



Targhee Talk

The Newsletter of the U.S. Targhee Sheep Association
February - 2011

Volume 11 , Number 1

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Welcome New Member!

Jonathan W. Fogarty

38255 131st Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
605-225-0521

jfogarty@nrctv.com

Changes in contact information:

Jeff & Leslie Nevens

Their new
e-mail address is:

AandJNevensLive-
stock@frontier.com

*Do not include the dash
in the above listed
address when e-mailing
Jeff & Leslie

William & Lisa Reppert

Their new
e-mail address is:

reppersheep@wildblue.net

President's Notes

Hard to believe, but here it is a new year. Lambing is just beginning at the Deneke place and in normal South Dakota fashion temps are in the below zero numbers with wind chills of -20 degrees or so. We are looking forward to lambs from our new stud ram we purchased at the Nationals last year in Wisconsin. Speaking of the National Show and Sale I would like to extend an invitation to the 2011 Show and Sale which will be hosted by the Dakota Area Targhee Association (DATA) and will be held on the campus of South Dakota State University in Brookings, South Dakota. This year's dates will be July 15 & 16, 2011. One of the highlights we have discussed is the wool show. We would encourage members to enter fleeces in wool classes. If you are unable to attend the show and would like to enter fleeces they could be sent and we would see to getting them back to you after the show.

The current prices for lamb and wool is very encouraging and there are folks looking to get into the sheep business. It seems like I get calls every week from someone looking for Targhee ewes. For our youth looking to get into the Targhee business the USTSA will be offering our starter flock program again in 2011 and applications and rules are available on our web page. If you know of a deserving young person interested in sheep production encourage them to apply.

I hope everyone had a good year in 2010 and I look forward to visiting with you at the shows and sales in 2011.

Darrell Deneke - President, USTSA



Think Spring!

2011 Starter Flock

The USTSA Starter Flock Committee, chaired by Jeff and Leslie Nevens, is pleased to announce applications for the 2011 Targhee Starter Flock are now available at the USTSA website (www.ustargheesheep.org). The USTSA will award a Targhee Starter Flock to a deserving young person at the 2011 National Show and Sale in Brookings, South Dakota. The recipient is required to be present for receipt of the flock.

Applications are due in the USTSA office **April 1, 2011**. The recipient will be notified in writing by June 1st. Any youth ages 9-17, as of January 1, 2011, whose immediate family does not raise Targhee sheep is eligible to apply. The winner 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 purpose of the USTSA Starter Flock program is to promote growth and visibility of the Targhee breed, and to promote youth involvement and education within the breed. For more information contact Jeff & Leslie Nevens (608-592-7842 AandJNevensLivestock@frontier.com or the USTSA office.

Lambing Tip

Here are two ideas for keeping newborn lambs warm in chilly conditions. A New Zealand forum (www.lifestyleblock.co.nz) suggests dressing a chilled lamb in a bread bag. And, a British website (www.land-care.org.uk) suggests using bubble wrap! Both mention this is as a temporary measure to conserve central body heat in lambs and as a cheaper alternative to commercial lamb covers.

950 County Line Road, Fort Shaw, Montana 59443 ♦ 406-467-2462 phone/fax ♦ roeder@3rivers.net

Eastern & Mid-Western State Fairs

Wisconsin State Fair

West Allis, Wisconsin
August 4-14, 2011
www.wistatefair.com or
800-884-FAIR

Ohio State Fair

Columbus, Ohio
July 27-August 7, 2011
www.ohiostatefair.com or
888-OHO-EXPO

Nebraska State Fair

Grand Island, Nebraska
August 26-September 5, 2011
www.statefair.org or
308-382-1620

South Dakota State Fair

Huron, South Dakota
September 1-5, 2011
sdstatefair.com or
800-529-0900

Mid-Western & Western Sales

Center of the Nation NSIP Sale

Spencer, Iowa
July 29-30, 2011
www.nsip.org or
parkwoodhillfarm@gmail.com

Choteau Sheep Expo

Choteau, Montana
September 10, 2011
www.choteausheepexpo.com
or 406-859-3890

Wyoming Ram Sale

Douglas, Wyoming
September 13, 2011
dianelc@wyowool.org or
307-265-5250

Montana Ram Sale

Miles City, Montana
September 15, 2011
www.mtsheep.org or
406-557-6266

Hettinger Ram Sale

Hettinger, North Dakota
September 14, 2011
Wyman Scheetz 701-794-8743

Newell Ram Sale

Newell, South Dakota
September 16-17, 2011
605-456-1010

Items Worth Noting

Targhee Opportunities in 2011

2011 Targhee National Show & Sale

As voted on by the USTSA membership, the 2011 Targhee National Show & Sale will be held in Brookings, South Dakota at South Dakota State University Animal Science Arena. The Dakota Area Targhee Sheep Association (DATA) is preparing to make the 2011 Show and Sale an event to remember! They have reserved the facilities for July 14-16th. Show and Sale headquarters are at the Days Inn (877-831-1562, 605-692-9471, info@brookingsdaysinn.com) and a block of rooms have been reserved at \$72/ night under Targhee Show and Sale until July 1st. More information will be published in upcoming issues of Targhee Talk as it becomes available. Please contact the USTSA office if you have Targhee state, county, or local events you would like to see published in the newsletter or online.

DATA - Sydell Raffle

The Dakota Area Targhee Sheep Association (DATA) is holding a raffle to help defray some of the cost of the 2011 National Show & Sale. A Sydell Clutch Winchstyle Fitting Stand with Side Rails will be awarded to the lucky winner at the completion of the National Sale. The winner is responsible for shipping costs. Several sets of tickets have already been mailed out to USTSA members. However, if you have not received tickets or would like more to sell, please contact Marcia Stulken (605-852-2348) or Darrell Deneke (605-696-0167). The cost of the tickets is \$10.00 for one ticket or three for \$20.00. Thanks in advance for helping to support the 2011 National Show & Sale!

