

Targhee Talk

*The Newsletter of the United States
Targhee Sheep Association*



January 2023

Inside this edition:

- 2023 National Show
- Semi Annual Meeting
- Starter Flock Update
- Photo Contest
- Calendar of Events

See your sheep in print!

Targhee Talk submissions for the April Edition are due March 15th.

Please send your great Targhee stories, pictures, and newsworthy items to

ustargheesheep@gmail.com

or through the U.S. mail:

Targhee Talk
PO Box 955
Chinook MT 59523

2023 US Targhee Sheep Association Show and Sale

July 13-15, 2023

Morrison County Fairgrounds: 15575 Hawthorn Road Little Falls, MN 56345

Little Falls, MN is eager to welcome you to the 2023 USTSA Show and Sale. There are room blocks under US Targhee Sheep Show and Sale at the Country Inn & Suites and Americinn. Country Inn started with 10 rooms and will add more if we need them and Americinn will only do a block of 10 rooms. Both hotels have free hot breakfast daily. There are also several Air BNB/VRBO's in the area. Camping with water and electricity is available at the MC Fairgrounds for a small fee. There is a Camping World in Little Falls that rents out campers if you would like to do that.

The events below are not finalized but will be discussed/finalized at the junior winter zoom meeting and association winter zoom meeting. The fairgrounds will be ready to bring your sheep on Wednesday any time. Registration for the juniors will be Wednesday from 4-5pm (bring registration papers and health papers to show Jessie and Logan). Weather permitting, at 6pm we will have a pre-event picnic on the Mississippi River with multiple pontoons for rides, a couple fire rings, fishing, and supper. If it's raining, we can just have the picnic part under roof at the fairgrounds.

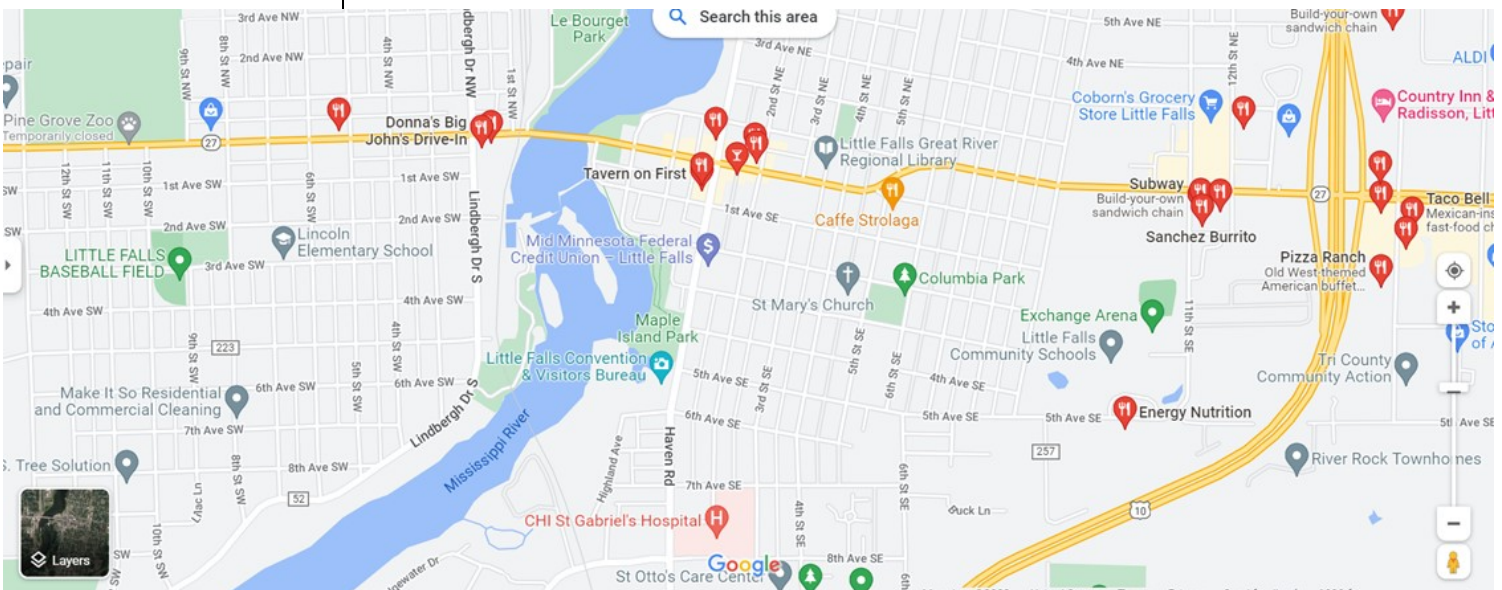
Thursday morning, the junior show will start at 8:30 am followed by their annual meeting. We will have a cold cut (or something like that) lunch following the juniors meeting and then all who would like to go to the Pine Grove Zoo for a behind the scenes guided tour are welcome to attend that event. The picnic for Thursday evening will be held at LeBlanc's Rice Creek. Board meeting can be at the fairgrounds, or hotel breakfast area after picnic.

