



## Another Virtual Festival for 2021

For the second year in a row, the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival will be held virtually. The 48th annual festival will be held on May 1 and 2, 2021, with most events happening online. The Festival theme will be “Staying Home and Staying Safe until 2022.”

“Because we usually bring tens of thousands of people together from across the country and around the globe for one weekend, holding the festival as a virtual event in 2021 is the only responsible decision we could make”, said Festival chairman Gwen Handler and Maryland Sheep Breeders Association president Jeff White in announcing the decision. “By making this decision now, we will be able to focus all of our talents and energies into making this the best virtual festival we can.”

According to general manager Kris Thorne, “We will build upon what we did for the 2020 virtual festival by incorporating more of our contests, competitions, and educational events than time permitted us to do last year. The vendor marketplace and virtual fleece sale will be back; we will have new artwork and will produce our printed catalog, which has become a cherished keepsake for many; and we will again have t-shirts, tote bags and other festival memorabilia for sale in our online store.”

Stay connected for more information as plans unfold: Festival website, [www.sheepandwool.org](http://www.sheepandwool.org). Social media: <https://www.facebook.com/MarylandSheepandWoolFestival> and <https://www.facebook.com/groups/mswfOnlineCommunity>.

## Historic barn burns; losses for MSBA members

On Saturday evening, December 5, 2020, a massive barn fire at Clear View Farm in West Friendship heavily damaged the structure. Numerous farm animals perished.

Two GoFundMe pages have been established for those wishing to offer monetary assistance. The first, <https://gf.me/u/zbsvbk>, is aimed towards helping the Streaker Family rebuild their family legacy. The second, <https://gf.me/u/zbtsm5>, will help A.J. rebuild her flock of Katahdin sheep.

This farm, which adjoins the western end of the Howard County Fairgrounds, was founded by Howard Streaker Sr. in 1929. Howard Streaker Jr. was the husband of Mary Streaker. She is a current life member of the MSBA, was chairperson of the Festival for 14 years,

and still serves on the Festival committee. Those who attended the festival in the early days may remember Howard Jr. and his son, Howard III (Howie) as the guys who routinely drove their tractor over from the farm to rescue parked cars

**Barn fire, continued on p. 8 ►**



*The Clear View Farm barn on fire [Image provided by Howard County Fire and EMS]*

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# President's Message

2020, don't  
let the door  
hit you on  
your way  
out

**Jeff White** is  
President of MSBA

It's happened again. The Board's vote is in: We are going virtual with the 2021 Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival.

It seems that going virtual is not so bad for some, including vendors and seminars. I thrive on the in-person experience, so it's not so good for me. Besides, it's not very practical or economical to sell lamb through the mail. Then there is the not-so-great wool market. In the past I would get a little something for my fleeces that were not quite good enough to offer to hand-spinners. This fall they are bagged, piled, and abandoned in the center of my barn aisle.

Okay, enough depressing stuff—we will all make the best of it and look forward to a 2022 Festival. On the plus side, more folks will be able to participate in the virtual seminars—as they would not be able to attend the in-person seminars. My wife Jan, who manages the craft vendors, tells me the majority of vendors are fine with a virtual festival and did well earlier this year when we were virtual. There is still an on-going discussion of holding the Festival's sheep show that normally occurs as part of the festival.

The Association's annual meeting took place on October 9 via Zoom (due to COVID-19). It included introduction of the new board members including Steve Breeding, Patty Sanville, A.J. Hesketh-Tutton, Polly Matzinger, and filling the resigning Emily Chamelin-Hickkman's slot is Nancy Starkey. We thank Peter Austin and Rosalind Hind, who are leaving the board, for all their good work.

For our feature presentation, we aired an interview with ASI's Erika Sanko and our regional ASI representative Jimmy Parker, conducted by Patty Sanville (our Maryland representative to ASI) and myself. One area we discussed was sheep health. I have been following the ASI's progress in working to get U.S. approval for use of a number of vaccines—vaccines that are currently available in other countries. Before coming to ASI, Erika was executive director of the California Wool Growers Association, which worked to get the Footvax vaccine available for its members.

If all goes right, Footvax should be available nationwide in the coming months, thanks to ASI.

Speaking of vaccines, as I am finishing up this letter, the FDA has announced approval of the first COVID vaccine. It is the light at the end of this pandemic tunnel. I relate it to the longest night of the year—soon nights will be getting shorter and we can spend more time outside. I have a good feeling that we will be in a much better place come spring.

Whether you are reading this pre-holidays or post-, I hope you have/had the happiest of holidays given our situation.

Stay safe, stay healthy, stay upbeat.

Cheers!

—Jeff



Maryland Sheep News is published four times a year by the Maryland Sheep Breeders Association, Inc., and is sent to MSBA members. See back page for membership application.

## Ad Rates

Size	Specs (inches)	Price
Full page	7.5 x 9.5	\$95, \$320/year
Half vert.	3.3 x 9.5	\$60, \$200/year
Half horiz.	7.5 x 4.25	
Third	7.5 x 3	\$45, \$150/year
Quarter	3.3 x 4.25	\$30, \$100/year
Biz card	3.3 x 2	\$15, \$50/year
Classified	230 characters	\$10

Acceptable formats are PDFs, Word docs or jpegs.

### Issue deadlines for ads and copy:

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### Send copy to :

**Martha Polkey, Editor**  
sheep@budiansky.com

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Treasurer, MSBA  
1126 Slingluff Lane  
New Windsor, MD 21776

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agriculture Research Service (ARS) has announced a groundbreaking treatment that prevents anemia, weight loss, poor wool and meat production, and even death in sheep.

ARS researchers partnered with Virginia Tech and the University of Massachusetts' Medical School to solve *Haemonchus contortus* parasite infection, which also happens to be the number one health problem in the U.S. sheep industry. The parasite infects the stomach of ruminant mammals, feeding and interfering with digestion, before ultimately affecting the animal's overall health and stability.

"The *H. contortus* parasite has developed resistance to virtually all known classes of anti-parasitic drugs," said ARS Researcher Dr. Joseph Urban, who lead the research team in testing and implementation of a para-probiotic treatment to kill the parasite that causes *H. contortus*.

The worm parasite mates within the animal and its fertilized eggs pass through the animal's waste into the soil. The larvae then develop to re-infect other unsuspecting animals, spreading the infection throughout a pasture and creating a cycle of infection that hinders animal growth, development and production.

"This is a major problem and the newly-developed treatment is derived from bacteria normally found in the soil that can produce a protein that binds to receptors in the intestine of the parasite," said Dr. Urban. "The treatment will then kill the parasites and reduce debilitating infection in adult sheep."

"When the treatment was given to infected sheep at Virginia Tech there was a rapid and dramatic reduction of parasite reproduction and survival, without any negative effect observed in the sheep," said Dr. Anne Zajac, professor of parasitology at Virginia Tech's Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine.

Para-probiotics are "inactive probiotics," or good bacteria that can still provide health benefits. Despite the growing interest in para-probiotic use, these types of treatments are not commercially available. The treatments are currently



under review by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and will likely be commercially produced in large amounts once approved. This will help to protect an even larger population of animals across the country.

