



Romney Ramblings

April 17, 2023

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Happy Spring – Depending on where you are in the country, and why you raise Romneys, you may be finished with lambing, right in the middle, or getting ready to start. No matter where you are in the process, I hope your lambing season is a good one.

#nothingcuterthanaRomneylamb

I am happy to take this opportunity to say a big THANK YOU to all of the ARBA board members - including those whose terms ended in the autumn - who have been working extra hard on behalf of the organization for the last couple of years. It has been a challenging couple of years, with some complex and challenging issues to deal with. Your board is an incredibly hard-working group of volunteers – just about everyone is working on one or more committees to make ARBA as strong and as effective as it can be. THANK YOU to board members Charlene, Marianne, Amy, Scarlet, Penny, Sue, Carol, Tracy, Betsy, Jeff, Melissa, Emma, Rick, Stephanie; and to our Secretary/Treasurer Georgina; and our Ramblings editor Patty. Thank you for the time and dedication you all contribute to this organization.

Election time is here, and this is a great group to join – as a board member, or by volunteering on one of our committees. Please consider joining this great group of ARBA volunteers.

Information to look for in this edition of the Ramblings:

- ☞ If you haven't yet renewed your membership, you can now pay online with PayPal - you will want to be up to date when you register your lambs.
- ☞ It is time to start getting ready for ARBA elections, and the process is in the early stages. Board participation is a great way to become more involved in ARBA and to impact our society for the benefit of other members, and also our sheep.
- ☞ If you are interested in running for a board position, the nominating committees will be working through May 7 to identify candidates for open positions – so please reach out to one of the committees to express your interest.
- ☞ If you have any “Flock News” to share about what is going on in your family, flock, and on the farm, please submit your news to Ramblings editor, Patty Sanville so that she can include your news in our next addition.
- ☞ Penny Swearingen and her team in Region 3 are already planning for a great annual meeting at the Michigan State Fair over Labor Day weekend! Looking forward to seeing many of you there!

I wish you all good health, strong lambs, and a successful season!

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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.

If you know a Romney Breeder that isn't a member yet - invite them to join in on the fun!

**Gabe Ford and Kelli Ford (juniors)
Troy Doty**

WELCOME!

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, high light 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.

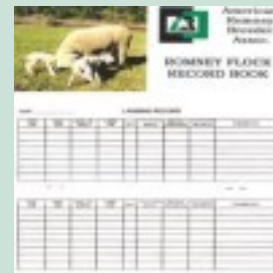
Above rates are based on camera ready copy, sized to fit the space purchased for the ad. Ads prepared by the editor will be charged at \$15 per hour, with a minimum fee of \$15.

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 northern New England, we are wrapping up our winter storm season with one last blast of cold wet snow. With too much on the ground and snow still falling, it is important to make sure your sheep have a dry spot, out of the wind, to settle into and wait out the storm. Once your flock is tended to, and you are relaxing indoors with a hot cup of tea or whatever suits your fancy, whether you are a Romney breeder, enthusiast or Romney fiber artist, this is the time to see what sheep events are happening this spring in the New England region.

There are several wool and fiber festivals that are popular with Romney breeders and absolutely fabulous.

The first one, the 2023 CT Sheep, Wool and Fiber Festival on Saturday, April 29 is hosted by the Connecticut Sheep Breeders Association at the North Haven Fairgrounds. With 75 vendors and demonstrations on shearing, skirting, herding, spinning and weaving plus food, there will be something for everyone.

On May 13 and 14, the New Hampshire Sheep and Wool Growers Association will host the New Hampshire Sheep and Wool Festival at the Deerfield Fairgrounds. Several Romney breeders participate as vendors. You can attend exhibits and demonstrations on fiber arts, sheepdog trials and shearing.

The 47th Annual Massachusetts Sheep and Wool Craft Fair will be on May 27 through May 28 at the Cummington Fairgrounds. There will be many wonderful vendors, a sheep show and dog trials.

The Maine Fiber Frolic, held at the Windsor Fairgrounds on June 3 and June 4 has lots of educational demonstrations, a puppet and magic show, used equipment auction and more.

The Vermont Sheep and Wool Festival is held in Tunbridge Vermont from September 30 to October 1. Fiber producers, crafters and enthusiasts come together to share ideas and connect.

