

# *Pennsylvania Sheep & Wool Growers Newsletter*

May 10, 2009

Greetings:

Well, I am sure many of you are busy with spring events-shearing, lambing, getting equipment ready for hay..... Thanks so much for taking the time to catch up on the events of your State sheep organization.

On March 7, 2009 a PSWGA meeting was held to review past and future events held by and for the benefit of our members. Please take time to read the abbreviated minutes of that meeting to see where PSWGA is headed.

For those of you that took the time to vote in the American Lamb Board Referendum-THANKS!! It was a job well done. The referendum passed with over 80% voting yes! We will be able to continue to have a National committee help us to promote one of our leading products-LAMB. Remember we are fortunate to have a member of the Lamb Board in our State-Laurie Hubbard. Please feel free to contact her with ideas and suggestions or to obtain promotional/educational materials for your use.

In the recent past we have lost two members of the Pennsylvania sheep community-Ann Staver and Bob Sorisio. We extend our sympathies to their families.

Many people will be taking sheep to their Pennsylvania County Fairs. Please be advised that all sheep must have individual official scrapie animal ID. Official scrapie ID includes one of the following:

1) A USDA scrapie eartag. If you need a scrapie eartag please contact the USDA at 1-866-873-2824. Your order may take several weeks for processing so please call early.

Or 2) An official Scrapie tattoo with individual animal ID tattoo

Or 3) An ISO-compliant RFID Tag

Breeding sheep over the age of three months will also be required to have been vaccinated for rabies and have verification from the veterinarian that administered the shot.

It has come to my attention that the PA Department of Agriculture's budget may be more severely cut than previously thought. This would not only affect commodity organizations such as ours but many other events such as KILE. Please take time to read and respond to your representatives. This does affect all of us!

Check out the list of upcoming events-There is something there for everyone! We especially hope that you are able to come support our youth at the PSWGA sponsored Keystone Classic as well as attend the PSWGA meeting on the thirteenth.

Let's hope for continued rain throughout the summer!

Joanne

## **PSWGA Contacts:**

President:

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717-485-0532; [genetic@innernet.net](mailto:genetic@innernet.net)

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814-425-2464

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## **WOOL POOL DATES:**

Lawrence County – June 1, 2 at the Lawrence County Fairgrounds  
Contact: Bob Calvert- 724-475-3119

Mercer County- June 8, 9 at the Stoneboro Fairgrounds  
Contact: Bob Calvert- 724-475-3119

Washington County- June 22, 23 at the Washington County Fairgrounds  
Contact: Sharon Dunmire- 724-228-0106

Northeast and Eastern Wool Pools to be announced  
Contact: Don Norman- 570-324-3562

Somerset Wool Pool-June 2, 2009  
Contact: Scott Baer 814-443-2402

## **ADDITIONAL EVENTS:**

Keystone Classic Junior Show  
June 12-14, 2009- Snider Ag Arena

PSWGA Meeting  
June 13, 2009 12:30 PM- Snider Ag Arena

Mercer county Sheep & Wool Growers Shepherd Night and Queen contest  
June 18- Mercer County Extension Center- 6 PM

Mercer County Sheep & wool Growers Junior Market Lamb Show  
July 25- Mercer county 4-H Park

PA Performance Tested Ram Test and PSWGA Field Day  
August 1- PA Livestock Evaluation Center

Ag Progress Days  
August 18, 29, 20, 2009-Rock Springs

NW PA Sheep and Wool Grower Family field Day  
Sept. 26- Waterford Fairgrounds

KILE:  
Sept 29-Oct 5, 2009- PA Farm Show Complex

PSWGA Lamb & Wool Queen Contest  
October 24, 2009-PA Livestock Evaluation Center

PSWGA Symposium and Annual Meeting  
October 24, PA Livestock Evaluation Center  
PSWGA Beginning Shepherd Symposium  
October 25, 2009-Penn State University Sheep Center

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## **Royalty Update:**

Queen Mallory Ketterer has been busy giving three presentations to the five classes of third graders at 13th and Green Elementary School. Her presentation was on the general education of the sheep, what sheep eat, sheep vocabulary, caring for sheep, and what sheep give us as consumers ( wool, meat, by-products). For the month of April Mallory is going to 13th and Union Elementary School to present for five-third grade classes on the same topics as the last school. These elementary schools are inner city schools, most of these kids have no idea what a sheep looks like or what sheep give us as consumers. She has really enjoyed visiting with the students. In May Mallory will be showing at the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival.