"Para-probiotics represent a new evolution and hope in dealing with a malignant and pervasive parasite," said Dr. Raffi Aroian, a professor in the Molecular Medicine program at the University of Massachusetts's Medical School. "The development of new therapeutics for this issue has been extremely difficult to come by and I look forward to watching this new advancement unfold in the global and domestic industry."

This project was supported by the National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; and the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grant from the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

Source: USDA Agricultural Research Service

**Bacterial protein shows great promise in fighting barberpole worm**

### American Sheep Industry Association Virtual Convention

"Mountains of Opportunity" is the theme of the 2021 American Sheep Industry Association annual convention on January 28–29. Sheep producers can view those mountains, comfortably seated at home, for \$25.

"While we'll miss the opportunity to see America's sheep producers face-to-face in January, a virtual meeting was a necessity due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Join us online as we give the latest presentations on sheep industry topics, new lamb companies, the American wool testing laboratory and as we conduct the essential business of governing the American Sheep Industry Association," states the ASI convention page. Below is the tentative schedule; other speakers and presentation titles may be added in December. To register visit <https://www.sheepusa.org/asi-annual-convention>.

#### Tentative Schedule of Events (All Times Mountain Standard)

##### Thursday, January 28

9–10 a.m. Opening General Session  
10–10:15 a.m. Sponsor Recognition Videos  
10:15 a.m.–1:15 p.m. Genetic Stakeholders, Animal Health Production, Education, Research/Policy Forum  
1:15–1:30 p.m. Sponsor Recognition Videos  
1:30–2:30 p.m. Keynote Speaker w/Q&A  
2:30–2:45 p.m. Sponsor Recognition Videos  
2:45–4 p.m. Wool Council/Policy Forum  
4–5 p.m. Regional Caucuses  
5–7 p.m. RAMS PAC

##### Friday, January 29

9–10 a.m. Legislative Action/Policy Forum  
10–10:15 a.m. Sponsor Recognition Videos  
10:30–11:45 a.m. Resource Management/Policy Forum  
11:45 a.m.–Noon. Sponsor Recognition Videos  
Noon–1 p.m. Lamb Council/Policy Forum  
1–1:15 p.m. Sponsor Recognition Videos  
1:15–4:15 p.m. ASI Board Meeting/Policy Forum



## To spray or not to spray

**Jimmy Henning**

*is a professor in the Plant and Soil Sciences Department at the University of Kentucky*

The decision to spray herbicide on pastures and hayfields is complicated. It's a subjective process depending on many factors, including the visual assessment of the weed pressure, the invasiveness and/or toxicity of the weed, the cost of the control measure, the forage value of the weed and its life cycle, and the ability to restore the pasture stand.

Here are some guidelines that help me formulate a weed control plan. I will be the first to admit this is a highly subjective set of guidelines or suggestions.

Would you spray the field shown below, to get rid of the ironweed? It's a tough question to weigh the value of a good stand of vigorous red clover (18 inches tall) compared to freedom from ironweed (24 inches tall). Before you make that decision, here are some considerations.

**Non-chemical control.** Farmers have other options besides spraying herbicide. Sometimes the best approach is to use cultural practices or grazing management to strengthen the forage crop and deal with the weed. Ragweed and some thistles are common examples. The UK publication AGR 207 'Controlling Broadleaf Weeds in Kentucky Pastures' evaluates the effectiveness of mowing as a weed management tool for many of our problem pasture weeds.

**The clover dilemma.** A vigorous stand of red clover would be worth protecting in all but the worst weed infestations. A stand of small, white dutch clover probably not. And remember that some new herbicide formulations will take out broadleaves without killing clover. ProClova® is one example.

**Annuals.** With annual weeds, it is usually best to first try to thicken up the forage stand. Annuals are opportunistic; they germinate and grow when forage stands get sparse. Addressing lime, P and K needs and



strategic use of nitrogen fertilizer are some of the most powerful tools to shift the advantage to the desirable forage. Implementing rotational grazing and maintaining good residual heights on the base grass will help suppress the onset of these weeds.

**Toxic and invasive plants.** Toxic and invasive weeds will often necessitate the use of herbicides. The cost/benefit ratio of using chemical control is influenced greatly by the threat of loss of livestock and the loss of value due to their presence in hay.

**Cash hay vs. pasture.** Some weeds can be tolerated or even be beneficial in pasture that would warrant herbicide application in a cash hay crop. For example, johnsongrass and crabgrass are highly palatable forages that benefit summer pastures but are not welcome in hay intended for high end horse markets.

**Weed growth stage matters.** Weeds are most easily controlled when they are green and actively growing. For perennials like ironweed, time herbicide applications so that plants are young and vegetative. Often that means timely mowing in mid-summer to knock them back and following up with herbicide in two or three weeks.

**Replant strategy.** A plan to spray almost always requires a plan to replant because when the weed is gone, you can be sure that Mother Nature will insert another one. Refer to the label for the proper re-seeding interval.

Remember that the best first step is to thicken up the existing stand of forage. That means, to start with, evaluating your grazing practices and stocking rates.

Happy foraging next spring!



The National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition announced that it has updated its publication Farmers' Guide to the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). This guide is a resource for farmers who want to learn more about CSP

**New Land Stewardship guide** or who are thinking about enrolling in the program. It has been updated to reflect recent changes.

The guide helps walk farmers through the application and implementation processes for CSP, and the updated version contains a full list of CSP practices and profiles of farmers who use CSP. The guide is available free online. <https://sustainableagriculture.net/publications/>

For shepherds who reach the point at which they are considering applying herbicides to deal with noxious and

