Chief Shepherd's message

By Naomi Leith Smith

I wish to thank the members of the Finnsheep Board of Directors for their confidence in electing me to the presidency. I look forward to working with all of you. We accept the resignation of Sandy De Master with regret and trust she will continue her recovery from chemotherapy. I can speak firsthand as I experienced breast cancer and chemotherapy most of the year 2000. Sandy, as your strength returns, we would welcome your continued input about Finnsheep matters. A new director on the board is Denny Haugh, a Finnsheep breeder from Red Lion, PA.

Joe and I established House Mountain Finnsheep in 1985 when we purchased four registered Finns from Glen Avon Farm in Ohio. This lambing season we will lamb 95 ewes (only 5 more to go).

I was asked to write an article about the Finnsheep breed for SMALL FARM TODAY for publication in their August issue. My research indicated that the original organizational meeting of the Finnsheep Breeders' Association took place in Hastings, NE on June 29, 1971, making this the 30th anniversary of the FBA.

The booth at the Maryland Sheep and Wool Show seemed to be quite successful and the processed Finnsheep wool products competed with
hundreds of other vendors. We offered dyed handspun, felt, 2-ply and 4-ply yarns, roving and a menagerie of unique animals fashioned from Finn wool. We plan to return in 2002, but have asked for booth space in the show barn.

Carol Winchell exhibited Finnsheep in the parade of breeds with commentary by Elizabeth Luke during the Sunday afternoon program. Following the display many people stopped by the booth to talk about Finnsheep. I am off to the Keystone Sale this weekend and will be at the New England Sale July 14 and 15. I am looking forward to talking Finnsheep with members from those areas.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING


Previous Minutes and Treasury Report were read and accepted.

Election of Officers: Two open positions on the Board of Directors were filled by electing Carol Winchell and Denny Haugh. Continuing members are Naomi Smith, Grant Blackburn, Sandra DeMaster, and Elizabeth Luke.

Old Business:
Health Protocol - Dr. Paul Hunter's voluntary health protocol was reviewed and it was decided that he would co-ordinate his efforts with the Northeast Sheep and Goat Genetic Alliance.

Promotion - It was decided that the FBA will continue both the photo ad in "The Shepherd" magazine and the web page.

New Business:
Logo - Various options for a new logo were discussed. A redesign of a Finnsheep head in profile will be considered.
Fee Schedule - Due to confusion over the term "Lifetime Member", it will be changed to "Initial Member". From now on, individuals wishing to register Finnsheep must be at least initial members to do so. All fees are now payable to the registry in Milo, IA.

Editorship "Short Tales" - Those present expressed appreciation for the good work that Grace Hatton has accomplished as editor of the newsletter. She will be asked to continue in that capacity.

Sheep Shows - A discussion on the practice of showing Finnsheep brought forth opposing viewpoints. It was decided that the FBA will neither endorse nor oppose this practice, allowing individual breeders the freedom of choice.

AGI 2002 Location: The next annual meeting will be at the April Sheep Symposium in Wisconsin.

Adjournment 9:30 PM

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Minutes Of the FBA Board of Directors Meeting, May 6,2001, held at The Days Inn, 6:30 AM

In Attendance: Naomi Smith, Grant Blackburn, Carol Winchell, Elizabeth Luke

Election of Officers - Naomi Smith, President; Grant Blackburn, Vice President & Treasurer; Elizabeth Luke continues as Secretary.

The Board of Directors supported sentiments expressed at the AGI that Paul Hunter endorse efforts of NESGGA for health protocol. The FBA will pursue grant monies for breed enhancement through artificial insemination. Lonnie Cook and Sandy DeMaster will be asked to continue their efforts to revise the Constitution, assisted by Naomi Smith. The Board endorsed pursuing new logo art work. To encourage the use of the Photo Display, it was decided that the FBA will pay for return transport. Meeting adjourned 7:40 AM Respectfully submitted, Elizabeth Luke, Secretary
ANZAR FINNSHEEP

Top quality registered pure white Finnsheep. Ewe and Ram lambs for sale.

