

Spring 2026

Dear AOSA Member;

This year's annual newsletter is a bit early since we have moved up the National Oxford Show & Sale and the AOSA Annual Meeting by about two months. I sincerely hope your lambing season has gone well and that you are planning to make consignments in some of the many upcoming sales. While I will provide details for several of the sales in this newsletter, there are others that you can find on Facebook and other media outlets. A good place to check is the "Oxford Breeders" Facebook group.

As always, if you have questions, ideas or comments for the Association, or need assistance with your registration/transfer work or sale entries, please reach out to me (phone/text, 812-987-5139) or by email (oxfordsecretary7@gmail.com).

Sincerely,

David J. Trotter

Executive Secretary

National Oxford Show & Sale

A new location and a new date!

The AOSA Board of Directors have made the decision to move the National Oxford Show & Sale to the Indiana Premier Sale in Greenfield, IN on April 24-25, 2026.

I have enclosed/attached the announcement and consignment form. **Please note that entry deadline is March 10, 2026 !** We will still have a sale show to determine sale order and that show will be on Friday, April 24, at 1 PM with Evan Snyder serving as the judge. With that said, Oxfords will have to arrive at the sale site on Thursday, April 23, noon to 6 PM. You can find the rest of the details on the sale flier and entry form.

Gary Saylor has been secured as the auctioneer and Willoughby Sales will provide live sale simulcast and online bidding. There will be a junior show for Oxfords and Shropshires after the sale. More details on this junior show can be found later in this newsletter.

Consignors need to know that by making their entries they agree to the sale guarantee listed on the flier and also the National Oxford Show & Sale Terms and Conditions found at the AOSA website.

National Oxford On-Line Sale

The AOSA will once again sponsor an on-line sale that is open to any AOSA member. Consignments are now being accepted by Breeders' World Online Sales. I have attached/enclosed information about the online sale. The date is April 28 with an entry deadline

of April 19th. As with the live national show and sale, consignors to the National Oxford On-Line Sale agree to the terms & conditions of the National Oxford Show and Sale.

The AOSA Directors will consider hosting a second on-line sale later this spring/summer if there is sufficient interest from consignors. If you would be interested in consigning to a later on-line sale (probably in late May to mid-June) please call me or email me at the contact information found at the beginning of this newsletter.

Other Sales

Ohio Showcase Sale – Select Livestock Services will once again manage the Ohio Showcase Sale weekend in Greenville, OH (Darke County Fairgrounds). The sale dates are May 7 - 9 with a consignment deadline of March 25. Go to the sale management's website (<https://www.selectls.net>) or call Pat (937-935-1975) or email her (pat@selectls.net).

Timeless Tradition Sale – Our long-time friends and sale partners, the American Cheviot Sheep Society, will continue to conduct their national sale in Springfield, IL at the comparable time as the past (June 4-6, 2026) and they have made an open invitation to any Oxford breeders who would also like to consign. Jeff Ebert has gotten commitments from at least 2 other breed associations (Babydown Southdowns and North Country Cheviots) to also hold their national sales during the Timeless Tradition Sale. Get more information at www.cheviots.org or nationalsheepregistry@gmail.com or call Jeff at 785-458-9174.

NAILE Photos

At the 2025 NAILE in Louisville, the AOSA contracted with Morgan Hauger and *Showring* magazine, to do our photography work for both the Junior and Open Shows. If you would like to see the pictures and/or order prints, please go to www.simplicity.creative.com or contact Morgan at 765-541-1932.

AOSA Directory

A new Association Membership Directory was published last fall. If you didn't get a copy, please let me know so I can get one to you.

Plans are to do another Association Membership Directory in 2026. Once we are through the National Oxford Show & Sale (April 23 – 25), I will be sending out information regarding advertising in the 2026-2027 directory. In the meantime, start getting your ads and photos together.

Futurity Programs

Information, rules and forms regarding the 2026 Oxford Yearling Ewe and Oxford Ewe Lamb Futurity programs can be found at the AOSA website (www.americanoxfords.org) at the Documents/Forms tab and results for 2025 can also be found at the website at the Show & Sale Results tab, Futurity Winners. Yearling ewes nominated at the upcoming 2026 sales (live and on-

line) by breeders, as well as, ewes that were nominated as ewe lambs at the 2025 sales are eligible for the yearling ewe futurity. We strongly encourage live sale consignors to have their nomination forms completed when they check-in at the sales.

Oxford Hall of Fame

Nominations are now being accepted for the Oxford Hall of Fame Award. This award will be presented at the AOSA Annual Meeting on Friday, April 24. The nomination/application form can be found at the AOSA website. If there is a person who has inspired, encouraged or just plain helped you in the Oxford business, please consider nominating them for this honor. The deadline to receive nomination/application forms in the AOSA Office is April 1. The application form can be found at the AOSA website, Documents/Forms tab under Miscellaneous Forms.

Annual Dues

Check your records to see if you have paid your annual AOSA dues. At this time, very few folks have sent in their 2026 dues. Just a reminder, annual Junior dues are \$20 and annual senior dues are \$30. As a help to update contact information, please include a completed membership form (found at the AOSA website) with your dues payment.

Oxford Foundation Flock

Because of very minimal applications in recent years, the AOSA Board of Directors have made the decision to put the Oxford Foundation Flock program on a temporary hiatus for 2026. The Board feels that an overall evaluation of the program along with a plan to better promote and market this program is needed. If you have ideas how to improve the Foundation Flock program, please reach out to one of the Directors or to the Executive Secretary.

