My name is Emily Gibson, I am nine. I live in Lee, New Hampshire; my farm is Fairy Dust Farm. I have Tunis and Border Leicester sheep. I have had Border Leicester sheep for two years. My Grammy has a flock too, during the winter I keep my sheep at her farm with her sheep. In the summer I bring the sheep I will show to my house and they live in the sheep trailer. We put out a fence and give them a place to go outside. At night they have to go in the trailer because we have coyotes.

Magic is one of my brood ewes. I got Magic from Polly Hopkins. She is very special to me, I love her very much. Magic is my favorite companion. Magic is very easy to handle. I have won Reserve Champion Ewe at Woodstock fair. I have also have won many other ribbons. Snowflake is another one of my brood ewes. My grandmother bought her for me at the New England Sale from Mrs. Thompson. She is very loving. I named her Snowflake because of her snow white fleece.

I really hope I have lots of lambs this year. This year I will have bred and owned lambs. I hope to show a ram lamb this year, so far I have only shown ewes.

I am in 4-H. I show in lead line and last year I did *Make it With Wool*. I also showed my Border Leicester’s in the Northeast Youth Show and the National Border Leicester Show where Snowflake got fifth.

Written By Emily Gibson
Happy New Year To You & Your Family!

I hope lambing is off to a fast start for you and your barn is filling up with Border Leicester twins!

I have lots of good news to share with you about 2007! The American Border Leicester Association registered a record 773 head, 85 more than in 2006. That was a 12% increase in registrations and our transfers went up 18% as we transferred 390 head. Only in 2005 have we ever transferred more sheep! Our numbers of Border Leicesters are growing and so are our memberships. I congratulate every one of you who registered your sheep in 2007!

By now you have received your membership renewal notice. If you have not already renewed for 2008, please do so now. We have set February 29 (Leap Year Day) as our deadline to be published in our 2008 Membership Directory. By paying your dues now, you will also help your Board of Directors set our 2008 budget. Our association is financially strong. Our year-end treasurer’s report is located elsewhere in the newsletter for you to study. Your board will take those same numbers and hammer out our 2008 budget in early March. Our goal is to promote our breed to its fullest extent while keeping our treasury financially sound.

Do you have an idea how or where to promote Border Leicesters? Let any one of your directors know and we will be happy to add it to our agenda. Do you have a show or event where you would like to showcase Border Leicesters and need financial help? Let any of your directors know and we will see what we can do for you.

I am really excited about Border Leicesters and the growth we are enjoying. Our public awareness is growing too, which helps all of us.

Your board has set May 3 as the date for our 2008 Annual Meeting. It will once again be held in the lower show ring at the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival in Frederick.

Good luck in the lambing barn this winter and I look forward to visiting with you soon!

Greg Deakin
ABLA President
A brief reminder of what a Border Leicester fleece should be to fall within the proper numeric or micron count.

I have been a member of the American Border Leicester Association and raised Border Leicester sheep for just about as long as this association has been in existence. No time during the last thirty odd years have I seen any mention of changing the “spinning” count on the Border Leicester. Therefore I assume the numbers remain the same as when I started raising Border Leicester sheep.

It has been brought to the attention of the Board of Directors that some of our members have noticed a change in the overall fleece designation of the modern Border Leicester. In order to provide new folks and judges where the wool count should fall in our sheep it has been decided to clarify this under the “WOOL” section of our Guide for Judging Border Leicester Sheep.

In addition to item # 1, Locks with purled tips ending in a curl, we will add the following information: “The fleece weight from mature females ranges from 8 to 12 pounds with a yield of 65 to 80 per cent. The stable length of the fleece ranges from five to ten inches with a numeric count of 36 to 48 which is 38.5 to 30.0 microns.”

If you will examine most breed standards for wool sheep with the various associations you will find they are specific in letting their breeders know exactly where the fleece count should range.

If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact your Board and they can give you some locations on the internet where these numbers plus more additional information can be found on our lovely sheep.

Di Waibel, Mist O Morn Farm, Western Director

Anyone interested in running for a Director, please note biographies need to be received by the Newsletter Editor by March 1, 2007.

Voting will be done by mail with the results being announced at the Annual Meeting to be held Saturday Night (place to be announced) during the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival in May.
Congratulations to the winners of ABLA’s 1st Junior Achievement Award!

The four juniors who submitted their applications were exceptional in their accomplishments and activities. The American Border Leicester Association is very proud of these juniors and wish them well in their future endeavors. They will each receive $50 and a Certificate of Award. Congratulations!!

Taryn Bierhuizen, 15, has been showing her Border Leicesters for 7 years. She was crowned Virginia’s Reserve Champion Showman with a Border Leicester in 2006. She is in the 10th grade and loves sports, yearbook and SCA. She was a member of the District Champion Field Hockey Team and was named Outstanding Offensive Player in Girl’s Lacrosse in 2007. Recently, she was selected as ambassador to the Hugh O’Brien Youth Leadership in Virginia and was honored with an invitation to the National Youth Leadership Forum on National Security in Washington D.C this spring. She is a straight A student who plans to attend the Mountain Vista Governor’s School in Science next year. She would like to go to Virginia Commonwealth University and study medicine or dentistry.

Bailey Bierhuizen, 17, has been showing Border Leicesters for 8 years. She won ABLA’s Jr. Shepherd of the Year in 2002 and Virginia’s State Champion showman in Virginia in 2005 with a Border Leicester. She is currently President of the Culpeper 4-H Sheep Club and Treasurer of the 4-H Honor Club. Besides her sheep, she is an international precision shooter in both air rifle and small bore .22. For three years in a row, she has been invited to attend the Jr. Olympic Championships in Colorado. Last year, she represented the U.S.A. at the Jr. Invitational Competition in Bisley, England. She is a straight A student who is home-schooled and taking classes since she was 14 at the local community college. She won the Gold Level Presidential Award last year for 500 hours of volunteer work. She wants to go into medicine and continue breeding and showing her Border Leicester sheep.