Princess Kristen Stufft has kept herself pretty busy not only promoting at Penn State University where she is attending school but even in her home county. She was involved with a project called 'Meat In-Day'. A day where all the Agricultural clubs at Penn State come together to get the word out about keeping any form of meat in your diet. Information was handed out about each of the industries (including the lamb and wool industry) along with various samples of different meats. Kristen made sure that our industry was properly represented. She is also showing a breeding ewe at the Little International, which is a show that Block and Bridle (livestock club at Penn State) puts on each year. Back in her home county, she was given the opportunity to speak at the local Farm Bureau meeting, where she simply gave a run-down of exactly what her position was and what she did to earn it. Kristen has also started booking various classroom trips at different elementary schools where she will go and teach a simple lesson to the children along with a hands on activity.

The 2010 Pennsylvania Lamb & Wool Queen contest will be held on Saturday, October 24, 2009. More information will be published in the next newsletter. Questions, please call Laurie Hubbard at 814-355-4215 or email at [psushepherd@yahoo.com](mailto:psushepherd@yahoo.com) .

## **Pennsylvania Performance Tested Ram Test Update**

The Annual PA Performance Ram Lamb Test is currently underway at the Livestock Evaluation Center. Currently seventy five rams are consigned to test by various purebred sheep producers in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, West Virginia, and New York. On test are: 2 Cheviots, 2 Crossbred (Suffolk/Hamp), 7 Dorper, 2 White Dorper, 21 Dorsets, 12 Hampshires, 1 Merino, 1 Rambouillet, 2 Shropshires, 23 Suffolks and 3 Texels. Growth Data and Loin scans from a 77-day test are compiled for the annual Ram Test Sale held August 1, 2009 at the Livestock Evaluation Center. Preceding the sale will be an informational field day program for producers. For more information or a sale catalog contact; Greg Hubbard – 814-238-2527

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## **KEYSTONE CLASSIC**

Plans are under way for this year's Keystone Classic Junior Show to be held June 12-14, 2009 at the Snider Ag Arena on the campus of PSU. Breeding sheep, market lambs and market goats will all be exhibited along with showmanship and skillathon contests to be held. Classic is open to any youth under age 21 as of January 1, 2009. Entries are due June 1<sup>st</sup> for pre-registration. Entries will be accepted after June 1<sup>st</sup> until the day of show for a late fee. In addition to its regular shows, Classic is also very pleased to host the Eastern Regional Suffolk Jr. Show. New sponsors are always needed to ensure the continuation of this learning enriched experience for today's young people. Any donation is accepted and welcomed and will go directly into the prizes and awards for this year's show. For entry information or to become a sponsor, please e-mail Stacy Taylor at [stctylr@aol.com](mailto:stctylr@aol.com) or call 814-234-9622.

## **Pipestone Sheep For Profit School**

The Pipestone Lamb and Wool program will conduct a Sheep for Profit School July 8-11, 2009 in Pipestone, Minnesota.

The Sheep for Profit School is a professional management and business school for the sheep industry. The purpose of the school is to help producers improve their sheep management skills; increase the profitability of their sheep operation and form business relationships. The school will be intense and combine lecture, group discussion and visit two outstanding Pipestone area sheep operations. Expert instructors with diverse and practical sheep experience will help you define your vision and build a practical plan to achieve your goals. This is a three and a half day investment that will change your sheep operation and how you view the sheep industry.

Enrollment in the school is limited to a maximum of 20 students to create an ideal learning environment and allow for one-on-one advising. Visit our website [www.pipestonesheep.com](http://www.pipestonesheep.com) for registration information and a course schedule. For more information, contact the Pipestone Lamb and Wool Management Program, Minnesota West Community and Technical College, PO Box 250, Pipestone, MN 56164  
1-800-658-2330 or e-mail: [jodi.christensen@mnwest.edu](mailto:jodi.christensen@mnwest.edu)

\*\*\*\*\***ATTENTION PRODUCERS:**\*\*\*\*\*

**The State of Pennsylvania is currently working to pass a budget for the upcoming fiscal year, effective July 1, 2009. The State is predicting a significant shortfall in the budget for the Department of Agriculture. Items subject to significant funding cuts with direct relationship to the PA Sheep Industry may potentially include: funding for the PA Ram Performance Test and PA Livestock Evaluation Center, KILE, Fair Funding, and promotional and research monies. Some programs within the PA Department of Agriculture will be unable to operate in the next fiscal year. The PA Sheep & Wool Growers Association is a longtime supporter of the Ram Performance Tests held at the PA Livestock Evaluation Center, and the association utilizes both fair funds and promotional monies. You are strongly encouraged to talk to your local representatives to the State Senate about the importance of funding the Department of Agriculture's budget. Without the proper support in the budget, programs like the Ram Performance Test and KILE will not be able to operate. If you have any questions, you may contact Greg Hubbard at 814-355-4215. Please help us ensure funding for these worthwhile programs.**

# Pennsylvania Sheep & Wool Growers Newsletter



Dear Pennsylvania Sheep and Wool Producer,

I am writing to invite you to advertise your sheep and wool products on a website I am creating. My name is Mallory Ketterer and I am the 2009 Pennsylvania Lamb and Wool Queen. I have been involved in the lamb and wool industry for 10 years. As a breeder and seller of registered Border Leicester sheep I began my business, Thistle Hill, when I was eight years old. My goal as the PA Lamb and Wool Queen is to provide a resource for the small scale sheep farmer to sell their commodities and products.