Starter Flock Donations Needed

Here is an excellent opportunity to invest in the future of the U.S. Targhee Sheep Association. Needed for the 2011 USTSA Starter Flock are donations of registerable sheep (mature ewe, yearling ewe, ewe lamb, ram lamb) and money. Because of USTSA member generosity we have been able to help two young people start new flocks and businesses. Consider becoming a proud participant in this new tradition. Contact Jeff & Leslie Nevens (608-592-7842 AandJNevensLivestock@frontier.com or the USTSA office for more information. Thanks for your help!

2011 National Directory & Standards

Good news! About half of the advertisements necessary to print the 2011 National Directory & Standards have been purchased. In order to raise the necessary funds to print a new version of the USTSA Directory & Standards, we need your help and support through the purchase of advertising space. Cost for ads and design layout appear in right hand column on Page 3. Members are welcome to create their own ads and submit them in pdfs. However, please follow the sizing requirements. When using photographs, remember to use high quality images. Members choosing to have the USTSA office design their ad will be charged a design fee. Ad placement is on a first come first serve basis. **Please remember to notify the USTSA office with any changes to your contact information.**

USTSA Secretary-Treasurer Position Available

Applications for the position of USTSA Secretary/Treasurer are available for download at the USTSA website (www.ustargheesheep.org) or through the USTSA office. See P. 10 for additional information. **Applications are due April 1st, 2011.**



Targhee sheep have historically been shown and sold at the state fairs and sales listed to the left. Contact state fairs, sales, or breeders in the area for more information. Sheep with EBVs (Expected Breeding Values) will be available for sale at the Center of the Nation NSIP Sale, Choteau Sheep Expo, Montana Ram Sale, and Newell Ram Sale.

Targhee NSIP
~ A Quiet Revolution ~
by Tracie Roeder

Many USTSA members know I have worn dual hats within the U.S. Targhee Sheep Association and Targhee NSIP for many years. Before becoming USTSA Secretary/Treasurer in 2004, I was the Targhee NSIP breed coordinator. That job began in 2002. However, my first exposure and interest in Targhees came in 1991 when I was fortunate enough to be a student of Drs. Verl Thomas and Rodney Kott, and Cheryl Schuldt at Montana State University. In the spring of 1992, I was equally blessed to be exposed to the leadership of John Paugh, Chase Hibbard, and Bob Gilbert through a Sheep Management course. I met my future husband, Brent, continued school, and after graduation we worked for Chase at Sieben Live Stock Company. That is where the real work and education began! It was also where we were to make our lifelong Targhee friends.

In those brief 20 years much has changed. I have watched and participated in an incredibly gifted and diverse group of people both NSIP and non-NSIP Targhee producers. While all have a slightly different perspective on what the perfect "Targhee" is, all have agreed and adhered rigorously to the Targhee breed standard. Looking at one good Targhee means you've seen the entire U.S. flock. Tim Faller, the 2009 USTSA National Open Show judge in Miles City, was especially quick to point this out. In this day and age of constant transformations, show ring make overs, and breed re-inventions, such an observation is high praise.

I would suggest, however, while the cover remains the same, the inside of the Targhee book has been re-written. Targhee NSIP has worked within the breed standard to quietly record and carefully quantify the claims of the Targhee breed standard. We have always known Targhees are prolific producers of lamb and wool. Now we have the statistics to prove it.

I have never used my position as USTSA Secretary to laud the benefits of NSIP, but I have been willing to enthusiastically share why I believe in both the USTSA and Targhee NSIP. It appears that many within the Targhee breed agree. Six of seven USTSA board members are Targhee NSIP producers. And, 698 of the 1,091 Targhee sheep registered in 2010 were registered out of Targhee NSIP flocks.

Without a doubt all Targhee producers are keeping an extraordinary set of barn records evidenced by the excellent registration applications I receive. Many producers I visit with can tell me exactly what their percent drop was last year, and the pounds of lamb weaned per ewe exposed. I firmly believe we are a breed of numbers. We all pay attention to and are fastidious about them. It makes for an excellent registry and a terrifically predictable breed of sheep.

This being said, where do Targhees fit into the national sheep scene? At the forefront. While, Targhee producers have been working to improve their sheep, the National Sheep Improvement Program has been steadfastly working to secure a future which includes economic reward for sound genetic selection resulting in consistent market products.

NSIP is a non-profit entity whose sole mission is the improvement and empowerment of the U.S. sheep industry. Like any program, NSIP has undergone structural changes. Until 2010, the genetic analysis portion of NSIP had been housed at Virginia Polytechnic Institute in Blacksburg, Virginia, under the exceptional direction of Dr. David Notter. While there are 146 flocks representing eleven breeds of sheep in NSIP, the Targhee database is by far the largest with records exceeding 60,000 sheep.

NSIP outgrew its home at Virginia Polytech. Several domestic and international entities were explored for the future of NSIP. It quickly became apparent Meat Livestock Australia's LambPlan is on the forefront of sheep genetic analysis. LambPlan is an international player with collaborative ventures in South America and Europe. Through the help of Paul Rodgers at ASI, NSIP began negotiations and found a willing partner in LambPlan. This initially met with resistance and frustration for many within NSIP. It seemed a sure sign of defeat – perhaps giving in to our principle competitor. However, that attitude quickly changed with two critical acknowledgments. First, NSIP would not fold into LambPlan. It would remain a recognizable U.S. entity. Second, the ability to communicate consistently and compete fairly on an international level about U.S. sheep genetic and industry products became apparent.

The relationship between NSIP and LambPlan is simple. U.S. data is sent to Australia, and LambPlan generates the genetic analysis. NSIP collects money from NSIP members and compensates LambPlan fairly. LambPlan provides genetic analysis only, and U.S. based NSIP is still responsible for producer education and further genetic trait development.