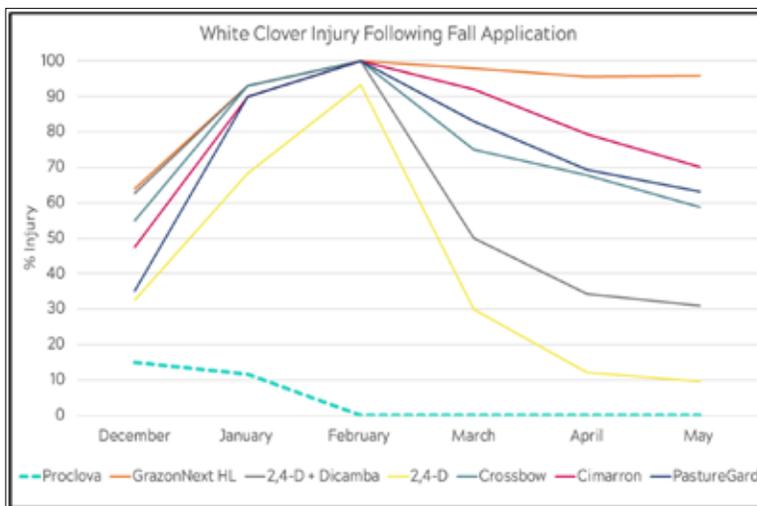
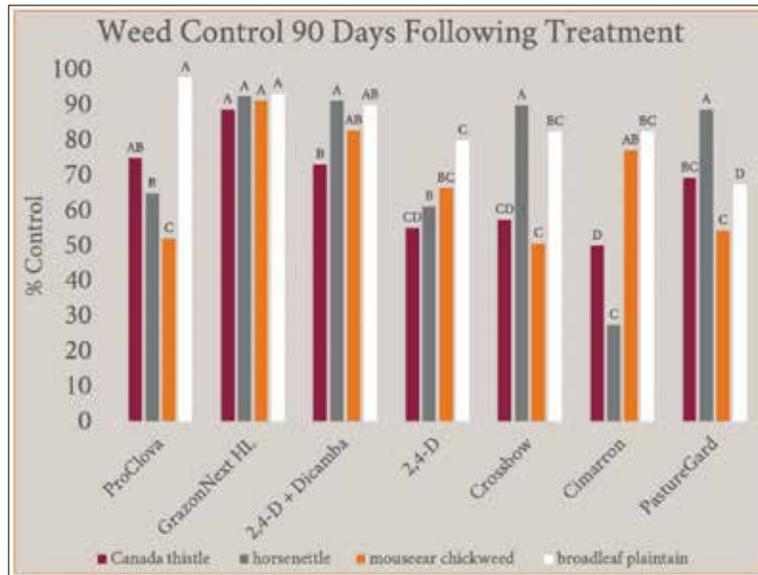
## Field testing ProClova herbicide

nuisance pasture or hayfield invaders—such as spiny amaranth, biennial thistles, horse nettle, ragweed, and buttercup—what often brings them up short is that wiping out forbs (broadleaved species) also means killing legumes such as white clover and annual lespedeza.

But new a herbicide, ProClova, expected to be registered for use in January 2021, spares those two legumes. Researchers at Virginia Tech’s School of Plant and Environmental Sciences presented results of trials of ProClova and other herbicides at the Shenandoah Valley Agricultural Research and Extension Center’s 2020 Field Day in August 2020. The field day was jointly sponsored by Virginia Tech and Virginia Cooperative Extension.

The objective of the research was to evaluate the efficacy of ProClova on broadleaf weed species and safety on white clover. The research involved treatments of ProClova and six other herbicides, applied in late April to control Canada thistle and early July for horse nettle. (See graph at top right.)

Following fall applications (mid-November), ProClova resulted in the lowest levels of white clover injury and GrazonNext resulted in the most injury (see graph at bottom right). By the end of the season (May), white clover treated with ProClova in the fall had fully recovered and nearly recovered (10 percent injury) from 2,4-D.



Top: Weed control from treatments, 90 days after application. Above: White clover injury from fall applications.

ProClova applied in the spring also resulted in the least white clover injury, fully recovering by the end of the season (May). GrazonNext (96 percent) also resulting in the greatest levels of injury when applied in the spring. Conclusion: Ongoing research indicates that ProClova is safe to establishing white clover, but further research is needed.

Excerpted from: Flessner, Michael; Greene, Wykle. “New developments in pasture herbicide options.” In *Shenandoah Valley Agricultural Research and Extension Center 2020 Field Day Proceedings*.

Day of application on white clover, and the same plot 1, 4, and 5 weeks afterwrd. [Image from <https://www.corteva.us/products-and-solutions/pasture-management/proclova.html>]



## Management

### Management Calendar

#### January 6-7

Virtual Virginia Shepherds’ Symposium, Virginia Sheep Producers Association. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/2021sheep-symposium>

#### January 11-12

Virtual American Forage and Grassland Council Annual Conference. Register at <https://www.afgc.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=3459>

#### January 13-14

Dairy Sheep Association of North America Symposium. 12–4:30 p.m. Go to <https://www.dsana.org/2021-virtual-symposium>

#### January 14, 19

Maryland-Delaware Forage Conferences. Register at <https://go.umd.edu/forage>

#### January 18-22

Winter Forage Conference, Virginia Forage and Grassland Council. Register at <https://vaforages.org/2021-virtual-winter-forage-conference>

#### January 28-29

American Sheep Industry Association Virtual Annual Convention. Register at <https://www.sheepusa.org/asi-annual-convention>

## Winter Educational Opportunities

In the silver linings department of this pandemic year, producers nationwide have an opportunity this winter to sample a richer than ever trove of virtual education events. Adding to the archives of webinars, online classes, and training you can view at your leisure are these virtual national and regional symposia of interest to shepherds.

### Continuity of business plans

Women in Agriculture offers at noon on **January 13** a webinar focused on addressing major disruptions to agricultural businesses. “A continuity of business (COB) plan outlines business functions in the event of a major disruption. It addresses issues such as loss of income, protecting employees and essential business activities.” For farms this is especially important because of contributions to the food supply and the essential function of taking care of crops and animals. This webinar outlines a very brief but practical guide to operating your farm during a disaster, disruption, and otherwise uncertain time.

To register go to <https://universityofextension.eventbrite.com>.

### Breeding for parasite resistance

Scott Bowdrige of West Virginia University is featured in this webinar on breeding for parasite resistance. Parasites develop resistance to the drugs we use to combat them—but they don’t develop resistance to a sheep’s genetic resistance to the parasite.

So the solution lies with breeding in genetic resistance to parasites. In this webinar Bowdrige discusses how to improve your flock resistance, and tools available to help reach your goals.



<https://soundcloud.com/user-637754734/asi-research-update-parasites-part-ii>

## Virginia Shepherds’ Symposium

The annual symposium of the Virginia Sheep Producers Association, co-sponsored with Virginia Tech, features a range of topics and producer presentations. There is no charge for this year’s Zoom event, but registration is required. <https://tinyurl.com/2021sheepsymposium>

**Wednesday, January 6, 7–9 p.m.**

- **Nontraditional Markets for Sheep.** Dr. Reid Redden, Sheep & Goat Specialist, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
- **Producer Spotlight.**  
Joe Gingerich, Gingerich Family Katahdins  
Gretchen Frederick, Solitude Wool  
Debbie Webster, Whispering Pines Farm Dairy & Cheese.
- **Update from ASI.** Jimmy Parker, ASI Executive Board, Region II Director, Alabama
- **VSPA Annual Meeting.** Mandy Fletcher, President

**Thursday, January 7, 7–9 p.m.**

- **Proper Use of Antibiotics on the Farm.** Dr. Kevin Pelzer, Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine
- **Farming with Labels. Organic, Natural, Humane, Grass-fed: What Does It All Mean?** Susan Schoenian, Sheep and Goat Specialist, University of Maryland
- **Update from VDACS.** Dan Hadacek, DVM, Northern Regional Veterinary Supervisor
- **Opportunities with the Virginia Sheep Industry Board.** Matthew Sponaugle, VDACS



## American Forage and Grassland Council Conference

This is a hybrid conference. An in-person conference takes place January 3–6 in Savannah, Georgia, with a virtual conference following on January 11 and 12. The virtual event will include on-demand online access to several workshops and presentations recorded during the in-person conference, as well as sessions by presenters who are not attending in person. The virtual sessions will be available for up to 60 days after the event. Both options will offer comprehensive education on profitable and sustainable forage practices, and presentations from the field’s top experts. Cost is \$99 for AFGC members; \$150 for nonmembers.