Tiffany Deakin, 14, has been showing Border Leicesters for 5 years. Tiffany has exhibited her Border Leicesters at numerous shows and also enjoys participating in Lead Line competitions. In 2006 she won the Overall Lead Line Competition at The Big E, which garnered her a new sewing machine. Besides her sheep, she is 8th grade Volleyball Captain, a member of the Peoria Area Youth Symphony where she plays harp and percussion, and is an honor roll student. She also enjoys spinning her Border Leicester fleece.

Colin Deakin, 12, has shown his Border Leicesters 3 years and also enjoys his flock of high quality Hampshire sheep. In addition to sheep, Colin also enjoys raising goats and this year will be showing a pig. Last year he won the area showmanship contest with his Boer Goat wether. Colin also participates in Lead Line contests and a spring soccer league. Colin is an honor student at Cuba Elementary Grade School. Tiffany and Colin Deakin’s parents are Greg & Deb Deakin, Cuba, Illinois.
**ABLA’s 2nd Junior Achievement Awards**

Our first year is complete and there were four recognized recipients of the award. I have modified the program and hope that more juniors will apply for this worthwhile recognition program.

This award is based on merit and anyone can win it. All it takes is meeting a minimum of the guidelines listed. If you raise Border Leicesters, show or sell them, show their fleeces, attend shows or sales, register your lambs, assist in community activities, or know Border Leicester breeders that you can interview, and then you probably are eligible to receive this award. These are just a few of the items that you can earn points in for participating. I encourage all junior members under the age of 18 to email me at daedalus6@hotmail.com for a complete set of rules, applications and guidelines. The deadline for receipt of applications is December 15, 2008.

Good luck and hope to hear from you.

Jennifer Bierhuizen, junior coordinator and board member

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**ATTENTION ABLA YOUTHS !!!**

Do you like to take pictures?? We are offering our first Border Leicester photo contest of 2008. Winners to be announced in the next newsletter. Rules are simple: (a) must be a paid 2008 ABLA member or your family holds a paid 2008 ABLA membership; (b) picture must be taken by the youth submitting the picture; (c) picture must include a Border Leicester sheep; and (d) limit to two entries per child. All pictures submitted will be property of the American Border Leicester Association (possibly to be used in advertising or promotion materials in the future). Cash Prizes offered for winners: First Place=$25.00, Second Place=$15.00, Third Place=$10.00. Name of youth along with his/her address, age and date of birth should accompany the picture submitted. Digital pictures are best, but you can also mail your pictures (size= 4 x 5). Pictures will be judged by a committee of three disinterested parties, appointed by the President.

Submit pictures to the Newsletter Editor: Sarah Hopkins, P.O. Box. 3144, Albany, New York 12203 or email to cheviot99@cox.net. DEADLINE IS - MARCH 1, 2008.

So, kids – enter now!! If this contest is a success, there will be another contest in the future. Look in the next newsletter for information.

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**The California Wool Show & Sale Expands**

The Sacramento County Fair will host an Open and Junior Wool Show and Spun Fiber Show over Memorial Day weekend, May 22-26, 2008. Entries are open to all residents of California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Nevada, Arizona, Alaska, Hawaii and Western Canada. The event will showcase quality hand spinning fleeces from white and natural-colored wool breed sheep, Angora, Cashmere, and Pygora (Sanctioned show) goats, Alpaca, Llama, Rabbit and other mammal fibers. In addition, the Fair will host the NorthWest Cashmere Association (NCWA) International Fleece Competition. Various classes will be available from fine to carpet grade fibers. The fleece judges are yet to be determined, and the Spun Fiber and Handcrafted shows and Sheep-to-Shawl and Spinning contests will be judged by Stephenie Gaustad. Premiums will be paid through 7th place for all fleeces and 5th place for Spun Fiber and Handcrafted items in each class.

Saturday, May 24 will feature a Sheep-to-Shawl contest where teams will take raw wool and produce a hand-woven shawl in 5 hours. Three pounds of raw wool will be given to each team. The teams will wash the wool and dye it, if they wish. The wool is brought back to fair for the contest. The teams will card, spin, ply and weave a shawl that must be at least 18 inches wide and 72 inches long. Competition starts at 10am. On Sunday, May 25 will be a Spinning contest for the title of “California’s Best Spinner”. Competition starts at 10am.

Admission to the fair and wool show is free and high quality fleeces will be on display for preview until 3pm on Saturday May 24, 2008. Sale begins Saturday May 24 immediately following the Sheep-to-Shawl competition. Further information and entry forms may be accessed on the Sacramento County Fair website at www.sacfair.com coming in January 2008.

Reprinted with permission from the Banner.
A County Under Siege!

By K. T. Jones

Reprinted with the permission of The Banner.

Just as Santa Anna had captured the Alamo, on Sunday October 21st Mother Nature unleashed its fury on Southern California. Dangerously high winds marched across sun baked hills and careened through parched valleys in San Diego County with an intensity that hasn't been seen in a lifetime. Downed power lines and abandoned campfires combined with tender dry vegetation to spark relentless wildfires turning the landscape into a swirling inferno of skyscraper high flames holding residents under siege and at its mercy.

In just under a week, several thousand acres of land would be left charred and blistered by a series of fires driven by the fierce Santa Ana winds. The out of control firestorms outpacing over 8,500 tireless firefighters would forever change the lives of those in its path. The scale and overall ferocity of the fires leaving even the most seasoned veteran of California wildfires challenged. The fires scoured the landscape and left widespread devastation in their wake so severe it would lead President Bush to make a federal disaster declaration.

