

Targhee Talk

*The Newsletter of the United States
Targhee Sheep Association*



April 2016

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See your sheep in print!

Targhee Talk Submissions for the June Edition are due May 26th.

Please send your great Targhee stories, pictures, and newsworthy items to ustargheesheep@gmail.com

or through the U.S. mail:
Targhee Talk
8912 Saddle Red Ave.
Las Vegas, Nevada

Can't attend Nationals and the Annual Member's meeting?

But have a concern or suggestion to help make the Association run smoother, contact Mardy at 702-292-5715 or ustargheesheep@gmail.com to have it added to the meeting agenda.

Cover Photo Courtesy of Cindy Dallas Wilsall, MT

2016 National Show & Sale - July 14-16th

The Wisconsin Targhee Association is excited to be hosting the 2016 USTSA National Show and Sale at the Arlington Public Events Center, Arlington, WI, July 14th through Saturday, July 16th.

Entry Forms and the Entry Brochure Booklet are now available for download on the USTSA website (www.ustargheesheep.org). Please review the booklet as it details all of the information, rules, and testing details consignors will need for a successful show and sale. Event Forms will be available shortly. The Wisconsin Targhee Assoc. is diligently working on details for the picnic Thursday and banquet on Friday. Mardy will email that to the membership and post online as soon as possible. Event and Entry Forms are due back to Jeff Nevens and Mardy, respectively, by **May 31st**. To receive copies of the Event and Entry Forms, along with the Entry Brochure booklet, through the U.S. mail, contact Mardy at 702-292-5715 or ustargheesheep@gmail.com.

The following classes will be offered at Nationals this year.

****New Open Show Requirements for Arlington:** Exhibitors will be allowed to enter one ram with no ewe requirements. However, for each additional ram entry, TWO ewes must be entered.

Junior Show

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Yearling Ram | Yearling Ewe |
| Fall Ram Lamb | Fall Ewe Lamb |
| Spring Ram Lamb | Spring Ewe Lamb |
| Best Fleece On Animal | Senior Showmanship |
| | Junior Showmanship |
| Futurity Show | Pee-Wee Showmanship |

Open Show

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| NSIP Yearling Ram | NSIP Yearling Ewe |
| Yearling Ram | Yearling Ewe |
| Fall Ram Lamb | Fall Ewe Lamb |
| Spring Ewe Lamb | Spring Ewe Lamb |
| Pair of Yearling Ewes | |
| Pair of Fall Ewe Lambs | |
| Pair of Spring Ewe Lambs | |

Wool Show

- Classes:
- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Ewe fleece 62 & finer | Ewe fleece 58 & 60 |
| Ram fleece 62 & finer | Ram fleece 58 & 60 |

Wool entry is \$5 per fleece, with a two fleece limit per class. Class winners will receive placing ribbons. There is no need to tie your fleeces. Prepare the fleeces as normal, roll and place in clear plastic bags. Entries can be mailed if you are not able to attend the event but would like to enter the wool show. Arrangements can be made to send entries back.

Deadlines to Remember for Nationals

- May 1** First day side microns can be taken
- 31** Entry and Event Forms are due to Mardy and Jeff
- June 1** Data run due for NSIP
- 15** Registrations and complete Catalog information due
- July 14-16** National Show & Sale

Accommodations at Nationals

Blocks of rooms from Tuesday night, July 12th, through Saturday night, July 16th, have been set up at 2 hotels in the area. It is advised that if you are not staying through any part of the weekend, to also ask for the non-block rate – it may be less expensive to go that way. These blocks and rates are held until June 12th at both hotels.

Comfort Inn & Suites, Madison North – 5025 County Hwy V, De Forest, WI, 53532. Located at intersection of County Road V and Interstate 39/90/94. Direct phone: (608)-846-9100. Contract rate of \$109/night. Mostly double queen rooms, but there are a few king rooms available at same rate. Pet friendly, indoor pool, and empty trailer parking allowed.

