. The front should appear narrow wedging to a wider hind end. If the sheep has excessive rear fleece, block the tail and shape the rear for easier washing later.

One week prior to the show wash the sheep. Tanking is the best method, but using a warm hose works well too. If a "bright- white" shampoo is selected, make sure the shampoo is thoroughly rinsed from the fleece. Curry the fleece lightly and let the fleece "rest" for one day. Blanket the animal.

On the third day, examine the fleece. The desired length should be approximately one inch on the neck, chest, and sides. Put water in a spray misting bottle and add a little hair conditioner. Spray the animal until it is damp then curry beginning at the lower legs and working upward toward the back separating the fibers. Continue to curry until all fibers on the whole animal are separated. Hand trim to blend and shape. When using hand trimmers angle the blade slightly inward toward the body of the animal so the cut fleece is angled to promote smoothness. Spray the fleece again, then card, and card, and card. Hand trim to blend and shape then card, and card, and card. Hand trim for the final shape. Pack the fleece using the carder and blanket the animal. Nice Job on this article!

This website information is provided by Melanie Barkley....

Maybe you could use the information that I have posted as part of the Sheep Home Study course. Here is the web address for the fact sheet on fitting breeding sheep. <http://extension.psu.edu/courses/sheep/marketing/fitting-breeding-sheep> You can either use the web address to send folks to the information or I can send you a pdf file from the course if you would prefer that method.

FITTING CONTINUED

Jozi Best of Unity-Newport, NH writes...."Very quickly.. We are still in the thick of shearing alpacas and Llamas so I do not have time for writing. BUT I am doing a stint at Vermont youth sheep camp tonight and tomorrow on Fitting and showmanship so I'll share my thoughts. Last year a Tunis breeder said to me "I did not know you did your own fitting, Thought you had a professional doing your sheep!"

The best BEST help I have is: Fitting is an art that is learned hands on. and takes time. It is like piano playing and each animal is a new piece, a new challenge.

Watch, listen, learn about the tools (That is half of the both electric and hand shearing part, learning how to use, care for, sharpen and especially how to match up combs and cutters, including which combs for which jobs) -- practice, watch some more, try again, practice, and keep working on it, spend lots of time watching the experts. Look at the different stands used before you invest in your own. See what brushes, curries, other tools are used for which tasks. Watch (even volunteer to help) how the carding is done, which # card is used on which kind of wool and which part of the animal. Observe how much prep time is spent carding etc before the shears even come out of the box. Figure out if you like to trim wet or dry. Watch what they put into the water. Watch exactly how they stand or kneel and at which angle they hold, aim and slant the shears, watch in what order they do the various parts of the animal. Watch more than one expert; Watch the sheep come off the trailers and make rounds to see how they progress, hang around when they wash the sheep, (how they prepare before the water is turned on, the angles of the hose, the ways to get the animals into the tanks not just your own breed but all breeds, watch the serious first cut outs (often late at night) After watching and hanging around just out of the way Ask pointed questions After you have watched and tried to figure out the answers yourself. Like how soon after washing can you work the wool, how often do you go over the job, how much time to allot to have the whole flock at their best right at show time.

This is how I learned, a lot of helping just washing in the beginning then being allowed to card long before using the shears. Numberless all nighters watching the top fitters and being available during the shows to hold their animals outside the ring until helping in group classes. ? How does that relate to fitting? The more you handle other animals the more you can learn about how the animals and their fleeces feel when properly prepared, how long or short the wool really is in various places, how it should feel to the judge. (of course NOT poking your fingers in making finger prints though until after the show!)

If you do hire a fitter, hang around and watch, listen. then eventually, dive in at home at get started, often if you have a pro do the initial cut out and fit for the first show, you can then keep it smoothed up for later ones and you will have a good model to increase your confidence.

My one rule though for young and old is : Always have someone nearby when you are fitting, so that there will be help available when the stand tips over, the sheep steps off and tries to hang itself, or lots of other things that can happen with sharp tools and electricity and water.

