Welcome New Members
August — October 2011

New Youth Members

Gerrit, Nealie & Julia DenHerder .......................................................... West Fork, AR
Kerrissa Howard of Diamond H Ranch ................................................... Emmett, ID
Christopher A Beatty of Thousand Oaks Ranch .......................... Carl Junction, MO
Joseph A Beatty of Thousand Oaks Ranch ........................................ Carl Junction, MO
Nathanial D Painter of Uncommon Farm, LLC ...................................... Murrysville, PA
Marina Green of Green Acres ............................................................... Lucas, TX
John Henrich of Windy Bottom Goats & Sheep ............................... Belmont, WI

New Canadian Voting Members

Wayne Daviduck of Wayne Daviduck Sheep Ranch ......................... Calahoo, AB

New USA Voting Members

M.A. Lechtenberger of Bennetts Bayou Cattle Co ............................... Mountain Home, AR
M Burgess & Darlene Finley of Finley’s Mountain Ranch .................. Ukiah, CA
Paul & Stephanie Chapman of Winnie Ranch ..................................... Byers, CO
Leonard & Janice Dicks of Flat Woods Katahdins ............................... Lulu, FL
Scott & Cathy Brown of Canoe Lake Farm ........................................... Sautee Nacoochee, GA
John & Candy Davis of Hemlock Hill Farm .......................... Santee, GA
Ginger & Richie Davidson of Sheep Happens at Lee Bottom Flying Field .... Hanover, IN
Joe Jefferson of Tri J Farm ................................................................. New Salisbury, IN
Diane Nicklas ..................................................................................... South Bend, IN
Gerald & Alyssa den Hoed ................................................................. Rock Rapids, IA
Bill & Julie Stofferan of Tiki Farms ....................................................... Sibley, IA
Ruth Ann Fields .............................................................................. Hopkinsville, KY
Sheridan Forrest of Darkhorse Farm .................................................. Shelbyville, KY
Ricky Loveless of Love 4 Less Ranch .................................................... Eubank, KY
Wylmer & Tina Vittilo of Peacock Way Ranch .................. Harrodsburg, KY
Phil & Jackie Doak of Sunrise Farm ...................................................... Woodland, ME
Charles Cantrell of Valley House Farm ................................................. Oxford, MS
Lisa Thompson of Thompson Farms of Mound City, Inc ............... Mound City, MO
Jack Gilbraith of Mission Valley Katahdins ................................... St Ignatius, MT
Jacqueline Evans of Evans & Evans Farm ........................................ Patterson, NY
Lori & Mike Fox of Newfound Farm .................................................. Clyde, NC
Maurice L Eastridge of Hidden Meadow Katahdins ............................. Marysville, OH
Steven K George ............................................................................ Deshler, OH
William A Gilbert ............................................................................. Walbridge, OH
Marcus Miller of Rocky River Katahdins ............................................. Dundee, OH
Nathaniel Cannon of Cannon Ranch .................................................. Muskogee, OK
Mervin & Anna Martin of Cave Hills Farm ........................................ Newville, PA
Michelle Potter of Quaker Hill Farm ................................................. Catawissa, PA
John O Johnson of ABJ Farm .......................................................... Whitmire, SC
Michael & Sandra Ketchie of Coyote Hill .......................................... Anderson, SC
Jeff Bailey of Rybridi Farm ................................................................. Chuckey, TN
Maura L Campbell of Stolen Moments Farm ..................................... Lascassas, TN
James & Jason Hicks of Hidden Meadows Farm ............................. Ashland City, TN
Abby & John Mitchell of End of the Road Farm ................................. Franklin, TN
Chris & Debbie Tipton of Four Winds Farm ................................. New Tazewell, TN
John or Tina Hodge of Hodge Ranch ................................................... Menard, TX
Richard & Lynn Rocha of Dautobi Acres ........................................... Celeste, TX
Suzannah & Scott Sachtleben of Sachtleben Ranches ..................... Ganado, TX
Sarah Burleson of Lavendar Hill Farm ............................................... Lexington, VA
Angel Davidson .............................................................................. Omak, WA
Tammy Ellis of Wrensong Farm .......................................................... Monroe, WA
Corey Andres .................................................................................... Auburndale, WI
Robert Bernadoni & Charlotte Doherty of Roller Coaster Farm ....... Darlington, WI
Vince & Nancy Pope ................................................................. North Arena, WI
Nat Tripp of Endolane ............................................................... St Johnsbury, VT
Lonny & Pam Clifner of Daydreamer Ranch ..................................... Loon Lake, WA
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Cover: "Plowing for Green", 1st Place, Action Category, 2010 KHSI Photo Contest, photographed by Lindsay Hodgman, Maine
Pictured Above: "Sheep Parade", 1st Place, Scenic Category, 2010 KHSI Photo Contest, photographed by Bob & Amanda Nusbaum, Wisconsin
2011 KHSI Expo Sale A Great Success!

By Wes Limesand, Chair of Expo Sale Committee

Saturday September 17 was a cool windy fall day in Pipestone Minnesota. But it warmed up quickly inside as the 2011 Katahdin Expo sale started. A large crowd of buyers viewed the over 100 head of high quality Katahdins for sale. Sheep from 12 states and buyers from 23 states and Canada made for a very successful sale.

In the yearling ram class an entry from KRK Katahdins of Canby, Oregon, sold for $1700 to Bradley Schechinger of Harlan, Iowa. G.F. and Deb Kennedy saw their big bold yearling sell for $750 to Rolling Hill Farm of Nebraska. TMD Katahdins of South Dakota sold their entry to Destiny Creek Katahdins, Michael King & Deanna Martin of Carstairs, Alberta, Canada.

In the fall ram lambs a Kennedy entry sold at $400 to Kevin Johnson of Minnesota. Just Plain Sheep sold at $900 to Lillehaugen Farms of North Dakota. In the next class (Jan.1 to Feb. 14 age group), Lazy B Livestock of Oklahoma sold their ram lamb to Country Oak Ranch of Louisiana for $700. KRK Katahdins of Oregon sold an entry for $750 to Roxanne Newton (Georgia) and Lee Wright (Virginia). Topping the class was an entry from Aspen Mountain Katahdins of Montana. This big growthy colored ram lamb sold at $1150 to Joseph Hattrup of Washington.

The next class of ram lambs (Born Feb 15 thru March) saw a Lazy B Livestock entry start the class and bring $875, going to Country Oak Ranch of Louisiana. Virginia Street of Kansas sold 3 entries in this class, and these growthy lambs topped out at $650 to Distant Hills Farm of Missouri. Topping the class and also high selling ram of the sale was a powerful entry from Buckeye Acres Genetics of Ohio. This entry sold for $2000 to Doyle Weaver of Missouri. April lambs sold very well as Lillehaugen Farms of North Dakota saw their high seller in the class bring $600, and went home with Kevin Johnson of Minnesota.

Starting off the yearling ewes KRK Katahdins of Oregon struck again as their entry sold for $1000 to Distant Hills Farms of Missouri. Kindra Messmer of Montana sold her powerful entry for $950 to Quail Run Ranch of Oregon. Only 1 fall ewe lamb was entered, and this Kennedy lamb sold for $550 to Virginia Street of Kansas. KRK sold their very feminine ewe lamb for $1000 to Buckeye Acres Genetics. Topping this class was a Pinto Ranch entry.

Continued on Page 3
Ram Sale at Sedalia was a very successful sale, with more numbers and better prices. The just-completed 2011 Expo Sale sold 3 times as many sheep for a higher average than past sales.

Speaking of the Expo, it was a huge success. The program was centered around production and health topics. We filled two coach buses (105 people) for the tours of 3 sheep producers who are managing 800, 900 and 400 ewes respectively. Special thanks to Doc and Deb Kennedy and everyone who helped with the entire program. It is a privilege to be able to work with such a great group of dedicated people in the sheep industry.

Thank you to the board members who gave of their time and talents this year, with special recognition to John Stromquist, Ron Young and Howard Brown, who completed their KHSI Board terms. Their efforts have made KHSI a stronger organization. Welcome to the 3 newly elected board members: Maria Dosch, G.F. Kennedy and Henry Shultz, and to returning board member Lee Wright. We look forward to their input. Remember what the board members get paid—that and $2.75 will buy you a cup of coffee!

Last point: take advantage of the amnesty program in effect until Dec 31, 2011 to clean up late registrations, recordations and transfers. Good records make happy customers and repeat buyers!