Friday morning, the national show will start at 8:30am. The afternoon activity will be a tour of the Charles Lindbergh House and Interpretative Center. Annual meeting will be held at the VFW followed by the banquet.

Saturday the starter flock award will be at 9:30am followed by the National Sale starting at 10am.

All activities and events are within 5 miles of hotels.

All 3 hotels are within 2 miles of the fairgrounds.
Rice Creek is 4 miles from hotels, 2 miles from fairgrounds
VFW is 1/2 mile from all hotels



Cover Photo Courtesy of
Jeff & Leslie Nevens
Lodi, Wisconsin

Hotel Information

Country Inn and Suites: 209 16th St NE, Little Falls MN 56345 (pool) 320-632-1000
Americinn: 306 LeMieur St, Little Falls MN 56345 (pool) 320-632-1964
Super 8: 300 12th St NE, Little Falls MN 56345 (no pool) 320-632-2351
Camping is available at fairgrounds with electric and water

Tentative Schedule

Fairgrounds are open any time on Wednesday July 12th to start stalling.
12th evening- boating on Mississippi for anyone interested
12th – if anyone is interested in golfing <https://littlefallsgolf.com/> Little Falls Country Club is located along the Mississippi and is a beautiful 18 hole course.

Junior Show 13th
Afternoon of 13th
Juniors Behind the scenes guided tour of Pine Grove Zoo <https://www.pinegrovezoo.com/>
1200 West Broadway, Little Falls
Picnic at Rice Creek <https://ricecreekhunting.com/>
16543 Game Farm Road, Little Falls

National Show 14th
Afternoon of 14th
Juniors Charles Lindbergh House and Interpretative Center <https://www.mnhs.org/lindbergh>

Annual Meeting: VFW – 1210 3rd Ave NE, Little Falls MN 56345
Banquet: VFW

July 15th – Auction – Schubert Auction Service

Targhee Wearables!!

Need to get out fitted for this years upcoming show season? USTSA's line of clothing and accessories are available for purchase on USTSA website's homepage.

If you don't find the size or color you're looking for, please contact Mardy for ordering. We will also be putting in an order for a new clothing line prior to this years Nationals. If you have any suggestions or requests, let us know!

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Semi Annual Meeting Reminder

Please join us for the Semi Annual meeting via Zoom.

Time: Jan 28, 2023 06:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uwyo.zoom.us/j/94810217342>

Meeting ID: 948 1021 7342

Meeting Agenda

Approval of minutes from Annual Meeting.

Financial Reports and Registration Report

Committee reports from those present on the meeting

Junior

Promotion

Starter Flock

Nominating

Standards and Sifting

Registration

Hall of Fame

NSIP

2023 National Show and Sale update

Starter Flock Program

Application is now available on our website (ustargheesheep.org). Please help spread the word to eligible youth that would be a great addition to the Association. This will be the thirteenth year the Association has given away a Starter Flock to a deserving Youth. In the previous years, the generous members of the USTSA has awarded 20 starter flocks, totaling 66 head of sheep, and have also donated almost \$16,000 towards buyers credits for the award winners to purchase additional sheep at USTSA national sales.

The winner must be present to receive the flock and will be awarded one (1) ewe lamb, one (1) yearling ewe, and one (1) brood ewe donated by members of the USTSA. Each animal will be a USTSA registered animal, and at least QR in Scrapie Codon 171 genotype. The winner will also receive a \$150 credit from USTSA for use toward purchase of additional animals at the 2023 national sale.

