

LAMB & WOOL

Volume #15

A Newsletter for the Iowa Sheep Industry

May/June 2020

ISIA Annual Meeting July 12 at 3:00 pm Registration due by July 11 at noon



The 2020 Annual Meeting for the Iowa Sheep Industry Association will be held Sunday, July 12 at 3:00 pm on Zoom. You can join the Zoom either via computer, smart phone, or regular phone. Notice of the Annual Meeting was given in the previous newsletter.

Registration is required by July 11 at noon. The link to the registration information (<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwqcu6tqDktH9IsmsNCiXUwid10Levp4Vci>) will be posted on our website and emailed to the members who have provided their email address on their membership information. When registering you must fill out the entire form so that the registration can be approved. Once your registration has been submitted and cross referenced with the membership list, you will receive a follow up email with an online link to the meeting and a phone number you can call into as well. If you are calling in, you will need to enter the meeting ID and password to gain access. Please try calling or logging in at a time prior to meeting to try everything out well in advance so you can get assistance if needed. For the meeting call or sign in by 3:00 pm on July 12.

When possible, please use your computer since it will make the event run more seamlessly. For those who do not have internet access, please call the ISIA Chair at 641-625-4248 by the preregistration deadline of July 11 at noon. Leave a voicemail and they will return your call to provide the call-in information.

At the meeting we will be reviewing the previous year, voting on two board positions, and having discussion. Two board candidates, Mike

Gillespie and Kasey Nerem, have been proposed. The ISIA Board appointed Kasey Nerem to fill in a board position a few months ago until formal voting by the membership at the annual meeting. Bios for Kasey and Mike are posted below. 'Write in' candidates or board nominations from the floor are allowed during the meeting if the nominated member meets the qualifications providing that they are in attendance and approve their nomination.

We look forward to the Annual Meeting and hope many of you will participate in it!

Below are some abbreviated excerpts of the ISIA by-laws which pertain to the Annual Meeting.

An annual meeting of the membership will be held each year with notice sent to all members not less than 15 days before the annual meeting. Written notice of the time and place of the meeting shall be given to the members by mail, email or social media to the last address shown on the membership records.

- A quorum of the membership is necessary to conduct business.
- Policy decisions, amendments and other business will require a simple majority vote of the members present in the quorum.
- No proxy votes will be permitted.
- Nominations from the floor may be given with the approval of the member being nominated.

Iowa Sheep Industry Association Board Nominee: Kasey Nerem - Lake Park, Iowa

My name is Kasey Nerem. My Hallie, kids (Knox (7), Jaxon (4), and Daphne (3 months), and I run a flock of 180 Finn cross commercial ewes with a lot of help from my father. We are planning on increasing to 300 ewes over the next few years.

I graduated from UNI in 2006 and went to work for the co-op spraying fields and handling grain, but most of the time there I worked at the feed mill. I started a cow calf operation around that time, too. In 2011 I went to work for the county road department.

The cattle didn't do well. In 2009 I attended a sheep tour in Northwest Iowa and the Pipestone Sheep for Profit School. That is where I saw the possibilities in the sheep industry. I sold the cows I have been working on being self-employed with sheep ever since.

I attended many courses with the college in pipestone, and eventually I joined the Pipestone Lamb and Wool program. They have several

meetings and webinars throughout the winter and spring. I also take advantage of the marketing contract they have negotiated with Superior Farms. As a group we buy truckloads of milk replacer at a great price.

We currently have a small amount of pasture in many locations. That may be more trouble than it's worth, so most of the time our ewes are in a dry lot. We utilize some alfalfa hay that we raise, corn, by-products and anything else that I can find to feed the ewes.

I have real passion for sheep and spend most of my free time learning about new or different ways to improve our operation. I also enjoy talking with people who raise sheep.

I look forward to helping promote the Iowa Sheep Industry.

Kasey Nerem - KNH Ranch

Message from the Chair

I sincerely hope that many of you will be able to join in the ISIA Annual Meeting. Our hope was to do the meeting face-to-face, but given the uncertainty of the COVID situation, we thought it best to do it electronically. If anyone needs assistance with getting registered for the meeting, do not hesitate to contact me. In my opinion we have 2 excellent board candidates that are being presented to the members. In the next year or so we may have some more board member retirements, so if you have interest in participating, please contact us.