Mark your calendar for the 2012 Expo which will be held August 9-11, 2012 in Wooster Ohio, and take a good look at member Kathy Bielek’s invitation on the back cover of this issue.
Katahdin Research at Virginia Tech

By Lee Wright, Superintendent, Research Associate

Virginia Tech Southwest Agricultural Research and Extension Center (SWAREC)

History of Research Center
The Virginia Tech Southwest Agricultural Research and Extension Center (SWAREC) has been in operation since 1929 in Glade Spring, Virginia. Since that time the primary focus areas of research have been beef cattle, sheep and burley tobacco. The rolling hills and ample forage of southwestern Virginia have always been better suited for grazing livestock than for crop farming. It is home to many small acreage farmers who keep their best land for tobacco and hay production, and turned out cattle or sheep to graze the hillsides and rocky terrain of many areas of the Appalachian Mountains where we are seated.

With the recent decline of tobacco production in this area of the United States since the quota buy-out in the late 1990’s, many of the smaller tobacco farmers have opted out of the contract buying system now in place. These producers have increased beef cattle herds and acquired hair sheep at a tremendous rate over the past 10 years. The sheep population in the southwestern most counties of Virginia was 16,000 head in 2002. That number now exceeds 32,000 head of breeding ewes according to the 2008 Virginia Agriculture Statistics Bulletin. Predominantly hair sheep breeds with Katahdin and Katahdin cross ewes primarily serve as the main ewe base in this area.

Hair Sheep Research at VA Tech: Past 10 years
SWAREC has been doing research with hair sheep breeds since 1999, when the first Katahdin and Dorper sheep were incorporated into the 250 head wool flock. Since that time the Center has transitioned to a flock of 125 ewes made up of registered Katahdins and commercial ewes, with Suffolk X St. Croix influence crossed back to purebred Katahdin rams. The flock continues to grow with careful selection for growth, maternal traits and parasite resistance, with plans to expand to 250 ewes in the future.

In years past, Virginia Tech Animal Science Professor Emeritus, Dr. Dave Notter, has conducted many research trials at the SWAREC. His background in animal breeding and genetics has primarily focused on genetic control of seasonal breeding in sheep, resistance to gastrointestinal parasites in small ruminants, and the estimation of breeding values for sheep. He has been in charge of data evaluation for the U.S. National Sheep Improvement Program (NSIP), and compiled all of the Estimated Breeding Values (EBV’s) for the participating breeds of sheep enrolled in the NSIP. He has worked diligently with the Katahdin flock at the SWAREC, and with KHSI to incorporate Katahdin data into the NSIP with great success. Katahdin flock enrollments in the NSIP have steadily increased in recent years while more and more producers find EBV’s to be a great management tool for selecting desired traits within their flocks. These producers can also utilize EBV’s to meet the growing demands of their customers for breeding stock selections for both purebred and commercial flocks.

Dr. Scott Greiner, Associate Professor and Extension Sheep/Beef Specialist at Virginia Tech, has also played a key role in the expansion of the hair sheep research and extension activities at the SWAREC in recent years. His focus has been evaluating and characterizing the Dorper and Katahdin breeds for growth, maternal traits, parasite resistance, carcass merit, and product quality. Additional studies are now underway to further evaluate the Katahdin breed for genetics of parasite resistance, development of ram evaluation protocols for carcass merit, and identification of interactions between genetics, management, and the environment. He also has a focus on ultrasound measurements of body composition as a selection tool for beef and sheep. Results have described the relationship between live animal ultrasound estimates and carcass measures in sheep, and development of adjustment factors for ultrasound measurements which are currently utilized by industry.

Summer 2011 Katahdin Research – Ultrasound & Scrotal Circumference Work

We know there are differences among breeds for just about any trait, including maturity to market weight. Here at the SWAREC, we are currently using ultrasound technology on our Katahdin lambs at various weights and ages to assist in determining the parameters for more accurate adjustment factors for the breed as they mature to market size. This work has been done for many wool breeds, but not in hair sheep. These adjustment factors will be incorporated into the NSIP database, now done through Lamplan in Australia, to more accurately predict loin eye area (LEA), backfat thickness (BF), and body wall thickness (BW) estimations, to assist in determining EBV’s, and to make more accurate comparisons among breeding sires.

Why is this research important to your flock? Whether you are a registered or commercial breeder, LEA and BF are critical pieces of information needed in producing a desirable market lamb for consumers. Hair sheep tend to mature differently than most wool breeds, and the development of the loin eye is not a linear measurement. Simply because a ram at a mature size of between 200 and 300 pounds and over a year of age has a large LEA, does not necessarily mean he had, or his offspring will have, a large LEA at market size of between 75 and 125 pounds. If a lamb has a two inch loin eye at 75 pounds, how does that relate to the size of that same loin eye when the lamb reaches 125 pounds? Also, where are the sires in our breed that may or may not pass on the genetic traits of larger LEA? Can we genetically achieve the same size loin eye with a lamb predominantly on a pasture based diet weighing 80 pounds at 120 days, as the lamb on grain weighing 120 pounds at 120 days? We don’t really know how this works in Katahdins.

In these same lambs we are also tracking scrotal development. Early and larger scrotal development in rams is correlated to early reproduc-
THE KATAHDIN HAIRALD • www.katahdins.org

Katahdin Lamb Meat Featured at Restaurant Nose-to-Tail Event

By Gabrielle and Tommy Bodin, Louisiana

Local farm to table restaurants are quickly gaining popularity around the United States as people realize that eating locally produced items benefits themselves and their community in many ways. Locally grown meat and produce tend to be fresher, thereby more flavorful and healthier, and taking advantage of what is grown in one’s own backyard supports local farmers, too. As Katahdin sheep producers, it is up to us to participate in this growing movement. As owners of Isle Navarre Farms in Scott, Louisiana, we are trying to do just that.

On September 1, 2011, our Isle Navarre Farms Katahdins were featured for a Lamb Nose-to-Tail Dinner at Jolie’s Louisiana Bistro in Lafayette, Louisiana (www.jolieslouisianabistro.com). The restaurant is committed to using fresh, local, and seasonal ingredients whenever possible to create unique flavorful dishes. We provided four lambs that Executive Chef Manny Augello used to create six unique dishes that attendees were able to enjoy with specially selected wines. The $50-a-ticket sold-out function was a huge success!

Two Katahdin Regional Groups Host Educational Meetings with KHSI Support

KHSI has budgeted funds to help regional Katahdin groups host better educational events. This year, the South Central Katahdin Association (SCKA) and the Midwest Katahdin Hair Sheep Association (MKHSA) both applied for and received funds from the Katahdin Regional Educational Grants (KREG) program. SCKA received a $500 award and MKHSA received $450.

A story about the June 2011 SCKA meeting in Deridder Louisiana was printed in the last issue of the Katahdin Hairald (Fall 2011) and a brief article about the August 2011 MKHSA meeting can be found in this issue of the Hairald.

KHSI looks forward to helping the regional Katahdin groups host educational meetings in 2012. The KHSI membership at the 2011 Annual Meeting in Pipestone, MN on September 16th approved a budget that included $1500 for the KREG program.

If you have questions about KREG grants in 2012, please contact KHSI Operations for more information (info@katahdins.org or 479-444-8441).

Katahdin Research at Virginia Tech, continued from page 4

The appetizer (or amuse bouche), a dish featuring lamb hearts, carrots, and stock, was followed by lamb prepared several other scrumptious ways. Dishes included Lamb Carpaccio with parsley and sprout salad, Lamb’s Head sandwiches with Italian Salsa Verde and pickled mushrooms, Porchetta of Lamb, Lamb Soufflé, and 22-hour braised lamb with Moroccan stock. The event allowed attendees to have time to visit, enjoy some wine, and submerge themselves in all things lamb. At the end of the event, we thanked all the attendees for coming, the chef for giving Isle Navarre Farms Katahdins a try, and those who were there from the South Central Katahdin Hair Sheep Association (SCKA) for being there to offer their support. The restaurant has continued to feature lamb dishes from Isle Navarre on its regular and specialty menus.

We started raising Katahdins in 2003 with five ewes purchased from Mark Dennis of Country Oak Ranch and are now breeding approximately 30 ewes each year. We sell registered and commercial breeding stock and, of course, meat animals. Since only the finest animals are reserved for breeding stock, we knew that developing a market for our meat was essential. We began selling animals by their live weight on a per pound basis to friends, family, and others seeing the animals and stopping to inquire. After we deliver the lambs to the local slaughterhouse, our customer works with the slaughterhouse to decide how to cut and package it and then pays the slaughterhouse directly for their services.

Word of mouth spread about how wonderful the meat is, and soon we began selling all of the meat animals we could produce. Our ultimate meat-related goal at that point was for a premier restaurant to take interest, which has now happened!

Developing your own market takes time and patience. There are other avenues besides the ones mentioned above. Farmers markets are gaining in popularity, although selling cuts there requires more homework as it has some stringent regulations. Explore options for creating your own markets for a well-rounded Katahdin operation.