**Monday, January 11, 2021**

- 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. **Opening & Workshop: 2021 Launch of ProClova Herbicide**
- 12:45–1:15 p.m. **Industry Highlights**
- 1:15–3 p.m. **Volunteer Presentations**
- 1:15–3 p.m. **Pasture Condition Scoring**
- 3:15–4:45 p.m. **Animal Nutrition and Forages**

**Tuesday, January 12, 2021**

- 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. **Soil Health**
- 12:45–1:15 p.m. **Industry Highlights**
- 1:30–3 p.m. **Calculated Parameters Used in Forage Nutritive Analysis Reporting**
- 3–5 p.m. **Making Hay**

11 a.m.–5 p.m. Both days: **Virtual Poster Presentations**



## Dairy Sheep Association of North America Online Symposium

In place of the Dairy Sheep Association of North America's annual, in-person Dairy Sheep Symposium, there will be a virtual gathering via Zoom on Jan. 13–14, open to members (dues are \$75/year). To register go to <https://www.dsana.org/2021-virtual-symposium>.

**Wednesday, January 13**

**Dairy Sheep Health and Conformation**

12 p.m. **Understanding Mastitis and Its Impact on Production; the Difference Between Clinical and Subclinical Mastitis; Manifestations of Mastitis**

1:15 p.m. **On-farm Mastitis Culture for Dairy Sheep, and Its On-farm Use**

2:15 p.m. **Screening Out *Staph Aureus* from Our Dairy Flock**

3:15 p.m. **Udder Conformation in Dairy Ewes**

**Thursday, January 14**

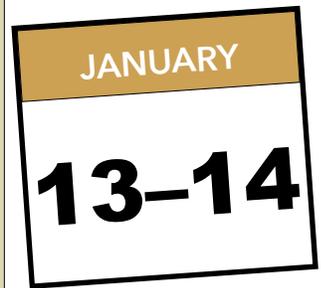
**Products & Markets Around the World**

12 p.m. **The History of the Sheep Cheese-Making Tradition in Croatia, and What Makes Sheep Milk and Sheep Cheese Unique Compared to Other Dairy-Milk Cheeses in the Croatian Culture**

1:15 p.m. **A Producer Panel: "Marketing in a Pandemic: Lessons Learned"**

2:15 p.m. **Dairy Sheep Farming in New Zealand and Producing for the International Powdered-Milk Market**

3:30 p.m. **Roundtable Introduction of Attendees & DSANA Board Video**



## Maryland-Delaware Forage Conferences

The Maryland-Delaware Forage Conferences are moving to a virtual session for 2021. The conference will take place over two partial days on January 14th and January 19th starting at 9 a.m. each morning. Certified crop advisor, nutrient management, and private pesticide applicator credits will be offered. Event is free but registration is required. Visit <https://go.umd.edu/forage> for registration and additional information.

**Thursday, January 14**

9 a.m. **Welcome**

9:15 a.m. **Strategies to Boost Summer Production Using Warm-Season Forages.** Dr. Chris Teutsch, University of Kentucky

10:15 a.m. **Pasture Renovation 101.** Jeff Semler, University of Maryland Extension

11 a.m. **Weed Management for Pastures/Hayfields: Is There Anything New?** Dr. Mark VanGessel, University of Delaware

11:45 a.m. **Time for Discussion/Adjourn**

**Tuesday, January 19**

9 a.m. **Welcome**

9:15 a.m. **Drying Hay When Mother Nature Doesn't Cooperate.** Dr. Dan Undersander, University of Wisconsin Emeritus

10:15 a.m. **Maintaining Persistence and Productivity in Forage Stands.** Dr. Amanda Grev, University of Maryland Extension

11 a.m. **Optimizing Soil Fertility for Forages.** Ben Beale, University of Maryland Extension

11:45 a.m. **Time for Discussion/Adjourn**



## Virginia Forage and Grassland Council Winter Conference

The Virginia Forage and Grassland Council's annual winter conferences usually are held at four locations throughout the state, with the speakers caravanning to each, with a new audience of producers, over a four-day period. At this year's virtual conference January 18–22, each speaker will have the evening session to themselves. "Building Resilience in Grass Based Farms" is this year's theme; a video of what to expect at the conference can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OmFvPcFKYIM&feature=youtu.be>.

Conference presentations will be recorded and posted for registered participants for a limited-time for viewing, in case you miss one of the live presentations. (The conference series is now approved for 4.0 Nutrient Management CEU's, 6.0 Certified Crop Advisor CEU's, and 4.0 DCR Certified Conservation Planner contact hours.)

The cost is just \$20. The conference will be limited to 500 households. Register at <https://vaforages.org/2021-virtual-winter-forage-conference/>.

Monday, January 18, 6–7:30 p.m. **Building Resilience with Grazing Management & Winter Feeding.** Dr. Greg Halich

Tuesday, January 19, 6–7:30 p.m. **Building Resilience in Soils, Plants, & Animals.** Mr. Greg Brann

Wednesday, January 20, 6–7:30 p.m. **Profitable Stocking Rates & the Downward Spiral of Overstocking.** Dr. Greg Halich

Thursday, January 21, 6–7:30 p.m. **Adaptive Grazing Management: Multispecies Grazing.** Mr. Greg Brann

Friday, January 22, 9–9:30 a.m. **VFGC Business Meeting** 9:30–11 a.m. **Conference Recap/Q & A**



## Management ▶

### Winter grazing: One strip at a time

**C. J. Weddle** was the 2020 Hay & Forage Grower editorial intern. She currently attends Mississippi State University, majoring in agricultural education, leadership, and communications. This article is reprinted with permission.

**G**razing stockpiled grasses during winter can provide large economic benefits versus feeding hay. In a recent issue of the University of Kentucky's Off the Hoof newsletter, Chris Teutsch explains how to get the most out of stockpiled grasses, noting that strip grazing pastures can extend grazing by as much as 40 percent on some farms when livestock are given only enough forage for three days of grazing compared to two weeks.

Like any other time of year, it is important to have a firm understanding of the types of forages in stockpiled pastures. As time passes, some forages can retain quality better than others. Warm-season grasses are among those forages that do not retain forage quality and will need to be grazed first.

The next pastures to use are those that contain mostly clover. Teutsch writes, "We are always happy to see clover in pastures, but it doesn't hold up well to freezing." So graze mixed grass-legume pastures before the purer stands of cool-season grasses.

"Save pastures with primarily tall fescue for later grazing," Teutsch urges. "Tall fescue is by far the

best grass for stockpiling in terms of maintaining its nutritive value as you head into winter."