This year we had 6 good scholarship applicants. All the candidates had their strong points. Carla Edleman had the highest aggregated rating from the board and has been awarded the scholarship.

COVID still seems to dominate the national discussion. In one sense low feed prices have helped reduce costs, but unfortunately lamb prices have remained soft and the low grain prices also affect many of use that also do some crop farming.

For those that have followed the local news, you already know that the Iowa State Fair has been canceled. This is our largest lamb promotion event that we put on. While the canceling was disappointing given the amount of effort that has gone into preparing for it, there were also a lot of unknowns how many people would be attending if the fair would not have been canceled.

One of the items that we have been discussing as a board is what can we do for current members of the ISIA and how can we attract more people into raising sheep and being active in the industry. The webinars that Rusty Burgett has been giving have been attracting some folks that are relatively to sheep. We could always use more input on what we can do for the members. Our hope was that we would have a new Sheep Extension Specialist at ISU that we could work with, but we have been told that given the budget situation at ISU, that is not likely to happen soon. If you have any suggestions on how the ISIA can help its members or what type of events that would be of interest to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Remaining 2020 ISIA Educational Webinars

Webinars will be held every other month, consists of a combination of educational instruction, discussions led by experienced shepherds and open Q&A time. They are designed to be a conversation-based educational and networking opportunity for anyone interested in raising sheep.

July 16, 2020 -Flock Nutrition

What are the nutrient requirements of the different types of sheep in the flock, and how can we efficiently provide nutrition to the sheep.

September 17, 2020- Flock Health

How to monitor flock health, common health concerns in sheep, vaccination schedules, and working with a veterinarian for a flock health protocol.

November 19, 2020 -Reproduction and Lambing Management

Discussion on managing the reproduction of the sheep flock and lambing time care of ewes and lambs.

January 14, 2021 -Enterprise Business Management

Whether raising sheep as a hobby or for a profitable business, a sound financial business plan is crucial. We will discuss how to combine the individual production topics from previous webinars into a financial business plan and decision-making tool for long-term sustainable production

Register online at <https://iowasheep.com/webinars/>

Lamb Legs Available

With the Iowa State Fair being canceled for 2020 the ISIA is looking to reduce the frozen meat inventory. Legs of lamb are available at wholesale cost for a 10-12 lb leg. This is great deal and there are not many remaining. Contact use while supplies last at info@iowasheep.com or Treasurer Regina Frahm at 641-521-0086.

Classifieds:

FOR SALE: Border Collie pups for sale to working home. Dam is ABCA Hardrock Annie x Sire is ABCA Way To Me Mac. Mac and Annie are biddable, confident, and have great temperament. Puppies are well socialized, de-wormed, vet checked and received their first round of puppy shots DOB 4-12-20 | Contact Hope Painet | hopep93@gmail.com | 515-577-2380 | Maxwell, Iowa (06/16/2020))

FOR SALE: Purebred Suffolk ram lambs all with outstanding pedigrees from a flock that has been raising sheep for nearly 40 years, all will be RR and a breeding soundness exam is available before you take delivery. Moonshadow Farm | Michael and Debbie Jensen | (712) 353-6599 (6/02/2020)

FOR SALE: Two Booroola positive, February born Ile De France/Dorset Ram Lambs | Vernon Spykerman | 712-330-7983. (10/11/2019)

FOR SALE: Dorper and White Dorper rams: registered and commercial; Ile de France percentage rams. Hardy/easy care, well muscled, out of season breeding, forage raised. S Mitcham | 3061 160th Street, Sumner IA 50674 | 563-578-5665 | sam@netins.net | Crane Creek Dorpers & White Dorpers and Crane Creek Ile de France on Facebook. (08/05/2019)

FOR SALE: Purebred Suffolk rams. Fast-growing, long loin, structurally sound, mature and ready to go to work. Will work for commercial or purebred flocks. All rams are RR. Newton, IA 641-521-7981 or 641-521-5115. (8/23/2019)

Contact Information

Please contact board members with questions.

