

# The Suffolk Newsletter

## United Suffolk Sheep Association

### President's Message

Greetings,

As you are in the midst of lambing season, I hope this note finds you having much success.

Progress continues to be made on the new computer registration program. This new software will give the office and its members greater flexibility when registering and obtaining pedigree information on their Suffolks. Amanda hopes to have more information on this topic in February.

The USSA Board will conduct a conference call meeting in late February and one of the items on the agenda will be discussing the NAILE show. If you have any suggestions, please contact your directors. Any members who show in the NAILE Junior Breeding Sheep Show on Sunday know that the show gets over way too late, especially for families traveling long distances Sunday night that attempt to get students to class on Monday. This late night takes some of the fun out of showing at this prestigious event and makes for potentially unsafe traveling conditions. One recommendation I have is that Louisville has a fourth show ring for the junior breeding sheep show to get the show completed in a timely fashion. Let us know your thoughts on this topic or any contacts that can facilitate changes to this show schedule.

Make sure you save yourself some cash by paying your 2012 membership dues before March 1<sup>st</sup>. Prompt payment gets your membership name listed in the annual Suffolk Directory. Greg Deakin will be publishing our 2012 Directory so be sure to promote your Suffolks.

Happy Lambing,

Rob Zelinsky

President, USSA

February 2012

Volume 2, Issue 2

### Inside this issue:

UJSSA Information	3
USSA Member News	6
Calendar of Events	13
USSA Office Notes	14
Classified Ads	15

**Do not forget to pay your 2012 Membership Dues by March 1st to get the discounted rate of \$35.**

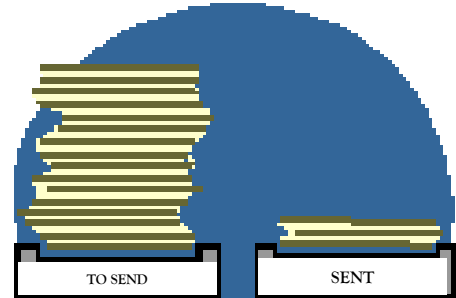
It is that time of year to pay your 2012 Membership Dues if you want to ensure you get the discounted rate or \$35. If you pay your dues by March 1st, you will get the discounted rate of \$35 and your information will also be included in this year's USSA Directory. Dues paid after March 1st are \$50 and your information will not appear in the directory. Please contact the office to pay your dues or don't forget to include your dues if you are sending in work in the near future.



# The Amnesty Program has been Extended!

For those of you who missed the December 31st deadline for the Amnesty Program, you are in luck! The Amnesty Program has been extended until **June 1, 2012**. Don't wait for the last minute to get your Amnesty registrations in and take the chance of missing the deadline again. If you need any assistance in figuring out any "messes", feel free to call the office and we will help in anyway possible to help you get caught up. The Amnesty Program includes *late transfers* as well as *late registrations*. Transfers over 60 days and registrations for sheep over 1 year of

age are \$6.00/head. If you know of an individual that would like to join the association or has not been active within in the last few years, now is a great time to get flocks current!



## Current USSA Board of Directors

### Officers

#### **President:**

Rob Zelinsky (District 2)  
605-695-7791  
robzelinsky@yahoo.com  
(Exp. 2014)

#### **Vice President:**

Bill MacCauley (District 4)  
Home: 610-593-2907  
Cell: 610-256-1608  
billmac@johnrock.com  
(Exp. 2013)

#### **Treasurer:**

Richard Schambow  
Home: 608-743-1473  
Cell: 608-774-6068  
highpt@hughes.net

### District 1

**Jake Falleson** (Exp. 2012)  
541-979-0868  
jake101@netscape.com

**Donna Mays** (Exp. 2014)  
208-767-3405  
lostriverdm@yahoo.com

**Larry Pauly** (Exp. 2013)  
435-864-2777  
l\_pauly@msn.com

### District 2

**William (Bill) Gergen** (Exp. 2012)  
402-540-7884  
wegergen@yahoo.com

**Amanda Bergsieker** (Exp. 2013)  
660-232-1433  
ab\_vettech@yahoo.com

### District 3

**Gary Hoskins** (Exp. 2012)  
Home: 515-386-8055  
Cell: 515-370-1353  
hoskinsagsolutions@yahoo.com

**Kim Ketcham** (Exp. 2013)  
Home: 618-656-5388  
Cell: 618-581-3554,  
kimketcham@hotmail.com

**Rex Quam** (Exp. 2014)  
Home: 507-824-2248  
Cell: 507-251-2650  
rjqum@frontiernet.net

### District 4

**Dr. Gerald F. Clair** (Exp. 2012)  
Home: 814-238-1233  
Cell: 814-280-2621  
clair4076@aol.com

**Lisa Webster** (Exp. 2014)  
Home: 207-892-2161  
northstarfarms@me.com

# Message from the UJSSA President

Dear Suffolk Juniors,

Over the course of the next several months, we are going to present brief biographies of your Junior Suffolk Directors. We are hoping you will enjoy getting to know us better and will consider joining the Junior Suffolk Association if you are not already a member. This month, we will spotlight our Treasurer, Rachel Schambow of Wisconsin. Rachel and her family have a long history of serving both the Senior and Junior Suffolk Associations. Rachel's father, Rich, is the current Treasurer of the USSA and her brother, Tom, is both past President and current co-ambassador of the Junior Association. Thanks to the Schambows for their service to our great breed!