Many associations are promoting workshops on lambing, shearing and care of the sheep. At 9:00 am, on April 22, the New Hampshire Sheep and Wool Growers will sponsor a lambing Clinic at Aker Fiber Farm LLC. in Enfield Center. The guest speakers will be Dr Mason of Blackwater Veterinary Services and Mark Chrispman of Poulin Grain.

For more information on sheep husbandry and wool festivals in your area, check with your state sheep breeder associations.

Something else you might want to explore are the Fibersheds in New England. Massachusetts and Rhode Island have joined to form the Southeastern New England Fibershed. Connecticut has its own fibershed and Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine are in the process of building the Northern New England Fibershed. Local community fibersheds are linking producers with processors, financiers and consumers while promoting sustainability. You can find more information on each affiliate fibershed on their individual website or at fibershed.org.

If you have any interesting news, photos or stories to note in the Ramblings from the New England area, District 1, please call me or send me an email and we can share your tale. I can be reached at: 603-219-6043 or at windingwicksand-wool@gmail.com.



District 2: Scarlet Lamphier

As of now, I hope that your barns are full of many gorgeous, lively Romney lambs! Lambing season, from many of the social media posts I have seen recently, there has been a high ratio of rams to ewe lambs this year! That is usually a discouragement for most, unless your focus is more on meat marketing, instead of choosing Romney breeding and show lambs. Our Upstate NY winter was an unusually mild one, but now that March is here, surprisingly has meant more snow than everyone would like! I am keeping tabs of our Romney Fiber Flock from Florida this March, as now my husband and I are Snowbirds, after 25 years of doing the lambing days! The cute Romney lambs are surely missed, but the sunshine here does feel fine! Just love seeing all the beautiful Romney lamb pictures everyone has posted! Thanks for filling the void!

Here are some Dates:

50th Annual Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival May 6-7

Shupp's Grove Sheep and Wool Festival, Reinholds, PA June 3-4

NJ Sheep and Fiber Festival September 9-10

NY Sheep and Wool Festival October 21-22 Bred Ewe & Lamb Sale will return this year, sales managed by Dutchess County Sheep & Wool Growers for more information visit www.DCSWGA.org

The events calendar is available to check out also. Please remember to reach out to me if you are in my district and there are events you would like other members to know about. Also, news, pictures and announcements about you or your family!

Wishing all a great Spring!

District 3: Penny Swearingen

Winter 2022-23 at least for the Midwest has been an interesting one from above normal temperatures to a deep freeze.

February lambing is closing out with Ice storms, hazardous road conditions, treacherous footing for chores and power outages.

As I am writing this in front of wood stove on Day 5 of our power outage, it reminds me that our Shepherds and Shepherdesses like our Romneys are Stalwart and just put their head down and plow through adversity! Here is hoping that the trials of winter have not been too hard on you and Lambing is Successful!!

District 4: Sue Kalina:

Romney babies everywhere! So great to see them out running in the pasture, having a grand time. Unfortunately for the mom's there isn't much grass out there. Cold weather has kept the grass from growing. So a bigger feed bucket and fingers crossed for warmer days.

Do you have your ram yet for the upcoming breeding season? Ram sales have been very active and breeders are getting ready. Good to plan ahead and get the ram used to your farm before the big event!

Shearing day is almost here for our farm and I know some have already sheared getting ready for the start of show season in June. Those fall lambs have heavy coats! But those beautiful fleeces will be ready for the upcoming fiber festivals across Oregon. See the ARBA Calendar of Events.

Our own Anne Nichols will be traveling to Wisconsin this year for the All-American Junior Show with her Romneys. Go Anne! I also happen to know Anne was recently accepted into the Masters Program at her college and is pursuing her teaching degree. You are AWESOME!

Oregon will be hosting a Regional ARBA Romney Show at the Oregon State Fair this year. It will be fairly low key after the fabulous national show last year.

Happy Spring and bring on the green grass!

District 5: Tracy Haslem:

Much of District 5 has had a challenging weather year, from a hot dry summer and fall to a wet, cold winter. The West Coast and the Intermountain Area has seen record rain and snow and low temperatures. Last summers drought reduced hay and feed supplies and saw prices for hay and grains double as the cold, wet winter lingered on. And with lamb prices substantially down from a year ago a shepherd really has to love what they are doing. The joy of new lambs in the barn brings hope of the spring to come.

Spring will see the first fiber festival with the Shepherds Extravaganza April 20-23 at the Puyallup Washington Fair Grounds. It includes live animal exhibits, used equipment sales, fleece shows and sale, workshops and classes. More information can be found at WWW.Shepherds-Extravaganza.com.

