



Romney Ramblings

December 12, 2022

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Happy Holidays! Whichever holiday you celebrate this time of year, I hope it is joyful for you!

Since the last issue of the Ramblings, there have been fiber festivals, and sheep shows around the country – some of those results are shared in this edition of the Ramblings, and – WOW – Romneys have been placing extremely well in shows, and Romney yarn and fleeces are selling very well at festivals! If you don't see the results for a festival or show you care about, please let us know so that we can include it next time.

This issue of the Ramblings is full of news from around the country, with all six district directors sharing news from their districts, and focusing on the different and multiple benefits of raising Romneys. There is also a great article on micron testing, and one on the Futurity Program.

The board continues its work on behalf of ARBA and ARBA members; we have recently established our working committees for the new year, and as always, we strongly welcome member participation in any and all committees. Please check out the listing of the committees to see if there is one (or more) that you'd like to join.

Some members have already started lambing, while other members are still finishing up their breeding season. Best of luck to all with breeding and lambing!

Wishing you all a happy and prosperous 2023 with healthy, fast-growing lambs!

What's inside:

ARBA Connections	2
New Members	2
Director Reports	3-7
ASI Update/Contact us	8
Education—Micron Testing	9-10
Youth Fund Raiser Winners	11
ARBA Juniors	11
NAILE	12
Futurity	13
Committees	13
Flock News - Human Side	14
Calendar of Events	15
NAILE full results	16





1912 - 2012 : "100 Years of Serving the Romney Breeders of America" American Romney Breeders Association

Mentoring Program

Mentors are available to assist breeders with questions, discuss upcoming events, chat sheep and help promote the membership. ARBA members have signed up as mentors, and this list is posted on the website.

Welcome to our New Members:

As always, the board is no further than a phone call or email away.

**Russell Howard Jennings
Billy & Erica Strickland
Josh Dennis Raben
Sarah Burkdorf
Christina Hiltz-Klauka**

Romney Ramblings The Romney Ramblings is the newsletter of the American Romney Breeders Association. The purpose of the Ramblings is to provide sheep industry news, highlight the efforts of ARBA, announce events and activities, provide an outlet for promotion of your sheep and wool products and recognize the accomplishments of the membership.

Advertising in the Ramblings

Full Page \$100

1/2 Page \$75

1/3 Page \$60

1/4 Page \$35

Card Ad \$20

Classified Ads—45 cents per word.

Above rates are based on camera ready copy, sized to fit the space purchased for the ad. Ads prepared by the editor will be charged at \$15 per hour, with a minimum fee of \$15.

Send all advertising information and news to: Patricia Sanville
4637 Cap Stine Road
Frederick, MD 21703

Flock Record Book:

Provides General Sheep Information and space to record lambs born and raised for 1 or several years.

Price: \$3.00 postpaid.



Order now from the
ARBA Secretary.
secretary
@americanromney.org

ARBA on Facebook Check out the American Romney Breeders Association Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/americanromney> to see events, news, and reminders about the association.

ARBA on Instagram ARBA now has an Instagram account for sharing events and news about the association. Its handle is: @americanromney.

ARBA Website The ARBA website, americanromney.org, has information to assist with many of your association and production needs. You can advertise your products and animals, read about management tools, review animal health needs, locate members in your region, read minutes of the board meetings and keep up to date with news submitted by your directors and district representatives.

Rambling Roads: District Director Reports

District 1: Marianne DiTaranto:

In New England during December most of us expect the weather to be colder and the ground to be hard and somewhat frozen. This year, Mother Nature cannot seem to decide whether winter will stay here or not. The warmer weather has brought heavy rains and high winds while leaving behind downed trees, power outages and unusually wet, muddy conditions. This year in our household we switched from a wood stove to a pellet stove and with 6 power outages over the last two weeks, we have added a generator. May the damp wet weather move on and winter come soon!

In this edition of the Ramblings, I have included a short note about the Romney news in New England, and a few words and photos on three Romney farms in New Hampshire. Please remember to send me information, news and announcements about any events that you, your family or your sheep might be participating in.

The Walker Family of Liberty Hall Farm in Durham NH

In the show ring, Tim Walker and his Romneys from Liberty Hall Farm have done quite well in the late fall show lineup in New Hampshire and Maine. Tim won champion ram and ewe with his natural colored sheep at Deerfield Fair in Deerfield NH, Fryeburg Fair in Fryeburg ME and Sandwich Fair in Sandwich NH. Tim continued his winning streak by capturing Supreme Champion Natural Colored Fleece at the New York Sheep and Wool Festival in Rhinebeck NY.

Recently, Tim was asked a few questions about his successful show season and here are his answers.

Q: How did you feel the moment you won Supreme Natural Colored Fleece at the New York Sheep and Wool Festival in Rhinebeck NY?

A: When I walk in the show ring, I always hope my sheep does well but I never thought I'd win the Supreme Fleece Ribbon that day. I got into showing sheep for fun and it is still fun. I also never thought I'd be in a supreme ewe or ram drive and I was in both at Fryeburg Fair this year.

