



# Short Tales

## Finnsheep Breeders Association

Official registry for Finnsheep in the U.S.A. since 1971



Photo credit: Catherine Precht  
Cream City Lamb And Wool

## Chief Shepherd's Message

### PART OF THE BIG PICTURE

I have always enjoyed reading the President's letter for the associations I am part of as well as articles like Clark Bredahl's in the "The Shepherd" magazine. It always gives me another perspective on topics that have at least some importance to me.

I feel like I am just a small breeder like the majority of our breeders. I don't feel like I have any significant impact in the Finnsheep community or the sheep industry as I just have a small herd. I know some of you may look at the size of the flock I maintain and think it isn't small. We have about 120 breeding ewes (not all purebred Finnsheep), which brings us on a good year, about 275 lambs for breeding stock or market. So, no it isn't just 10 or less lambs like some of you might have, but 275 a year doesn't seem like an impactable amount knowing over 2 million lambs are processed in the USA each year, but the reality is everything we do has a ripple effect and often one that we vastly underestimate.

## In This Issue...

- 1 - 3 Chief Shepherds Message
- 4 Annual Meeting Notice
- 5 Annual Meeting Agenda
- 6-7 Current Board Nominations
- 8 What to expect on the Board
- 9 Notes from the Board
- 10 Associated Registry
- 11 Crossbred Registrations
- 12 Associated Registry - Alternatives
- 13 - 14 Shepherd Spotlight
- 15 - 17 Get involved in a committee!
- 18 Super Finns!
- 19 - 21 Breeder's Directory
- 22 Board of Directors Contact Info
- 23 Registry Office contact info
- 23 FBA Mission Statement



# Short Tales

## Finnsheep Breeders Association

Official registry for Finnsheep in the U.S.A. since 1971

### Chief Shepherd's Message ... Continued

I fully believe the sheep industry in the United States has much more potential than is being utilized. I think almost any consumer of lamb, if asked if they prefer for their lamb meat to be imported or USA grown, would say they prefer USA grown, yet supply doesn't meet demand and there is a lot of imported lamb. Having demand for the lamb produced opens the door for profitability, even for those that don't send lambs to market.

Profitability leads to growth. If you think about the big corporate giants, they are big because they were doing something profitable, and invested in growing to be able to do more of what was profitable. If they weren't turning a profit, they wouldn't be able to maintain their size. This is exactly true with farmers, especially livestock farmers. Livestock needs to eat and if there isn't money coming in to pay the feed bill, then the herd size needs to get smaller.

There have been many sheep breeds here while trying to figure out what works for us. Finnsheep have stayed as when I have taken a look at the books and what is working, I have seen that quality Finnsheep ewes pay for themselves and put money in the bank. I have also seen where non-quality ewes will affect my profitability for years to come. Luckily for the most part it can be simple, Finnsheep that meet our breed standard tend to be profitable for us. They have a variety of strengths that allow us more than one way to secure income from them.



Photo Credit: Cherish Duerst

One thing I saw with one of the other breeds we used to raise was that the producers of that breed worked together. There were lambs that were popping up with a genetic deformity, they as producers didn't isolate the line or think of it as a "bad" line, but instead worked together and got researchers involved to identify if there was a genetic component to the issue and be able to test for it. They found a way to identify the specific problem and not have to eliminate whole lines because they might have or might be carriers for the issue. Producers working together in a common direction can have a significant impact for their breed.

Finnsheep are an amazing breed because of all that they are good at. For me it is an honor to be a breeder. As a breeder I have the opportunity to affect another person's flock and their outlook on Finnsheep. If I am selling to a new shepherd that hasn't experienced Finnsheep before, I am in the



# Short Tales

## Finnsheep Breeders Association

Official registry for Finnsheep in the U.S.A. since 1971

### Chief Shepherd's Message ... Continued

position that what I present, and sell is what is believed to be what Finnsheep are. If I am selling to a fellow experienced Finnsheep shepherd, there is no greater feeling than them taking pride in my breeding decisions and having success because of their use of the genetics I provided them.

To be sustainable, we as Finnsheep breeders need to offer a quality, consistent product to the market. While we all have different flock goals, we can still have a consistent breed that boosts consumer confidence. We do this by defining what makes a Finnsheep a Finnsheep and take those defining characteristics into consideration as we make breeding choices. By doing so, even when the characteristic may not seem all that significant to us as individuals, we come closer to that consistency. We establish ourselves as a breed that can be counted on year after year.



Photo Credit: Quint Precht

*Regardless of our flock size, our flock goals, and our flock management philosophies, we must make sure we put our best sheep forward. If we communicate and share our ideas on what the Finnsheep breed stands for and lift each other up, celebrating successes and overcoming problems, as we strive to be better shepherds of our Finnsheep we will all be more successful. Each thing we do may seem like just one sale or one lamb produced, but each has a ripple affect much larger than we realize. Realizing the magnitude of what we do is something I have to remind myself of each time I make decisions here on the farm, and something no matter how good we are at it, we can all likely improve on.*

Photo Credit: Catherine Precht





# NOTICE OF THE FINNSHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

DECEMBER 9TH, 2023 AT  
7PM EST/4PM PST

---

THE ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA ZOOM. PLEASE  
WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS COMING SOON REGARDING THE  
ANNUAL MEETING.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND HELP TO  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR OUR MEMBERS?

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO NOMINATE TO BE ON  
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AS YOU FEEL THEY WOULD HELP MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE FOR OUR MEMBERS?