Next is a great opportunity to get youth involved and exposed to the Romney breed. The Spring Youth Fair is held May 5-7th at the Southwest Washington Fair Grounds in Chehalis, Washington. The show includes breeding sheep classes, a fleece show, and showmanship classes. There is no membership requirement, open to any youth that has not graduated high school and exhibitors are not required to own the sheep they exhibit. So mentor that youth that has shown interest in wanting to get involved in sheep, loan them an animal and see if we can get more families raising Romney sheep. They have wonderful prizes and social activities to make everyone welcome. More information can be found at WWW.springyouthfair.org.

Fiberfusion comes to the Evergreen State Fairgrounds in Monroe, Washington June 3rd and 4th. Active in this event are Al and Lyn Schweider of the Pines Farm, honorary lifetime members of ARBA, and their daughter Amy Wolfe. It includes classes and workshops both in the fiber arts as well as shepherding and sheep management activities. Fleece and fiber sales, fiber arts equipment make this a great activity. WWW.fiberfusion.net for more information.

District 5 director position is up for reelection this year, as well as director at large position. If you wish to serve the Romney breed by being on the board of directors reach out to any of the current officers or directors.

Again I hope the excitement of the new lamb crop, the hope and joy it brings, will help us all move forward and work to promote the great sheep and fiber the Romney breed has to offer. I know I am eager to have spring work its magic, watch the grass and the lambs grow.

District 6: Jeff Stump:

No report at this time.



7th Annual On-line Sale

April 26, 2023

Ewe & Ram Lambs

White & Natural Colored

White are Clean White Pedigree

**Natural Colored are
2nd Gen. Natural Colored**

**Sale hosted by:
Willoughby Livestock Sales
517-462-5675**

Sunday Selfies

Sunday Selfies is a fun event we have been doing for 3 years. It was started for the youth as a way to stay in touch over the winter months and during covid times. After a short time, some of the adults started joining in and now it's for everyone. They are a lot of fun and folks look forward to them. I even know of a 95-year-old grandmother who looks forward to them every week.

The pictures can be of anything fun on the farm, work that you are doing, new lambs, or maybe a side of you that we don't know and may not be farm related at all. Who plays golf, bakes, studies, reads, belongs to 4H or FFA, or maybe you play the trombone, anything that makes us smile, laugh, ponder or makes us miss you. It's always great to see those faces. It's great just to see what's happening in different regions of the US, show us your barns, your tractors, something wild and crazy.

Response has been very good, but I challenge you to make it even better. So far, we average about 10-14 per week, let's aim for 20!

The selfies are posted on the American Romney Breeders Association JR Member's page and on the ARBA Instagram page (American Romney). If you haven't checked this fun topic out, please review the older posts (weekly since 2/5/23). You won't be disappointed.

Our Sunday Selfies will end the last Sunday in April as the show season will be starting and life will get even busier.

Please post your pics or send to me and I can post for you. I look forward to hearing from you.

Charlene Carlisle

ccshep1@aol.com

609-760-0399



American Sheep Industry:

With the Farm Bill being front and center right now - please reach out to your Senators and Representatives in Congress and make sure they understand just how important the issues facing our farmers and ranchers are.

The ASI positions on key issues can be found at:

Sheepusa.org

Look under the Legislative Action Center.

If you haven't looked at the ASI website lately - take the time to do so. There are so many great resources that are just a click away.

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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Education Series “Testing”

Education Committee: Melissa Wubben, Patricia Sanville & Penny Swearingen (Chairman)

The next phase of our Educational Series will be on the Testing of Feedstuffs kicking off with testing Hay. During the Winter Months most Romney Breeders will be using the bulk of the hay that they feed. A high percentage of this hay will be fed to late gestation and lactating ewes and their lambs. As we all know these are the most critical production stages in the life of our sheep, so the quality of Hay is very important. I have included the following excerpt as a quick refresher on Hay and its value in a Sheep Ration.

“Sheep 201 A Beginners Guide to Raising Sheep”

Hay

Hay is forage that has been mowed (cut) and cured (dried) for use as livestock feed. It is usually the primary source of nutrients for sheep during the winter months or dry season when forage plants are not actively growing. Hay varies significantly in quality, and while hay quality can be affected by plant species, quality is determined mostly by the maturity of the plants when they were harvested for hay.

