

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

It's time to nominate and elect MSA officers for a two year term from Fall 2018 to Fall 2020.

Current officers are: Carol Postley, Pres.; Sally Mangra, Vice Pres.; Ruth Taber, Sec/Treas; Jan Limp, Website; Doug Meyers, Ender Tasci, Members At Large

The MSA is focused on education, production, and mentoring, and fresh ideas to further these goals are welcomed. At least 2 new board members are needed, so please consider serving. After elections, the board will meet and decide board positions.

Board members are required to attend meetings (skype/phone) to discuss MSA related business such as workshops, youth support, and other sheep topics. You don't have to own sheep, just have a love of agriculture. Please send your nominations to Ruth Taber at ruthtaber@embarqmail.com or call 352-528-4843.

ARTS AND CRAFTS DISPLAY

Please bring sheep related artwork, photography, paintings, and crafts for display. This is not a competition, but an opportunity to share beautiful and interesting sheep related items.

Also, bring a picture of your sheep or farm for placing on the table. We love to talk about our farms and animals, and this is a good way to get to know fellow producers.

• Making the Most of Your Winter Forage

Carol Postley will have a list of forages and time lines for planting winter pasture. Florida has a mix of sand, sandy loam, and clay soils, and understanding planting strategies according to soil type will help insure successful winter forage. In Florida, with adequate rainfall, it's possible to provide pasture for most of the year. Winter planting also improves soil by providing much needed organic matter.

• Scrapie Workshop

Amy Whicker will bring the latest information on tags, premise ID, state and federal regulations on sample collection, the new scrapie tag policy, and will answer questions. The Scrapie Eradication Program has been effective in significantly reducing the number of scrapie infected sheep and goats. It is important to keep abreast of new information and how it applies to Florida sheep producers.

• Digestive Tract

The inside of a sheep is very interesting, and many organs are quite beautiful. This workshop will detail the various organs, their function, and what they need to keep the animal in good health.

• Handling Injuries

Understanding each injury and how to treat will improve recovery, and alleviate stress to both animal and producer. Injuries are common, and timely care with proper antibiotics, and knowing how to administer will greatly improve survival rates. New drug laws will be discussed, and a list of over the counter drugs will be available.

• BRING SHEEP FOR DISPLAY

Display sheep are welcomed and encouraged. If possible they should be left on the trailer. If they must be removed from the trailer, please bring a tarp to put on the ground. We can then pick up the tarp and leave a clean area. There is shade available.

Directions:

**MARION COUNTY EXTENSION
SERVICE AUDITORIUM
2232 NE Jacksonville Rd
Ocala, FL 34470**

Take I-75 to Exit #354 - Hwy 27 N/Ocala. Turn East on US Hwy 27 N and travel approximately 3.5 miles to Hwy 301/441/Pine. Turn North on 301/441/Pine, get in the right hand lane and travel approximately 1/2 mile. Turn East onto NW 200A/Jacksonville Rd. Travel 1/2 mile and see

“Rowan Ag Complex” on left.

★ **Cooking Contest** ★

Please bring a covered dish to share.

Prizes will be given to the best main dish and dessert.

MSA Producer Outreach

In order to better serve MSA membership, the board proposes to have MSA sponsored workshops in various parts of state, 2 to 3 times per year. Partnering with extension agents would be helpful in having access to facilities. For those who would like to organize a workshop in their area, contact Ruth Taber at 352-528-4843.