



Short Tales

Finnsheep Breeders Association

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



Chief Shepherd's Message

-by Catherine Precht

A TIME TO GET INVOLVED

Earlier this summer my husband and I attended the educational opportunities put on by NSIP. One of the educational topics touched on the importance of being part of sheep organizations as a shepherd. The more I thought about the subject the more it inspired more ideas about how important it is to be involved.

There are both active ways to be involved and inactive ways. A few active ways can include being on the board of an organization you are part of, locally promoting lamb and sheep products, or talking about lamb and wool production on social media platforms. The list goes on and there are many other ways you can actively be involved. Inactive ways you can be involved are being part of a sheep breeders association (like the FBA) or your state lamb and wool association. Here too there are many other inactive ways you can be involved.

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Chief Shepherd's Message ... Continued

When you are part of organizations you are counted. For example, when you are part of your state lamb and wool association you are counted as a member/producer of lamb and wool. It allows the organization to lobby to your state government for things that will help shepherds and say they are speaking on behalf of the members/producers. It gives them a count of sheep producers they can factually say would be helped or impacted by legislation. Being part of your state lamb and wool association also usually gets you a membership with the American Sheep Industry. This allows representatives from ASI to lobby on behalf of all sheep producers in Washinton DC. When there are 500 members, it doesn't look like funds will impact or be utilized in a way that will impact a measurable part of the population, but if there are 50,000 members it has a bigger reach.

Sometimes when things affecting the sheep industry are not in our state or region it seems like there isn't a lot we can do. One example that is going on right now that does affect each of us either directly or indirectly is the proposal to not allow animal processing in the city limits of Denver, which would require the shutting down of the lamb processing plant that is within city limits. Now I know some of our members don't sell lambs to market nor do they want any of their lambs going to market so they may think this doesn't really affect them, but the reality is that if those of us that do sell our lambs to market aren't able to, we are going to be looking to sell to the same

customers you do because reality is most of us don't plan on keeping everything we raise and we need to find a way to move them off our farm. Simple supply and demand is that there will then be many more sheep to sell to those customers and the price will go down. When ASI is lobbying against the proposal that would shut down the plant in Denver it is helpful to be able to have bigger numbers that say how many producers it will affect. Same is true for opportunities for grants and so on. Though I think many of us would like to be able to do more, being a member or part of organizations like ASI is one thing we can do to help. The other part is when you are part of your state lamb and wool association they usually offer learning opportunities that can help you be more efficient and/or more profitable.

Sometimes all we can do to be involved is to be inactively involved, but other times we are able to take a more active role in being involved. Yes, it is important to have numbers so that those that can speak on our behalf are able to do so and include us in the count of people they are speaking on behalf of, but it is also important to have producers that are willing to be actively involved. For example, our board of directors is intended to consist of 7 members per the constitution. Each person brings a different perspective and a different background to conversations. Having a smaller group of board members



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Chief Shepherd's Message ... Continued

gives less different experiences and background. When trying to make the best decisions for the membership maximizing the experience and knowledge of those making the decisions usually results in the best outcome for all involved. If you are able and are willing to consider giving up a little of your time once a month to partake in the board of directors meeting it would be wonderful to have more nominations for directors.

We are just 2 weeks from our annual meeting. Last years attendance was up from the previous year and I hope to see even more members at our annual meeting. Last year there was great conversation regarding ideas that the board can work on. I would enjoy having a similar conversation with even more of our members. If you are not able to attend the meeting but have something you would like to share, please reach out to a board member and we can share on your behalf.





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Speaker Announcement



Back to the Basics - Parasite Management

Dr. Scott Bowdridge, a Professor of Food Animal Production at West Virginia University will be kicking off our annual meeting with a back to the basics of parasite management presentation. If you own sheep you deal with parasites.

A little background about Dr. Bowdridge

Dr. Bowdridge has developed a research program to investigate immune responses in sheep to gastrointestinal nematode parasites. He earned his doctorate from Virginia Tech studying immune responses of St. Croix sheep to *Haemonchus Contortus* and also spent time studying specific immune mechanisms during intestinal parasite infection in a NIH funded postdoc position at the New Jersey Medical School.