Grant W. Blackburn, 143 Gravel Lane, Lexington, VA 24450
Phone or fax: (540) 463-4594 Email: anzar@rockbridge.net
Stillmeadow Finnsheep included one headline maker this spring when Snobird had septuplets. Larry and Elizabeth Luke of DeRuyter, NY were thrilled the huge litter. This pure Finn ewe began her career with triplets, then quintuplets, then sextuplets, and now in her fourth annual lambing there are septuplets collectively weighing 34 & 1/2 lbs.

Elizabeth Luke's FINNPHOTO took the big, purple "Best of Show" ribbon for a 20 x 30 poster of the septuplet litter at the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival. The photo of Snobird and her lambs appears on the next page.

She entered seven photographs in the competition and got a whole bunch of other ribbons. The competition was open to all photographers, both professional and amateur. She took first, second, third, and fourth in a variety of categories with best of show being the top choice of all entered. There was also a reserve champion of the whole photo show. Her photo of Snobird and the septuplets was in the "stable scene" category. Six of her seven pictures won ribbons, earning $82 in premiums.

One picture of the seven which got a second place ribbon was taken at Bruce Clement's sheep dairy farm in NH and showed his ewes going up a hill to their field. A portrait of her mother, who resides in an elderly care facility,
shows her with baby Finns on her lap. Another was of her hill meadow with Finns in the autumn, previously used on a cover of "the Shepherd" magazine. Another was taken a couple years ago at the "Empire Spring Classic" show and sale, which showed a small child showing a large Hampshire. A second poster-size photo showed a Finn ewe with quints lined up in a row at her head.

Michael Fey writes, "We just started with Finns here, our first lambing will begin in 2 weeks with 30 ewe lambs, all crossbreed. They look really good, I wish I had started with Finns. They are easier to handle all the way
around! This year I bred all the ewes I had to the rams I bought from Lonnie Cook.

This breed doesn't stress out like the rest, nor do they mind the cold weather, obviously. Those 2 rams have been a really nice investment.

Sandy DeMaster reports that she had very good luck with artificial inseminations using imported semen. She AI'ed 3 ewes using semen from 3 different moorit rams and they all took. She have 8 AI babies on the ground, some black and some white, but all recessive for brown. She also got 3 rams out of the lot, each from a different sire, so she is very happy.

FINNSHEEP MUGS!
Porcelain mug with our favorite breed in all white or colored versions - - $11 postpaid
Available from Grace Hatton, HC 8 Box 8151, Hawley, PA 18428, 570-775-9136
Hatton@microserve.net
IMPORTANT CHANGES !!

AT THE LAST FBA MEETING THE BOARD DECIDED THAT FROM NOW ON ALL FEES SHOULD BE SENT TO THE REGISTRY IN MILO, IA.

IN THE PAST FEES EXCEPT FOR REGISTRATIONS WERE SENT TO THE SECRETARY OR THE TREASURER. NOW ALL FEES (INITIAL MEMBERSHIP, ANNUAL DUES, HERD PREFIX) ARE TO BE SENT TO THE REGISTRY IN MILO.

IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR INITIAL MEMBERSHIP FEE (FORMERLY CALLED LIFE MEMBERSHIP) YOU WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO REGISTER FINNSHEEP.

IF YOU DO NOT PAY YOUR ANNUAL DUES, REGISTRATION FEES ARE DOUBLED AND YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER.
FINNSHEEP BREEDERS DIRECTORY

CALIFORNIA

Richard M. Finn
Breeder/Broker
Finnsheep & Finnsheep crosses
P. O. Box 1509
Hayfork, CA 96041
(530) 628 3077

Connie Santos,
34843 Wiemiller Rd.,
Tollhouse, CA 93667
flynsbar@psnw.com
Purebred Finnsheep:
Black, white, grey
OPP negative

COLORADO

Jan and Chuck Herman
RRR Dorsets
7054 S Hwy 83
Franktown, CO 80116
cleromama@juno.com
(303) 688 9812
fax (303) 688 9688
Commercial producer:
Dorset X Finn
Black commercially carded
Finn wool batts. Crossbred ewe lambs available after 2001

