

NATIONAL TUNIS SHEEP REGISTRY, INC.

October, 2009

ISSUE 32

President's Message.....

Here we are again, October and the year is three quarters over, I find myself saying over and over again "I can't believe that it is fall already". However, one step outside in the morning tells me that we are no longer in beach mode. Another thing that gets to me at this time of the year is the daylight saving time. When I'm feeding in the dark in the morning I want to know where is the daylight that we saved. Someone somewhere is basking in my light and I want it back. Oh, well, in a few weeks we will adjust and I will have to find something else to complain about. It doesn't seem to bother the sheep. They are there in the morning and the evening patiently waiting for me to get moving, that same docile Tunis expression on their faces and I'm reminded again why I like these sheep. I'm sure that many of you are expecting fall lambs if you don't already have them on the ground and the spring lambing ewes are out with the rams already and may already be bred. It's funny how a shepherd is never really bored as there is always something to do.

We are winding down our show season with only Louisville left but I want to spend a little time talking about our recently completed national show at KILE in Harrisburg. I certainly can say that the show was the highlight of my year. Let me take you back a few years to when I first started showing Tunis in Harrisburg. The breed was on probation and we were relegated to showing on Monday morning after all the other breeds had shown. Very few people were around to watch the show and those that were around were exhibitors waiting for the show to get over so that they could get on the road. Numbers were limited and you couldn't expect too many cheery helpers for group classes. But this past week was a big change from the past. Our national show was given a prime time slot on Friday evening and we filled up both rings with the redheads. In total, 150 head were shown in the open show and it caused a fair size crowd to stop and admire our sheep. The classes moved along well and following the show, the judge commented to me that the Tunis breeders were prompt and eager to enter the ring and start showing unlike a lot of other breeders. She also commended us on bringing out a high quality group of sheep. The pizza party following the show was a great end to a great day. Probably the highlight of the show was the Supreme classes where Anna Charest's yearling ewe was named Supreme. There was quite a yell when the final choice was made as the cheering section on both sides of the ring erupted. Those breeders watching the class joined Anna for a group picture that will surely be a classic. We followed the show with an excellent sale where 13 high quality females sold for solid prices. The final event was the youth show where 65 head (many of which were shown in the open show) were exhibited by our future Tunis leaders. They did an excellent job and we should all be proud of our Tunis youth. Overall, I want to thank all who participated in the weekend. You helped make the Tunis sheep the stars of the KILE show.

In Harrisburg, your Board of Directors met and discussed numerous topics that I'm sure are of interest to the membership. The minutes of that meeting are listed elsewhere in the newsletter. Please take some time to read them. There are a number of topics that we need to discuss as a group. Along those lines, I have asked that we reserve a room in Louisville for a general membership meeting on Saturday morning (room and time will be posted on the website and at Louisville). There is no specific topic of interest or presentation, but I will be there with any of the Directors that are available at the show and I would like to hear what is important to you as a breeder. So, bring your questions (I won't promise you all the answers) and we can sit and talk. If you can't attend, e-mail me your question and I will bring it up for you.

Thanks for taking time to read these ramblings and I will see you on the road. Remember, spring is just around the corner with a new lamb crop and more of my day light to save.

Dave

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*

Next Newsletter deadline?

January 15th!

NTSRI Treasurer's Report.....Sally Barney 9/20/09

Year to Date Totals:

INCOME:

Advertising	\$ 20.00
AR Income Received	\$14,359.95
Brochure Sales	\$ 20.00
CD Interest	\$ 73.22
Futurity Nominations	\$ 750.00
Interest Checking	\$.66
Interest Savings	\$ 1.86
Membership Sent Directly	\$ 20.00
National Sale Commission	\$ 390.50
NSF Reimbursements	\$ 495.00
T-Shirts	\$ 132.00
Tunis Spirit	\$ 4,0505.00
Web Ads	\$ 100.00
Wool Show Entry Fees	\$ 34.00
Youth Auction - Wooster	\$ 1,579.00

TOTAL \$22,041.19

ASSETS - ACCOUNT BALANCES:

Certificate of Deposit	\$5,073.22
NTSRI - Savings	\$2,028.25
NTSRI - Checking	\$4,675.29
NTSRI - Youth Fund	\$3,633.02
Star of Louisville Sale	\$ 572.00
Tunis Spirit	(-\$1,545.19)

TOTAL ASSETS \$14,436.59

LIABILITIES

-0-

TOTAL ASSETS & LIABILITIES \$14,436.59

EXPENSES:

AAJS Raffle Money	\$ 120.00
Advertising	\$1,087.00
ALL AMERICAN Jr Show	\$ 839.90
Audit Charge	\$ 175.00
D & O Insurance Premium	\$ 947.00
Dues Transaction Fees (AR)	\$ 835.05
Duplicate Paper Fees (AR)	\$ 62.70
Election Expense	\$ 139.10
Extend Ped. Trans Fee (AR)	\$ 2.85
Futurity Payments	\$1,200.00
NSF	\$ 60.00
NAILE - JR	\$ 281.00
NAILE - Open	\$1,037.00
National Tunis Sale	\$ 350.00
Newsletter	\$1,385.63
NTSRI Wool Show	\$ 150.00
Postage (AR)	\$ 60.00
Promo Mailings - Dunham	\$ 134.05
Registration Trans Fees (AR)	\$3,548.25
Rush Fees (AR)	\$ 302.10
National Tunis Show	\$ 350.00
Transfer Trans Fees (AR)	\$1,852.50
Tunis Spirit Mailing	\$ 160.70
Tunis Spirit Printing	\$6,274.91
Webmaster Stipend	\$ 375.00
Youth Buyers Credits	\$ 200.00
Youth Scholarship	\$ 250.00

TOTAL \$22,179.74

NEW MEMBERS:

Jacob & Laura Brinkman, 207 Chester Ave., Bellechester, MN 55027	Region 7
Don Campofranco, Box 443, Salem, NY 12865	Region 2
Devin Carroll, 803 Leominster Rd., Lunenburg, MA 01462-2017	Region 1
Sarah Fouts, 15391 Gilmore SE, Port Washington, OH 43837	Region 4
Fontella Houk, 33124 Apple Valley Rd., Parma, ID 83660	Region 7
Carolyn Howe, 456 Paint Rock Creek Rd., Philadelphia, TN 37846	Region 5
Tom & Kris Mann, 404 Skeels Rd., Celina, OH 45822	Region 4
Kraig & Cathlee Martin, 21539 10th Ave., Barryton, MI 49305	Region 6
Grace & Robert McClelland, RR 1, Box 123A, Sayre, PA 18849	Region 3
Jacob Penich, 240 Pittsburgh St., Derry, PA 15627	Region 3
Jacob Ruggles, 618 St. Rt 313, Cambridge, NY 12816	Region 2
Kate Shepherd, 221 Sidney St., St. James, MO 65559	Region 7
Derek Summers, 6717 Boruff Rd., Corryton, TN 37721	Region 5
Daniel & Kelly Vineyard, 9300 Blue Rock Church Rd., Blue Rock, OH 43720	Region 4
Irene & Rita Winner, 7300 St. Rt 47W, DeGraff, OH 43318	Region 4

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - JANUARY 15TH

2009 NATIONAL TUNIS SHOW @ KILE - Harrisburg, PA!

Judy Moore, Judge

137 Head Shown!

11 YR RAMS

Mom's Tunis - VA
Bruns Tunis - OH
Billy Howe - NY
Kayla Barkley - PA
Mindy Irvine - PA
Wind Song Farms - MA
Triangle Farms Tunis - IN
RQL Farms, NJ
Billy Howe - NY
Drew Ridgeway - MD

5 FALL RAM LAMBS

RQL Farms - NJ
Kayla Barkley - PA
Mom's Tunis - VA
Billy Howe - NY
Mirrissa Parker - PA

18 EARLY SPRING RL 12 LATE SPRING RL

Brown Family Tunis - OH
Anna Charest - MA
Anna Charest - MA
Sean Bryant - OH
RQL Farms - NJ
Mom's Tunis - VA
Michael Wise - PA
Wyatt Dean - PA
Mom's Tunis - VA
Bruns Tunis - OH

Mom's Tunis - VA
Bruns Tunis - OH
Brown Family Tunis - OH
Wind Song Farms - MA
Dirk & Michelle Wise - PA
RQL Farms - NJ
Billy Howe - NY
Taylor Harrison - NY
Swartz & Talley - NY
Swartz & Talley - NY

10 PAIR RL

Anna Charest - MA
Brown Family Tunis - OH
Mom's Tunis - VA
Bruns Tunis - OH
RQL Farms - NJ
Sean Bryant - OH
Billy Howe - NY
Mirrissa Parker - PA
Wyatt Dean - PA
Swartz & Talley - NY

16 YR EWES - A

Anna Charest - MA
Jacci Erwin Tunis - OH
RQL Farms - NJ
Sean Bryant - OH
Big Time Tunis - OH
Mom's Tunis - VA
RQL Farms - NJ
Kayla Barkley - PA
Mindy Stoops Irvine - PA
Kayla Barkley - PA

19 YR EWES - B

Mom's Tunis - VA
Triangle Farms Tunis - IN
Jacci Erwin Tunis - OH
Mindy Stoops Irvine - PA
Anna Charest - MA
Bruns Tunis - OH
Bruns Tunis - OH
Billy Howe - NY
Wind Song Farms - MA
Kalie Harrison - NY

15 PAIRS YR EWES

Jacci Erwin Tunis - OH
Anna Charest - MA
RQL Farms - NJ
Bruns Tunis - OH
Mom's Tunis - VA
Mindy Stoops Irvine - PA
Triangle Farms Tunis - IN
Billy Howe - NY
Wind Song Farms - MA
Kayla Barkley - PA

7 FALL EL

Wind Song Farms - MA
Mom's Tunis - VA
Mom's Tunis - VA
RQL Farms - NJ
Kalie Harrison - NY
Kayla Barkley - PA
Triple M Ranch - IN

17 EARLY SPRING - A 12 EARLY SPRING- B 20 LATE SPRING EL

Brown Family Tunis - OH
Mindy Stoops Irvine - PA
Kayla Barkley - PA
J & L Dunham - OH
Bruns Tunis - OH
Anna Charest - MA
Anna Charest - MA
Mom's Tunis - VA
Kayla Barkley - PA
RQL Farms - NJ

Mom's Tunis - VA
J & L Dunham - OH
Bruns Tunis - OH
Big Time Tunis - OH
RQL Farms - NJ
Triangle Farms Tunis - IN
Wind Song Farms - MA
Billy Howe - NY
Kalie Harrison - NY
Mandy Swartz - NY

Mindy Stoops Irvine - PA
Mom's Tunis - VA
J & L Dunham - OH
Triangle Farms Tunis - IN
Brown Family Tunis - OH
J & L Dunham - OH
RQL Farms - NJ
Big Time Tunis - OH
Billy Howe - NY
Michael Wise - PA

20 PAIRS EL

Mom's Tunis - VA
Anna Charest - MA
Brown Family Tunis - OH
Mindy Irvine - PA
Bruns Tunis - OH
J & L Dunham - OH
Big Time Tunis - OH
RQL Farms - NJ
Wind Song Farms - MA
Kayla Barkley - PA

12 EXHIBITORS FLOCK

Mom's Tunis - VA
Anna Charest - MA
RQL Farms - NJ
Bruns Tunis - OH
Mindy Stoops Irvine - PA
Kayla Barkley - PA
Triangle Farms Tunis - IN
Wind Song Farms - MA
Billy Howe - NY
Mirrissa Parker - PA

8 GET OF SIRE

Mom's Tunis - VA
Anna Charest - MA
Bruns Tunis - OH
RQL Farms - NJ
Kayla Barkley - PA
Triangle Farms Tunis - IN
WindSong Farms - MA
Old Glory Farm - NY

PREMIER EXHIBITOR - Mom's Tunis

PREMIER BREEDER - Mom's Tunis

CHAMPION RAM - Mom's Tunis - Yearling Ram

CHAMPION EWE - Anna Charest - Yearling Ewe

CONGRATULATIONS - ANNA!

