Hello, I hope you are all enjoying the cooler Fall and early winter weather.

Thank you for participating in the FBA’s Annual Business Meeting held on October 14, 2012 via teleconference. The minutes from the meeting and association reports are enclosed in this issue.

The newly elected Board of Directors and their contact information is listed just to the right of this post.

Now is the time that we all have been looking forward to—placing our ewes into ram breeding groups! Looking forward to what those choices will bring out in the lambs being born soon.

It also means we should have our houses and barns ready for the wind, rain, snow and cold, our fences mended and our hay and feed ready too.

For new breeders, an informational article on how to feed prolific ewes during pregnancy is enclosed. Also the online research ability of the web is a great tool to learn how to help rams maintain their body weight, deciding what selection criteria for improvement is desirable for your flock, as well as help in making decisions on marketing or building your business.

As a future reference on Finnsheep and an aid in locating Finnsheep nearby, the FBA is building an Online Database. This will be accessible in part by the public as they seek for new breeding stock, and also a part will be accessible by FBA members only.

Enjoy your Fall breeding time, and look towards spring.

Mary Tucker, FBA President
585.928.1721
mary@lighthousesheepfarm.com

Chief Shepherd Message

FBA Director Contact:
Mary Tucker, President (2014, 1st Term)
PO Box 85
West Clarksville, NY  14786
585.928.1721
mary@lighthousesheepfarm.com

Gail VonBargen, Vice President (2013, 1st Term)
14255 Jacob Street
Hamburg, MN  55339
952.564.9522
gvonbargen@aol.com

Grant Blackburn, FBA Treasurer (Assigned)
117 Gravel Lane
Lexington, VA  24450
540.463.4594
global2000_us@yahoo.com

Callie Welch, FBA Secretary (Volunteer)
6861 Old Pipestone Rd
Eau Claire, MI  49111
269.461.4101
FBAsecretary@finnsheep.org

Brian Magee, Director (2013, 1st Term)
1184 Harford Slaterville Rd
Dryden, NY  13053-9739
607.844.9711
brianmagee38@yahoo.com

Deb Hilliard Kirsch, Director (2014, 1st Term)
3978 Pingrey Hill Rd
Andover, NY  14706
607.590.1605
kirschdeb54@yahoo.com

Terri Drimel, Director (2015, 1st Term)
34435 Park Trail
Center City, MN  55012
654.257.4871
roundaboutacres@gmail.com

Mary O’Malley, Director (2015, 1st Term)
1600 Ednor Rd
Silver Spring, MD  20905
301.421.9520
johnandmaryomalley@yahoo.com

Elizabeth H. Kinne Gossner, Director (2015, 2nd Term)
5883 Randall Hill Rd
DeRuyter, NY  13052
315.852.3344
stillmeadowfinnsheep@frontier.com
FBA Secretary—Introduction

Bio – of Callie Lamb Welch

I was born in southern Missouri and raised on a dairy farm. After high school graduation, I attended college in Springfield, Missouri, where I met my husband, Rodney. We have been married 34 years and have six children – 5 are married and one caboose is still at home. We have 9 grandchildren that live from Idaho to Texas to Utah and Kentucky. Family gathering times are important to us since they happen so rarely. We call ourselves the 'movie star' grandparents since most of our interaction with the grandkids is through Skype. We now reside in Michigan by way of Iowa and Tennessee. Rodney is a Mechanical Engineer employed by the Whirlpool Corporation. We have been in Michigan almost 4 years. When Whirlpool told us that we were being transferred to Michigan, I was sure I was going to freeze to death in the snow. So far, I haven’t – though I had a close call once falling in a deep drift in the pasture – head down and fanny up. We bought a modest home with 7 acres and a barn. Before we had the boxes unpacked, we bought couple of calves to raise for beef and chicks. We planted an even larger garden, fruit trees, and eventually added a small U-pick of raspberries and blackberries. We even milked a cow for a year and learned to make cheeses. 3 years ago, we decided to get sheep. I was interested in learning to felt clothing items like boot liners and vests. I settled on Finnsheep as the best breed for our situation. I could keep just a few ewes and still produce enough lambs to pay for their upkeep. They are small enough that I can care for them without involving my busy husband. And their wool is just want I wanted to work with. I got a bit way-laid from my goal of felting. I bought a spinning wheel and fell in love with spinning yarns. I’m not sure I’m ever going to get over it. Now I have to learn to knit!

Please join me in welcoming our new FBA Secretary - Callie Welch.

Fall Finnsheep Projects

Stillmeadow Pure Finn - from lamb to loom ........ I washed, dyed, & spun the Finn fleece into yarns, then wove in a simple open pattern, then fulled to show off the character of the hand-spun scarves. Elizabeth
Welcome to the Finnsheep Breeders’ Association (FBA) 2012 Annual Business Meeting. This year’s AGM was held via teleconference at no cost to the FBA Members. Non members were welcome to participate in the conversations, but not able to vote as that is a privilege for FBA Members who are up to date on their annual activity fees.

The FBA’s 2012 Agenda:

Roll Call, Reading of the 2011 Minutes, Reports, Tax Exempt Status

Online Database Proposal

FBA Constitutional Amendment Proposal

Proposals for 2013 Annual Business Meeting and other New Business

Voting for Board of Directors

Motion was made to accept the Agenda as proposed, seconded and passed unanimously.