USTSA Photo Contest

In lieu of holding a photo contest during National Show and Sale which was getting little to no entries, we are going to try an online photo contest! Prize money will be awarded to the top 3 winners. Submitted entries will be posted on the USTSA Facebook page. Votes will be collected by likes on each photo. So be watching Facebook for the entries and be sure to like photos to get your vote counted!

Rules are as follows:

- Winning entries will be featured in the May issue of Targhee Talk as well as on USTSA Facebook page.
- Photographs entered in the contest will be judged on clarity, content, composition and appeal.
- Entries must be emailed to ustargheesheep@gmail.com by 5 p.m. mountain time on February 10th, to be considered. Only the top three photographers in each category will be notified of their winnings.
- Photographers are advised to submit photographs in the largest file size possible. This will better assure these talented and creative photos can be shared in future issues of the Targhee Talks, as well as in the Facebook cover images and other USTSA publications.
- The three categories in this year's contest are:
 - Scenic – Photos entered in this category cannot include people.
 - Working Dogs and Protection Animals – Photographs in this category should show herding dogs, livestock guardian dogs or any other livestock protection animal in their natural environments. Photos must also include sheep in some fashion as proof that these truly are working animals.
 - Open – Photographs with subject matter that does not fall into the above-listed categories.
- Other contest rules:
 - * USTSA can use or reproduce all entries at the discretion of USTSA. USTSA is not required to notify photographers when photos are used in materials.
 - * Entries must be submitted in the name of the person who took the photograph and are limited to two per category per person.
 - * The following needs to be included with each submission: title of photo; category into which it is being entered; photographer's name; mailing address; phone number; email address; and approximate location/date of photo.

If there is a particular story that goes with the photo, please include that, as well, with the entry.

Entries should be emailed to ustargheesheep@gmail.com with the subject line of USTSA Photo Contest.



Protein is an important part of your plate because it can lower the blood sugar impact of meals. Lamb delivers, on average, 23 grams of protein per 3 oz. serving. This is approximately 50% of your daily protein needs!

Wool Pellets to Sell at Lowes.com

Wild Valley Farms recently announced that Lowe's Home Improvement has decided to carry Wool Pellets in its online store at Lowes.com (starting in March). The product is also under consideration for in-store placement for 2024.

"This has big implications. If Wool Pellets are picked up for in-store placement, we estimate Lowe's will purchase 1.5 million pounds of wool pellets annually for their stores," read an email from Albert Wilde of Wild Valley Farms. "We would like to encourage every sheep producer or friend who has any plants or buys any fertilizer/plant food to make a small investment of about \$13 and buy a bag of wool pellets from Lowes.com. Lowe's will be using 5 percent of each sale to promote Wool Pellets."

For the last six years, Wild Valley Farms has been reinvesting 100 percent of its wool pellet profits to promote and expand this new innovative wool market.

Source: Wild Valley Farms

Free Advertising Space for Targhee Events

Do you have a Targhee event you would like to see promoted? Please contact the USTSA office to list your event for FREE!

Save the Date: ASI Spring Trip

The American Sheep Industry Association's Spring Trip to Washington, D.C., is set for March 14-16. The annual gathering allows sheep producers to visit with members of Congress, as well as leaders at government agencies ranging from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Sheep producers interested in taking part in the Spring Trip should contact their state association leadership to begin the process. Participants will fly into the nation's capital on Monday, March 14, and visit with agency leaders the next morning. Congressional visits will follow that afternoon and into Wednesday. ASI will host a reception and BBQ on Wednesday evening. Participants will be joined at the reception by Congressional leaders and staff.

ALB Releases FY22 Report and New Strategic Plan

The past year has been challenging for the U.S. Lamb industry, between price inflation, labor challenges and the economic downturn, added to the lingering Covid pandemic. The American Lamb Board (ALB) released its FY22 Annual Report to inform Mandatory Lamb Checkoff stakeholders of its work to mitigate the effects of outside forces and take advantage of opportunities.

"Even though many challenges are out of our control, it's critical that we keep driving forward as hard as we can to promote American Lamb and the US Sheep Industry," said Peter Camino, ALB chairman. "During this past tough year, your American Lamb Board worked to support our loyal American Lamb retail and foodservice customers and invest in programs and strategies that can strengthen our long-term competitiveness. Making American Lamb the preferred choice of consumers, chefs and retailers is at the core of your American Lamb Checkoff's promotion, information and research programs."

