

# THE TUPPING TIMES

*a newsletter for the Scottish Blackface Breeders Union*



## Soup's on!

A hearty lamb and barley soup to warm you up!

## National's Results

As well as the 2025 NAHSS's

## A Look Back

A glimpse at the very first SBBU Newsletter!

## Maryland

Go support this year's Featured Breed for 2026

## From the Secretary

Happy March, fellow Blackie breeders,

We find ourselves in 2026, and, after two fantastic shows that showcased the breed in 2025, this year is looking just as promising with the third year of the NAHSS the third weekend in September, and the Scottish Blackface being chosen as the *Featured Breed* for the 2026 Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival this coming May.

SBBU hosted the inaugural Scottish Blackface Nationals last year, as well as had a presence at the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival, with displays and many flyers "flying" off the table and into the hands of potential future breeders.

Ads were placed in sheep breeder magazines, and we are truly doing all that we can to promote the *Premier Hill Breed*.



And with a hardy hill breed that is the Scottish Blackface, when in doubt about husbandry practices, just remember the acronym KISS: "Keep It Simple, Stupid".

Merchandise has been sold, and more will need to be ordered, and with membership dues coming in-due NOW- we are hopeful that this necessary work can continue.

This TT issue highlights the basics of the breed, which is still all important, as well as some of the traditional practices. *We would do well to keep these points at the ready when making future flock decisions, so that all can continue to celebrate this unique breed for what they are, and maybe even especially, for what they are not.* And with a hardy hill breed that is the Scottish Blackface, when in doubt about husbandry practices, just remember the acronym KISS: "Keep It Simple, Stupid".

This terrific breed thrives under low input systems that allow room for independence: *Why not revel in the breed that works for their caretaker?*

Wishing a positive lambing season ahead to all of my fellow shepherds

Warmly,  
Briana

## **A BRIEF HISTORY**

The Scottish Blackface breed's origin is lost in the mists of time but undoubtedly emerged from the horned hill sheep that old monastery records of the 12th Century speak of. The monks used the wool for clothing and also exported large amounts to Europe. The breed was improved over the centuries and farmers realized the the Scottish Blackface, with its ability to survive and reproduce in adverse weather conditions was the best suited to utilize the hill and mountain grazing to their best advantage.

Scottish Blackface Sheep, also known as Scotties, Blackies, Highland Sheep, Blackface Sheep, are a medium sized, white woolled breed of sheep with black marked faces and legs. Both sexes have horns.

In Scotland, there are several regional variations in type which range from the large framed Perthshire with medium to heavy long wool to the lighter framed short woolled types, with the Newton Stewart type being the most refined and improved but no less hardy. Today many of these types are intermixed and variations can easily be seen in modern stock here in the United States.

They produce a white carpet quality wool that is strongly double coated, straight and fairly long. Within the breed there are 3 basic wool types with different staple lengths and degrees of fineness for use in carpet, mattress padding and weaving for the Harris Tweed® trade.

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## PROMOTING THE BREED FOR ALMOST 20 YEARS

SBBU is a group of like-minded shepherds that appreciate the uniqueness of the Scottish Blackface breed, and promotes the potential of the breed to shepherds in North America.

Almost nothing can tame the Scottish Blackface's independent spirit which is what makes them the Premier Hill Breed.

They are a maternal breed for grass based lamb production - Naturally!

# 2026 Featured Breed

For the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival, taking place at the Howard County Fairgrounds on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Scottish Blackface will be the center of attention. Chosen as this year's *Featured Breed*, a special program has been set to educate and promote.

SBBU has a full page ad in the catalog, that sees a printing of 2,500 copies- not a bad way to promote the Union!

A table will also be set up with SBBU items and brochures, as well as display banners. We hope that as many blackface breeders that are able will make the trip for the breed, and to network and encourage other blackface breeders.



**MEMBERSHIP  
DUES FOR  
2026  
ARE DUE  
NOW!**

To renew membership, visit the [sbbu.org](http://sbbu.org) website for the Work Order, OR, contact Associated Registry directly

*Want to stay listed on the SBBU website to direct buyers looking for stock?*

**Make sure to get your membership dues into Associated Registry NOW for 2026!**

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# Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival

May 2 & 3

**Scottish Blackface are the featured breed at this year's festival  
Planning is underway and includes:**

## **Sheep! In all their wool-ey glory**

Several breeders have already committed to bringing sheep to be included in the show ring. If five breeders and a total of twenty-five sheep participate, separate classes for Scottish Blackface will be established. A nice line-up of sheep in pens will be the best part of the event

## **Education--the fun kind**

At least one session will be scheduled. No dry power points: just pictures and stories about the breed