Proper harvesting and storage are necessary to maintain the nutritional quality of hay. Hay that is stored outside without cover deteriorates rapidly in quality. The only way to know the "true" nutritive value of hay is to have it analyzed at a forage testing laboratory. A list of certified forage testing laboratories can be found at www.foragetesting.org.

Hay is usually a moderate source of protein and energy for sheep and lambs. While good grass hays can have as much energy as legume hays, legumes have 50 to 75 percent more protein and three times as much calcium. However, a good quality grass hay will be a better source of nutrients than a low or medium-quality legume hay if it is more digestible and palatable.

The important thing about hay is to feed the right hay at the right time. There is no "best" hay. From an economic standpoint, the "best" hay is the hay that provides nutrients at the lowest cost. Palatability is important to the extent that the more hay sheep refuse the higher cost it will be.

An average quality grass hay is usually more than adequate for ewes during maintenance and in early to mid-gestation. Grass hay almost always meets the needs of mature rams and wethers. A mixed grass-legume hay can be fed to ewes in late gestation to meet their increased need for calcium and other minerals.

It is best to save legume hays, such as alfalfa, for the lactation diet due to their higher levels of protein and calcium. If a grass hay is fed during late gestation or lactation, it may be necessary to provide an additional source of calcium to pregnant ewes and supplemental calcium and protein to lactating ewes.

Grasses	Legumes
Bermudagrass	Alfalfa
Bromegrass	Birdsfoot trefoil
Kentucky bluegrass	Cow peas
Native grasses	Lespedeza
Orchard grass	Peanut
Reed canary grass	Red clover
Ryegrass	Soybean
Tall fescue	White clover/Ladino
Timothy	Vetch

Thanks to Susan Schoenian for such a good resource. There is much more on this site for not just the beginner to use as a resource.

Notes at Very High-Level View of TESTING HAY by Penny Swearingen

There are some great resources out there for you to get more detailed information to fit your Operations Feed Program. In addition, there are several labs that can test for you and there is a link in the above article on sources. I am going to use the information provided on the website of Dairyland Laboratories for some of the available tests. When you get ready to test do not hesitate to call the Lab and ask specifically what package would work best for you and how you should prepare the sample. I have always found them very helpful.

WHAT is Hay Testing? Basically, you send in samples of your hay to a lab to get analyzed. Tests can be done for several different components:

I. Nutrition

-Dry Matter- The tests will be performed by oven drying and results will be reported so you can compare what your Hay is providing and what your grain has in it.

- **Digestibility** specifically Total Digestible Nutrition and Crude Protein are two of the most important components when testing so you get the best overview of your feed stuffs.

-**Total Digestible Nutrition or (TDN)** that you see on Feed Tags of Grain is given based on Dry Matter and gives you the actual nutrients OR what is actually digestible for the animals. The results are then broken into the Percentages of each of the components. Keep in mind your sheep in different production stages have much different nutritional requirements and these results will help you determine if those 3-year-old ewes nursing triplets are getting enough energy to do the job.

-**Protein- Crude Protein (CP)** is a very important figure for you to understand if the hay is adequate. Feeding a High-powered Alfalfa Hay with 17% CP is not needed or recommended for your ewes after weaning or over wintering Stud Rams. Your ewes nursing triplets, first time lambing 2 year olds and lambs coming off of weaning have a need for more easily digested high protein hay. Having a good read on where your hay values are can save problems and Money.

-**Minerals-** This is an important test when wanting to understand the overall balance of your flock's nutrition level. There are several different Mineral "Packages" that will be offered to you for testing.

Basic- Phosphorus, Potassium, Calcium and Magnesium- Purchased Commercial Feeds, Hay cubes etc. will have these values listed on the label. All are important and ratios such as Ca:P are important when feeding rams. Also, ewes in late gestation have a higher need for Calcium so if they have been on low quality grass hay it may not be adequate. Testing hay can be good insurance against some problems.

Sulphur Test- Sulphur can cause some problems in high levels and tie up some needed micro minerals so if you are getting hay testing done it is a good idea to get this number as well.

Micro Minerals: Micro Minerals such as Zinc, Copper, Molybdenum, Selenium, Boron, and Manganese are needed for proper body functions, and some have a narrow "tolerance" range. Examples Copper and Selenium both are essential for building of body components and fetal health but in too high concentrations are toxic. Your specific environment may have deficiencies or heavy residual areas at times of the year that impact your flock. Testing hay can help with part of this picture. If you live in Michigan you are deficient in Selenium! Knowing information like that can save a lot of heartache AND Money!