RES CHAMPION RAM - RQL Farms - Fall Ram Lamb

RES CHAMPION EWE - Brown Family Tunis - Early Spring

SUPREME CHAMPION EWE!

1,143 Head of Sheep - 14 BREEDS!

EXHIBITORS: Kayla Barkley - PA; Big Time Tunis - OH; Brown Family Tunis - OH; Bruns Tunis - OH; Sean Bryant - OH; Anna Charest - MA; Walter & Denise Clark - PA; Wyatt Dean - PA; Jim & Louise Dunham - OH; Jacci Erwin Tunis - OH; Kalie Harrison - NY; Taylor Harrison - NY; Billy Howe - NY; Mindy Stoops Irvine - PA; Mom's Tunis - VA; Mirrissa Parker - PA; Drew Ridgeway - MD; RQL Farms - NJ; Burdette & Nancy Schmidt - OH; Daniel Swartz - NY; Justine Swartz - NY; Mandy Swartz - NY; Swartz & Talley - NY; Triangle Farms Tunis - IN; Triple M Ranch - IN; Wind Song Farms - MA; Dirk & Michelle Wise - PA; Michael Wise - PA;

KEYSTONE SALE....

4 SALE YR EWES 9 SALE SPRING EWE LAMBS!

RQL Farms - Res CH Ewe	Mom's Tunis - CHAMPION EWE
Billy Howe - Old Glory	Mom's Tunis
B & N Schmidt	Dirk & Michelle Wise
B & N Schmidt	Billy Howe - Old Glory Farm
	Walter & Denise Clark
	Dirk & Michelle Wise
	Billy Howe - Old Glory Farm
	Walter & Denise Clark
	Triangle Farms Tunis

13 Animals averaged \$476.92
4 Yearlings averaged \$756.25
9 Lambs averaged \$352.78
Highest Selling Ewe - Old Glory Farm
\$1,150.00!

THANK YOU TO ALL THE CLASS SPONSORS FOR THE NATIONAL TUNIS SHOW - KILE 2009!

Yearling Ram - Stumpe Tunis, MO

Fall Ram Lamb - Garey Tunis, IL

Early S Ram Lamb - Maple Hollow Farm, PA

Late S Ram Lamb - Triple T Ranch, OR

Pair Ram Lambs - Triangle Farms Tunis, IN

Exhibitor Flock - New Jersey Tunis Breeders

Get of Sire (Plaque) - Sonshine Acres, PA

Get of Sire (\$100) - Darling Tunis, OH

Sale Yearling Ewe - Paul Cassell, VA

Sale Ewe Lamb - Maureen Schmidt, MO

Early Yr Ewe - Dan, Cynthia, Eric & Molly Kleman

Late Yr Ewe - Misty Lane Farm, PA

Pair Yr Ewes - Bruns Tunis, OH

Fall Ewe Lamb - Hart Livestock, IL

E. Spring Ewe Lambs A - Scarlet & Gray Farm, OH

E. Spring Ewe Lambs B - Cass Hollow Farm, WI

L. Spring Ewe Lambs A - Windsong Farms, MA

L. Spring Ewe Lambs B - Dirk & Michelle Wise, PA

Pair Ewe Lambs - BWB Farms, INC, OH

Peter Harris Awarded the Bruce Hunt Shepherd of the Year Award

Peter Harris, long time Tunis breeder from Ludlow, Massachusetts is this year's recipient of the Bruce Hunt Shepherd of the Year Award. Peter was presented with the award just prior to the Tunis Show at the "Big E" in Springfield, Massachusetts by Sandra Hunt Hamel, wife of Bruce Hunt.

Peter was nominated for this award by Dwight & Sally Barney from Lee, New Hampshire. In their nomination letter, the Barneys cited the many contributions Peter has made to the promotion of Tunis breed of sheep and the Tunis Youth program. Peter has served the NTSRI as it's President, Treasurer, and Director. He has also served the Northeast Tunis Sheep Association (NETSA) as its President, Vice-president, and Secretary. Most importantly, they point out, he is a tireless behind the scenes worker. Peter is a perfectionist and an organizer. He likes to be prepared and see that things go off smoothly. His success in organizing National Tunis Shows at Eastern States and his work on the NTSRI Show & Sale committee attest to this ability.

Peter and his wife, Judy, have had an outstanding flock of Tunis for over 30 years. The Harris name is well known in a lot of New England breeding and show ring rankings. Their greatest accomplishment, they would probably agree, is to the encouragement they have both given to the youth of our breed.

Peter is one of the first promoters of the Tunis Futurity program. He could clearly see the benefit of having a strong youth program to lead the way into the future of the breed. A current example of his success in promoting Tunis among the youth is a young lady named Anna Charest. Peter loaned a Tunis sheep to Anna so that she could participate in a lead line class at the Big E. The loan became a permanent gift and started Anna on her way to great success as a youth breeder of Tunis. Anna recently won Supreme Champion Ewe with one of her sheep at KILE over 1143 sheep entered. We can all be proud of her accomplishment but none of us more than Peter.

Peter continues to be a promoter and example behind the scenes as he works with his grandson, Dillon, who, surprise, surprise is also interested in Tunis sheep. Dillon is a good worker, helping grandpa around the farm with the haying and all the sheep chores. I wonder where he learned to be such a tireless worker?

Congratulations, Pete! We all appreciate what you have done for the breed and particularly for securing our future by doing such a good job of promotion with our youth members.

Written by Lyle Hotis, Committee Member

NTSRI Board of Directors Meeting
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

October 3, 2009

Meeting was called to order by President David Rock. Directors present were David Rock, Barbara Cassell (also holding AnnaRae Hodgins' proxy), Robin Swartz, Nancy Schmidt, Dale Huhnke, Bill Kerns, and Tammie Serafin. Mandy Swartz for the Youth Organization and interested members Dirk Wise, Mrs. Kerns, Anna Marie Chapdelain, Marianne Turcheck, and Linda Cook.

The minutes were approved as published. Dale Huhnke presented additions he felt needed to be added to the minutes. Additions were noted but will not be added due to lateness of the additions. David asked for all BOD to send him their correct email addresses. He wanted to make sure everyone was getting all the information being sent out. In the future, there will be a 2 week period for everyone to look over minutes and add suggestions. So that we can publish the correct minutes to our members.

Treasurers Report: David read the report furnished by Sally Barney. NTSRI will continue to assess fees for "bounced" checks. David Rock moved to table all action and discussion for the Spirit and Budget until new business. Dale Huhnke moved to accept the treasurer's report as read. Nancy Schmidt 2nd. Concerns were discussed that the Spirit held a negative balance. Dale reported that the publisher charged sales tax and this will be refunded. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Membership: Nancy Schmidt presented the membership list as of September 29, 2009. She noted that youth membership had increased. David Rock had recommended that all directors go through the list and check for accuracy. David would like to see AR furnish all memberships lists by region in the future instead of Nancy retyping them. This way the documents will be more of an official document and may be free of mistakes. Barbara Cassell moved to accept the record as submitted. Bill Kerns 2nd. Motion passed.

Show and Sale Committee: No report other what is currently on the NTSRI website. Dale Huhnke moved to accept as presented. Barbara Cassell 2nd. Motion passed.

Youth: No report.

Spirit: We had enough money to take the Spirit to print. The committee is still in the process of collecting money owed on the advertisements. Bill Kerns moved to accept as presented. Dale Huhnke 2nd. Motion passed.

Publicity: Dale would like to postpone all ad work for website advertising until 2010 as he does not have the tools at this time to do any ad setup. Dale also wanted to encourage everyone to participate in the monthly photo contest on the NTSRI website. They had 7 entries last month with Kim Day the winner. Barbara Cassell moved to accept as presented. Bill Kerns 2nd. Motion passed.

Audit: No new audits at this time. Next scheduled audit will be in 3 years. David then asked how they felt about the new Treasurers position. All were in agreement that it was working out great.

Youth Organization: Mandy Swartz would really like to get going with the organization but just seems like there is not much direction at this time. She encouraged all BOD to please submit names of youth in their regions that would be interest in being involved in the youth.

Procedures: David reported that all submitted SOP's will be posted to the NTSRI website. The BOD will not do any approval of the SOP's at this time.

Additional Old Business: Robin Swartz felt we needed to push the Futurity program more at the Sales. Children are missing out on a great opportunity to join the program as there is no information there on sale day. It was recommended that we include a handout in our promo packets sent out to prospective people. We will ask that Kelly bring more information to handout at the sale tables and the breed booth. We will ask Greg Deakin to include that sheep are futurity nominated in the sale catalog.

NEW BUSINESS:

Show and Sale: Presentation of animals for show: David Rock would like to open discussion on remaining with fitted animals or to move to all slick sheared. A survey will be sent out to the membership on this issue. Dale suggested that we offer slick classes at all of our National Sales. Tammie also wanted to encourage that we have a full compliment of slick classes at the National Show as well. A poll was taken of people in the room about this issue. Most agreed that it should be the owners choice whether to go fitted or slicked. All also agreed that if we make the move that we use extreme caution as it will change the breed. Dale Huhnke will put together a survey with the committee for the membership.

Breed Standard: The standard was written some 20 years ago. It was discussed whether we should look into possible changes. Tammie will look into past minutes to find when this was visited last and if there is a recommended time line for a committee to look into this. Dale Huhnke moved that the president create an ad hoc committee to look into the breed standard. Barbara Cassell 2nd. Robin Swartz recommended that we include a breeder that has been in the breed for a long time, so they can insure that breed characteristics are still included. Motion passed.

Sales: Dirk Wise pointed out that there were way to many rams entered at the National Sale and that it hurt the prices as a whole. Ideas to limit the number were for every 3 ewes entered, one ram could enter. The other idea was that we not limit the number entered but only pull the top 5 from every class to sell in the sale. This topic was also encouraged to be added to the member survey for ideas from the membership. David asked the board if they felt if there were to many Tunis sales. The board was split on this opinion. There are members looking to start a sale at Sedalia. There was some concern that the Illinois sale would be hurt by the Sedalia the following week. Some felt that we are spreading the breed to thin with all these sales. Many felt Sedalia will be an excellent venue for a Tunis sale. It was agreed that this is not supported by NTSRI and if members would like to push for a sale then so be it.

Youth Budget: Kelly Stumpe would like to increase the youth budget of \$4150 to create new programs. Kelly would like to create a young flock give away to a non Tunis owning youth. Kids 9 - 18 who have never owned Tunis would fill out an application for the chance to win a \$750 credit to buy sheep of their choice at the National Tunis Sale. Barbara Cassell moved to accept the idea as presented by the youth committee pending the review of funding and the application process of the starter flock program. Robin Swartz 2nd. This will need to be discussed with Sally to see if this will be financially feasible to NTSRI. With 1 opposed, motion passed.

Budget: No committees submitted a formal budget except for publicity. Bill Kerns moved to continue with the 2008 fiscal year budget through to the 2010 Wooster meeting. Nancy Schmidt 2nd. Motion passed.