Quality Inn & Suites – W9250 Prospect Drive, Lodi, WI, 53555. Located at the intersection of Highway 60 and Interstate 39/90/94. Direct phone: (608)-592-1449. Contract rate of \$99.99/night. Mostly double queen rooms, but some king rooms available at same rate. Pet friendly, indoor pool, and empty trailer parking allowed.

Photo Contest

Whether photography is your passion, hobby, or just an occasional pastime, we invite you to participate in our National Photo Contest. The photo must involve Targhee sheep exhibiting visible breed characteristics and can be in black and white or colored. There is no entry fee or limit on number of photos submitted. This contest is open to anyone as long as a Targhee is featured in the photo. Entries must be emailed to Mardy or a CD with image files. Each photo should be 8x10 and mounted on stiff backing. Name, address, phone number, and caption should be on the back side of the entry. Entries may be submitted electronically to Mardy at ustargheesheep@gmail.com no later than June 30th. There is a limit of two electronic entries. Electronic entries will be printed on photo paper and posted with regularly submitted photos.

All entries become the property of the USTSA to be used in USTSA publications with credit given to photographer listed on entry. Photos will be judged by popular vote of viewers. Ballots and a ballot box will be placed near the display area. The voting period will be from 3:00 p.m. on Thursday through 7:00 p.m. Friday. Winners will be announced at the banquet.

New Registration Process

As was discussed at last year's Annual Meeting at Nationals, the use of metal registration tags was going to be further researched by the Board to determine if the Association should continue using them. The metal tags were causing infections for the producers that were putting them in the ears, shearers preferred not to have metal tags in the right ear as a catching danger, and we are almost to registration number 100,000 which could cause problems with the database and record keeping going forward. After further research and discussion the Board has voted to stop the use of registration tags. The Secretary will now assign all registration numbers upon submission starting at 100,001. Tattoos will still be required of the last 5 digits of the assigned registration number.

If you have metal tags remaining, feel free to continue using them if you prefer the use of the tags. The Association, however, will not be reordering any tags. Once all tags have been used, that will be it.

Also, there is a Microsoft spreadsheet available for easier registration requests. If you are on the email list, it has been attached with this email. Any questions, please contact Mardy for more information.

USTSA Show & Sale Schedule of Events

7/13	Wednesday
5:00 pm	Pens available for early arrivals
7/14	Thursday
10:00 am	Sifting begins - deadline for sheep to be in the barn Health, registration, micron, & EBV paperwork to be turned in at this time
12:00 pm	Wool & Photo Contest entries due
3:00 pm	National Junior Show, immediately followed by the Youth Futurity
5:30 pm	Adult Jackpot
6:00 pm	Dinner
8:30 pm	USTSA Board of Directors Mtg
7/15	Friday
10:00 am	Open Show
12:00 pm	Wool Show
2:00 pm	Annual Membership Meeting
3:30 pm	Junior Assoc. Annual Meeting
6:30 pm	USTSA Social
7:00 pm	Banquet followed by Benefit Auction
7/16	Saturday
12:00 pm	National Sale (Rams followed by Ewes)

U.S. Targhee Sheep Association Announces First Junior Ambassador

It is with great pride and expectation that the United States Targhee Sheep Association (USTSA) announces its' first ever national ambassador; Anna Hinchley, from Cambridge, Wisconsin!

Anna has been involved with the Targhee breed since winning the USTSA's annual national starter flock giveaway in 2013, and she has been an educated and enthusiastic Targhee owner ever since. Not that she had much of a choice. From the moment Anna and her family were introduced to her Targhee flock at the USTSA National Show in Arlington, WI, many new friends, junior and open exhibitors alike, were anxious to meet her, answer her questions, and extoll the virtues of Targhee sheep. Now, Anna extends the same wisdom and hospitality to others, both new Targhee exhibitors and general public alike. Anna enthusiastically states, "I really enjoy the USTSA. I like to travel to the national shows, to see friends and keep in touch with them. The Targhee association is like a family. It has been my favorite association to belong to!"