Teutsch offers the following recommendations to get the most grazing days out of winter stockpiled, strip-grazed pastures:

#### **Do what works for you and your farm.**

Grazing winter stockpiles should be beneficial for the land, forages, and cattle, but also the operator. Choose a schedule that works best for you, whether it be a one-day rotation or once per week. A shorter time period between moves will result in the best utilization and number of grazing days.

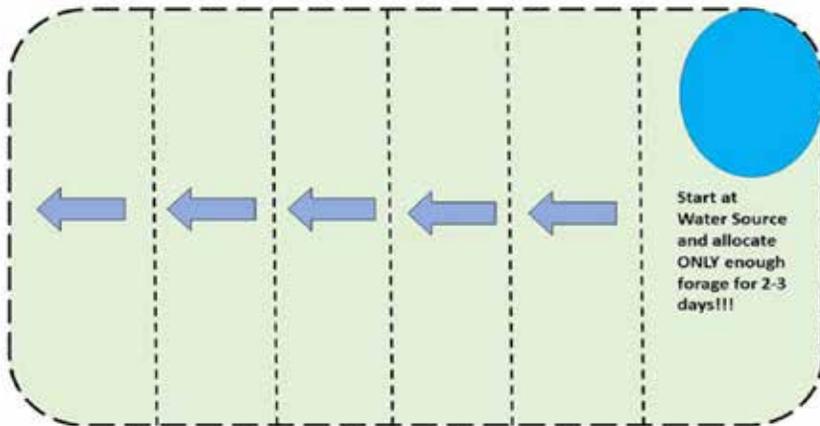
**Start at the water source.** When fencing a pasture for strip grazing, start the grazing rotation at the water source; there will be no need for back fencing. This means you should only need minimal strands of polywire wire that prevent sheep from advancing into new areas. The forage between the polywire and the water source has already been grazed.

**Don't take your forward fence down until the next section's forward fence is in place.** Otherwise, you will be chasing stock.

**Know that it is a different kind of work.** Many farmers are accustomed to the workload that comes with winter hay feedings, so the idea and preparations for strip grazing seem challenging. Teutsch shares that once you are set up for this type of grazing system, the work goes by fast with huge paybacks.

Limiting access to stockpiled forage can significantly improve grazing days per acre, which in turn will reduce the amount of time and other resources needed to get your cattle through the winter months.

*Each allotment should permit about three days' worth of grazing.*



#### ▶ **Barn fire, continued from p. 1**

that were stuck in the mud in the parking lot on rainy weekends. The farm is now in the hands of the next generation of Streakers, Harles, 26, and George, 31.

The farm's livestock manager, A.J. Hesketh-Tutton, currently serves on the MSBA Board of Directors as well as on the Festival committee. She has been one of the sheepdog demonstrators at the Festival for the past several years. A.J. lost almost 40 of her own pregnant ewes in the fire, along with a livestock guardian dog. Other

livestock losses included two dairy calves (1 week old), two pigs (including a pregnant sow due December 8), and four 4-day old piglets.

Harles and George, along with A.J., have been working hard to rebuild the legacy that the family has maintained for 4 generations. They had just ventured into restoring dairy farming with new milking equipment, farming equipment, a few tons of feed/hay, mowers and tools. This investment and dream was completely destroyed in the fire. Please send your prayers and positive thoughts.

The Chesapeake Fibershed, a regional affiliate of the national Fibershed movement, has launched a tool to help educate consumers about local fiber production as it helps promote the producers and products within the region.

The Fibershed concept aims to promote regional natural fiber systems centered on local fibers, dyes, and labor. The Chesapeake Fibershed follows the boundaries of the Chesapeake Watershed, which includes the states of Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New York.

The tool is a “product checklist,” which shows where each part and process of a natural fiber product originated or was performed. It is patterned off of the “fiber cycle” illustrated in the Soil to Soil fibershed diagram from Fibershed.com. The checklist is designed to be attached to products.

Not all stages of fabrication or material sources are required to have originated in this fibershed; the goal is to highlight for consumers how items and garments are fabricated and to celebrate their natural components.



Solitude Wool’s Gretchen Frederick (who also serves on the CF steering committee) was the first to make use of the checklist.

“Collecting the information for the checklist and enumerating all the steps was enlightening for us too,” said Frederick. “Makes us realize that we have many more avenues of marketing and education beyond explaining breeds and qualities of wool.” Because of COVID-19, company staff haven’t had the opportunity to see customers face to face to gauge their response to the Fibershed checklist yet. “But we have used it in emails and in our online shop and enclose it with each throw. I feel like it will be a

**Fibershed offers promotional tool for local products**

great opportunity to start important conversations.”

Makers of natural fiber products in the Chesapeake Fibershed may request an application. Upon approval, checklists will be sent to producers/makers for attachment to their products.

Go to <https://chesapeakefibershed.com/programs/product-checklist/> for more information and to download the application form.



Counter-clockwise from top left: The Soil to Soil fiber cycle; inside of checklist for Solitude Wool woolen throw; the throws labeled and boxed.

## 100% Wool Woven Throw

= within the Chesapeake Fibershed  
 = within another fibershed  
 = not naturally sourced

<p><b>Fiber</b> 50% North Country Cheviot, 47% Romney and 3% mohair. Primarily sourced from small farms in Loudoun County, Virginia, some Romney from Pennsylvania. Mohair from Shenandoah Valley, Virginia.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Dyestuff</b> Basic throw is primarily undyed white and natural color wool. About 15% of the fibers were dyed in the wool with weak acid dyes to create a variegated yarn.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Spinning</b> Green Mountain Spinnery, Putney, Vermont*</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Dyeing</b> Solitude Wool in Loudoun County, Virginia</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Weaving</b> Bedfellows Blankets (Peggy Hart) in Massachusetts on old industrial looms*</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Fulling/fringe</b> Solitude Wool in Loudoun County, Virginia</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Marketing</b> Solitude Wool in Loudoun County, Virginia</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

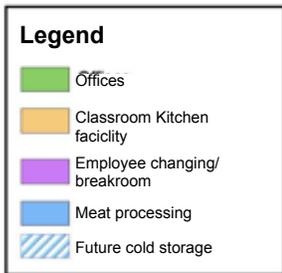
\* Within the Western Massachusetts Fibershed.



**Marketing ▶**

# Regional projects aim to address processing deficits

*Below: Site plan for the St. Mary's County Regional Agricultural Center. Bottom, the VSU mobile slaughter unit*



Shepherds know that the shortage of custom slaughter plants long predates the pandemic, and regional efforts to remedy the shortage are showing some progress.

St. Mary's County, Maryland, has coordinated with the Southern Maryland Agriculture Development Commission (SMADC) to get a newly built Amish-owned slaughter facility USDA approved and to construct a Regional Agriculture Center. In July 2019, St. Mary's County received a grant and signed a memorandum of understanding with SMADC.

The center's goal is to provide meat processing (not slaughter) and a teaching kitchen for butchering and other value-added processes. Additional funding was secured by SMADC to provide cold storage space for aggregation of fruits and vegetables at the center. An existing County-owned property has been identified as the preferred site.