Show and Sale: Dale presented the future National Show locations: 2010 Indiana, 2011 Big E, 2012 Missouri and 2013 Louisville. Dale Huhnke moved to accept the locations for future National Shows in 2010 Indiana, 2011 Big E, 2012 Missouri and 2013 Louisville in place. Bill Kerns 2nd. Motion passed. The 2010 National Sale will again be held in Wooster as no other states qualify by the SOP standard. Dale Huhnke moved to accept the location for the 2010 National Sale in Wooster, Ohio. Barbara Cassell 2nd. Motion passed.

Indiana National Show: Dale brought up that the NTSRI currently gives \$350 to help support putting on the National Show. The Committee is recommending that we increase that to \$500 per 80 head and have an increase \$50 per 10 head after that with a cap of \$750. Dale Huhnke moved that the National Show funding for 2010 of \$350 in increase to \$500 per 80 head with an increase of \$50 per 10 head after that and a cap of \$750. Nancy Schmidt 2nd. Bill Kerns moved to amend the motion by adding "pending funding consideration from Sally Barney". Dale Huhnke 2nd. Main motion and amendment passed.

National Sale - Dale also pointed out the National Sale funding needed to increase from \$350 to \$500. Dale Huhnke moved to increase funding for the National Sale from \$350 to \$500 pending funding consideration. Bill Kerns 2nd. Motion passed.

Jackpot - In the North East a yearling jackpot is held in Woodstock. The ewes are nominated as lambs and are shown in the jackpot as yearling's for a money jackpot. Bill was concerned that there aren't many breeders in the NE to have enough participation in the future. He would like to open this up to a National Jackpot Competition being held at the National Show. The North East will do all the funding and foot work to put this competition together. Bill will come back with a formal presentation on this program at the next meeting.

Spirit: Discussion on whether we need to have a yearly Spirit or could we move to an every other year publication. It was decided that we should move to every other year publishing. We are currently running very low on 2009 Spirit. David recommended we look into the cost of printing a membership directory in place of a Spirit next year. The committee is having a lot of trouble collecting outstanding debt on advertisements of the 2009 Spirit. It was recommended that an invoice be sent with a due date of November 1st. If not paid after that date all NTSRI privileges will be suspended until debt is paid. Dale Huhnke moved to reprint 500 copies of the 2009 Spirit. Bill Kerns 2nd. 2 opposed in voice vote. Roll call vote was taken. Dale Huhnke, Bill Kerns, Tammie Serafin and David Rock were for the reprint and Nancy Schmidt, Robin Swartz, Barbara Cassell and Anna Rae Hodgkin were opposed to the reprint. Motion failed.

Newsletter: Many members do not want the email newsletter. Discussion whether the new change to email format was working. It was pointed out that the member can ask to have a paper copy sent instead of email. It was pointed out that the board stands by email format when many of the directors would prefer paper. David pointed out the financial drain that the mailed newsletter would cause the NTSRI. Tammie Serafin moved to offer a paper newsletter for a \$5 charge to all interested members. Dale Huhnke 2nd. Robin Swartz worried that we would alienate all senior members who want a paper newsletter. Motion failed. Nancy Schmidt moved to add a line at the bottom of the membership application that states we as a board encourage email newsletter however, if you would prefer paper newsletter we ask for \$5 to help offset costs. Dale Huhnke 2nd. Motion passed.

Any Other New Business: Tammie Serafin pointed out that Barbara Cassell has graciously made an informational breed board to travel to all the National Shows and Sales. Tammie felt that a professional board needs to be made as we have evolved. Bill asked if the large banners were already used for breed advertisement. These banners are personally owned by members. Currently the NTSRI has only the Spirit and the brochures for breed advertisement. Dale Huhnke moved to have Tammie Serafin look into the costs of having a breed board created. Barbara Cassell 2nd. Motion carried.

National Jr Show - We need to schedule our Jr. shows. It was believed that we were supposed to hold our Jr. show in conjunction with the Jr. All American. Dale will double check with the Show and sale Committee.

Dale Huhnke moved to adjourn the meeting. Tammie Serafin 2nd. Motion passed.
Meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm.

Respectively submitted, Tammie Serafin, NTSRI Secretary

2009 TUNIS SHOW @ Ohio State Fair...Columbus, OH

Matt Martin, Judge

Weights listed after names

57 HEAD SHOWN!

2 YR RAMS

J & L Dunham - 272
Bruns Tunis - 223

5 JAN. RAM LAMBS

Brown Family Tunis - 138
Bruns Tunis - 141
Sean Bryant - 153

3 FEB. RAM LAMBS

J & L Dunham - 139
Erwin Tunis - 139
Bruns Tunis - 130

5 MARCH RL

Brown Family Tunis - 92
Scarlet & Gray Farm - 82
BWB Farms Inc - 108

5 PAIR RLA

Brown Family Tunis
Bruns Tunis
Sean Bryant

8 EARLY YR EWES

Sean Bryant - 186
JNT Tunis - 158
Brown Family Tunis - 174

8 LATE YR EWES

Bruns Tunis - 175
J & L Dunham - 165
Bruns Tunis - 168

4 SLICK SHORN YR

J & L Dunham - 179
BWB Farms, Inc - 183
J & L Dunham - 186

6 PAIRS YR EWES

Bruns Tunis
JNT Tunis
J & L Dunham

1 FALL EWE LAMB

JNT Tunis

7 JAN. EWE LAMBS

Bruns Tunis - 111
Brown Family Tunis - 109
JNT Tunis - 120

6 FEB. EWE LAMBS

J & L Dunham - 110
Bruns Tunis - 114
JNT Tunis - 100

7 MARCH EWE LAMBS

J & L Dunham -112
JNT Tunis - 109
Scarlet & Gray -91

3 SLICK SHORN EL

J & L Dunham - 110
BWB Farms Inc - 108
J & L Dunham - 105

7 PAIRS EWE LAMBS

J & L Dunham
Bruns Tunis
Brown Family Tunis

4 YOUNG FLOCK

Bruns Tunis
J & L Dunham
Brown Family Tunis

3 GET OF SIRE

J & L Dunham
Brown Family Tunis
Bruns Tunis

CHAMPION RAM - Brown Family Tunis - Jan. Ram Lamb

RES. CHAMP RAM - Jim & Louise Dunham - Yr Ram

CHAMPION EWE - Bruns Tunis - Late Yr Ewe

RES. CHAMP EWE - Jim & Louise Dunham - Feb. Ewe Lamb

PREMIER EXHIBITOR - Jim & Louise Dunham

Best 4 Head - Bruns Tunis

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

20 Brochures - \$5 937-465-8299 tunis@bright.net

Region 7 Director...Tammie Serafin writes....

This has been a wonderful summer of new beginnings. The Missouri Tunis Breeders was created, thanks to our members Kelly Stumpe and Kate Lambert. They have a ton of activities planned and we look to them to plan an excellent Tunis National in our region for 2012. We may also get the first sale in our region at one of the largest sheep sales in the country, Sedalia Stud Ram Sale in June. I encourage everyone to get involved as there is a ton of excitement and money running through this sale. I believe Tunis will be a very welcomed addition there.

I just attended the National Tunis Show in Harrisburg, PA. This was a very exciting event! The champion Tunis ewe owned by Anna Charest won the Supreme Champion award over Kuykendall's Montadale, Passwater's Dorset and several other breeders. The show itself was extremely impressive. The classes were very large and quality ran very deep. The sale was a huge success with the highest sale average over any other breed. I also noticed that many of the buyers were youth and new to Tunis. The Board of Directors meeting opened up discussion on many hot topics. One being whether we should move our breed to slick shear only or stay fitted. Whether we should encourage more slick shear classes at the National Shows and the National Sales. I am curious what your thoughts are on this topic? The other topic was the quantity of rams entered at the National Sale this year. Many felt the heavy number hurt the prices. Thoughts were to limit numbers entered or only pull the top end of every class to sell. What are your thoughts on this topic?

The North American is just around the corner in Louisville, KY. We will have several of our Regional members in attendance and I can't wait to report on their success. The membership meeting will be Saturday, November 14th at 9:00 am in the sheep hallway. The Stars of Louisville Sale will be held on Saturday, November 14th at 7:30 pm with ewes of every age and many will be bred. Trucks from all over the country will be there, so this would be an excellent chance to add some numbers before winter. I have heard of some excellent sheep being entered! The youth show will be Sunday, November 15th and the Open will be Tuesday, November 17th. You can watch both shows from the comfort of your home through live steam at the NAILE website.

I have heard from a number of breeders in our Region that sale animals are flying out of the barn. Many of the flocks in the west have upped their numbers just to meet the demand. This is very exciting news for us all! You guys have been the true ambassadors for this breed, keep up the great work!! Please continue to keep me posted on your Tunis happenings!

Tammie Serafin 831-809-3751 trail2win@msn.com or facebook - Tammie Harris Serafin

2009 TUNIS SHOW @ Missouri State Fair - Sedalia, MO

Jim Kin, Judge

50 HEAD SHOWN by 6 Exhibitors

<u>YR RAMS</u>	<u>SR RAM LAMBS</u>	<u>JR RAM LAMBS</u>	<u>PAIR RAM LAMBS</u>
Uptown Farms, MO Schmidt Brothers, MO Murry Farms, MO	Amber Stumpe, MO	Uptown Farms, MO Elizabeth Stumpe, MO Elizabeth Stumpe, MO	Elizabeth Stumpe, MO Uptown Farms, MO Amber Stumpe, MO
<u>YR EWES</u>	<u>PAIR YR EWES</u>	<u>SR EWE LAMBS</u>	<u>JR EWE LAMBS</u>
Uptown Farms, MO Uptown Farms, MO Amber Stumpe, MO	Uptown Farms, MO Elizabeth Stumpe, MO Amber Stumpe, MO	Elizabeth Stumpe, MO Amber Stumpe, MO	Elizabeth Stumpe, MO Uptown Farms, MO Uptown Farms, MO
<u>PAIR JR ELS</u>	<u>BEST PAIR</u>	<u>YOUNG FLOCK</u>	<u>BEST 4 LAMBS</u>
Elizabeth Stumpe, MO Uptown Farms Jacob Long, MO	Uptown Farms, MO Elizabeth Stumpe, MO Schmidt Brothers, MO	Uptown Farms, MO Elizabeth Stumpe, MO Amber Stumpe, MO	Elizabeth Stumpe, MO Uptown Farms, MO Amber Stumpe, MO

CHAMPION RAM - Uptown Farms - Jr Ram Lamb

RESERVE CHAMPION RAM - Elizabeth Stumpe - 2nd Place Jr Ram Lamb

CHAMPION EWE - Uptown Farms - Yearling Ewe

RESERVE CHAMPION EWE - Elizabeth Stumpe - Jr Ewe Lamb

Missouri Breeders Start Formal Association:

The Missouri Tunis Breeders organized for their first meeting of the Missouri Tunis Association (MTA), at the conclusion of the Missouri State Fair Tunis Show on August 18, 2009. Breeders present quickly voted to form a formal organization and elected Kelly Stumpe as President and Kate Lambert as Secretary. Six families immediately joined the association and paid dues in full. Membership elected to have dues \$20 per family per year. Due renewal will occur at the State Fair each year.