**ATTENTION ALL 2012 SPONSORS:** If you are interested in having a banner made to advertise your farm, we are offering all of this year's sponsors a discounted price of \$50! If you have helped sponsor in the past and already have a banner, we will hang it at this year's Junior Show in Brookings, SD for only \$25! If interested, please contact our Jr. Coordinator, Andy Asberry, or any of the junior directors!

If you have any questions about any junior events or this year's National Junior Show in Brookings, SD, feel free to email me at [peck676@yahoo.com](mailto:peck676@yahoo.com).

Sincerely,

Taylor Peck

UJSSA President



## UJSSA Board of Directors

[www.ujssa.org](http://www.ujssa.org)

The UJSSA is on facebook!



### Officers

**President:** Taylor Peck, 908-328-4053, [peck676@yahoo.com](mailto:peck676@yahoo.com)

**Vice President:** Katie Powers, 302-632-3079, [sheepgrl22@yahoo.com](mailto:sheepgrl22@yahoo.com)

**Secretary:** Elizabeth Niedziela, 413-585-9158, [niedziela@gmail.com](mailto:niedziela@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Rachel Schambow, 608-774-6765, [highpt@hughes.net](mailto:highpt@hughes.net)

### Directors

**Kyle Baubonis**, 207-785-2978, [guiairidge@gmail.com](mailto:guiairidge@gmail.com)

**Connor Vincent**, 302-858-2841, [whatamelon@bwave.com](mailto:whatamelon@bwave.com), [loveskat2@aol.com](mailto:loveskat2@aol.com)

**Taylor Wolff**, 701-783-4514, [wolff\\_taylor@hotmail.com](mailto:wolff_taylor@hotmail.com)

**Chris MacCauley**, 610-593-2907, 484-319-8376, [cmac.sheep@yahoo.com](mailto:cmac.sheep@yahoo.com)

**Codee Gilbertson**, 701-833-6754, [22and5@gmail.com](mailto:22and5@gmail.com)

### Intern

**Makayla Johnson**, 920-878-0157, [makayla\\_johnson@hotmail.com](mailto:makayla_johnson@hotmail.com)

**Faith Galford**, 304-992-1256, [faithgalford@yahoo.com](mailto:faithgalford@yahoo.com)

### Junior Coordinators

**Andy Asberry**, Home: 817-558-3932, Cell: 817-366-6366, [AAsberry@aol.com](mailto:AAsberry@aol.com)

**Donna Mays**, 208-767-3405, [lostriverdm@yahoo.com](mailto:lostriverdm@yahoo.com)

# Get to Know Your Junior Board of Directors.



## RACHEL SCHAMBOW

**UJSSA Position:** Treasurer

**Age:** 17

**Hometown:** Janesville, WI

**School:** Will be attending University of Wyoming-Laramie

**In 10 years I think I will be:** Fresh out of vet school and hopefully able to find work as a researcher

**If you could have another breed of sheep besides Suffolks, what would it be?** Tunis

**What, if any, other types of livestock do you raise?** Just Cheviot and Tunis sheep

**Dream Car:** 2012 Chevy Camaro ZL1. Preferably in red, black, or gray

**Favorite Sheep Show/ Sale or Event:** UJSSA Show

**The best vacation I ever had was:** my family 2008 Spring break trip to Disney and Miami

**Ever meet anyone famous?** I was once 200 ft. from the Dalai Lama when he was in a security SUV.

**Favorite meal:** Chicken & Rice with Broccoli

**Interesting fact:** Velociraptor is my favorite dinosaur

## Need to make hotel reservations for the 2012 Junior Suffolk Show?

**Hotel Information:** Fairfield Inn & Suites

(605) 692-3500

3000 LeFevre Drive

Brookings, SD 57006



Room Block Available from July 4-8, 2012 for \$89.00/night\*

*\*To receive this rate, please call the hotel and say you are with the United Suffolk Sheep Association.*

# 2011 Futurity Results

## District 1

1. Stetson Burgess (CA) - Ream 11TG20 (0626)

## District 2

1. Rigger Zelinsky (SD) - Kimm 11089
2. Rhett Zelinsky (SD) - Kimm 11039  
Alison Heitz (TX) - Baumgartner 1184
4. Raesa Zelinsky (SD) - Kimm 11050