As the fires raged through the Southern California hillsides, battering and bruising the landscape, it forced almost a half million people out of their homes. While many residents simply did not have a choice to stay, others opted to face nightmarish conditions to save their land and livestock. Among those facing harrowing conditions to save life and limb were local sheep producers AJ Andrus, Janet Tulloch, and Katy Cain.

For AJ Andrus and his family in Dulzura, located just a few miles north of the U.S.-Mexico border, the morning of October 21st dawned like other Sunday mornings with the family heading to church 25 minutes away. As he drove his wife and children to church at 9:30 AM, he passed a few California Department of Forestry fire trucks. Andrus didn't see smoke in his rearview mirror and continued to his destination. Little did he know that just a short distance away a fire had started to spread that would change his family's life forever. Once at church a neighbor arriving late mentioned a fire had started in nearby Potrero, along the border.

Under most conditions this news would not be alarming, however with the record setting Santa Ana winds drawing their strength from high pressure weather systems sitting over the deserts in Nevada and Utah, this news put Andrus on edge. As the high winds funneled Westward through the hills and valleys of Southern California it made the fire's path unpredictable. As Andrus quietly moved to the foyer, he met up with a friend’s wife that worked for the county emergency preparedness team, after a short visit he decided to load up his family and head home.

Once at home, Andrus could see the smoke and feel the wind changing directions rapidly. He had his children pack emergency evacuation bags, with barely enough time to pack important items. By 12:45 PM neighbors stopped by Andrus's house to inform the family that the fire was cresting a nearby hill.

About the same time in Ramona, several miles North of Andrus’s hometown, Janet Tulloch was traveling home from Escondito. As she stopped to open a gate, she smelled smoke and looked up to see clouds billowing up from behind a hillside. A quick call to her father confirmed her fears, he had seen spotter planes just a short time earlier. As veterans of the Cedar fire just four years previous, Tulloch and her father were prepared for the challenge. After seeing the spotter plane, Tulloch’s father loaded up their 800 and 500 gallon stock tanks with pumpers and hoses and prepared to do battle with the oncoming enemy.

Tulloch, who raises a variety of breeds of sheep on her family’s cattle and sheep ranch watched as “some of the worst winds she had ever seen” fueled an unruly fire that headed straight for her house and barn. She was relieved as a pilot dropped fire retardant in front of her house, thereby saving it from certain demise. However her hay barn did not fare as well in the long run. Once the initial blaze had passed, spot fires fueled by the 60-70 mph winds blew embers in all directions, later igniting the hay inside the barn.

Continued on page 7...
Continued from page 6...

In Tulloch’s rush to save her house, the livestock were left to fend for themselves. As a veteran of the wildfires, Janet was secure that her sheep would fair well. Although the hot dry weather was a contributor to the fires, it was also the saving grace for her sheep as they had eaten all of the fire fuel around their paddocks. Out on the hillsides the cows moved over the land and away from the blazes as the fire swirled around the property. In the long-run Tulloch and her family were able to save most of the structures, including her parent’s century old ranch house, however lost 99% of their pastures and one hay barn to the fire.

Leaving his wife at home, Andrus decided to go nearby and consult with his Mother and Father. In the short time he was at his folk’s house, his wife received two calls instructing them to leave. Andrus's wife loaded up their daughter and the family dog to get a head start on the fire. Meanwhile AJ, with the help of his father and a family friend gathered up stock trailers to move the family’s sheep and goats. While his father hooked onto a second trailer a California Highway Patrol officer stopped to inform AJ of the mandatory evacuation for his area.

Luckily for Andrus, his job of loading the 30 head of sheep and goats was simplified by their confinement operation. Because of the runs and lambing barn set-up he was able to funnel the animals onto the trailers in a very short period of time. He took just a few seconds to grab a couple bales of hay and glanced up to see high flames less than a mile from his house.

As one of the final evacuees, driving on the only safe road out the valley, Andrus stopped at a plateau to glance back over his shoulder and see the advancing flames less than a half-mile from his doorstep. As he arrived at a friend’s house in the nearby community of Lakeside, AJ would receive a dreaded cell phone call from a neighbor that stayed to fight the fires. The family had lost everything. The fire had ravaged their house and burned the barns. Out of six home sites in the neighborhood, four would be burned to the ground. The one item left standing was a century old wooden farmhouse that miraculously made it through the inferno unscathed, while other modern structures only ten feet away were burnt to the ground.

Andrus and his family had fell victim to the first of seven major fires in San Diego County, the Harris Fire, which was started by an illegal campfire along the US-Mexico border. According to the website SignOnSanDiego.com within a week this fire alone would chew up almost 100,000 acres, cost more than $9 million dollars to fight, and be blamed for five deaths.

Meanwhile the Witch Creek Fire that started from downed power lines on Janet Tulloch’s property was continuing to haunt residents farther North. As the fire leaped from Tulloch’s ranch to surrounding areas, the cell phone calling tree was working in fast order warning fellow shepherds of the impending danger.

By Sunday evening producers near the town of Ramona, located West of Tulloch’s place started to feel the heat. As the Westward blowing Santa Ana winds raced towards the coastline, they spurred the fire hotter and higher, forcing residents into mandatory evacuations. Some went, while others braved the fierce winds and firestorm to save their property.

Katy Cain, a Border Leicester and Lincoln producer was directly in the path of the raging inferno. As a professional pet sitter, Cain chose to evacuate the dogs and cats in her care and travel to one of her client’s houses located on a clear hillside. Because of the confinement operation she runs, she felt confident that the limited vegetation nearby would act as a defendable space against her flock.