2011 Directory & Standards

Fee Schedule

1/4 Page Ad
\$25.00
3"W x 1 7/8"H
Design Fee \$15.00

1/2 Page Ad
\$40.00
3"W x 3 7/8"H
Design Fee \$20.00

Full Page Ad
\$70.00
3"W x 7 7/8"H
Design Fee \$30.00

Centerfold
\$150.00
6.5"W x 7 7/8"H
Design Fee \$50.00

Inside Back Cover
\$100.00
3"W x 7 7/8"H
Design Fee \$30.00

Outside Back Cover
\$125.00
3"W x 7 7/8"H
Design Fee \$30.00

See your sheep in print!

Targhee Talk Submissions for the April Edition are due March 31st.

Please send your great Targhee stories, pictures, and newsworthy items to the USTSA office at:

roeder@3rivers.net

or through the U.S. mail:

U.S. Targhee Sheep Association
950 County Line Road
Fort Shaw, Montana
59443

USTSA Officers &
Directors

President

Central Plains:

Darrell Deneke
919 6th Ave Apt 2
Brookings, SD 57006
605-696-0167
darrell.deneke@sdsstate.edu
Term expires: 2013

Vice President

East:

Warren Nellis
8465 North Loomis Road
Coleman, MI 48618
989-465-6210
wjnellis@netzero.com
Term expires: 2011

Board of Directors

At-Large-East:

Jeff Nevens
N 1225 Hillestad Road
Lodi, WI 53555
608-592-7842
AandJNevensLive-
stock@frontier.com
Term expires: 2013

At-Large-West:

Jack McRae
31 McRae Lane
Jordan, MT 59337
406-557-6266
jmcrac@midrivers.com
Term expires: 2012

Montana:

Ralph Lewis
342 Svenson Road
Reed Point, MT 59069
406-326-2306
lewisranch@ttc-cmc.net
Term expires: 2011

West:

Bridget Williams
570 Mayoworth Road
Kaycee, WY 82639
307-738-2378
bwilliams@rtconnect.net
Term expires: 2012

Are you a
Weather Watcher?

If you haven't discovered
these two great websites,
give them a try for real
time radar, drought, and
moisture data:

www.noaa.gov

www.intellicast.com

Annual Meeting of the Membership - Minutes

JULY 16, 2010

The annual meeting of the U.S. Targhee Association membership was called to order by President Darrell Deneke at 3:50 p.m., July 16, 2010, at the University of Wisconsin Farm, Arlington, Wisconsin. All officers and directors were present with the exception of Ralph Lewis, and Tracie Roeder.

Bob Padula moved to accept the minutes of the 2009 annual meeting as presented; second by Lisa Reppert; motion carried.

The financial report was presented. Dean Von Krosigk moved to accept the financial statement; second by Judy Nellis; motion carried.

Darrell thanked the Wisconsin members for hosting the show and sale. Sale chairman, Todd Taylor thanked Jeff and Leslie Nevens and Lynette Taylor for all the work that they had done. Todd reported that the rent for the building will be lower than expected and the cleaner we leave it the cheaper it will be, that the awards were donated, and the judges worked at cost.

Todd asked if the people would be interested in returning to Arlington in 2013 and everyone agreed.

Jeff Nevens moved that a floor price be set at \$200 per head; second by Charlene Von Krosigk; motion carried.

Jeff Nevens introduced the members of the Starter Flock Committee. Rudy and Martha Erickson had read the applications and chose the winner. This year's winner is Jamie Skinner of Felicity, Ohio. Darrell Deneke, CJR Farm – Warren & Judy Nellis, and Von Krosigk Family Targhees – Dean and Charleen Von Krosigk donated a ewe lamb, mature ewe, and yearling ewe, respectively, for Jamie's Starter Flock. Innes Ranch – Bob Innes, Montana Sheep Company – Brent, Tracie, Ben & Caroline and the Wisconsin Targhee Sheep Association donated \$150, \$100, and \$50, respectively, to help Jamie buy additional sheep at the 2011 sale. Dean Von Krosigk stated he was very impressed with the sheep that last year's winner, Caleb Petersen, had brought to the National Show.

Darrell Deneke reviewed the progress on the Inspection Manual update. He is trying to get more information on carcass and confirmation into the manual to go along with the wool information in the current edition. He noted that an inspection and tattooing demonstration had been held at the show earlier that day.

Jack McRae updated the membership on the purchase of rams by the Navajo Nation. If anyone was interested in sending rams they should contact Tracie.

Darrell updated the membership on several items.

The newsletter gets good comments and if members have show/sale dates, or other information, they should get it to Tracie.

The association will be publishing a new directory and Tracie will be contacting the membership. Bob Padula asked if the plan was to get it out before the end of 2010 or in 2011? Even if it could be done in 2010, he suggested dating it as 2011.

Discussion was held regarding the location of the 2011 National Show and Sale. Elisha Lewis moved to hold it in Brookings, South Dakota; second by Warren Nellis; motion carried.

Election of directors was held. The nominating committee of Todd Taylor and Jack McRae nominated Darrell Deneke for the East at Large board position. There being no nominations from the floor, Dean Von Krosigk moved that nominations cease and Darrell be elected by unanimous ballot; second by Todd Taylor; motion carried.

The nominating committee nominated Charles Dwight and Jeff Nevens for the director position from the east. There being no nominations from the floor, Warren Nellis moved that nomination cease; second by Glenn High. Jeff Nevens was elected by written ballot.

Jack McRae asked the membership their opinion on the Association minutes. Tracie has been doing expanded minutes giving much of the discussion on issues for historical use and background for those not present at the meeting. Another method would be concise minutes that only reported motions made. After discussion, Bob Padula moved that a summary be put in the newsletter and expanded minutes be put on the web-site and mailed to those who request them; second by Elisha Lewis; motion carried.