## District 3

1. Molly Jo Woods (IL) - Lyn Lee 11026
2. Cole Damman (IA) - MacCauley 2391
3. Cody Damman (IA) - Lyn Lee 11024
4. Katherine Newhouse (IA) - Damman 11-212

## District 4

1. Ashley Gouge (DE) - Flying G 2102
2. Marissa Bilyeu (PA) - Quam 982 RRNN
3. Kyle Baubonis (ME) - Lyn Lee 11057  
Kyle Baubonis (ME) - Quam 1030 RRNN



District 1 Winner: Stetson Burgess



District 2 Winner: Rigger Zelinsky



District 4 Winner: Ashley Gouge

## Question & Answer





# USSA Member News

*If you have any news to share, please let our office know so we can include it in our newsletter.*

Congratulations to **Scott and Nikki Royer** of Clinton, IN for being featured in the Sheep Industry News article "[Diversity is Profitable Management Plan](#)" (January 2012 issue).

Condolences to the Joseph L. Holbrook Family- **Joseph L. Holbrook** of Soda Springs, Idaho. Holbrook, 91, passed on December 30, 2011 in Draper, Utah, near where he had been living with my wife and I for the past two years. He was interned in Chesterfield, Idaho, his birthplace and where he still owned his farm. Holbrook got started in the Suffolk business in 1953 at the Golden Spike Sale in Ogden, Utah. With his flock of 100 purebred registered ewes, he supplied quality rams to the sheep men in Idaho and Colorado. He started with highly bred and imported rams from England and took pride in the bloodlines he pursued. Holbrook was a Director of the American Suffolk Sheep Society for nearly twenty years. He served as chairman of the finance committee and president. He supported the national merger which led to the formation of the United Suffolk Sheep Association. He chaired the Idaho State Ram Sale, the Idaho Falls Purebred Sheep Breeders Sale, and the Caribou County Wool Pool. He was a member of the Idaho Wool Growers throughout his life. After Holbrook retired from his day job with the J. R. Simplot Corporation, he gave up his Sufflok flock and took up fishing on the Kenai and Snake rivers in Alaska and Idaho.

**We would like to welcome the following new members and returning past members who joined us in 2011.**

- Alex Ainger/Ainger Farms, IL
- Charles Bedinger/El Charro Suffolks, IL
- Troy & Colette Bise/Bise Sheep & Cattle Co., WA
- Marty & Rachel Breeden/Breeden Family Suffolks, IA
- Doug Bump/Bumps Lazy B, WI
- Rick Carpenter/Dunnegan Ranch, OR
- Steve & Ginger Church/Morning Meadows Farm, MN
- Blakely Clements & Bryan Fountain/B & B Show Stock, IN
- Max Eagleburger, MO
- William & Samantha Elfering & Lisa Mobley/Rolling Thunder Suffolks, OR
- Larry Englund/Ivy Sheep Co., MO
- Ed & Nickole Floate/Howling Acres Ranch, WY
- Darrin Goldtrap, IL
- Kamiah & Clint Goodwin/Sandy Springs Ranch, WA
- David & Nancy Gowan/Navarro River Suffolks, CA
- Steve Graf /Burket Johnson/Desert Sky Sheep Co., ID
- Troy Gravatt, CA
- Josh Groves, VanGro Livestock, Ontario, Canada
- Seth & Lenna Hamilton/Slece Suffolks, WI
- Rod, Donna & Amberlea Hansen/Hansen Suffolks, WA
- Mark & Lori Harrison, ID
- Chris & Kay Haycraft/Haycraft Farms, KY
- John Hays, CA
- Juli Huffman/Aberdeen Valley Farms, IN
- Justin Hull/Hull Club Lambs, OR
- Michael & Lacey Jones/Black Maple Farm, IN
- Kerry Kirschten/Kirschten Sheep Farm, IA
- Mike Lehrkamp/Lehrkamp Suffolks, SD
- Bill Leininger & Family/B & L Club Lambs, IN
- Kyle Lovin/Lovin Lamb Farm, IL
- Ike Maxwell, WA
- Jason McCarty/JL Farms, PA
- Wayne McGuire/Ewe & Me Acres, NY
- David B. Mengel/Mengel Suffolks, KS
- Gene Morris, OR
- Mike, Leslie & Abby Nelsh/Nelsh Suffolks, OH
- Troy Oliver, WY
- Randy Pirtle and Family, OK
- Melissa Ramhoff, MD
- Staffan Roalsvig/Kelkenberg Family Farm, NY
- Milton Russell, Old Timer Suffolk, MS
- Helen Schattner/Shady Chestnut Farm, WI
- Chris Schmeltzer/Schmeltzer Ranch, WY
- Jason Simpson/Simpson Livestock, CO
- Dean Slark/Slark Farm, WI
- Randy Steinhausen, NE
- Jason Stuckey/Stuckey Farms, IL
- Don Swanton/Swanton Suffolks, IA
- Corey Torrance/Torrance Sheep Farm, IL
- Jennifer Vollmer, OH
- Tony Williams/Liquor Creek Suffolks, IA
- Cooper Willoughby, UT
- Brassfield Ranch, CA
- Great River Ranch & Prairie Suffolks, IL
- Pratt Suffolks, ID
- River Bottom Ranch, ND
- University of Tennessee at Martin, TN
- Weins Hobby Farm, SD