The focus now turns to FY23 and beyond. "As the American Lamb industry looks to the future, there are several areas for opportunity," according to Camino. To embrace those opportunities, ALB has announced an ambitious strategic plan for the next five years, including increasing demand for American Lamb by 5% and taking 5% market share from lamb imports by the end of 2028. To that end, ALB has identified three primary goals:

1. Marketing: Grow consumer demand for American Lamb
2. Research, Education & Innovation: Optimize/prioritize research and education efforts to improve product quality and consistency, increase productivity and grow the year-round supply of American Lamb
3. Industry Services: Expand awareness, understanding, engagement and involvement of stakeholders in the American Lamb Checkoff

The American Lamb Board (ALB) is an industry-funded national research, promotion and information checkoff program that works on behalf of all American commercial and seedstock producers, feeders, direct marketers and processors to build awareness and demand for American Lamb. Funding is through mandatory assessments paid by all industry segments. The board is appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture and represents all industry sectors, geographic regions and sizes of production. The work of the ALB is overseen by USDA and supported by staff in Denver, Colorado.

ALB's annual budget averages about \$2.5 million. Almost two-thirds of funds are devoted to American Lamb promotion. By law, the Board's expenditures for administration are limited to 10% or less of projected revenues. The board was established in 2002. More information is at LambResourceCenter.com.

Upcoming Calendar of Events

Jan. 24-27, 2023 - Texas A&M AgriLife Sheep Shearing School - San Angelo, Texas - agrilife.org/sheepandgoat/registration/

Jan. 28, 2023 - Michigan State University Birth Management Hands On Experience - MSU Sheep Teaching and Research Center - events.anr.msu.edu/2023smallruminantbirthmanagement/

Jan. 28, 2023 - Nebraska Sheep and Goat Producers Lambing and Kidding School - Craven Feed Center in Gordon, Neb. - ne.sheep.goat@gmail.com

Feb. 3-4, 2023 - Maryland Sheep Breeders Association Sheep Shearing School Beginner's Session - Fairplay, Md. - mdsheepshearingschool@gmail.com

Feb. 8, 2023 - Small Ruminant Webinar Series: Weather the Ups and Downs with the UW-Madison Extension Sheep Operation Enterprise Budget - Online - Extension.WISC.edu/agriculture/farm-ready-research

Feb. 17-19, 2023 - Badger Lambing School - Arlington, Wis. - www.eventbrite.com/e/badger-lambing-school-tickets-492867519017

Feb. 18, 2023 - Indiana Sheep Shearing School - Purdue Animal Sciences Center - www.indianasheep.com

Feb. 25, 2023 - Wyoming Select Bred Ewe Sale - CAM-PLEX in Gillette, Wyo. - email alison@wyowool.com

March 1-2, 2023 - Missouri Shearing School - Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Mo. - forms.gle/BM37Vjtos5HDp3Kx5

March 4, 2023 - Washington State Sheep Producers Lambing School - Martinez Lambing Camp in Mabton, Wash. - www.wssp.org

March 8, 2023 - Small Ruminant Webinar Series: Preparation for a Successful Breeding Season - Online - Extension.WISC.edu/agriculture/farm-ready-research

March 31-April 2, 2023 - Moffat County Sheep Shearing School - Craig, Colo. - Megan Stetson at megan.stetson@colostate.edu.

April 3-7, 2023 - Washington State Shearing School (Beginners) - Grant County Fairgrounds in Moses Lake, Wash. - <https://extension.wsu.edu/grant/livestockanimal-science/washington-state-shearing-school/>

April 7-8, 2023 - Tennessee Sheep Producers Association Shearing School - Tennessee Livestock Center at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tenn. - Mark Powell at shepherdboy1@yahoo.com or 615-519-7796.

April 8, 2023 - Washington State Shearing School (Advanced) - Grant County Fairgrounds in Moses Lake, Wash. - <https://extension.wsu.edu/grant/livestockanimal-science/washington-state-shearing-school/>

April 12, 2023 - Small Ruminant Webinar Series: Grilling and Cooking Lamb - Online - Extension.WISC.edu/agriculture/farm-ready-research

2023 Officers & Directors

President & Central Plains Director - Leroy Pedersen; leroy@koletzkyimplement.com, 605-660-2981

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