## **Breed display**

A prominent display will feature everything blackie: history, breed highlights, pictures and objects

## **Wool**

Since wool is a prominent attraction for many festival go-ers, let's get some wool into their hands

## **Social Time for Just Us**

Please come with or without sheep. A social hour will be scheduled and it'll be great to see each other

*This event is being organized by Bird Cupps and Ann Gentry. We hope to see you in Maryland, but if you can't make the festival, please be in touch regardless. Message Bird with your contact information. She'll keep in touch with updates on the plans.*



# *Calendar of events*

2026

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2 & 3 **MAY**

**Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival**  
Gates and vendors open at 8:30 a.m.  
Howard County Fairgrounds  
West Friendship, MD

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18-21 **JUNE**

**Royal Highland Show**  
Gates open at 7 a.m. daily  
Royal Highland Centre  
Edinburgh, Scotland, UK

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11-13 **SEPT**

**Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival**  
8 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Jefferson County Fair Park  
Jefferson, WI

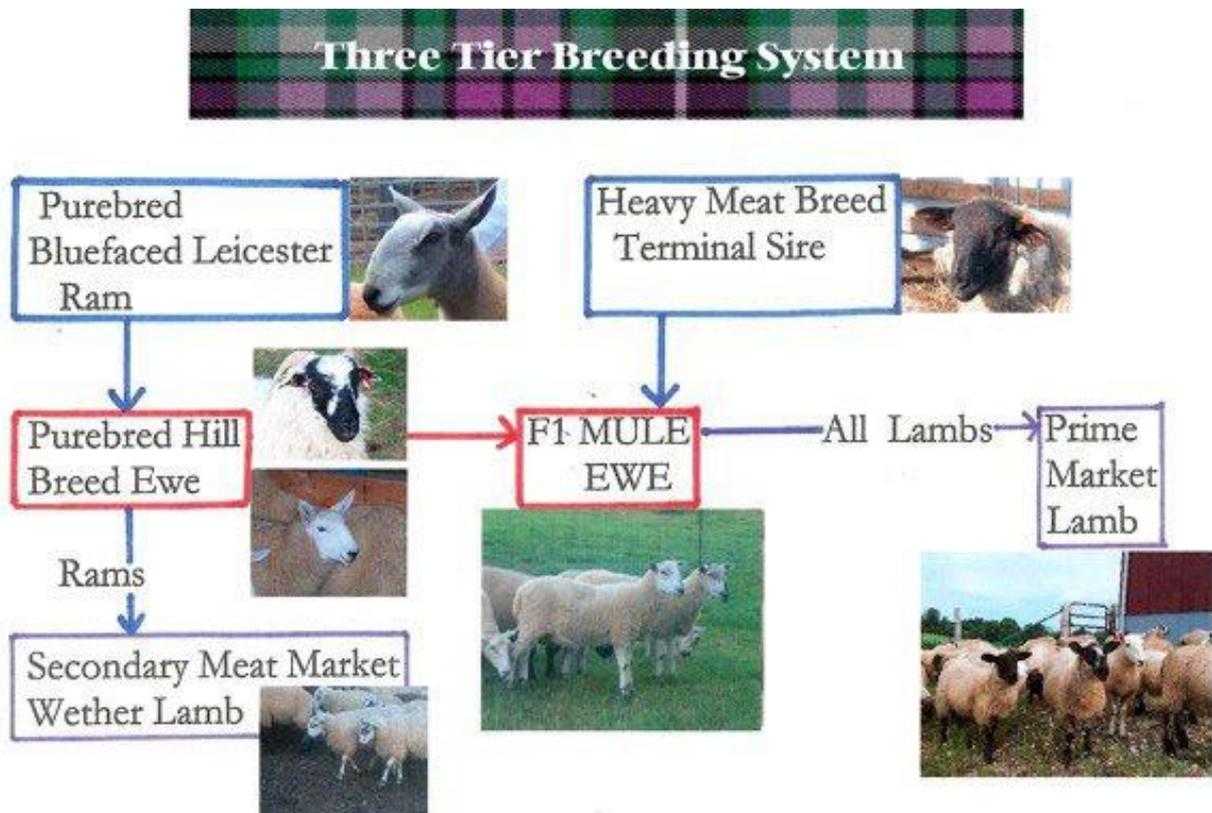
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18-20 **SEPT**

**North American Hill Sheep Show**  
9 a.m.-9 p.m.  
Schoolcraft County Fairgrounds  
Manistique, MI

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# Are EWE making Mules? *You Should Be!*



The Scottish Blackface is at the summit of the pyramid of stratification of the British sheep industry. The hills produce a reservoir of females, which are drafted to marginal or upland farms either as ewe lambs or five or six year old ewes, where they are crossed with a Bluefaced Leicester to produce the ever popular Scotch Mule Ewe, or a Border Leicester to produce the Greyface Ewe.