The next step is for St. Mary's County to obtain concept design services for the new \$2.7 million center. The facility is to be designed to accommodate all RAC's activities and will provide a dedicated meat processing facility capable of future expansion. Construction is anticipated to begin in the fall 2021.

Storage and meat processing support facilities will include: intake/distribution area (with a chill room and holding cooler linked to the processing room, two large cold/freezer rooms; unrefrigerated product storage space; dedicated storage for holding products pending customer pick up; employee and training changing/break room; a production room for a certified butcher shop with a cut and wrap facility shop capable of whole animal processing for wholesale, custom, and retail distribution as fresh and frozen meats.

Dedicated space for smoking and curing rooms for value added processing of a custom and branded Southern Maryland charcuterie. Classroom and kitchen

workspace for classes, workshops and apprentice training in whole animal, home based meat processing, sausage making, and whole muscle curing/aging. Classroom will include NSF certified kitchen facilities and windows to view the

activities in the production room.

In Virginia, where the state (instead of USDA) conducts meat inspection, the drive to serve processing demand has taken a different route, so far.

Virginia State University (VSU) is trouble-shooting a recently completed mobile slaughter and processing unit, which was funded with a USDA grant four years ago.

VSU Cooperative Extension small ruminant specialist Dahlia O'Brien and Stephan Wildeus, small ruminants research professor at VSU's Agricultural Research Station, are working with the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) to make sure the unit is fully operational and USDA-certified.

Hiring of a full-time coordinator and butcher for day-to-day operation has been delayed due to the shutdown. Updates on the unit can be found at: <https://www.ext.vsu.edu/mobile-slaughter-unit>.

"We anticipate that we will be working closely with counties to develop docking stations on farms, at sale barns, etc., and work out a schedule for its movement around the state," O'Brien wrote in an email earlier this year. The docking station would include electric and potable water hook-ups; alternatively, the unit does have a water tank on board (pressure issues are being addressed) and a generator (25 gallons of diesel capacity). Additionally, each site would require a compost area for offal, head, hide, etc., and a field on which to apply captured wastewater.

VSU is now developing a coordinated multi-farmer slaughter and food hub market distribution model for potential use by Virginia's sheep and goat producers.

The Virginia Foundation for Agriculture, Innovation and Rural Sustainability (FAIRS) released in September 2020 "A Study of Small-Volume Red Meat Processing in Virginia." The 120-page publication is meant to serve as a guide for new processors considering opening facilities in the state.

"The recent supply chain issues that were revealed in spring of 2020 with the nation's response to the COVID-19 outbreak have increased demand for local meats....In response to this need for processing services, farmers may seek cooperative efforts to implement small volume, red meat processing facilities in rural areas."

The publication includes economic analyses and cost estimates to guide entrepreneurs considering entering the business. The guide is available for download at <https://www.vafairs.com/resources>.

Like many activities in 2020, the Maryland Make It with Wool Competition took on a new look. Participants submitted their completed garments, photos, videos, and answers to questions for their age division for judging.

## Make It With Wool contest goes online

Observing Covid-19 protocols, including wearing masks, social distancing, cleaning surfaces,

etc., on October 17 four MIWW judges and five committee members met at Wards Chapel United Methodist Church to conduct the judging and plan for the virtual fashion show on October 30. As in a normal year, garments were first judged for construction with written comments and recommendations on a score sheet. Photos and videos were used to evaluate fit, fashion, modeling, and answers to specific questions.

Two weeks later, via Zoom, the virtual fashion show, began with a 30-minute get acquainted session related to fashion. The submitted photos with live narrations were used for the fashion show.



Winners for each age division were announced after the show.

Preteen winner was Alexandra Frank of Baltimore County wearing a red and black plaid jumper with a red border trim.



Karli Abbott, from Talbot County, was the Junior winner with a black pencil dress with accent top stitching and a teal wool melton cape featuring an original machine quilted design.



Wearing lined forest green wool pants, purple check shirt and and purple and green wrap, Amanda Clougherty from Talbot County was the adult division winner.



Karli and Amanda will represent Maryland in the National Competition at the end of January. Again, as a result of the pandemic, garments, photos and videos will be submitted for the national judging. And the fashion show and awards presentation are expected to be held virtually.

MIWW participants and committee thank MSBA for its continued sponsorship and monetary donation. The competition is nearing its 70th anniversary.

*MIWW winners, left to right: Amanda Clougherty, Alexandra Frank, Karli Abbott--with virtual backgrounds supplied by Zoom.*

The annual meeting for the Maryland Sheep Breeders Association looked quite different this year. The meeting was held October 9, 2020, but online via Zoom with 17 attendees.

President Jeff White called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone at 7:09 p.m. Several special recognitions were made, including the Shepherd of the Year, which was awarded posthumously to Ron Allen. The Dinsmores were acknowledged for their tremendous contributions in helping to market MSWF merchandise. Nancy Starkey previously delivered a plaque to them in honor of this recognition. Colleen Histon was

also thanked for her extraordinary bookkeeping efforts on behalf of the group.

## MSBA Virtual Annual Meeting

In a normal year the 2020 Lamb and Wool Ambassador would have been recognized. There was no ambassador this year due to cancellation of shows and fairs, however. We also were unable to see presentations by our MIWW competitors, as their "virtual" competition was still forthcoming.

We were, however, privileged to hear from Brietta Latham, our 2020 scholarship recipient, about

*continued on page 14* ►



### No shearing school in March

Due to COVID-19, the 2021 Maryland Sheep Breeders Association Beginners Shearing School scheduled for March 12 & 13, 2021, has been cancelled.

Maryland News ▶

When the 2020 Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival was cancelled due to COVID-19, many of the Festival's devotees asked if merchandise for the festival would still be available. The committee decided that select merchandise (tee

Appreciation to Sheepman Supply for festival aid

shirts, sweatshirts, totes, posters, pins, mugs, etc.) would be available by special order for a limited time.



To accomplish the task of marketing these items, Bob and Charlotte Dinsmore offered the use of their facility and staff at Sheepman Supply Company. As soon as the merchandise sale period opened, the orders were taken by the Sheepman Supply staff, who then forwarded the final merchandise order to the printing company. When the freshly-printed Festival bling arrived, Sheepman Supply Company assumed the task of distributing it to the purchasers.

The amount of ordered merchandise was more than anyone expected, and additional staff was hired to fill the orders and ready them for shipping. The grand total of the retail sales was \$30, 806.19!

To thank the Dinsmores and their staff for making the 2020 MSWF merchandise sales possible, the Maryland Sheep Breeders Association Board presented them with a plaque.

I had the honor of presenting it to Bob, Charlotte, and Kathy Gordon, and they received it with



Kathy Gordon and Bob and Charlotte Dinsmore accept the plaque for their service to MSBA and the Festival.

grace and humility (and a bit of surprise, too!). We are indeed grateful for MSBA members like Bob and Charlotte Dinsmore and for a job well done.

—Nancy Cox Starkey



We have just launched a new Facebook group—a private group for MSBA members only—called MSBA Exchange. This group differs somewhat from the existing MSBA Marketplace group on Facebook, which is primarily a buy-and-sell (or trade) group only, also used for posting help wanted ads.