We would like to welcome the following new members and returning past members who have joined USSA so far in 2012.

William & Patty Allen/Eden Valley Farm, MO  
Richard, Matthew & Derek Hafer/Hafer Family Suffolks, NE  
Bennie L. Johannes/Johannes Family Farm, OH  
John Scott Jr. & John Scott, MN  
Nelson Farms, IL



**The time to register 2012 lambs is just around the corner...**

**Need Lamb Registration Applications?**

**Print applications off the USSA Website *or* Call the USSA Office**

*Be sure to mark your calendars for:*

**2012 National Suffolk Show and Sale**

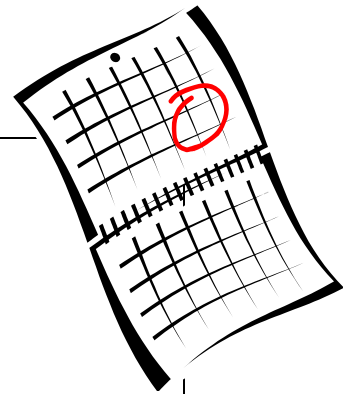
June 27 - 30

Held during the Midwest Stud Ram Sale in Sedalia, MO

**2012 UJSSA National Junior Suffolk Show**

July 5-8

On the South Dakota State University Campus in Brookings, SD



**American Lamb Board Releases 2011 Annual Report**

[Click here to view it!](#)

RECIPES FOR ROMANCE CONTEST LAMBTASTIC PRIZES

**LAMB IS FOR LOVERS**

**MONTH**

February 2012

AMERICAN LAMB  
FRESH HOMEGROWN FLAVOR

# Fast Facts About Sheep Production

*The following article is provided courtesy of The Banner Sheep Magazine.*

As of January 1, 2011, there were 5.53 million head of sheep in the United States.<sup>1</sup>

Sheep are produced in all 50 states. However, the highest sheep-producing states are located west of the Mississippi River, where most of the larger sheep ranches reside. The eastern part of the country supports a greater number of smaller, pasture-based operations.

Following is a state ranking of the total number of sheep and lambs as of January 1, 2011.

1. Texas 880,000
2. California 610,000
3. Colorado 370,000
4. Wyoming 365,000
5. Utah 280,000
6. South Dakota 275,000
7. Idaho 235,000
8. Montana 230,000
9. Oregon 215,000
10. Iowa 200,000
11. Arizona 150,000
12. Minnesota 130,000
13. Ohio 129,000
14. New Mexico 110,000
15. Pennsylvania 98,000
16. Virginia 90,000
17. Wisconsin 90,000
18. Missouri 81,000
19. North Dakota 78,000
20. Oklahoma 75,000
21. Michigan 74,000
22. Nebraska 74,000
23. Kansas 70,000
24. New York 70,000
25. Nevada 68,000
26. Illinois 56,000
27. Washington 56,000
28. Indiana 50,000
29. Tennessee 35,000
30. Kentucky 34,000
31. West Virginia 34,000
32. North Carolina 27,000
33. Other States\* 140,000
34. New England\*\* 51,000

In 2010, there were 81,000 sheep farms and ranches in the United States.<sup>2</sup>

Through genetics, sheep producers in the United States tend to produce a dual-purpose animal – one that is valued for both its meat and its wool. Sheep are also raised for producing milk, some of which is processed into cheese.

Following is a ranking of the total sheep operations per state based on 2008 data<sup>3</sup>.