Elisha Lewis moved that the meeting adjourn; second by Charlene Von Krosigk; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jack McRae - Acting Secretary

2010 USTSA Hall of Fame Recipient

George Mann - Fairchild, Wisconsin

Submitted by Patricia Mann

George Mann started in the sheep business at the age of 9 years old. He began with 2 commercial ewes. In 1962 he got into the purebred business by purchasing his first registered Suffolk, a bred yearling ewe at the Wisconsin Bred Ewe Sale, from the University of Wisconsin - Madison. The ewe ended up not being pregnant and was replaced by twin lambs, thanks to Jim Elphick.

Circle M Targhees was started in 1967 with 5 yearling ewes and a fall ram lamb purchased from Mt. Hagen Livestock Company in Anaconda, Montana, with a membership number of T-133. This was a push from the University of Wisconsin's Jim Elphick and Professor Art Pope for whom George was an employee. George exhibited these sheep at the Wisconsin State Fair that year and did well.

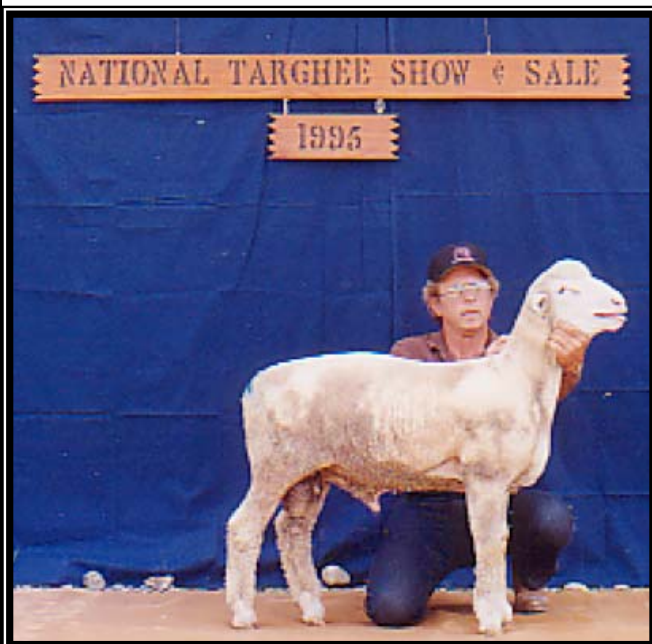
After being drafted in December of 1967, George's dad continued in 1968 at the Wisconsin State Fair and did well that year also. When George got out of the service in 1969 he continued to show his Targhees at the Wisconsin State Fair for many years. His next stud ram was purchased from Sven Svenson of Reed Point, Montana, which was a major boost for his bloodlines. Since that time George added many bloodlines both ram and ewe. He started to participate in the USTSA National Shows, showing almost every year. He had several first place winners up to the National Champion Ram in 1989 and National Reserve Champion ewes. From 1973-1981 George dispersed his Targhee Flock, but in 1982 bought back in with purchases from the USTSA National Sale and started showing again. The Circle M Targhees flock stayed between 35-40 head of high quality ewes for years. George started shearing sheep at the age of 15 and buying wool at the age of 16. He still shears a few flocks today but quit buying the wool in 2004.

George was on the USTSA Board of Directors several times and served as President.

George's daughters Chris and Patty were also Wisconsin Targhee Princesses several times in the past.

Circle M Targhees finally dispersed in 2005 when a bar and restaurant were taking up too much time to be able to do it all alone. George still promotes the Targhee breed of sheep and shows up at most National shows from Illinois to Montana. George also still judges many county and state fairs. He loves working with the young sheep people and adult sheep friends.

He is presently the commander of his VFW, Chairman of Fairchild's Wayside Tribute, Senior Vice President Fairchild Lions and President of Jackson County Tavern League as well as owner operator of his bar and restaurant.



Jacob Thomas Durda
Achieves Rank of
Eagle Scout

*Received via e-mail from
Jacob's father John Durda*

I have been a member of the U.S. Targhee Sheep Association for more than 5 years, and have attended a couple of national shows in the past. We have a very small flock of Targhees in Ohio.

I am proud to inform you that Jacob Thomas Durda, who has been a member of Troop 810 for the past six years, has recently achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, Scouting's highest rank. Jacob's Eagle Service Project was re-leveling a brick walkway in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park to make it handicap accessible. Jacob also received the Ad Altare Dei (2007) and Pope Pius XII (2010) religious medals. Within the next couple of months he will be conducting his Eagle Court of Honor.

Congratulations Jacob on a wonderful honor for you and your family!

USDA Reports U.S. Sheep Numbers

The USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service's just-released Sheep and Goat report, all sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, totaled 5.53 million head, down 2% from 2010. Although there was an overall decline in sheep numbers, as there has been in sheep-producing countries around the world, several states reported increases in sheep and lamb numbers: including ID, MO, NY, NC, OH, PA, TN, TX, VA & WV.

2010 USTSA Hall of Fame Recipient

Judy Scanlan - Malin, Oregon

Judy Scanlan was presented with her Targhee Hall of Fame plaque at the 2010 Montana Ram Sale. It was a tremendous surprise well worth the effort of all involved. Pictured above, Jack McRae, Chase Hibbard, (Judy Scanlan) and Carolyn Green all delighted and enlightened us with Judy's contribution to the USTSA over the years. Thanks to everyone for making this a great surprise and a terrific success!

10 Year USTSA Registration Summary

Year	Registered
2010	1,091
2009	1,010
2008	1,076
2007	1,064
2006	1,441
2005	1,618
2004	922
2003	1,258
2002	994
2001	836

Targhee sheep, and together they raise a little hay. Occasionally Jerry and Judy have range wars. Every year, Judy finds a new spot for the sheep to graze and puts up a little 5 strand barb wire fence. Every year Jerry finds the new fence and realizes his cows have lost a little more ground to the sheep.