Members then discussed assisting in hosting the Midwest Preview Junior Show and agreed to help both with fundraising and providing help the day of the show. Members talked about ways to encourage participation in the State Fair Tunis Show. Ideas posed were calling breeders within the state to encourage them to bring Tunis, targeting out of state breeders who are close to the state and or have participated in the past, and hosting the National Show again. The MTA is also looking into providing some additional awards for the State Fair Junior Tunis Show next year.

Since the meeting, 20 additional breeders have been contacted about joining MTA. If you are interested in joining MTA, please contact Kate Lambert at 660-541-0468, 809 W Dake St., Brookfield, MO or MissouriTunis@hotmail.com. Also, Kate Lambert prepared and sent in a formal request for the MTA to host the National Tunis Show along with the Missouri State Fair in 2011.

If you have received a membership packet and have not returned your dues and or membership application, please get those returned immediately. Your 2009 dues will be good until August 2010. **If you want to be included in the fall and spring mailings, and breeders directory, you need to have dues and membership application returned to Kate Lambert no later than November 1.**

For email correspondence to the Missouri Tunis Association, please add their newly established email address to your contacts. The email address is *MissouriTunis@hotmail.com*.

****We have created a MTS website! If you are a paid member you are already listed on the site!! If you would like to add or edit any of the information, let me know and I will make changes ASAP. Also if you have any events you would like to add to the calendar, let me know as well. Please add the link to your Facebook Pages, Twitter Accounts, MySpace, or farm pages! This website is FREE for us to use and we can add just about any kind of information we would like!!!**

<http://MOTunis.weebly.com/index.html>

MTA announces Midwest Junior Show Plans:

Along with the assistance of several other sheep organizations, the Missouri Tunis Association will be hosting the first annual **Midwest Junior Preview Sheep Show on June 12, 2010**. The show will take place in Chillicothe, MO at the Litton Agricultural Center which offers an indoor, air-conditioned show ring. **This event is an all-breeds junior breeding sheep show that is open to junior producers from any state under the age of 21. All breeds of registered sheep are eligible to show.**

The MTA is working hard to put a large emphasis on the Tunis breed at this event. A large presence of Tunis at the event will promote our breed to junior members from across the country as well as show off the high quality of animals our juniors are now exhibiting. The MTA feels there is no better way to promote our breed than have a large showing of animals from across the country.

Pre-registration will be encouraged but not required. Participants will need to be registered by 8:30 a.m. on June 12 with the show beginning at 9:00 a.m. The Missouri Sheep Producers will be giving a T-shirt to all juniors who pre-register. Awards will be distributed for class placings, Champion and Res Champion Rams and Ewes in each breed, as well as a cash award for both Supreme Champion Ram and Supreme Champion Ewe. There will also be three showmanship events at the end of the day. |

If you are interested in sponsoring an award or making a donation towards the Midwest Junior Preview Sheep Show, please contact Kate Lambert at 660-541-0468 or uptownSuffolksHamps@hotmail.com. **We are looking for donors to help provide additional awards for the Tunis exhibitors.** We would like to have funds to provide an exhibitors prize for all junior members who are exhibiting Tunis.

The MTA will be hosting a Fundraising event at NAILE. Raffle tickets will be sold Friday - Tuesday with a raffle being held at the conclusion of the NAILE Tunis Show on Tuesday. First prize will be a Ketchams Trimming Stand. Second Prize will be a 1/2 page advertisement in *The Banner Sheep Magazine*. Tickets are \$5 for 6 tickets for \$20.

It is the goal of MTA to have the Tunis be the largest breed show at the Midwest Junior Preview. To receive information on exhibiting at this event, please contact Kate Lambert!

TUNIS YEARLING EWE JACKPOT SHOW!!!!

The first annual Northeast Tunis Sheep Association Yearling Ewe Jackpot Show was held in Woodstock, CT on Labor Day 2009. The Show provided Tunis breeders the opportunity to nominate their bred and owned 2008 ewe lambs with the hope that they will mature into the ewe that will win the Yearling Jackpot Show. Nominations started in June 2008 with final nominations in July 2009. Eight Tunis farms nominated 30 ewe lambs in June 2008. By July 2009, only 8 of the 30 ewe lambs remained in the competition and were shown on Labor Day in the Tunis Yearling Ewe Jackpot Show.

The show winner was Anna Charest (Small Fry Farm - Brimfield, MA), followed by David and Sandra Rock (RQL Farms - Hillsborough, NJ) with 2nd and 3rd, Devan Newton (Amour Acres - Chepachet, RI) with 4th and Bill and Sharon Kerns (WindSong Farms - Harvard, MA) with 5th. Congratulations to Anna and many thanks to all who participated.

The Northeast Tunis Association (NETSA), as sponsor, is hoping to make this show open to all in the NTSRI and to rotate the Jackpot Show with the National Tunis Show. A proposal is being reviewed by the National Show and Sale Committee. Anyone may enter and there are no age restrictions or restrictions on place of residence.

What is a Jackpot Show?

- Breeders invest a fee to nominate several lambs in the spring of each year, then sustain their entries over a year and finally enter the best animals in the yearling show with a final entry fee. Prize monies are paid back to the top 5 farms in the show. The total purse is dependent on breeder participation and vendor support.
- Financial support will be solicited from all segments of agribusiness and the sheep industry.
- This will be a show case event at the National Show (pending approval); separate from the Open Show.

Rules of Entry and Eligibility

- Participant must own the Dam of the Show nominee(s) at the time of conception.
- Ewes shall be born between the inclusive dates of 1 September and 1 May the year previous to the show.
- The four tooth rule applies and will be enforced.
- The eligibility of any properly nominated and sustained ewe may be transferred to a new owner, provided the new owner stays current on all payments and abides by the rules.
- The event will be managed by the Northeast Tunis Sheep Association (NETSA).
- Any changes or additions to these rules require approval by the NETSA.
- All entry fees are to be submitted to the Secretary of the NETSA.
- Nominated animals whose sustaining payments are not received by the due dates will be disqualified: monies paid will not be reimbursed.
- Ewes that are eligible for the event can be shown in both the open show classes and the Jackpot Show.
- Ewes must be registered for the National Show.

Nomination Process

- Nominate as many ewe lambs as you like prior to the first payment date; one or all of these lambs can be shown in the Yearling Jackpot Show the following year if all fees are paid; normally as time progresses you will nominate fewer lambs with each payment.
- You may cease to continue nominations at any time; no money is refunded and the ewe is not eligible to re-enter the contest.
- All fees must be paid on time.
- Ewes cannot be shown if fees are delinquent.

Payment Dates

- 1 July \$5.00/entry
- 1 February \$15.00/entry
- 1 July \$30.00/entry

Payout

- 1st place - 50% 2nd place - 20% 3rd place - 15% 4th Place - 10% 5th Place - 5%
of eligible pot.

Sponsor

- NETSA will be the sponsor of the National Jackpot Show and will manage the show.

Submitted by Bill Kerns

In response to my pleas for articles..... Bob Kidwell of Montgomery, MI sent me this article that he wrote for the 2008 Spring Issue of "Farming" magazine that is distributed in Holmes county...Amish Country in Ohio. Bob explains, "We've farmed here in Michigan for 35 years, where we raised two home-schooled boys, countless sheep, cattle, chickens, pigs, and goats. The most enjoyable and interesting part of our farming for the last 20 years has been done with draft horses. During the more ambitious years we ran a flour milling business on the farm to provide a market for our organic grains. Now that we've reached the social security age our main cash crops are lambs and hay. We do raise nearly all our own food."

"The Little Yellow Box.....How would ewe prefer to lamb?"

Walking across the lush, green field, the early morning sun beginning to dry the dew drenched grass, ewes stretching as they rise from their resting spots, lambs nursing, thrilled to find their mothers standing at last, it's hard to recall the advantages of lambing in the winter. There are several, of course, but scenic beauty isn't one, nor is the warm sun.

For many years we winter lambled our 150 ewes in the barn. Then we found an easier way that involved a little yellow box, a plastic, sort-of water proof, tackle box. In the old days, prior to two years ago, lambing started in mid January, usually during the coldest weather Michigan could dish out. The cold weather and crowded conditions made it necessary to start the lambs nursing immediately and confine each, new, happy family to four foot by four foot pens called lambing jugs so the easily befuddled ewes could learn to identify their own lambs. Ear tag numbers didn't help much with this. As can be imagined, this whole process was rather labor intensive. We made frequent trips to the frigid barn to be sure the mothers were put in the jugs before recent birth experiences slipped their minds.

After being released from their confinement the ewes were moved with their lambs to small socializing groups of up to 10 ewes so the lambs could become accustomed to being knocked flat when they tried to nurse the wrong mothers. These groups were combined as the lambs grew. Soon the lambs needed a special high protein creep feed fed in spaces called creeps designed to keep out the ever ravenous lactating ewes. The logistics of this whole thing were complex. Each group needed hay, grain, and water, even the individual jugs. To accomplish all of this we needed a couple dozen hog panes, 11 eight foot one sided aisle type hay and grain feeders, two eight foot double sided feeds, ten small round hay and grain feeds, many salt feeders, three creep gates, assorted small gates, four lamb grain feeders, two teenage boys, and an unknown number of watering tanks, plus the barn and all the straw. The constant moving of sheep furniture was a lot of work. It's best to not think of all the time spend spreading the manure each spring.

Yes, we made use of the often underutilized resource, child labor. Unfortunately our two boys have grown up and moved on. A change was needed.

Now we have the little yellow box....Two years ago we left the ewes outside all winter where they happily ate 600 pound round bales unrolled for them on the ground. They spread their own manure.

In the spring after shearing and worming they were turned out on the new, delicious grass in mid April. In early May, shortly before the lambs were due, we put them on a field with enough grass to last for at least two weeks. Very young lambs are difficult to move to a new paddock, so lambing puts the usual rotation temporarily on hold.

When the first lambs arrive the ewes were not the same befuddled mothers we had known in the crowded barn. In the more natural pasture environment the lambing mothers went a short distance from the rest of the flock to give birth spending some time alone to bond with the lambs. No more dragging the reluctant ewes to lambing jugs to force them to do what they could do quite well on their own, given enough space. Shortly after birth we found the lambs easy for us to catch so we could put on ear tags, examine for health issues, castrate and dock tails. We carried our tools in an open plastic carrier. The yellow box was still in the future.

The high nutritional value of the early spring grasses and weeds made grain for the ewes and creep feed for the lambs unnecessary. On water tank with an automatic float provided for the entire flock.

That first year we kept the limited lambing gear under an overturned water tank out in the field. One day we lost the elastrator, the tool used to apply rubber bands for castration and tail docking, when it fell out of our open carrier. There had to be something better. The search led us to the little yellow box.

We found an 8"x16"x8" box with a carrying handle and top to keep out the rain, at the local hardware. It's made in China from nonrenewable resources possibly by slave labor, but that's globalization. It could be carried easily as we walked the field twice each day looking for newborn lambs. We could leave it at the edge of the field without fear of rain or wind.

Here is what we carried in the box: Ear tag applicator Ear tags for lamb identification
Rubber bands & elastrator tool Towel for drying fresh lambs Notebook and pencil for record keeping

A crayon marker to identify lambs possibly needing attention later, such as triplets we remove and bottle feed after three days.

Plastic bag to put lambs in that didn't survive the birth process for later burial

This doesn't sound like much, but consider all we previously needed for lambing: gates, feeders, grain, straw, barns, children, etc. Now we have just this box.