THERE ARE 3 DIRECTOR SPOTS THAT ARE OPEN AND NEEDING A MEMBER  
THAT IS WILLING TO HELP OUT ON THE BOARD. PLEASE SEND YOUR  
NOMINATIONS TO ANY BOARD MEMBER OR  
[FINNSHEEPBREEDERSASSOCIATION@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FINNSHEEPBREEDERSASSOCIATION@GMAIL.COM)

# Agenda for the 2023 FBA Annual Member's Meeting

Time: Dec 9, 2023 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Zoom link:

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/84148805087?pwd=r03lop9WDZuFbAowO1PapbGzyumqo0.1>

Meeting ID: 841 4880 5087

Passcode: nM6itC

Call the meeting to order at 7pm EST

Secretary's Report

Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports

- NSIP/Commercial
- Youth/Education
- Fiber
- Dairy
- Constitution

Old Business:

Vote on 3 new board members for the coming year

New Business:

Should we change our ad in the Shepherd?

How to handle the situation with the Associated Registry

- Should the FBA hire a third party audit?
- Should the FBA hire legal advice?
- Should the FBA hire an individual from within the organization to replace the Associated Registry?
- If we move away from the Associated Registry, what platform should we use for pedigree tracking?

Adjourn meeting

# Board Nominations for the 2023 Election

There is still time, nominations are open up until the vote at the annual meeting. We have received some nominations thus far and want to share those with you.

## *Haley Campbell*

Hello! My name is Haley Campbell, and I am looking to become more involved in the Finnsheep Breeders' Association to further a breed that I have become very passionate about. My involvement in the sheep industry as a whole began almost 4 years ago with my now husband and his flock of sheep, consisting of purebred Texels and commercial crossbred ewes. He experimented with Finnsheep as well; he used a Texel ram on Finn ewes to produce well-mothered, heavily-muscled offspring – and lots of them! This is when I fell in love with the Finnsheep. Their personable nature, small stature, excellent maternal ability, and wool qualities are everything I wanted in my own flock.

Fast forward a couple years, and I am now preparing for my second year of purebred Finnsheep lambs! I just bred my flock of ewes to lamb the second week of March to match with my spring break. This summer and fall I exhibited a few ewe lambs and Finnsheep fleeces at the Ohio State Fair and two other smaller fairs and those girls gained a lot of attention as soon as they stepped off the trailer. I loved being able to educate other exhibitors and fairgoers on the breed and what makes them unique. In the future, I am looking forward to showing in the AOB wool classes, selling more breeding stock, and offering raw fleeces to fiber artists and wool enthusiasts alike. If chosen as a member of the board, I can bring a fresh perspective to the Finnsheep Breeders' Association as a new producer myself, and I can bring the science of animal agriculture. I am currently a lecturer at The Ohio State University on the Wooster campus where I teach animal science courses to freshmen and sophomore students. Additionally, in this position, I have direct access to recent research and other experts in the fields of animal science and small ruminant production. I do have a servant's heart; my husband served as the president of the Texel Sheep Breeders Society, and I knew that as some point I wanted to also serve on a registry board to support the industry.

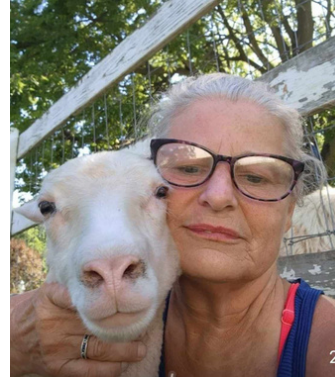


Thanks for reading, and I look forward to becoming involved in the Association.

Haley Campbell  
Campbell.2708@osu.edu

# Board Nominations for the 2023 Election...Continued

## *Terrisa Turner*



My name is Terrisa Turner. My partner and I live on an 8-acre farm, Primrose Path Farm, and raise Finnsheep. I am interested in being on the board of the Finnsheep Breeders Association. We started raising sheep in 2017. Our first sheep were Border Leicesters and Wensleydales. We began looking for a smaller sheep breed. It was then that we discovered Finnsheep. We liked that they were a more docile breed. The variety of colors, smaller size, how prolific they are, and their versatility sold us on the breed. We purchased our first ewes in 2018 and currently have a flock of 15 sheep. Prior to sheep we raised, bred, sold, and trained Paso Fino show horses for 20 plus years. We also raised Livestock Guardian dogs, Anatolian Pyrenees, retiring from that this past April. I have prior experience in being a hardware store Manager. I have good organizational skills, am detail oriented, and enjoy record keeping. I am interested in joining the board to be more involved in the breed organization while continue to learn and educate myself on the breed and its history. Thank you for your consideration, Terrisa Turner

## *Laura Timney*



My sheep journey has been a series of ups and downs for much of my adult life. As a teenager I had a small flock of Suffolk sheep for my FFA project. There weren't many choices back then in my area, and I enjoyed being competitive in the show ring. When I realized as a young adult there were so many more breeds out there I did my research and found "the sheep that lambs in litters" I saw a beautiful website full of pastoral landscapes and colorful finns from NY and the rest is history. I have been raising Finnsheep since purchasing my first ewe Stillmeadow 321F "Gypsy" in 1999. She had her first set of quintts within 2 years. And I was able to see first hand the bond created when you bring them into your life. As a long time FBA breeder I have been mostly out of the leadership of the FBA. I always assumed my small flock didnt give me the authority to make important decisions and work on solutions for our large organization. I was nominated last year to fill some very large shoes of a very dear friend and through that opportunity I was able to see first hand how important each vote and each person's input really is. I've been building my flock- Woven Willow Acres with my family and it has been one of my greatest joys. I have been a board member and seen the important work that needs to be done to keep the day to day needs of our membership fulfilled. It is my goal in the coming year if I am elected to serve the board and our membership by listening and helping us come up with solutions to our ever rising to do list. I hope you'll accept my nomination. Thank you, Laura Timney