Judy became acquainted with Targhee sheep reading "Raising Sheep the Modern Way" by Paula Simmons. The Targhee profile in the book especially appealed to her. So, she purchased her first set of Targhees in 1982. Judy's favorite Targhee trait is their self-sufficiency. How else could she take care of 300 ewes and their lambs by herself?

Judy and Jerry started going to the USTSA National Show and Sale in 1983 where they made purchases to expand their flock. Judy estimates she went to every national sale for about 18 years. Her last two were the 50th Anniversary celebration in 2001 and the Hamilton, Montana, show and sale in 2005. She has been a fixture at the Montana Ram Sale for many years. One year she was awarded a Stockman Bank jacket for having traveled the farthest to attend the event - 1,300 miles!

Over the years Judy served two terms as a USTSA Director and as Vice-President. Judy pursued instituting the side micron test for rams at the National Show and Sale along with developing the Targhee NSIP classes.

Judy is a purist at heart and believes a Targhee sheep should live up to its reputation through objective evaluation. She has been a strong advocate of Targhee NSIP since its inception. Her vision and critical thinking skills have been an asset to the breed and organization. Judy can always be counted on to carefully consider all options and recommend the best course of action for the members and the sheep.

Her most recent accomplishment is purchasing a computer, mastering the new NSIP software Pedigree Wizard, and getting on-line. Her e-mail address is: modoctarghee@cot.net. Judy has a real zest for life and learning. She just keeps striving to make progress. Judy we are proud of you and welcome you to the U.S. Targhee Sheep Association Hall of Fame!

Judy Scanlan was born and raised in the great state of New York. She met her husband, Jerry, at Cornell while they were both studying to be veterinarians. After finishing school and marrying, they purchased a Vermont veterinary practice with an apartment overhead. By saving their money, they were able to buy a farm across the state line in New Hampshire. In time a house, a couple of barns and five children were added. They worked as a team with Judy providing small animal care, while Jerry took on the local dairy cows. They retired from veterinary work in 1983, but continued farming.

Opting for a big change in scenery in 1994, they purchased a ranch in Oregon. Their ranch is about an hour from Klamath Falls in the eastern Oregon high desert where the annual rainfall is 10 to 14 inches per year.

Judy and Jerry have been married for 48 years and their son Eric and his family live on the ranch with them. Jerry raises commercial Angus cattle, Judy raises



Meet Your USTSA Members

Tye Kroll - Clare, Michigan



1. Where were you born and raised? Is this your current place of residence?

I was born on a feeder pig farm north of Coleman, Michigan where I lived until age six. Then I moved with my parents and three older brothers to the village of Loomis, Michigan where we ran a country store. At the age of 21, I knew this was not the life for me and joined the U.S. Navy. I served for 20 years and retired, returning to Loomis. (You can take the boy out of the country, but you can't take the country out of the boy!) I purchased a 20 acre fruit and vegetable farm from my father who was suffering from cancer.

2. When did you become acquainted with Targhee sheep? How long have you raised them?

I worked the farm for a few years alone with a full time job. I was in an accident at work which crushed my lower left leg and broke my right hand. This did not let me do much of anything. I could not take care of the farm and the weeds began to grow. A local sheep farmer (Warren

Nellis) stopped by one day and asked if he could pasture some sheep (Targhee) on the farm to clean up the weeds being that it was fenced in. To make a long story short the sheep ate everything including my fruit trees and berry bushes. When I got better, I had to do something with the land, and not wanting to raise pigs (had enough as a kid), and having worked with Warren's sheep, I got into sheep. I started with four ewes and a ram in the summer of 2005. I have had as many as 50 breeding ewes, but found that was too many sheep for the land I have. Currently, I have 40 ewes. So, that makes it about 5 years I have been working with Targhee sheep. I also have some Romney sheep. The Lord has blessed me well as a sheep farmer. I have averaged around a 200% birth rate each year with a loss of 1 or 2 lambs a year.

3. What is your favorite Targhee trait? The Targhee sheep are very friendly and good protectors.

4. What is the greatest issue facing the sheep industry and/or American agriculture? I hate to say it, but I feel the government is trying to take too much control from us. Don't get me wrong, they have their place in helping, but enough is enough.

5. Are you married? Do you have children? How many? Is anyone else in your family involved in the sheep industry? I am single, but have a boy and a girl from a previous marriage. The year I returned to Loomis, a local school needed help and the Navy asked if I would give the school a hand. So, for the next two years I worked with kindergarten through 6th grade students. The Lord blessed me with 600 children I still get letters and cards from some of the children, now adults. I have no other family members involved in the sheep industry.

6. Do you have an occupation other than farming or ranching? Other than raising sheep what are some of your hobbies and talents? Do you volunteer your time with any religious or civic organizations? I have remodeled and built many homes in my younger days, but since my accident I can no longer do this full time. I still do it as a hobby. I have bought and remodeled some homes and sold them on land contracts to couples having hard times. I am a retired electrician from the Navy. Many say I am a plumber, carpenter, woodworker, welder, and gardener - just a jack-of-all trades - which one must be to be a farmer.

Tye Kroll continued on P. 8



Just thought I would pass this along to everyone. I had a chance to talk with the Skinner's this evening. I gave them a quick call to see how things have been going. It sounds like Jamie had a good remainder of 2010 with his flock, and they should start lambing within the next week. All the animals that were donated and the animals he purchased have been in great health. As soon as they start lambing, he is going to send updates and pictures to us. The Skinners' plan on coming out to Brookings this summer for the 2011 National Show & Sale. Looks like we really have picked two great kids for these first few years in the Starter Flock Program. Lets hope 2011 goes as well!

Looking for a good read?

Try Laura Hillebrand's

Unbroken

- *This is a new biography, by the author of "Seabiscuit".*

It is the story of WWII Japanese POW and Olympic runner Louis Zamperini -

For younger readers:

Heart of A Samurai

by Margi Preus

- *A historical novel based on the true story of Manjiro (later John Mung), the young fisherman believed to be the first Japanese person to visit America, who against all odds, becomes*

ASI on RFD-TV

If you missed the return of the American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) to RFD-TV on Jan. 24, you can now view the show from the ASI website, www.sheepusa.org.