ISIA Board Chair

Randall Vos
641-625-4248
vosrand@windstream.net

ISIA Board Vice Chair

Sarah Humke
641-425-4082
sarahhumke@gmail.com

Board Secretary

Duane Sprouse
319-461-5611
dupat@cloudburst9.net

Board Treasurer

Regina Frahm
641-521-0086
Gina.frahm@gmail.com

Directors-at-Large

Russell Burgett
515-708-8850
rustyburgett@gmail.com

Rod Fleming

641-414-0228
rodneyleefleming@yahoo.com

Director of Industry Relations

info@iowasheep.com

Iowa Sheep and Wool Promotion Board Chair

Dan Smicker

ISWPB Bookkeeper

Lauren Petersen
jacobjpetersen29@gmail.com

Highlights of the Minutes of the Iowa Sheep Industry Association Board Meeting on April 29, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 p.m. by Chairman Randall V. Those present were Randall V., Duane S., Rusty B., Regina F., Sarah H., and Kendra D. A quorum was declared.

Agenda was presented and approved.

Director of Industry Relations reported her activities for the month. She had received additional advertising forms and 4 new scholarship applications which would bring the total for scholarships to 6. Additional payments and forms were received for members.

The secretary's report was presented and approved.

The treasurer's report was presented and approved.

It was decided that the entire board would review the 6 scholarship applications and rank them.

We had a brief discussion about the signing on to the letter sent to Congress from the ASI about the need for support for the sheep industry during the pandemic of COVID-19, encouraging the purchase of lamb for the government storage. We will stay on the letter to support the effort.

A short discussion was had partnering with PFI on webinars.

Annual Meeting for the ISIA is tentatively set for July 12, 2020 at 3-4 p.m. This is tentative due to the current pandemic situation.

We had a short discussion about the food stand at the Iowa State Fair (ISF). We talked over prices and meat prices as well as prices to charge. We need to take into consideration the new added cost of the requirements of the Clover system required by the ISF. Final prices will need to be turned in July 1 to the ISF.

The next meeting is planned for May 20 at 8:00 p.m.

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 9:13.

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Iowa Sheep Industry Association
P.O. Box 161
Newton, IA 50208

2020 ISIA Scholarship Awardee - Carla Edleman

Thank you for the 2020 ISIA Scholarship to help support my college education! I sincerely appreciate the generosity of everyone who belongs to the Iowa Sheep Industry Association, as your efforts motivate and support youth like me to be part of the Iowa sheep and wool industry. Hello, my name is Carla Edleman. I recently graduated from Ballard High School in Huxley, Iowa, where I was involved in FFA, speech, tennis, and the National Honor Society. I also volunteered in our high school library and have been part of the Palestine Peppy Pushers 4-H Club in Story County for the past nine years.

I operate a small feeder-to-market lamb entity on our family's small farm. I buy crossbred feeder lambs from various Iowa sheep breeders in the spring, feed them, show club lambs in the summer and fall, and market my lambs after my show season is over. For the past 10-plus years, I have competitively shown sheep at many local, state, and national shows as part of my involvement in both 4-H and FFA. Doing chores twice a day has helped me develop a strong work ethic and full appreciation for animal agriculture. My start in the sheep industry was from my grandparents--Rich and the late Caroline Krafka from Dysart, Iowa—who have

operated a flock of purebred Suffolks and commercial sheep for 60-plus years. My Mom, Kristi, and my Dad, Marty Edleman, as well as my Aunt Kathy Krafka Harkema, helped inspire my ongoing interest in the sheep industry.

I value the time in my family's barn and taking care of my sheep. In addition to the production aspect, it has been rewarding to serve as a teen livestock superintendent to help plan and execute the Story County Fair sheep show under the direction of sheep superintendent Jo Mortvedt for the past 3 years. Jo has been a positive role model to everyone involved with sheep projects in Story County. I like working with families who bring sheep to weigh-ins to answer questions, assist with paperwork, and helping with anything else related to the sheep show. I especially enjoy conducting a youth showmanship clinic to work with younger 4-H members to learn and practice handling and showing techniques with their lambs. Our county has a lot of sheep, so it is fun to interact with other youth who share my passion for sheep.

This fall, I will attend Iowa State University to major in Agricultural Studies. My career goal is to work for an agribusiness located



in Iowa because I enjoy living here. For the future, I hope to stay involved in the sheep industry and pass our family tradition on to the next generation.



Showing one of my ewes at the 2019 Aksarben Stock Show in Grand Island, Nebraska.



Conducting a youth sheep showmanship clinic at the Story County Fair in Nevada.

2020 Center of the Nation NSIP Sale Moves Online

Information from <http://nsip.org/home/events/center-of-the-nation-nsip-sale/>

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 Center of the Nation NSIP Sale will be offered in an online-only format. The sale will be held at www.wlivestock.com and will take place July 8-10.