# Short Tales

*Finnsheep Breeders Association*

Official registry for Finnsheep in the U.S.A. since 1971

## *What to expect on the FBA Board of Directors*

Several of you have asked what responsibilities would be involved, if you ran for a position as a board member. To help answer that question for you, here is the story of my experience as a first-time board member!

This year was my first, of a 3-year term. The main activity as a board member was attending our meetings every 2 months to discuss the day-to-day basics of running the organization, as well as looking over the treasurer's and secretary's reports. From there, the seven board members would volunteer for projects as they felt they had time. Examples of projects could be things like publishing Short Tales, creating educational guides, building the COI calculator, etc. The first year is a lot of watching and learning, and I've started to pick up more projects towards the end of the year as I've gotten a feel for how it works to be on the board and learned how the FBA operates.

If you are interested, you're welcome to submit a short bio that we can post on our members-only Facebook page. Or, if you would like to come to the annual meeting on Zoom on December 9th, you can watch, ask questions, and decide if you are interested at that time. Either way, I look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

~Cherish Duerst

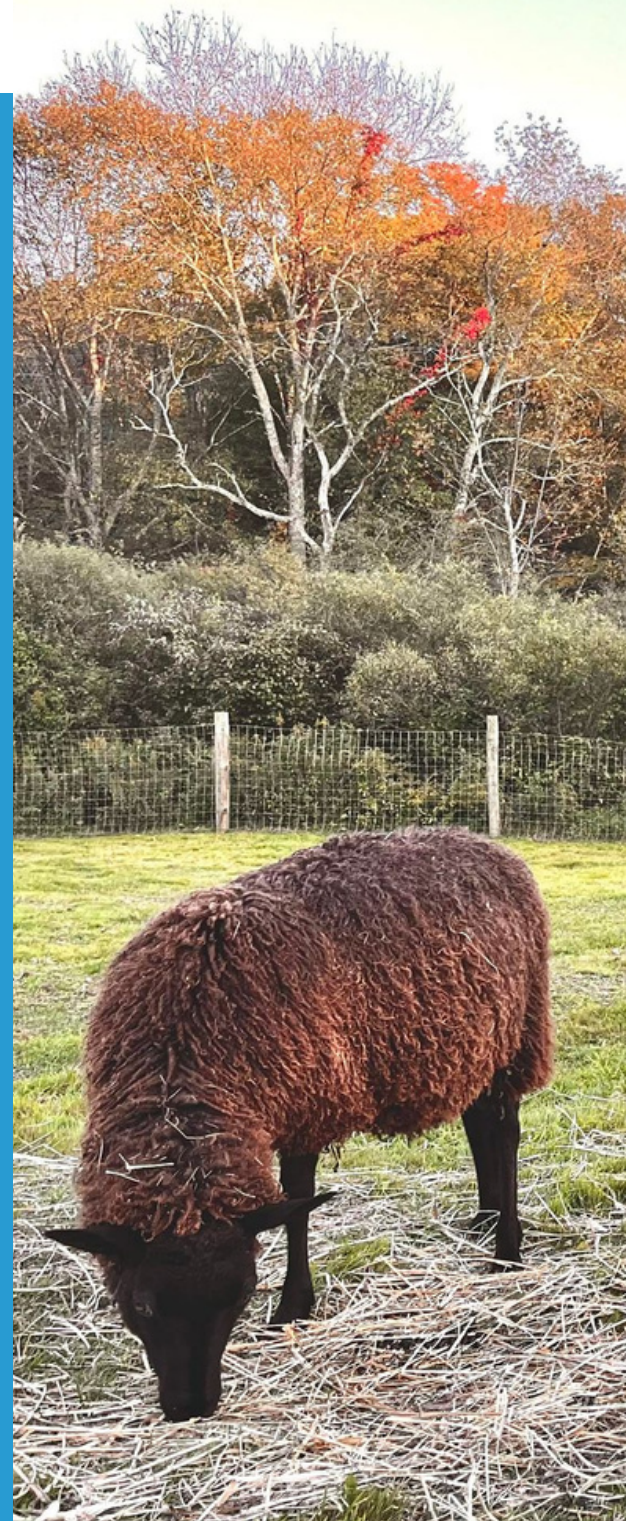


Photo Credit: Jo Hunt





# Short Tales

## Finnsheep Breeders Association

Official registry for Finnsheep in the U.S.A. since 1971

### Notes from the Board

2023 Has been a crazy year for the board!  
Here is a recap:

- Changes to the board: In January, Elizabeth Gossner resigned from the board and recommended Laura Timney in her stead. Laura was appointed as a new board member to complete 2023, until the membership could vote in a new leader. In July, Ashley Hoffman resigned as board president. Catherine Precht was appointed as the interim president until the next annual meeting.
- COI calculator: Officially up and running!
- Short Tails: Will be distributed only in digital format in the future. If a physical copy is desired, people are welcome to pay for one to be printed and sent to them. The Hall of Fame nominee each year is entitled to a hard copy of Short Tales with their HoF entry, free of charge.
- IFR registered sheep: Cannot be granted FBA papers unless the pedigree is traced back to the original FBA registration for each ancestor, to show purebred status.
- Code of Conduct: The website was updated so that each document or form submitted by our membership includes a checkbox of agreement with the Code of Conduct.
- Issues with the Associated Registries - more on pages 10 and 12.
- Three spots on the board will be voted on at our annual meeting - nominations are currently open! See page 8.