Mark Oppold, host of RFD-TV's LIVE show, appeared with Peter Orwick, ASI executive director, Clint Krebs (Ore.), ASI vice president, and Rita Kourlis Samuelson, ASI wool marketing director, to talk about the strengths of the U.S. sheep and sheep product markets. The audience was exposed to different segments of the sheep industry through the viewing of producer documentaries depicting the successes they have had in their area of the business from lamb feeding, fall lambing and dual-purpose sheep to shearing and the pelt market. The hour-long show concluded with live calls from the audience.

Tye Kroll continued . . .

I plant and can a lot of my food. I have milking goats which help in raising the sheep. I use the goat milk for myself from which I make cheeses and soaps. I work with 4-H kids and have folks visit the farm to see and bottle feed lambs. At fairs, I invite the public to get to know my sheep and answer any questions they might have. Last year, a student came out to get hands-on sheep experience and learn about a future they might have with sheep. I used to run the sound system at my church, but it got to be too much with helping some of the elderly folks in the area. I turned that project over to a younger lad, as my hearing is not what it used to be.

7. What is your favorite book? *A Shepherd's Looks at Psalm 23* by W. Phillip Keller is one of my favorite books. It not only helps with knowing others, it helps to know about sheep. I recommend it to all sheep owners and students that come to my farm as a must read.

8. What is your favorite food? I cannot say I have a favorite food. I am one of those types of people that are on a "See Food Diet" and do not put on weight. I eat all the food and my brother gets all the weight. You need to see the two of us to understand that. My brother is 6'1" and is 200+++, and I am 5'8" and about 185 lbs.

9. The one thing people would be surprised to know about me is: my age. I am the youngest of 4 boys, and everyone always thought I was the oldest. They say I am 10 to 12 years older.

Targhee NSIP continued from P. 3

Dr. Notter remains the lead genetic researcher for NSIP and now retains a seat on Australia's LambPlan Technical Committee. LambPlan and NSIP will be working together on research and development of genetic traits. NSIP participants will be funding their own education and genetic research.

To help secure future genetic research three grants totaling over \$65,000 were applied for and received through the American Wool Council, American Lamb Board, and the American Sheep and Goat Research Center. Principle authors of the grants were Jim Morgan (NSIP President), Dave Notter, Rodney Kott (Montana State University Sheep Extension Specialist), and myself. The grants represent a tremendous leap forward for the U.S. Sheep Industry. It unites the industry in a common vision of genetic improvement. For example, required by the American Lamb Board grant, is the development of consistent live animal standards for carcass evaluation along with the development of backfat and loin eye muscle Expected Breeding Values (EBVs). Completing this task alone, will provide the the sheep industry with the same tools the cattle and swine industry use to dominate market share by providing consistent products. It levels the playing field for U.S. sheep producers.

It is important for you to know, I volunteered my time in writing these grants. I did not and do not expect to receive financial compensation for my participation in securing them. My commitment to the Targhee breed and Targhee NSIP is complete. For those already involved with Targhee NSIP, the financial and genetic rewards are apparent. Thank you for sticking with the program through the many months of transition.

For those contemplating looking at their sheep in a new light through the National Sheep Improvement Program, now could not be a better time. Targhee NSIP growers record just a few more measurements over the lifetime of their sheep than many are already recording in their good barn records. These include birth, 60 day, weaning, and yearling weights along with fleece weights, fiber diameter and staple length measurements for wool. Producers may also elect to record additional wool traits and, as mentioned, carcass traits will soon be available as well. NSIP determines the genetic value of these traits through the use of Expected Breeding Values (EBVs). When producers buy sheep with EBVs they can be assured what they see is what they get. There should be very few surprises in the performance of NSIP sheep and perhaps more importantly the performance of their progeny.

Whether you choose to make your genetic progress through NSIP, the purchase of NSIP sheep, or by keeping farm flock barn sheets, good records help producers to make wise breeding decisions and careful genetic selection provides definite economic reward. Thanks to every member of the USTSA and Targhee NSIP for making Targhee sheep a gold standard in terms of lamb and wool production. Our entry onto the international scene of sheep genetics will be the next chapter in Targhee history, and it will be exciting to see how the story is written.

Theresa Ann Ortmann - Wolf Point, Montana

Theresa Ann Ortmann, 68, went home to be with her loving Lord and Savior on January 6, 2011.

She was born on June 7, 1942 to William and Emma Busenitz, the fifth of twelve children. Mom grew up on the family farm near Whitewater, Kansas. Mom and her siblings were taught the ethic of hard work from a young age. They had no electricity or running water. Mom always smiled and said that "the children were the running water" as they had to fill a 15 gallon crock with water morning and night. This needed to be done before they left for school in the morning or in the evening.

When Mom was six years old there was a very big event at their house. When she came home from her Aunt's house there were two babies in the bassinette. Two babies to hold and love. Double the fun also meant double the work. For the most part the job of washing diapers fell on Mom and her older sister Helen, and occasionally her brother Arnold. They washed diapers every day and took turns by the week. This was an every morning job even on Sundays. When Mom turned seven she was given the additional responsibility of caring for Herbert and dressing him. Her brother Herbert always held a special place in her heart.

On May 25, 1955 a terrible tornado went through Udall, Kansas. Mom was scared to death of dying. Even though she had asked Jesus to take away her sins many times she did not have assurance of her salvation. The next evening there was a lot of lightening again due to the tornadic weather. Mom went downstairs to her mother who told her to go back to bed. She finally told her Mom, "If I should die I'm not sure that I would go to heaven." Her mother gave her the following verse: 1John1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Mom prayed that night and received assurance of salvation that she carried with her every day for the rest of her life.