"I'm excited to have Anna be the USTSA's first national ambassador. Anna brings a level of dedication and passion to everything she does, and I'm confident she's going to do the same in this role.", says Jeff Nevens, current president of the USTSA. "With the success of our national and state Starter Flock programs, our junior association membership has grown tremendously. The junior ambassador program is the next step to help spread the word about what a great dual-purpose breed the Targhee is! Great carcass and fine wool, easy lambing, fantastic converters, outstanding mothering instincts – an overall great breed to raise!"

At 18 years of age, Anna's resume is already impressive. She currently serves as the US Junior Targhee Association secretary, and has also held offices and served as a youth leader in both 4H and FFA. She has mentored sheep youth, helping them prepare Targhees as managerial animals for show, simultaneously inspiring younger members to become involved with a sheep project, focusing on the Targhee breed. She has won a silver sheep proficiency award at state FFA, and has shown her flock at WLBA Spring Preview Show, Stoughton Junior Fair, Jefferson County Fair, Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival, open and junior Wisconsin State Fairs and the US Targhee Sheep Association National Show.

Anna's Targhee flock currently numbers 32 sheep. "I like the personality of Targhee sheep. They are hearty and easy to raise.", says Anna.

Anna and her family guide agricultural tours on their dairy farm where her Targhee flock is on display. "Every visitor gets to have a good conversation about the Targhee breed, their great mothering instincts and value as a dual purpose sheep.", explains Anna. This is where she uses her marketing skill to sell lamb directly to visitors and promote the local food movement. She is also active with the Wisconsin Farmers Union where she represents youth in agriculture.

Anna will be attending U.W. Madison College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in the fall of 2016. She has completed prerequisite coursework through UW Madison, in order to compete on the UW Dairy Judging Team in the fall, and will row on the Badger Women's Crew team.

While in college, Anna is hopeful that she can be of assistance at the Arlington Sheep Unit. "I have been on the purchasing side of the Badger Sale, but I hope to be involved in the selection (of animals), set up and helping wherever needed.", says Anna. This is an example of the work ethic and enthusiasm that has led Anna to be selected as the very first USTSA Ambassador. It is with great pride and expectation we look forward to her year as National Targhee Ambassador!

2016 USTSA Starter Flock Donations Needed

Greetings from the USTSA Starter Flock Committee -

The USTSA Starter Flock committee is currently reviewing entries for the 2016 award, which will be presented at Nationals this July in Arlington, Wisconsin. We will be reaching a milestone this year – the 10th starter flock being awarded!! And in only 8 years!! It's rather amazing, and hard to believe that anyone could have ever expected this program to grow like it has. It's been mentioned before, but needs to be stressed every year – none of this would be taking place without the continued support and help of the entire USTSA! Your generosity can be witnessed first-hand by just looking at the quality and quantity of both exhibitors and entries in our junior show, plus the great families supporting those youth. Many, many thanks to you all for making this happen!!

At this time, we are pleased to announce that we have enough donated animals for one full award! Thank you to those who have made the commitment for this year! In addition, we are on the way to a second award!! Financially, the starter flock fund is in good shape to be able to provide one full buyers credit at this time. If you would like to support the program this year with any type of donation, please contact a member of the Starter Flock committee, or your director.

Thank you again, and we're looking forward to announcing the 2016 winner(s) in June!!

~ Jeff & Leslie Nevens - USTSA Starter Flock Chairpersons

President's Notes

I am very happy to announce that Bryan Allred will be filling out the remainder of Russ Allred's term on the USTSA board of directors. It's an honor to keep a member of the Allred family in this position, and welcome Bryan in his new role.

We also need to mourn the loss of another long standing figure of the USTSA with the passing of Jim Elphick, shepherd of the University of Wisconsin flock for over 40 years which included the addition of the Targhee breed over 50 years ago.

The board of directors has also made substantial changes to the registration process. We have voted to eliminate the registration ear tag altogether. Extending this practice posed a number of problems, two of which were added expense to the registration process and logistical difficulties to the assigning of registration numbers since we're approaching 6 digit registrations! Please read more in Mardy's report on the new, easier process.

