2019 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Free demonstrations, educational talks and group spinning ongoing throughout the weekend.

Friday, July 5  Camping Check-in, Thurs.-Sat.  Space 33
Information Booth, Willamette Event Center Lobby

7-8am • Livestock check-in continues.
8:15-9am • Workshop Check-in Opens – Willamette Event Center Lobby.
    • Resume receiving fleeces.
    • All livestock must be in place. No livestock may arrive after this time.
    • Resume receiving Fiber Arts entries.
9am • Workshops Begin – see Workshop Schedule at the Information Booth.
    • New This Year: Junior Sheep Showmanship Clinic with Maria Rooney.
    • Sheep Show in Show Ring A begins when Showmanship Clinic ends.
    • Marketplace opens.
    • Sheep-to-Shawl – competition begins.
    • All fleeces in place. No entries accepted after this time.
10am • Fleece Show – Wool fleece judging begins, open to all.
    • Class 00: For Sale Only Fleeces – sale begins.
    • All Fiber Arts entries in place. No entries will be accepted after this time.
10am-Noon • Camping registration at RV Space #33.
12:45-1:30pm • Workshop Check-in Opens – Willamette Event Center Lobby.
1pm • Fiber Arts Judging – open to the public.
1:30pm • Workshops Begin – see Workshop Schedule at the Information Booth.
2pm • Sheep-to-Shawl – competition ends.
4pm • Fleece Show – Mohair fleece judging – start time approximate.
6pm • Marketplace closes for the day.
6pm • Fleece Show closes for the day.
by 7pm • Presentation of the Black Sheep Cup and the Black Lamb Cup at the completion of Fiber Arts judging.

Saturday, July 6

8:15-9am • Workshop Check-in Opens – Willamette Event Center Lobby.
9am • Workshops Begin – see Workshop Schedule at the Information Booth.
    • Fleece Show – judging resumes.
    • Class 00: For Sale Only Fleeces resumes.
    • Marketplace and Fiber Arts Display opens.
    • Sheep Show continues in Show Ring A. Lunch break at judges’ discretion.
    • Angora Goat Show – Lot P: Registered White Angora Goats.
    • Lot Q: Registered Colored Angora Goats. At the conclusion of the Goat Show, presentation of the Angora Goat Cup for champion Goat.
10am • Herding Dog Demonstration – Calpooia Arena.
10am-Noon • Camping registration at RV Space #33.
10:30am • Alpaca Fleece Judging begins – start time approximate.
Noon • Fleece Show judging closes.
Presentation of the Black Sheep Cup for Wool, Mohair and Alpaca.
• Herding Dog Demonstration – Calpooia Arena.
12:45-1:30pm • Workshop Check-in Opens – Willamette Event Center Lobby.
1pm • Fleece Show open for public viewing – start time approximate.
1pm • Sheep Show continues – start time approximate.
1:30pm • Workshops Begin – see Workshop Schedule at the Information Booth.
1:45pm • Fleece Show viewing closes.
2pm • Herding Dog Demonstration – Calpooia Arena.
2:15pm • Fleece Sale begins – start time approximate.
4pm • Sheep Show awards – start time approximate. At the conclusion of the Sheep Show, presentation of the Black Sheep Cup for Best Young Flock and the Glen Eidman Memorial Trophy for Best Sheep in Show.
5pm • Fleece Sale, Fiber Arts Display and Marketplace close for the day.
5:30pm • Potluck no host bar.
6:30pm • Potluck dinner, socializing and music. Bring a dish to share and your sheep tales. Presentation of the Natural Colored Wool Fleece Award in memory of Wayne Thompson for his exceptional volunteer spirit and dedication to natural colored wool. Please join us for a celebration of Wayne’s life at the potluck.
8pm • Spinner’s Lead in Show Ring – start time approximate.

Sunday, July 7

8:15-9am • Workshop Check-in Opens – Willamette Event Center Lobby.
9am • Workshops Begin – see Workshop Schedule at the Information Booth.
    • Junior Sheep Show – Lots Z, Y and X.
    • Showmanship Class Z. Followed by the presentation of the Steve Mendenhall Memorial Trophy for the top achiever in Junior Showmanship. This will be followed by Lot Y and Lot X.
    • Colored Angora Goat Registry Inspection Training Workshop.
    • Fleece Sale, Fiber Arts Display and Marketplace open.
12:45-1:30pm • Workshop Check-in Opens.
1:30pm • Workshops Begin – see Workshop Schedule at the Information Booth.
2pm • Fiber Arts Display closes.
2:5pm • Release of Fiber Arts items.
3:30pm • Fleece Show closes. Release unsold fleeces.
4pm • Release of all animals.
6pm • Marketplace closes.
6pm • Grounds must be vacated.
Welcome to the Celebrating the 45th Black Sheep Gathering

The Black Sheep Gathering, Inc. (BSG) organizers welcome fiber enthusiasts, breeders, volunteers and newcomers, once again to our annual “coming together.” We meet to discuss breeding and raising colored sheep and goats, share our knowledge of fibers and spend time with like-minded folks in the natural colored sheep and wool community.

Inspired by founder and editor of the Black Sheep Newsletter, Sachiye Jones, as a way for sheep growers and wool consumers to meet and market their goods the first official Black Sheep Growers’ Potluck was held in Rickreall in 1974. In 1981 the event was held in conjunction with the Association of Northwest Weavers’ Guilds Conference at the Lane County Fairgrounds. This was the first year it was called the Black Sheep Gathering. For the next several years the event was at the Cottage Grove Exposition Center.

During the 1984 New Zealand World Congress on Coloured Sheep, Sachiye Jones convinced planners that Oregon should host the next every five-year event. Sachiye thought the Gathering could be held in conjunction with the Congress. The planning began in late 1984. Sadly, Sachiye became ill during her trip to New Zealand and later lost her battle with leukemia in 1985. Despite her absence, the organizers continued on and hosted a most wonderful World Congress on Coloured Sheep in Eugene, bringing together geneticists, breeders, fiber artists and other wool enthusiasts from around the world. It was a most exciting time and the annual Black Sheep Gathering was held in conjunction with this congress.

Since 1989, the Gathering had been held at the Lane County Fairgrounds in Eugene. In 2018, the Black Sheep Gathering began meeting annually at the Linn County Fairgrounds in Albany, Oregon. The beautiful facility is not only centrally located in the heart of Willamette Valley, but it also gives the Gathering room to grow. The event now includes many breeders of sheep and Angora goats; a large marketplace offering a diverse supply of fiber and related foods from independent vendors; several educational talks and demonstrations; a sheep herding exhibition on Saturday; a fleece competition and sale with hundreds of quality handspinning fleeces; and the always popular spinners’ circle.”

Come join us for this year’s Black Sheep Gathering. If this will be your first visit, we extend a special welcome to our BSG family. We continue to welcome our growing number of old and new friends.