To learn more about our farm you are welcome to visit www.louisianasheep.com or call us at 337-981-8140.

2011 VA Tech Pasture Ram Test

In conclusion, we are also working to establish the parameters of our pasture based ram test (set for 2012), and determine how best to utilize these evaluation tools. Currently, pasture and feed intake variables are being observed, and parasite resistance data is being collected to better enhance the protocols for the research. We are in hopes that all these research efforts will assist Katahdin and other hair sheep breeders around the country. Whether you are: a) the commercial producer trying to increase profitability through improved carcass quality and yield or b) the NSIP breeder selecting breeding stock for improved reproductive traits and carcass merit, we here at the Virginia Tech SWAREC are working to assist you in making Katahdin a breed that works for you.
Will a Ewe Breed in the Spring?
Factors Affecting Aseasonal Breeding in Sheep

Jim Morgan, PhD

Editors’ Notes: KHSI Operations receives several calls per year about breeding Katahdins in the spring, including some from those who attempted to expose yearling ewes in the spring (April to June) without much success.

Several factors affect whether a ewe will breed at any time of the year (i.e., aseasonal breeding). Breeding is controlled by regions of the sheep’s brain (hypothalamus is an important part) that integrate cues from the environment and the sheep’s nutritional status with a sheep’s genetic potential for reproduction that initiate or inhibit cycling.

To understand the integrating part of the sheep’s brain, imagine a balance with two weighing pans. On one side of the balance are factors that increase the likelihood of breeding and in the other pan are factors that decrease a ewe’s likelihood of breeding.

Before reviewing the various factors that affect cycling, there are two general principles to bring up. A) In the late fall and early winter (October to December) ewes are most fertile (most likely to breed) and are also likely to ovulate slightly more eggs. A main driver of cycling is decreasing day length. B) Ewe lambs and yearling ewes are considered to be anestrous (to not cycle) in the spring (April to June). Dr Dave Notter at Virginia Tech selected strongly for ewes with aseasonal breeding. Even with favorable genetics for year-round breeding, his research found that only about 10% of ewes less than 15 months of age will breed between April and June. (Only 5% of 7-9 month old ewe lambs will breed in these months).

Latitude: Latitude has a large effect in the spring. A ewe that breeds in the spring in Texas may not breed in the spring in Canada because day length in the spring is much longer in Canada. Some shepherds in Canada have resorted to putting sheep inside a barn with no light for 18 hours of the day in the spring to help with cycling. Latitude and spring day length is also why our neighbors from Mexico find it easier to breed ewes in the Spring.

Heat: While Southern Texas has an advantage in day length compared to Alberta, Canada, it has a disadvantage with high ambient temperatures (heat stress for the ewes). Very high temperatures can also affect viable sperm numbers in the ram semen.

Ram Effect: The ram effect is a management tool that can be used to stimulate ovulation in some but not all ewes during the spring and summer. This only works if the rams are kept at distance (they can not share a fence line with the ewe flock). One way that shepherds use the “ram effect” is to add a teaser (vasectomized ram) which can stimulate ovulation and synchronize the ewes.

Also, most ewes quit cycling for a minimum of 6 weeks around the summer solstice, so there is another benefit to a teaser used in summer. After the summer solstice, the first ovulation is often only 1 egg and will result in a single lamb litter. Using a teaser increases the likelihood of ewes twinning or tripletting during the early part of the summer breeding season.

Summary: The ewe’s reproductive center in the brain integrates (weighs) many factors that can tip the balance in favor of cycling or against cycling. The more aseasonal the ewe is, it means that her brain is less affected by management and environmental conditions that inhibit ovulation/cycling (see Table 1).

**Table 1. Factors Affecting Ewe Cycling**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Increase Cycling</th>
<th>Decrease Cycling</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Decreasing Day Length (during Fall)*</td>
<td>++</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing Day Length (during Spring)*</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>++</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constant Exposure to a Ram</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lactation (nursing lamb)</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hot Temperatures</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher Latitudes – very long day lengths</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Latitudes – moderate day lengths</td>
<td>++</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor Body Condition (very little fat cover)</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adding a Ram to Ewe Flock</td>
<td>++</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age (7-15 months of age in Spring)*</td>
<td>--</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* - Note: In the Southern hemisphere, seasonal months are reversed. Fall is March-June.
By KHSI Operations

Dear Youth Members:

We are looking for youth members to write a story or submit photos for the Katahdin Hairald magazine. If you have never done this before, don’t worry, we will help you through the process!

Pick up the Summer 2011 Hairald and take a look at the cover and the Focus on EWE-TH section. Bethany Forster of Oregon wrote a wonderful article for us. We would love to publish more stories from our youth members.

Wouldn’t it be great to open the magazine and see your name on an article in this section? If you are younger than high school, we will work with you by email, on the phone or by postal mail and help you complete your story. If you are high school age, doing the editing process and getting a story in print would be something nice to add to a college application or to mention at a job interview.

Please contact us about an article idea. We can help you with an outline and with editing the article to make it flow. The Hairald is specifically looking for articles about youth learning experiences and not only pictures of fair experiences.

If you want to learn more, please write an email to info@katahdins.org, send us a letter at KHSI, PO Box 778, Fayetteville AR 72702 or call us at 479-444-8441.

KHSI Operations
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Email/Phone Messages Available 24/7

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Midwest Youth view the private treaty sale sheep.

Brokaw Farm Katahdins

Superior Genetics+Performance

Lambs from 5 top sires and a great flock of brood ewes!
Available for sale mid April!

Patrick, Brenda, and Mary Brokaw
Stronghurst, IL 309.924.1510
pbbrokaw@monmouthnet.net
Breeder Page at KHSI.org
Pat and Beth Downing raise Katahdin sheep on the farm they call Downing Acres in Burke, New York. They currently have 200 ewes. The Downings have owned and operated Downing Acres for 8 years, and have had the sheep for 4 years. The farm was a dairy in the past, but much of the farm had become overgrown since that time. Pat and Beth have been using their flock of sheep to restore these overgrown pastures through pasture management since 2008. The farm is 200 acres, with 80 acres of tillable land, 60 acres of grazed land, and 60 wooded acres. Hay is the only crop produced on the farm.

This summer, North Country Radio Producer Julie Grant met with the Downings and they told her their story - of getting rid of dairy cows, and finding their way into the sheep market.

Pat started off by telling how they came to their farm: “We bought the farm in 2003 and shipped milk for several years. Upon running out of money and low milk prices, we basically sold the herd and rented the farm and land out.” Beth added, “The market went bad so we got out of it. We sold the herd but the farm started growing up, so we needed a way to just keep the pastures clipped. I mean, the barnyard, you couldn’t even walk through it back then, so we got the sheep to eat everything down.” She mentioned that the managing the sheep flock fit well with her off-farm job, but then she was laid off. So they decided to expand their flock. “I think we are going to make as much money with the sheep as we did with the dairy business because it’s a little less work, you don’t get the big outlay that you get from dairy. When we were shipping milk, the money you get in a check is bigger but your outlays are bigger too.”

“Our primary market is in the Boston area,” Pat said. “There’s a farm down there that does a CSA (community supported agriculture): they do a lot of beef, turkey and pork but didn’t have good luck getting sheep so that they could sell lamb. It was just coincidence and a lot of luck that the two of us got together and they buy between 150 and 200 lambs a year from us.”

After just a few years of operation the Downings recently won an award from the Franklin County (NY)
From The Feed Trough ...Odiferous Consequences

Woody Lane, Ph.D.

Shepherds and cattlemen often talk about polio. Well, there’s polio and then there’s polio. And the second one has many causes. Let’s talk about the differences.

The first polio is the human disease — *poliomyelitis*. This is the infectious human disease caused by a virus. This poliovirus, which spreads through contaminated water such as in public swimming pools, destroys neurons in the brainstem and causes muscle wasting, paralysis, and death. In the 1950s, Jonas Salk and Albert Sabin developed two wonderful vaccines that virtually eliminated poliomyelitis in the United States. This polio has nothing to do with animals.

The second polio is the animal disease — *pavorencephalomalacia* (PEM). This is a neural disorder in sheep, cattle, horses, and other livestock, particularly in young stock. Animals with PEM show depression, incoordination, circling, blindness, star-gazing (*opisthotonos*), convulsions, and ultimately death. It’s widely known that animals suffering from PEM sometimes respond quite dramatically to an injection of thiamine, and many farmers keep a vial of thiamine in their refrigerators for this purpose. Although ruminants and horses usually make enough of their own thiamine in the rumen or large intestine, toxins can destroy this thiamine before it’s absorbed across the gut wall. Certain toxic plants, especially horsetail and bracken fern, contain the enzyme *thiaminase* which effectively destroys thiamine, and if livestock, especially horses, consume hay containing large amounts of these plants, they can suffer PEM due to a thiamine deficiency. This type of PEM generally responds to injectable thiamine.