IOWA

Dale L. Amendt
6815 Waterman Blvd.
Sutherland, IA 51058
(712)446 3489
Purebred Finnsheep
Crossbred Finnsheep (Finn X Suffolk, Finn X Corriedales)

Marvin Blair
3402 Fletcher Ave.
Lake City, IA 51449
(712)464 8153
Purebred Finnsheep
Crossbred Finnsheep (Finn X Hampshire & Finn X Dorset)

Massachusetts

George Cofsky
818 Neponset St.
Norwood, MA 02062
(781)762 3573
Purebred Finnsheep
(White & Black)
Crossbred Finnsheep (Finn X Dorset X Frisian)

Michigan

Deborah Knisely Lee
Leeward Acres Sheep Farm
10260 Bennington Rd.
Durand, MI 48429
(517)288 3659
DebbieandJimLee@aol.com
Purebred Finnsheep & Corriedale/Finn crosses
White and colored Finnsheep & crosses. Roving & batts as well as raw fleeces

New Jersey

Carol & Larry Winchell
Stoe Creek Farm
52 Frank Smith Road
Canton / Salem, NJ 08079
(609) 935 0613
fax (609) 935 5624
lwinch7056@aol.com
Purebred Finnsheep
Purebred rams in musket, black, silver, white and harlequin. I already have and produce color.
Crossbred Finnsheep
VSCP-NJ17/ OPP neg foot rot free

New York

Larry & Elizabeth Luke
Stillmeadow Finnsheep
HC 65 Box 495
DeRuyter, NY 13052
(315) 852 3344
stillmeadowfinns@hotmail.com
Purebred Finnsheep- Several genetic lines offer white, black, grey, & piebald colors
Our footrot free, OPP Negative Finnsheep flock has been selected for maternalism, udder quality, & fleece character. Thirty five ewes will lamb in March/April 2001 with lambs available in June. Spinner fleeces also available.

Ohio

Paul J. Hunter, DVM
11425 Bruns Road
Fort Loramie, OH 45845
1-800-628-LAMB(5262)
drhunter@bright.net
OPP test Negative for two years, enrolled in voluntary scrapie program
Purebred white Finns, Finn/Dorset crosses and teaser rams. One of the largest purebred flocks in the country. Imported genetics.

Walter R. Threlfall, DVM & Barbara A. Threlfall
Falling Tree Ranch
7012 Liberty Road
Powell, OH 43065
(740) 881 4417
OPP negative & entered in Scrapie program. Flock was established in 1977. Crossbreds include Finn/Dorset, Finn/Dorper, Finn/Texel. Ewes and rams available.
WRTDVM@aol.com

PENNSYLVANIA

Grace Hatton
HC 8 Box 8151
Hawley, PA 18428
(570) 775 9136
hatton@microserve.net
http://www.microserve.net/~ hatton/finnsheep.htm
Purebred Finn sheep since 1987
OPP neg
Enrolled Scrapie - PA 43

June Roshong
1620 Harmonyville Road
Pottstown, PA 19465
(610) 326 5612
leh3@tco.com
Purebred Finn sheep: Registered colored and white Finn sheep, OPP neg.
www.homestead.com/finnsheep

VIRGINIA

Grant W. Blackburn
"Anzar Sheep"
142 Gravel Lane
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 463 4594
anzer@rockbridge.net
Purebred Finn sheep
Breeder of Finn sheep since 1994, participating in Finn sheep semen importation and specializing in high quality pure white pedigree livestock. We have never had scrapie, foot rot or OPP and the flock is enrolled (VA18) in the USDA Voluntary Scrapie Flock Certification Program.