And plus what sizes of blankets to use for the best coverage... Yes it does make a big difference to save all your hard work. Well, many consider it hard work, but for me each one is a new sculpture, I love the process of handling and shaping the wool, dressing up each animal to look its very best.

People have been trying to get me to do a video for years, but I can never get a camera holder when I am doing a clinic. Which brings up the last suggestion. Schedule a clinic. It has worked for many people to get a group together to hire a fitter who has patience and experience teaching. You can combine getting your own flock done with helping others who help you pay for the day!

OK that is way more time than I intended, my sheep and the donkey are paging me for breakfast, gotta run. Please call if I can help. Jozi (603-304-9152 or jozibest@aol.com)

PS. Actually the first thing I do in a clinic is: Stand back and look at your sheep, What is its shape? What should it look like? What needs to change? length, height, widths, straightness, shape of head, roundness or leanness, etc. You must imagine the ideal finished appearance, have a picture in your head, before you dig into that wool. And as you go step BACK and look at what is changing. Jozi

SHEEP SHOW **SHEEP SHOW**
 SHOWING **SHEEP SHOW SHEEP**
SHEEP SHOW SHEEP

OHIO STATE FAIR OPEN CLASS TUNIS SHOW

August 2, 2012 Jeff Neal, Judge

9 Yr Rams Barnes Farms, OH Bruns Tunis, OH Big Time Tunis, OH	1 Fall Ram Lamb Mom's Tunis, VA	8 January RL Bruns Tunis, OH Kaleb Schakel, IN Kaleb Schakel, IN	6 February RL Coral Neslon, OH BWB Farms, OH Olivia Brown, OH
5 March RL Bruns Tunis, OH Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH Mom's Tunis, VA	6 Pairs RL Bruns Tunis, OH Olivia Brown, OH WindSong Farms, MA	12 Early Yr Ewes Bruns Tunis, OH Mom's Tunis, VA Kaleb Schakel, IN	8 Late Yr Ewes Mom's Tunis, VA Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH Olivia Brown, OH
4 Slick Shorn Yr Ewes Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH Barnes Farm, OH Mom's Tunis, VA	10 Pairs Yr Ewes Bruns Tunis, OH Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH Mom's Tunis, VA	3 Fall Ewe Lambs WindSong Farms, MA Mom's Tunis, VA WindSong Farms, MA	8 January Ewe Lambs WindSong Farms, MA Kaleb Schakel, IN Mom's Tunis, VA
11 February EL Bruns Tunis, OH BWB Farms, OH Mom's Tunis, VA	8 March EL Bruns Tunis, OH Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH BWB Farms, OH	3 Slick Shorn EL Barnes Farms, OH Scarlet & Gray Farm, OH Mom's Tunis, VA	8 Pairs Ewe Lambs Bruns Tunis, OH WindSong Farms, MA Mom's Tunis, VA
7 Young Flock Bruns Tunis, OH WindSong Farms, MA Mom's Tunis, VA	6 Get of Sire WindSong Farms, MA Mom's Tunis, VA Big Time Tunis, OH	86 TUNIS SHOWN!	

CHAMPION RAM – Yr Ram-Barnes Farm, OH

CHAMPION EWE – Yr Ewe-Bruns Tunis, OH

PREMIER EXHIBITOR – John & Irene Bruns – Bruns Tunis, Maria Stein, OH

RES CHAMPION RAM – YR RAM -Bruns Tunis

RES CHAMPION EWE – Feb EL - Bruns Tunis, OH

EXHIBITORS: Barnes Farms, OH; Big Time Tunis, OH; Olivia Brown, OH; Bruns Tunis, OH; Emily Burns, OH; BWB Farms, OH; Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH; Hope Mann, OH; MJM Farms, OH; Mom's Tunis, VA; Coral Nelson, OH; Scarlet & Gray Farms, OH; Kaleb Schakel, IN; Shadybrook Farms, OH; and WindSong Farms, MA.