Roll Call: Herb Tucker, Acting FBA Secretary, takes the roll call. We have a quorum of 11 Voting Members present: Brian Magee, Mary O’Malley, Naomi Smith, Leanne Hughes, Gail VonBargen, Grace Hatton, Elizabeth H. Kinne Gossner, Mary Tucker, Deb H. Kirsch, Terrie Drimel, Callie Welch, and Herb Tucker (Non-voting member) as Acting FBA Secretary. Herb comments that he also has two absentee ballots in his care and they will be filed after the meeting. He also commented that the FBA currently has 65 members in good standing; 15 new since the beginning of the year.

Reading of 2011 Minutes of FBA Annual business meeting by the FBA Secretary Motion made and seconded—approved.

2011 Treasurer’s report was read by the FBA Secretary. Motion made and seconded—approved

Old business—New Business ground rules—Constitutional amendment discussion moved to discussion on reopening flock book. Reopening flock book discussion Dues check—fee increases approved by membership at large? Article 9—sect 1. Online Data base. FBA failed to apply for non-profit through IRS. (Updated MN information to use Gail’s address). Fed Tax exempt taking more effort. 2011 Election BOD. Gail—moved to accept—2nd Naomi—Approved

Mary Tucker, FBA President gives an update on Tax Exempt Status: MN tax exempt has been updated and we are clear on that. Federal tax exempt is okay now as well. Grant Blackburn, FBA Treasurer, has been asked to be overseer of that and both can now be filed on-line. Federal IRS hasn’t changed their contact information yet…seems to be a slow process and materials are still going to the wrong address—Mary and Grant are still working to get this corrected.

Treasurer’s Report: See copies enclosed in this newsletter. Some discussion occurred between various members regarding the Balance Sheet and the Profit Loss Report. Terrie motioned acceptance of reports as read, Grace 2nd. Approved

Online Data base proposal—ST #75 p. 6 has a copy if you wish to read it.

Gail gave overview of proposal. Some use data base for color and some of birth numbers. Asked Doug of Mtn Niche database proposal. He proposed to start with a bare bones data base. Milo has all data base info he would need. As proposed Doug at Mtn Niche would receive a download from Milo quarterly. Go to FBA website and go through record and see about animal history. $1000 to set up. $500 to maintain. There was some concern about his operation being a one-man operation; but it is not…his wife is his second and they have backup plan in case of emergency. He could make it available to FBA person so they could take it over (only in case of emergency where his wife could not).

After much discussion and the decision of the members present: 1) A write-up by Mary O’Malley is to be placed in the Short Tale Newsletter 2) An annual review will be presented to the member body prior to renewal of the contract. Contract renewal is annual. This will give people time to access the Online Database and learn how it affects each of them, also time to see if the public in search of Finnsheep will utilize it. There will be a link available on the FBA website as well as being able to be found via a web search for Finnsheep. Motion Passes: 8 Yes – 5 No
FBA Constitution Proposals:

*That the FBA Constitution be amended under Article IV to include wording to the effect that voting privileges be extended to members who can show they have been FBA members 25 years or more, but due to age or disability, no longer have Finnsheep.*

After a time of discussion between members, a request was made to read proposal once more – **Mary T.** reread it. And calls for vote. **Herb** read the absentees. **Motion failed:** 5 Yes – 8 No.

**Article IV Section 3** to be amended as follows: Strike the word “Proxy” and substitute “Absentee.” Strike the last sentence that reads: A member may also designate, in writing, that his/her proxy vote be exercised by the Board of Directors at their discretion. *Reasoning behind the change: definition of proxy voting caused confusion and bad feeling in the past. Since we have the option for absentee ballots, proxy voting is unnecessary.*

Comment was made that the constitution and our Newsletter states that absentee ballots are available now. It was noted that there is a difference between a proxy and absentee vote – in how they are done and privileges extended to them. Proxy- telling a board member that they can vote on any item per discussion they have had. Trusting board member to vote as you would. That proxy is good and can not be nullified if any amendments are made. Absentee ballot means you are not going to be there and this is your vote. If any amendment is made to item under discussion it nullifies absentee ballot portion pertaining to that item being amended. **Mary T** read proposal for Article IV section 3 and called the vote. Herb reads the absentees. **Motion Passes:** 11 Yes – 2 No

**Article V:** Change to: ...(7) directors, each elected for a three (3) year term of office so that at least two (2) directors shall be elected each year. A director may not serve more than two (2) full, consecutive three (3) year terms, or more than seven (7) consecutive years, if originally appointed to fill a vacant position.

**Grace** explained the “reasoning” – If named to fill vacancies, the wording can’t be used to prevent those from being able to still serve 2 full terms. **Mary T** asked if anyone wanted time for a discussion – none. Call to vote. Herb reads the absentees. **Motion Passes:** Unanimously

**Article V:** Insert after mention of paid up dues: Members of other Finnsheep registries that have had a less stringent criteria for registration than the FBA, such as a continued policy of up-breeding, are not eligible to serve as FBA directors or officers.

**Grace** explained the “reasoning” behind the change: back in 1987 FBA members voted to close the herd book to up-breeding as of 01-01-1991. Again at the 2011 annual meeting FBA members voted against opening up the herd book. Adoption of this amendment is suggested out of respect for the wishes of those who voted against accepting bred-up sheep. Also, the FBA recognizes Canadian registered Finnsheep, and the Canadian Finnsheep Breeders Association does not recognize bred up Finnsheep. This amendment serves to protect our bloodlines which have evolved with epistatic or co-adapted genes that can be lost in the breeding up process.

There was much discussion regarding this proposed item. It was noted that people can be involved in more than one Finnsheep breeder association for various reasons. It was also noted that those members may be of great value and have much that they can share. Suggestion was made to amend it to read as “Directors and Officers” and many liked that option better, but after all discussions, it was decided not to amend, but to vote straight yes or no.