There are drawbacks to pasture lambing as with most everything. The lambs got to market later when prices may not be as high. Some may be lost to predators. Internal parasites are a constant threat and it can be difficult to start lambs on grain for finishing in the fall. None of these is insurmountable, though. This year, for example, we've discovered 12% protein soy hull pellets that are excellent for fattening lambs coming off the pasture in the fall. Normally it is not easy to start these lambs on grain, because they lack the necessary rumen bacteria to digest it. This can lead to acidosis and lambs going off feed from the grain overload unless done very slowly. The pellets are digested more like grass and legumes, so can be fed free choice and can be mixed gradually with more and more shelled corn as the lambs adjust. Right now the pellets are cheaper than corn. Last summer early in the lambing season we lost three lambs to coyotes. Then we put a thousand pound steer in the pasture with the sheep. After that we had no more losses. Coincidence?

We have a friend who has been known to remark, "You don't make a lot of money farming, but the scenery sure is nice." The scenery doesn't get much better than ewes grazing the rolling hills of green pasture while their lambs gambol about, happy to be alive. Now we even take the time to look at it. Contrast this with the 10,000 ewe confinement lambing operation under construction in Iowa. It won't be the least bit scenic.

2009 TUNIS SHOW @ Indiana State Fair - Indianapolis, IN

Jeremy Etzler, Judge

93 HEAD SHOWN!

6 YR RAMS

J & L Dunham, OH
Bruns Tunis, OH
Tom Schambow, WI

2 FALL RAM LAMBS

Gage Matthews, IN
RQL Farms, NJ

5 EARLY RAM LAMBS

Sean Bryant, OH
Sean Bryant, OH
Bruns Tunis, OH

11 LATE RLS

J & L Dunham, OH
Bruns Tunis, OH
Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH

5 PAIR RAM LAMBS

Bruns Tunis, OH
Sean Bryant, OH
BWB Farms, OH

14 EARLY YR EWES

Tom Schambow, WI
Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH
Sean Bryant, OH

11 LATE YR EWES

Tom Schambow, WI
Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH
Bruns Tunis, OH

8 SLICK SHORN YR

J & L Dunham, OH
BWB Farms, OH
Dave & Rachel Joseph, OH

13 PAIRS YR EWES

Tom Schambow, WI
Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH
J & L Dunham, OH

12 EARLY SPRING EL

Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH
Tom Schambow, WI
RQL Farms, NJ

16 LATE SPRING EL

Tom Schambow, WI
Gareys Tunis, IL
Gage Matthews, IN

5 SLICK SHORN EL

J & L Dunham, OH
BWB Farms, OH
Dave & Rachel Joseph, OH

10 PAIRS EWE LAMBS

Tom Schambow, WI
Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH
J & L Dunham, OH

10 BEST 4 HEAD

Tom Schambow, WI
Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH
J & L Dunham, OH

10 FLOCKS

Tom Schambow, WI
Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH
J & L Dunham, OH

CHAMPION RAM - Jim & Louise Dunham - Yearling Ram

RESERVE CHAMPION RAM - Jim & Louise Dunham - Late Spring Ram Lamb

CHAMPION EWE - Tom Schambow - Early Yearling Ewe

RESERVE CHAMPION EWE - Jacci Erwin Tunis - Early Spring Ewe Lamb

EXHIBITORS: Alex Anderson - IN; Big Oak Tunis - IN; Sean Bryant - OH; Bruns Tunis - OH; BWB Farms, Inc. - OH; Don & Joan Craft - IN; Jim & Louise Dunham - OH; Jacci Erwin Tunis - OH; Clint Garey - IL; Dave & Rachel Joseph - OH; Matthew Maag - OH; Gage Matthews - IN; Hunter Mote - IN; Jeff, Julie & Morgan Munsey - IN; Kevin Paprocki - IN; RQL Farms - NJ; Tom Schambow - WI; Carlton & Amanda Summe; Triangle Farms Tunis - IN; and Kaitlin Whiting - OH;

FREE "Want to Buy" ads on the website....

please contact Debbi at texastunis@yahoo.com

FREE "Breeders Directory Listings" on the website....

please contact Debbi at texastunis@yahoo.com

2010 NATIONAL TUNIS SHOW

August 19th & 20th @ Indiana State Fair!

Mark your calendar!

Winter Care for a Cleaner Fleece....

by Kim Day of Douglasville, PA

Are you marketing your wool to hand spinners or would you like to try? A clean fleece will certainly catch a customer's eye; but minimizing the amount of vegetable matter (VM) in the wool requires some work throughout the year, not just at shearing time. During the spring and summer you've probably been ridding your fields of thistles and burrs - the hand spinner's bane. Now fall is here and winter is around the corner. That means many of you will be housing your sheep indoors at least part of the time and if you're not already feeding hay you soon will be. Bedding and hay can work their way right into a fleece and ruin it if you're not careful. An extra step you can take to keep fleeces clean is to use wool covers. They are a great asset and many hand spinners will pay extra money for a covered (or coated) fleece.

BARN vs PASTURE: Sheep are usually healthier and their fleeces cleaner when pastured, but many sheep are barn-kept for different reasons, ranging from lambing to illness to protection from predators. When choosing bedding for your sheep it's important to choose an absorbent material that won't become imbedded in the wool. Long-stem straw or wasted hay is best; but definitely say, "No" to sawdust, shavings or chopped straw. Aside from irritating a sheep's respiratory system they become imbedded in the wool very quickly.

FEEDING: There are two main things to remember when feeding if you want to ensure a clean fleece. First, don't feed hay from above. Traditional hay mangers that are found at most supply stores hold the hay at or above head level. When sheep eat from this type of manger, pieces of hay fall to the ground or, more often, on other sheep.

Feeding hay on the ground can eliminate this problem but many people advise against this practice. Hay can become contaminated with parasites when placed on the ground. Others (like myself) find that their sheep won't eat hay once it has touched ground.

You can find plans for many different low hay mangers online.. One I found was very easy to build and only required plywood, a hog panel and 2 x 4's for materials. Another way to feed hay is along the fence line. At ground level attach 2 - 2 x 6's (one on top of the other) on the inside of the fence posts and leave about 6" - 8" open above. Attach another 2 x 6 on the outside of the fence posts and finish the rest of the fence to your desired specifications. The sheep will be able to stick their heads through the open space to eat they hay on the outside of the fence line.

Secondly, it is important to allow adequate feeding space for each sheep. Rams should have about 12" of space at the hay manger or feeding trough. Ewes need 16" - 20" of space each; and lambs need 9" - 12" each. When overcrowding occurs at the feeders some sheep can be forced to squeeze between or under others thereby getting littered with hay or possibly grain. In addition to a dirty fleece, other sheep may try to eat the hay or grain out of their neighbor's wool, resulting in bare patches.

WOOL COVERS: Do you want extra protection for your fleeces? Wool covers are a great way to keep wool in pristine condition. Most sizes are available for about \$20 each or less and this money can be made back with the first shearing. In addition to keeping VM, bugs and dirt out of the fleece, wool covers can reduce tippy-ness, sun bleaching and the wearing of the wool from rubbing. (Tunis owners don't have to worry about sun bleaching as much as natural-colored breed owners.)

With a little extra care and work this fall and winter, you'll be sure to have a cleaner fleece at shearing time. If you combine this with good skirting, you'll be able to market your wool to hand spinners in your area or across the country. Why not enter your best fleece in the Tunis Wool Show in May? I hope to see your wool there!

All 2009 Memberships Expire Dec. 31st!
Any memberships paid after Dec. 1st will be for 2010!
(Membership blank is on the back page.)

2009 TUNIS JR SHOW @ Ohio State Fair...Columbus, OH

Tim Barnes, Judge

19 HEAD SHOWN!

7 RAM LAMBS

Sean Bryant
Olivia Brown
Jacci Erwin

CHAMPION RAM - Sean Bryant
CHAMPION EWE - Jacci Erwin

6 YEARLING EWES

Jacci Erwin
Sean Bryant
Kaitlin Whiting

6 EWE LAMBS

Olivia Brown
Jacci Erwin
Kaitlin Whiting

RES. CHAMPION RAM - Olivia Brown
RES. CHAMPION EWE - Sean Bryant

3 FLOCKS

Olivia Brown

2009 TUNIS JR SHOW @ KILE - Harrisburg, PA

James Hefner, Judge

65 Head Shown!

3 FALL RAM LAMBS

Kayla Barkley - PA
Mirrissa Parker - PA
Nicholas Loughman - PA

3 FALL EWE LAMBS

Kalie Harrison - NY
Kayla Barkley - PA
Triple M Ranch - IN
7 YOUNG FLOCK
Anna Charest - MA
Kayla Barkley - PA
Brown Family Tunis - OH

16 SPRING RL

Anna Charest - MA
Brown Family Tunis - OH
Anna Charest - PA

16 EARLY SPRING EL

Kayla Barkley - PA
Brown Family Tunis - OH
Mindy Stoops Irvine - PA
1 MARKET LAMB
Taylor Harrison - NY

10 YR EWES - A

Anna Charest - MA
Mindy Stoops Irvine - PA
Sean Bryant - OH

8 LATE SPRING EL

Taylor Harrison - NY
Mindy Stoops Irvine - PA
Drew Ridgeway - MD
CHAMPION RAM - Anna Charest - Spring Ram Lamb
RES CHAMP RAM - Brown Family Tunis - 2nd Spring RL

9 YR EWES - B

Mindy Stoops Irvine - PA
Wyatt Dean - PA
Mirrissa Parker - PA

9 PAIR EWE LAMBS

Anna Charest - MA
Kayla Barkley - PA
Brown Family Tunis - OH

CHAMPION EWE - Anna Charest - YR Ewe
RES CHAMP EWE - Kayla Barkley - Early Spring Ewe L

2009 NTSRI EWE LAMB FUTURITY STANDINGS as of 10/10/09

JR MEMBER	FUTURITY LAMB	# OF SHOWS	POINTS
Olivia Brown - OH	Uptown 910	1	26 Pts
Wyatt Dean - PA	Garey 0241	1	20 Pts
Jacci Erwin - OH	Bruns 901	2	27 Pts
Kalie Harrison - NY	RQL 912	2	31 Pts
Mindy Stoops Irvine - PA	Bruns 911	2	26 Pts
Jacob Long - MO	RQL 916	5	36 Pts
Jacob Long - MO	Cass Hollow 289	5	32 Pts
Morgan Munsey - IN	MTP 370	2	36 Pts
Drew Ridgeway - MD	BWB 914	4	31 Pts
Drew Ridgeway - MD	Stumpe 428	4	41 Pts
Amber Stumpe - MO	Westwind 193	2	20 Pts
Daniel Swartz, Jr - NY	Brown Family 55	5	56 Pts
Justine Swartz - NY	Howe 1296	5	65 Pts
Justine Swartz - NY	Big Time 913	5	65 Pts
Mandy Swartz - NY	Garey 0251	4	69 Pts
Kaitlin Whiting - OH	MTP 366	1	28 Pts

ONE OF THE FOUR NATIONAL FINALISTS FOR THE FFA SHEEP PROFICIENCY AWARD... is our own Jacci Erwin of Richwood, OH. This award will be presented on Oct. 23rd in the afternoon session at the National FFA convention held in Indianapolis. She will be at the convention from Oct. 21st thru the 24th as she will be also receiving her American Degree. The National FFA convention is broadcast on RFD TV...so make plans to watch our very own Tunis representative ...Good luck, Jacci!