1. Texas 8,700
2. Arizona 5,000
3. California 4,100
4. Pennsylvania 3,800
5. Iowa 3,500
6. Ohio 3,400
7. Oregon 3,200
8. New Mexico 2,900
9. Wisconsin 2,800
10. Minnesota 2,500
11. Washington 2,400
12. Michigan 2,300
13. Missouri 2,200
14. Virginia 2,100
15. Indiana 2,000
16. Illinois 1,900
17. Oklahoma 1,900
18. New York 1,800
19. South Dakota 1,700
20. Colorado 1,600
21. Utah 1,600
22. Montana 1,500
23. Kentucky 1,400
24. Nebraska 1,300
25. North Carolina 1,300
26. Tennessee 1,300
27. West Virginia 1,300
28. Idaho 1,200
29. Kansas 1,200
30. Wyoming 900
31. Maryland 800
32. North Dakota 680
33. Nevada 250
34. Other States\* 5,600
35. New England\*\* 3,000

\* Other States includes Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Maryland (number of sheep and lambs listing only), Mississippi, New Jersey and South Carolina. NASS does not report individual numbers for these states.

\*\* New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

<sup>1</sup>Source: USDA, NASS, Sheep & Goats, January 28, 2011

<sup>2</sup>Source: USDA, NASS, Farms, Land in Farms and Livestock Operations 2010 Summary, February 2011.

<sup>3</sup>Source: USDA, NASS, Farms, Land in Farms and Livestock Operations, 2008, Summary, February 2009.



# Predators Take Staggering Toll on U.S. Sheep Numbers

*The following article is provided courtesy of The Banner Sheep Magazine.*

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), a total of 247,200<sup>1</sup> head of sheep and lambs were killed by predators in 2009. However, a note to be aware of is that NASS only reports lambs lost after docking. Lambs lost prior to docking are not counted.

The American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) estimates that approximately 30 percent of predation in lambs occurs prior to docking. According to data collected from five western states that reported pre-docking, lamb-loss numbers in 2004, ASI estimates an additional 50,000 to 60,000 lambs were lost across the entire nation prior to docking.

This adjustment raises the total number of sheep and lamb losses from 247,200 to nearly 300,000.

Common Predators - Coyotes were responsible for 51.7 percent of total predator kills on sheep, followed by dogs at 22.7 percent and mountain lions/cougars/pumas at 7.7 percent. Bear, fox, eagles, wolves and bobcats also prey on sheep and lambs.<sup>2</sup>

The leading non-lethal control measures used to control predatory kills for the majority of sheep and lambs include guardian dogs and other guardian animals, hunting/trapping, night penning or confinement and fencing.<sup>3</sup> Ranchers and farmers spend in excess of \$9.8 million annually on non-lethal control measure in an effort to safeguard flocks.

Depredation - In 2001, 'depredation' - the act of predators killing sheep - accounted for 37.3 percent of all sheep-death losses, making it the single, largest cause of sheep mortality. It also made it a very expensive one; U.S. sheep producers lost more than \$38 million in potential income due to predator kills of sheep and lambs.

Depredation accounts for 15 percent of the total cost of sheep production, second only to feed and pasture costs.

Predator Control Methods - For centuries, shepherds have guarded their flocks against predators. In recent years, four-footed 'shepherds' - guard dogs, donkeys and llamas - have been enlisted as a predator-control force. They are aided in their duties by electric fences, electric guards, pens and noise-making devices. While sheep producers rely on these and other non-lethal tools as their first line of defense against predators, these methods are not a cure-all for depredation. For example:

- Coyotes and other predators quickly adjust to sounds emitted from noise-making equipment, which can cause the opposite effect of attracting predators to sheep;
- While guard animals are more effective than noise-making devices, sheep's major predator - the coyote - has been known to use pack strategies to lure guard animals away from sheep. In several recorded cases, coyote packs have attacked and killed guard animals. Wolves in Montana alone, killed more than 60 guard dogs in 2003.

ASI encourages non-lethal predator control methods while supporting efforts to establish and maintain adequate predator-management programs nationwide. Chief among these is the Wildlife Services program. Since wildlife is publicly owned, the public shares a responsibility in controlling wildlife damage. Therefore, the Wildlife Services program is a joint private, state and federally funded program designed to reduce problems created when wildlife cause damage to agricultural, urban and natural resources or threaten public health and safety.

<sup>1</sup>Source: USDA, NASS. Sheep & Goat Death Loss, released May 2010. (These numbers are updated every five years.)

<sup>2</sup>Source: USDA, NAHMS, Sheep & Lamb Predator Death Loss in the United States, 2004, released Sept. 2007.

<sup>3</sup>American Sheep Industry Association Survey - Compendium of Research Results and Analysis by Producer Region and Flock Size. 2010.

# American Lamb Board News

*The following article is provided courtesy of The Banner Sheep Magazine.*

## **American Lamb Rocks Out in Seattle**

The American Lamb Board kicked off the FY 2012 Lamb Jam Tour on October 23 in Seattle, with 19 top chefs creating lambtastic dishes paired with more than 30 local Washington wines. Guests enjoyed a butchery demonstration and a make-your-own lamb rub station, and visited with several local lamb producers. The chefs competed for the top title in four cut categories (leg, shoulder, shank and loin) and the chance to be crowned Lamb Master in New York City. Chef Alex Paguaga of Portals at Suncadia Lodge was named "Best in Show" for his dish, Sumac Masala Rubbed Lamb Shoulder with Cauliflower Puree, Royal Pine Mushroom and Honey Crisp Apple, and will go on to battle top lamb-loving chefs from Boston, San Francisco and Washington, DC, at a Master Lamb Jam in New York City in 2012.