By participating in the Pennsylvania Lamb and Wool Farm Market Map this will allow your business to promote your commodities/ products to a variety of consumers. The Pennsylvania Lamb and Wool Farm Market Map is an easy way for the public to find lamb and wool products in their area. The information of your farm and the products you are selling will be available on the internet for easy access to the consumer. Simultaneously, I will be working to create a brochure with the same information to be distributed at various events. All you need to do is fill out your name, farm name, email address, etc. and the Pennsylvania Lamb and Wool Farm Market Map will be an easy way for the consumers to find the closest lamb and wool producer in their area.

With more participants the Pennsylvania Lamb and Wool Farm Market Map can become a working map allowing sheep farms to promote their products.

Sincerely,

Mallory L. Ketterer

2009 Pennsylvania Lamb and Wool Queen

## Pennsylvania Lamb and Wool Farm Market Map

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Farm

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions to farm: \_\_\_\_\_

Product(s) for sale: \_\_\_\_\_

Open Hours (When to call): \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check:  I prefer to only be listed in the brochure.

List me on the web as well as in the brochure.

**Please return this completed form to:**

Mallory Ketterer, 199 Tobias Road, Bernville PA 19605

[thistlehill03@comcast.net](mailto:thistlehill03@comcast.net)

THANK YOU!

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## **PSWGA Meeting of March 7, 2009**

Meeting called to order by Pres. Joanne Evans

The objective of today's meeting will be to evaluate PSWGA sponsored events, related costs of those events to our income probability and evaluate benefits and profits/expenses of those events to the PA sheep and wool industry as well as to PSWGA.

Pres. Evans concerns about funding available to PSWGA this year in view of the economic situation are based on:

- 1) there will be no matching grants from PDA this year.
- 2) We do not know if there will be any Fair Funding available this year
- 3) PSWGA usually pays for expenses from grants, membership, matching funds.
- 4) PSWGA usually raises approximately one thousand dollars each year.

Announcements:

Wool Pools: How can we handle pools to our producer's and PSWGA's best advantage this year? Our main concern is getting the pools sold in 2009. Discussion followed: 1)condensing pools to offer a larger clip; 2) encouraging wool buyers to consider the entire PA clip; 3) Offering clip to several buyers who already buy different pools.

ASI Legislative Trip to Washington DC: PSWGA representatives Janet Mawhinney and Greg Hubbard plan to attend. ASI legislative trip is very important to the sheep industry as there are many policy and monetary changes with the new administration. Anyone else desiring to participate may do so at their own expense.

Dog Law Committee: Greg Hubbard will replace Janet Mawhinney. Janet has served for many years and has been a real advocate for the sheep industry.

Farm Show Committee: Ben Bow, Laurie Hubbard and Joanne Evans. Anyone having any issues with the sheep end of Farm Show should contact one of our representatives.

Newsletter: Joanne is hoping to turn over the newsletter to Rose Marie Kendall. Four issues per year have been proposed (Nov/Dec; February; May; Aug/Sept).

Distribution: Currently e-mailing 60+copies and many come back due to changes in e-mail address. If printed copies were mailed to members the cost would be about \$1.00 per issue. A discussion followed to increase dues \$5.00 per year to include mailed copy of the newsletter. This was tabled for future consideration.

Advertising in the Newsletter: Discussion was held and agreement was made that this could help defray the cost of the newsletter. Classified rates per issue: 2 lines \$5.00; ¼ page \$10.00; ½ page \$20.00; Full page \$40.00

10% discount if prepaid for four issues. No refunds. "Sold" across ad, but ads will not be removed.

All ads placed at discretion of the Newsletter Editor.

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PSWGA March 7, 2009 meeting continued

Event Sponsorships:

PA Farm Show Events:

Fleece to Shawl- Coordinated by PSWGA, fully funded by PA Farm Show

Sheep to Shawl- Coordinated by PSWGA, fully funded by PA Farm Show

Auction of Fleeces- Donated fleeces are auctioned after Sheep to Shawl. Money collected and donated to the PA Scholarship Fund. PSWGA Farm Show Committee is researching the possibility of having these proceeds used in other ways.

Farm Show: PSWGA provides money to support the sheep/youth shepherd award

PA Performance Tested Ram & Boer Billy Program

The performance test and sale; funded by the MAEC. Field Day & Sheep Quiz bowl are PSWGA sponsored events. We would like to explore the possibility of selling lamb sandwiches at the 4-H food booth.