But here’s a paradox: while lack of thiamine can cause PEM, all PEM is not caused by lack of thiamine. Not all cases of PEM respond to thiamine injections. For example, PEM has occurred in feedlots where the high-grain diets did not contain those toxic plants, and it has also occurred in highly fertilized, well-groomed pastures that contain no toxic weeds. Indeed, cattle and sheep suffering from PEM in these situations usually show perfectly normal tissue levels of thiamine and don’t respond to thiamine injections.

So what gives?

Soil and Water Conservation District for fencing their pasture to protect a tributary of Allen Brook that runs through their two hundred acre farm. The award was only one of 6 given in the state of New York.

The press release for the award stated that “This family has enthusiastically participated in our programs and they were recognized for their achievements by receiving an Agriculture Environmental Management (AEM) Award on July 14th, 2011 at the Franklin County Legislative Tour”.

The Agriculture Environmental Management Award is given to a farm that has voluntarily participated in the AEM planning process which is available through the county Soil and Water Conservation District. This is a planning process designed to help farmers identify any potential resource concerns and best management practices being applied to their farming operations. This program also assists the producers in understanding how their farming practices affect the surrounding environment. It is a voluntary, incentive-based program that helps farmers make common-sense, cost-effective and science-based decisions to help meet business objectives while protecting and conserving the state’s natural resources.

Pat and Beth started with AEM in 2008 and have since been through the entire AEM process. They first began with the regeneration of pastures through fencing practices and continued with fencing out the entire length of the stream, a tributary of Allen Brook that runs through their property. They received EQIP funds through USDA-NRCS in 2009 to assist with these practices. The Downings have managed to double their flock in the last 2 years with the new pastures and best management practices that they have installed and implemented.

Downing Acres has been used as an educational tool within the county, allowing other producers to visit and gain valuable knowledge that can be employed on their own farms. The Downings have also been learning partners with the District. In 2010, they agreed to participate in a study funded through Farm Viability in association with the Black River/St. Lawrence RC&D Council that allowed the District to take a more in-depth look at the social, economic, and environmental factors on the farm. Staff conducted interviews and field studies with Pat and Beth and had the opportunity to see pastures transform significantly through only one grazing season. These studies will continue for the next couple of years in hopes of documenting the changes that good management practices can bring to all aspects of farm life.

KHSI congratulates the Downings on their award, and it is just great that such an honor went to a Katahdin raiser!

Editor’s note: This article was based on information from the Franklin County Soil and Water District and a North Country (NY) Public Radio story.
levels, namely between 0.15% and 0.28%. But a sulfur level of 0.35% is rather high, and nutritionists get very nervous when levels rise above 0.40%, which reference books usually list as the maximum tolerable level.

Once consumed by a ruminant, sulfur is dumped into the rumen and undergoes some fundamental chemical changes. Healthy rumens contain little or no free oxygen, but they contain lots of excess hydrogen atoms (where do you think that rumen methane comes from?). Rumen bacteria and protozoa are very good at obtaining oxygen from any compound in the rumen.

Sulfur in feedstuffs is often in the form of sulfates or sulfites, both of which contain oxygen. Once sulfur compounds enter the rumen, bacteria strip those oxygen atoms and replace them with hydrogen atoms. And this process is accelerated in rumens of grain-fed animals, because feeding grain lowers the rumen pH — which means increasing the amount of hydrogen ions.

The resulting compound is a gas called hydrogen sulfide (H₂S). Under normal conditions, very little hydrogen sulfide accumulates in the rumen because most sulfide molecules are quickly assimilated into other compounds. But if the rumen contains lots of sulfur, especially in the form of sulfate, or if the rumen pH is low (which is common in grain-fed animals), hydrogen sulfide is formed in higher amounts, and this can be a problem because hydrogen sulfide is toxic.

You are probably familiar with hydrogen sulfide, because it has a distinctive odor. Very distinctive. Think of rotten eggs. The term “stench” is a mild understatement. Hydrogen sulfide is also affectionately known as manure gas.

Sulfur toxicity is nothing new. We already know that very high levels of sulfur can cause acute toxicity symptoms such as reduced intake, slow growth, labored breathing, scours, and even death. But in this article we’re not interested in those acute symptoms. We’re really interested in the more subtle relationship between sulfur and PEM, which seems to occur at sulfur levels not quite high enough to cause acute toxicity. Because researchers and veterinarians have noted that in situations where PEM did not respond to thiamine treatment, the animals usually had consumed relatively large amounts of sulfur.

Back to hydrogen sulfide. Since hydrogen sulfide is a gas, it initially accumulates in the gas cap of the rumen. Sheep and cattle routinely get rid of excess gas by eructating—a fancy word for belching. When ruminants eructate, some of that gas is actually inhaled back through the lungs (a rather sloppy design, if you ask me), and therefore some hydrogen sulfide can easily be absorbed through the pulmonary tissue. Many scientific studies have shown that hydrogen sulfide can cause the neurological symptoms of PEM. And these studies have also detected the characteristic odor of hydrogen sulfide in the gases eructated by the animals.

So … here’s the bottom line. We should be alert for excessive sulfur in highly-digestible diets. We’re not looking for acutely toxic sulfur levels, just levels high enough to be associated with PEM. And we should consider all parts of the diet. Some common feed ingredients can contain relatively high levels of sulfur, like molasses, rapeseed meal, and also certain byproducts of the grain milling industry, like dried distillers grains and corn gluten meal. Brassica plants (turnips, rape, kale) may contain high levels of sulfur. Pastures recently fertilized with sulfur, especially if there has been no rain, can have high levels of residual sulfur coating the leaves. And what about water? High-sulfur water with sulfate levels over 1,000 ppm can be quite common in some areas. Remember that a rumen’s sulfur load is the sum of all these sources. Finally, low rumen pH levels — which are associated with feeding grain or even with very lush, young pasture — encourages the growth of the types of bacteria which produce hydrogen sulfide.

I suppose that you can monitor this situation by checking animals for bad breath. If you smell the odor of rotten eggs, you can infer that the sulfur level in the diet is, um, rotten. If, on the other hand, you are not familiar with the odor of rotten eggs, then leave some eggs out in the hot sun for a week or so. Just tell your family that it was a homework assignment.

Article © 2002 by Woody Lane.

Woody Lane is a nutritionist in Roseburg, Oregon. He operates an independent consulting business “Lane Livestock Services” and teaches nutrition, sheep, beef cattle, and forage workshops across the United States and Canada. His email address is woody@woodylane.com

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**Shorter Grace Period for 2012 Dues Renewal: Keep Your Farm on KHSI’s Website**

KHSI will be sending out invoices for dues in early January, and payment is due by January 31 from all renewing members for the 2012 calendar year. This is a separate mailing from the Hairald magazine, so watch your postal mail and email inbox for the notice. Please help our organization by responding to the invoice promptly. Also remember that dues can be paid online through [www.katahdins.org](http://www.katahdins.org) or paid with checks mailed to KHSI Operations in Arkansas.

In 2012, the membership and farm directory on the KHSI website will be updated by the Webmaster only in March and October. If KHSI has not received 2012 renewal dues by the time the March Website update is due, the farm listing will be removed from the KHSI website. This means that members who have not paid annual dues on time will have to wait until October to have their farm listed again in the website membership directory.

If you have questions about dues or renewing, please call email KHSI Operations at info@katahdins.org or call 479-444-8441.

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**Deadline for Spring 2012 Hairald Display Ads is January 18, 2012**
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our Katahdin friends.

Thanks to the 2011 buyers. We wish everyone well with their genetics and for supporting us and our bloodlines.

Arkansas-Oklahoma State Fair
1st Place Yearling Ram, Katahdin Breed Champion,
Supreme Ram (beating all wool & hair breeds)
Jared, James, & Justin Morgan

Winning Supreme Ram qualified Justin Morgan for a College Scholarship donated by Arkansas-Oklahoma Regional Educational and Promotion Association Inc.

Russell County Fair
Grand Champion Ram Lamb with Cole & Gunnar Jessee

Enrolled in NSIP
Certified Scrapie Free

Jessee Farm

Kenneth & Connie Jessee
St. Paul, VA • 276-794-9214 • kenneth.jessee@gmail.com
THE KATAHDIN HAIRALD • WWW.KATAHDINS.ORG PAGE 12 WINTER 2011

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Hahira, GA 229-794-3456
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Thank You to all our buyers.