## **ALB's Holiday Recipe & Memories Contest Kicks Off**

The American Lamb Board is inviting fans of lamb to share their favorite family lamb recipes for the chance to win American lamb to serve a family of 10 for the holidays and a limited edition All-Clad roasting pan. In addition, any photogenic family that submits their most memorable family photo will also be entered to win enough lamb to feed the whole family for the holidays, plus lamb swag. The winning recipe will be announced the week of December 12 via ALB's Facebook page and Twitter.

## **American Lamb Board Participates at Chefs Collaborative**

The American Lamb Board and shepherd Craig Rogers of Border Springs Farm gave presentations at the Chefs Collaborative Conference on October 24 in New Orleans. In addition to the lamb industry presentations, Chef Donald Link of Cochon and Chef Ryan Prewitt of Herbsaint fabricated a whole American lamb carcass and discussed how they menu the variety of lamb cuts at their restaurants. Chefs Collaborative is a group that works with chefs and the greater food community to celebrate local food and to foster a more sustainable food supply.

## **Bringing the American Lamb Story to Trade Magazine Editors**

The American Lamb Board held meetings with editors from the nation's leading foodservice trade publications at this year's annual International Foodservice Editorial Council (IFEC) conference held in Washington, DC, November 7-10. This event provided ALB a great opportunity to network with other food associations and company representatives and to share American lamb messages with editors from more than 15 leading trade magazines, including Chef Magazine, Flavor and the Menu, National Culinary Review, Plate, Food Arts, Restaurant Business and Restaurant Hospitality.

## **Bringing the American Lamb Story to Trade Magazine Editors**

The American Lamb Board held meetings with editors from the nation's leading foodservice trade publications at this year's annual International Foodservice Editorial Council (IFEC) conference held in Washington, DC, November 7-10. This event provided ALB a great opportunity to network with other food associations and company representatives and to share American lamb messages with editors from more than 15 leading trade magazines, including Chef Magazine, Flavor and the Menu, National Culinary Review, Plate, Food Arts, Restaurant Business and Restaurant Hospitality.

The American Lamb Board sponsored a chef station at the IFEC Chef Showcase, featuring Tastes of Washington. Chef Todd Gray of Equinox and his staff prepared two lamb dishes for the event:

- Herb Crusted Leg of Lamb with Squash Noodles and Roasted Garlic
- Whole Wheat Pappardelle Noodles with Rustic Lamb Bolognese

## **Fansoflamb.com Gets a Makeover!**

Hey, fans of American lamb! Join your fellow lamb lovers on ALB's newly improved social community website to get a leg up on the latest and greatest American lamb happenings! You will find info about local lamb events, learn about fun seasonal consumer contests, grab a sneak peek of our lamb-lovin' swag and much more! Check us out at [fansoflamb.com](http://fansoflamb.com).

*(Continued on page 11)*

# American Lamb Board News (cont'd)

*The following article is provided courtesy of The Banner Sheep Magazine.*

(Continued from page 10)

## **First Annual American Lamb Pro-Am Kicks Off in Boston**

On Sunday, November 6, the American Lamb Board hosted the first Lamb Pro-Am where four local food bloggers teamed up with four of Boston's top chefs to serve up American lamb dishes and compete for American Lamb Pro-Am supremacy. Guests gathered at Hotel Marlowe in Cambridge to sample lamb dishes created by the blogger/chef teams, sip delicious wines and beers, and cast their vote for the best American Lamb Pro-Am team. The popular vote gave the grand Pro-Am prize to Does and Figs' Robin Cohen and American Lambassador Michael Scelfo of Russell House Tavern for their Apple Sausage-Wrapped American Lamb Belly topped with Apple Pear Cranberry Conserve and Cranberry Mustard. You can check out photos and recipes from the event on [fansoflambboston.com](http://fansoflambboston.com).

## **ALB Says Farewell to Retiring Board Members and Welcomes New Members**

David Trotter, Laurie Hubbard and Pat Tirrell are all retiring from the American Lamb Board at the Annual Meeting in January 2012. The American Lamb Board looks forward to working with the newly appointed board members: Joanne Nissen, Soledad, California, representing producers; Ben R. Lehfeldt, Lavina, Montana, representing feeders; and Wesley R. Patton, Orland, California, representing seed stock producers. Reappointed to the board are: Leo J. Tammi, Mount Sidney, Virginia, representing producers; Cody J. Hiemke, Stoughton, Wisconsin, representing first handlers; and Antonio J. Manzanaras, Tierra Amarillo, New Mexico, who was appointed to the board as a member of the general public.