Crossed with a terminal sire, the Blackface ewe produces a quality prime lamb.

The stratified UK breeding system is based on adding the breeding values of hardy purebred Hill Sheep Ewes by crossing them with **Bluefaced Leicester, Border Leicester and North Country Cheviot** Rams. These produce the **Scotch Mule**, The English Half-Bred or Greyface, and Cheviot Mule.

By far the most popular commercial Maternal Ewe is the **Scotch Mule** - SBF x BFL. There are various other combinations but these are the most prevalent.

Sheep breeding in recent years has been more directed towards the prolificacy of the ewe and ensuring that the carcass of the lamb has minimum fat and bone. Within a given breed the number of lambs born is of low inheritability, meaning, differences are not genetic but mainly environmental and management. Selection for prolificacy is likely to have minimal effect, since earlier generations of sheep breeders have already raised fertility as high as practically possible. Cross breeding to produce Hybrid maternal ewes is far more successful because genetic factors add to the cross traits of hardiness, prolificacy, and carcass quality.

These F1 Hybrid maternal ewes are derived from crossing two purebred breeds, which is not the same as breeding crosses with crosses. Therefore the types of purebred ewes available is fixed and mostly older (4 years +) draft hill breeds are used. Although over time various changes in purebreds have been made; for example: Swaledale bloodlines into SBF.

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# 2025 Scottish Blackface National Show & Sale Results



The first ever SBF National Show and Sale was hosted by SBBU at the North American Hill Sheep Show on September 21st, a completely separate show strictly for the blackface breed, and was open to all pure, registered Scottish Blackface.

To see the special rosettes-in traditional UK colors- and the pride on the shepherds' faces was very special. The years of hard work being judged in only a matter of minutes was tense, and the accomplishments of the breeders was truly moving.

Bird Cupps, Running Chicken Farm, took the Best of Show and trophy cup donated by judge, Mr. David Baillie.

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**Judge: Mr. David Baillie, Scotland**

**Auctioneer: Mr. James Metcalfe, England**

**Ewe Lamb:**

1st - Running Chicken Farm, Bird Cupps

2nd - Furlong Creek Farm, Kevin and Andrea Kalnbach

3rd - Littledale Farm, Graham and Margaret Phillipson

**Yearling Ewe**

1st - Rafter Rocking L Farm, Ellis and Lezlie Laird

2nd - Littledale Farm, Graham and Margaret Phillipson

3rd - Rafter Rocking L Farm, Ellis and Lezlie Laird

**Mature Ewe**

1st - Running Chicken Farm, Bird Cupps

2nd - Simpson Family Farms, MacKenzie Simpson

3rd - Simpson Family Farms, MacKenzie Simpson

**Ram Lamb**

1st - Running Chicken Farm, Bird Cupps

2nd - Braeburn Farm, Richard and Anne Gentry

3rd - Littledale Farm, Graham and Margaret Phillipson

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## Yearling Ram

- 1st - Braeburn Farm, Richard and Anne Gentry
- 2nd - Rafter Rocking L Farm, Ellis and Lezlie Laird
- 3rd - Braeburn Farm, Richard and Anne Gentry

## Sale

- \$700- Running Chicken Farm, Bird Cupps, Ewe Lamb to Furlong Creek Farm, Kevin and Andrea Kalnbach
- \$400- Running Chicken Farm, Bird Cupps, 3 Year Old Ewe to Furlong Creek Farm, Kevin and Andrea Kalnbach
- \$580- Running Chicken Farms, Bird Cupps, Champion Ram, to Maloy Valley Far, Michael and Priscilla Maloy
- \$260- Braeburn Farm, Richard and Anne Gentry, Ram to Running Chicken Farm, Bird Cupps





## 2025 NAHSS RESULTS

Not only did the second North American Hill Sheep Show see the inaugural SBF Nationals, but, there were also quite a few blackface in the NAHSS show classes, with participants traveling from as far away as Virginia, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and Arizona with blackies.

Mr. Charles Symons from Scotland judged all the SBF classes, and Littledale Farm, Graham and Margaret Phillipson took the SBBU Cup for Best of Scottish Blackface Breed.