- Website Pictures: The purpose of the FBA website is to promote the Finnsheep breed as a whole - not specific breeders. Therefore, photos used on the FBA website must be used without photography credit. Of course, this will be communicated in writing when the photos are submitted and before any changes are made to the website. Photos cannot be used without permission.
- Annual meeting: The annual meeting will be on December 9, 7PM Eastern, via Zoom. The physical paper notice - printed and sent by Associated Registries - did not print properly and was missing part of our logo as well as the date. The Board emailed a separate notice to the membership.



Photo Credit: Donna Putnam



# Short Tales

## *Finnsheep Breeders Association*

Official registry for Finnsheep in the U.S.A. since 1971

### *Associated Registry*

The Associated Registry is a third party contractor who handles registrations, finances, mailings, and more for the FBA.

- 1) We have not been getting regular financial statements, despite promises from them.
- 2) The printed mailing for the annual meeting notice was missing ink and critical information.
- 3) The breeder's directory is consistently wrong.

Please come to the annual meeting to discuss a solution!!

### *Treasurer's Report*

The Associated Registries did not provide an annual financial report for our annual meeting last December, 2022. The board asked ahead of time for these year-to-date financials to be delivered by December 1st, and the Associated Registry responded that we would have it by November 23rd. It was not on time for our annual meeting on December 11th.

There was no treasurer's report for most of this year. In May, we again requested monthly itemized financial statements. AR promised to send them monthly by the 10th of each month. There was no report provided in June or July, June July and August were provided in August. The September & October financial statements were on time.

### *Advertising*

We are currently advertising in the Shepherd and in the American Sheep Industry News magazine.

There was an overage with the Shepherd last year, (caught by the Magazine's internal auditors) so this year's bill has been small.

\$1836 was spent on our ad in The Shepherd in 2022, and the FBA has a credit of \$1,350 from the 20 months of being overcharged (\$67.50 of overage per month.)

### *Breeder's Directory*

There are discrepancies between the member list and the breeders directory. Many members paid for a breeder's directory listing and have not received a listing. Others have a directory listing without an active FBA membership. There are also issues with the photos.



# Short Tales

*Finnsheep Breeders Association*  
Official registry for Finnsheep in the U.S.A. since 1971

## Crossbred Registrations

It has come to our attention that a small number of registered animals were mis-registered over the last several years. A small number of breeders had multiple animals this affects, and we have begun contacting them as we get more information. These were found during a recent audit done by members of our board after a discrepancy was brought to our attention. We do not expect this to affect a majority of members, as some of these were from offspring over 10 years ago, many with no further offspring. Most mistakes done when registering (either mis-labeled by Associated Registries, or the breeder) were caught early on by the breeders who registered their animals and would have been rectified immediately.

We are taking steps (tracking lines etc.) to identify any potential offspring this still affects, and we are expecting the breeders of any subsequent offspring to be responsible for contacting those who may have unknowingly purchased affected animals from them. We are assuming this was done in error and the FBA and Associated Registries have made it a priority to identify and correct these mistakes immediately.

We have taken steps to monitor this situation with regards to the mislabeling and registering of unregistrable animals who received papers from Associated Registries. For those who have since registered offspring from this affected line/lines we will look at those on a case by case basis, and get appropriate registrations to reflect the true lineage. Some animals were registered with no purebred FBA registered sire or dam, and those animals were ineligible for registration. The members of the board are treating this with the utmost importance and want to reiterate this was an extremely small number of animals.

To help prevent any further mistakes we are publishing a registration SOP (standard operating procedure), which will detail how to complete each part of the registry. One of our board members has offered to host a live zoom meeting to show new members and anyone needing assistance on the proper way to fill out both online and paper registrations. This will be advertised once the date is chosen.

As a reminder, it is the responsibility of breeders (sellers) to check that registrations are submitted correctly as well as recorded correctly. This should be done by physically checking registrations once papers are received, and can also be done by verifying paperwork in the online database once updated. Each member must sign their form indicating they are registering animals true lineage to the best of their knowledge at the time of registration. We are all accountable for our integrity, as individuals and a membership as a whole.

Thank you,

FBA Board of Directors



# Short Tales

*Finnsheep Breeders Association*

Official registry for Finnsheep in the U.S.A. since 1971

## *Alternatives to Associated Registry*

Alternatives to Associated Registry will be discussed at the annual meeting. Please bring your thoughts on this matter!

The Clun Forest Sheep Association uses a platform that integrates their online database with registrations - all in one place. This platform is offered by the same company that currently runs our website, so the switch would be natural. Someone from the FBA would still need to have admin access to add entries to the system and modify data on behalf of the FBA. We would also still need someone to act as treasurer by paying bills and keeping track of the finances - including detailed financial reports. <https://mtn-niche.com/2011/06/north-american-clun-forest-association/>

The Grassroots software has also been suggested, with similar benefits and drawbacks. <https://home.grassroots.co.uk/breed-society-grassroots-system/>

*Bring your suggestions too!*

The FBA's original contract with Associated Registries states that we are required to give them a 6-month heads-up if we would like to switch to another platform.