2009 TUNIS SHOW @ Woodstock Fair - Woodstock, CT

54 Head Shown!

6 YR RAMS

Jeremy Jochums-Chickering, NH
RQL Farms, NJ
Windsong Farms, MA

1 SR RAM LAMBS

RQL Farms, NJ

5 INT RAM LAMBS

Jozi Best, NH
Jozi Best, NH
Anna Charest, MA

7 JR RAM LAMBS

Anna Charest, MA
Devan Newton, RI
Windsong Farms, MA

3 PAIRS RAM LAMBS

Jozi Best, NH
Anna Charest, MA
Wendy Cameron, MA

9 EARLY YR EWES

Anna Charest, MA
RQL Farms, NJ
Jozi Best, NH

10 LATE YR EWES

Anna Charest, MA
RQL Farms, NJ
Jozi Best, NH

9 PAIRS YR EWES

Anna Charest, MA
RQL Farms, NJ
Jozi Best, NH

1 SR EWE LAMB

RQL Farms, NJ

9 INT. EWE LAMBS

Anna Charest, MA
RQL Farms, NJ
Jozi Best, NH

9 JR EWE LAMBS

Jeremy Jochums-Chickering, NH
Windsong Farms, MA
RQL Farms, NJ

PAIRS EWE LAMBS

RQL Farms, NJ
Jozi Best, NH
Anna Charest, MA

CHAMPION RAM - Anna Charest - Jr Ram Lamb

CHAMPION EWE - Anna Charest - Yr Ewe

RES CHAMPION RAM - RQL Farms - Sr Ram Lamb

RES CHAMPION EWE - Anna Charest - Int. Ewe Lamb

2009 TUNIS SHOW @ The BIG E - W. Springfield, MA

Tor Sorenson, Judge

63 Head Shown!

6 YR RAMS

Jeremy Jochums-Chickering, NH
Brianna Taylor, MA
Wendy Cameron, MA

3 SR RAM LAMBS

RQL Farms, NJ
J & J Seavey, NY
J & J Seavey, NY

10 INT RAM LAMBS

Jozi Best, NH
Anna Charest, MA
Anna Charest, MA

4 JR RAM LAMB

Brianna Taylor, MA
J & J Seavey, NY
Wendy Cameron, MA

6 PAIRS RAM LAMBS

Anna Charest, MA
Jozi Best, NH
RQL Farms, NJ

8 YEARLING EWES # A

RQL Farms, NJ
J & J Seavey, NY
Anna Charest, MA

8 YEARLING EWES # B

Anna Charest, MA
Jozi Best, NH
J & J Seavey, NY

6 PAIRS YR EWES

Anna Charest, MA
Jozi Best, NH
RQL Farms, NJ

3 SR EWE LAMBS

RQL Farms, NJ
J & J Seavey, NY
J & J Seavey, NY

7 INT. EWE LAMBS # A

RQL Farms, NJ
Jozi Best, NH
Jozi Best, NH

8 INT. EWE LAMBS # B

RQL Farms, NJ
Wendy Cameron, MA
Jeremy Jochums-Chickering, NH

6 JR EWE LAMBS

RQL Farms, NJ
Wendy Cameron, MA
J & J Seavey, NY

6 PAIRS EWE LAMS

RQL Farms, NJ
Jozi Best, NH
Wendy Cameron, MA

5 EXHIBITORS' FLOCKS

RQL Farms, NJ
Jozi Best, NH
Anna Charest, MA

5 BREEDERS' FLOCKS

RQL Farms, NJ
Jozi Best, NH
Anna Charest, MA

4 GET OF SIRE

Anna Charest, MA
Jozi Best, NH
J & J Seavey, NY

CHAMPION RAM - RQL Farms - Sr Ram Lamb

CHAMPION EWE - Anna Charest - Yr Ewe - B class

PREMIER EXHIBITOR - Joe & Joan Seavey

RES CHAMPION RAM - Jozi Best - Int. RL

RES CHAMPION EWE - RQL Farms - Int. EL

PREMIER BREEDER - RQL Farms

DID YOU KNOW??????? That Debbi Robie and Jozi Best serve on the New Hampshire Board that conducts the "Ag in the Classroom" program? In fact, Debbi serves in a part time paid position of teaching this program in her county....just another way our Tunis people support the sheep & farming industry.

FOR SALE: February ram lamb. Sire is 2 time champion at NAILE show in 2007 & 2008 - MRR BIGG (RR) from Triple T Ranch. Dam took 2nd place at 2008 Stars of Louisville Sale. This ram and his twin received either 1st or 2nd at all the fair shows they attended. This ram was Grand Champion at the Tennessee Valley Fair @ Knoxville this year. If you would like some awesome bloodlines out of MRR BIGG and the looks that we all search for...give us a call for pics and more info. Call Carol or Megan Long at 865-740-6000 or criallama@yahoo.com

2009 North American International Livestock Expo - Louisville

Nov. 12th-13th Open Class & Jr Show Sheep Arrive

Nov. 13th - 4:00 pm LEAD LINE CLASSES!

REMEMBER ***Anyone winning a 2009 Lead Line Class at NAILE with a Tunis ewe will win an extra \$100!***

Nov. 14th - 9:00 am **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING!**

South wing "C" Room 103

Nov. 14th "Stars of Louisville Tunis Sale" 6:30 pm Show 7:30 pm Sale

Nov. 15th Jr Tunis Sheep Show - **Tunis show last! Be prepared for the wait!**

Nov. 17th Open Class Tunis Show 12:30 pm Eric Bruns, Judge

Nov. 20th Sheep Released

Live streaming on line @ www.livestockexpo.org!

NAILE MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Saturday, Nov. 14th 9:00 am

Meeting to be held - South Wing "C" - Room 103

This meeting is to hear the ideas and concerns of the membership. The President will preside over a questions and answer period. Directors present at NAILE will also attend. If you cannot attend and wish to contribute, please email Dave Rock at rqlfarms@comcast.net

* * * * *

Have you seen the pictures?

TUNIS PRIDE Website Contest ...www.tunissheep.org

Objective:

Increase Tunis Breeders pride in their flock by adding a section on the website for a Tunis photo/video contest. Contest:

1. Tunis breeders send us by email their favorite photo or video of their Tunis sheep to Debbi Brown (texastunis@yahoo.com) or Dale Huhnke (Dalehuhnke@yahoo.com).
2. Photos/videos need to be sent by the 5th of each month in order to be displayed on the website by the 10th of each month.
3. On the 25th of the month we will announce the monthly winner.
4. Photos/videos themes can reflect the month they are nominated.
5. Each photo/video that is sent the originator needs to sign a model release form (available on NTSRI website).
6. If the originator's photo does not win that particular month, they can re-nominate the photo/video for another month. The originator will need to contact Debbi Brown or Dale Huhnke for the re-nomination of the photo.
7. The photo winner will then receive a \$20 Visa/American Express gift certificate.

The 1st Winner is.....Kim Day of Douglasville, PA

BITS & PIECES OF INFORMATION FROM NTSRI MEMBERS

Just a very simple request.....Please give us "Ten Tips for raising Tunis"!

Pat (and Dale) McMillen of Sugar Grove, PA writes..."We are the McMillen Family and we operate Sheep Ridge Farm located at 1100 Lanning Hill Road, Sugar Grove, PA 16350. We keep a flock of 150 breeding ewes and in addition to the Tunis, we raise Horned Dorsets, Cheviots, Karakuls, Polypays, and commercial sheep. We have raised Tunis sheep since the late 1970's and the Tunis flock numbers 25 brood ewes. The Tunis breed was originally a 4_h project and then mom & dad took over the flock, Pat & Jack McMillen. Dad passed away to pancreatic cancer April 8, 2009, and mom continues to raise the Tunis, along with granddaughter, Lindsey.

We are grass based operation and graze the ewes on grass for a minimum of 7 months and push that to 8 months or more whenever the seasons and weather allows us. We accomplish this through the use of rotational grazing. The ewes are maintained in the winter months on stored hay and are fed grain 15 days prior to lambing and during lactation. When lambing in the barn, they are penned individually for a few days, and then moved to a mixing pen according to age, birth status and need. We aim to have all ewes and a majority of the lambs out on grazing pastures by April 15. We market the majority of our lambs to the ethnic market and as feeder lambs. Time is money, and we aim to move them quickly. We select only the top few ewe lambs each year for breeding stock, and market the remainder for meat. We are picky about the color, maintaining the distinctive true Tunis red color. These are our thoughts on raising Tunis sheep -

1. Don't over feed. God placed sheep on the earth as a ruminant animal, let them graze.
2. Don't get hung up on selling every Tunis for breeding. Fact is many times you can make more selling them for meat after you figure all your costs of feeding, entries and traveling.
3. Keep your facilities simple and useful. It doesn't take thousands of dollars to have good facilities.
4. Utilize fresh air. It is your best medicine and sheep do better outside than in confinement.
5. Maintain breed integrity, and if it isn't up to standards, put it in the freezer.
6. They are very friendly sheep, so be prepared to have them underfoot when working with them.
7. Don't forget your minerals. They make a huge difference.
8. Establish a preventative health program that is suited to you and your area.
9. Promote lamb whenever possible, it is the key to our future markets.
10. Above all-Have fun! If you are not having fun, sell the sheep and the farm and move to town. It is too much work and too much money if you are not at least having fun!"

Gary Marsh of Lawrence, KS writes..."September is a busy month at Marshland Farms. We've just brought the yearling ewes in from summer pasture and put them with our new ram lamb. He is all harnessed-up and ready to go.

It's been a really good summer here in N.E. Kansas and our sheep look the best ever coming off fescue pasture. Grass and hay crops have been very good but putting up the hay has been a challenge with the weather.

Traditionally we have fed a winter ration of whole corn, oats and alfalfa pellets supplemented with brome hay. Too much condition on the ewes has sometimes been a problem so we are cutting back on grain and going more to a forage of alfalfa and brome hay as the ewes are already too fat.

Marketing out lambs has always been a problem because of our location and the lack of breeders in this location. Some years through advertising we have been able to sell our breeding stock, which is our intention, but this year it was slow. We live in the heart of cattle country but close to a university which is a good meat market because of many foreign students. We hope to have some nice lambs to sell in the spring and are looking forward to lambing season.

Good luck to all!"

John Buffington of North Dighton, MA writes "As a family we started with Southdowns in 1986 and added Tunis in 1990 because of their great disposition. They are extremely child friendly with great motherability after lambing." John's Best Tips include:

1. Select breeding stock from within family lines as it gives you a more consistent ewe base and then use an outcross ram on them.
2. Most of the year, sheep can survive quite well with a three sided shelter for protection - save the barn for lambing time only.
3. Make sure the ram's marking harness is fitted correctly and change the crayon every 15 days. Put the calendar close so you can mark the ewes' breeding dates easily.
4. Most but not all lambing problems are management issues. Overweight ewes will most always have the most issues. And DO NOT get involved with the delivery right away...Let nature do her thing!
5. While our ewes are wormed in the spring before they go to pasture and again before breeding, our lambs are wormed every 4-6 weeks because they are on drylotted. Lambs -we use a rotation of 3 wormers.
6. Advertise your flock with a sign at shows and at your farm with a yard sign. Don't forget to advertise in breed magazines and on websites.
7. As breeders we need to conform to the breed standard as closely as possible. The most important trait for me is the feet and legs...is sheep cannot move around efficiently, they cannot thrive. Also smokey fleeces is another quality I, personally, don't like as it effects the value of the fleece.
8. I show because I enjoy it and I can promote my sheep thru this venue. It's not about winning but promoting your sheep.
9. When selling sheep, it helps to have the respect of other breeders. People who are purchasing sheep will always ask questions about other breeders. Always present your sheep well and have a true guide for potential buyers to follow.