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## **Judge: Mr. Charles Symons, Scotland**

### **Ewe Lamb:**

- 1st - Running Chicken Farm, Bird Cupps
- 2nd - Furlong Creek Farm, Kevin and Andrea Kalnbach
- 3rd - Littledale Farm, Graham and Margaret Phillipson

### **Yearling Ewe**

- 1st - Littledale Farm, Graham and Margaret Phillipson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Rafter Rocking L Farm, Ellis and Lezlie Laird
- 3rd - Rafter Rocking L Farm, Ellis and Lezlie Laird

### **Mature Ewe**

- 1st - Running Chicken Farm, Bird Cupps
- 2nd - Simpson Family Farms, MacKenzie Simpson
- 3rd - Simpson Family Farms, MacKenzie Simpson

### **Ram Lamb**

- 1st - Running Chicken Farm, Bird Cupps
- 2nd - Braeburn Farm, Richard and Anne Gentry
- 3rd - Braeburn Farm, Richard and Anne Gentry

### **Yearling Ram**

- 1st - Braeburn Farm, Richard and Anne Gentry
  - 2nd - Rafter Rocking L Farm, Ellis and Lezlie Laird
  - 3rd - Braeburn Farm, Richard and Anne Gentry
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### **Mature Ram**

- 1<sup>st</sup>- Braeburn Farm, Richard and Anne Gentry  
2<sup>nd</sup>- Running Chicken Farm, Bird Cupps  
3<sup>rd</sup>- Simpson Family Farms, MacKenzie Simpson

### **Group of 3**

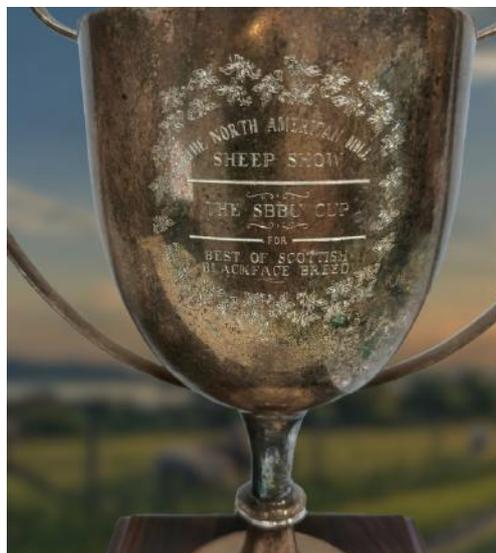
- 1<sup>st</sup>- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Rafter Rocking L Farm, Ellis and Lezlie Laird  
2<sup>nd</sup>- Running Chicken Farm, Bird Cupps  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Littledale Farm, Graham and Margaret Phillipson

### **Reserve Best of Breed**

Braeburn Farm, Richard and Anne Gentry, with Mature  
Ram

### **Best of Breed**

Littledale Farm, Graham and Margaret Phillipson, with  
Yearling Ewe



# What's the Standard?

With the first two North American Hill Sheep Shows behind us, the first ever Scottish Blackface National Show & Sale in the books, and the Blackie as the chosen *2026 Featured Breed* for Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival, it's the perfect time to brush up on the breed points.

- **Head** - To be carried above shoulder level, medium size, broad between the eyes, head and crown to be covered with short glossy hair.
  - **Horns** - To start flat away from the crown with skin and hair between the roots, to be of medium thickness, should not turn too quickly, but sweep back, down and out leaving a good space between horns and jaw. To be free from blueness or any edge.
  - **Eyes** - Bright, alert and full but not protuberant.
  - **Ears** - Medium length and thickness, slightly curved, free from wool and long hair, alert and silky, never thick, fleshy or drooping, preferably carried behind the horns.
  - **Face** - To be slightly roman, medium length with strong jaws, free from flesh, to portray sinew and muscle. To be covered with short glossy hair, colors to be distinct and not running together, pure black or black and white.
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- **Muzzle** - To be strong and square; large, black, open nostrils, black lips with short broad teeth meeting the upper pad squarely, neither top nor bottom jaw protruding.
  - **Neck** - Medium length slightly crested, strong and muscular. Shoulders - Slightly above the level of the back, not too broad at the top, with downward and outward sweep.
  - **Chest** - Broad, but not too deep or carried too far forward, not too prominent.
  - **Back** - Straight and level, well-sprung deep ribs, to have a nice kindly touch when handled, with the backbone well covered.
  - **Tailhead** - Must not droop, to be almost square, wide, and giving an appearance of strength.
  - **Tail** - Set in almost level with the back, should finish at the hocks, be well covered with white wool all the way down, should not swing when walking.
  - **Thighs** - Should be very well developed and carried down, portraying great strength and power, and it should be kept in mind the "leg of mutton" is the most important selling part of the carcass.
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- **Legs** - Medium length and size of bone, free from flesh below the thigh, giving the appearance of muscle and sinew, with a tight form skin, the bone to be flat and strongly jointed, legs set well apart with good clean hocks, slightly wider than the feet, with no tendency to looseness, giving the sheep a first-class carriage to enable it to travel long distances in search of food. The hind legs to come out well behind, never underneath, ensuring a long step and power to travel through rough ground and snow. Below knee and hock to be clear of wool and covered with good short hair. Pasterns to be springy to assist in climbing but not too long, with a sound, open, moderately sized foot. Color of legs similar to face.
  - **Underline** - Weight should not be carried forward as in lowland sheep, underline to rise slightly towards the fore-end giving a picture of a great strength behind, should not be over-wooled below.
  - **Fleece** - Must give protection without hindering movement, should be thick with medium staple, straight wool, a coarse outer coat and softer, shorter inner coat. There should be no hair, or blue or black fibers in the fleece.
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# HEARTY LAMB & BARLEY SOUP