Q: What inspires you?

A: People that have sheep with beautiful fleeces. I built up my flock to have beautiful fleeces that can be spun into the yarn we sell and to have the correct breed character for my flock.

Q: What tips can you give someone starting out with Romneys?

A: My 4-H leader told me a long time ago to build a flock by buying the best sheep you can afford. Also, your ram is 50% of your flock, so pick your ram carefully.

Congratulations Tim on your continued success both in and outside of the show ring! Theresa Walker has been a 4-H sheep club leader for many years, and is also the 4-H sheep show superintendent for the Deerfield NH and Fryeburg ME fairs. The Walkers established Great Bay Wool Works in 2005 to sell undyed and naturally dyed yarn spun from their Romney flock. Knitters and fiber artists love the natural luster of Romney yarn and roving. Yarn, roving, exclusive knitting patterns, and project bags are sold at farmers' markets in seacoast New Hampshire, NH Sheep and Wool Festival, and other fiber festivals in New England. To reach Theresa or Tim Walker visit their website: greatbaywoolworks.com or their Facebook page or Instagram at [instagram@graybaywoolworks](https://www.instagram.com/graybaywoolworks).



District 1: Marianne DiTaranto continued:

The Briggs Family of Deerfield NH Kenny (7) and Elizabeth Briggs (5) have been enjoying their time caring for their Romney ewes and preparing for winter. Their family farm, Chatter Brook Farm in Deerfield, NH, mainly focuses on Greenhouses. As their family begins preparing the greenhouses for planting in the coming months, Kenny is looking forward to being able to participate in 4-H beginning this coming winter. Elizabeth and Kenny have been learning more about wool processing and products as they make little hats and gifts for Christmas presents. Kenny also plans to donate some of his yarn to his school for finger knitting for their class projects. Visit Chatter Brook Farm on Facebook or on their website: chatterbrookfarm.com.



The Schrock Family of Schrock Family Farm at Marsh Homestead in Henniker NH Jason and Maggie Schrock began their farm in July 2021, Schrock Farm at Marsh Homestead in Henniker, NH. When they first laid eyes on the old farmhouse property circa 1785 they knew it would be perfect for sheep. Their first five Romneys came from Marianne DiTaranto and Catherine and Teresa Hromis of Winding Wicks Farm in Chichester, NH, in February 2022. By May they bought three more Romney ewes. Although new to the sheep world, Maggie and Jason have both loved connecting with other farmers and fiber artists. Jason has become involved with the New Hampshire Sheep and Wool Growers Association. Maggie is a needle felter and makes wool ornaments using local wool. They've started selling their yarn and ornaments at local craft fairs. The sheep and their wool have brought so much joy and creativity into their lives. Along with their four young children they are having a lot of fun learning the wonders of sheep! You can follow Maggie and her family and Romneys on Instagram! News from around New England



Planning has begun on the 2023 Northeast Youth Show. UConn Extension has some exciting sheep based research and programs in the works. There are workshops on forage based production, meat processing and science based production records. The Connecticut Sheep Breeder Association annual meeting and dinner was on Saturday, December 3 at the VFW in Guilford CT. The New Hampshire Sheep and Wool Grower Association annual meeting and dinner was held on October 29 at Sanford Mill Farm in Loudon NH. Rebeca Rule was the guest speaker. The 2022 Fiber Festival of New England was held at the Eastern States Exposition in Springfield MA on November 5 and 6.

New England Representation Outside of New England

The 2022 North American International Livestock Exposition occurred in November and New England Romneys were well represented. Congratulations to all who participated. Rick Trojanoski, Emma Rogers, Megan Higgins, Teresa Hromis and Catherine Hromis were the exhibitors representing ARBA, District One. Everyone did a fine job and the sheep looked spectacular. Emma Rogers looked smashing in her Adult Leadline Outfit. In the Junior Show, Teresa Hromis won Champion Ram and Catherine Hromis had the Reserve Champion. In the ewe drive, Megan Higgins won the March ewe lamb class and Best Headed Ewe. In the Open Show, Teresa Hromis won Champion Natural Colored Ram with Winding Wicks BW 2119. Catherine Hromis won Champion White Ewe with Winding Wicks 2201. The 2022 Supreme Overall Breeding Ram selection was BW Winding Wicks 2119, a natural colored fall ram lamb shown by Teresa Hromis. (Look for the photo of this winning moment page 12)

That is it for District One in 2022. In the next issue, I hope to continue to catch up with individual breeders to share their stories and their passions for Romneys. Have a wonderful Holiday and a safe and peaceful New Year.

District 2: Scarlet Lamphier

Greetings to all of you!

Our annual trip to the New York Sheep and Wool Festival this October in Rhinebeck NY was great, as always!

As being a new representative of the ARBA for District 2, it was nice to finally put faces with the names of the friendly Romney people that I've been communicating with! Romneys were very well represented and placed very well at the Black and White Wool Show.