Heavy Metals- This is generally testing for Iron, Sulphur, and Molybdenum. Heavy Minerals that tie up Micro Minerals such as Zinc, Copper, Manganese and can undermine the general health of your flock. Iron and Sulphur are part of many test packages however, Molybdenum is not and has to be specifically requested. Generally, this test is indicated if you had blood, liver or kidney tests performed and High Levels of Molybdenum were found.

-Nitrate in Forages. This is a value that is we do not often focus on. However, if you are seeing some "things" happening with your flock sometimes paying attention to this value is important. The best example I have was when in college the cattle farm was seeing a lot of stillbirths. When they pulled forage tests, they found high level of Nitrates in the hay and then linked back to the exceptionally dry summer they had during hay season.

DISEASE AGENTS

-Mycotoxins- Essentially molds or funguses that grow on grains or hay during growing season or during storage. Mycotoxins can cause a lot of problems with infertility, abortions, respiratory and “mystery” ailments that suddenly you see appear. Many times, forages are prone following extremely wet growing seasons, droughts, tough weather during harvesting and even how the hay is put in the barn. Some forages are more prone than others, corn is only mentioned here because it is used in multiple ways corn silage and feeding stalks in addition to grain and can have high levels of Aflatoxins. Clovers and Wheat also can have toxins that develop.

Other special tests may be called for if you are chasing Listeriosis, E-Coli, Salmonella outbreaks and need to find a source.

WHY TEST:

1.. **-Digestibility-** Knowing what the hay is providing our flock allows us to make more economical decisions. Save “tougher” hays with lower TDN and Protein digestibility for ewes, wethers and stud rams in maintenance. Save the high-powered Alfalfa for late gestation or lactating ewes. Knowing what levels are in your hay can help you put together a better-balanced ration AND SAVE you MONEY!

2.. **CHANGES!** Changes in Hay Suppliers, fields, types of hay. Example, in my case folks getting out of square bales or farming all together I had to go to round bales. Those round bales may offer a whole different set of nutritional values AND issues such as Mycotoxins than the square bales. Getting some testing done up front may help you make decisions come time to wean those lambs.

3.. **“Well, This is New”!** How many of us have made that statement? Sometimes we underestimate how much of an impact the forages have on the well-being of our flock. Do we go back to the basics when there is an outbreak, animals do not have the bloom we are used to seeing or we have a higher percentage of open ewes at the end of lambing? Getting some basic testing done on our hay can help us avoid problems or solve a problem like we saw with the cattle when I was in college. Solid test results help us make better decisions. Reduce stress! And Hopefully Save Money!!

WHERE Can I Get Testing: There are several Labs across the US that offer Forage/ Hay Testing. Many Land Grant Universities offer testing on campus as well. Your veterinarian may have good results working with a specific lab and may already have clients doing a lot of testing. You do not have to have your Vet send in the samples but sharing with them that you are testing keeps good communication open. They may also be able to help you translate the results as well. A County Extension Specialist or a Feed Rep can also help interpret the results if you have some questions.

Do not be afraid to call the Lab for specifics on what Package would work best for you and how to prepare and ship the sample or what the Results are telling you.

Happy Testing! Penny Swearingen

Resources:

Sheep 101: Feedstuffs for Sheep and Lambs
www.foragetesting.org
Dairyland Laboratories

<https://www.sheep101.info/201/feedstuffs.html>

<https://www.dairylandlabs.com>



ARBA Election Time - Join our board and help lead our flock!

This year, Directors of ARBA districts 1, 3 and 5 and one at-large Director are scheduled for elections. Additionally, the offices of President and Vice President will be elected. If you would like to be considered for nomination for the Director position of district 1, 3 or 5, for the at-large Director position or for the office of President or Vice president, please contact one of the following people by email before May 7, 2023:

Stephanie Booren stephaniebooren@gmail.com

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Jeff Stump quailmeadowmeats@gmail.com