Recipe from BBC Good Food

SERVES: 4 to 5

TIME: 10 Minutes Prep plus 25 Minutes

1 tsp olive oil  
200 grams lamb, cut into small pieces (can use neck or shoulder)  
½ large onion, finely chopped  
50 grams pearl barley  
600 grams mixed root vegetables (potatoes, sweet potatoes, carrots, parsnip, rutabaga) cubed  
2tsp Worcestershire sauce  
1 litre lamb or beef stock  
1 thyme sprig  
100 grams of green beans, frozen and finely chopped

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## Directions:

- Heat the oil in a large saucepan. Season the lamb, then fry for a few mins until browned.
- Add the onion and barley, then gently fry for 1 min.
- Add the veg, cook for 2 more mins, then add the Worcestershire sauce, stock and thyme.
- Cover, then simmer for 20 mins.
- When everything is cooked, spoon about a quarter of the soup into a separate pan. Purée with a stick blender (or put into a normal blender and whizz- be careful, will be HOT!), then stir it back into the rest of the soup.
- Add the green beans, simmer for 3 mins, then ladle the soup into bowls and serve with hearty bread.

## TIPS:

**For richer flavor:** Simmer lamb bones to make homemade stock.

**For creamier texture:** Purée a portion of the soup before combining.

**Freezing:** Most versions freeze well for up to 3 months.

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# TRADITIONS: ISLAND SHEPHERDING BLACKFACE

I thought it would be fun to not only *look back-and forward-* at traditional practices of blackface shepherding, but also at an older article written by one of the founding SBBU members, Mr. David Craven, Wild Wind Farm.

Island shepherding and crofting is an ancient practice, and it is interesting to read that Mr. Craven and his family found a way to utilize this way of life here in the United States with their Scottish Blackface flock.

It is interesting to note that even though this is a facsimile of the very first SBBU Newsletter, published in June of 2008, Mr. Craven is still island shepherding and building an impressive and hardy flock.

On the next few pages, take a look and appreciate a glimpse into SBBU's beginnings!

What are your thoughts going forward?

A large thank you to Graham and Margaret Phillipson of Littledale Farm for keeping this piece of SBBU history!

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For the first time ever in the United States, the tiered sheep breeding system will be showcased at a major Sheep and Wool Festival. The North American Mule Sheep Society will hold its show on September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008 in conjunction with the Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival, held in Jefferson, Wisconsin. Scottish Blackface ewes will be shown with their Bluefaced Leicester sired Mule ewe lambs. We hope that this will be a significant first step in promoting the premier Hill breed, and its important place in producing superior commercial sheep.

SBBU has been asked to help sponsor this event by a contribution of \$30.

Littledale Farm will be a major participant at the event, and will prominently display and promote the Scottish Blackface breed and the SBBU.

Read More About it at:

[www.Mulesheep.com](http://www.Mulesheep.com)

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The Kohler Company that produces bathroom and kitchen fixtures, also has a top rated PGA golf course, called Whistling Straits, on the shore of Lake Michigan, near Sheboygan, Wisconsin. The course was built in the style of Irish and Scottish links-style courses, and has a flock of Scottish Blackface sheep grazing the course throughout the summer months. The sheep add great ambiance to the course, and keep the rough grass in check all season long. The original stock came from Littledale Farm in Richland Center, Wisconsin.

see [www.destinationkohler.com](http://www.destinationkohler.com)