## **ALB Sponsors Los Angeles Food & Wine Festival**

On October 13, the American Lamb Board participated in the first annual LA Food and Wine Festival including the L.A. Live and the Brew B'Que events.

LA Live - Thirty celebrity chefs and 200 of the world's most prestigious wineries showcased their exceptional product and talent at multiple events in LA Live. More than 2,000 people attended the launch event of this inaugural festival, where Chef Akasha Richmond of AKASHA represented American Lamb and served succulent tastes of Masala Brasied American Lamb Shanks with Kalonji and Black Cumin See Grits, Eggplant Raita and Tomato Chutney.

American Lamb Set Brew B'Que on Fire - Sunshine, beer, music and American Lamb made the Brew B'Que event a great success. More than 1,500 attendees jammed out to tunes by rap rock musician Uncle Kracker and enjoyed lambtastic tastes with host Guy Fieri from Chefs such as Mitchell and Steven Rosenthal, who served Moroccan Spiced Lamb Shoulder with Quinoa Salad. Guests stationed themselves at the American Lamb tent to create their own rubs, count sheep M&Ms, test their knowledge with lamb trivia, determine their lamb personality, snatch up stellar swag and line up for sheep caricatures.

## **New Reports Now Available**

The 2011 third quarter Market Analysis Report is now available to download at [lambcheckoff.com](http://lambcheckoff.com), and the latest quarterly Freshlook sales data report is available by contacting Rae Maestas at [rae@americanlambboard.org](mailto:rae@americanlambboard.org).

# National Scrapie Program Update

*The following article is provided courtesy of The Banner Sheep Magazine.*

The United States is well on its way to eradicating classical scrapie. As a result of the partnership between producers, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the states, tremendous progress has been made. The percent of cull sheep tested positive for scrapie, weighted for face color, has decreased by 96 percent since slaughter surveillance began in fiscal year (FY) 2003 and the number of new infected and source flocks identified each FY has decreased by 92 percent since the peak of 179 flocks in FY 2005. The number of new infected and source flocks identified dropped from 24 for FY 2010 to 14 for FY 2011, as of Aug. 31 for each year.

As of Aug. 31, there were 34,146 slaughter surveillance samples collected in FY 2011, 1,289 of which were from goats. Of these, nine sheep were positive for classical scrapie and one was positive for Nor98-like scrapie.

## Surveillance in Goats

A potential stumbling block to scrapie eradication has been identified that needs to be addressed. This fiscal year, for the first time there were more scrapie field cases in goats than in sheep. In FY 2008 and 2011, two significant scrapie outbreaks occurred in goats involving a total of 18 positive goats. The initial case in each outbreak was discovered through owner submission of a suspect animal. In one outbreak, while sheep had resided on the farm years earlier, none of the positive goats had come in contact with the sheep. In the other outbreak, the positive goats no longer resided with sheep. This indicates that to eradicate scrapie from the United States it will be necessary to conduct slaughter surveillance in goats similar to what is being done for sheep. The current goat identification rules are inadequate to allow for effective slaughter surveillance in goats. To address this situation USDA is planning to publish a proposed rule that will consider making the identification requirements for goats similar to those currently in place for sheep. As of Aug. 31, 2011, 31 cases of classical scrapie have been confirmed in goats by the National Veterinary Services Laboratories since implementation of the accelerated program in FY 2002.

## Importance of Record Keeping

It is important for producers to keep good records of sales and purchases. This year, two positive sheep could not be traced due to poor records. Since the incubation period for scrapie is typically three to five years it is critical that producers keep purchase and sales records for at least five years.

## Producer Help

USDA needs help from producers to get surveillance samples to test from flocks and herds that sell cull animals only through nontraditional markets. USDA is asking for owners of these types of flocks or herds submit the heads of animals found dead between 30 and 52 months of age to the state diagnostic laboratory for scrapie testing. This is especially true if the sheep are of a black-face meat breed or if they have been commingled with ewes of a black-face meat breed even if the commingling occurred several years ago.

In the recent goat cases, there was a history of Suffolk sheep having been commingled with the goats years before the positive goat cases were found. Likewise it is critical that all producers notify their state veterinarian's office or their area USDA Veterinary Services office ([866-873-2824](tel:866-873-2824)) if they have a sheep or goat over 18 months of age with neurological signs such as incoordination, behavioral changes or severe frequent rubbing with wool loss and thickened or abraded skin.

Producers can prevent scrapie by maintaining a flock/herd closed to female additions, increasing genetic resistance and/or only purchasing ewes that are genetically resistant or from certified scrapie-free flocks/herds.