I can remember back to the 2008 Brookings Nationals... If memory serves, there were only 6 junior exhibitors with about a dozen animals for the whole show. The growth of our junior membership really is amazing, and the Junior Committee has completed a big project that the USTSA membership asked them to look into at the 2013 Arlington Nationals! The USJTS National Ambassador Program is complete, and an applicant has been selected. Please read more about this great new program and our first ambassador in this issue of Targhee Talk. Many thanks to the Elisha Lewis, Jennifer Vannest, and Leslie Nevens for their work, with a special thank you to Jessica Taylor for being our mentor along the way!

The Wisconsin Targhee breeders are looking forward to hosting the USTSA this summer! We need to point out that space will be tight within the Arlington Public Events building, so please let either the Taylor family or the Nevens family know approximately how many head you plan on bringing as soon as possible. Space planning far ahead of time is a top priority for this event. Thank you for your cooperation!

Hoping spring has sprung in your area of the country, and that your lamb crops are flourishing!!

Respectfully,
Jeff Nevens

From the Secretary's Desk

This year the National Sale catalog layout will be determined in the order complete entries are received. In prior years it has been alphabetically. To help entice early, more complete entries, we are trying out this method this year. Complete entries means all animal information has been submitted to Mardy.

As a reminder, entry fees are due on all animals listed in the printed catalog. The catalog will be available prior to Nationals both online and by mail upon request.



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U.S. Sheep Industry Offers Own Insurance to Producers

Whether it's thru futures or crop insurance, risk management is a very important tool that helps farmers and ranchers guard against natural disasters, low prices and predators, which have the potential to wreck financial havoc on an operation. And for the longest time, the U.S. sheep industry was excluded from risk management tools like these; that is until now.

The Northern Ag Network's Russell Nemetz shares more of the details during the following interview available on ASI's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/sheepusa1.

2015 Directory Fee Schedule

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Design Fee \$30.00

Committee Reports

Starter Flock Committee:

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Tracie Roeder
Darrell Deneke
Elisha Lewis
Todd Taylor
Lynette Taylor
Leslie Nevens, Co-Chairperson
Jeff Nevens, Co-Chairperson

Junior Committee:

Elisha Lewis
Jennifer Vannest
Brailie Allred
Leslie Nevens – Chairperson
Jessica Taylor – Co-Advisor for USJTSA

NSIP Committee:

Jeff Nevens
Jack McRae
Lisa Surber
Bob Padula
Darrell Deneke

Show and Sale Committee:

Elisha Lewis
Jennifer Vannest
Jon Beaström
Charlene Von Krosigk

Youth Futurity Committee:

Todd Taylor
Jon Beaström



Targhees are Great!!

"I know we've all had surprises! 7/22/15, this old ewe bred by Susan Millikin, owned by Maggie Julson and being summered by me - did surprise us!"

-Pat Norton, Belgrade, Montana

2015 Directory & Standards

There's still time to get in your advertising for the next directory. As it seems the norm anymore, we're all running a little behind and I'm still working on getting the directory together. Please, act quickly and contact Mardy Rutledge (ustargheesheep@gmail.com or 702-292-5715) to reserve a spot in the 2015 Directory and to update your contact information. There is no additional charge for being listed in the Breeder's Directory. However, if you would like to place an ad in the National Directory, cost for ads and design layout appear to the right. Members are welcome to create their own ads and submit them in pdfs. Members choosing to have the USTSA office design their ad will be charged a design fee. USTSA members wishing to update their previous ads will not be charged design fees.

Furthermore, if you know of any business that would be interested or would benefit from advertising in the directory and/or newsletter, please let me know so we can share the details with them.