As Monday arrived, Cain returned to her property to find her front door blown wide open, wooden structures and firewood smoldering, and almost all of her sheep in good condition. Although in need of their daily rations, all but one ram lamb made it through unscathed. The ram lamb, a Border Leicester had embedded embers smoldering in the wool on his back, fueled by the high winds the embers would cause burns that needed veterinary attention. The ram lamb, later named Smoky has since recovered from his ills and appears to be prospering with his treatment.

Continued on page 15...
Broiled Cumin Lamb Chops with Curried Couscous

Makes 4 servings
Reprinted from The Banner.

Lamb:
2 teaspoons ground cumin
1 teaspoon ground coriander
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon honey
8 (4-ounce) lamb loin chops, trimmed
Cooking spray

Couscous:
1 cup chopped onion
1/2 cup dried cranberries
3/4 cup water
1/2 cup orange juice
1 teaspoon curry powder
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 cup uncooked couscous
2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro

Preheat broiler. To prepare lamb, combine first 3 ingredients in a bowl. Brush honey evenly over both sides of lamb; sprinkle evenly with spice mixture. Arrange lamb in a single layer on a broiler pan coated with cooking spray; broil 4 minutes on each side or until desired degree of doneness.

To prepare couscous, heat a nonstick saucepan over medium-high heat. Coat pan with cooking spray. Add onion to pan; sauté 2 minutes. Stir in cranberries and next 4 ingredients (through 1/4 teaspoon salt); bring to a boil. Remove from heat; stir in couscous. Cover and let stand 5 minutes. Add cilantro; fluff with a fork.
We Wish To Recognize Some Nice Accomplishments in 2007...

Both our White & Natural Colored Leicesters had a great day at Louisville!

Premier Exhibitor, NAILE for 6 Consecutive Years!
1st Place Natural Colored Flock • Premier Exhibitor, Natural Colored

NAILE Reserve Grand Champion Ewe & Best Headed Border Leicester Ewe

Best Fleece White Border Leicester, 2007 NAILE

Colin Deakin & his Best Fleece Natural Colored entry, NAILE Junior Show

"Angus", Tiffany Deakin’s Grand Champion Ram, NAILE Natural Colored Border Leicester Show & winner Best Fleece Award. Leased to Spirit Hill Farms, VA.

Winner of the Sandy Russell Trophy for Best Fleeled Border Leicester, Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival.

"Starburst", Tiffany Deakin’s Grand Champion Ewe, NAILE Natural Colored Border Leicester Show.

We have an outstanding set of RR coming yearling rams & ewes for sale!

Lambs from 55 white ewes & 12 Natural Colored Leicesters will be available soon. Trucking to Maryland is available.

Grand Champion Ewe, 2007 New York Bred Ewe Sale sold to Becky Kron, NY.

DEAKIN FAMILY FARMS
11191 E. Cameron Rd.
Cuba, IL 61427
309/785-5115

Email: ads.banner@sybertech.net

Brian Hal Shepherd
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Your ad on www.ablasheep.org can be viewed by almost 1000 visitors each month?

Ads are only $5 - $15 and can generate plenty of exposure for your farm.

Details at www.ablasheep.org or contact Katie Smith at webmaster@ablasheep.org

Cape House Farm
Border Leicester Sheep!

As always, we had a great time in Maryland, seeing old friends and making new ones!
We wish the best to all our Buyers.

We still have a few nice black rams and one black-factored ram lamb still available.
Give us a call.

Linda and Bill Koeppel
(734) 747 – 8112
koeppels@peoplepc.com

Hardy white Border Leicesters. Production records, 100% Canadian bloodlines, SFCP Certified, OPP-neg. Breed character plus!

SPRING CREEK FARM
Judy & John Lewman
6250 Game Farm Road
Minnetrista, MN 55364
952-472-4524 — JL6250@visi.com
Prime Handspinning Wools for Over 35 Years
American Border Leicester Association
Standard of Excellence
Guide for Judging Border Leicester Sheep
(Appplies to both white and natural colored animals)

HEAD & NECK (10 Points)
HEAD: High, erect ears
Spots on ears permissible
Roman nose
Black nose and lips (dark mottled with grey acceptable)
No mottling on muzzle
Both sexes polled
NECK: Moderate length, fitting into shoulders gracefully

FOREQUARTER (5 Points)
SHOULDERS: Well rounded
LEGS: Straight, wide apart, no wool below knees

BODY (15 Points)
CHEST: Deep and wide, but not fat
RIBS: Well-sprung, long, showing no signs of excess fat
BACK: Broad, long and level
Somewhat narrower in front than rear
Hindquarters should be 1/3 or less in proportion
WOOL COVER: Belly and armpits well-covered with wool (minimum of skin) and consistent with balance of fleece

HINDQUARTERS (10 Points)
HIPS: Level, smooth and wide apart
THIGHS: Deep and full
LEGS: Straight, wide apart, free of wool below hocks
No evidence of low pasterns
Black hooves
UDDER & SCROTUM:
Ewes – Udder should show evidence of two good teats
Rams – Testicles well-developed and hanging down a distance from the body

CONDITION (10 Points)
Animals should be in working condition, well-muscled, and not overly fat or thin.

GENERAL APPEARANCE (10 Points)
STANCE: Overall appearance to be regal in structure
QUALITY: Should be strong-boned
Rams to appear masculine
Ewes to appear feminine

WOOL (40 Points)
1. Locks with purled tips ending in a curl
2. High Luster
3. Minimum of kemp hair
4. Uniform fleece and belly wool
5. No black spots in white, no white spots in black wool

The fleece weight from mature females ranges from 8 to 12 pounds with a yield of 65 to 80 per cent. The stable length of the fleece ranges from five to ten inches with a numeric count of 36 to 48 which is 38.5 to 30.0 microns.