The new MSBA Exchange group will also allow for exchange of ideas and experiences or services for all matters related to sheep, as well as for advertising upcoming events (such as educational webinars). So, if you're suddenly in need of a head stanchion to borrow, or if you're finding yourself with more potential customers for freezer lambs than you have lambs, or you're seeking the experience anyone might have had

with the new fungal feed additive (*Duddingtonia flagrans*) for controlling barberpole worm, this is the place to post!

Posts related to buying or selling of any sheep-related items are also allowed. The group is being moderated, and all posts must be approved by a moderator. We will not allow posts seeking veterinary advice for an issue directly related to the health of an individual animal or animals (as opposed to more general questions about overall flock health); all members of this group are expected to adhere to Facebook's normal community standards (which prohibit the selling of live animals).

—Lynn Roberts



New Facebook group for MSBA members

Meet the four 2023 Maryland Sheep Breeders Association directors, plus a returning director filling the remaining term of a 2022 director. They've joined 2021 and 2022 directors to complete the board's team.



**Steve Breeding** is the owner of Shepherd's Hope Farms in Seaford, Delaware. The farm, made up of a flock of 50 club lamb ewes, has been in operation for about 9 years. Steve recently expanded his flock, and is currently

raising 250 feeder lambs, marketed directly to the ethnic markets in major east coast cities. This operation is part of a larger, fourth-generation family farm, which has specialized in Angus cattle for more than a hundred years. As much as Steve loves agriculture and cattle, he often says he has found his passion in the sheep and wool industry. After attending the Maryland Shearing School several times, he enjoys shearing small flocks on the Eastern shore. Steve is a very active alumni of the FFA and 4-H organizations, along with serving as both the Sussex County Farm Bureau and Delaware Beef Producers president. His passion for sheep and lambs shines during conversations with other shepherds, especially youth shepherds.

**A.J. Hesketh-Tutton** runs a flock of Katahdin Sheep in West Friendship. "Of all the types livestock I've worked with, which is most of them, sheep have always been my favorite. They are quirky, intelligent (they don't want you to know it), individual (again...secretly) and affectionate (but only if no one is looking)," she says.



"There is something quite wonderful about being adopted by a flock. It's a level of trust that is hard won, but all the more special for being so. Aside from loving the animals themselves, I have also always liked them for sheer sustainability. I don't think there's any other breed of livestock that can produce so much from so little."



**Polly Matzinger** is a scientist whose work in immunology has been recognized worldwide, and includes study of the theoretical basis of immunology, vaccines for babies, transplantation, and the initiation and control

of immune responses. She accidentally ended up with some sheep left over from a research project on how mothers pass immunity to their babies in milk, having fought with the National Institutes of Health administration to save them from being sacrificed at the end of the project. She bought a farm to keep them, a border collie puppy to help her, and has never looked back.

With her dogs, Lily and Charlie, she represented the U.S. team at the World Sheep dog finals in 2005, the first time the United States was invited to compete. She is bringing a new Gotland sheep into the United States using frozen embryos from New Zealand and semen from Sweden, Great Britain, and New Zealand, to ensure genetic diversity. She is selecting for the rare specimens that maintain their amazing lamb fleeces into adulthood.

She has donated high-percentage Gotland sheep to the youth conservancy program and lent high-quality lambs to 4-H children. She is especially interested in sheep health and is currently working on organizing the necessary clinical trials to bring the barberpole worm vaccine, Barbervax, into the United States.

**Patricia Sanville** lives on a small farm in Frederick, raising a family and raising sheep as well as various other species of livestock and crops. The sheep, both meat and wool breeds, arrived at the farm as a 4-H project with her children. She currently has a mixed flock consisting of Registered Romney, registered Leicester Longwool and registered natural colored sheep. She also is a fiber artist. Patricia has served several terms on the MSBA Board. She currently is Maryland's representative to the American Sheep Industry Association. Patricia works closely with the Maryland Sheep Breeders Association as well as the University of Maryland Small Ruminant Specialist



## Meet the 2023 MSBA Directors

### Read your Maryland Sheep News & win a gift certificate!

As noted in the email providing the link to the Summer 2020 edition of the Maryland Sheep News, anyone opening the newsletter within the first seven days after its release was entered into a drawing for a \$10 gift certificate to Sheepman Supply. The winner (selected randomly) was Beth Cobleigh and family. If you are reading this within the first week after release of the Winter 2021 newsletter, you have already been entered to win the next such gift certificate! Congratulations to Beth!

**Maryland News** ▶ and the Board of Directors for The Great Frederick Fair, where she holds the position of ag education co-chair. In this role, she promotes all aspects of agriculture. She also works with 4-H and FFA programs and public and private schools.



**Nancy Starkey** has served on the MSBA Board several times over the years, and is currently completing the term of a director who resigned. She has been keeping sheep at Trial & Error Acres for almost 30 years. In the early 1990s, she purchased six Barbados sheep for the purpose of training her dogs for sheepdog trials. However, she soon realized that she really enjoyed sheep, so she acquired more. Over the years, she has raised Barbados, Katahdins, Border Leicesters, Border Cheviots, and Bluefaced Leicesters. While her dogs are still invaluable for flock management (and sheepdog demonstrations), her focus these

days is on raising Bluefaced Leicester breeding stock and marketing their beautiful fleeces.

Nancy believes that knowledge should be shared, and is always willing to assist those new to raising sheep.

▶ **Annual Meeting**, *continued from p. 11*

her COVID-19 school year. Also, Jeff arranged to have a video clip shared from ASI discussing the status of Footvax availability in the United States.

The video was recorded and is available for viewing on the MSBA website, on the News and Information page, under the “About” tab at [marylandsheepbreeders.org](http://marylandsheepbreeders.org).

Results of our on-line election were shared with the group, who welcomed the following officers and board members:

**Officers:** President, Jeff White; Vice President, Andrew Keller; Secretary, Carolann McConaughy; Treasurer, Colleen Histon

**2021 Directors:** Ken Farrell, Gwen Handler, Meredith Null, Lynn Roberts

**2022 Directors:** Sarah Campbell, Nancy Starkey (filling vacancy), Ollie King, Lisa Westra

**2023 Directors:** Patty Sanville, Polly Matzinger, A.J. Hesketh-Tutton, Steve Breeding (see page 13 for more about the 2023 directors).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



It is with great sadness that I report the passing of Paul Lynch. Paul was a MSBA life member, along with his wife, Judy. Paul was past president of the association, as well as being Shepherd of the Year in 1973.

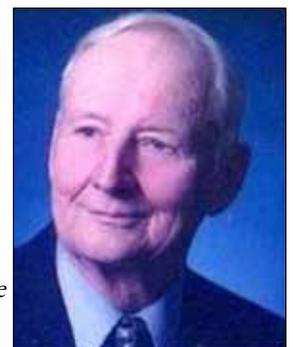
*J. Paul Lynch*

Following WWII service as an airplane armory gunner (earning a Purple Heart and Bronze Star after being shot down over Germany and taken prisoner), he achieved, bachelors and master’s degrees, and a Ph.D. from Cornell. He served for 28 years in the Ruminant Nutrition Laboratory at the USDA Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. He especially enjoyed living and working on the family sheep farm. He also served on the Maryland Agricultural Commission.