Sue Kalina skalina26@gmail.com

Scarlet Lamphier scarletlamphier@gmail.com

Georgina Anderson secretary@americanromneybreeders.com

Also 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

Calendar of Events:		
EVENT	DATE	NOTES
NDSU Sheep & Goat Production Workshop	April 20	Bowman, ND NDSU.ed/agriculture/ag-hub/events/sheep-and-goat-workshop
Shepherds Extravaganza	April 20-23	Puyallup, WA - shepherds-extravaganza.com
Buckeye Young Shepherds' Expo	April 22	Columbus, OH - Ohiosheep.org/lead-buckeyeyoungshepherdsexpo.html
Lambing Weekend Workshop	April 22-23	Bellingham, WA - Lydiasflock.com
E&C Plank Online Sale	April 26	Wlivestock.com - Willis Plank 517-462-5675
Shepherd's Cross Woolly Weekend	April 27-29	Claremore, OK - shepherdcross.com
Bakersfield Ram Sale	April 28	Famoso, CA - call 661-399-2981
Yellow Rose Fiber Fiesta	April 28-29	Sequin, TX - yellowrosefiberfiesta.com
Arkansas Small Ruminant Field Day	April 29	Booneville, AR - UAEX.UADA.edu/farm-ranch/animals-forages/sheep-goats/field-day.aspx
Connecticut Sheep, Wool & Fiber Festival	April 29	North Haven, CT - ctsheep.org
25th Annual Fiber Market Day	April 29	Redmond, OR - highdesertwoolgrowers.com
Winding Wicks Romneys/Little Hooves Romneys Online Sale	April 30	Wlivestock.com - Teresa 603-219-6826, Charlene 609-760-0399
Spring Youth Fair	May 5-7	Chehalis, WA - springyouthfair.org
97th Annual Cloverdale Ram Sale	May 6	Cloverdale, CA - sierrabruhn@gmail.com
50th Annual Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival	May 6-7	West Friendship, MD - sheepandwool.org
SDSGA Online Ewe Lamb Sale & Junior Futurity Show	May 8	SDSheepgrowers.org
ARBA Online Sale	May 9	American Romney Breeders Assoc. - ccshp1@aol.com
UI-USU-SDSU Extension Sheep & Goat Monthly Webinar	May 10	UIdaho.zoom.us
New Hampshire Sheep & Wool Festival	May 13-14	Deerfield, NH - NHSWGA.org/nh-sheep-wool-festival/
Crazy Mountain Fiber Fest	May 19-20	Big Timber, MT - bigtimber.com/chamber-information/fiber-fest/ Kalispell, MT - docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfLJ1mOd-6Lpl69xV9heFIXV8CPB4Ertre1gRPf41XlujjBiQ/viewform
Western Montana Sheep & Goat Workshop	May 20	
2023 Fat Lamb Fiber Festival & Spin In	May 20	Scio, OR
47th Annual Massachusetts Sheep & Woolcraft Fair	May 27-28	Cummington, MA - MAsheepwool.org
Great Lakes Fiber Show	May 27-28	Wooster, OH - greatlakesfibershow.org
Northwest Lamboree	May 27	Goldendale, WA - Brownpapertickets.com/event/5749160
Contemporary Handweavers of Texas	May 31- June 4	Sugar Land, TX—weavetexas.org
West Virginia Purebred Sheep & Goat Show and Sale	June 2-3	Petersburg, WV - wvsheepandgoatsale.com
Maine Fiber Frolic	June 3-4	Windsor, ME - fiberfrolic.com
Fiberfusion	June 3-4	Monroe, WA - fiberfusion.net
Shupp's Grove Sheep and Wool Festival	June 3-4	Reinholds, PA - shuppsgrovefiberfestival.com
Estes Park Wool Market	June 8-11	Estes, CO - EstesParkEventsComplex.com/wool-market.html
New York State Fiber Conference	June 11	Bouckville, NY - caahp.ccext.net/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=170

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.

Flock News: the human side of things:

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



ONLINE *Sale*
APRIL 30TH
HOSTED BY:
wlivestock.com
Teresa Hromis
(603) 219-6826
Charlene
Carlisle
(609) 760-0399

Winding Wicks
ROMNEYS

 Little Hooves Romneys

JAVIERS

2023 ARBA Futurity Contest

Nomination Form

Must be postmarked by October 1, 2023 to be eligible for this year's futurity contest

Please fill out the following information to nominate a Romney Ewe Lamb or Yearling Ewe
Check appropriate line:

White owned yearling ewe NC owned yearling ewe White home-raised*
yearling ewe NC home-raised* yearling ewe White owned ewe lamb NC
owned ewe lamb White home-raised* ewe lamb NC home-raised* ewe lamb

Home-raised shall be defined as when the dam is owned by youth member when futurity nominated ewe was born

Breeder Name _____ Telephone _____

Flock Tag # _____ USDA Scrapie Tag# _____

ARBA Registration # _____

Animal Birth Date _____

Youth Name _____ Telephone # _____ Youth
Address _____ Nominat-
ing person's signature _____

Please make sure all above information is complete and correct, and this form is signed.