On May 30, 1961 Mom married Heinrich Ortmann. They made their home on the Ortmann family homestead. Even though this life was different from Kansas, she quickly adapted and always accomplished every task with a joyful attitude. She gladly put other's needs and desires before her own. She had the heart of a servant. Mom loved her family dearly and was a prayer warrior. This is one of the things we will miss the most. Her fervent prayer was that her children and grand children would accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior so that "the circle would be unbroken". One of her last wishes was giving each grandchild a bible. This wish came true Christmas 2010.

Mom was an avid gardener and loved to see things grow. She loved selling her produce at the farmers market and interacting with people who came through each week. She was known for her onions and cabbages especially.

Sometimes God puts jewels on this earth. She was our special jewel and will be forever missed.

Theresa was the wife of USTSA members Heinrich Ortmann, mother to Sam and Nancy Ortmann, and grandmother to Carma, Clancy, Jocelyn, and Wacy.

Wal-Mart Carrying American Lamb!

Wal-Mart announced that all 40 distribution centers are now committed to carrying domestic lamb through 2012. The switch from partial-imported to 100% American grown is welcome support for the U.S. Lamb Industry.

"Wal-Mart is committed to building its lamb program and stocking consistent cuts of fresh American lamb year round," said Megan Wortman, executive director of the American Lamb Board (ALB). "We've been working hard to get lamb on shoppers' radars, and having the support of this nationwide retailer helps immensely."

Wal-Mart sent out a Request for Quotes in early November. The program will be supplied through Superior Farms and Mountain States Rosen, both ALB members.

"As retailers supply more domestic and local products, our ranchers are feeling optimistic about the industry," said Greg Ahart, director of producer relations for Superior Farms. "This really helps make small family farming sustainable."

The supplies and ALB will be working closely with Wal-Mart to provide materials and information for its lamb category. Recipes and industry news can be found at www.americanlamb.org.

Reprinted from ASI Weekly - February 4, 2011

Condolences may be sent to:

Heinrich Ortmann
4357 Road 1080
Wolf Point, MT 59201
406-392-5277

Sam & Nancy
Ortmann
4169 Road 1081
Wolf Point, MT 59201
406-392-5356

Rocky Mountain Wolf
Re-introduction
Statistics

As relayed at the
2011 Society of Range
Management meetings in
Billings, Montana -
February 7-10th

Since wolf re-introduction
David Allen, President of
the Rocky Mountain
Elk Foundation,
stated there is a:

- 74% decline in elk population for the Northern Yellowstone herd
- 85% decline in elk population for the Lolo, Idaho herd
- predicted a total loss of the Bitterroot, Montana herd within 18 months

Cliff Park,
scientist emeritus,
Parks Canada spoke of
wolves in
Banff National Park

- Wolves naturally re-colonized the park from 1985-2000. Elk numbers dropped from 1,000 to less than 300. Few elk are found outside the town of Banff.

Charles Kay, wildlife biologist and associate professor at Utah State University, predicts wolves will reduce hunting opportunities by 90%! For a library of his articles try:
www.idahoforwildlife.com

USTSA Secretary/ Treasurer Job Summary

The principle purpose of this position is to provide for USTSA members with a purebred sheep registry. This requires the registration and ownership transfer of Targhee sheep. To do this procedure correctly, the breeder's application must be checked against the computer registry and permanent physical registry for accuracy concerning the sire and dam's registration and flock tag numbers. A registration certificate is then generated with one copy provided to the owner and a second copy filed in the USTSA records.

Fees are charged for these services. In order to do this the Secretary/Treasurer must be competent in Quickbooks or other financial software to provide accurate invoicing and fee collection. The Secretary also issues memberships; keeps lists of all active members; records the number of registrations and transfers by state; composes letters to members; takes minutes of the annual meeting and directors meetings; manages the National Show & Sale, and assists the host state in the management of the National Show.

Checks are written for all expenses incurred and quarterly financial and activities reports are e-mailed to the USTSA Directors. A yearly financial summary is presented to the USTSA members at the annual meeting.

*continued in right hand
column of P. 11.*

From the Office - USTSA Secretary to Retire in 2011

Dear USTSA Members,

After much thought, I believe it is time for me to step down from the office of Secretary/Treasurer. My reason for retirement can be summed in a changing business and family structure which requires my time and attention at home during the summer months. A parent with a terminal illness and a growing farming operation make it difficult for me to balance all aspects of our lives.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for a positive relationship with the U.S. Targhee Sheep Association these past seven years. I am proud to have represented an educated and articulate group of people. I am equally proud to have represented a breed of sheep which lives up to everything detailed in the Targhee standards.

Never once did I struggle with representing the merits of the breed or the breeders. It was always one of the best parts of my job. Both the breed and members have a rich history of progress and innovation. I feel fortunate to have been a part of that history and to have developed solid friendships with many producers throughout the United States.

I would also like to take a moment to acknowledge members of the USTSA board individually:

Darrell, you are a fine man, an excellent leader, and a peacemaker. I will always be grateful for your unconditional support and patient ear. Your devotion to your family, our association and the production of good sheep is to be admired.

Jeff, how rich the USTSA became when you and Leslie became active in the association! Your enthusiasm and "can-do" attitude are responsible for the Starter Flock and new life in our organization. Thank you for your fierce loyalty and great sense of humor.

Warren, I have always appreciated your desire for fairness and willingness to give the other guy a chance. Your and Judy's presence have been a constant on which we can count.

Bridget, our lives crossed paths several times before we knew it! Through you, I have learned what determination and hard work can do. You have a clear picture of the road ahead, and we all have profited from it.

Ralph, I am thankful you pushed for a better grasp of our financial picture with Quick Books. It is a good life skill and an area in which the association has benefited.