Also at NAILE this November NC Romneys took Champion Ewe, Reserve Champion Ram and Champion Flock-Thistle Down Farm/Ainsley Porter in the Open Sheep Show.

A big thank you to Ethan Kennedy and Aunt Esther Kennedy for throwing a fun pizza party for the Jr. Romney Exhibitors after their show and presenting them each with a Yeti exhibitor gift!

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year to you all!

District 3: Penny Swearingen

Wishing you the Best during the Holidays whether you and your Romneys are engaged in Holiday Bazaars, Farmers Markets, School or Church Live Events or basic running of the Flock to prepare for Winter's grasp!

Fall has been eventful, and we have had some great successes. District 3 was well represented at both New York Sheep & Wool Festival and the North American International Livestock Exposition. Romney Ewes have reigned supreme in not just 1 but 4 Shows across the Country!

1. Michigan Fiber Festival Supreme Ewe was Exhibited by Cheryl Dunlap
2. Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival Supreme Ewe in both the Junior and Open Show was Exhibited by Ainsley Porter.
3. New York Sheep & Wool Festival Supreme Ewe was Exhibited by Pitchfork Ranch
4. North American Sheep & Wool Festival Supreme Romney Ewe in the Junior Show was exhibited by Lindsey Schmoll

Congrats to all!

What's next for Romneys besides the Holiday Season:

ASI is offering a Grant for up-and-coming Sheep Shearers. Make sure to submit needed paperwork for the Grant before the 1st of January. [2023-Developing-Shearer-Mentor-Grant-Application.pdf \(sheepusa.org\)](#)

Michigan Shepherd's Weekend - January 6-8th. Held @ Crowne Plaza Hotel in Lansing MI Registration is available @ [Online Registration | Michigan Sheep Producers Association \(misheep.org\)](#)



District 4: Sue Kalina:

WOW, did you hear about Oregon Flock & Fiber Festival this year? There were 450 fleeces! Totally overwhelmed the new superintendents but they took it in stride and got through the judging and onto sales in the same day. Sheep judging was delayed to the next day since it was the same judge. Romneys were at the top again. Anne Nichols' Supreme NC Romney Ram and Kalina Family's Supreme White Romney Young Flock from Oregon State Fair were Supreme again at OFFF! Go Romneys!

Lots of Romney lambs are born in the fall in Oregon. It is so great to see those beautiful fuzzy eared babies again. Our summer went into November with then one week of rain, then freezing nights for a week and now winter is here. It was a really short fall season but at least we are finally getting some rain to grow grass for the ewes on pasture. Weather has been non-typical.

Looking to 2023, there will be a Regional ARBA Romney Show to manage and hopefully sale of more spinning fleeces. General wool sales are non-existent and I have been taking my 1000 pounds of annual wool production to the dump (2020 and 2021). Oregon does have a USDA Wool Incentive Program that I am currently completing the application for 2022. If you have unsold wool for 2022, you need to apply before the end of the year for the incentive. It has been a painless process and I can help if you need.

Happy Holidays and Welcome 2023!

District 5: Tracy Haslem:

One doesn't realize how large District 5 is until you look on a map and calculate the distances. The 17 member families live in 2 countries and 4 States. While I live some what central it is a 450 mile one way trip to our Northern most member in British Columbia, Canada, which includes a ferry ride as they live on an island, to go see our southern most member would be a 1000 mile one way journey and to head east to Utah to see our eastern most member would take me 750 miles to get there. So social media and web pages provide a good insight into the activities of our members. If you have a social media presence and would like to share it with me drop me a line and we can become " friends".

The fair and fiber festival season has come to a conclusion out west and most members are preparing for the upcoming lambing season. It has been a challenging year for the western sheep industry with extended drought and resulting high feed prices and less than stellar lamb prices in the commercial sector. Most people who I have talked to have culled hard and trying to maintain their core genetics in anticipation of a better 2023. In western Washington and the Willamette Valley our winter grasses, particularly annual rye grass is the backbone of the sheep commercial business, after a very warm and dry summer, we had no fall and when it finally rained mother nature brought cold temperatures that prevented grass growth. 1000's of ewes and feeder lambs that normally depend on the annual rye grass for winter feed are having to source substantially more expensive options.

The Washington State Fair had 4 exhibitors who exhibited 32 sheep , In the White division the Schwider Family , The Pines Farm , exhibited both the Champion Ram and Ewe, with Amy Mendenhall exhibiting the Reserve Ram and Thompson Romneys the Reserve Ewe. In the Natural Colored Division Amy Mendenhall exhibited the Champion Ram and Ewe and the Schwiders having the Reserve Ram and Ewe.

I keep waiting for Louisville to put its results online but thanks to social media I know the Mendenhall Family made the long trip to the green shavings and came away with the Reserve Champion White Ram.

I see that Ace in the Hole Romneys have successfully participated in several of the Northern California Fairs, Fleece shows and fiber festivals with their sheep and fleeces.

Wishing everyone a successful lambing, saying my prayers for better weather and feed conditions, higher lamb prices and more livestock veterinarians. If you have news your want to share drop me a line.