Due to the corona virus the family is unable to have a visitation or funeral service. A private

graveside service will be held at the convenience of the family in the Methodist Cemetery in Uniontown, MD. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Messiah United Methodist Church, 20 Middle St., Taneytown, MD 21787, the Union Bridge Lions Club, P.O. Box 5, Union Bridge, MD 21791 or to the Dove House, 292 Stoner Ave., Westminster, MD 21157. The family invites you to leave a message or memory on the “tribute wall” at [www.hartzlerfuneral-home.com](http://www.hartzlerfuneral-home.com).

—Kris Thorne



# Maryland Sheep Breeders Association, Inc. Officers & Directors

## Executive Committee

<b>President</b> Jeffrey White 3610 Baker Road Westminster, MD 21157 410-746-5768 chestnutcreekfarm@gmail.com	<b>Vice President</b> Andrew Keller 28301 Clarksburg Road Damascus, MD 20872 301-676-6287 vistaviewfarms@gmail.com	<b>Secretary</b> Carolann McConaughy 8253 Dollyhyde Road Mt. Airy, MD 21771 301-829-6950 stillpointfarmsheep@gmail.com	<b>Treasurer</b> Colleen Histon 1126 Slingluff Road New Windsor, MD 21776 240-388-6633 shepherdsmanorcreamery@verizon.net	<b>Past President</b> Lee Langstaff 24020 Old Hundred Road Dickerson, MD 20842 301-908-9332 lmlangstaff@gmail.com
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## Ex Officio

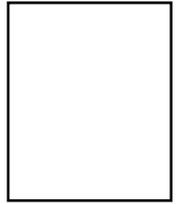
<b>American Sheep Industry Association Liaison</b>	Patricia Sanville	4637 Cap Stine Road Frederick, MD 21703	240-357-1437	patriciasanville@gmail.com
<b>Membership</b>	Kris Thorne	1130 Martin Drive Westminster, MD 21157	410-848-6971	msbamembershipchair@gmail.com
<b>Sheep &amp; Wool Festival</b>	Gwen Handler	935 Bloom Road Westminster, MD 21157	410-857-4387	gwenhandler@gmail.com
<b>Make It With Wool</b>	Judy Williamson	6924 Girl Scout Road Boonsboro, MD 21713	301-432-0281	judy10503@aol.com
<b>Maryland Shearing School</b>	Aaron Geiman	429 Hook Road Westminster, MD 21157	443-340-2322	adgeiman75@gmail.com

## Board Members

<b>2021 Directors</b>	Ken Farrell	12119 Renner Road Keymar, MD 21757	301-304-0272	ktf10626@msn.com
	Gwen Handler	935 Bloom Road Westminster, MD 21157	410-857-4387	gwenhandler@gmail.com
	Meredith Null	5955 Old Bohn Road Mt. Airy, MD 21771	301-908-0589	bluelandfarm@gmail.com
	Lynn Roberts	19636 Graystone Road White Hall, MD 21161	410-299-0486	luckylanefarm@gmail.com
<b>2022 Directors</b>	Sarah Campbell	4956 Muddy Creek Road West River, MD 20778	443-994-4864	sarah@newroots.farm
	Nancy Cox Starkey	12895 Colonial Drive Mt. Airy, MD 21771	301-253-4732	ncstarkey@aol.com
	Ollie King	23477 Path Valley Road Doylestown, PA 17219	717-414-8553	rivertonfarmsllc@gmail.com
	Lisa Westra	1227 Morris Road Freeland, MD 21053	410-357-5336	westra@feederbrook.com
<b>2023 Directors</b>	Steve Breeding	4602 Stein Highway Seaford DE 19973	302-381-6129	spbreeding@gmail.com
	A.J. Hesketh-Tutton	13370 Route 144 West Friendship, MD 21794	202-706-1026	fordbronco1@live.com
	Polly Matzinger	4810 Elmer Derr Road Frederick, MD 21703	240-444-2047	amblingbrookfarm@gmail.com
	Patty Sanville	4637 Cap Stine Road Frederick, MD 21703	240-357-1437	patriciasanville@gmail.com
<b>Maryland Sheep News Editor</b>	Martha Polkey	14605 Chapel Lane Leesburg, VA 20176	703-727-5604	mp@budiansky.com
<b>Website Coordinator</b>	Kris Thorne	1130 Martin Drive Westminster, MD 21157	410-848-6971	msbamembershipchair@gmail.com



1126 Slingluff Road • New Windsor, MD 21776



www

Maryland Sheep Breeders Association:  
marylandsheepbreeders.org

Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival:  
sheepandwool.org

like us!



Join *the*

## MARYLAND SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

...and become part of an active organization that sponsors the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival (the premier event of its kind in the nation), Sheep Shearing School, various youth activities, and a variety of educational functions.

You can join and pay online at <http://marylandsheepbreeders.org>, and fill out your member profile page. If you prefer to register by mail, fill out the form at left and mail with your \$25 check.

The Maryland Sheep Breeders Association Board of Directors meets every other month. Meetings are open to members. For minutes of meetings, contact the MSBA Secretary (see p. 15). 2021 meeting dates: Feb. 1, April 5, June 7, Sept. 13, Oct. 22, Dec. 6.

### Here are sponsored events and activities for 2021

- Beginning Shearing School **CANCELED**
- TBD: Shepherds Seminar Day
- May 1-2: Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival **VIRTUAL**
- October 22: Annual Meeting & Dinner

### Membership application MARYLAND SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

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

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

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

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Please include me in the MSBA Breeders Directory.

Web URL: \_\_\_\_\_

Breed(s): \_\_\_\_\_ No. Ewes: \_\_\_\_\_

### As a member you will:

- Join an active and friendly community of shepherds and others
- Support the core activities of the MSBA.
- Receive the quarterly Maryland Sheep News, MSBA's informative newsletter.
- Receive regular publications from the American Sheep Industry Association.
- Receive priority consideration for enrollment in the Maryland Shearing School (applicable only if you own sheep), and your family members will be given priority consideration for the annual MSBA scholarship.
- Receive free admission to the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival and be mailed a free copy of the catalog.
- Pay a reduced commission on all fleeces sold at the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival Fleece Show & Sale.
- Be able to promote your farm or business through a free profile page on the MSBA website.

**Annual membership/subscription fee: \$25.** The membership year runs from October through September. Dues for membership received prior to June 1, 2021, will be accepted as paid through September 30, 2021. Dues received on or after June 1 will be accepted as paid through September 30, 2022.

Send form and \$25 check made payable to MSBA to Kris Thorne, Membership Chair, 1130 Martin Drive, Westminster, MD 21157. She will contact you for additional information for the breeders directory and online profile.