Ag Progress Days: Informational Booth costs \$300. Discussion followed that there is an opportunity to promote the sheep and wool industry. This year it was voted to continue this booth if we can find the money and if we do not get into a food booth.

Keystone Classic Junior Show-

PSWGA sponsored event. Expenses are covered by sponsorships, entry fees and Fair Funding. To help pay for this year (as we do not know if Fair Funding is available) all participant's families are to have a current family membership in PSWGA.

KILE; PSWGA sponsors Leadline and judging team awards

Symposium/Annual Meeting:

A long discussion was held about previous and upcoming symposiums. The past several years have cost approximately \$1600 for catered lunches and suppers. Speakers' costs vary.

Payment for this comes from registration fees and silent auction, matching funds. A committee was formed to plan the symposium for this year. Suggestions included holding it at a hotel; different speakers, etc. The committee will research possibilities and report at the next meeting.

PSWGA Queen Contest- The members attending decided that the Queen Program is a necessity. Usually funded by matching grant money. We will look into alternative ways to fund this program.

MIWW-A national program to promote wool. Funded by matching grants, donations and ASI Wool Trust funds. Due to lack of funds there will be a cap on the State competition and further discussion will be necessary to allow participation at the National competition.

Keystone Sale-Discussion of lack of participation and profitability has put this event on hold for now.

Liability Insurance for Officers and Directors- Joanne will look into costs and report back.

Lancaster Farming, Farm & Dairy, Farmers Friend, etc. We are looking for someone to provide

Articles to these publications about PSWGA and our events, promotions, educational information, etc.

Website-No money available at this time.

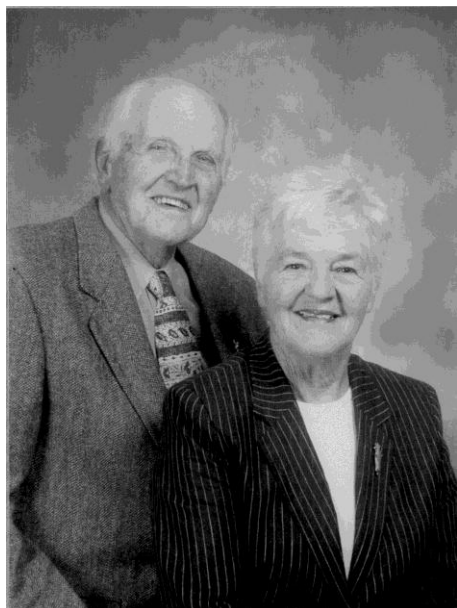
Shearing Contest/ Shearing schools- Research is being done for possible 2010.

Fund Raisers:

Numerous ideas were discussed. Items to explore: Food Booths at PSWGA events, Food Booth at AG Progress Days, Blanket sales, Raffles.

Next meeting scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 2009 at the Snider Ag Arena at PSU

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### **Anna Buganich Staver**

Anna Buganich Staver, 82, died Saturday, April 18, 2009 at her home in Palmyra, PA. Born October 3, 1926 in Vestaburg, PA, a coal mining village, she was a daughter of the late John and Sophia (Hulypa) Buganich, Ukranian immigrants, who resided on a farm in Berks County, PA.

Anna grew up on a dairy farm, earned a degree in agronomy from Penn State University and was a pioneer for woman in agriculture. When her children reached school age, Anna returned to the classroom as a science teacher at Swatara Junior High School until her retirement in 1993. Anna was a faithful community member of East Hanover Township, Dauphin County as a PTA, school board and zoning board member, a swimming instructor, girl scout leader and poll volunteer. She was an active participant in

the Pennsylvania agriculture community as a 4-H leader, member of the Lebanon County Farm Women and Manada Nature Conservancy.

Following Anna's marriage to Kenneth, the Stavers started farming and raising a family on their Dauphin County farm, and combined their talents and energy into a lifelong dedication to agriculture and the sheep industry of Pennsylvania. She was co-owner, with Kenneth, of a purebred flock of Polled Dorset Sheep, Ovine Alley Dorsets Farm, for 40 years.

Surviving are her husband of 60 years, Kenneth W. Staver; their children, Dr. Charles Paul Staver, Dr. Julia Staver and Dr. Kenneth W. Staver, Jr.; sisters, Margaret Barnes and Martha Gallagher; grandchildren, Carla and Ben Staver, Sophia Pifer, and Hilary, Charlotte and Warren Staver. She was preceded in death by brothers, Paul, a World War II Navy Casualty, Andrew, Charles and Michael; sisters, Juliana Matz and Elizabeth Buvinger. Also preceding Anna were a brother, John and a sister, Mary Buganich Motrunich of Ukraine.