Enclosed is the \$20.00 nomination fee (make check payable to "ARBA")

Mail Nomination Form and check to Charlene Carlisle, 510 Centeron Rd,
Moorestown, NJ 08057 or scan to ccshep1@aol.com

AMERICAN ROMNEY BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

2023 Futurity Contest CONTEST RULES

1. All Junior members 21 years and younger as of January 1st of current year with paid membership are eligible.
2. All ewes must be registered with ARBA and nominated by breeder/seller and fee of \$20 per ewe paid by same; unless re-entering as a yearling ewe, then the current youth/owner will pay the fee. Nominations must be post-marked by October 1st of current year.
3. Divisions offered are:
 - A. White owned yearling ewes
 - B. Natural Colored owned yearling ewes
 - C. White home-raised * yearling ewes
 - D. Natural Colored home-raised* yearling ewes
 - E. White owned ewe lambs
 - F. Natural Colored owned ewe lambs
 - G. White home-raised* ewe lambs
 - H. Natural Colored home-raised* ewe lambs

*"home-raised" shall be defined as when the dam is owned by youth member when futurity nominated ewe was born

4. Owned" futurity ewe lambs or yearlings may be purchased through public sales, on-line sales or privately.

5. Ewes must be solely and individually owned by the youth member.

6. Points are not transferable to any other ewe or person.

7. Futurity nominated ewes must be exhibited/shown by the youth-owner to receive futurity points. If a youth has two futurity ewes entered in the same class, the second ewe must be exhibited by another youth.

8. Point Record Form must be completed and signed by the Superintendent or Secretary of the show and forwarded by the youth exhibitor to Charlene Carlisle, 510 Centerton Rd, Moorestown, NJ 08057 within 14 days of the show. This is the youth exhibitor's responsibility. Point cards can also be scanned or emailed to ccshep1@aol.com

9. A futurity ewe may earn points from both open and junior shows at the same fair when a different judge is involved or the shows are held on different days.

10. The futurity ewe may compete in an unlimited number of shows and the youth is encouraged to send in all Point Record Forms from all shows; however, only the top 5 point cards will be used for each futurity ewe to determine the final score for the placing in this contest. In case of a tie, the sixth highest scoring Point Record Form will be counted.

11. Futurity premiums will be paid using a percentage of the total money collected for Futurity entries.

Payout Percentages: First – 25%, Second – 22%, Third – 18%, Fourth – 15%, Fifth – 10%, Sixth – 5%, Seventh – 3%, and Eighth – 2%.

Point program runs from January 1 to December 31 of the current year. Additional recognition for the exhibitors and breeders will appear in the Romney Ramblings, Banner Magazine, Facebook and Website.

12. When a futurity ewe lamb becomes a yearling, she may be re-nominated by the junior member/owner as a futurity nominated yearling ewe. The fee is \$20 per head with the same divisions as the ewe lambs. (See #3 above)

2023 Futurity Contest CONTEST RULES - Continued

13. ARBA is not responsible for and shall be held harmless for any disputes and/or disagreements between buyers and sellers.

14. If the owner of a futurity nominated ewe is not present at a respective show, futurity points are not eligible and may not be submitted.

15. The Natural Colored and White Romneys (with exception of NAILE's Jr Romney Show) will show separately for futurity points and will be paid separately.

16. Futurity point scale:

# animals in class	Placing in Class									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	1									
2	2	1								
3	3	2	1							
4	4	3	2	1						
5	5	4	3	2	1					
6	6	5	4	3	2	1				
7	7	6	5	4	3	2	1			
8	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1		
9	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
10	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

Any Questions? Contact Charlene Carlisle @ 609-760-0399 or ccshep1@aol.com

Upcoming Junior Shows/Sales Information:

The All-American Jr. Sheep Show will be June 28th to July 2nd, 2023, in Madison Wisconsin. This year, for the first time, the AAJS Romney Show will also be designated as a **National Junior Romney Show**. We are pleased that we were able to bring the two together and are looking forward to a great turnout. Trailers will be coming from the east and west, so travel options should be available for purchasing or selling sheep. Entry and show information can be found on their website, allamericanjuniorshow.com. This is the biggest Junior Show, with the most to offer kids of all ages and their entire family...it is more than a sheep show. Every family needs to do this at least once.