## **Article Submitted By Dave Craven of Wildwind Farm** **Bucks Harbor Maine**

Wildwind Farm is owned by the Craven family and is based in the village of Bucks Harbor, Machiasport, Washington County in the Downeast Region of Maine USA near the border of New Brunswick Canada. This farm is currently stocked with 200 breeding ewes and 50 ewe hoggs on island grazing, including Mules on improved ground on the mainland. The farm has a small herd of suckler beef cattle at times, and presently has two Jersey house cows. Beyond this Mr. Craven works as a contract shepherd and consultant to other island sheep producers. The practice of keeping sheep on islands in this area goes back well over two hundred years, to the time before Maine statehood. Settlers no doubt found the islands to be much the same as they were accustomed to in their native British isles. Anyone who has visited the islands of western Scotland for example, will have observed a similar system of sheep production. Blackface sheep well known for their hardiness, and mothering ability are a logical choice in this harsh environment. The ewes lamb in May, and are clipped in June. Lambs are processed at this time, and tups are kept on separate islands until December when they join the ewes again. Lambs are gathered in late August or early September, and fattened on hay /silage aftermaths on the mainland. As they finish through the fall they are marketed directly to customers as prime grass fed

lamb. In this coastal area many years grazing continues well into January. Stockpiled forage and annuals such as brassicas, and cereal rye are employed to extend grazing, and limit the amount of stored feed usage for the mainland flock of Mules and replacement hogs. The ewes over wintering on the islands are given no inputs and rake way through the frost for the island grasses, and moss. They also utilize the unlimited supply of kelp and seaweed on the shores surrounding the islands. Ewes are kept on the islands for 4 or 5 crops then are drafted in and put to the Blue Leicester tup to produce Mules for the mainland, as is done in the British system. The islands benefit from this kelp grazing when the sheep feed in the intertidal zone, and then distribute manure above the high water mark adding significantly to the organic matter and fertility of the soil.

Stock originated from importations into nearby Nova Scotia in the 1970's by Dr. Brian and Martha Nettleton. In recent years the Cravens have joined forces with Wisconsin Blackface breeders Graham and Margaret Phillipson and others to import three new bloodlines from the Ettrick Valley in the Scottish borders. In December 2005 thirty ewes were bred by laparoscopic artificial insemination to two lines from high EBV tups in the Blackface Elite scheme. The resulting lambs arriving in May of 2006 have now produced their first crop in 2008, and it is hoped that a third line will be used in the fall of 2008. The improvement to the flock by this infusion of new genetics is very obvious, as witnessed by the ease of lambing and mothering ability of the gimmers, as well as the quality and uniformity of the lambs.

In the spring of 2008 Mr. Craven entered into a project with the US Fish & Wildlife Service on Camp Island. The Service manages the Petit Manan / Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge which is comprised of numerous islands including Camp Island, and other mainland holdings. One of the goals of the Refuge is to restore or establish nesting populations of seabirds including terns, razorbilled auks, and puffins. Island shepherds have long observed that terns especially prefer, and have more success rearing chicks on the shorter grass of islands grazed by sheep to the tall rank growth of those without sheep. Wildlife biologist Linda Welch is in charge of these projects, and deserves special recognition for having the determination, and foresight to advocate using sheep to manage the herbage on seabird nesting islands. Perhaps influenced by her observation of Blackface sheep grazing in harmonious coexistence with the abundant birdlife in similar situations in her family's ancestral home in County Donegal Ireland, and perhaps to avoid the costs of less natural methods such as burning, mowing, or herbicides. At any rate Ms. Welch was able to convince her superiors, and public supporters of the refuge, to approve the project, overcoming years of prejudice and misconception fostered by opponents with limited experience on the subject of sheep on islands. Many of these islands were purchased with public funds with the promise that traditional practices on and around them would be preserved. In addition to sheep raising some of the tradition practices in this area would include waterfowl hunting, lobstering, cranberrying, seaweed harvesting, clamming, and periwinkling.

Camp is typical of many Maine islands with it's outer shore comprised of high jagged rock ledges. The interior has excellent feed quality after centuries of bird dressing.

Historically Mr. Stephen Wood of Machiasport, a legendary island shepherd, kept a flock on Camp Island. His son Kenneth who passed away in 2004 at age 80 years, often remarked about how fat the lambs were when gathered in the fall. The downside was how difficult an island it was to work, with out an easy chance to land, and a succession of would be shepherds were eventually discouraged from continuing. After his old herd Gene Anthony became unable to negotiate the steep hills and slippery ledges, the last private owner of the island, Mr. Harvey Smith of New Hampshire eventually conveyed it to the government. Mr. Craven however has one thing that all these shepherds lacked: useful sheepdogs. By employing his experienced Border Collies he is able to manage the sheep with a minimal amount of stress to them, and disturbance to the wildlife on the islands.