SALE SCHEDULE:

- July 8, 2020 – Polypay sale
- July 9, 2020 – Terminal breeds sale (Suffolk, Hampshire, Shropshire, Texel, etc.)
- July 10, 2020 – All other breeds sale (Katahdin, Dorpers, etc.)

Each day, bidding will open at 7:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m. in a “Racehorse style” bidding.

And as all good plans go, ours is changing once again. With the current stage level of Iowa in respect to the Covid 19 Pandemic the decision has been made by the NSIP Board of Directors to transfer the live format sale scheduled for July 25th to an online sale to meet the needs of the NSIP membership. The Center of the Nation Sale will now be combined with the online only sale into a 3-day sale event in early July.

AUCTION FORMAT: (Information from <https://www.wlivestock.com/auction/8897>) Racehorse style closing, also known as a soft closing. This means that the established time of 8pm eastern the sale will begin its racehorse or “soft closing”, meaning that each time a lot receives a bid the timer on ALL lots will extend back up to the High Water Mark. In this sale the High Water Mark is set at 5 minutes. This means after each bid on any lot in the sale all lots timers will jump back to 5 minutes. Once there has been no bidding for a full 5 minutes after 8pm Eastern the auction will go from “Open” to “Pending” to “Verifying” and then once each item says “Ended” the Auction is officially closed for bidding. If you need assistance with registering to bid please call the Willoughby Sales offices at 317-966-4332.



Highlights of the Minutes of the Iowa Sheep Industry Association Board Meeting on May 20, 2020

Chairman Randall V. opened the meeting at 8:06 p.m. This was a meeting by Zoom which had visual contact as well as phone contact with the meeting participants. Those in attendance were Randall V., Rusty B., Rod F., Regina F., Duane S. and new board member Kasey Nerem and Kendra D., Industry Rep.

A quorum was declared.

The agenda was presented and approved.

The secretary's report was presented and approved.

The treasurer's report was presented and approved.

Director of Industry Relations reported her activities for the month. She reported not a lot of action now but had handled emails inquiring about sale sheep. She forwarded them on for people to handle. She reported website updates.

The results of the scholarship evaluations were presented and the 2020 winner is Carla Edleman from Cambridge. We had a total of 6 good applications. It was also suggested that we work on the application to make it easier for both the students and the evaluators.

We then had a short discussion of the CFAP (Coronavirus Food Assistance Program) plan and will put the information from ASI on the website for members.

We had a discussion to set up a Zoom account for further meetings. The cost would be \$100 for the year. The board agreed to give it a try.

The chair shared that the election of board members and positions on the board needed to be addressed. Board members are to decide what post they might be interested in for the coming year. This will be discussed at a future meeting. The annual meeting is set for JULY 12, 2020.

Thoughts were shared about the ISF stand. Nothing can be for certain until the ISF decided if the fair is a go or not. There has been in contact with the ISF concession people and the people running the “Clover” system. Meat and menu items have been checked. There are thoughts to cut down the menu if the fair is modified in some way. There was also discussion as to times of operation and staffing of the stand. These will all be worked out in the next month when the fair says yes or no on the fair.

The next meeting will be June 17th at 8:00 p.m.

There was a motion to adjourn and the motion was approved.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Virtual Field Days in Partnership Between Practical Farmers of Iowa and Iowa Sheep Industry Association

More information and registration at <https://practicalfarmers.org/events/field-days/>

RAISING SHEEP FOR WOOL:

Wool production can be a profitable enterprise with certain niche markets. In this three-part series, Regina will lead us on three tours showing different aspect of her wool operation

Host: Regina Frahm, Esther Purl Fibers

The Farm: Regina Frahm owns and operates Esther Purl Fibers, raising registered white Cormo breeding stock and colored Cormo sheep. She recently opened Esther & Company, her modern-day mercantile featuring local fibers and foods. With her family, she runs Frahm Farms in Newton, Iowa, raising sheep, beef cattle, corn, soybeans and hay.

Platform: Facebook Live

■ PART 1: SHEEP FACILITIES

Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2 – 3 p.m.

Part 1 explores the facilities needed to raise sheep for wool. Building the right fencing and infrastructure for your sheep farm can feel like it's always evolving. Everything from fencing materials to feed bunk placements can impact your efficiency. Regina will show us how she and her family have adapted their farm to fit their needs. Over the years, they have learned what has and hasn't worked – and each year they find new ways to improve. (Note: The date may move based on weather).