National Oxford Queen

Another change that the AOSA Board of Directors have made effective in 2026 is a name change of the Oxford Queen program. The new name is **“The National Oxford Ambassador”** program. The coordinators for this program are Karen and Suzie Shields from Indiana. Interested applicants must be between the ages of 16 and 21 as of December 31, 2026 and they need to be current members of the AOSA. The role of the National Oxford Ambassador is to represent and promote the Oxford breed as a positive role model at shows, sales and other events. The selected Ambassador applicant must attend the National Show & Sale in 2026.

An application form can be found on the AOSA website (at the Documents/Forms tab, under Miscellaneous Forms) or an applicant can request a form by contacting the AOSA office. The deadline for submitting a completed application is April 1, 2026.

AOSA Website

If you haven't visited the AOSA website in the past year, I believe you will be pleasantly surprised. There is a new look and easier to navigate pages that contain a wealth of information

and updates. The address (URL) is about the only thing that is the same as the former website. We thank Novel Design and Sara Kuykendall for giving the AOSA a “new face” on the internet. So, go to www.americanoxfords.org to check us out.

Flock Inventories

We are in the process of updating our computer records for individual breeder’s flock inventory records. We are working on an update to our registry program that will allow us to indicate when an animal has been removed from a flock. Once this programming is complete, we will be able to clean-up our data base which should streamline the registration and transfer processes.

Going through individual member records and doing a print-out of their inventory according to records is a rather slow-going process. I’m about halfway through our member records. So, being watching for a letter in the mail with a list of the animals our records currently say you own, then following the directions provided to let us know the accuracy of this list.

NAILE Judge 2026

Each year at the NAILE following the National Oxford Show, those exhibitors have a meeting to nominate possible judges for the following year. This past November, the exhibitors nominated 6 people as possible judges. Ballots were mailed to all 2025 National Oxford Show Exhibitors (open show) to allow them to rank their choices of these 6 people. There were 16 returned ballots and the people selected Dustin Cruit as their first choice and Dan Spilde as their second choice. This is not an absolute that one of these two individuals will be the Oxford judge in 2026, it only means that these are the names that will be submitted to the NAILE organizers.

AOSA Annual Membership Meeting

The American Oxford Sheep Association (AOSA) will hold its Annual Membership Meeting on Friday, April 24, 2026, at approximately 6:30 PM (Eastern Time) in Greenfield, IN. A catered meal before the meeting will be offered but a person doesn’t have to buy a meal ticket in order to attend the Annual Membership Meeting. At this time we are still working on details for the meal and meeting and as soon as we have everything in place we will let the folks who respond to this notice what those final details are. **So, please let me know if you are planning to attend the Annual Membership Meeting before April 1.**

AOSA Director positions that will be elected at the 2026 Annual Membership Meetings are:

Region 1 – Jay Franzen, finishing his first term, eligible for re-election

Region 2 – Tony Weber, finishing his first term, eligible for re-election

Region 4 – Ryan Grimme, finishing his second and final term

Don't forget about the special benefit auction that will be held at the evening's event. Proceeds from the benefit auction go to help defray the Oxford costs of the All-American Junior Sheep Show. So, be sure to donate your items for the auction and be in attendance to bid on some great things and have some fun supporting our youth.

2025 All-American Junior Sheep Show (AAJSS)

The 32nd Annual AAJSS will be held at Timonium, MD on July 1 – 4, 2026. This should be a great opportunity for our Eastern States Juniors to be able to experience the All-American. Besides entry fees, there are other fundraising opportunities. There will be a pre-show raffle ticket sales program that will make the sellers eligible for preferred penning, digital tickets will be used this year and they will be available soon at <https://allamericanjuniorshow.com>. The AAJSS Benefit Ram Semen On-Line Sale will be one of the fund-raisers that will be back in 2026 (if you would like to donate semen, please let me know); watch the Oxford Breeders Facebook group and the AOSA website for information on this on-line sale. Other fundraisers include the benefit auction at the Ohio Showcase Sale (formerly at the Mid-West Stud Ram Sale) and the Gift Basket & Specialty Item Silent Auction at the All-American.

Go to the All-American Junior Sheep Show website for more details including schedules and a listing of lodging options at Springfield. If you have never been to the All-American, make 2026 the year you check it off your list. We are always in need of volunteers for the All-American. Let me know if you would like to assist, even if it is for only a short stint.

Junior Shows

As was stated earlier in this newsletter, we will host a junior show following the National Show and Sale on Saturday, April 25. This will be your first opportunity to collect futurity points in 2026. There will be no entry fee for Oxfords and we will offer classes for ram lambs (senior and junior), ewes (yearlings, senior ewe lambs, and junior ewe lambs) and Oxford market lambs. Juniors will be able to bring their own animals or show any animals they purchase earlier in the day during the National Oxford Show & Sale. **Participants must be current AOSA members.**

Here are some other Junior shows coming up:

*Freedom Fest – May 22 – 24, 2016; Springfield, IL

*Northeast Youth Sheep Show – July 17 – 19, 2016; West Springfield, MA

*Youth Sheep Expo – July 30 – August 2; Greenfield, IN

Sale Information

Information regarding the National Oxford Show and Sale and the National Oxford On-Line Sale, as well as, the National Oxford Show and Sale Terms and Conditions can be found at the American Oxford Sheep Association website, under the Documents/Forms tab.