There are several online Romney Sales planned this spring so check out Willoughby's and Integrity for further details. **ARBA's online sale** is May 9th, 2023, through Integrity. There will be Futurity nominated ewes in the sale. It's a great time to either sell some of your top sheep/lambs/ewes or look for that special one to add to your flock. If consigning, make sure you get those sheep shined up and take good photos to present their best attributes. Details on ARBA's online sale can be found below.

The **North East Youth Sheep Show** will be held in West Springfield, MA from July 14th through July 16th, 2023. Another youth show not to be missed. Details and entry packets can be found on their website, nesheep.org. Deadline is 6/10/2023. This is another great family show.

American Romney Breeders Association Online Sale

ARBA will be having another online sale this year. It will be Tuesday, May 9th, 2023 and will be managed by Integrity Livestock Sales. Mike Crowder is owner/operator and will be our contact person. Entry fee is \$20 per head and payable to ARBA and must be sent to Charlene Carlisle (510 Centerton Rd, Moorestown, NJ 08057) separate from the entry information. If you wish to pay via PayPal, please contact Georgina Anderson at secretary@americanromneybreeders.org - (Total cost via PayPal will be \$22 to cover fees).

All consignment information should be sent to mike@integritylivestocksales.com and he will upload into computer. You may send pictures and/or videos. Commission will be 5%. He would like to have sales information to him by May 1st, 2023.

The proceeds from your sales can be directly deposited to your bank account if desired. Turnaround time is approximately 7-10 days depending on how the buyer pays (electronic versus USPS).

Ewes and rams are welcome of any age but remember to pick some of your very best and then get those Romneys shining. Sheep should be presented and pictured well to promote their best attributes.

Any questions please contact:

Charlene Carlisle at 609-760-0399 (call or text) or email ccshep1@aol.com or

Mike Crowder at 765-366-3135 or email mike@integritylivestocksales.com

If seller would like to nominate to the Futurity, forms can be found on web site with instructions.

Thanks, looking forward to another great Romney sale.

2023 Annual Meeting Hosted by District 3!

All Members of ARBA are Invited to Attend!

At Michigan State Fair Aug 31st – Sept 3rd

The 2023 Annual Meeting for the American Romney Breeders Association will be held in conjunction with the Michigan State Fair Labor Day weekend in Novi Michigan. Novi is a Northern suburb of Detroit. The State Fair is held at the Suburban Collection Showplace which is a venue much like the Kentucky State Fair grounds better known for "NAILE".

Romneys are represented at the State Fair with both White and Natural Color Romney Shows in both the Open and Junior Divisions. There is also a Fleece Competition! The tentative schedule for the Shows Junior Show- Friday Sept 1st, Fleece Show Sat Sept 2nd and Open Romneys Show Sunday Sept 3rd.

The Hotel connected to the Suburban Collection Showplace is the HYATT PLACE. A block of rooms has been reserved for ARBA members who want to attend the event. The Block is for Thursday Aug 31 thru Sunday Sept 3rd.

Reservations for the Event can be made directly with the Hyatt Place at the Suburban Collection Showplace for reservations call 1-800-233-1234.

USE the Group Code: **G-ARBA**

Reservations may also be made by logging on to:

https://novi.place.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html?corp_id=G-ARBA

Use the Group Code: **G-ARBA**

Once the arrival and departure date have been entered click on special rates and then enter the Group Code in the Group Code Box (make sure to include the "G" when entering the code).

Reservations by attendees must be received ON or BEFORE July 31, 2023 to receive the Group Discount.

We will be sharing more detailed information about specific times and locations as the months follow but for you to start planning here is the tentative Schedule for the Board Meetings, Annual Meeting and Dinner are:

Old Board Meeting on Friday Afternoon Sept 1st

Annual Meeting and Dinner Friday Evening Sept 1st

New Board Meeting Saturday Sept 2nd.

Any specific questions about the plans for the meetings or facilities contact Penny (District 3 Director) @ 517-610-1421.

Any specific questions about the Michigan State Fair Sheep / Fleece Show (we would love to have you bring your Romneys and Fleeces)

contact Willis Plank @ 517-462-5675.



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

Southern Oregon Romneys



JoAnn Mast & Kathleen Zappelli

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541-572-3094 (home) 541-290-2103 (cell)

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