# Short Tales

*Finnsheep Breeders Association*  
Official registry for Finnsheep in the U.S.A. since 1971

## Shepherd Spotlight

Donna Putnam - Spinning Sheep Fiber Farm



Photo Credit: Donna Putnam

*Owners: Donna and Bob Putnam*  
*Farm name: Spinning Sheep Fiber Farm*  
*Established: 2014*  
*Flock size: 72 (way too many)*  
*Location: Holden, MO*  
*Contact: [dputnam.fiber.art@gmail.com](mailto:dputnam.fiber.art@gmail.com)*

*We are Donna and Bob Putnam, refugees from urban life. For each of us, the first 59 years had been spent in various large metropolitan areas, but in late 2013 we finally had the opportunity to escape. We'd been assisting various farmer friends with odds and ends of chores, but owning and operating our own small farm became a dream and is now a wonderful experience.*

*After much research, Donna decided on Finnsheep. Our beginning flock of four ewes, a ram, and a couple of wethers, quickly grew. Since Donna is a fiber artist, we started focusing on wool quality. Over the years, we have developed a wonderful line of wool genetics, 21-25 microns, that make handspinners quite happy. Along with wool production, we wanted to be able to pass our genetics on to other flocks. Toward that end, we worked to only use and sell the best breeding stock. Although all of the lambs are cute, not all meet our standards as future breeders.*

*Besides producing very soft yarn, Finn wool is great for felting. The wool from Finns felts faster than many other breeds and has a lovely, drapery hand. This makes it perfect for many products from the finest wearables to lovely décor items. Here at Spinning Sheep Fiber Farm, we focus on natural colored wool.*

*People often ask if it takes dye well, and the answer is a resounding yes. White will give the clear, exact colors that some folks want. The grays, of all shades, and browns take the colors to a different level, providing different hues that are not obtainable using the white wool.*



Photo Credit: Donna Putnam

*Time on the farm is broken into seasons – breeding, shearing, lambing, shearing, sales, and maintenance. Each of these times comes with its own rewards and problems. Nothing makes the heart happier than seeing the lambs doing their races at dusk, or the piles of fresh fleece, warm, beautiful, and soft, at shearing time. Seeing these things happen on a Finnsheep farm makes it all the more amazing.*



# Short Tales

*Finnsheep Breeders Association*

Official registry for Finnsheep in the U.S.A. since 1971

Make the next Shepherd Spotlight  
about your farm!

*Would you like your farm to be featured in Short  
Tales? Please send your submission to  
FinnsheepBreedersAssociation@gmail.com to  
get your farm in the next edition of Short Tales!*



Photo Credit: Jo Hunt



# Short Tales

## *Finnsheep Breeders Association*

Official registry for Finnsheep in the U.S.A. since 1971

### Get involved in a committee!

#### Fiber Committee

Contact: Donna Putnam  
dputnam.fiber.art@gmail.com  
(816) 694-6801

#### Commercial/NSIP Committee

Contact: Catherine Precht  
cclambandwool@gmail.com  
(320) 296-8025

#### Dairy Committee

Contact: Cherish Duerst  
2cabbageheads@gmail.com  
(218) 556-8159

#### Youth/Education Committee

Contact: Laura Timney  
Fuzzlop@hotmail.com  
(302) 354-8151

#### Constitution Committee

FinnsheepBreedersAssociation@gmail.com

The Board is always looking for volunteers to help with planning and projects. To get involved, contact the representative from the committee you are interested in.



Photo Credit: Donna Putnam

### Constitution Committee

Several changes are needed to the constitution... There are items that are no longer accurate that need to be fixed, for example, where our Non-Profit is registered.

Would you be able to give up a few hours and work with some fellow shepherds to help us get this updated?

Reach out to a member of the board and let's get this completed.



# Short Tales

## Finnsheep Breeders Association

Official registry for Finnsheep in the U.S.A. since 1971

### Get involved in a committee!

#### FIBER

The Fiber Committee is made up of FBA members with a strong interest in Finnsheep fiber. Finnsheep wool has become much sought after by hand spinners and felters. The committee will be looking at various characteristics of the wool, things like microns, comfort factor, and all the wonderful uses of this wool. Another important topic for the committee will be how to best market Finnsheep wool. Some shepherds sell directly to the end users, while the commercial shepherds need a different strategy in order to be successful in the sales area. There are so many topics to explore! Want to get involved? Send a pm to Donna Putnam, including your email and your interest in Finnsheep wool. Are you a fiber artist? Do you raise Finns commercially? We are hoping to meet via conference call once a month. A regular time has not yet been scheduled. Watch for information posts on the Facebook "FBA Discussion" page.



Photo Credit: Donna Putnam

#### NSIP/COMMERCIAL

The NSIP/Commercial committee is currently a group of breeders that have an interest in utilizing and promoting Finnsheep for the commercial flock. We are taking a look at what factors and data are important to commercial producers. How can we make it easier for the commercial producer to make purchases with confidence? How can we use that information to make the needed improvements in their flock. Join us and share your ideas to give Finnsheep the respect they deserve amongst the top producing breeds in the US and beyond.