■ PART 2: BUILDING COMMUNITY AROUND WOOL THURSDAY

Thursday, Oct. 22, 2 – 3 p.m

In part 2, we'll learn how Regina markets her wool – and builds community in the process. When she owned Ester & Company, it wasn't just to sell wool from her farm: it was also a place she could find community. While raising sheep and selling their wool, Regina found joy in processing and dyeing these fibers to share with others. We will tour this modern-day mercantile and hear how Regina has found community in connecting her farm to consumers.



■ PART 3: SHEARING AND PROCESSING

Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2 – 3 p.m.

In part 3, we'll learn what happens to wool fleece before it's turned into yarn. Join Regina and shearer Emily Chamelin-Hickman on shearing day. They will show us how they prepare for shearing to create a smooth and safe process for everyone involved. We will see how a fleece is skirted and prepared before moving to the next step. (Note: The date may move based on weather)

FALL LAMBING: MANAGEMENT AND MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES:

Host: Randall Vos

Tune in to see lambing in full swing during this unique time of the – October. Randall practices accelerated lambing and lambs during non-traditional times of the year. Randall will discuss the marketing opportunities fall lambing provides and the management considerations for this type of system.

Date: October, exact date is pending and will be confirmed soon.

Iowa Sheep Industry Association Board Nominee Mike Gillespie - Lake Park, Iowa

Mike Gillespie is a farmer and sheep producer in the Lake Park community. Mike has raised sheep for over 60 years. He and his wife have a flock of 200+ Polypay type sheep and finish out the lambs. He makes a lot of hay and sells some on the market.

At present he has put up 3100 small square bales, he adds he has a stacker to do a lot of the heavy lifting. Mike has and Animal Science/Farm Operations degree from ISU and an accounting degree from Buena Vista University. He has served as a purchasing agent for a meat packer for some time. He is interested in the sheep industry and is willing to serve.



PRESS RELEASE ** PRESS RELEASE ** PRESS RELEASE
MAY 7, 2020

ASI Completes Secure Sheep & Wool Supply Plan

For More Information Contact:

Kyle Partain - kyle@sheepusa.org

DENVER -- The American Sheep Industry Association has completed the development of the Secure Sheep and Wool Supply Plan for Business Continuity in a Foot and Mouth Disease Outbreak. ASI worked with the Center for Food Security and Public Health at the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine to develop this plan.

The sheep industry is a diverse industry producing quality meat and wool products under a variety of management and environmental conditions. The Secure Sheep and Wool Supply Plan focuses on business continuity in the event of a FMD outbreak. FMD is the most highly contagious disease of livestock and affects domestic cloven-hoofed animals (cattle, swine, sheep and goats) and many wild animals (deer, bison, pronghorn antelope and feral swine). FMD is not a food safety or public health concern.

Having the Secure Sheep and Wool Supply Plan in place prior to an FMD outbreak is critical for food security and animal health and well-being. The Secure Sheep and Wool Supply Plan will facilitate the safe movement of sheep and wool with no evidence of disease from farms in an FMD control area to harvest channels or to other farms. The Secure Sheep and Wool Supply Plan will enhance coordination and communication between all parties, speed up a successful FMD response, and support continuity of operations for sheep producers and associated industries.

"The industry is pleased to have completed this plan with the assistance of the Iowa State's Center for Food Security and Public Health and the volunteers that served on the stakeholder group," said ASI President Benny Cox of Texas. "ASI funded this project because it is important for our producers to have a plan to follow to ensure the economic viability of the American sheep and wool industry during an FMD outbreak."

The poultry, beef, milk and pork industries have worked collaboratively with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, state animal health officials and academia to develop business continuity plans for their industries. The Secure Sheep and Wool Supply Plan is consistent with USDA's FMD response goals and other Secure Food Supply Plans to maintain business continuity for sheep and wool producers (whose animals are not infected with FMD) and processors and to provide a safe, continuous supply of lamb, mutton and wool for consumers.

More information on current the Secure Sheep and Wool Supply Plan visit <https://securesheepwool.org/>.

ASI is an equal opportunity employer. It is the national trade organization supported by 45 state sheep associations, benefiting the interests of more than 100,000 sheep producers.

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