Please join us at the beginning of the annual meeting for Dr. Bowdridge's presentation.





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Annual Meeting Agenda

October 26, 2024

Presentation from Scott Bowdridge

- Back to the basics worm management

Secretary Report

Treasurer's Report

Old Business:

Update on Moving Away from AR

- 3rd Party Audit
- Hiring Secretary/Administrator

Update on crossbred registrations

Update on ad in the Shepherd magazine

New Business:

Election of new Directors

AR Contract Renewal and new Fees

Hall of Fame – New Inductee

Adjourn Meeting



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Annual Meeting - Info

To participate in the FBA annual meeting, click the link below or call in to any of the below phone numbers from your cellphone or landline phone!

Below is the zoom information for the annual meeting:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96238300780?pwd=mbJjWEgqugbGGDXVCsOA8N0aDceoSl.1>

Meeting ID: 962 3830 0780

Passcode: 090824

One tap mobile

*+13092053325,,96238300780#,,,,*090824# US*

*+13126266799,,96238300780#,,,,*090824# US (Chicago)*

Dial by your location

- +1 309 205 3325 US*
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)*
- +1 646 876 9923 US (New York)*
- +1 646 931 3860 US*
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)*
- +1 305 224 1968 US*
- +1 669 444 9171 US*
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)*
- +1 689 278 1000 US*
- +1 719 359 4580 US*
- +1 253 205 0468 US*
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)*
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)*
- +1 360 209 5623 US*
- +1 386 347 5053 US*
- +1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)*
- +1 507 473 4847 US*
- +1 564 217 2000 US*

Meeting ID: 962 3830 0780

Passcode: 090824

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/96238300780>



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Notes from the Board

Contract renewal with AR

Though the board is working on an alternate option for our registry services we are still utilizing the services of AR. This year is our contract renewal with AR. The transaction fee that AR is charging per transaction is going up to \$4.50 per transaction, from \$3.75. The board had discussion regarding what this means for what members should pay for the transactions. It was decided that the purebred registration would stay at \$8.50, but that the transfer fee and crossbred registration fee would go up by \$0.75 each to match the increase that AR has made.

Update on Moving away from AR

As we expressed previously Doug from Mountain Niche is working on building us an admin portal to be able to process our registrations and memberships online. He is still working on this and the board has not seen a testing site as of yet. So no real update at this time other than we are just waiting for the next step.

Finnsheep in Science - News from the UK

Very many thanks for your comprehensive and interesting website concerning Finnsheep in the United States.

As part of a project in the UK for www.sheeptrust.org, we are currently analysing genome sequences of Finnsheep from the US, publicly available through the international sheep genomics consortium.

Our main focus has been/is the Herdwick sheep breed - the Sheep Trust charity was started in response to the Foot and Mouth epidemic in the UK in 1991.... (and in fact I have one ewe still with my flock, who was conceived on a hill farm in Wasdale in the Lake District 1991 - stored in liquid nitrogen born via a surrogate ewe on the 10 year anniversary in 2001.. and going strong at 13y !)

The charity is committed to developing sound science to encourage recognition of the significance and strengths of locally adapted native sheep breeds - those typically concentrated in specific geographical and environmental areas - such as the Lake District in the north west of the UK - or the marsh farmlands in the south east of the country. As part of this work we undertook some early work on genetic distinctiveness between breeds, but in recent years we are applying the greatly improved technologies of genomics. Currently this involves genomic sequencing, and as part of this wider study we are currently comparing distinctiveness of Finnsheep, Romney and Merino and Herdwick.

I hope to let you know our findings when we have processed all the data - but this was just to make contact and to thank you for your work and support of Finsheep breed in the US.