Border Leicesters are typically shown with 3-5 month of wool growth, so that the judge can accurately evaluate the fleece, one of the most important characteristics of the breed. They are relatively easy fit for exhibition. They should appear clean and neat, but never shampooed, as this would remove the natural oil from the wool. A light spritzing with warm water can emphasize the natural curl of the fleece, but it needs to be done well before the show so that the dampened locks have time to dry thoroughly. Stray locks may be trimmed, but Border Leicesters should not be combed, carded, or blocked, which would disturb the natural lock formation and detract from the character of the fleece.

A ram at maturity should weigh 225-325 pounds and stand about 32 inches at the shoulder. He should have a wide, level back. Ewes usually weigh 175-275 pounds.
**American Border Leicester Association**

**2007 Treasurer’s Report**

Starting balance as of 1/1/07 $3,260.67  

**Income:**  
Dues, Registrations & Transfers $8,489.05  
Ads (for newsletter) $ 535.00  
Misc. Donations $ 677.50  
Donations for Annual Meeting $ 500.00  
Commission from National Sale $ 83.50  
Misc. income $ 144.00  
Sale of T-shirts $ 173.00  
National Show (diners, donations, etc.) $1,825.00  
**TOTAL INCOME** $12,427.05

**Expenses:**  
Advertising $ 255.00  
Bank fees/checks $ 80.45  
Postage $ 125.27  
Newsletter Expense $2,082.68  
Recording Secretary $ 240.00  
Webmaster – balance due from 2006 $ 388.00  
Webmaster – 2007 $ 588.00  
Associated Registries (Jan – Nov) $3,324.40  
Smith Family Fundraiser $ 440.00  
North East Youth Sheep Show $ 100.00  
Insurance $1,085.00  
2006 NAILE Social $ 40.00  
2007 Denver Show (diner & awards) $ 297.71  
2007 Annual Meeting expenses $ 421.02  
2007 National Show (diner, awards, etc.) $1,729.38  
Web hosting & Domain name $ 122.57  
2007 Shenandoah Fiber Festival $ 100.00  
2007 NAILE Premium Fund $ 300.00  
Promotional items $ 362.50  
**TOTAL EXPENSES:** $12,081.98  

Ending Balance 12-31-07 $ 3,605.74

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**Advertising Rates**

**Display Ads**

**Per Issue**  
Full Page $75.00  
½ Page $45.00  
¼ Page $25.00  
Business Card $12.00  

4 Issues Prepaid (discount)  
Full Page $270.00  
½ Page $162.00  
¼ Page $90.00  
Business Card $43.00

**Classified Ads**

**Per Issue**  
Up to 50 words $10.00  
Up to 75 words $15.00  
Up to 100 words $20.00

**Deadlines for Submission**

Spring Issue March 15th  
Summer Issue June 15th  
Fall Issue September 15th  
Winter December 15th

**Send Ads to:**

Sarah Hopkins  
P.O. Box 3144  
Albany, NY 12203  
or Email: newsletter@ABLAsheep.org
MAYBE TOMORROW FARM

“Special K” Bred & Owned by Us

GOOD FLEECES + GOOD BODIES = GOOD BUYES

Thanks to...

Deakin Family Farms for purchasing our Champion Ram at the Big E National Show and also placed 3rd @ NAILE

Katy Cain of California for purchasing our Ram Lamb that placed 2nd at the Big E National Show and at NAILE

Polly, Kevin, Sarah & Christopher Hopkins
494 Evans Road, Chepachet, RI 02814
Tel: 401-949-4619
Email: khop4811@aol.com
Website: www.maybetomorrowfarm.com

We also raise Natural Colored (med/fine wool) and a few Southdowns and Cheviots.

Lamar Leicesters
Would like to welcome
4 New Breeders to
ABLA!!!!

Beth & Malcolm Shaw
Fairplay, CO

Ken & Vickie Gilliland
Gibbon, NE

Bill Julien
High Meadows Farm
Omaha, NE

Brenda Brawner
Bullis Creek Ranch
Wood Lake, NE

Thanks to Jim Gall, Denis Lenhart & Tecker Ranch for helping in getting them Quality Sheep to get them started!!!

Sell a sheep to a non member of
ABLA?????
Hand them the membership form on
page 23!
The drought and hot weather really took its toll here on the east coast. Grass was scarce, rams got thin and ewes came back into heat over and over. I think that it will be an interesting lambing season. We have many ewes ready to go, but many others that will lamb later. That worries me a bit. With little pasture and few hay bales, I am grateful that January has been relatively mild so far. Let’s hope that February and March are the same.

We sold 4 ewes at Rhinebeck, NY and I want to thank all those that were interested in our entries and who supported the sale. We have usually sold our animals privately, so that was a new experience for us. Many thanks!

Jennifer Bierhuizen, Spirit Hill Farm, Culpeper, Virginia

Well, I don’t know about where you all live, but up here in New England it has been a “real New England winter”. We had lots and lots of snow around the first of the year, then it was 65 degrees and it all melted into mud! Then we had a snowstorm a week or so ago which turned icy and there were plenty of school cancellations. The sun has been out some and melted some of it (mud during the day and frozen at night). Now, the weatherman say its going down to the teens or below for the next few nights. Good thing those wooly sheep have their fleeces. But seasons will be changing and plans are now being made for summer fun: there will be a Border Leicester youth show in Archie Murray’s neck of the woods and Border Leicesters up at the North East Youth Show. Look in future newsletters for more details. Also, keep in mind the spring and summer sales which sell Border Leicester so you can purchase replacement ewes or a stud ram to improve your flock. Here at Maybe Tomorrow Farm, we haven’t had lambs born yet, but soon – I hope. It looks like in mid-February and March we will be very busy. From conversations with sheep producers around the country, seems like we are all in the same boat = later lambs than usual (could it be the heat or crazy weather around the country??). My girls look bred, or at least most of them do, unlike my poor father who found out (when the ewes were tested) that he will only have four (Hampshire) ewes lambing out of his eleven. Boy, that stud ram took a quick trip to the auction!!!! For those of you who are having lambs this year, do remember to check your “lambing supply closet” for all the essentials and get some good nights sleep before it all starts!