Upcoming Calendar of Events

April	
16-19	Annual Shephard's Extravaganza, Puyallop, WA (www.shepherds-extravaganza.com)
14-16	Shepherd's Cross Shearing School - Claremore, Okla. - www.ShepherdsCross.com or sheepfarm@shepherdsdross.com , 918-342-5911
15-16	Blade Shearing School - New Gloucester, Maine - http://umaine.edu/livestock/sheep/sheep-shearing-schools
15-17	Stockdog Training Clinic - Southeastern Indiana - denice.r@lycos.com or 605-842-6321
22-23	Tennessee Shearing School - Tennessee Livestock Center, Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro - Mark Powell at 615-519-7796 or Warren Gill at 615-478-3828
22-23	Florida Sheep, Wool and Herding Dog Festival - Ocala, Fla. - www.floridasheep.com
23-24	24th Annual Washington County (N.Y.) Fiber Tour - http://washingtoncountyfibertour.org
25	Webinar Covering Parasites - Pipestone Veterinary Services - www.pipevet.com/pc_product_detail.asp?key=4333894A73B44CD8B58074CEC3D6C95C
28-29	Illinois Basic Wool Handling School - Forreston - Anne Crider, criderfarms@gmail.com or 309-826-2256
29-30	Wooly Weekend at Shepherd's Cross - Claremore, Okla. - 918-342-5911
30	Connecticut Sheep, Wool and Fiber Festival - Tolland Ag Center, Vernon, CT - www.ctsheep.com
30	Dr. Jill's Skills School - Lamont, Wash. - dvm@feustelfarms.com or 509-257-2230
May	
2-3	Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival, Fredrick, MD (www.sheepandwool.org)
9-10	New Hampshire Sheep & Wool Festival, Deerfield, NH (www.nhswga.org)
4-6	Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival Shepherd Seminars - http://sheepandwool.org
7-8	Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival - West Friendship, Md. -- www.sheepandwool.org
9-13	California Shearing and Wool Classing School - University of California Research Station, Hopland, Calif. - jmharper@ucanr.edu
13-15	Shepherds' Harvest Sheep and Wool Festival - Lake Elmo, Minn. - www.shepherdsharvestfestival.org
14-15	New Hampshire Sheep and Wool Festival - Deerfield, N.H. - www.nhswga.org
21-22	Kentucky Sheep and Fiber Festival - Masterson Station Park, Lexington -- www.kentuckysheepandfiber.com
	24 Let's Grow Webinar - Value of Genetic Traits by Dr. Ron Lewis
28-29	Great Lakes Fiber Show - Wooster, Ohio - 330-264-9665, info@greatlakesfibershow.com or www.greatlakesfibershow.com
28-29	42nd Annual Massachusetts Sheep and Woolcraft Fair - Cummington -- www.MASHEEPWOOL.org
June	
13-14	Iowa Sheep & Wool Festival (www.iowasheepandwoolfestival.com)
21-23	Midwest Fiber & Folk Art Fair, Grayslake, IL (www.fiberandfolk.com)
21-24	National Lamb Feeders Association's (NLFA) 28th Annual Howard Wyman Sheep Industry Leadership School, Dixon, CA (www.nlfa-sheep.org/leadership.html)

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Term expires: 2018

Free Advertising Space
for Targhee Events

Do you have a Targhee event you would like to see promoted? Please contact the U S T S A o f f i c e (ustargheesheep@gmail.com) to list your event for FREE!

Missed the Producer Groups Webinar - See it Online

Optimal Ag Consulting's Jay Parsons worked with Woody Lane, Ph.D., Lane Livestock Services, and Dave Ollila, South Dakota State University Extension Sheep Field Specialist, to present the webinar "Producer Groups: What are these all about, how do they work and why can they be so successful?" The March 29 event was attended by 112 people representing 38 states.

If you missed the webinar, the recording is available at www.optimalag.com/webinars/2016-03-29_ProducerGroups.wmv and a copy of the presentation slides can be accessed at www.optimalag.com/webinars/2016-03-29_ProducerGroups.pdf.

Mark your calendar for future webinars - May 24, Ron Lewis, Ph.D., Nebraska State University-Lincoln, Value of Genetic Traits and July 29, Dan Morrical, Ph.D., Iowa State University, Nutrition and Supplementation.

Targhee News

2016 Art Pope Award Recipient, Rudy Erickson

Long-time Targhee breeder and USTSA member, Rudy Erickson, was honored by the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative at their annual meeting with the 2016 Art Pope Award. WSBC president, Alan Thorson, presented the award to Rudy's wife, Martha, and their daughters Lorry Potter and Sheri Erickson.