District 6: Jeff Stump:

Well Last month I let fly with my love for wool (especially Romney wool) with the onset of cooler weather.

This time around I will "Ramble" a bit about delicious Romney lamb! Tis the season for braising and nothing makes an easier more luxurious meal than a braised lamb dish.

That takes me back to August and the time at the American Lamb Summit. I was fortunate to spend a few days in Michigan with many fellow lamb enthusiasts to learn about providing consumers with the best product the American Sheep Industry can provide them. I see an endless amount of opportunity for Romney breeders to capitalize on while providing customers with the delicate wonderful flavor of Romney lamb.

Our breed is so versatile that we can produce everything from lighter weight ethnic market sheep that can be slaughter ready at a lower weight to the heavier weight lambs suitable to sell by the cut under the management of our diligent breeders! Diversity in our breed also makes me think of the wonderful showing we saw in Louisville at the North American. Romney sheep were very well received and that was most evident in the open ram show! That great accomplishment aside, the sheep looked great and didn't go unnoticed anywhere in the barn, and the breeders were an absolute class.

I was honored to meet many more of you! Cheers to the Holiday season and New Year, Happy lambing!

Sunday Selfies are returning!!! Charlene Carlisle

Sunday Selfies will resume on the first Sunday in February so we can all keep in touch. Let us know what is happening in your life, in your barn, school, sports, silly or serious, we just want to hear from you!!!

This was designed for the juniors originally but the grown-ups love to play along too!!



American Sheep Industry:

2023 ASI Annual Convention

Omni Fort Worth Hotel
1300 Houston Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102
January 17, 2023 - January 21, 2023

Join us in Ft. Worth for the
American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) convention.

The ASI Annual Convention is an opportunity for sheep producers from across the country to meet and discuss topics and issues within the industry.

It's the one time each year in which all sections of the industry come together in one location, to set priorities, share information and conduct business for a stronger industry.

CHANGES

Changes may be made to your registration through **Friday, December 30, 2022** by entering your name and confirmation number into the system.

After that date, no changes will be provided.

No refunds provided.

DEADLINES

Earlybird Discount Ends: Friday, December 16, 2022

Registration Closes: Friday, December 30, 2022

Registrations after Friday, December 30, 2022 must be done on-site.

The deadline is fast approaching!!! - Don't miss out!

THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE WANTS TO KNOW:

Is there something you would like the directors to answer in a future issue of the Ramblings? Just reach out to your director, the president or the editor of the Ramblings to submit your questions.

Contact Us! -

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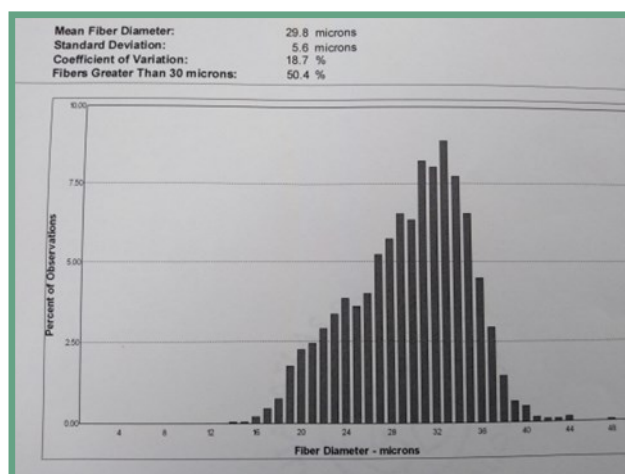
The Education Committee has been pleased to provide the series on Wool and “What value it can bring to your Flock!” We hope it has been of value and interest to you.

The Education Committee serving you:

Tammy Feehan, Melissa Wubben, Anne McIntyre-Lahner, guest appearance Emma Rogers & Penny Swearingen (Chair).

Fiber Testing Continued - Understanding Results: by Melissa Wubben

So what information does wool testing actually give a shepherd? Results of fiber testing are given as an average fiber diameter (AFD) for each sample, as well as the Standard Deviation (SD), Coefficient of Variation (CV), and Comfort Factor (CF). The SD is a statistically calculated value showing variation in the sample. One standard deviation reflects 68% of all of the fiber diameters measured as they depart from the average. A smaller SD means less variation, as the majority of measurements cluster closer to the average. CV is another measure of variation that has been standardized mathematically and is given as a percentage. A lower CV reflects less variability, with the ideal CV being less than 20%. The CF is a measurement of fibers in the given sample that are less than 30 microns. This threshold is generally believed to be the point at which wool fibers are structurally rigid, creating a prickle sensation when in contact with skin. Most Romney wool fibers will be greater than 30 microns, as indicated by the breed standard. A histogram of the sample may also be provided with testing results. The histogram is a bar graph in which the frequency of values (fiber diameters) is visually represented.



This example of micron testing results shows the useful information obtained through testing.