We participate in NSIP, a selection tool based on estimated breeding values (EPD’s).

All lambs sold for breeding stock have balanced EPD’s, many in the top 5% for the breed.

Stud rams are selected based on parasite resistance, growth, muscling, and high, balanced EPD’s.

Scrapie-free certified flock since 2005.

AUG-SEPT SALES

Nath Cannon, OK – 7 rams
HLB-1752 “Ox” – Git-R-Dun son
HLB-2551 “Ox” son
HLB-2571 “Tank” son
HLB-2555 “Husky” son
HLB-2557 “Husky” son
HLB-2558 “Husky” son
HLB-2566 “Husky” son
USDA ARS Research Center, Clay Center, NE
HLB-2428 “Timber” son
HLB-2379 “Doc” son
Mike Mitchell, OK
HLB-2463 “Timber” son
Lincoln University, MO – 40 Katahdin ewes
Todd Bauer, KS
HLB-2240 “Doc” son

EXPO SALES

HLB – 2495 “Nitro” ram, Mark & Sara Dennis, LA
HLB-2509 “Doc” ram, Mark & Sara Dennis, LA
HLB-2391 “Blondie” ewe, Joseph Hattrup, WA
HLB-2443 “Nitro” ewe, Virginia Street, KS
HLB-2475 “Doc” ewe, Kenneth Jessee, VA
HLB-2494 “Blondie” ewe, Joseph Hattrup, WA
HLB-2559 “Husky” ewe, Joseph Hattrup, WA
HLB-2560 “Husky” ewe, John, Judy & Scott Dyer, IN

Lazy B Livestock, LLC
Howard & Lavonne Brown
8362NS 3550 Rd. • Prague, OK 74864 • 405-567-2559
mapabrown2@yahoo.com • www.lazybkatahdins.com
We purchased our first Katahdins in 2004, and the demand is still good for Katahdins. If we keep our maternal traits in order the market for Katahdins will be there in the future.

We are in a new era, our expenses have doubled but the market has also. Our expenses will stabilize while our product will increase in demand, this makes for a successful enterprise “Katahdins”.

Lazy B Livestock sold just under 400 Katahdins in 2011. We will lamb 70 ewes in 2012 (majority of ewe lambs are pre-ordered with great interest in ram lambs.)

As a shepherd you can be successful raising good healthy, heavy boned, stout Katahdins.

Wishing our Katahdin family a healthy and prosperous 2012. Thanks to all who purchased Katahdin stock from Lazy B Livestock.

Lazy B Livestock, LLC
Howard & Lavonne Brown • 8362NS 3550 Rd. • Prague, OK 74864 • 405-567-2559
mapabrown2@yahoo.com • www.lazybkatahdins.com
"Amtrak" Doc P134 out with our ewe lambs for March babies. Our brood ewes will lamb in February. We used 3 new stud bucks this year and are very anxious to see all their babies!

We would like to thank all our buyers for this year:

- Mark Podliska, NE
- MacKenzie Hyland, SD
- John Cady, ID
- Angeline Mclane, ID
- Rodney & Kathryn Phipps, MO
- Dave Koenegstein, IL
- Dennis & Cody Knudson, ND
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- Henry Zehr, IL
- Thomas Hurst, GA
- Clifford Spraberry, TX
- Baumer Family, MO
- Della Tera Ranch, IA
- Adam Kilmer, MO
- Randy Grover, IL
- Clyde Grover, IL
- Kurt Olson, ND
- Harm Trollip, SD
- Casey Family, ND
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- Kenneth Guindon, PA
- Joseph Hattrup, WA

Tom & Maria Dosch
PO Box 517 • Frederick, SD 57441 • 605 329-2478 • 605 329-7928 Cell
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East Coast Leadership School Focused on Nontraditional Lamb Marketing

For the first time, the annual Howard Wyman Sheep Industry Leadership School will be held on the East Coast, in proximity to the major metropolitan areas of New York City, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. and the large eastern ethnic markets. Dates for the 2012 School are July 8-11, and applications to attend must be submitted by April 16, 2012.

Laurie Hubbard, Shepherd for Penn State University, and Joanne Evans, President of the Pennsylvania Sheep & Wool Growers, are the 2012 coordinators. Said Hubbard, “The focus will be on educating the participants about the non-traditional marketing of lamb. Tour sites will include New Holland Sales Stables, which is a hub for the non-traditional ethnic trade.” Attendees will also visit an ethnic custom harvesting facility, two traditional lamb packers, and a sheep dairy that utilizes their lambs for the meat industry, plus meet with other private, non-traditional marketers.

The school will discuss customs of various countries to help explain certain aspects of raising lambs for the non-traditional lamb market. This information would be of assistance to any sheep ranch or lamb feedlot operator, regardless of location, in planning alternative marketing options to increase profitability.

Katahdin Sale Round Up

**August 11, 2012. 8th Annual Katahdin Hair Sheep International Expo Sale. Wayne County Fairgrounds, Wooster Ohio. Expo Sale to include registered stock as well as pens of commercial Katahdin Ewes. Contact Wes Limesand, Expo Sale Committee Chair, 701-235-2114 or Jim Morgan at KHSI Operations, 479-444-8441 or info@katahdins.org

** Indicates there is an article with more information in this issue of the Hairald.

Interested individuals may apply by completing a brief application and short essay. A group of 26 participants, age 20 or older, will be selected to attend. The registration fee is $200 per person and participants are responsible for their own travel expenses. NLFA (National Lamb Feeders Association) covers the cost of food, lodging and tour-related expenses during the school. No fee is required until after the applicant is selected. Applicants will be notified in early May.

Applications may be submitted online: www.nlfa-sheep.org or requested from NLFA: (503) 364-5462 or info@nlfa-sheep.org. Organizations with an upcoming meeting or other opportunity to distribute information about the Leadership School are encouraged to contact NLFA for flyers or registration forms.

Editor’s Note: Each year, the Leadership School meets in a different location, with different instructors and speakers and focuses on different questions. Participants can take the course several years in a row and learn new information every year. It can be a good opportunity to learn more about the sheep industry in general and not just Katahdin breeding stock. Of particular interest this year, is the focus on non-traditional lamb market that many Katahdin producers sell their meat lambs to.

Amnesty Program for Late Registrations: Act Now! Late Fees Suspended Until Dec 31

Take action on this money-saving measure as soon as you read this article! The KHSI Board of Directors approved an “Amnesty Program” on fees for late registrations, late recordations and late transfers of Katahdins. Through December 31, 2011 late registration and transfer fees are suspended.

During the amnesty, US members may register and record animals older than 2 years of age for $5 instead of $10. Canadian members can register and record animals older than 2 years of age for $7 per animal instead of $14. Late transfer fees are also suspended. This special rate applies to animals of all ages and no matter when the sale date was, as long as the Work Order and Registration Application are complete and filled out correctly.

It’s easy to get the amnesty discount rate! When you send in your Work Order and check to the KHSI Registry in Iowa, write “Amnesty” at the top of the page. If you are using PayPal, since we can’t easily change the rates on the web, the Registry will give you credits for anything paid that is more than the amnesty fees.

Don’t miss this great opportunity to make your flock current and save some late fees! We encourage you to take advantage of this “limited time only” Katahdin Amenity Program.

NOTE: Non-members are not eligible for the amnesty program, but if they pay for a new membership before December 31, amnesty discount WILL apply.

Don't forget to send all registrations and transfers to the KHSI Registry in Milo, Iowa
The Resource Shelf: Learning from Home

By KHSI Operations

We hear it over and over on the phone, and we see it over and over on emails: “Help me! I don’t know my KHSI member number!” We are hoping this article will help all KHSI members learn more about this number, and that it will reduce the panicky calls and email that we are getting.

First, if you do not know your member number, don’t panic. You can still register sheep. The member number is an aid. It helps the Registry find you and put your official farm/ranch name and all owners on the certificates.

Second, after paying to register or transfer a sheep, your member number will be on the receipt/invoice sent by the Registry. Write it down in your flock notes.

If you are new to KHSI and have bought a registered sheep that is transferred into your name from another breeder, and have received a certificate from the Registry, look on the back of the registration paper. Where your address shows up as the new owner, you will also see your member number. If you bought the sheep and the breeder handed you the paper, you will need to fill out your own address on the back of the certificate and send it in leaving the member number blank. When the registry sends you back the official paper, your member number will be filled in—again, write it down where you keep your flock notes.

If you have never registered sheep with KHSI, if you are a new member, or if you have not registered any sheep since the KHSI Registry moved to Hiawatha, Pipestone, MN 56164 you will probably not have recorded your member number. The first time you register sheep using the Work Order and Application for Registration Form just leave the line for the member number blank. Then, when your registration papers arrive, you can look for the number and record it.