Photo Credit: Cherish Duerst





# Short Tales

## Finnsheep Breeders Association

Official registry for Finnsheep in the U.S.A. since 1971

### Get involved in a committee!

Photo Credit: Donna Putnam



#### DAIRY

The Finnsheep dairy committee is for all dairy enthusiasts in the Finnsheep community! Join us in 2024 as we develop standards to track dairy traits within our flocks. The goal is to have a way to track performance within our flock, as well as a gauge for purchasing new stock. What would you like to see sellers keep track of when you're bringing in new dairy animals? How can the FBA's pedigree system aid you as a breeder in making decisions for your flock? We hope to create a conversation, perhaps as a group message or other means of time-flexible communication. Each month will have a new discussion goal that members can weigh in on as time allows. The hope is to create an environment where as many shepherds as possible are included on the discussion, as they have time. Join the conversation in 2024! Reach out to the FBA secretary at [FinnsheepBreedersAssociation@gmail.com](mailto:FinnsheepBreedersAssociation@gmail.com) to be included as we develop strategies to make the FBA work for dairy breeders!

#### YOUTH & EDUCATION

The Youth and Education committee has been developed with the intention of educating our membership from the newest flock owner to the seasoned large scale producer. Our youth are our future, and our goals are to promote the next generation of Finnsheep breeders by highlighting stories of our youth membership and their accomplishments in and out of the barn. To offer mentorship we first need willing mentors to help youth navigate opportunities in the entirety of the sheep industry. By broadening all members knowledge of Finnsheep we will promote a better understanding of our breed's purpose and increase our marketability. Husbandry knowledge helps us raise quality animals fit for registration. Striving for healthy flocks genetically as well as physically will take precedence in challenging times of increased feed and care costs. Raising awareness of new husbandry practices and methods from reputable sources keeps us all viable in an ever changing sheep industry. Providing a "gold standard" for which to interpret our broad breed description- aligned with the goals of our breed association is paramount. Meetings are 1-2 hours monthly -contact [fuzzlop@hotmail.com](mailto:fuzzlop@hotmail.com) for a chance to make our Finn community better for all!



Photo Credit: Jordana Hunt



# Short Tales

## Finnsheep Breeders Association

Official registry for Finnsheep in the U.S.A. since 1971

### Super Finns!

Do you have Super Finns in your barn? Send us reports of your:

- Largest number of lambs born per litter
- Largest number of lambs born in a lifetime
- Largest number of lambs surviving at weaning per lifetime
- Highest average litter size per ewe
- Highest litter weight at birth and at weaning
- Low micron counts
- Fleece weight
- Pounds milked per day
- Long lactation
- High milk fat
- Low fecal egg counts over time



We want to hear about your Super Finns! Send reports to:

[FinnsheepBreedersAssociation@gmail.com](mailto:FinnsheepBreedersAssociation@gmail.com)



Above and below photo credit:  
Johanna Hunt

Within our small flock, Hyacinth is considered one of our super ewes. This SEVEN year old ewe kicked off October with a bang, lambing unassisted in the field on an unseasonably warm afternoon, for the SECOND time in 2023. Yes, for the second time, exactly 200 days apart. While this is not uncommon for ewes kept in high production breeding programs, it is a first for our flock. While we typically do not plan for ewes to lamb twice in a year, both spring and fall, our late ram, Huck, had a bit of an unintended rendezvous with the ewes in early May. Clearly, although brief, it was effective.

Hyacinth is a super producer of milk, both in quantity and quality, despite only having one functional teat due to a case of mastitis in her early years. This hasn't stopped her from raising exceptionally nice lambs with the highest growth rates in the flock. We are so grateful to Elizabeth Kinne Gossner of Stillmeadow Finnsheep for entrusting us with this grand ewe when retiring from her decades of breeding Finns. Hyacinth has already had an impact on our small flock, giving us the spectacular Sunflower last year who was retained. We have big hopes for her legacy here! - Johanna Hunt



# Breeder's Directory

*This directory is based on the list sent to the FBA by the Associated Registry, our third party contractor who handles all memberships, pedigrees, breeder listings, etc. The board is aware of multiple errors. If this is a concern to you, please come to the annual meeting to discuss a solution to this ongoing problem.*

## Arkansas

Ponker Farm  
Kelli Otting  
346 W Firetower Rd.  
Hardy, AR 72542  
309-642-7330  
kelli.otting@gmail.com  
www.ponkerfarm.com

## California

Nhia Yang  
9240 Katena Lane  
Wilton, CA 95693  
916-804-2662  
yangnl@yahoo.com

## Delaware

Daisy & Savannah Timney  
3585 Summit Bridge Rd  
Bear, DE 19701  
302-354-8151  
fuzzlop@hotmail.com

## Georgia

Gabriella Nanci  
1200 Highway 74 S Suite 6-301  
Peachtree City, Ga 30269  
404-323-5591  
gnnanci@yahoo.com

## Idaho

Matthew Castricum  
123 Kacey Ln  
Grangeville, ID 83530  
208-702-2756  
literatus.castricum@gmail.com

## Gray Farm

Leonard & Carol Gray  
2451 E Little Basin Rd  
King Hill, ID 83633  
208-366-3304  
theclgrayfarm@gmail.com

## Illinois

Francis Corvin  
neurozool@gmail.com

## Primrose Path Farm

Terrisa Turner  
3502 Black Oak Lane  
Edwardsville, IL 62025  
618-570-8871  
turner428@yahoo.com  
www.primrosepathfarm.net