In the previous issue of the Ramblings, the idea of testing fiber for variability was introduced. Pulling samples from different parts of the sheep is one way to examine variability. The specific test used to measure the sample will also give information on one of two different types of variability. The most commonly used test in the United States is the Optical Fiber Diameter Analyzer (OFDA), which measures the diameter of fibers at increments along the length of the staple. Throughout the course of a year, a sheep's wool may grow at differing thicknesses, based on factors such as animal health, level of nutrition, and gestation/lactation status (note: these same factors can result in very fine fiber production in cases of severe animal stress, resulting in what is known as a tenderness or even a wool break). The OFDA test, because it measures thickness along the length of the staple, will yield information on the average diameter of the wool staple over the wool production period for the sample. In other words, if a sheep is shorn after one full year, the staple will reflect the year of wool growth, and the OFDA test result will give the average diameter of the sampled fibers over the course of that past year. The variation seen in either the histogram or in the CV, will reflect changes in the wool thickness production over the year. As a result, this information can provide the wool grower with useful insight into his or her maintenance of the flock health and nutrition. A lower CV or narrower histogram would indicate consistency over the year. The opposite result might mean that the wool grower needs to examine flock management in order to keep a more consistent production of wool thickness. This is particularly true if greater variation is seen throughout the flock's wool clip. The wool grower will want to consider family lines in susceptibility to fluctuations, as well as any known animal health factors (such as a sheep who survived a severe illness or difficult lambing). The American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) owns testing machines and provides a list of testing labs on its website at: <https://www.sheepusa.org/contacts-woolpelt-researchtesting>.

OFDA testing costs approximately \$3 to \$5 per sample. Check with the chosen testing lab to confirm pricing.

Understanding Results: by Melissa Wubben

The OFDA test is not the only one available for micron testing. A second type of test, called LaserScan measures fiber diameter only at the cut end of the sample provided. As a result, the LaserScan gives the wool grower information about the thickness of wool fibers at a single point in time. While the same statistics are given (AFD, ST, CV, CF, and histogram), these values are an analysis of variability among all the fibers in the sample. Practically speaking, the variation in this case, reflects the differences in fibers the sheep is producing, without the influence of environmental factors. One particularly useful application of LaserScan testing is for tracking the progress of wool genetics in a flock. Assuming management is held constant from year to year, and that sheep are shorn at the same point in time each year, a shepherd can compare the testing results of one generation to the next to see progress in shifting the AFD or variability to a more desirable value. The Bills Sims Wool and Mohair Research Laboratory at Texas A&M has Laserscan testing equipment in the United States. LaserScan testing costs \$12 per sample at this lab. Samples may also be sent to New Zealand Wool Testing Authority for LaserScan, with further information found on the ASIA website.

All testing samples, whether OFDA or LaserScan testing, should be packaged and labeled separately, so as not to mix samples. They can be placed in ziplock bags, envelopes, or even vacuum sealed to reduce bulk for shipping. Labeling tags may be placed inside the bag or envelope with the wool sample, and should include sheep identification information. Specific information to be included may vary from one lab to another, so be sure to check documentation requirements of the lab. All sample bags or envelopes can be sent together in one package, generally with a list of samples for cross reference.

As shepherds evaluate the usefulness of wool testing in their own flocks, it is helpful to consider the length of time that has passed since last shearing (if using OFDA testing), as well as the age and production status of the animals in question. While a lamb will generally produce the finest fleece in the animal's lifetime, a higher plane of nutrition, as may be seen in show stock, will result in a coarser fleece. A young animal also may not have developed its secondary wool follicles, so results of testing may not be representative of later wool clips. In the Romney breed, it is ideal to test fiber from the second full year's shearing.

This is an example of one way to package a sample for testing. Each lab may have different requirements for the information to be included on each label.



ARBA Jr. Raffle Winners Announced!!

ARBA's drawing for our Raffle to support our Junior Shows was held at NAILE on Sunday, November 13th, 2022 following the Open Romney Show. An unbiased, non-Romney youth drew out the 3 winners.



The Romney painting donated by Bridget Brown went to Colton Hayes from Allentown, NJ.



The fun sheep quilt made by Rosemary Acker will be heading to the home of Anne McIntyre-Lahner in Guilford, CT.



The gift box donated by Chris Richard from Celestial Farms that held many items but most exciting was the hand made cards goes to Teresa Hromis from Chichester, NH who currently resides in KY. (This is actually Catherine holding the box for Teresa!)

Many thanks to all who helped sell, buy and promote our youth by selling tickets, you guys are the cream of the crop. Total sales to date were \$2270 with one more possible donation forthcoming. Will keep you posted on that!

North American International Livestock Exposition 2022: by Charlene Carlisle

Wow, what a great year for Romneys! Not just at NAILE but throughout the year at shows from the east, through the midwest all the way to the west coast. The Romneys showed up in Kentucky to strut the green shavings and they didn't disappoint. The Lead Line was a big hit this year with 4 of our Romney exhibitors participating. Congratulations to Emma Rogers, Ainsley Porter, and Stacey Stump & Clara. All looked very striking in their wool garments as they walked the runway, Clara looked especially cute in her bright pink!