All the best wishes

Dianna

*Emeritus Professor Dianna Bowles OBE
Department of Biology - Area 8
University of York, Wentworth Way, York YO10 5DD*

Times Higher Education University of the Year 2010



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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

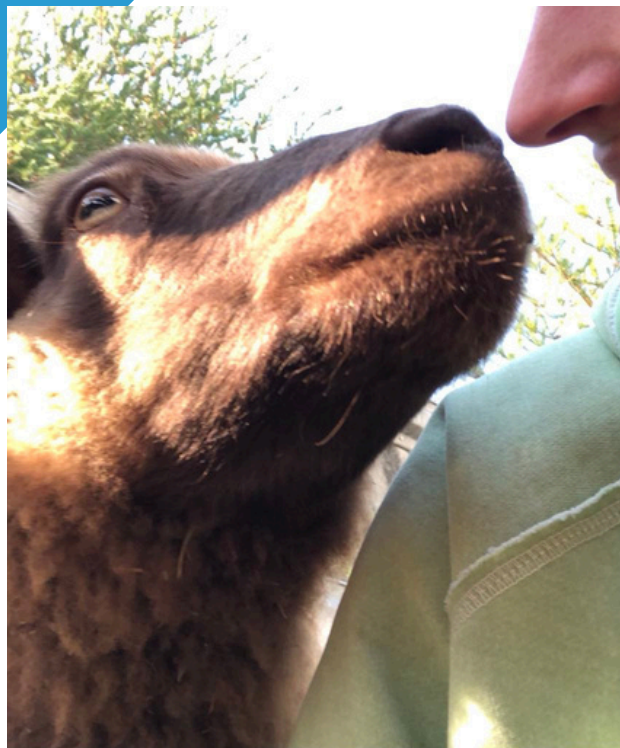
Youth/Education Committee

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.



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.



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A Tribute to Dr. Charles Parker

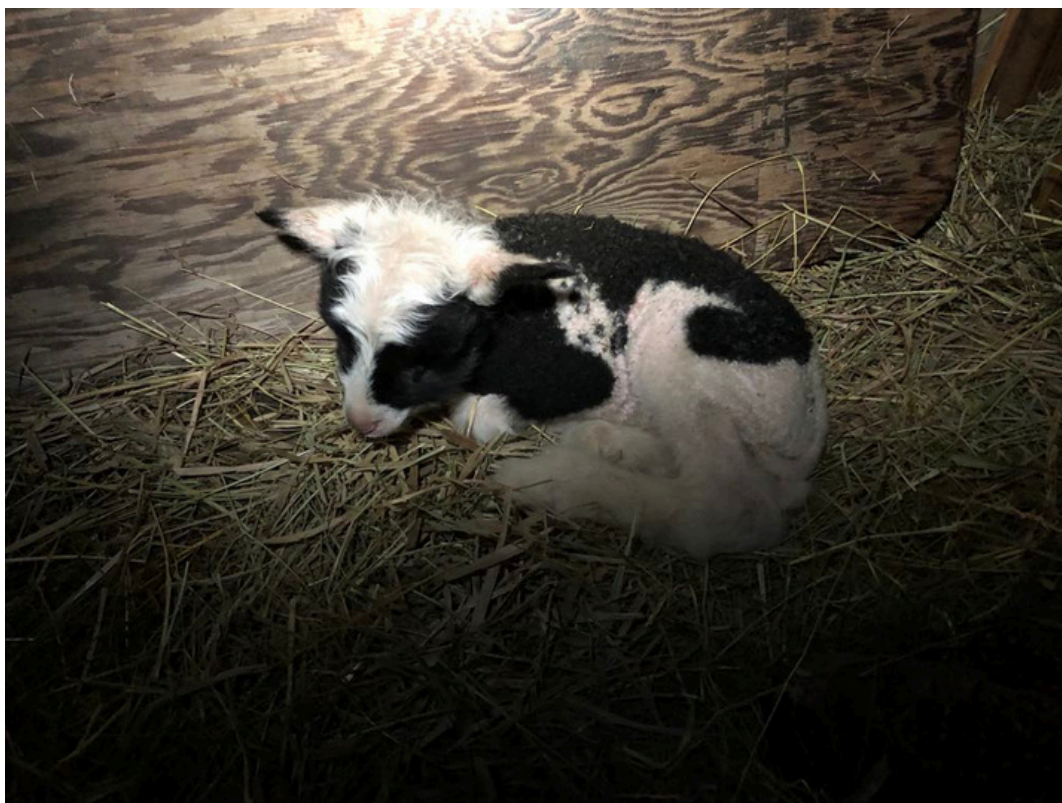
Compiled words of wisdom

Shared by Haley Campbell

Recently a long time Katahdin breeder passed away and a tribute was published on behalf of him. Kathy Bielek and Roxanne Newton on behalf of the EAPK Communications Committee decided to compile some of his advice and guidance over the years to share with others.