OHIO STATE FAIR - YOUTH SHOW

August 2nd Matt Martin, Judge 15 Shown

2 Yr Rams	5 Ram Lambs	4 Yearling Ewes	4 Ewe Lambs
Olivia Brown	Olivia Brown	Olivia Brown	Olivia Brown
Emily Burns	Coral Nelson	Olivia Brown	Emily Burns
	Olivia Brown	Emily Burns	Olivia Brown

CHAMPION RAM – Ram Lamb – Olivia Brown RES CHAMPION RAM – RL – Coral Nelson
CHAMPION EWE – Yearling Ewe – Olivia Brown RES CHAMPION EWE – Ewe Lamb – Olivia Brown

NEW ENGLAND YOUTH SHOW & SALE

W. Springfield, MA Jeremy Etzler, Judge 54 Tunis!

2 Yr Rams	6 Early Spring RL	5 Late Spring RL	Pair Ram Lambs
Greg Surgenor, NH	Brianna Taylor, MA	Taylor Harrison, NY	Brianna Taylor, MA
Justine Swartz, NY	Justine Swartz, NY	James Surgenor, NH	Justine Swartz, NY
	Greg Surgenor, NH	Brianna Taylor, MA	
8 Early Yr Ewes	8 Late Yr Ewes	4 Pairs Yearling Ewes	1 Sr Ewe Lamb
Julia Surgenor, NH	Jake Keeney, MD	Brianna Taylor, MA	Brianna Taylor, MA
Greg Surgenor, NH	Alivia Blum, MD	James Surgenor, NH	
Brianna Taylor, MA	Taylor Harrison, NY	Drew Ridgeway, MD	
11 Early Ewe Lambs	13 Late Ewe Lambs	8 Pairs Ewe Lambs	Young Flocks
Kyle MacCauley, PA	James Surgenor, NH	Justine Swartz, NY	Justine Swartz, NY
Ashley Blum, MD	Justine Swartz, NY	Brianna Taylor, MA	Brianna Taylor, MA
Justine Swartz, NY	Brianna Taylor, MA	Kalie Harrison, NY	James Surgenor, NH

BEST HEADED RAM - Brianna Taylor BEST HEADED EWE - Brianna Taylor
CHAMPION RAM - Early RL - Brianna Taylor RES CHAMPION RAM - Late RL - Taylor Harrison
CHAMPION EWE - Early YE - Julia Surgenor RES CHAMPION EWE - Early EL - Kyle MacCauley

1st Year Sheep Skillathon - 3rd Place – Brielle Michener Junior Skillathon - 1st Place – Taylor Harrison
 1st Year Tunis Showmanship - 1st – Alivia Blum 2nd – Brielle Michener 3rd – Seth Kehr
 Junior Tunis Showmanship - 1st – Taylor Harrison 2nd – Greg Surgenor 3rd – Julia Surgenor
 Senior Tunis Showmanship - 1st – Justine Swartz 2nd – Brianna Taylor 3rd – Kyle MacCauley
 Reserve Champion Showman Overall – Alivia Blum
 3rd Place Market Lamb Showmanship – M. Muldeoon 6th Place Market Lamb – Matthew Muldeoon

EXHIBITORS: Alivia Blum, MD; Ashley Blum, MD; Leland Casey; Thomas English, NY; Kalie Harrison, NY; Taylor Harrison, NY; Jake Keeney, MD; Seth Kehr; Sierra Linton, FL; Kyle MacCauley, PA; Brielle Michener, MA; Matthew Muldeoon; Drew Ridgeway, MD; Greg Surgenor, NH; James Surgenor, NH; Julia Surgenor, NH; Justine Swartz, NY, and Brianna Taylor, MA.

18 Junior Exhibitors & 4 National Junior Tunis Directors present!

NEW ENGLAND SALE RESULTS:

Late Spring Ram Lamb consigned by Sierra Linton	\$200
Yearling Ewe consigned by Small Fry Farm Cont.	\$500
Late Spring Ewe Lamb consigned by Small Fry Farm Cont.	\$375