The Junior Show had 56 sheep pass over those shavings and there were 15 youth exhibitors from 7 states. The sheep looked great and the competition was deep. Complete placings will be on NAILE's web site soon but here are just a few:

Champion Romney Ram – Teresa Hromis with Winding Wicks 2129 (Sr Ram Lamb)
Res Champion Ram – Catherine Hromis with Winding Wicks 2212 (Jr Ram Lamb)
Best Headed Ram – Ainsley Porter with Thistle Down 219 (Jr Ram Lamb)
Champion Romney Ewe – Lindsey Schmoll with E/C Plank 2112 (Yearling Ewe)
Res Champion Ewe – Taylor Young with Twisted Sister 2140 (Yearling Ewe)
Best Headed Ewe – Megan Higgins
Best White Fleece – Catherine Hromis
Best NC Fleece – Lindsey Schmoll

The Show Chair for the Romneys is Willis Plank, he works hard all year to assure that the show goes off well and that the kids have a good time. If anyone has questions for Willis, please reach out and he can get you the answers. Following the Junior Romney Show, there was a pizza party sponsored by Thistle Down Farm, Ethan and Esther Kennedy. The Junior exhibitors also were each presented with a Yeti cup personalized with their name. Thanks to the Kennedy Family for party and gifts, wish I was still a Junior! Looking at all the pictures on Face Book, I think they were well received and appreciated, and the pizza looked great too! The awards given during the Junior Romney Show were from funds raised by the association. The cooler bags this year were made by Pleasant Valley Creations. Heidi Erickson-Riessland is owner-operator, livestock rancher, and an involved 4H/FFA mom. If you need any awards made, she is your go to person and can be found easily on Face Book. Last but not least, Champion photos were taken by Meagan Stephens, owner/photographer at Meaganish Marketing & Photography. She does phenomenal photos that captures true emotions in and out of the show ring. She also has beautiful farm and livestock scenes that captures your true agricultural attention and need to be hung in your home or office. Meagan can be easily found on Face Book as well. Please check these folks out, neither will disappoint.

The Open Show had 71 head go through the ring. The exhibitors numbered 15 from 9 states, and 9 out of the 15 exhibitors were the Juniors that stayed for the Open Show. That says to me, that our Juniors are serious about showing and representing the breed. Years ago, most of our youth would have gone home after the Junior show. I am appreciative of these Juniors and their parents or support person that makes it possible for them to stay and participate. A complete listing of show results on page 16.

The topping on the cake was the Supreme Ram Drive where a Romney was chosen as the Supreme Ram of NAILE for 2022. This honor goes so deep and says so much for the Romney Breed. This is only the 2nd time a Romney has ever been selected as a Supreme at NAILE. The first was in 2004 with a white Romney Yearling Ram owned by Ed and Helen Julian with Chuck (Julian & Moore 350). Now this honor is bestowed on Teresa Hromis of Winding Wicks with her NC Fall Ram Lamb, Winding Wicks 2129.

Teresa and Catherine Hromis have worked hard on developing their flock, congratulations to a well-deserved accomplishment.



ARBA Futurity Results for 2022: Charlene Carlisle

This year there were 10 head of ewe lambs nominated for the Futurity and I would be remiss if I didn't say that I was a tad bit disappointed. I was not disappointed in the numbers nominated but I was disappointed in the lack of response. This was the 9th year of Futurity for ARBA. The participation numbers have fluctuated over the years with a high of 29 nominations to a low of 3. I'm not sure what to attribute the fluctuations to but unfortunately no post show point cards were completed this year, so therefore, no winners can be declared.

If you are not familiar with how the Futurity Program works, let me give a brief description for better understanding. The purpose of the Futurity Program is to encourage youth members to improve their flock by adding ewes. Rams are not included in the Futurity Program. As the kids show these ewes, they accumulate points for showing and placing. Any farm or individual can nominate a ewe lamb or yearling ewe when it is sold to a youth, or a youth member can self-nominate the ewe her/himself. This is a great way for ARBA members to promote their farm and their breeding stock as they support our youth members. The cost to nominate a ewe is \$20, the nomination form is completed by the seller (or owner if the ewe already belongs to the youth). The ewe can be purchased through a public sale or private treaty. Detailed information can be found on the web site with the nomination form and the point form. It will soon be updated for 2023 but the rules will remain the same. As the kids show these ewes, they accumulate points for showing and placing. In order to get the points counted for the program, the point card must be returned to ARBA's Futurity contact person within 2 weeks of the completed show. The points can be gathered from all shows throughout the show season. The more you show, and the better you place, the more points you collect. All nomination fees will be split between the winners on a percentage breakdown basis. If you have a Futurity nominated ewe and you show her, the only thing you need to do is fill out the point card and submit. The Futurity is supposed to provide you with an opportunity to earn extra money to put back into your flock. My biggest concern is that breeders might decide that our youth aren't interested in a Futurity program and that their financial contribution might be better utilized elsewhere or maybe not at all. I don't want to see this happen.