Though a different breed, there is a lot of great advice in the article that applies to all sheep breeders. View the article at the following link:

https://easternalliancekatahdins.com/a-tribute-to-dr-charles-parker-mentor-and-friend/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=a-tribute-to-dr-charles-parker-mentor-and-friend





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Help us feature more about our wonderful sheep and our farms that raise them! Some new sections have been added to help us all share the wonderful things that can be done with our Finnsheep.

Also, if you have photos you want to share for us to use in the Short Tales, we would enjoy sharing your submissions!



Let us feature your farm with a Shepherd Spotlight feature



Share your favorite dairy recipe or an accomplishment with your dairy Finnsheep



Share your favorite recipe using lamb meat or an accomplishment with your finnsheep in regards to their commercial production



Share your favorite fiber project or an accomplishment with your fiber Finnsheep

Please send your submission to FinnsheepBreedersAssociation@gmail.com to get your farm in the next edition of Short Tales!

Breeder's Directory

This directory is based on the information sent to the FBA by the Associated Registry. The board has also included everyone who sent us their receipts to ensure inclusion in this publication. If you paid for a 2024 breeder listing in the past year, but are not listed here, please let us know!

ALABAMA

Artful Acres
Michelle Vilamaa
2231 Atkin Hill Rd
Wetumpka, AL 36092
334-220-7258
michellevilamaa@gmail.com

Dancing Waters Farm
Debra Perry
27959 Wooley Springs Rd
Athens, AL 35613
253-861-5382
mountaintrailwalker@yahoo.com

ARKANSAS

Ponker Farm
Kelli Otting
346 W Firetower RD
Hardy, AR 72542
309-642-7330
PonkerFarm@gmail.com
PonkerFarm.com

CALIFORNIA

Autumn Farms & Gardens Foundation Inc
Autumn Moody
20801 N Burma Rd
Ramona, CA 92065
619-877-9379
autumnfarmsandgardens@gmail.com

Lazy Morning Farm
Michelle Ramirez
7220 34th 34th St
North Highlands, CA 95660
916-276-0856
lazymorningfarm@gmail.com

COLORADO

Aimee King-Rogers
PO Box 184
Buffalo Creek, CO 80425
303-898-7959
jackpotspringranch@gmail.com

ILLINOIS

Lori Homeyer
14102 Jankowski Rd
Woodstock, IL 60098
815-451-4729
lori@lorihomeyer.com

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

MAINE

Full Stop Farm
Sadie Cora & Karl Hluska
381 Bean Rd
Mt Vernon, ME 04352
413-522-0630
sadiespinsyarn@gmail.com

Riverside Farm
Kristie Green
1110 North Rd N
Yarmouth, ME 04097
207-831-5020
tokristie@yahoo.com

MARYLAND

Bruce & Brenda Kinzinger
338 Quaker Bottom Rd
Havre De Grace, MD 21078
443-415-6517
bkinzing@gmail.com

MASSACHUSETTS

Walking Cloud Farm
Marti Taft-Ferguson
7 Martin Road
Shelburne Falls, MA 01370
804-994-7540
marti@walkingcloudfarm.com

MICHIGAN

Flying Rowan Farm
Julie Turner
4300 Wheeler Rd
Fowlerville, MI 48836
734-417-6360
info@flyingrowanfarm.com

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

MINNESOTA

Cream City Lamb and Wool
Quint & Catherine Precht
44661 870th Ave
Hector, MN 55342
320-296-8025
cclambandwool@gmail.com

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

Gale Woods Farm Park
Tim Reese
7210 County Rd. 110 West
Minnetrista, 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

Prairie Willows Farm
Heidi Quist
16026 345th Street
Center City, MN 55012
651-238-5370
prairiewillowsfarm@gmail.com