**Mary T** reread the proposal as written, Herb called the vote and noted that the absentee ballots did not specify one way or the other. The vote taken was 6 Yes 6 No and 1 Abstained. Herb asked if the person who abstained would be willing to break the tie. **Motion passes:** 7 Yes – 6 No
Article V: Delete the word “lifetime.”

Grace explained the reasoning behind the change: a previous FBA board deleted the word “life member fee” in the membership application form and replaced it with “new member fee,” but did not amend the FBA constitution to reflect the change. The Constitution currently requires a board member to be a “life member,” but there is no way to become one.

Mary T commented that when we asked Milo (registry office) for a FBA member list = 828 members listed as of 06-15-12. Number for member assigned one time only. My current understanding is that a FBA member are those that are current with their annual activity fee. Discussion was held and comments made that in the past, a certificate was sent to each new member. It was not dated, nor a special fee collected for participating. The decision to no longer have a “lifetime member” occurred after much discussion during the 2001 Annual meeting due to finances being so tight at that time. This change brought in revenue that was necessary to continue operating the FBA. Right now, members either are “in good standing” or are not. And as of March, 2012 you must be a member to register lambs. Mary T reread the proposal as written. Herb – called the votes: Absentee ballots both yes. Motion passes: unanimously

New business – Mary lists the Items, and discussion was held for each item individually.

2013 AGM site proposal - In past we have rushed to find a place to hold meeting. Any thoughts, ideas, or a site to place before BOD – please say so now. Places mentioned included: WI Fiber Fest – Sept 6-8th, Great Lakes FF and Sale held on Memorial Day Weekend, South of Cleveland, OH, Rhinebeck, NY in October, The North American NAILE held in mid Nov., Springfield MA would also be an excellent location. Open this discussion up in the next Short Tale newsletter and see if any members respond before it goes to the BOD for decision.

Q: How many members attend? A: The Rhinebeck 2011 was the 1st in-person meeting in many years.

Online payment system for The FBA which would utilize interactive forms. Cost unknown. It would change the manner of receiving payment and paperwork. Method suggestion: PayClix or Paypal – If do so, payment go to FBA Treasurer first and then he would forward form on to Milo when received. Let us know what your feelings are regarding this.

Q: Would this be something that the membership would appreciate and use?

AI semen – Finnsheep semen for improving flocks. Contacted by Kim Caulfield, Heritage Genetics, who previously bought AI semen from the Bank Manager who was going to trash the whole thing since the FBA did not have the financial ability to pay the bill left owed by the semen importation company the FBA utilized. Paul Hunter paid off what was owed to Finland and the bank. Kim Caulfield is currently holding AI straws. Owned by individuals? Or the FBA? She is trying to find out who has/owned some of those straws. Also she has 9-15 straws of black Finn AI put in to fill canister, but not requested. She cannot tell if it is jet black/warm/wavy/spring/straight. She has no other information. No paperwork. Discussion was held on the procedure and protocol involved with the past semen importation… Q: Does anyone know the process needed to provide for registration? FBA Protocol? Milo’s Requirements? Q: Would sheep from this AI semen be register-able? It was suggested that we try to contact Cindy Smith (previous FBA Secretary during that time period) and Sandy DeMaster (previous FBA Secre- tary) and Paul Hunter (previous BOD) and the Milo registry office. As we think they had to have certain Information on any straws that are here, or potentially would be brought in, that would make the offspring registerable. Mary T - Kim Caulfield, Heritage Genetics, is also looking in Australia for Finnsheep AI semen (It will be white of course) to be made available this spring. She is already approved for importing and using semen. Someone asked: How do we know if AI Semen from Finland is in our flock? Mary T-Finland AI – designated as 30,000 # by the Milo/FBA registry. Someone - If she does do AI from Australia, and sire is registered with AU Finnsheep Breeder Association registry would bring up question of numbering… in past had to have Certificate of Registry, Health Certificates showing that are clear and healthy as well if I remember correctly. After discussion, decision was to check with above mentioned people and a recommendation use the same criteria. Sandy to see what was required.

Election of Board members: 3 openings on the BOD plus secretary position. We have three (3) candidate bios: Mary O’Malley, Elizabeth H. Kinne Gossner, and Grace Hatton. Gail VonBargen nominated Terri Drimel from floor as is permissible. Discussion begins, Herb - Absentee- no votes listed Vote asked for and taken: Elizabeth 10 Mary O’ 10 Terri 6 Grace 5 By vote of Majority count, the new Directors to the FBA Board of Directors are Elizabeth, Mary O’, and Terri. A meeting of the BOD will be held immediately after adjournment.

Motion to Adjourn is made, seconded and passed unanimously.
### Finnsheep Breeders’ Association

#### Balance Sheet

**As of October 14, 2012**

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<th>Liabilities &amp; Equity</th>
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<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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| Total Liabilities & Equity | 16,670.16 |

#### Profit & Loss

**March 1 through October 14, 2012**

**Accrual Basis**

**Ordinary Income Expense**

- **Income**
  - Annual Dues 2012 | 750.00
  - Total Annual Dues | 750.00

- **Breeder Directory Income**
  - 2012 | 480.00
  - Breeder Directory Income-Other | 0.00

- **Total Breeders Director Income** | 480.00

- **Flock Prefix Income** | 280.00
- **Income (other-dup certs etc)** | 150.20

- **Membership Income**
  - Youth Membership | 25.00
  - Membership Income-Other | 525.00

- **Total Membership Income** | 550.00

- **Misc/NonMem Reg Income**
  - Registrations
    - Finn Pedigree | 2,328.00
    - Non-Purebred | 40.00
    - Pedigree of 12nth | 1,020.00
    - Transfers | 1,000.00

- **Total Registrations** | 4,388.00

- **Total Income** | 6,624.20

**Expense**

- Advertising | 940.20
- Bank Service Charges | 2.00
- Contract Labor | 1,867.55
- Meeting | 23.94
- Miscellaneous | 0.00
- Postage and Delivery | 231.11
- Printing and Reproduction | 462.88
- Service/Fin Charge | 12.00
- Supplies
  - Office | 10.87

- **Total Supplies** | 10.87
- **Telecommunications** | 45.00

- **Total Expense** | 3,595.55

- **Net Ordinary Income** | 3,028.65
- **Net Income** | 3,028.65
The New Finnsheep Online Database
By: Mary O’Malley

The proposal to make the Finnsheep database visible online passed at our recent FBA Business meeting. Naturally, as with any change, members may be wondering what it will mean for them and for their sheep. What have we gotten ourselves into? Over the next few weeks, Doug Meyer of Mountain Niche Web Services will be developing the core module of the Finnsheep database. The on-line Database is a listing of data regarding Finnsheep that is hoped to promote interest in, and sales of Finnsheep by facilitating the location of Finnsheep breeders and breeding stock. Member feedback, as the proposal is implemented will be essential.

The database will have a separate website from the FBA site, however, it will be linked to/from the current FBA site. The core module of the database includes web pages for the members/breeders list, the pedigree, and the sheep search and search results.

The members/breeders/owners list will be take from the current valid FBA members list on the FBA registry’s Milo office. The list can be sorted by any field. A search feature allows the list to be searched by location or other criteria.

The pedigree page, like the paper copy you receive from Milo when you register a lamb, shows the sheep’s ancestry back 4 generations. An individual might use this page to determine how closely related the sheep they have are to ones they are considering purchasing. To better understand this page you can click these links to view other registries database.


The sheep search and search results allow users to find information about any sheep registered with the FBA. It allows an individual to search for a sheep using different criteria including: registration number, owner, color, gender, breeder, single/twin/triplet or quad, etc.

From the discussion regarding the database over the last year or so, it seems that the most popular features of the database would be the ability to easily trace lineage/pedigree and the ability to search for a trait like a particular color or marking. There are also issues that concern members. Having additional information available on the internet makes many people uneasy. Another concern is the potential to use a search to overemphasize certain traits, such as multiples or color at the cost of other valuable traits, like ease of lambing and devoted mothering.

Weighing the pros and cons, it was decided that implementation of the on-line database would be reevaluated on a yearly basis. As reported in a previous Short Tale newsletter, the cost of implementing the database will be approximately $1000. The one time set up fee is $500, the annual fee is $240, and quarterly updates will vary from $120—$240. As implementation goes forward, feedback from you, the FBA membership is critical. Does the On-line database increase or decrease sales? Is it used generally by all, or primarily only by a nice market (like people seeking sheep of unusual color)? Does it make your work easier or harder? Is it a good investment of the FBA financial resources, or could this money be spent better elsewhere? Is this more hassle than it’s worth to you and you’d really just like to be left alone? We can speculate on answers...but we really need to know. Your experience may vary and your opinion of the database may change over time. I encourage you to take notes on your experience as the year progresses and bring your perspective to the next annual business meeting. However, I would be happy to hear from you any time regarding your experience. Feel free to email me at johnandmaryomalley@yahoo.com. I will compile a record of people’s experience over the year.
While few people associate triplet-rearing ewes with a pasture-based system, it is a highly practical and natural way to raise sheep. It is possible to provide superior nutrition to prolific ewes, allowing them to bear and even nurse triplets and larger litters, in a grass-based system.

WHY PASTURE-BASED?

Generally, pasture-based prolific ewe management is based on lambing and lactating in the grazing season. Buildings may be used as shelters, but usually ewes are allowed to come and go as they please. Ewes harvest their own feed by grazing quality pasture. Lambing systems will vary, but often ewes lamb on pasture, though some are brought indoors to lamb in jugs (lambing pens), as individuals or small groups.

Ewes in a confinement system must have their food brought to them, and this feed must be both balanced and of sufficient quality and quality to support not only the dam but also a litter for at least six months, and more realistically seven or eight (gestation and lactation). They must be housed over most of this time. This increases labor and expense and decreases the profit margin considerably.

A high quality pasture may be producing 22-30% protein in an exceedingly palatable form. On the other hand, prolific ewes in confinement require 18-22% protein, and this in hay and concentrate form. Hay is not so appealing to ewes as good pasture, which means that pasture consumption is normally higher, resulting in higher lamb birth weights and increased milk production. And since ewes are harvesting their own feed, without requiring it to be brought to them, labor is reduced.

This makes a grass-fed system increasingly attractive to fecund-breed shepherds.

PASTURE NEEDS

Aside from genetics, nutrition is likely the most important factor in producing a successful lamb crop out of prolific ewes. Forage must be of high quality. Just as with confinement feeding, as the fetal mass increases as pregnancy progresses, the feed must be of higher quality to make up for the fact that the rumen's capacity is limited. Plenty of consideration should be given to the land’s capability for production and the length of the grazing season. Forage species exist for every climate and soil type.

Ideal pasture mixes will vary depending on location and soil type, but normally pastures should be improved. A good grass/legume mix is typically recommended. Alfalfa is a nutritious choice, as is clover, bird’s foot trefoil, etc. Clover does contain large amounts of estrogenic compounds that are thought to impede ovulation in ewes, and therefore may not be suitable for a pasture that must be grazed during breeding season. However, clover should not be a problem for ewes in gestation or lactation. A mix ensures that a variety of species are available even if others are not producing.

Pastures should be rotationally grazed to protect forage quality. This will also help to reduce parasite burdens.
In northern climates, the grazing season may be more limited. It can be extended with stockpiling of forages and the use of root crops such as turnips and mangels. It is possible to manage a good part of gestation without grazing, with very high quality hay and possibly some concentrate supplementation.

HER NEEDS...

A triplet-bearing Finn ewe has varying nutritional needs throughout breeding, gestation, and lactation. She may be said to be working as hard as a very productive Holstein in peak lactation! Consequently, it is crucial to support her as carefully as a dairy farmer would one of his best cows. As mentioned previously, such a ewe typically requires 18-22% crude protein in her complete diet, including forages, both from pasture and hay, and any concentrates that may be fed.

...DURING FLUSHING

As long as pasture quality is excellent, supplementation is rarely necessary, except for perhaps those ewes with very large litters of quintuplets and more. According to studies, Finns do not respond as well as other breeds do to flushing. Fecundity is influenced more by genetics than by nutrition. However, ewes should still be well-nourished and in good condition before and during breeding. If lactation has left them thin, it is wise to either provide them with better pasture, or provide a very high quality hay (such as a grass/alfalfa mix), and/or provide concentrates. One half to one pound of grain per head per day is generally adequate for flushing purposes. This may be corn, oats, wheat, barley, a mix, or whatever is available. Flushing is best started several weeks before breeding if ewes are quite thin, and continued for several weeks after mating. During this time, embryos are implanting in the uterus, and disruption, including inadequate nutrition, may cause losses.

...THROUGHOUT GESTATION

During those months when pasture is poor or even nonexistent, high quality grass-legume hay should be fed during gestation. This in itself may be sufficient until the last four to six weeks of gestation. If quality pasture still not available by this crucial time, the hay may be changed to a superior alfalfa hay, and/or concentrates may be provided. The quantity of concentrates depends upon a variety of factors, including quality of the forage (hay or pasture) and the quality and type of concentrate, as well as how many lambs each ewe is carrying. Unless the ewe is scanned (not foolproof), or there is a reasonable history of certain litter sizes (i.e. twins or quads), it is not possible to be exact. Ewes may be grouped according to estimated litter sizes and fed accordingly. Ewes carrying triplets have a higher nutritional requirement than those bearing twins, and quadruplets require more than triplets, and so on. Those with larger litters may therefore require more concentrates and superior hay with less bulk.

It is wise to have a forage analysis performed on hay so that accurate feeding rations can be determined. It is wasteful to feed more protein than what is required and not feeding enough may result in serious economic losses.
Pumpkins, root crops, and other nutritious foods are excellent additions to a fecund ewe’s diet. Some shepherds allow their ewes to graze in crop aftermath, providing grains that were missed by the combine. Hay aftermath can also be suitable- ewes can easily consume the nutrient-rich legume leaves that are left from baling, which generally have far more protein than the stems.

...AND DURING LACTATION

How well a ewe milks will determine her litter’s growth to a great extent. Hopefully by lambing, pastures are in excellent shape and can easily support a lactating ewe and her offspring. The pasture should be mown if necessary to keep the growth tender, if the flock cannot keep up with the spring flush. A well-bred triplet bearing ewe should be able to easily obtain all she needs from a high quality pasture to sustain herself and produce plenty of milk for her fast-growing lambs. Milk production is certainly hereditary- if a ewe cannot produce enough milk to support triplets in this system, she should be culled. Daughters of milky ewes are the best to hold back as ewe replacements. High 60-day post-birth lamb weights are desirable, and indicative of a productive, milky ewe. These may be used to select for increased milk production.

For larger litters and young ewes, some supplementation may be necessary. Typically, a pound or two of grain in addition to forage is suitable. If pasture becomes sparse, it may be supplemented as described earlier. Frequent pasture rotation is very helpful in producing high quality forage. Lambs of larger litters may have to be supplemented with a bottle, nipple bucket feeding system, or be grafted onto other milky ewes with twins. Often lambs may be seen snitching milk from obliging or oblivious mothers busy with their own broods!

CONCLUSION

For many shepherds, some version of a pasture-based system is an ideal way to manage prolific ewes. Veterinarians, livestock nutritionists, and county and state extension agents are excellent resources for those seeking to get started. With careful ewe and pasture management, shepherds can reap the many benefits of this system and be rewarded with a large crop of healthy, growthy lambs and a thicker pocketbook.

FBA Annual Activity Fees are due as of January 1, 2013
Worksheet Form and Fee Schedule enclosed
Other forms can be located on the website http://finnsheep.org
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<tr>
<td>New Year's Day</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>1/1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Epiphany</td>
<td>1/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eidul-Adha Festival of Sacrifice</td>
<td>10/26</td>
<td>10/5</td>
<td>9/24</td>
<td>9/13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Muharramn – Islamic New Year</td>
<td>11/15</td>
<td>11/5</td>
<td>10/25</td>
<td>10/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mawlid al-Nabi – Prophet's Birthday</td>
<td>2/5</td>
<td>1/24</td>
<td>1/14</td>
<td>1/3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Roman Easter</td>
<td>3/8</td>
<td>3/31</td>
<td>3/20</td>
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<td>Eastern Orthodox Easter</td>
<td>3/15</td>
<td>5/5</td>
<td>3/20</td>
<td>3/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cinco de Mayo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independence Day</td>
<td>7/4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Start of Ramadan – Month of Fasting</td>
<td>7/20</td>
<td>7/9</td>
<td>6/29</td>
<td>6/18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diwali</td>
<td>11/13</td>
<td>11/3</td>
<td>10/23</td>
<td>11/11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eid ul-Fitr – Festival of Fast Breaking</td>
<td>8/19</td>
<td>8/8</td>
<td>7/29</td>
<td>7/18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosh Hashanah</td>
<td>9/17</td>
<td>9/5</td>
<td>9/25</td>
<td>9/14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Navadurgara / Navratri Dashara / Dassai</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chanukkah</td>
<td>12/9 - 12/16</td>
<td>11/28 - 12/5</td>
<td>12/17 - 12/24</td>
<td>12/7 - 12/14</td>
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**Advertising Rates for Short Tales**

- **Classified:**
  - Members $.10/word
  - Non-members $.15/word
- **Business Card Display:** (approx. 2” by 3.5”)
  - Members $5.00/card
  - Non-members $7.50/card
- **Quarter Page (approx. 3.5” by 5’)**
  - Members $10.00
  - Non-members $15.00
- **Half Page (approx. 3.5” by 10” or 7” by 5’):**
  - Members $20.00
  - Non-members $30.00
- **Full Page (approx. 7” by 10”):**
  - Members $40.00
  - Non-members $60.00

**Advance payment required for all ads:**

Send your advertising copy to the Short Tales Coordinator, Mary Tucker at: maire8797@yahoo.com

Remit payment along with a hardcopy to: Grant Blackburn, FBA Treasurer 117 Gravel Lane Lexington, VA
California
Tamara Myers
Medley Farm & Kennel
13470 Alabama Road
Galt, CA 95632
209.748.5046
Medleyrn@yahoo.com
www.MedleyFarm.com
Flock Prefix: MEDLEY
White, Black, Brown, Gray, Fawn, Piebald
Purebred, Registered Stock. Fleeces Available
Breeding Stock and fiber pets

Colorado
Rebecca A. Coleman
Beck's Place
205 Walker Lane
Canon City, CO 81212
719.269.8950
ridermom@gmail.com
Registered Finnsheep in the central Colorado mountains. Call for availability of livestock or wool for sale. 719.269.8950

Connecticut
Rhonda Jaacks
Harlequin Farm
132 White Hollow Road
Lakeville, CT 06039
860.435.9865
rjaacks@att.net
HarlequinFarm.blogspot.com
Flock Prefix: Harlequin
Purebred Finnsheep breeding stock, Fiber, pelts, meat, Alpine & Lamancha goats

Illinois
Cheryl Medlin & Frank Moore
Wolf Moon
10304 Julie Lane
Lebanon, IL 618.623.2628
cherylmedlin@sbcglobal.net
Purebred Finnsheep

Bryan & Elizabeth Pullen
Walnut Springs Farm
11111 W. Park School Road
Princeville, IL 61559
309.385.4637
walnutspringfarm@hughes.net
www.pullenfarms.com
Healthy rotational grazed registered Finnsheep, Cotswold, Finn-Shetland, and Commercial Merino cross. Breeding stock, lambs, Beautiful fleeces & rovings available.

Indian
Pamela K. Hoover
Rooster’s Run Farm
5197 SW Washington School Road
Salem, IN 47167
812.896.1223
Pam.Hoover@rrfiberfarm.com
www.rrfiberfarm.com
Purebred Finnsheep, Finn x Shetland
Enrolled Status; Mandatory Scrapie Program since 2002; Flock ID: 88035
New for 2011: The Rooster’s Run Store selling yarn, rovings, fleeces plus other wool products as well as Kromski Spinning wheels and Howard Brush Carders. We also offer registered Angora goats.

Iowa
Dale L. Amendt
J&P Heritage Farm
6305 Bittersweet Rd
Spencer, IN 47460
812-935-7424
jerryper@aol.com
Purebred Finnsheep, Finn/Gotland & Finn/Shetland

Bobbie L. Peck
The Counting Sheep Farm
5709 E. 12 Street
White Cloud, MI 49349
231.429.3364
john_330.live_it@yahoo.com
www.thecountingsheepfarm.com
Registered breeding stock, freezer lambs, fleeces and roving. Call, email or check us out on Facebook!

Maryland
Mary & John O’Malley
Honeysuckle Farm
1600 Ednor Road
Silver Spring, MD 20905
301.421.9420
johnandmaryomalley@yahoo.com
Purebred Finnsheep, Finn cross Tunis and Suffolk breeding stock, meat, and roving

Michigan
Darren & Margaret Cole
Sable Forest Finnsheep
2114 South Magrudder Road
St. Louis, MI 48880
989.681.0024
sableforest@aol.com
www.sableforestfinns.webs.com
Flock ID: MIF2042
White, black, brown and badgerface; Fleeces available yearly; call to check prices and availability

Clark BreDahl
Mormon Trail Farm
1911 290th Street
Greenfield, IA 50849
641.745.2323 bredahl.mtfarms@gmail.com
Purebred Finnsheep & Crossbred Finnsheep (Finn x Dorset x Ile de France)
Foot rot free; OPP flock test negative
Flock Prefix: MTF

Mary
Mary & John O’Malley
Honeysuckle Farm
1600 Ednor Road
Silver Spring, MD 20905
301.421.9420
johnandmaryomalley@yahoo.com
Purebred Finnsheep, Finn cross Tunis and Suffolk breeding stock, meat, and roving

Phil & Judy Osborn
Abundance Acres
9713 Crystall Falls Drive
Hagerstown, MD 21740
Office: 240.556.0627
Home: 301.791.1110
abundanceacres@myactv.net
www.abundantfiber.com

Foot rot free; OPP flock test negative
Flock Prefix: MTF

Bobbie L. Peck
The Counting Sheep Farm
5709 E. 12 Street
White Cloud, MI 49349
231.429.3364
john_330.live_it@yahoo.com
www.thecountingsheepfarm.com
Registered breeding stock, freezer lambs, fleeces and roving. Call, email or check us out on Facebook!
Michigan, cont.

Callie Welch (FBA Secretary)
Bramble Berry Finnsheep
6861 Old Pipestone Road
Eau Claire, MI 49111
269.461.4101
brambleberryfinns.blogspot.com
Callielw@gmail.com
Registered Finnsheep and Finn X Corriedale

Terri & George Drimel
Roundabout Acres
34435 Park Trail
Center City, MN  55012
651.257.4871
roundaboutacres@gmail.com
www.roundaboutacres.com
Purebred Finnsheep, Blueface Leicester x Shetlands, and Finn x Shetland breeding stock, freezer lamb, fleeces and roving.

Tim Reese
Gale Woods Farm Park
7210 County Road 110 West
Minnetrista, MN 55364
763.694.2002
treese@threeriversparkdistrict.org
www.galewoodsfarm.org
Purebred Finnsheep
Cross-Bred Corriedale & Icelandic
Flock Prefix:  TRP
SFCP Enrolled Status since 2005
Flock ID: MN43
Gale Woods is an educational farm. Products include wool & yarn and pasture-raised lamb, beef, poultry and hogs and a vegetable CSA.

Gail VonBargesen
Little Red Oak Farm
14255 Jacob Street
Hamburg, MN 55339
Office: 952.467.2305 or Home: 952.564.9522
gvnbargens@aol.com
www.littleredoakfarm.blogspot.com
SFCP Enrolled in 2006
Flock ID: MN62
Purebred Finnsheep & Shetlands in white, brown, gray, and black. Piebald & Badger.
We sell breeding stock, unregistered stock, raw wool & roving.

Missouri

Laurie Moxley
Moxley Farm
10510 Boulder Road
Mountain Grove, MO 65711
477.926.3618
mcwobbie@aol.com
Registered Finns-Black, White, Chocolate, & Piebald in South Central Missouri; a healthy flock under rotational grazing management.

New York

Kathryn & Bill Clemsen
Sunrise Farms
252 Plymouth-NO Norwich Rd.
Plymouth, NY 13832
607.336.5834
clemsclan@citlink.net
Enrolled Scrapie Flock
Purebred Finnsheep, white & colored; meat, breeding stock

Brian H. Magee
Star Finnsheep & Dorsets
1184 Harford Sliderville Road
Dryden, NY 13053
607.844.9711
brianmagee38@yahoo.com
OPP Free  Selected for accelerated lambing
STAR  Codon 171R Heterozygous and Homozygous

Elizabeth H. Kinne Gossner
Stillmeadow Finnsheep
5883 Randall Hill Road
DeRuyter, NY 13052
315.852.3344
www.stillmeadowfinnsheep.com
Stillmeadowfinnsheep@frontier.com
SFCP Certified Scrapie Free Flock # NY69

Amy Cook
Sweetland Hill Finnsheep
64 Sweetland Hill Rd.
Chenango Forks, NY 13746
607.725.4844
cookamyym@yahoo.com
www.sweetlandhillfinnsheep.com
SFCP Flock ID: NY120
Homozygous STAR  Codon 171R Heterozygous and Opp Free Selected for accelerated lambing
Entire flock tested for negative OPP status annually, enrolled in SFCP, Flock # NY120. Random flock testing for CL and Johne’s. Flock goals are wide genetic variety, confirmation, maternal traits, parasite resistance & high quality wool. Chemical free coated hand spinning fleeces, roving and yarn available for sale in all colors. Come visit and see how we have an alternative Point of view at our farm following the traditions of our family in Finland.

Mary & Herb Tucker
Lighthouse Farm (LHF)
P.O. Box 85
West Clarksville, NY 14786
585.928.1721
mary@lighthousesheepfarm.com
www.lighthousesheepfarm.com
SFCP Flock ID: NY103
Registered Finnsheep and Finn X Dorset Selecting for improved body and carcass traits, excellent mothering, quality fleeces. Lambing throughout the year. QR and RR Finnsheep.

Ohio

J. Mark Judy, DVM
Glen Avon Farm
255 N. Cherry St.
Germantown, OH 45327
H: 937.855.2407  C: 937.239.8224
Flock ID: OH 1805
steamboatinsnoopy@juno.com

Alan Judy, Farm Manager
located at:
8951 Browns Run Rd
Germantown, OH 937.855.6281  C: 937.241.8956
Continuous breeding of purebred white Finn-sheep since 1976. Descendants from the original “Aries” line imported from Prince Edward Island, Canada. Some colored Finnsheep. Raw and processed wool, rovings and batts of white or color.

Aaron Reddy
R & M Farms
34847 lake Shore Blvd.
Timberlake, OH 44095
440.241.7234
randmfarms@gmail.com
www.randmfarms.com
Specializing in Grey & Brown colored purebred Finnsheep

Gayle Workman
Meadowlark Farm
20090 Fred-Amytli Road
Mt. Vernon, OH 43050
937.429.0737
Flock Prefix: Meadowlark Flock ID: 594
Purebred Finnsheep and Finn Dorset crosses, gently and organically raised, raw wool, fiber pets & breeding stock. Lambs due May, 2012

CaraLeigh Wilson
Point of View Farm
PO Box 535
Bangall, NY 12506
845.868.4140
finnsheep@me.com
www.pointofviewfarm.net
SFCP Flock ID: NY120
Plainbred Finnsheep raised all naturally on pasture, organic grains, minerals and herbs. Biosecure farm offering healthy breeding stock for sale including white, brown, fawn, black and grey lambs. Entire flock tested for negative OPP status annually, enrolled in SFCP, Flock # NY120. Random flock testing for CL and Johne’s. Flock goals are wide genetic variety, confirmation, maternal traits, parasite resistance and high quality wool. Chemical free coated hand spinning fleeces, roving and yarn available for sale in all colors. Come visit and see how we have an alternative Point of view at our farm following the traditions of our family in Finland.
Rhode Island

Colleen & Daniel O’Connors
OK Archers
843 Mooresfield Road
Saunderstown, RI 02874
401.789.0778
cjo59@verizon.net
SFCP: Pending
Flock Prefix: OKA
Pure Finn, Scrapie free, registered breeding stock; genetically, diverse, friendly animals, pasture raised. First lambs & fleeces in 2012

Virginia

Naomi Smith
House Mountain Finnsheep
1765 Jacktown Road
Lexington, VA 24450
540.463.6062
Flock ID: VA17; SFCP enrolled 1999
Farm established in 1985 in the Blue Ridge Mountains for Virginia Purebred Finnsheep flock of 100 breeding ewes, mostly quads and quint. Bred for size, multiple births, mothering ability and structural correctness. Glen Avon & Root bloodlines. Rams available for cross-breeding

Linda Witt
Misty Mountain Farm
154 Quail Call Lane
Amissville, VA 20106
540.937.4707
info@mistymountainfarm.com
www.mistymountainfarm.com
SFCP Flock #: VA26
Purebred Finnsheep
Hand-spinning fleece, roving and batts

Washington

Dan & Leanne Hughes
Triple L Finnsheep
89202 N. Harrington Road
West Richland, WA 99353
509.539.6745
www.triplelfinnsheep.com
Flock Prefix: 3L
Flock ID: WA2252; SFCP Certified
30 years of breeding Finns for size, productivity, wool, milking ability and temperament. White, black, gray, brown, fawn, and pieds. Lambing records available to 1982.

Debra Perry
Dancing Waters Farm
4925 163rd Lane SW
Rochester, WA 98579
360.273.9917
Flock Prefix: DWF
mountaintrailwalker@yahoo.com
Breeding with an eye for Form, Fiber, Function, and Temperament.

Wisconsin

Tracy Sengupta
Firefly Fields Finnsheep
4110 W. Plymouth Church Road
Beloit, WI 53511
608.345.8555
tracy@fireflyfields.com
www.fireflyfields.com
Flock Prefix: FF
Flock ID: WI1990
Flock ID: WA2167
SFCP Certified Status
Purebreed Finnsheep

Brian Stichter
422 US Hwy 14
Arena, WI 53503
608.753.2713
stichter@charter.net
VSFCP Flock ID: WI456
Purebred Registered Finnsheep in white, black and brown. Finn & North Country Cheviot

FOR SALE: EASY CARE GENETICS

Stillmeadow Finnsheep will offer 40 purebred Finn lambs for sale in June 2013. The flock (NY69) is USDA Certified Scrapie Free and O.P.P. Negative. Included are both white and colored lambs from four sire lines with dams known for high yield udders. Contact Elizabeth by phone at 315-852-3344 or by e-mail stillmeadowfinnsheep@frontier.com

CABIN FEVER FIBER FEST—February 16, 2013

A Gathering of Fiber Artisans and Suppliers at The Harford Exchange Ballroom
located at 380 Route 38, Harford, NY 13784
from 10AM to 4PM
Info: 607-844-5560 or hillsunrise@aol.com

Upcoming Sheep Events

If anyone knows of any Sheep shows and sales, Fiber Festivals, Shearing schools, Youth events or other Sheep events, etc. that should be included in the upcoming Sheep Events Calendar, please forward them to me.

This is YOUR calendar. Help keep events current.
Contact Mary Tucker with items to be included by Email: maire8797@yahoo.com
Finnsheep Breeders’ Association

Finnsheep breeders are now found across many States producing purebred and crossbred Finnsheep. Breeders look to the Finnsheep Breeders' Association, Inc. to provide record keeping of registrations and transfers of the breed. Since the inception of the Finnsheep Breeders' Association, Inc. the organization has drawn on the expertise of leading research authorities to enhance the Finnsheep breed and provide leadership in promoting the Finnsheep qualities and characteristics.

Mission Statement

The American Finnsheep Breeders’ Association:

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 sheep industry and abroad
Is a national focal point for Finnsheep Breeders
Disseminates timely information to members on all matters relating
to the breed.

FBA Registry:

Finnsheep Breeders’ Association
PO Box 51
222 Main Street
Milo, IA 50166
Phone: 641.942.6402
Fax: 641.942.6402

Come visit our website at http://finnsheep.org

FBA Secretarial Office

Callie Welch, FBA Secretary
6861 Old Pipestone Rd.
Eau Claire, MI 49111
269.461.4101
FBAsecretary@finnsheep.org

FBA Registry:

Finnsheep Breeders’ Association
6861 Old Pipestone Rd.
Eau Claire, MI 49111