What if I still can’t find my member number?

If you have done all of the above and still can’t find your member number, and you’re trying to get your sheep registered, just be sure you completely fill out all the rest of the information on the Work Order and leave the line for member number blank. This will allow the Registry to locate your information using other methods. It is just easier and faster if the member number is filled out.

Note: The KHSI Registry uses the member numbers in their database. As of now, KHSI Operations does not assign or have access to those numbers. So if you really really want your number, in spite of us reassuring you that you can send in your papers without it, please call the KHSI Registry at 641-942-6402.

Continued on page 19
By Steve Bull, Iowa and Kim Harrington, Missouri

The Midwest Katahdin Hair Sheep Association’s (MKHSA) 3rd Annual Summer Field Day and Private Treaty Sale was held at Carl Ginapp’s farm August 12th-13th in Mason City, Iowa. Ten consigners representing four states brought over 30 registered Katahdins to sell.

The event began Friday evening with dinner, followed by networking afterwards. A special effort was made to notify sheep breeders and enthusiasts in the area about this event. On Saturday, both MKHSA members and non-members attended and heard presentations given by Dan Morrical, Iowa State University, Stan Potratz, owner of Premier 1 Supply, and Jim Morgan, KHSI Operations. Topics included: feed costs, alternative feed options, a KHSI update, National Sheep Improvement Program, and the future of the sheep industry.

This event received a lot of interest from area wool sheep breeders, and these first-time viewers of Katahdins asked a lot of good questions. MKHSA would like to thank all those that attended and those that worked hard to make this event a huge success! MKHSA hopes to see more KHSI members and sheep enthusiasts at its 2012 Sale for another great weekend!

KHSI offers grateful thanks to KHSI Board members Ron Young, John Stromquist and Howard Brown. They all completed their terms and gave so much time and attention to the organization that we can’t possibly list all they did. Ron served on the KHSI Board for 6 years, most recently serving 3 years as President, and he helped the board work through many important decisions for the organization. John served for 6 years, was a past KHSI President, was active on the Expo and Website Committees and first suggested the switch to a color Katahdin Hairald magazine. Howard Brown served for 3 years, chaired the KHSI Youth Committee, and worked hard on several youth events at Sedalia.

Dr Dan Morrical speaks about reducing the cost of feeding sheep.

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Bandit, our junior sire, who was Reserve Champion and First Place Early Ram Lamb at the 2011 Missouri State Fair

Reserve Champion and First Place Early Ewe Lamb at the 2011 Missouri State Fair

Pictured is the champion ewe at the Missouri State Fair in 2010 and 2011 who delivered triplets in September
The KHSI membership elected Maria Dosch, G.F. “Doc” Kennedy, Henry Shultz and Lee Wright to the Board of Directors. Doc, Henry and Lee will serve a 3 year term (2011-2014), and Maria will serve a 1 year term (2011-2012). Board Officers for 2011-2012 will be: Wes Limesand, President; Carl Ginapp, Vice President; Lee Wright, Treasurer; and Roxanne Newton, Secretary.

Below we have included the backgrounds of the new Board members summarized from their longer ballot statements.

**MARIA DOSCH FROM FREDERICK, SOUTH DAKOTA**

Maria lives on a 240 acre farm with her husband Tom, where they raise 40 registered Katahdin brood ewes, 20 ewelambs and a few cows. They have three children, seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren. She raised commercial sheep for 15 years, and was President of the Northeast South Dakota Sheep Producers for 18 years. She currently works with the Brown County Fair Sheep Department organizing and implementing their annual show in Aberdeen South Dakota.

Maria bought Katahdins in 2004 when she needed a breed of sheep with a nice disposition for easy handling, didn’t require shearing, and consistently raised multiple lambs. Their sheep are raised on pasture during the summer but are fed hay from November through May. Ewes are selected for excellent mothering, multiple birthing, ability to raise good lambs, and gentle dispositions. She selects lambs to sell as breeding stock for shedding, good conformation, muscling and rate of gain, and also uses the Katahdin NSIP program as a selection tool.

Maria finds the breed to be very adaptable: her sheep have dealt with extremes varying from 35 degrees below zero in the winter to the 126 degree heat index in summer 2011.

**G.F. “DOC” KENNEDY FROM PIPESTONE, MINNESOTA**

Doc has served on many boards over the years including those for schools, banks, fairs, and veterinary and breed associations, so he understands the responsibilities expected of a board member. He currently serves as Associate Veterinarian, Pipestone Veterinary Clinic, and as operator of Wilderness Beach Lodge in Kodiak, Alaska.

He now annually lambs 300 ewes, Katahdins or crosses, on his farm. In the past he achieved national success with Suffolks and Rambouillets. Doc has also managed Finns, Dorsets, Dorpers and commercial ewes and has always had sheep work as an important part of his veterinary practice.

Over time, Doc and others have grown the Pipestone veterinary businesses from three veterinarians and several employees to fourteen veterinarians and over 600 employees. He has been inducted into the Pipestone Sheep Hall of Fame and the Minnesota Livestock Hall of Fame.

He and his wife Deb share sheep responsibilities daily and also have a number of pets. They have six children and 12 grandchildren. Annually they hunt elk and deer and make time to enjoy their fishing lodge periodically in the summer.

**HENRY SHULTZ FROM CENTRALIA, MISSOURI**

Henry has raised sheep since 1965, and with his wife Becky, he currently operates a diversified farming operation, Prairie Lane Farms, with 500 acres of soybeans, wheat and milo, and they lamb about 100 ewes annually. The sheep operation is a family business. Two daughters experienced all the benefits of growing up raising and showing sheep, and are still very active in the sheep industry.

In the sheep business, Henry served as President of the Missouri Sheep Producers Association and on the Missouri Sheep Merchandising Council. Currently, he chairs the Midwest Stud Ram Sale committee where he has been a member for 30 years.

Henry’s operation now consists of 45 Katahdin ewes and 40 Dorset Ewes. His first Katahdin ewes came from Tom and Maria Dosch in 2007, and he has used rams from Dosch’s and Mountain View Farm in Tennessee. In the last year, he concentrated on the Katahdin flock and was very impressed with their production traits, multiple births, and ease of lambing. He hopes to focus on improving all the production traits, and producing a Katahdin that is structurally correct with ample muscling and carcass quality.

**LEE WRIGHT FROM CHILHOWIE, VIRGINIA**

Lee grew up on a small farm in Glade Spring Virginia raising beef cattle and burley tobacco, but made the transition to raising Katahdins in 2002. He and his wife Cindy and their two children maintain 80 acres of land where they harvest mixed grass hay and alfalfa, and rotationally graze 130 commercial and registered Katahdin ewes and their lambs.

During his years as a student at Virginia Tech he was first exposed to sheep while working during the summers as an intern at the VA Tech Southwest Agricultural Research & Extension Center (SWAREC), located in his home town. After graduating from Virginia Tech and serving as an extension agent, in 1999 he returned to his home county, and became the Superintendent of the SWAREC research center which includes work on Katahdins (see article elsewhere in this issue).

Lee is part of the Katahdin NSIP Breeders group, and a member of the Virginia Sheep Producers Association. He was recently appointed by the Governor to serve on the Virginia Sheep Industry Board for the Virginia Department of Agriculture and serves as a director for the Washington Farmers Cooperative.
KHSI Registry Update and New Mailing Address

From All of Us at Associated Registries:

We hope that the KHSI Expo went well and that your sale set record numbers! We regret that someone from our staff was unable to attend, but we certainly wished you all the best.

We recently moved to a larger building in Milo, Iowa. Our new facility is just a short distance from the old location, so there is minimal effect on our mail service. We will now be using a PO Box, but our telephone and fax numbers will remain the same. Your online forms already have the new address, and forms you already have will reach us with no delays.

Here is the new address:

KHSI Registry, PO Box 51, Milo IA 50166. If you are shipping by UPS or FED-Ex our address is KHSI Registry, 222 Main St, Milo, IA 50166 and the phone is 641-942-6402.

Our hope is that you have found our services and office staff helpful and friendly. We are pleased to be your registrar! Over the last year, we have gotten to know many of you and truly enjoy assisting you in your registry needs.

As we work together, thanks for your patience and timely response when requests are made from our office. We strive to provide you with excellent service and will continue to do so each day. Elisha is your service rep for the KHSI Registry and has taken that title proudly in answering your questions and processing your paperwork as needed. When she is not available, all of our staff desire to meet your request with great customer service!

KHSI has truly surpassed our expectations in both registration and transfer numbers. Your members should be commended for their support of the breed and your breed association!

We look forward to getting to know you all better.

Best Wishes for the Holidays and New Year!