J. Happy lambing !!
Polly Hopkins

Notes from Vermont! January 2008

Its another chilly and windy morning, and we have about 6 inches of snow on the ground, much less than we had in December, when I was walking through snow and drifts up to my hips to get to the barn. While drinking my juice and looking out the window, I see a coyote trot across the horse coral next door. I always enjoy seeing nature around our place, and am glad that our fences keep the sheep safe.

One July, years ago, we lost 6 large lambs to coyotes in two nights close apart. At the time, we had a 5 strand high tensile fence, with all wires being electrically charged. A lightening storm had blown out our charger and for about a week we had no charge on the fence while the charger was getting fixed. We kept the sheep close to the barn under our watchful eye…and a few days after the charger was back working, we had the coyote attacks…despite the full 6,000 volt charge on the fence. After a careful and observant walking of the fence line and seeing padded down “paths” in the tall grass outside the fence, we realized the coyotes had been going through the back part of the property hopping through the fence when it was not charged and exiting on the opposite side of the fields …and then when it was charged again, they still got through because they were not touching the ground when they jumped…similar to a bird that sits on a wire that doesn’t get zapped. After the second night of loosing lambs, we thought, OK, what do we do? Get a guard dog? Get rid of the sheep? We opted to putting in a more rigorous fence…an 8 strand high tension type, with the wires alternating positive and grounded…so any large animal that tries to jump through would touch two wires and get a good shock. We have had this fence for nearly 20 years, and have had no more livestock losses. Some of the original wires are getting rusty and we will need to replace them this summer. We still have had a few coyotes get in, but every time they do, all they want to do is find a way out; I’m sure after getting a good shock through their body.

Another interesting situation I have had this winter, is the behavior of my rams. I have three, and they live in a 1 acre paddock in front of our house, with their own nice three sided shed. When breeding was over in early November (the black ram was away breeding ewes at another farm, I put the two white ones in a tiny 4 by 8 ft space in their shed to so they could get used to each other again. They were best buddies and after a few days let them out and they grazed together and ate hay together. Then after all our December snow, the 2 year old decided he wanted to be boss over the 6 year old. They started to fight, especially before feeding time. Both had bloody heads and the young one had blood patches all over him from the bloody head of the big 6 year old who must be a good 300 pounds. New Years Eve, they chased each other around the paddock in snow up past their middle. They must have done it for 2 hours, taking turns who chased who. They wallowed in the deep snow, only to stop, each panting till they caught their breath and then started the chase again. It was almost comical. The third ram returned soon after, and once again, everyone got stuffed back into a tiny space in their shed. Now that there are three, there seems to be no more fighting and everyone is settled down…the young white ram is the boss and the others are happy to submit to his being number one…Then yesterday, I saw all three rams running and “springing,” all chasing one another in the 6 inches of snow…maybe because they saw a glimpse of the sun?

I wish all of you a great lambing season!
Sue Johnson
Continued from page 7...

Cain was fortunate because most of her barns and corrals were made of metal and she prepared “defendable space” which enabled her to fend off the Witch Creek Fire that in the end would destroy almost 200,000 acres, cause two deaths, and cost more than $11 million to contain. Katy praised many a neighbor for their assistance and pointed out “a lot of good people helped save other people’s houses”.

As more fires started throughout the week, other residents of the county braced against the unpredictable horror that would stalk them causing further evacuations farther North. Meanwhile for victims of the Witch Creek Fire, the focus would change from surviving the oncoming terror to cleaning up and caring for their animals under primitive conditions. The phone land lines were no longer serviceable and the electricity would stay out for over three weeks. The Tulloch family survived with the use of generators and watered livestock from two high capacity, gravity-fed water storage tanks.

Fall-out from the fire was similar at the Cain residence with the house suffering severe smoke and ash damage from the open front door and the sheep being watered from the neighbor’s swimming pool. Although Cain and Tulloch were fortunate to remain close to their property and livestock, others would spend weeks searching for animals evacuated by volunteers and in Andrus’s case would not be able to return to their property until almost a week later.

For now, Andrus, his family, and livestock jointly owned with his grandmother Jean Chism are safely residing with family in Jamul, California. The family is gradually starting to put the pieces together and rebuild the farm. Just as Sam Houston and the Texan forces regained control and later defeated General Santa Anna’s forces, the firefighters worked tirelessly to regain control of the San Diego County blazes. However this would not happen before fires pillaged over 300,000 acres and held an entire county hostage for almost a week. Fortunately for many Mother Nature loosened her grip and relented to being tamed one more time and by Saturday October 27th most of the blazes were under containment and residents were allowed to go back to their homes. For many the 2007 California wildfires were just another headline on TV, but for the people living the nightmare it will be remembered as the week the Santa Ana winds held San Diego County under siege!

Spot fires from the Witch Creek fire fueled about 60-70 mph Santa Ana winds ignited Janet Tulloch’s hay barn. Because of experience, Tulloch and her family were prepared to fight the fierce fires, keeping damage to a minimum.