In the spring of 2008 Scottish Blackface ewes and lambs were put on the island. Small test plots were fenced to compare the grazed area to the excluded area. Tern, Auk and Puffin decoys have been placed on the ledges, and recordings of their calls area broadcast in hopes of attracting passing birds. An observation stand was erected to monitor progress. In late May a sea mink, as they are called locally, appeared on the island. Almost immediately dead Curry Chickens (Storm Petrels) were found. These birds live in burrows when they are not out to sea feeding. The mink is easily able to enter their tunnels and kill them, therefore Ms. Welch and the Refuge Warden set traps to remove the mink. Mr. Craven checked on the sheep and found them in excellent condition. They are struggling to keep up with the explosive grass growth at this time of year but should make progress through the summer. This project has exciting potential for both USF&W and Wildwind Farm, and both parties hope that a mutually beneficial partnership can evolve that will include grazing schemes to manage the grass at other locations. If this does transpire one can be assured that the versatile Scottish Blackface, who has become such a natural part of these islands, will play an integral role.

Many thanks, Dave, for this excellent article – we wish you every success with this fascinating project.



# Scottish Blackface Breeders Union

21925 County Hwy ZC, Richland Center, Wisconsin 53587  
608-647-7337 E-mail: [admin@scottishblackface.com](mailto:admin@scottishblackface.com)

## Newsletter Number 1 June, 2008

### Membership

**We have 14 members as of  
June 1, 2008  
Thank you for your support.**

From the initial survey, a majority of the members would like a quarterly newsletter. A majority would like us to develop a logo and produce promotional items such as hats, t-shirts, sweatshirts, mugs and tote bags. Other suggestions include that we create ads for sheep publications and that we produce promotional items using [www.zazzle.com](http://www.zazzle.com). Please send us your further comments, plus articles about your activities with Scottish Blackface sheep for future newsletters.

### SBBU ACCOUNTS

Bank Account opened 2/4/2008

Deposit made by G & M Phillipson	\$200
Deposits - 14 memberships @ \$15	\$210
	<b>\$410.00</b>
Expenses	
Franna Pitt - website set up	\$83.40
Printing Checks	7.00
	<b>90.40</b>
Balance as of June 1, 2008	<b><u>\$319.60</u></b>

### WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

1. We need to develop a logo - preferably a head of a Scottish Blackface Ewe to promote the maternal aspect of the breed. Suggestions and sketches would be greatly appreciated. We would like to have a logo in place before the events at the Ohio State Fair in July/August and in Wisconsin in September.
2. We need a Newsletter Editor.
3. We would like more members - please spread the word!

**THANK YOU, FRANNA FOR PUTTING TOGETHER OUR SBBU WEBSITE - AND FOR THE ONGOING MAINTENANCE. IT IS A WONDERFUL SHOWCASE FOR SCOTTISH BLACKFACE SHEEP IN NORTH AMERICA.**

### WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

An article about Scottish Blackface and their importance in the tiered sheep breeding system, written by Graham Phillipson was published in the June, 2008 issue of Sheep Magazine. An advertisement promoting SBBU was printed in the magazine as compensation for the article.

### THE FUTURE

SBBU Member, Elaine Ashcraft, will be displaying a Scottish Blackface ewe at the Ohio State Fair, July 30<sup>th</sup> - August 10<sup>th</sup>. She will have an information display, all 10 days, about the Scottish Blackface breed, and further information about the tiered sheep breeding system.



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# ALLY WILLIAMSON

*EALLAGRO BLACKFACE*

Coming to the US from the Isle of Lewis, crofter Mr. Ally Williamson will be your 2026 NAHSS judge!

More details to come

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MEET ALLY



## DUES ARE DUE!



Membership dues are now payable for 2026!

Breed associations aren't always money-making machines, and it is through membership dues, and animal registrations/transfers that we are able to keep going.

In order to keep SBBU productive for the breed and the breeders, membership dues need to be paid.

2026 dues are now due, and with that, members receive:

- Optional registering through Associated Registry for extended pedigrees
- Name Recognition: Farm listing with link to your website & contact information as well as on brochures handed out at events
- Newsletters to all members with stories and photos to share
- Advertising and Marketing as a Group, as well as classified advertising

Don't wait to pay dues toward a worthy breed!

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## 4 WAYS TO PROMOTE THE BLACKIE BREED

### Travel and Show



**Attend sbf promotional shows**

Bring sheep and sell great stock!

### Write It Down



**Channel your inner author**

Write to the Topping Times editor to share your story AND/OR to ASI/other sheep mags asking them to promote the breed!

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### Share The Love



Capture your best flock moments, snap a great photo, and share it with the hashtag on the SBBU Facebook page

**#SBBU or #scottishblackface**

### Donate



Maybe sponsor an SBF related event or even donate seed stock to a youth program.