# Calendar of Events

Have a Suffolk related event you would like to add to the calendar of events? Email your event to: news@u-s-s-a.org. The newsletter may not contain all events. To find a full listing, please visit our website: www.u-s-s-a.org.

## **March**

- 1 - Last day to take advantage of the reduced rate for 2012 Membership Dues and to be listed in the 2012 USSA Directory.

## **April**

- 6-7 Illini All-Breeds Spring Sale, Bloomington, Illinois—Breeding Stock, Wether Sires & Dams, Club Lambs  
27-28 National Cornbelt All Breeds Sheep Sale, Des Moines, Iowa—Breeding Stock, Wether Sires & Dams, Club Lambs

## **May**

- 5 Kimm Suffolks 24th Annual Production Sale, Tippie Beef Center, Kirkwood Community College, Cedar Rapids, IA 6:30pm [www.breedingsheepage.com/kimm](http://www.breedingsheepage.com/kimm)  
10-12 Big Ohio Sale Weekend, Eaton, Ohio -Ohio Suffolk Sale, Classic Wether Sire & Dam Sale  
26-27 Great Lakes All-Breeds Sheep Show & Sale, Wooster, Ohio  
31-2 Nugget All-American Invitational All Breeds Sheep & Boer Goat Sale, John Ascuaga's Nugget Casino - Spark, Nevada -Breeding Stock, Wether Sires & Dams, Club Lambs

## **June**

- 1 Last day to take advantage of the Amnesty Program.  
25-30 Midwest Stud Ram Sale, Missouri State Fairgrounds - Sedalia, Missouri  
27—National Suffolk Sale, 7am  
28—Blackface Wether Sire & Dams Show, 7am -Suffolks Show Second  
29—National Suffolk Sale, Approximately Noon  
30—Blackface Wether Sire & Dam Sale, 10 am

## **July**

- 5—8 National Junior Suffolk Show in Brookings, SD @ the SDSU Campus.  
20—21 Crossroads of the West All-Breeds Sheep Sale, Tooele, Utah

## **August**

- 18 Iowa Hawkeye Suffolk Sale, Des Moines, Iowa

## **October**

- 6 Keystone International Bred Ewe & Ewe Lamb Sale, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania  
19—20 New York All-Breeds Bred Ewe Sale, Rhinebeck, New York

## **November**

- 10 N.A.I.L.E. Suffolk Sale, Louisville, Kentucky





# Office Notes

## We Want Your Photos!

We would like to feature some photos in each of our newsletters of our members and their Suffolks! Whether you have old or new photos, all are welcome. We would also like to use some member photos for promotional materials. If you would like to submit photos, you can mail them to the office address, P.O. Box 995, Ottumwa, IA 52501, and then we can return them to you after we scan them. You can also email any photos to [news@u-s-s-a.org](mailto:news@u-s-s-a.org). We look forward to seeing all your photos!

## What would you like to see in this publication?

If you have any ideas or items you would like to see in this newsletter, send us your input! Or, if you have any news stories, results, photos you would like to share with the rest of the United Suffolk Sheep Association let us know!

Items you would like to submit to the newsletter can emailed to:



## Website

If you have any information you would like included on our website, please let us know. We also welcome any ideas you may have to improve our website.

USSA Suffolk Window Clings and Limited Edition Suffolk Sculptures are available for purchase!

Window Clings are \$1 a piece and sculptures are \$195 per sculpture.

Both prices include shipping!

Contact the office if you are interested in purchasing any.



**United Suffolk Sheep  
Association**

PO Box 995  
Ottumwa, IA 52501

Phone: 641-684-5291

Fax: 641-682-9449

E-mail: [news@u-s-s-a.org](mailto:news@u-s-s-a.org)



"The Breed in the Lead"

We're on the Web!

[www.u-s-s-a.org](http://www.u-s-s-a.org)

# Suffolk Scenes



*Suffolk Scenes Wanted!*

*Do you have a great "Suffolk Scene" photo?  
Please think about sharing it with the USSA membership!*

## Classified Ads

*USSA Members only. Ads are free. Must be sheep related: animals, vehicles, trailers, equipment, transportation, working dogs, etc. Include your contact information. Email you ad to: [news@u-s-s-a.org](mailto:news@u-s-s-a.org). The newsletter may not contain all of the classified ads. To find a full listing, please visit our website: [www.u-s-s-a.org](http://www.u-s-s-a.org).*

**FOR SALE: Great Pyrenees Pups**

Description: Great Pyrenees Pups for sale. Farm raised out of working parents.

For More Information: Jason Johnstone  
3066 N Crest Haven Rd.  
Claremont, IL 62421  
618-843-2329 cell  
618-869-2329 home

Check out the USSA Facebook page!