A County Under Siege! is printed with permission of The Banner Sheep Magazine from the December/January 2008 issue.
### Yearling Rams (White)
1. Diana Anson, Shelbyville, KY Anson 340
2. Jolene Staskal, Two Rivers, WI AJs Flock 88
3. Maybe Tomorrow Farm - Chepachet, RI P. Hopkins 643
4. Kelly Mansfield, Kearneysville, WV Spirit Hill 587
5. Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Phelps 635
6. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA Weik OMF 2753
7. Lili Weik, Warrenton, VA Weik OMF 2679
8. Lora Valenta, Two Rivers, WI AJ Flock 92
9. Overlook Manor Farm - Warrenton, VA Weik OMF 2713
10. John & Brigitte Guffey, - Hodgenville, KY Guffey 893

### Fall Ram Lambs
1. Overlook Manor Farm - Warrenton, VA Weik OMF 2758
2. Deakin Family Farms - Cuba, IL Deakin 07-1173

### Early Ram Lambs
1. Frank & Barb Hintzsche Rochelle, IL Hintzsche 275
2. Maybe Tomorrow Farm - Chepachet, RI P. Hopkins 718
3. Deakin Family Farms - Cuba, IL Deakin 07-1215
4. Overlook Manor Farm - Warrenton, VA Weik OMF 2764
5. Kelly Mansfield, Kearneysville, WV Spring Breeze 0707
6. Marilyn Fogle, Raymond, OH Fogle 706
7. Deakin Family Farms - Cuba, IL Deakin 07-1220
8. Kelly Mansfield, Kearneysville, WV Spring Breeze 0703
9. Lora Valenta, Two Rivers, WI J & L Y 302
10. Lora Valenta, Two Rivers, WI J & L Y 501

### Intermediate Ram Lambs
1. Marilyn Fogle, Raymond, OH Fogle 709
2. Deakin Family Farms Cuba, IL Deakin 07-1263
3. Diana Anson, Shelbyville, KY Anson 374
4. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA Weik OMF 281

### Late Ram Lambs
1. Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 1278
2. Frank & Barb Hintzsche, Rochelle, IL Hintzsche 278
3. Overlook Manor Farm - Warrenton, VA OMF Weik 2794
4. Overlook Manor Farm - Warrenton, VA Weik OMF 2800
5. John, Shannon & Alex Taylor, Frankfort, IN Taylor001

### Pair of Ram Lambs
1. Fogle, Marilyn, Raymond, OH Fogle 709
2. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA Deakin 07-1173
3. Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 07-1263
4. Frank & Barb Hintzsche, Rochelle, IL Deakin 07-1215
5. Kelly Mansfield, Kearneysville, WV Deakin 07-1220

### Grand Champion Ram
Diana Anson, Shelbyville, KY Anson 340

### Reserve Grand Champion Ram
Frank & Barb Hintzsche, Rochelle, IL Hintzsche 275

### Best Headed Ram
Marilyn Fogle, Raymond, OH Fogle 709

### Yearling Ewes - Early
1. Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI P. Hopkins 603
2. Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 06-1114 RR
3. Marilyn Fogle, Raymond, OH Fogle 67W
4. Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI P. Hopkins 609
5. Marilyn Fogle, Raymond, OH Fogle 66W
6. Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 06-1112
7. Frank & Barb Hintzsche, Rochelle, IL Hintzsche 256
8. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA Weik OMF 2709
9. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA Weik OMF 2700
10. Kelly Mansfield, Kearneysville, WV Spring Breeze 6015

### Yearling Ewes - Late
1. Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 06-1185
2. Jolene Staskal, Two Rivers, WI AJs Flock 83
3. John & Brigitte Guffey, Hodgenville, KY Guffey 837
4. Diana Anson, Shelbyville, KY Anson 351
5. Diana Anson, Shelbyville, KY Anson 369
6. Frank & Barb Hintzsche, Rochelle, IL Hintzsche 269
7. John & Brigitte Guffey, Hodgenville, KY Guffey 839
8. Kelly Mansfield, Kearneysville, WV Bair Y1006

### Pair of Yearling Ewes
1. Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 06-1185
2. Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI P. Hopkins 603
3. Marilyn Fogle, Raymond, OH Fogle 67W
4. Frank & Barb Hintzsche, Rochelle, IL Deakin 06-1114 RR
5. Diana Anson, Shelbyville, KY Deakin 06-1112
6. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA Weik OMF 2709
7. John & Brigitte Guffey, Hodgenville, KY Weik OMF 2700

### Fall Ewe Lambs
1. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA Deakin 06-1174

### Early Ewe Lambs
1. Frank & Barb Hintzsche Rochelle, IL Hintzsche 273
2. Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI P. Hopkins 717
3. Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 06-1185
4. Marilyn Fogle, Raymond, OH Fogle 67W
5. Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 06-1114 RR
6. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA Weik OMF 2709
7. Kelly Mansfield, Kearneysville, WV Weik OMF 2700
8. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA Weik OMF 2700
9. Kelly Mansfield, Kearneysville, WV Weik OMF 2700
10. John & Brigitte Guffey, Hodgenville, KY Guffey 825

### Intermediate Ewe Lambs
1. Frank & Barb Hintzsche, Rochelle, IL Hintzsche 277
2. Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI P. Hopkins 732
3. Frank & Barb Hintzsche, Rochelle, IL Hintzsche 276
4. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA Weik OMF 2793
5. Diana Anson, Shelbyville, KY Anson 377
6. Kelly Mansfield, Kearneysville, WV Deakin 06-1125
7. Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 06-1125
8. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA Weik OMF 2780
9. Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 06-1125
10. Kelly Mansfield, Kearneysville, WV Deakin 06-1125

### Pair Ewe Lambs
1. Frank & Barb Hintzsche, Rochelle, IL Hintzsche 279
2. Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI P. Hopkins 721
3. Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 06-1185
4. Marilyn Fogle, Raymond, OH Fogle 67W
5. Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 06-1185
6. John & Brigitte Guffey, Hodgenville, KY Guffey 824
7. John & Brigitte Guffey, Hodgenville, KY Guffey 825