Or, donate your time by manning a SBBU booth at a show/festival and pass out brochures and answers FAQs.

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## **Need to Contact the Registry?**

In case you need it, here is the contact information for Associated Registry. Reach out to them regarding transfers, registration, or even new/existing membership.

Associated Registry  
P.O. BOX 27  
SEDALIA, MISSOURI 65302  
(785) 456-8500  
ASREGISTRY&GMAIL.COM

## **Fees to Know:**

New Membership: \$20  
Annual Membership Dues:  
\$20

Registrations:

- Under 1 Year of Age: \$5
- Over 1 Year of Age: \$8
- Previously Unregistered: \$10

\*\*\*All registration fees are DOUBLE the amount for non-SBBU members\*\*\*

Transfers: \$5

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## **NEED TO REGISTER SHEEP? WHAT ABOUT TRANSFER THEM?**

Remember that for every transaction for SBBU, whether it be to register new lambs, transfer ownership of new stock, or even pay annual membership dues, you will need to send in a Work Order for Associated Registry. If you are only paying dues, a completed Work Order and payment is all that you need!

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## SBBU Merch!

Rep your favorite sheep breed!

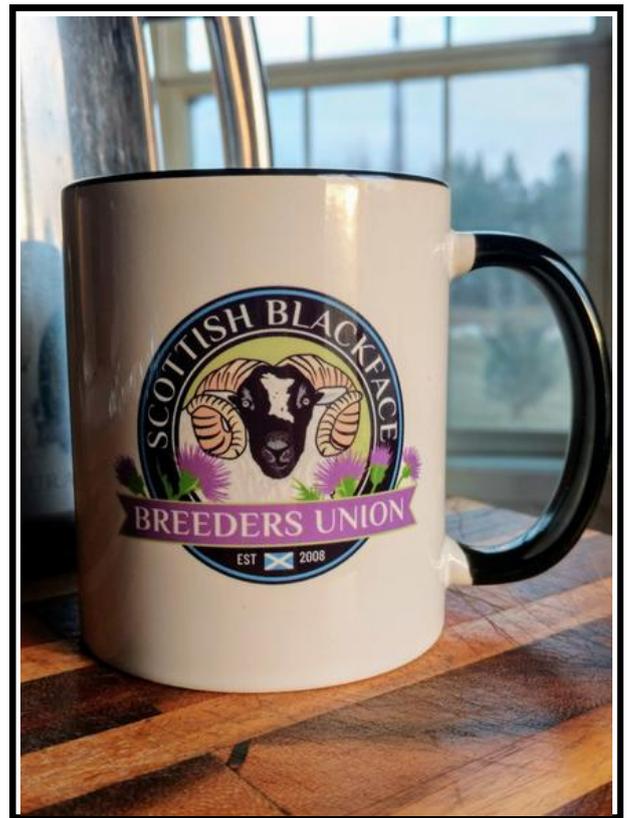
Don't forget: SBBU still has coffee mugs, ball caps, and a variety of t-shirt sizes (blue)!

We can send you an invoice that you can click on and pay with a card, or, send a check. We will ship out once payment is received.

But, what about additional merchandise?

Maybe you would like a cotton tote bag to store your latest knitting project or groceries in?

How about a smart-looking vest for all occasions?



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## Possible Additions:



**WHITE COTTON TOTE BAG**



**BLACK ZIP-UP VEST**

Merchandise can be ordered, but, to be efficient and budget-friendly, it would be helpful to pre-order and receive the correct number.

For items such as vests, sizes would need to be requested.

Sound good to you? Sounds good to me! Reach out and let me know at [blackiebreedersunion@gmail.com](mailto:blackiebreedersunion@gmail.com)

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### SHEPHERD’S YEAR AT A GLANCE



### SBBU BOARD

President  
Steve Pell

Vice President  
Kevin Kalnbach

Secretary  
Briana Pell

Treasurer  
Andrea Kalnbach

Advisors  
Graham Phillipson  
Margaret Phillipson

### SBBU ACCOUNT SUMMARY



**\$158.00**

Amount Paid to  
Associated Registry  
in 2024



**\$877.72**

Paid towards SBBU-  
presence at events  
in 2025



**\$627.00**

2025 bills thus far  
for SBBU online and  
print promotion

Current Balance **\$3,775.31**

### THE PREMIER HILL BREED:

The Union was formed in 2008 to promote the interest of the Scottish Blackface Breed in North America.



### QUICK SBBU INFO:

**4.1K**  
SBBU Facebook  
Members

**HOW TO CONTACT THE SECRETARY:**  
blackiebreedersunion@gmail.com

**18**  
Years of  
SBBU