Harold O. Koenig
Rock House Farm
8391 Langhome Rd.
Scottsville, VA 24590
(804) 286 3222
rock_house@compuserve.com
Purebred Finn sheep, Corriedales & Lincolns

Joe and Naomi Smith
House Mountain Finn sheep
1765 Jacktown Road
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 463 6062
Enrolled VA Scrapie Program
Purebred Finn sheep
Farm established in 1985 in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. Flock of 50 breeding ewes, mostly quads and quints. Bred for size, multiple births, mothering ability and structural correctness. Glen Avon and Root bloodlines. Also rams available for crossbreeding.

Linda and Leanna Witt
Misty Mountain Farm

mystymtn@citizen.infi.net
P.O. Box 133, 154 Quail Call Lane, Amissville, VA 20106,
(540) 937-4707
OPP free, registered Scrapie program
VA flock 26
Registered Colored and White Finn sheep
Registered Colored and White Lincolns
Finn-Lincoln crosses
Spinning and Weaving Equipment and Supplies
Handspinning Fleeces and Rovings

WISCONSIN

Sandy De Master
Wee Croft Finn sheep
N7087 Hillside Dr.
Watertown, WI 53094
(920)699-7420
weecroft@execpc.com
Purebred Finn sheep.
OPP negative, Voluntary Scrapie Program WI Flock 28. White and colored breeding stock available. Flock replacements selected for maternal traits, prolificacy and wool quality. Fleeces, roving, and yarn.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Please send all corrections, complaints, great ideas, Finnpower items, etc to Grace Hatton, hatton@microserve.net
MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

NAME: ___________________________ ( ) initial membership $35
ADDRESS: ___________________________ ( ) Breeders Directory $30
PHONE: ___________________________ ( ) annual dues $25
EMAIL: ___________________________ ( ) flock prefix, $10 per letter
Amount enclosed $ __________

INITIAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
Check one: Purebred breeder ( ), Commercial producer ( ), Other ( )
I/we agree to be governed by the rules, regulation, constitution, and bylaws of the association as amended from time to time, and to keep a written memorandum of breeding, exact birth dates, and litter size of Finnsheep, and further that I/we will furnish promptly any information concerning same at any time when requested to do so by the association. A remittance of $35 is enclosed (includes annual dues payment).
Signed ___________________________ Date ______________
Signed ___________________________ Date ______________

BREEDERS' DIRECTORY LISTING
Fee: $30 per three issue year - - January 2000 to December 2000 - - FBA members only - - Includes web page listing. The directory is sent to people inquiring about the breed and to fairs and shows. Please check:
Purebred Finns ( ), Crossbred Finns ( ), What crosses?
Other info. Not counting your name and address, email, webpage, health status re: OPP and Scrapie, you are allowed 20 words free to describe what you offer. Over 20 words is $1 per line which must be included with Breeders Directory Listing Payment.

ANNUAL DUES: Fee: $25 If you do not pay the fee you will not receive the FBA newsletter, Short Tales and your registration fees will be doubled.

FLOCK PREFIX: $10 per letter. A flock prefix enables exclusive use of your name or that of your farm or flock on registrations. You could use your last name, the full name of your farm or some initials.

FOR REGISTRATIONS AND TRANSFERS AND ALL MEMBER SERVICES: Send all information to the Finnsheep Breeders' Association, 1557 173rd Ave., Milo, IA 50166, phone (515) 942 6402, fax (515) 942 6502, worldsheep@aol.com
Fees:(double for non-members or those who have not paid annual dues or on animals over 12 months of age)
Class I (purebred animals) -- $6 transfer of ownership $4
Class II (crossbred animals)
1. 1/2 Finn $2 Pedigrees $5
2. 3/4 Finn $6 Duplicates $1
3. 7/8 Finn $6

FINNSHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION
MISSION STATEMENT

The Finnsheep Breeders' Association of the USA:

- Provides a national pedigree breed recording system for Finnsheep
- Maintains the Finnsheep breed standard for the USA
- Promotes animal health within the breed and nationally
- Fosters and promotes the proliferation and marketing of Finnsheep within the national industry and abroad
- Is a national focal point for Finnsheep Breeders
- Disseminates timely information to members on all matters relating to the breed

Finnsheep Breeders' Association
HC 65 Box 495
DeRuyter, NY 13052

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED