Chief Shepherd Message

Happy Spring! I hope your 2018 spring lambing season has been successful.

I have been reflecting on my two terms on the FBA Board of Directors and my two years as President. I certainly have learned a lot about the sheep industry in general and Finnsheep in particular. In addition I’ve acquired skills in advertising, writing for sheep publications and newsletter publication. Who knew there was so much to a small organization! I am grateful to the support of the members of the board of directors for their guidance and support and our secretary Anne-Marie Elkins for her help and great attitude. I have really enjoyed my time on the board….but I am definitely ready for a break.

When Finnsheep were introduced to the United States 50 years ago the intent was to crossbreed them with other breeds thereby increasing lambing percentages. Since that time, breeders have come to appreciate the many qualities of the Finnsheep on their own, however, crossbreeding is still an important goal for many breeders. Whatever your personal flock goals, maintaining quality purebred stock is an essential goal of the FBA.

Please make plans to attend the upcoming annual meeting (see p. 2) in person or by telephone. If at all possible, join us in Ohio for the Finnsheep portion of the Great Lakes Show and Sale.

Regards!

Mary O’Malley

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Consider writing for Short Tales! Your experience can be of value to fellow shepherds!

Celebrate 50 years of Finns in the United States!

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Join us for 2018 annual meeting, Friday, May 25th, 7 p.m. at the Best Western Wooster and attend the Great Lakes Show and Sale
FBA ANNUAL MEETING
SATURDAY, MAY 27, 2017

Plan to attend the Finnsheep Breeders Association annual meeting in person or by telephone. The location will be the same as last year, the Best Western Hotel in Wooster, Ohio, just outside the Great Lakes Fiber Show. The meeting will start promptly at 7 p.m on the Friday, May 25. If you cannot attend in person, you will be able to join in via tele-conference by calling:

**Dial: 1-800-582-3014** After the prompt enter the Participant Pass Code: 031097008#

Be sure to add the # sign or you will not be added. You will hear a tone as you are added to the teleconference.

**Agenda for the 2018 meeting:**

Opening and Welcome
Roll Call of Members
Secretary Report
Treasurer Report
Old Business:

New Business:

1. Finnsheep Hall of Fame award: Grace Hatton. An enthusiastic promoter of Finnsheep, Grace wrote articles for several magazines about her experiences raising a small flock of purebred Finnsheep, and spinning and knitting Finn wool. A Finnsheep lambswool lace scarf was featured in Spin Off magazine and on Ravelry. Grace served as an FBA director, secretary and Short Tales editor.

2. Update on changes utilizing Associated Registries for secretarial and treasurer support. Proposal to change the location of the non-profit status from Minnesota to Kansas. The FBA was originally incorporated in Minnesota. Since we have consolidated some of our organizational activities under the Associated Registry umbrella the board is considering moving the non-profit status to Kansas to be under the Associated Registry office.

3. Grant Blackburn will present an overview of the purpose of a breed organization and the importance of maintaining unique Finn Genetic traits by careful breeding and pedigree maintenance.

4. Finnsheep Promotion: Old and new ways to inform interested parties about the value of Finnsheep: Fiber Festival and County Fair participation; writing for magazines; brochures through Vistaprint; Facebook; current Finnsheep Show and Sale:

5. Review and discussion of Report of Registrations by Purebred Sheep Associations (p 3)

6. Other issues?

7. Election of new members to the Board of Directors: Nominations and Vote for Board of Directors: There are two (2) director positions open. Kellie Otting has submitted her bio for your review (see page 3). Nominations are also accepted from the floor.

**GREAT LAKES SHOW AND SALE:** It is not too late to enter purebred registered Finnsheep or F-1 crossbred Finnsheep into Great Lakes Show and Sale sponsored by THE BANNER. A modest late fee of $25 will be charged. Information on how to enter the sale is available at [http://www.bannersheepmagazine.com/salesportal.html](http://www.bannersheepmagazine.com/salesportal.html) Many consigners at the sale stay at the BEST WESTERN in Wooster, Ohio. 330-264-7750 or 866-264-2057. The FBA has reserved a block of rooms for Thursday and Friday May 24, 25 at the discount rate of $108.99 per night
BOARD OF DIRECTOR CONTACT LIST

President:  Mary O’Malley  (2018, 2nd Term)
1600 Ednor Road
Silver Spring, MD 20905
301-421-9520
johnandmaryomalley@yahoo.com
MaryFinnsheepbreeder@yahoo.com

Vice President:  Naomi Smith  (2019, 1st term)
1765 Jacktown Rd
Lexington, VA 24450
540-463-6062  (no email)

Director and Treasurer:  Grant Blackburn  (2019, 1st term)
PO Box 274
Leicester, VA 24450
540-461-2054
global2000_us@yahoo.com

Director
Kerry Mower  (2020, 1st term)
33 County Rd 28
Stanley, NM 87056
kerryjmower@gmail.com

Director:  Walter Threlfall  (2019, 1st term)
7012 Old Liberty RD
Powell, OH 43065
614- 581-6602
wrdvrm@gmail.com

Director:  (2020, 1st term)
Elizabeth H. Kinne Gossner
5883 Randall Hill Rd
De Ruyter, NY 13052
(315) 852-3344
stillmeadowfinsheep@frontier.com

Secretary:
Anne-Marie Elkins
110 West 6th Ave #318
Ellensburg, WA 98926
(425) 444-6051
muddyPigRanch@gmail.com

Director:
Naomi Smith  (2019, 1st term)
1765 Jacktown Rd
Lexington, VA 24450
540-463-6062  (no email)

Director:  Walter Threlfall  (2019, 1st term)
7012 Old Liberty RD
Powell, OH 43065
614- 581-6602
wrdvrm@gmail.com

Director:  (2020, 1st term)
Elizabeth H. Kinne Gossner
5883 Randall Hill Rd
De Ruyter, NY 13052
(315) 852-3344
stillmeadowfinsheep@frontier.com

Secretary:
Anne-Marie Elkins
110 West 6th Ave #318
Ellensburg, WA 98926
(425) 444-6051
muddyPigRanch@gmail.com

Report of Registrations By Purebred Sheep Associations

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FBA Board of Directors Elections:

Now is the time for you to consider running for the FBA Board of Directors. There are 2 seats available and the election will be part of the May Meeting. Joanna Porter Bullock, a current board member, is eligible for a 2nd term and has expressed interest in running again. Kelli Otting of Arkansas is also interested, you can read her bio below. Katy Wolfe of Vermont is considering the board. What about you? Nominations will be accepted “from the floor” at our meeting.

“FYI”, as noted in the FBA Constitution (which you can view on the FBA Website) “the business of the Corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors elected by the membership. The board shall consist of seven (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. A director must be a member of the association whose election to the Board of Directors shall be by a majority of votes cast by the membership. A director must be a member of the association AND KEEP CURRENT WITH ANNUAL ACTIVITY FEE. 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.

FBA Board of Director Candidates

Kelli Otting, Ponker Farm, Arkansas

My Finnsheep experience started in 2015 with the acquisition of a single ewe lamb and a ram lamb. From that moment, Finnsheep became my passion. The life of a shepherdess suits me perfectly. For many years I lived abroad managing power plants producing electricity and steam. It was a high stress and fast lifestyle with meetings every quarter in London or a host location and frequent travel for due diligence of a potential acquisition or peer reviews. I filled my passport, had additional pages added, then filled those pages. I've travelled enough and spent too many long days on conference calls at odd hours to accommodate time zone differences, stressed over eliminating fatalities in Eastern European businesses that accepted a certain number of deaths as a workplace hazard, and grew weary of the constant interruptions at night, weekends, and holidays because power production never sleeps.

My life now revolves around my small farm in Arkansas and I love it! We raise Nigerian Milk Goats, American Chinchilla Rabbits, an eclectic plethora of chickens, Muscovy Ducks, and my beloved flock of Finnsheep. The quiet steady rhythm of the yearly schedule is beautiful. The flock grows stronger every year with the periodic addition of new rams to improve wool character, heartiness, genetic diversity (insomuch as possible), and mothering ability. My flock has expanded to eleven ewes and two rams who live apart from the ewes until assigned their yearly breeding groups. While my history with Finnsheep is just beginning, I've educated myself by attending local University of Arkansas and University of Missouri workshops, read all the books I can get my hands on (and keep them for easy reference when necessary), and have solid business management experience. With the combination of these characteristics, I hope to meet with your approval and volunteer my time in consideration for a board position.
Finnsheep Breeders Association Directory

Join this list for $30 per year, your listing will appear on the website and in the Short Tales Directory

Arkansas
Kelli Otting
Ponker Farm
346 W. Firetower Road
Hardy, AR 72542
309-642-7330
kelli.otting@gmail.com
ponkerfarm.com
Purebred Finnsheep, white and natural colored

California
Tamara Myers
Medley Farm & Kennel
13470 Alabama Rd
Galt, CA 95632
(209) 748-5046 or (707) 971-0578
medlevrn@yahoo.com
www.medleyfarm.com
Purebred Finnsheep; crossbred Finns
Finn x Wensleydale, white, natural colored; fleeces and pelts

Connecticut
Chris and Beth Fallon
Barefoot Farm
459 Sawmill Hill Rd
Sterling, CT 06377
860-774-5331
Purebred Finnsheep, white and natural colored; raw wool, roving

Jeff & Jayne Rainville
Tiny Finn Farm
355 Ledge RD
Dayville, CT 06241
(860) 481-1924
jaynerainville@yahoo.com
https://jaynerainville.wixsite.com/website
Purebred Finnsheep, white and natural colored; raw wool, roving

Maine
Kathleen & Ben Stern,
Sweet Clover Farm
248 Belgrade Road
Mt. Vernon, ME 04352 207.293.2615
sweetcloverfarm@roadrunner.com
www.sweetcloverfarm.weebly.com
Purebred Finnsheep and Finn cross fiber products, roving

Maryland
Mary & John O'Malley
Honeysuckle Farm
1600 Ednor Road
Silver Spring, MD 20905
301.421.9520
johnandmaryomalley@yahoo.com
Purebred white Finnsheep, Finn cross; roving, pelts, freezer lamb

Massachusetts
Marti Taft - Ferguson
7 Martin RD
Shelburne Falls, MA 01370
804-994-7540
marti@walkingcloudfarm.com

Minnesota
Sue Wiegrefe
Praire Plum Farm
4244 120th Street
Mabel, MN 55954
(715) 220-1183
swiegrefe@sbcglobal.net
RR Babydoll Southdown & BDS x Finnsheep; white and natural colored

Illinois
Isaac Vanier
Mulberry Grove
2917 CR 1100 E
Dewey, IL 61840
217-778-3426
mulberrygrovefarm@gmail.com
Finnsheep, white and natural colored; dairy production

Iowa
Dale Amendt
6815 Waterman Blvd.
Sutherland, IA 51058
712.446.3489
Purebred Finnsheep, Crossbred Finnsheep (Finn x Suffolk and Finn x Corridale)

Marvin Blair
BBG Sheep
3402 Fletcher Avenue
Lake City, IA 51449
712.464.8153
Purebred Finnsheep and Crossbred Finnsheep Finn X Hamp; Finn X Dorset

Clark and Linda BreDahl
Mormon Trail Farm
1911 290th St
Greenfield, IA 50849-8016
(641) 745-2323
bredahl.mtfarms@gmail.com
Flock ID: IA 3752 Prefix: MTF white Finnsheep. Crossbred Finnsheep (Finn x Dorset x Ille De France.)

Maine
Misty Darton
369 Old Union Rd
Washington, ME 05474
207 319-2488
midgardmeadows@gmail.com
midgardmeadows.com
Purebred Finnsheep

Mary Fallon
128 Newell Brook
Durham, ME 04222
(207) 319-2488
maryerin88@yahoo.com

Mary Ann L. Rowley
Irish Acres Finnsheep
812 Plainfield Rd
Griswold, CT 06351-1032
(860) 367-5039
irishacresfinnsheep@gmail.com
Finnsheep, white and natural colored
Michigan
Lorene and Holly Kennedy
LH Pine Hill Farm
1734 E  M20
Shelby, MI 49455
989-672-4140 or 231-225-2426
Lorenefk7@yahoo.com
Purebred Finnsheep

New Mexico
Bob & Sharry Bone
Westfarthing Farm
29C Northview Tr
Edgewood, NM 87015
(505) 281-6582
rchapin8391@yahoo.com
www.westfarthingfarm.com
purebred and crossbred Finnsheep
fleeces, roving

New Mexico, continued
Kerry Mower
Hyer Wools
33 County Rd 28
Stanley, NM 87056
kerryjmower@gmail.com
www.hyerwools.com
purebred Finnsheep white and natural colored; wool, roving

Missouri
Laurie Moxley
Moxley Farm
10510 Boulder Rd
Mt Grove, MO 65711
(417) 926-3618
mcwobble@aol.com
Purebred Finnsheep. raw wool. wool products.
https://www.etsy.com/shop/MoxleyFarm?ref=hdr_shop_menu

North Carolina
Ricky & Carolyn Beasley
HEELSIDE FARMS
508 Sedgewood Road
Four Oaks, NC 27524
(919) 934-2427
heelsidefarms@hotmail.com
www.heelsidefarms.com
purebred Finnsheep; Finnsheep X Border Leicesters; Finn X Cormos
yarn, roving

New York
Barbara Kahl
Rivendell Farm of Oneonta
159 Southside Dr
Oneonta, NY 13820
607-432-2858
babsdesign3@yahoo.com
www.stillmeadowfinnsheep.com
Purebred Finnsheep, white and natural colored; fleeces

New York, continued
Sheila Warden,
Sawyer Creek Farm
80 California Rd
Gouverneur, NY 13642
315.286.1686 or 315.287.0437
sawyerfin@northnet.org
www.facebook.com/SawyerCreekFarm
Purebred Finnsheep. fleeces, pelts, yarn, roving.

CaraLeigh and Sten Wilson,
Point of View Farm
PO Box 535
Bangall, NY 12506
845.868.4140
finnsheep@finnsheep.net
www.finnsheep.net
Purebred Finnsheep, fleece, yarn wool products

Ron and Denise Nolt
Dutch Country Finnsheep
37874 Hwy E
Fortuna, MO 65034
(573) 694-2092
dutchcountrystore@hotmail.com
Purebred Finnsheep, white and natural colored; Wool and wool products

North Dakota
Paul Mahin
Apple Haven Ranch
3960 41 S Ave SE
Tappan, ND 58487
(701) 471-4992
plazymt@hotmail.com
http://facebook.com/appleHavenRanch
Purebred white Finns, Finn X Romney

Elizabeth H. Kinne Gossner
Stillmeadow Finnsheep
5883 Randall Hill Rd
De Ruyter, NY 13052
(315) 852-3344
stillmeadowfinnsheep@frontier.com
www.stillmeadowfinnsheep.com
purebred Finnsheep, white and natural colored; fleeces

Teresa Fallon & Andy Nagerl
Ironwood Hill Farm
PO Box 404
Newark Valley, NY 13811
607.237.1788 or 607/972/1885
ironwoodhillfarm@gmail.com
www.ironwoodhillfarm.com
Flock ID: NY111226
Purebred Finnsheep and Finn cross, white and natural colored, fleece, roving, yarn

Richard Parsons, Jr. DVM & Marla Parsons
Burnt Mill Farm
174 Burnt Mill Road
Churchville, NY 14428
585.739.1460
marla@burntmillfarm.com
www.burntmillfarm.com
Purebred Finnsheep, meat, wool and hides.

Mary Tucker
Lighthouse Farm
2266 Little River Church Rd.
Taylorsville, NC 28681
(828) 635-0753 or (828) 851-4358
maire8797@yahoo.com
www.lighthousesheepfarm.com
Purebred Finnsheep
Finn x Dorset crossbred

Donna and Robert Putnam
Spinning Sheep Fiber Farm
350 SW 1501 RD
Holden, MO 64040
(816) 694-6801
dputnam.fiber.art@gmail.com
Purebred Finnsheep, white and natural colored; Wool and wool products

New York, continued
Sheila Warden,
Sawyer Creek Farm
80 California Rd
Gouverneur, NY 13642
315.286.1686 or 315.287.0437
sawyerfin@northnet.org
www.facebook.com/SawyerCreekFarm
Purebred Finnsheep. fleeces, pelts, yarn, roving.

Kerry Mower
Hyer Wools
33 County Rd 28
Stanley, NM 87056
kerryjmower@gmail.com
www.hyerwools.com
purebred Finnsheep white and natural colored; wool, roving

Sheila Warden,
Sawyer Creek Farm
80 California Rd
Gouverneur, NY 13642
315.286.1686 or 315.287.0437
sawyerfin@northnet.org
www.facebook.com/SawyerCreekFarm
Purebred Finnsheep. fleeces, pelts, yarn, roving.

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finnsheep@finnsheep.net
www.finnsheep.net
Purebred Finnsheep, fleece, yarn wool products

Ron and Denise Nolt
Dutch Country Finnsheep
37874 Hwy E
Fortuna, MO 65034
(573) 694-2092
dutchcountrystore@hotmail.com
Purebred Finnsheep, white and natural colored; Wool and wool products

Elizabeth H. Kinne Gossner
Stillmeadow Finnsheep
5883 Randall Hill Rd
De Ruyter, NY 13052
(315) 852-3344
stillmeadowfinnsheep@frontier.com
www.stillmeadowfinnsheep.com
purebred Finnsheep, white and natural colored; fleeces

Teresa Fallon & Andy Nagerl
Ironwood Hill Farm
PO Box 404
Newark Valley, NY 13811
607.237.1788 or 607/972/1885
ironwoodhillfarm@gmail.com
www.ironwoodhillfarm.com
Flock ID: NY111226
Purebred Finnsheep and Finn cross, white and natural colored, fleece, roving, yarn

Richard Parsons, Jr. DVM & Marla Parsons
Burnt Mill Farm
174 Burnt Mill Road
Churchville, NY 14428
585.739.1460
marla@burntmillfarm.com
www.burntmillfarm.com
Purebred Finnsheep, meat, wool and hides.
Ohio
Terrie P Godfrey
Eldorado Farms
10915 Main Rd
Berlin Heights, OH 44814
(419) 554-1069
terrie@eldoradofinns.com
www.eldoradofinns.com
Purebred Finnsheep, white and
natural colored; fleeces, pelts

Oregon
David and Laura Hagey
Foxglove
PO BOX 425
Junction City, 97448
(541) 545-6506 or (541) 914-4757
foxglove@epud.net
www.foxglovefarm.net
Purebred Finnsheep; Finn crossbred
Finn X Valais Black Nose,
Finn X Shetland

Pennsylvania
Jan and Dale Hamby
Fair Winds Farm
2 Fair Winds Lane
Quarryville, PA 17566
717-239-9215
jan.hamby@gmail.com
http://fairwindsfarmpa.com
Purebred Finnsheep, white and
natural colored; Wool, yarn

Tennessee
Megan Pennington
Circle M Farm
204 Straight Ford Road
Huntsville, TN 37756
423.539.8634
megan@circlemfinnsheep.com
www.circlemfinnsheep.com
Purebred Finnsheep, raw fleeces,
roving, Fiber products, freezer lambs

Vermont
Siri Swanson
Dancing Moon Farm
363 Fisher Road
Orwell, VT 05760
(802) 948-2867
dancingmoonvt@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/dancingmoonfarm
Purebred Finnsheep and Finn crosses
in white and natural color.

KATY WOLFE
Boondoggle Farm
379 Hourton Brook Road
Putney, VT 05346
(802) 557-1163
yeskatydid@gmail.com
Purebred Finnsheep, white and natu-
ral colored; fleeces

Virginia
Robin Renner Doty
Gypsy Mountain Farm
1346 Nester School Road
Dugspur, VA 24325
(716) 560-0226
eagypsy@aol.com
gypsymountainfarm.com
Purebred Finn Sheep,
Finn-CVM crosses
white, natural colors, badger & pie-
bald. Fleeces, Roving, Hand Dyed
Fiber, Art Batts

Douglas & Dorothy Rogers
West End
677 Crosshills Rd.
Heathsville, VA 22473
(804) 580-4151
dorothyrogers@mac.com
facebook.com/westendsheep
Purebred registered Finnsheep. White
& natural colored. Breeding stock &
skirted fleece.

Tennessee
Megan Pennington
Circle M Farm
204 Straight Ford Road
Huntsville, TN 37756
423.539.8634
megan@circlemfinnsheep.com
www.circlemfinnsheep.com
Purebred Finnsheep, raw fleeces,
roving, Fiber products, freezer lambs

Washington
Jessica Duncan
Nine Trees Farm
3539 Seaman RD
Waitsburg, WA 99361
(509) 956-8892
jandj Duncan@ ninetrees farm.com
ninetreesfarm.com
Purebred Finnsheep, roving, yarn, pelts

Dan and Leanne Hughes
Triple L Finnsheep
89202 N. Harrington Road
West Richland, WA 99353
509.539.6745
danlea23@ msn.com
www.triplelfinnsheep.com
Purebred Finnsheep white and
natural colored

Violetta Laboranti
1844 NW VAA Rd
Poulsbo, WA 98370
360-598-2097
autumnrhapsody.goats@gmail
autumnrhapsodyfarm.com
Purebred Finnsheep; Finn xEast Friesian

JoAnn Jones
Capriole Farm LLC
453 Capriole Lane
Ronceverte, WV 24970
(304) 671-0479 or (304) 263-1153
mandmorr@earthlink.net
capriolefarm.weebly.com
Purebred & Crossbred Finnsheep, raw
wool,

Melissa K Orr
SHADY GROVE
604 Orr Drive
Martinsburg, WV 25401
(304) 671-0479 or (304) 263-1153
mandmorr@earthlink.net

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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 1971 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