## Iowa

Dale L. Amendt  
6815 Waterman Blvd  
Sutherland, IA 51058  
712-446-3489

## Marvin Blair

3402 Fletcher Ave.  
Lake City, IA 51449  
712-464-8153; 712-464-3688  
bbqshop@gmail.com

## Mormon Trail Farm

Clark E. Bredahl  
1911 290TH ST.  
Greenfield, IA 50849-8016  
641-745-2323; 641-221-0551  
bredahl.mtfarms@gmail.com  
www.mtrailfarms.com

## Kansas

14 Hands Ranch  
Jada Sharp  
11881 LK & W Road  
Leonardville, KS 66449  
785-656-2685  
jada@twinvalley.net

## Maine

Katie Coady  
18 Mains Road  
Otisfield, ME 04270  
207-627-3525  
katherinemcoady@gmail.com

## Patricia Ross

277 Beckwith Rd  
Cornville, ME 04976  
207-474-1204  
jprossfam@gmail.com

## Maryland

Honeysuckle Farm  
John & Mary O'Malley  
1600 Ednor Rd.  
Silver Spring, MD 20905  
301-421-9520; 240-462-3620  
johnandmaryomalley@yahoo.com

## Massachusetts

Hedgehog Hill Farm  
Ashleigh Woolf  
6 Chickadee Ln  
North Easton, MA 02356  
508-649-9496  
thesheep@hedgehoghill.farm  
www.hedgehoghillfarm.godaddysites.com

## Michigan

LH Pine Hill Farm  
Holly Hamill & Lorene Kennedy  
1734 E M20  
Shelby, MI 49455  
989-672-4140  
hollyhamill45@gmail.com

# Breeder's Directory

*This directory is based on the list sent to the FBA by the Associated Registry, our third party contractor who handles all memberships, pedigrees, breeder listings, etc. The board is aware of multiple errors. If this is a concern to you, please come to the annual meeting to discuss a solution to this ongoing problem.*

## Minnesota

Brandy Scobee  
35433 Helium St NW  
Princeton, MN 55371  
612-280-1973  
brandy@emswiss.net

Ewe Crazy Finns  
Jon & Krystal Hillukka  
32626 209th Ave  
Menhaga, MN 56464  
218-371-0427  
jonhillukka@hotmail.com

Gale Woods Farm Park  
Tim Reese  
7210 County Rd. 110 West  
Minnetrissa, MN 55364  
763-694-2002; 612-490-2186  
tim.reese@threeriversparks.org  
www.galewoodsfarm.org

Prairie Plum Farm  
Sue Wiegrefe  
42443 120TH Street  
Mabel, MN 55954  
715-220-1183  
swiegrefe@sbcglobal.net  
www.prairieplumfarm.com

New York  
Bigfoot Farm  
Johanna Hunt  
859-707-9593; 859-340-0089  
QHEventr@aol.com

Gunner Glover  
5171 Fitzgearld Rd  
Burdett, NY 14818  
607-725-9577  
mountainmoorfarm@gmail.com

Jennifer Lord  
2443 State Highway 28  
Oneonta, NY 13820  
607-437-0951  
aj3kb@yahoo.com

Joshua & Chantel Muntain  
56 Church Street  
Delvan, NY 13820  
716-302-7124  
muntains@gmail.com

Point of View Finnsheep  
Sten & Caraleigh Wilson  
PO BOX 535  
Bangell, NY 12506  
845-868-4140  
finnsheep@finnsheep.net  
www.finnsheep.net

North Carolina  
Lucky Bee Farm  
David & Michele Warren  
734 Surl Mount Tirzah Rd  
Timberlake, NC 27583  
919-452-3539  
mauser338@yahoo.com

New Hampshire  
Bob Newton & Cathy Blais  
14 Old Temple Rd  
Lyndeborough, NH 03082  
401-862-8853  
cathysfarmnh@gmail.com

New Mexico  
Westfarthing Farm  
Bob and Sharry Bone  
29C Northview Tr  
Edgerwood, NM 87015  
505-281-6582  
rchapin8391@yahoo.com

Patricia Maas  
PO Box 914  
Moriarty, NM 87035  
505-389-9437  
scakya@gmail.com

Ohio  
Fox Run Farm  
Rhonda Threlfall  
5978 Hughes Rd  
Prospect, OH 43342  
740-972-6351  
foxrun2001@gmail.com

Oregon  
Alicia Ernest  
4591 Forsyth Ln  
Ontario, OR 97914  
458-745-2323  
ernestfarmsontario@gmail.com

Pennsylvania  
Brambly Hedge Farm  
Gwendolyn Hemer  
131 Keen Road  
Spring City, PA 19475  
484-500-1890  
bramblyhedgefarm.pa@gmail.com

Cheyenne Kneller  
2063 Pisgah Rd  
Troy, PA 16947  
570-529-0007  
apknellet@gmail.com

Michelle & Paul Geiss  
5 Gallon Dog Ranch  
20519 Lindsey Hollow Road  
Corry, PA 16407  
814-254-8501; 814-254-8500  
pmgeiss@gmail.com  
www.5gallondogranch.com

# Breeder's Directory

*This directory is based on the list sent to the FBA by the Associated Registry, our third party contractor who handles all memberships, pedigrees, breeder listings, etc. The board is aware of multiple errors. If this is a concern to you, please come to the annual meeting to discuss a solution to this ongoing problem.*

Jan & Dale Hamby  
Faire Winds Farm, LLC  
2 Fair Winds Lane  
Quarryville, PA 17566  
717-239-9215; 717-239-9216  
jan.hamby@gmail.com  
www.fairwindsfarmpa.com