In closing, despite the lack of response this year, I am very optimistic that next year will be better. I know our youth members get busy on show day and probably forget but if you make a few copies of the form and take with you to every show, it doesn't really take much time to complete and then you have 2 weeks to email, take a photo and text me, or send via snail mail. I am always so impressed with all that you do within your very demanding schedules. Please complete and submit your form and then look forward to collecting a little extra money at the end of the year, while promoting your flock to the best of your capabilities. ARBA youth are the best and still my favorites.

If anyone is still unclear how to participate, either by nominating ewes or youth interested in showing these futurity ewes, let me know! When we work together we all succeed!

Consider Joining one or more ARBA Committees:

ARBA committees are created by and report to the Board of Directors. Member participation is valued and is currently being sought. If you see a committee that interests you, or you think we could be doing better in a particular area, please consider joining one (or more) of our committees. When you identify the committee(s) you'd like to join, please reach out to the committee chair of that committee; you can find a listing in the "About ARBA" section of our website. We value member input and would love to have you join a committee!

Ad hoc Document Control: Penny Swearingen, chair

Advertising Committee: Rick Trojanoski, chair

Education Committee: Penny Swearingen, chair

Website Advisory Committee: Stephanie Booren and Charlene Carlisle, co-chairs

Youth Committee: Charlene Carlisle, chair

AI/ET Committee: Marianne DiTaranto chair

Bylaws Committee: Penny Swearingen and Marianne DiTaranto, co-chairs

Policies & Procedures Committee: 2022 chair to be determined

National Show Rotation: Jeff Stump, chair

Ways and Means Committee: Sue Kalina, chair

Membership Committee: Rick Trojanoski, chair

Flock News: the human side of things:

If you have any news related to members or their families - please forward to patriciasanville@gmail.com.

Karol Trojanoski, long time resident of Guilford, passed away at St. Raphael's hospital on November 12th after a long illness, he was 83.

Karol was a member of the I.U.O.E. local 478 and worked for J.F. Barret and Sons of Milford until his illness forced him into early retirement.

He enjoyed keeping his vegetable garden and horseback riding with his wife and grandchildren. He also cut and baled many hay fields in North Guilford and Madison.

Karol is survived by his wife of 62 years, Jeanne, his son Rick and his wife Alison of East Hampton and his son Bill of Westbrook, his grandchildren Kara and Cam Staron of Durham, Brenda Trojanoski and her partner Walker of Westbrook, Tristan and Rebecca Trojanoski of Salem, Nate and Melissa Trojanoski of Terryville two great grandchildren Carter and Everett as well as his sister Vadis Smalley of Branford and several nieces



Robert W. Pratt passed away on Thursday, October 27, 2022 at Albany Medical Center. He was 75.

Born on June 29, 1947 in Melrose, MA, son of the late Orison S. and Doris (Rizzi) Pratt. He is the husband of Mary (Twarowski) Pratt who he married on December 19, 1970.

Bob graduated from Stoneham, went on to study at MIT and did post doctoral studies at University of Washington in Seattle, WA.

Bob and his wife Mary owned and operated Elihu Farms in Easton. Bob had one brother, Richard Pratt of MA.



Congratulations Charlene and Kenny Carlisle of Little Hooves Romneys on receiving the:

Spirit of Farming Award from the Burlington County Board of Agriculture.

Congratulations also go out to the new Mr. and Mrs. Justin Carlisle.

Sorry we missed you in the last issue!!!



Calendar of Events:		
EVENT	DATE	NOTES
Wisconsin Shearing School	Dec. 15-16	toddtaylor@wisc.edu (Todd Taylor)
2023		
MSU Small Ruminant Birth Management Webinar Series	Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24	https://events.anr.msu.edu/2023smallruminantbirthmanagement/
Michigan Shepherds Weekend	Jan. 6-8	Lansing, MI— Mlsheep.org/shepherds-weekend/
ASI Annual Convention	Jan. 18-21	Fort Worth, TX— sheepusa.org
Utah State University Sheep Shearing School	Jan. 19-21	Wellsville, UT— Eventbrite.com/e/usu-sheep-shearing-school-2023-registration-407662919767
Tennessee Sheep Producers Association Shearing School	Apr. 7-8	Murfreesboro, TN— shepherboy1@yahoo.com
Shepherd's Cross Sheep Shearing School	Apr. 13-15	Claremore, OK— Shepherdscross.com
National Dorper Show and Sale	Apr. 14-15	Duncan, OK— dorpersheep.org
50th Annual Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival	May 6-7	West Friendship, MD— sheepandwool.org
Contemporary Handweavers of Texas	May 31– June 4	Sugar Land, TX— weavetexas.org
Houston Fiber Fest	June 23-25	Cypress, TX— Houstonfiberfest.com

Please forward any missing show dates or any changes to the listed shows to the editor - the show schedule is always subject to changes due to state and federal guidelines. Check websites or social media for the most up to date information.