10. John also advises..."Whatever you do with your Tunis...enjoy them and take pride in their appearance. Raise the type of sheep you like...you are paying the feed bill but remember to follow the standard and strive for a complete sheep!"

Matthews Tunis of Westpoint, IN writes "Our only livestock are 16 Tunis ewes registered to Gage left from his 4-H flock. We have had sheep for 20 years and Tunis for ten. We like to get Tunis lambs into the hands of 4-Hers interested in exhibiting sheep. Also, it is great to get our family together to exhibit at the Indiana State Fair. Our tips for raising Tunis are:

1. Learn from an experienced Tunis producer. Kenneth Mayes is a prince of a gentleman and steered us on a good course. Gage's first Mayes ewe lamb is still in the flock and with many daughters and granddaughters.
 2. Watch successful exhibitors. Our congratulations to our friend from Wisconsin, Richard Schambow, his sons, and grandson on their great show string at the Indiana State Fair.
 3. Thank those Tunis members that make things happen. Dale Huhnke and Linda Cook, your good work is appreciated.
 4. We love our wireless video camera to monitor lambing.
 5. Induced estrus has been a useful tool to maintain a small flock and a short lambing season.
 6. Low intensity rotational grazing reduces deworming frequency and increases the capacity of the pasture.
 7. Hunter Nutrition of Brookston, Indiana knows sheep and we have good results with their feeds.
 8. We have always lambed in an unheated barn with very minimal use of a heat lamp and have never had problems with scours or pneumonia.
 9. Tunis ewes are good mothers and the lambs are vigorous. But it is still useful to know how to tube feed baby lambs. We keep a colostrum replace, Colostrux on hand and give 60 cc of colostrum or substitute if we are unsure of a lamb's ability to nurse. When we need to go to work or get some sleep, it is easier to tube than fret.
 10. Have fun and take time to watch the lambs play. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CMWQfSkyeRo>."
- Thank you, Matthews Family!

Tammy Westcott of Greenfield, IN writes "I showed Suffolks as a 4-H'er and way back then we had a couple of Tunis ewes and ram but never showed them. When my boys were old enough for 4-H, they, too, showed the Suffolks from my Dad's flock. I started thinking about getting another breed when more family members got old enough to show....I currently have 11 ewes that will be lambing next spring as well as a few keeper ewe lambs. I hope to enter some sales next year.

I started looking for sheep from reputable breeders and watched the show circuit results. Don't get me wrong...I make my own decisions based on what I see and feel when I get my hands on them. Having been in the sheep business for several years, I select for conformation, soundness, and I want good moms with some capacity to them and keep weight on easily. I think it is easier to start with the best sheep you can afford and work from there. It costs the same to feed a good one as a bad one.

Get your ewe families figured out. I am a believer in line breeding. Sometimes it doesn't work like you expect but you will learn quickly if you have a problem when you line breed. Learn what works best for you and expand on it.

I haven't had any issues with mothering ability. Every lamb that hits the ground gets a tube of mom's milk and a dose of Survive to get things started. I recommend milk first then the drench! I haven't had to pull many lambs at all and I keep ewes with new lambs penned for just a few days to make sure everything is okay. Mom gets a worming with Valbazen and all the lambs get a BarVac/CDT shot and ear tag before they come out of the lamb pen. I usually offer the Kent Lamb creep feed in a week or so. I am working being able to get my feed bulk since my flock is growing. I also buy the busted bags of oats and barley from a local supplier at a greatly reduced rate. The ewes are on pasture as much as possible with some supplements as necessary. Be sure to keep the mineral available.

Keep good records. I use a marking harness in breeding season to have a better idea when things should be happening in the lambing barn.

Finally, I would like to say don't get caught up in whatever fad is going on with the breed at the moment. Try to stick within breed characteristics. I think they are beautiful fitted but truthfully, I think we could improve a great deal more if we only showed slick animals especially at sales.

Keep information available at pens when you go to shows. Many folks are asking about Tunis and if you don't have something to sell...send them to a reputable person you would buy from."

Matt & Jennifer Maag of MJM Farms of Ottawa, OH writes....."Currently we have 27 head of Tunis and only Tunis. I have raised sheep for 5 years and Tunis for the last 3 years. Some of our tips would be....

1. Try to look for different featured to breed with what you have already in the barn with hopes to improve the stock.
2. Find a feeding program you like and stick with it.
3. At our feed mill, we save money by having a larger quantity of feed ground all at once.
4. Advertise!
5. If you have multiple rams, make sure you keep plenty of space between them.
6. It always seems like lambs are born on the coldest nights. It is always too cold. Learn to recognize signs of distress early and don't be afraid to intervene.
7. Worm the entire flock on a regular basis.
8. We have found at many county fairs, people ask a lot of questions because they have never seen sheep that are "orange". It's a great way to promote the Tunis breed.
9. Showing your sheep is a good way to meet new people. Also it is a good way to stay in touch with good friends from across the country. And because it is fun!

10. And Matt concludes by saying "Tunis Sheep Rock!"
Thanks, Matt & Jennifer

Philip and Mary Busman of Alpharetta, GA writes "When I received the invitation to submit some ideas of our experiences in raising Tunis sheep I must admit the first thought was "sell them all" and get a cow to eat the grass. My best ewe had severely sprained her ankle, yet another round of worms had hit the lambs and I was fed up and late after delaying my trip out of town in order to isolate the ewe in dress shoes in wet grass.

But cooler head prevail and upon my return the ewe was hobbling, the wormer actually worked this time and those little eyes were on me as I made my way p to the barn to feed everyone.

My tips are as much observations as pithy statements. Let me state that for reference purposes that we raise our Tunis in suburbia, have small but very productive acreage and have come to Tunis after raising Polypay, Romney, Black Welsh Mountain and Cotswold before settling on a Tunis ram and going that route. It is interesting to note that my first choice fifteen years ago was Tunis but locating them in the South was difficult. This little device called the internet also helped immensely.

1. Easy keepers. One of my first comments to inquiries deals with the Tunis mild disposition and the ease figure it out after only twenty four hours (and two broken fences.)
2. The feed bucket. We are big believers that all animals are motivated by food. As a result the feed bucket and trough serve as our source of "leadership" and coercion.
3. Handling areas. Over the years it has become plain to me that small areas of confinement sure make it easier to work on sheep. I don't know how we did it before our fencing was improved and enabled smaller spaces. We probably used a lot of corn!
4. The shepherd's crook. I purchased one a few years ago and don't know how I managed without one. It makes those smaller spaces even tighter.
5. Foot bath. For years we had no issues with foot problems and then somehow it manifested itself. An investment in a Premier trough simplifies this task. Another investment in their portable panels allows me to administer those treatments while they are with the rest of the flock. Pictures are available upon request.
6. Wool quality. For years due to our small size and the little amount of wool produced, we too often ended up using wool as mulch. However, now immediately after shearing, the wool is packed in a box and sent to Prince Edward Island and it returns as a blanket. This is a wonderful way of promoting the breed and alot more people in our circle know about Tunis as a result.
7. Meat quality. After raising our own lamb one can become a bit of a snob. Without a doubt Tunis lamb is the best available.
8. Resist the temptation to put those lambs on the very best lush spring pasture. We have had a lot of rain year in Georgia and can trace some of the worming issues to specific pastures with very lush spring grass after a lot of rain.
9. Slow growers. I would prefer a faster growing market lamb. It seems like it takes forever to reach a decent size. However, I keep reminding myself that the quality is produced by slow and steady growth. I constantly remind myself that they are not my brother's Suffolks!
10. Nativized genetics. Credits are due to Joel Sallatin on this point and bringing it to my attention. After raising Tunis in the South I can say that I would think very carefully about doing it again. Their composition and those wonderful pictures in the Tunis Spirit of sheep in snow indicate a lot. From my personal observations I would be hard pressed to purchase sheep in New York or Illinois and bring them to Georgia. However, the selection of those lambs raised on your own property and feeding regimen produce the very best animals. It would be impossible for me to keep all of our animals. But those strong ewe lambs that are rarely or ever wormed, have sound feed and show good vigor indicate to me a heartiness and quality that need to stay.
11. Tunis people. This is the bonus point. Every single Tunis producer that I have met has always had a welcoming tone to their voice. They have shared stories, tips, treatments, solutions, ideas and a good laugh."

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

tunis@bright.net

937-465-8299

Sell a sheep?

Let me know and I'll send the buyer a promotional package of information!

ARTICLES? ADS? SHOW RESULTS? Send the information to Louise by Jan. 15th!

STARS OF LOUISVILLE TUNIS SALE

SPECIAL INFORMATION

Sponsor: NTSRI

Show: Saturday, November 14th 2009
immediately following the Montadale Sale Ap.
7:00 pm.

Sale : 7:30 pm

Auctioneer: Rollie Rosenboom, Clifton, IL

Sale Co-Chairs and sale phones

Kelly Stumpe 636-357-8227

Dan Kleman 419-235-3096

Sandra Rock 908-938-1920

HEALTH PAPERS:

The sale veterinarian will prepare interstate health papers for the transportation of your purchases, however it is the buyers responsibility to have knowledge of and adhere to the entrance requirements of the buyers own state.

Terms and Conditions:

Cash or check. A \$50.00 charge will be assessed to any insufficient funds check. The buyer will be responsible for any cost of collection, including attorney's fees. All animals must be paid for before leaving the premises. The Auctioneer's decision will be final on any dispute regarding bids. All animals will be at purchaser's risk as soon as sold. All animals are registered and will be transferred at seller's expense.

Guarantee:

Every sheep will be guaranteed a breeder provided it is kept in breeding condition, and properly handled. Those proving to be non-breeders may be returned to the seller in good breeding condition. The seller shall have the right to rest and try the animal. Those proving to be breeders will be returned to the buyer at the buyer's expense. Any sheep not proving to be breeders will be replaced with another of equal merit or the purchase price will be refunded at the election of the buyer. All

ewe lambs are exempt from this guarantee for the first year. Each sale shall constitute a contract between the buyer and seller only. NTSRI, the sale Co-Chairs, nor any other parties make any guarantees, nor assume any liability, expressed or implied.

Notice:

All substitute entries will have a bar painted beneath the lot number on the animals back. Check with the seller for complete pedigree information on any substituted animals. Information given sale day supersedes any cataloged information.

Neither NTSRI, sale Co-Chairs, nor consignors assume any risk or liability in the case of accidents of any kind or losses of any kind to any person(s) in attendance at the sale.

David & Sandra Rock

590 Montgomery Rd.
Hillsborough, NJ 08844
908-369-6413

Lot 1 RQL Farms 0821 25641
B-1/17/08 TW RR
S-Kleman 36
20851
D-RQL Farms 0529
20811

A wide topped, correct, pretty ewe that has been a successful part of our show string in both 08 & 09. Sired by "DannyBoy", the 2006 Res. Champion Sale ram. She is exposed to RQL 0623 who has sired many of our high placing lambs this year. She is DNA tested RR and will be ultra sounded prior to the sale. Her twin won the National Ewe Lamb Futurity for 2008. We wouldn't be selling her if we didn't have a younger sister at home.

Lot 2 RQL Farms 0845 25988
B- 3/1/08 TR. RR
S-RQL Farms 0310
18173
D-RQL Farms 0618
22511

This ewe is correct and very very pretty and has a tremendous pedigree. Her dam was part of our show string as both a lamb and a yearling earning champion ewe honors at the New Jersey State Fair as both. Her sire is RQL Farms 0310 who sired "RockStar" and many other champions. She is DNA tested RR, is exposed to "DannyBoy" and will be ultra sounded prior to the sale. She can be sold because her twin is staying in our brood ewe flock.