MISSOURI

Spinning Sheep Fiber Farm
Donna & Robert Putnam
350 SW 1501 Rd
Holden, MO 64040
816-694-6801
dputnam.fiber.art@gmail.com

Dana Russo
430 PR 425-5
Peace Valley, MO 65788
417-293-0000
dana.russo@gmail.com

NEW HAMPSHIRE

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

NEW MEXICO

Hyer Woods
Kerry Mower
33 County Rd 28
Stanley, NM 87056
505-459-9927
kerryjmower@gmail.com

NEW YORK

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

Sweetland Hill Finnsheep
Amy Cook
64 Sweetland Hill Rd
Chenango Fork, NY 13746
607-725-4844
cookam@sunnybroome.edu

Wandering Feet Farm
Kathryn Davis
1229 River Rd
Troy, NY 12182
518-926-0799
kathryn842@aol.com

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

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

Bay Haven Short Tails
Lisa Konnerth
80 Bay Road
Brookhaven, NY 11719
631-776-0279
bayhavenshorttails@hotmail.com

OHIO

Hannah's Happy Finnsheep
Hannah Smits
3706 Bass Road
Williamsburg, OH 45176
513-724-2679
info@hannahshappyfinnsheep.com

Woolberry Ranch
Stacey Lee
1081 South County Line Rd
Johnstown, OH 43031
740-825-2609
woolberryranch@gmail.com

PENNSYLVANIA

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

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SOUTH CAROLINA

Misty Strange
1313 Highway 247
Belton, SC 29627
864-360-8604
mimedawn@yahoo.com

SOUTH DAKOTA

Ann Perry
10936 W Wood Rd
Belle Fourche, SD 57717
605-499-9774
raperry6500@icloud.com

TEXAS

Charissa Fredrickson
7840 County Rd 1054
Celeste, TX 75423
903-568-9924
oreothebordercollie@juno.com

Otto Ranch
Heather Otto
PO Box 70
Cedar Creek, TX 76812
512-825-1457
moonoverewe@gmail.com

VIRGINIA

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

Gypsy Mountain Farm
Robin Doty
1346 Nester School Rd
Dugspur, VA 24325
716-560-0226
eagypsy@aol.com

VERMONT

AJ's Happy Chick Farm
Susan Beshar
287 Sinion Rd
West Glover, VT 05875
802-242--0062
susan@ajshappychickfarm.com

Autumn Rayne Acres
Beckey Thompson
149 Stewart Rd
Berlin Heights, VT 05602
757-240-6796
autumnrayneacres@gmail.com

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

Pine Maple Homestead
Jared & Hannah Felch
576 Steward Rd
Berlin, VT 05602
802-793-6678
jared.felch@gmail.com

Red Barn Finnsheep
Richard Crocker
93 Burnett Rd
Putney, VT 05346
802-384-3715
rcrocker.horizen@gmail.com

Gavin Graves
196 Whitford Rd
Addison, VT 05491
802-598-4116
kayhart.funnyfarm@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

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

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

Brenda Treibel
27824 SE 378th PL
Enumclaw, WA 98022
360-367-1515
fuzzyfunfish@gmail.com

Huckleberry Farm
Colleen & Murray Peck
36116 SE 89th PL
Snoqualmie, WA 98065
425-888-3290
ovna@aol.com

Kaisha Hamilton
1424 W Axton Rd
Ferndale, WA 98248
360-223-5467
hedgerowwillows@gmail.com



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Board of Directors

President

Catherine Precht
2026, 2nd Term
44661 870th Ave
Hector, MN 55342
(320) 296-8025
cclambandwool@gmail.com

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44661 870th Ave
Hector, MN 55342
(320) 296-8024
qdprecht@gmail.com

Secretary

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

Director

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

Director

Laura Timney
2026, 1st Term
3585 Summit Bridge Rd.
Bear, DE 19701
(302) 354-8151
Fuzzlop@hotmail.com

Director

Haley Campbell
2026, 1st Term
3856 Melrose DR A2
Wooster, OH 44691
campbel.2708@osu.edu



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Visit us on the web: 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

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