Karey Claghorn & Carrie Taylor-Kelly

Round Mountain Katahdins

Selecting for stock with balanced EBVs, parasite resistance and superior Lbs Lamb Weaned

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NSIP, SFCP certified scrapie free
The Katahdin Hairald is the official publication of Katahdin Hair Sheep International, which provides education about:

- registering individual Katahdin sheep and recording performance
- maintaining the distinct identity of the Katahdin breed
- approaches to promotion and marketing
- summaries of research and development related to the breed

2011-2012 Board of Directors

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Canada Representative: Darlene Jordan, ran.dar@aski.ca, 306-746-4361
Mexico Representative: Dr. Alejandro Ferrer, ferreralejandro@yahoo.com, 011-522-712-3109

KHSI Registry:

KHSI Registrar: Karey Claghorn
- KHSI Registry, P.O. Box 51, Milo, IA  50166 for USPS
- 222 Main St., Milo, IA  50166 for FedEx or UPS
Phone – 641-942-6402, Fax – 641-942-6502; Email – registry@katahdins.org
- Contact the Registry with questions about registration, recording, transferring, upgrading procedures.
- Send the following to the Registry:
  - Completed forms for registering, recording, transferring and naming Katahdins
  - Office Hours (Central time): Monday to Friday 9 am- 4pm.

KHSI Operation:

- Jim Morgan and Teresa Maurer; PO Box 778; Fayetteville, AR 72702-0778
- Phone and FAX: 479-444-8441; info@katahdins.org
- Send the following to KHSI Operations (Arkansas)-Completed membership and renewal forms and $50 for calendar year dues (renews due by January 31 each year) Note: new memberships and renewals can be paid online by Paypal at website.
- Contact Operations for the following:
  - Request coat inspections before May 15
  - Address changes or other corrections for print or web
  - Copies of histories, breed standards, etc
  - BLANK work orders and registration applications.
  - Note: forms and materials are printable from website www.katahdins.org
  - Brochures (20 free per member per year; additional at cost) & promotional items
  - Information on members with sheep for sale, anyone wanting to buy sheep
  - Articles, ads, and comments to be published in the Katahdin Hairald
  - Volunteer for KHSI Committees
  - Annual meeting information
- Office Hours (Central time): Monday, Wednesday, Friday (10 am - 3 pm). Calls at other times including evenings and weekends will be answered personally whenever possible.
- Answering machine, FAX and email: available for messages 24 hours per day.

KHSI Committee:

- Promotion: Carl Ginapp - 641-425-0592
- Nominating/Election: Mark Dennis - 337-364-0422
- Youth/Education: Howard Brown - 405-567-2559
- Expo Sale: Wes Limesand - 701-235-2114
- Breed Improvement Guidelines: Laura Fortmeyer – 785- 467-8041
- Registry Liaison: Wes Limesand - 701-235-2114
## Classified Ads

Classified sale ads for Katahdin or Katahdin-cross sheep are free to all KHSI members in the Katahdin Hairald and at the KHSI website. For the Hairald, please limit length to 40 words. Sheep Wanted Ads can be placed for free for non-KHSI members. Classified Ad Content due Jan 31st, 2012 to KHSI Operations Office for the Spring 2012 Hairald. Contact KHSI Operations, 479-444-8441 or info@katahdins.org.

### Sheep Wanted

**INDIANA**

Central IN. Commercial Ewes, Ewe Lambs & Ram. 8-10 Katahdin ewes or ewe lambs and a ram from a different bloodline to add to this breed to our farm. Rob Ward of Cicero, IN. 317-828-1856 or jimm@earthlink.net

**MISSOURI**

Commercial Ewes. Currently expanding flock. Looking for 150-200 head of quality commercial 2-4 year olds. Willing to travel. Contact Brad 660-287-5510 or corpenings@gmail.com.

**OKLAHOMA**

NE OK. Commercial Ewes or Ewe Lambs. 30-40 Commercial ewes. Carl Briganse of Morris OK (south of Tulsa). 918-650-2323

**TENNESSEE**

Eastern TN. Registered Ewe Lambs. 5-10 Registered Ewe Lambs born spring 2011 or early fall 2011, QR or RR, twin or triplet preferred. Flock Performance Program a plus, but not a must, however, an established Scrapie Free Program a must. Travis & Robin Loope, Trillium Ridge Farm, Louisville, TN 865-388-6884 or robinloope@yahoo.com

**GEORGIA**

4 Bred Ewes. Registered RR ewes. Fall-bred for 2012 lambing. Within 300 miles of Atlanta, Georgia. Contact Julie Vance. 305-923-0262 or 478-625-9542

### Sheep for Sale

**INDIANA**

IDaho

SW ID. Registered & Recorded QR & RR Ewes & Ewe Lambs. We need to reduce our flock size. Excellent breeding stock, RR or QR. Have used RR Ram for the last 5 years. Sires from from Canada, MT, IL & OR. Aged, yearlings and ewe lambs. $100 to $200 each. Katahdin & Kat/Dorp. Ron or Sally Howard of RnS Farm, Emmett, ID. 208-409-3331 or 208-409-3131; rnsranch@gmail.com

**ILLINOIS**

West Central IL. Registered Ram Lambs. Twin born, 3 in March & 2 in June. 2 all white & 3 with color. Enrolled in scrapie program. $200. Would consider delivering for a fee. Dana Nelson of Briar Ridge Farm of Colchester IL. 309-333-9697 or djn@adams.net

**INDIANA**

SW IN. Registered Proven RR Yearling Ram. White twin-born, from Foxtrot Ranch/Bing Korb, (NDS & COR genetics). $400. Raised with very little grain. Good size, correct conformation, easy to catch & lead. Settled 9 ewes (of 10) in 7 days last year, handle many more this year. Gina Robinson, Rose Hill Dairy, Booneville, IN. 812-897-2696 or rosehilldairy@yahoo.com

**LOUISIANA**

Registered Ewe & Ram Lambs. Taking orders now for our 2012 Registered and commercial lambs. Lambs arriving Jan. through March. RF Adams Farms of Franklinton, LA. 985-515-9406 or rfasdfams@rfasdfams.com

**MARYLAND**

Central MD. Registered RR Yearling Rams & Ewe Lambs. Rams are white, very nice confirmation. Ewes are twin/triplet born. $225-$285 each. Eric Neilson, Justifiable Acres, Woodbine, MD. 410-489-5123

### Sheep for Sale

**Northern MD.** Registered RR Proven Yearling Ram. Black and white. Easy to handle, Christine Gray of Clover Hill Farm in Manchester, MD. cgray@qis.net or 443-858-2810

**MISSISSIPPI**

Southern MI. Registered RR Rams. Certified Scrapie Free rams (SFCP). $300. Les & Amanda Jordan of Ena woods Farm in Summitt, MS. 601-684-1205 or lajordan@wildblue.net.

**NORTH DAKOTA**

NW ND. Registerable Ewe Lambs. Born April / May 2011. No room to keep them. $50 each if all are taken. Available at the farm gate, unable to deliver. Raymond MacBeth, Columbus, ND. 701-939-5732 or rmacbeth@ncray.com or marlanmacbeth@yahoo.com

**TENNESSEE**

Middle TN. Registered Mature Proven Ram. 4 yr old ram. QR. Very large, black hoofs, throws some color, sheds beautifully. Very good temperament. $300. Healthy & ready to breed. Can send pictures. Eddy Johnston, Bless Ewe Farm, Thompsons Station, TN. 615-790-9395 or blesssewefarm@yahoo.com.

**VIRGINIA**

Western VA. Registered Ewe Lambs. 14 ewe lambs born April 2011. Certified Scrapie Free Flock, forage based. $300 each. Teresa Glass of Glassview Farm in Natural Bridge Station, VA. 540-291-1784 or glassview@hotmail.com or www.glassviewfarm.com
**JUBILEE FARM**
Laura & Doug Fortmeyer
Fairview, Kansas

25 years experience with Katahdins
NSIP since 1994 • SFCP Certified flock
785-467-8041 • jubilee@jbntelco.com

Registered & commercial breeding stock
Born on pasture, Raised on pasture
What Folks Said About the 2011 KHSI Expo

We thought you might enjoy hearing from a few folks who participated in the KHSI Expo held September 15-17, 2011 in Pipestone, Minnesota.

Bob Shauck of Eldon Missouri took the time to call and also to write a note about the Expo: “Regarding the recent Expo. I think it was the best Expo I have attended. The ask-a-vet sessions were worth the money I spent to make the trip. I think everything went real smooth. Pipestone Vet Clinic is something else! I made a few purchases while I was at the Expo. The entire staff really worked extra hard to make sure we had everything we wanted. Thanks for a great Expo and Best Wishes!”