Garey's Tunis

1669 2600th ST.
Atlanta, IL 61723
217-648-2784

Lot 3 Square M T-25
B-3/12/07 RR
S-Triple S 529
D-Triple S 507

Bred to "Goliath" the 2005 National Sale Champion Ram. Big , tall, long ewe – Her look says it all.

Lot 4 Timberwind 16
B-1/4/04 RR
S-Mayes 984D
D-Timberwind 04

This ewe was the dam of my 2007 Missouri State Fair Champion Tunis ram and she has had several show lambs for me. Bred to "Prime Time" the 2008 National Sale Champion Ram.

Lot 5 Gary 0155
B-11/18/05 QR
S-Kleman 2079 "Goliath"
D-Cutforth 0150

First place fall ewe lamb at NAILE in 2006. Bred to "Prime Time" the 2008 National Sale Champion Ram. We have retained daughters of all these ewes into our flock that is why we are able to offer them here.

Big Time Tunis

8777 Rd.I-7
Ottawa, OH 45875
419-523-3657

Mike.Niese@hotmail.com

SIRE REFERENCES

*Neise 501 "Stuart"- Out of Kleman's "BOB" ram. Now at work for J.E.Tunis Sire of: "Austin" the Res. Champion Ram at Naile in 2007 and the National show and sale in 2008. "Bella" the 2008 Champion Ewe at the Indiana and Ohio State fairs. "Mike" working well at Mom's Tunis

*Big Time 511 "Colton"- a son of Kleman's "Eric the Great" (now working at Triple T Farm in Oregon). He was the 2nd place fall ram at NAILE in 06. Colton was our stud buck for 2 years before going to Gary's Tunis. His Get had many top 5 placing's at major shows

*"Winston"- Our new stud buck from John and Irene. Undeclared as a lamb, and was 2nd as a yearling at Ohio and Indiana State Fairs. We had

his first full lamb crop this year and the lambs look great.

*

"Hammer" a Stuart son that I am keeping.

The following 7 sheep will be offered to keep my flock size manageable within the city limits and to keep the neighbors and town council happy.

Lot 6 Big Time Tunis 908
B-2/3/09 TW RR
S-Niese 501
D- Sonshine Acres 70221

This ewe is the twin to "Hammer" the buck I am breeding "Bella" to. She is a "Stuart" daughter and is just beautiful..

Lot 7 C&C Farm 1
B-1/2/08 S
S-Big Time Tunis 511
22387 QR
D- Triple S 010

This daughter of Colton was bought from C&C after selling them bred ewes to start their flock. She was the best of their 1st lamb crop. She is exposed to a "Stuart" son (RR) that I am keeping. She is at least (QR).

Lot 8 Big Time Tunis 703 "BELLA"
B-2/10/07 TW QR
S-Neise 501
D-Neise 508

"Bella" was the Grand Champion Ewe at Ohio and Indiana State fairs in 2008. She is the best ewe that we ever bred. She is exposed to "Hammer" .

Lot 9 Big Time Tunis 714
B-3/12/07 TW RR
S-Big Time 511
D-R&R Tunis 206

This ewe is the twin to a ewe in my show flock last year. C & C had a great season with her. She is exposed to "Winston"

Lot 10 Big Time Tunis 716
B-4/5/07 TW RR
S-Neise 501
D-Cambell Y-126

This ewe is theTwin to the yearling ram "Mike" that Mom's Tunis bought from us at the National Sale. She is exposed to "Winston".

Lot 11 Big Time Tunis 717
B-4/19/07 S RR
S-Big Time 520
D- Triple S 655

The February ewe lamb in our show flock is out of Triple S 655. This ewe is exposed to "Hammer", and shows all the promise of being a great brood ewe.

Lot 12 Triple S 542
B-2/8/05 TW RR
S-Triple S 320G
D-Triple S 308G

This ewe has been a great contributor to our flock. She produced twin lambs last year. She is exposed to "Winston"

Sale manager note: Mike and Kathy have decided to cut their Tunis flock in half. As you can see from their consignment of the famed "Bella" ewe this is not their bottom half. This is an opportunity to purchase bloodlines and ewes that have been getting the job done for an established breeder. This is something that in my 30+ years in the sheep business does not come along every day.....Take Advantage!!!!

Triangle Farms Tunis

Linda Cook / Dale Huhnke
1725 W. CR. 450 N
Muncie, IN 47303
765-729-0262
lcmouse@juno.com

Lot 13 Triangle Farms 0973 27463
B-1/27/09 TW
S-RQL farms 0705
24181
D-C. Gary 0142
22154

This is a very correct thick ewe lamb that is straight from our keeper pen.

MOM'S TUNIS

Barbara & Leon Cassell
2317Peppers Ferry Rd.
Wytheville, VA 24382
WWW.tunissheep.com

Lot 14 MTP 372
B-1/22/09 TW
S-MTP 129
D-Fingerlakes 106

Fingerlakes 106 has produced both the first place yearling ewe at the 08 National Sale and the first place February ewe lamb at NAILE in 2006.

Lot 15 MTP 385
B-2/19/09 TW
S-RQL Farms 0722
D-MTP 227

RQL Farms 0722 was the 2008 Ohio State fair Champion Ram. MTP 227's dam was Champion at the Ohio State Fair in 2002.

Lot 16 MTP 396
B-3/18/09 TW
S-RQL Farms 0722
D-MTP 258

MTP 258 is a daughter of Triple S 916 who produced the two-time National Champion Ram. RQL Farms 0722 was the 2008 Ohio State fair Champion Ram.

Brown Family Tunis

2128 Sterling Rd.
Creston, OH 44217
330-435-1313
whitenack@yahoo.com

Lot 17 Brown Family 59
B-1/27/09 TW
S-Brown Family 36 RR
D-Stumpe 278

This ewe is sired by Brown 36, who sired my GR. CH. Ram at the Ohio State fair and my RES. CH. Ewe at the national show at Keystone this year. Dan Kleman came to see our sheep and said "why are you hiding this one, what a pattern". Her mother won the February ewe lamb class at NAILE in 2007 and her sire won the March ram class the same year. She has it all, I had 2 great January ewes, so I am offering this one to you!!

Lot 18 Stumpe 317
B-3/27/07
S-"Willie" Brown Family 2
D-Bartholomew 04-93

This ewe is from the "Willie" line, she had a super lamb this year, she is young and will be a great producer. I can't say enough about my "Willie" daughters, they just pass along the best from him, good bone,size,great patterns, the best ears..she will be greatly missed. Exposed to Stumpe 265 RR a Willie son who was the first place January and top selling ram at the 2007 National sale.

Stumpe Tunis

5065 Champion City Ch. Rd.
Leslie, Mo 63056
636-357-8227

stumpesheep@yahoo.com

Lot 19 Stumpe 337 26050
B-2/11/08 TW
S-"Willie" Brown Family 2
21135
D-Stumpe 255

In Our show flock for 08 &09. She was the third place yearling ewe at the Missouri State fair this year. She is a really wide based ewe that I have nicknamed "Tank". Big and wide with lots of fire power. She is bred to our march show ram "PartyTime" Stumpe 432, the full brother to Prime Time" our 2008 National Sale champion ram.

Lot 20 Stumpe 347 26054
B-2/17/08 TW
S-"Willie" Brown Family 2
D-Mayes 233

The Pretty one of the two yearlings. She has that typical "Willie" Pattern and Extention up front. She is also bred to "PartyTime" Stumpe 432. This "Willie" son on "Willie" daughter is the same combination that produced our 2009 Res. National sale ewe that went to the Cassells' and was the high selling sheep at Wooster.

Lot 21 Stumpe 437
B-3/13/09 TW
S-"Willie" Brown Family 2
D-Stumpe 263 RR

A real extreme neat patterned "Willie" daughter. Stumpe 263 is straight Triple S breeding and was in our show flock in 2007.

Lot 22 Stumpe 442
B-3/30/09 TW
S-"Prime Time" Stumpe 277
D-Kleman 83 RR

Wow you will like her. Prime Time was the 2008 National Sale Champion Ram and Kleman 83 is a "BOB" daughter out of the Kimmy ewe. Deep red with the Prime Time pattern. She will be in some ones show flock next year!!

Triple T Ranch

Tim, Tammie, & Trinity Serafin
5193 NW Dumbeck Ave.
Albany, OR 97321
541-924-5976

trail2win@msn.com

Lot 23 Yearling Ewe

Information Sale day

Attend the STARS OF LOUISVILLE TUNIS SALE

NATIONAL TUNIS SHEEP REGISTRY, INC.

October, 2009

REGION 1 - Judy Harris, 819 Lyons St., Ludlow, MA 01056

tunis11@localnet.com 413-589-9653

ALT. Bill Kerns, Box 322, Harvard, MA 01451 billkerns@charter.net 978-456-1240

REGION 2 - Robin Swartz, 1698 Nesbitt Rd., Attica, NY 14011

swartzda@dishmail.com 716-474-0215

ALT. Bob Bartholomew, 571 Frisbee St., E. Chatham, NY 12060 bbarfarm@aol.com 518-755-1701

REGION 3 - David Rock, President, 590 Montgomery Rd., Hillsborough, NJ 08844

rockd@pt.fdah.com 908-369-6413

ALT. Alex Rock, Box 132, Neshanic Station, NJ 08853 alex.d.rock@gmail.com 732-691-5531

REGION 4 - Nancy Schmidt, V-P, 3812 Townsend-Angling Rd., Collins, OH 44826

burdette@hmcld.net 419-668-6118

ALT. Louise Dunham, 8566 Co Rd 28, Zanesfield, OH 43360 tunis@bright.net 937-465-8299

REGION 5 - AnnaRae Hodgkin, 5877 Buffalo Ford Rd., Ramseur, NC 27316

ahodgin@rtmc.net 336-879-5484

Barbara Cassell, 2317 Peppers Ferry Rd., Wytheville, VA 24382

barbaracassell2005@yahoo.com 276-228-2862

ALT. Sheri Palko, 500 Mountain Breeze Lane, Knoxville, TN 37934 spalko@charterntn.net 865-966-2604

ALT. Catherine Johnson, 251 Southwood Dr., Kearneysville, WV 25430 swoodfarmforge@outdrs.net

REGION 6 - Dale Huhnke, 1725 W. CR 450N, Muncie, IN 47303

Dalehuhnke@yahoo.com 630-881-8108

ALT. Clint Garey, Box 213, Atlanta, IL 61723 gareytunis@gmail.com 217-648-2784

REGION 7 - Tammie Serafin, Secretary, 5193 NW Dumbeck Ave., Albany, OR 97321

trail2win@msn.com 831-809-3751

ALT. Kelly Stumpe, 5065 Champion City Church Rd., Leslie, MO 63056 stumpesheep@yahoo.com 636-357-8227

NATIONAL TUNIS SHEEP REGISTRY, INC. October, 2009

Louise Dunham, Editor 8566 Co Rd 28, Zanesfield, OH 43360

937-465-8299 tunis@bright.net

2010 - NTSRI MEMBERSHIP

NAME _____ Sr Member/Family ? _____

FARM NAME and/or family members' names _____

ST. ADDRESS _____ Jr Member/Age ? _____

CITY, STATE, & ZIP _____

PHONE # _____ E-MAIL _____

ADULTS/FARMS \$20.00
JUNIORS (under 21 years) \$10.00

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