Finally, Jack, good friend and mentor, I will always be grateful for your untold hours of counsel and shared wisdom. Most certainly there were times when you saved our association from tremendous upheaval and me from complete despair. Thank you for never wavering in your support or backing down. Your vision has always been clear and fair. How blessed we are to have you with us.

I would also like to acknowledge the following USTSA members who have been a wonderful source of council and help Janet Deneke, Charles Dwight, Annette Eddins, Carolyn Green, Chase Hibbard, Glenn and Joan High, Bob Innes, Rodney Kott, Kathy McRae, Sue Millikin, Nancy Ortmann, Judy Scanlan, Marcia and Loren Stulken, and Dean and Charleen Von Krosigk.

I look forward to working with you to determine a replacement for my position. With such a strong board of directors in place, I am sure the transition will go smoothly and the new secretary will do a fine job. Once again, thank you for the opportunity to learn and grow. I am confident the future of the USTSA is bright.

*Sincerely,
Tracie M. Roeder, Secretary-Treasurer*

USTSA Secretary-Treasurer Position Information

The USTSA Board of Directors would like to open the applicant pool for the Secretary/Treasurer position to the USTSA membership first. If no suitable applicants apply or are found, it will be made available to the general public. A basic job description is provided in the left and right hand columns of P. 10 and 11. Complete application information is available at the USTSA website (www.ustargheesheep.org) or by contacting the USTSA office.

Applicants for the position should be competent in word processing, desktop publishing, financial, spreadsheet and database software. Applicants are welcome to discuss the position with either USTSA Board members or the Secretary/Treasurer. **The deadline for the first round of applications is April 1, 2011.** Applicants will receive confirmation of appli-

Targhee Tails & Trails

Navajo Ram Project

In the waning days of August, 2010, 48 Targhee rams made a long journey to their new home in Navajo, Arizona. Through a partnership grant with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Dineh Bi Ranchers Roundtable Development, Inc. purchased the rams from USTSA members. Targhee producers shipping rams south were Dallas Sheep Outfit, Green Ranch Targhees, Innes Ranch, A & J Nevens Livestock, Bob Padula, Paugh Ranch, Tunby Targhees, and CJR Farm.

Warren & Judy Nellis hauled rams from the Midwest to the Innes Ranch, and Bob Innes met participating Montana producers at PAYs in Billings. The rams spent a short time at the Innes Ranch and were loaded in Bob's trailer for the 1,000 mile drive south. Thankfully, Bob encountered no difficulties in travel and all 48 rams were delivered to the Navajo people.

Ray Castillo, the Navajo Ram Project coordinator, along with several other Navajo tribal members were on hand to help unload the rams in what Bob Innes recalls as an excellent sheep and wool handling facility. Bob was especially impressed with the wool facility, noting it was state-of-the-art, and that these folks were very educated wool handlers. Ray, Bob relays, works very hard to ensure the quality of the Navajo wool clip, shearing an estimated 12,000 sheep himself per year! In the past two years the average spin count of the Navajo clip has gone from 58's to 62's.

How was the Targhee breed identified by the Navajo people? Targhees were already present on the Navajo reservation through previous acquisitions from Bob Innes and Duane Oldham (former Wyoming State Veterinarian). Native producers were liking the results. The Targhee was chosen specifically for its low input, dual purpose nature. To ensure improved Navajo sheep genetics, producers were required to turn in old rams to receive new Targhee rams.

Communication with Dineh Bi Ranchers Roundtable has all been positive to date. There have been few losses and the rams are adapting well to their new environment. Navajo producers will begin lambing in April and May. Stay tuned for more updates as the lambs hit the ground. We'll keep you posted.

A Thank You from Judy Scanlan

Dear USTSA Members,

A heartfelt thank you to the US Targhee Sheep Association for the honor of being inducted into the Targhee Hall of Fame. I was shocked and amazed when the plaque was presented at the Montana Ram Sale.

Those of you who know me won't be surprised to hear I spent many long hours in research before I selected the Targhee breed. I've never regretted the decision. The Targhee is a great breed with beauty as well as great producing ability. I chose the breed because of the challenge of working with two antagonistic traits - lamb production and wool. I think they're ideally suited to the new emphasis on low input, easy care, productive sheep raised in a non-confinement situation. The economic climate and increasing public interest in animal welfare could make this a major sheep husbandry model of the future. I hope Targhees will find increased use in that system.

I have been very happy with the increased emphasis on economic traits within the breed over the last 30 years. I hope we continue in that direction. I'll be along for the ride as long as the body is willing.

*Thank you all again,
Judy Scanlan*

Looking for some new recipes and a little humor?

Try the Pioneer Woman Website www.thepioneerwoman.com.

Aside from great kitchen and home ideas, this website is a lot of fun. Rhee Drummond is an "accidental country gal" and a dedicated ranchwife who makes light of life in the country.

*Job Summary continued
P.10*

This is a part-time position requiring 60-120 hours per month. On average longer hours are required during the peak registry period which is March through November. Fewer hours are required the balance of the year. It is important to understand the month preceding the National Show & Sale and the month immediately following are especially busy.

The office comes with a computer, printer/copier/fax, and two file cabinets. Storage is required for files, historical data, Targhee t-shirts, photographs, and show and sale items. In general 4' x 15' storage area is necessary for storage.

An Ode to Taxes

*Submitted by
Betty Sampsel -
Stanford, Montana*

Tax his land, tax his bed,
tax the table
at which he's fed.

Tax his work, tax his pay,
he works for peanuts,
anyway!

Tax his cow, tax his goat,
tax his pants, tax his coat.
Tax his tobacco, tax his
drink, tax him if he tries to
think.

Tax his car, tax his gas,
find other ways to tax . . .
his sheep.

Tax all he has, then let him
know that won't be done
until he has no dough.

When he screams and
hollers; then tax him some
more, tax him till he's
good and sore.

Then tax his coffin, tax his
grave, tax the sod in
which he's laid.

When he's gone, do not
relax, it's time to apply the
inheritance tax.



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