### Grand Champion Ewe
Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI P. Hopkins 603

### Reserve Grand Champion Ewe
Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 06-1185

### Best Headed Ewe
Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 06-1185

### Best White Fleece
Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 06-1114 RR

### Best White Fleece
Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 06-1114 RR

### Fall Ewe Lambs
1. Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 06-1185
2. Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI P. Hopkins 603
3. Marilyn Fogle, Raymond, OH Fogle 67W
4. Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 06-1185
5. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA Weik OMF 2793
6. Diana Anson, Shelbyville, KY Deakin 06-1185
7. Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI Deakin 06-1114 RR
8. John, Shannon & Alex Taylor, Frankfort, IN Taylor001

### Get of Sire
1. Frank & Barb Hintzsche, Rochelle, IL Hintzsche 273
2. Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI P. Hopkins 717
3. Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL Deakin 06-1114 RR
4. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA Weik OMF 2793
5. Kelly Mansfield, Kearneysville, WV Weik OMF 2700

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2007 Nebraska State Fair
Border Leicester Results
Lincoln, Nebraska
August 24 – September 3, 2007
Judge: Greg Smith, Illinois

Results continued from page 16...

Flock
1. Frank & Barb Hintsche, Rochelle, IL
2. Maye Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI
3. Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL
4. Marilyn Fogle, Raymound, OH
5. Diana Anson, Shelbyville, KY
6. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA

Premier Exhibitor
Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL

Yearling Rams – Natural Colored
1. Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL
2. Jolene Staskal, Two Rivers, WI
3. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA

Ram Lambs – Natural Colored
1. Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL
2. Jolene Staskal, Two Rivers, WI
3. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA
4. Lili Weik, Warrenton, VA

Grand Champion Ram – Natural Colored
Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

Reserve Grand Champion Ram – Natural Colored
Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA

Yearling Ewes – Natural Colored
1. Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL
2. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA
3. Kelly Mansfield, Kearneysville, WV
4. Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL
5. Jolene Staskal, Two Rivers, WI
6. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA
7. Kelly Mansfield, Kearneysville, WV
8. Colin Deakin, Cuba, IL

Pair of Yearling Ewes – Natural Colored
1. Deakin, Tiffany, Cuba, IL
2. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA
3. Kelly Mansfield, Kearneysville, WV

Ewe Lambs – Natural Colored
1. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA
2. Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL
3. Kelly Mansfield, Kearneysville, WV
4. Colin Deakin, Cuba, IL

Pair of Ewe Lambs
1. Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL
2. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA
3. Kelly Mansfield, Kearneysville, WV

Grand Champion Ewe
Archie Murray, Lamar, NE (Ewe, 1 Year & Under 2)

Reserve Champion Ewe
Archie Murray, Lamar, NE (Spring Ewe Lamb)

Young Flock
1. Mina McKinney, Lamar, NE
2. Archie Murray, Lamar, NE

Pen of 4 lambs
1. Mina McKinney, Lamar, NE
2. Archie Murray, Lamar, NE

Breeders flock
1. Archie Murray, Lamar, NE
2. Mina McKinney, Lamar, NE

Slick Sheared Lamb
1. Kelly Mansfield, Kearneysville, WV
2. Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA
3. Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

ABLA Newsletter 17
Suzanne Higgs
213 Gilkey Avenue
Plainwell, MI
49080

E-mail: INFO@HOOKEDONFELT.COM
Website: www.hookedonfelt.com

Irene Nebiker
28 Grange Road
North Smithfield, RI 02896

Need to contact Associated Sheep Registries??
Telephone 641-942-6402
Fax: 641-942-6502
Email: kclaghorn@earthlink.net

Karey Claghorn
Associated Sheep Registries
15603 173rd Avenue
Milo, IA 50166

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308-882-3949
lamarleicester@chase3000.com

You could be here
Contact Sarah for a spot in the next newsletter at
newsletter@ABLAsheep.org
The American Border Leicester Association was founded in 1973 to promote and register Border Leicester sheep in the United States and Canada. Both white and natural colored Border Leicesters are eligible for registry with the ABLA. Our association is experiencing some exciting growth, both in membership and numbers of sheep registered. We invite you to join us!

We provide the opportunity for our members to promote themselves and their farm products through our Member Directory. Please provide the information that you’d like included with your listing. Our membership year runs from January 1st to December 31st.

For more information about Border Leicesters and the American Border Leicester Association, visit our website: www.ablasheep.org.

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<tr>
<th>Membership Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>New Member</td>
<td>Annual membership 20.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renewal</td>
<td>Individual or family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual membership 20.00</td>
<td>Junior Membership $15.00</td>
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<td>18 years and under</td>
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</table>

**Name:**

**Farm/Ranch Name:**

**Street Address:**

**City/State/Zip code:**

**Phone:**

**Email:**

**Website Address:**

**What farm products would you like in the directory?**

**Any other comments you would like to add about your operation or specialty?**

**In addition to Border Leicesters, what other breed of sheep or animals do you raise?**

**Do you run a commercial operation using Border Leicester sires?**

**Helpful but not included in the directory:**

**Total flock size:**

Number of white Border Leicesters………Rams  Ewes  

Number of colored Border Leicesters………Rams  Ewes  

**Articles you would like to see in the newsletter or for the board to address?**

Please send this form, along with your check made out to “ABLA”, to:

**Polly Hopkins, ABLA Treasurer**

494 Evans Road

Chepachet, RI 02814
American Border Leicester Association
Newsletter Editor
Sarah Hopkins
P.O. Box 3144
Albany, NY 12203

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