Violet Kneller  
2063 Pisgah Rd  
Troy, PA 16947  
570-529-0007  
apkneller@gmail.com

Utah  
Clover Creek Ranch  
Dave & Shelsey Hawkins  
1310 South Old Highway 91  
Mona, UT 84645  
801-310-7776  
clovercreekranch@gmail.com

Virginia  
Ashley Hoffman  
Cedar View Farm  
PO BOX 174  
23088 Slaughters Mill Rd  
Mitchells, VA 22729  
540-661-7331  
CedarViewFarmVA@gmail.com  
www.CedarViewFarmVA.com

John & Kristen McCann  
Woodsong Farm  
1185 County Line Road  
Bassett, VA 24055  
276-421-2204  
jnkMcCann@yahoo.com  
www.farmingatwoodsong.com

Vermont  
Fairy Tale Farm  
Alissa Shethar  
1183 VT RTE 125  
Bridport, VT 05734  
802-758-6807  
alissa@fairytafarm.net

Deborah Fuller  
88 Garfield Lane  
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819  
802-633-2584  
mfullerfarm@aol.com

Dboondoggle Farm  
Katy Wolfe  
559 Windmill Hill Rd S  
Putney, VT 05346  
802-557-1163  
yeskatydid@gmail.com

Washington  
Triple L Finnsheep  
Dan & Leanne Hughes  
89202 N. Harrington Rd.  
West Richland, WA 99353  
509-539-6745  
danlea23@msn.com  
www.triplelfinnsheep.com

Dancing Waters Farm  
Debra L. Perry  
4923 163rd LN SW  
Rochester, WA 98579  
360-273-9077  
mountaintrailwalker@yahoo.com

Solace Farm  
Robert & Sandra Willford  
30119 N. Spotted Rd.  
Deer Park, WA 99006  
509-276-7160  
sandra@solacefarmer.com  
www.solacefarmer.com

Emily Tzeng  
10806 159th Ave E  
Puallup, WA 98374  
443-350-7207  
emtxeng@gmail.com

The Smithshyre  
Erin & Roni Smith  
22119 Foss Road NE  
Poulsbo, WA 98370  
360-271-7896  
thesmithshyre@gmail.com

Brookshire Farm  
Jennifer Corwin  
83204 N Harrington Road  
West Richland, WA 99353  
509-584-8449  
jcorwin@gmail.com

West Virginia  
Cabriole Farm LLC  
Joann Jones  
453 Capriole Lane  
Ronceverte, WV 24970  
304-667-2117  
kpingup@hotmail.com

Wisconsin  
Ayrwen Farm  
Art & Gloria Johnson  
642 Swedish Mission Road  
River Falls, WI 54022  
616-402-9882  
ayrwen@me.com

Lori Stephenson  
N 80 W 34386 Peterson Rd  
Oconomowoc, WI 53066  
262-490-8937  
stephenson@netwurx.net



# Short Tales

*Finnsheep Breeders Association*

Official registry for Finnsheep in the U.S.A. since 1971

## Board of Directors

### Interm-President

Catherine Precht  
2023, 1st Term  
44661 870th Ave  
Hector, MN 55342  
(320) 296-8025  
cclambandwool@gmail.com

### Secretary/Treasurer

Cherish Duerst  
2025, 1st Term  
39956 Fairground rd  
Bagley, MN 56621  
(218) 556-8159  
2cabbageheads@gmail.com

### Director

Johanna Hunt  
2024, 1st Term  
(859) 707-9593  
qheventr@aol.com

### Director

Donna Putnam  
2025, 1st Term  
350 SW 1501 RD  
HOLDEN, MO 64040  
(816) 694-6801  
dputnam.fiber.art@gmail.com

### Director

Appointed  
Laura Timney  
3585 Summit Bridge Rd.  
Bear, DE 19701  
(302) 354-8151  
Fuzzlop@hotmail.com

### Director

Quint Precht  
2025, 1st Term  
44661 870th Ave  
Hector, MN 55342  
(320) 296-8024  
qdprecht@gmail.com



# Short Tales

## *Finnsheep Breeders Association*

Official registry for Finnsheep in the U.S.A. since 1971



Photo Credit: Johanna Hunt/Bigfoot Farm

Visit us on the web: [www.finnsheep.org](http://www.finnsheep.org)

Associated Registry Office

P.O. Box 231, 305 Lincoln

Wamego, KS 66547

P: (785) 456-8500 F: (785) 456-8599

[asregistry@gmail.com](mailto:asregistry@gmail.com)

Finnsheep Breeders Association, Inc.

Finnsheep breeders are now found across many States producing purebred and crossbred Finnsheep. Breeders look to the Finnsheep Breeders Association, Inc. to provide record keeping of registrations and transfers of the breed. Since the inception of the Finnsheep Breeders Association, Inc. the organization has drawn on the expertise of leading research authorities to enhance the Finnsheep breed and provide leadership in promoting the Finnsheep qualities and characteristics.

FBA Mission Statement

The American Finnsheep Breeders Association:

Provides a national pedigree breed recording system for Finnsheep. Maintains the Finnsheep breed standard for the USA. Promotes animal health within the breed and nationally. Fosters and promotes the proliferation and marketing of Finnsheep within the national sheep industry and abroad Is a national focal point for Finnsheep Breeders. Disseminates timely information to members on all matters relating to the breed