Kalina Family

Registered Romney and Shropshire Sheep

Sue Kalina ~ 503-939-0303 or 541-928-9865
skalina26@gmail.com

Stephanie and Jacy Booren ~ 503-476-5449
stephaniebooren@gmail.com




Little Hooves Romney

NAILE 2022 Results: Congratulations to ALL OF YOU!

WHITE

Yearling Ram - 1 Lindsey Schmoll
Fall Ram Lamb - 1 Amy Mendenhall, 2 Claire Vonbehrens
Spring Ram Lamb - 1 Clarie Vonbehrens, 2 Clarie Vonbehrens, 3 Emma Rogers, 4 Emma Rogers,
5 Catherine Hromis
Pair of Ram Lambs - 1 Claire Vonbehrens, 2 Emma Rogers
Champion Ram - Claire Vonbehrens (Spring Ram Lamb)
Reserve Champion Ram - Amy Mendenhall (Fall Ram Lamb)

Yearling Ewe - 1 Claire Vonbehrens, 2 Catherine Hromis, 3 Emma Roger, 4 Claire Vonbehrens,
5 Rick Trojanoski, 6 Rick Trojanoski, 7 Kaysen Bauerle
Pair of Yearling Ewes - 1 Catherine Hromis, 2 Rick Trojanoski
Fall Ewe Lamb - 1 Claire Vonbehrens
Winter Ewe Lamb - 1 Catherine Hromis, 2 Lindsey Schmoll, 3 Jeff & Stacey Stump, 4 Kaysen Bauerle
Spring Ewe Lamb - 1 David Peterson, 2 Catherine Hromis, 3 Emma Rogers, 4 Catherine Hromis,
5 Claire Vonbehrens, 6 Lindsey Schmoll, 7 Kaysen Bauerle
Pair of Ewe Lambs - 1 Catherine Hromis, 2 Claire Vonbehrens, 3 Lindsey Schmoll
Champion Ewe - Catherine Hromis (Winter Ewe Lamb)
Reserve Champion Ram - Claire Vonbehrens (Yearling Ewe)
Best Fleece on the Hoof - David Peterson (Spring Ewe Lamb)
Flock - 1 Catherine Hromis
Premier Exhibitor - Claire Vonbehrens

NATURAL COLORED

Yearling Ram - 1 Caitlin Plank, 2 Lindsey Schmoll
Fall Ram Lamb - 1 Teresa Hromis
Winter Ran Lamb - 1 Caitlin Plank, 2 Caitlin Plank
Spring Ram Lamb - 1 Ainsley Porter, 2 Megan Higgins, 3 Ainsley Porter, 4 Caitlin Plank, 5 Jacen Wilinski,
6 Caitlin Plank
Pair of Ram Lambs - 1 Ainsley Porter, 2 Caitlin Plank
Champion Ram - Teresa Hromis (Fall Ram Lamb)
Reserve Champion Ram - Ainsley Porter (Spring Ram Lamb)
Yearling Ewe - 1 Ainsley Porter, 2 Lindsey Schmoll, 3 Caitlin Plank, 4 Ainsley Porter 5 Teresa Hromis,
6 Caitlin Plank, 7 Jacen Wilinski, 8 Jacen Wilinski, 9 Teresa Hromis, 10 Rick Trojanoski,
11 Rick Trojanoski, 12 Kaysen Bauerle
Pair of Yearling Ewes - 1 Ainsley Porter, 2 Caitlin Plank, 3 Jacen Wilinski, 4 Theresa Hromis,
5 Rick Trojanoski
Fall Ewe Lamb - 1 Theresa Hromis, 2 Ainsley Porter, 3 Jacen Wilinski
Winter Ewe Lamb - 1 Teresa Hromis, 2 Caitlin Plank, 3 Ainsley Porter, 4 Caitlin Plank, 5 Ana Mikkelsen,
6 Lindsey Schmoll, 7 Stacey & Jeff Stump
Spring Ewe Lambs - 1 Ainsley Porter, 2 Theresa Hromis, 3 David Peterson, 4 Caitlin Plank,
5 Jacen Wilinski, 6 Caitlin Plank, 7 David Peterson
Pair of Ewe Lambs - 1 Teresa Hromis, 2 Ainsley Porter, 3 Caitlin Plank, 4 Jacen Wilinski,
5 David Peterson
Champion Ewe - Ainsley Porter (Yearling Ewe)
Reserve Champion Ram - Teresa Hromis (Fall Ewe Lamb))
Best Fleece on the Hoof - Caitlin Plank (Winter Ram Lamb)
Flock - 1 Ainsley Porter, 2 Teresa Hromis, 3 Caitlin Plank, 4 Jacen Wilinski
Premier Exhibitor - Caitlin Plank

SUPREME CHAMPION RAM OF ALL BREEDS

NATURAL COLORED ROMNEY RAM owned by Teresa Hromis

American Romney Breeders Association
4637 Cap Stine Road
Frederick, MD 21703

southern Oregon Romneys



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