GF “Doc” Kennedy, Pipestone Veterinary Clinic, chimed in with his perspective as a host: “As for the Expo, our staff at the Clinic were impressed working with those attending and found the entire event very satisfying. It would be my hope that by hosting the program, we have introduced the breed to a new additional market and Katahdins as a new paradigm for those producing sheep. The breed should fit well in the Upper Midwest and exposure in the region was needed. I would like this opportunity to thank all those in attendance who made this event a success. We certainly thank all involved for the opportunity to host the Expo in Pipestone. Hopefully those in attendance gained knowledge about a different type of sheep production and the value of Katahdins.

Lee Wright of Chilhowie, Virginia offered these remarks: “I think the Expo in Pipestone was a great success! Wes, the Expo Committee, the Expo Sale Committee, and KHSI Operations all deserve a huge pat on the back for their time and preparation involved in making it such a wonderful event. Also, a big “Thank You” needs to go out to all of the local producers and Pipestone Vet Clinic staff for their hospitality and educational involvement with different management styles of raising sheep. There are so many different ways to make the Katahdin sheep business a profitable endeavor for every producer across this great country. To build on our own knowledge base by seeing how other management systems work, and take home something to benefit us all is a tremendous asset to all the producers who attend the Expo’s each year. I believe it is a great testament to our breed that they can function so well in so many different areas of the country and be profitable for us all, no matter what our climate or management style.”

Thanks to Those Who Made the Expo Great!

The KHSI Expo relies on the time and effort of many to succeed. It’s always a challenge to plan and carry out the Expo from a distance, but KHSI had some outstanding partners and volunteers in 2011. It is difficult to track everyone who helped, but we’ll start by offering an overall thanks to all who attended, to the Thursday field trip hosts, to all the Friday and Saturday presenters, and to all those who jumped in and did whatever needed to be done. We also want to thank Ludolph Bus and the Pipestone Chamber of Commerce for extra-special assistance—and to the whole community of Pipestone who made attendees feel welcome all over town!

We especially want to thank Doc Kennedy and the many vets and staff of Pipestone Veterinary who ironed out many details and made us feel welcome. We are very grateful also to Mike Caskey and Phil Berg of Minnesota West Community and Technical College who provided facilities and speakers, and organized the Thursday farm tours.

The Expo Sale Committee worked extra hard to help our biggest sale ever to succeed: Wes Limesand, Doc Kennedy, Maria Dosch, and Lee Wright. We also thank sale volunteers: Milledge and Roxanne Newton, Kathy Agan, Jane Phillips, Karen Kenagy, Sandi Lillehaugen, Pat and Beth Downing, Carl Ginapp, the Dyer Family and the Pipestone staff who helped with animal checkout after the sale.

There were also gracious members who signed up before the Expo saying that they would help out. This insured that there would be help for some critical time-crunch points including: preparing registration materials, signing in people and buyers, selling promotional items, being bus helpers, counting ballots, and much more. So thank you to: Kathy Agan, Howard Brown, Pat and Beth Downing, Ann Gale, Laura Fortmeyer, Julie Kradel, Sandi Lillehaugen, Roxanne Newton, Jane Phillips, Virginia Street, Lori Witzel and Felix Wulff.

Special thanks to Karen Kenagy for the Expo photos on this page.
The publishing schedule for the 2012 Katahdin Hairald is listed below. The following explanations may be helpful for your decision-making about placing ads.

The Hairald has two types of ads, Classified Ads and Display Ads. Classified ads are word ads that are listed in the classified ads page and are free to all paid KHSI members and can be 40 words long. They are for advertising Katahdin sheep. Display ads are 1/8 (business card), 1/4, 1/2 and whole page black & white or in color. Individual members can commit for 4 consecutive display ads and receive a 10% discount.

Commitment for the size and color or black/white choice for “display ads” is due 12 days prior to the content so that the KHSI Operations can plan (map out) the Hairald magazine. Please communicate your display ad commitment to both KHSI Operations (info@katahdins.org 479-444-8441) and Gail Hardy at Xpressions (gail@xpressionsonline.us, 479-439-0726). Display ads can be provided to KHSI as camera ready ads (ready to publish) or the advertiser can work with KHSI to have Gail Hardy do their display design. KHSI has no preference whether Display Ad advertisers do their own design work, work with another advertising professional or contract with Xpressions to do their ad. Contact KHSI Operations at the above phone number or email address to obtain prices and the exact dimensions of the business card, 1/4, 1/2 and full page ads.

Arrival of the Katahdin Hairald in member mail boxes typically ranges from 1-3 weeks depending on bulk mailing deliveries of the US Postal Service.

### Advertisers Index (listed alphabetically)

**Brokaw Farm Katahdins**, Patrick, Brenda, & Lee Brokaw, Illinois

**CMG Katahdins**, Carl & Marcia Ginapp, Iowa

**Destiny Creek Kathdins**, Deanna Martin & Michael King, Alberta, Canada

**Dosch Katahdins**, Tom & Maria Dosch, South Dakota

**Hodge Ranch**, John & Tina Hodge, Texas

**Hound River Farm**, Milledge & Roxanne Newton, Georgia

**Jessee Farm**, Kenneth & Connie Jessee, Virginia

**JM Katahdins**, John Cannon, Florida

**Jubilee Farm**, Doug & Laura Fortmeyer, Kansas

**Lazy B Livestock**, Howard & Lavonne Brown, Oklahoma

**Lillehaugen Farms**, Luke & Maynard Lillehaugen, North Dakota

**Prairie Lane Farms**, Henry & Becky Shultz, Missouri

**Round Mountain Farm**, Jim Morgan & Teresa Maurer, Arkansas

**Spraberry Acres**, Clifford Spraberry, Texas

**The Shepherd Magazine**, Ken & Kathy Kark, Ohio

**Warm Springs Katahdins**, David Maddox, Georgia

**White Post Farm**, John & Marian Stromquist, Illinois

**Xpressions**, Gail Hardy, Arkansas

### Ad Deadlines

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<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
<th>Fall</th>
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<td>Jan 18</td>
<td>Mar 30</td>
<td>Jun 22</td>
<td>Oct 11</td>
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### Display Ad content due to Xpressions

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### Classified Ads due to Operations

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<th>Feb 24</th>
<th>May 5</th>
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### Mailing date (Bulk Mail)

| Feb 24       | May 5        | Jul 28        | Nov 17       |
Dear Katahdin Producers:

The Ohio Heartland Sheep Improvement Association (OHSIA) invites you to the 2012 KHSI Expo and Sale from August 9-11, 2012 in Wooster, Ohio. We are developing a diverse and exciting program to be held at the Wayne County Fairgrounds and the campus of the Ohio State University (OSU) Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC), as well as a full day of farm tours.

OHSIA is a small and diverse group that includes members raising sheep for commercial markets or specialized niche markets (such as the "hot house" market), and those who sell registered sheep based on performance to seed stock producers.

OHSIA works closely with local Ohio State University faculty and Extension personnel to provide several workshops, farm tours and pasture walks each year for our members and others in the area. Our group works with a local veterinarian and the OARDC sheep unit to host a lambing school every other year which brings people from across the state, as well as PA, IN and MI. We work closely with other groups including the Small Farm Institute, and the Ohio Forage and Grasslands Council.

Wooster is centrally located in the state, with easy access via US30 to three major airports (Cleveland, Columbus and Akron/Canton) as well as to most major highways in the state (I71, I77, I70, and I80). We have ample lodging with numerous hotels, motels, and B&Bs in Wooster and the surrounding area. The charming downtown area is thriving with many local restaurants, shops and markets. The Wayne County Fairgrounds is located on the edge of town right off US30.

The OARDC and the OSU Agricultural Technical Institute (ATI) campuses are located in Wooster. The OARDC has a very impressive sheep facility with world renowned faculty and a strong research focus on ruminant nutrition. A new research project starting this fall will look at using sheep as a biological control for weeds in organic cropping systems. These faculty members as well as faculty from OSU’s main campus in Columbus will be available as speakers at the Expo.

Ohio is the largest sheep producing state east of the Mississippi. Wayne County and our neighbor Holmes County are still agriculturally rich and diverse with many small and mid-sized farms. They are also home to the largest Amish population in the US. This provides lots of sightseeing potential, but more importantly, the Amish are a rapidly growing market for hair sheep.

Ohio has many good markets for lamb, convenient transportation, and a strong interest in expanding and beginning sheep flocks.

It is our honor to be the host to KHSI’s 2012 Katahdin Expo and Sale. If you have questions, please contact Russ Johnson, (rivenoak@sssnet.com) or Kathy Bielek (mistyoaksfarm@gmail.com).