The Art Pope award is named for the long-time purebred Hampshire breeder and member of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Meat & Animal Science faculty for 43 years. The award, which got its start in 1995, recognizes exceptional service to and active involvement in the sheep industry, both in Wisconsin and nationally, over many years. Dr. A.L. Pope's outstanding contribution to sheep research and outreach within the sheep industry, both as a professor of sheep science and as a producer of purebred seedstock, exemplifies the type of person this award acknowledges. It is the highest honor the WSBC bestows.



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Pardeeville - James F. "Jim" Elphick, 86, passed away on Monday, Jan. 25th, 2016, at St. Mary's Hospital in Madison, WI, surrounded by his family.

Jim was born on Aug. 4th, 1929 in Whitewater, WI. Jim was the son of Merrill and Elizabeth (Hadley) Elphick and grew up on the family farm near Lima Center, Wisconsin. In 1947 he graduated from Whitewater High School. He was an active member in FFA, high school band, and an 11 year member of 4-H and received numerous awards for exhibiting sheep, Guernsey cattle and turkeys. Jim attended the University of Wisconsin, College of Agriculture Short Course and earned his third year certificate with an emphasis on livestock production and management. In July of 1951 he was inducted into the Army and was stationed in Japan for two years during the Korean War; he was a Food and Dairy Inspector for the Veterinary Corps. After returning home in 1953 he was employed by the University of Wisconsin College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and was the Shepherd of the UW Sheep Research Center in Arlington, WI. Jim married Elinor Brew in 1958, and they had two children, Janice and Daniel. During his tenure at the research center he was instrumental in bringing Polypay sheep to the farm. He retired in 1993 after 43 years of service to the state of Wisconsin.



Jim worked with many sheep organizations within the state at sheep shows and shearing contests; he judged sheep, wool, rabbits and poultry at county fairs. He held leadership roles in numerous sheep industry-related organizations. Jim received many awards from organizations including the National Block and Bridle Club, U.S. Targhee Sheep Assoc., WI Targhee Assoc., WI Suffolk Assoc., WI Sheep Breeders Co-op, WI Livestock Breeders Assoc., WI Ag. and Life Sciences Alumni Assoc., and UW Saddle and Sirloin Club. He received numerous awards at the Wisconsin State Fair. Governor Thompson awarded him with the Governor's Special Award for 43 years of service to the state in 1993. In 2005, he was inducted into the Wisconsin State Fair Sheep Barn Hall of Fame.

Jim was a member of the American Legion, a life member of the WI Ag. and Life Sciences Alumni Assoc., and an honorary member of Delta Theta Sigma Fraternity at UW Madison.

Jim was a Badger fan and Green Bay Packers fan. He enjoyed watching birds, viewing wildlife, and listening to country western music. The couple enjoyed traveling together; favorite trips were visiting Alaska, Australia, and New Zealand.

Jim is survived by his wife, Elinor (Brew) Elphick, Pardeeville; a son, Daniel Elphick, Pardeeville; grandson, Ryan Elphick, Pardeeville; grandson, John Jay, Poynette; granddaughter, Beth McQueen, Poynette; great-grandson, Preston David, Poynette; sister Shirley (George) Barlass, Janesville; and many nieces and nephews.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, daughter, Janice McQueen, one infant brother, Stanley, sisters, Margaret Copus and Carol Grandt, niece, Diane Barlass, and nephew, Randy Barlass.

Funeral Services will be held Saturday, February 6 at 12 Noon at Grasse Funeral Home, 119 Industrial Dr., Pardeeville with Pastor Stephen Kurth officiating. Inurnment will be held at a later date. Visitation will be held from 10:30 AM until the time of services. The family is establishing a memorial fund in Jim's honor.

The family would like to send their sincere thanks and appreciation to the nurses and staff of the Columbia County Health Care Center, the emergency medical technicians, and the doctors and nurses of Columbus Community Hospital and St. Mary's Hospital.



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