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Karakul Alliance Goals

Our primary goals are to:

1. find flocks
2. count sheep
3. bring together a community of Karakul shepherds

The Alliance has been working toward these objectives and the survival of Karakuls in North America since 2014.

Membership is not required for any of our services.

A Karakul Gathering is Breeders getting together to exchange ideas, trade sheep, participate in a show, and learn a few things.

FUN memorable times! Planning for 2021

No firm location yet. Take the quick Survey on the GATHERINGS page at karakulshepherds.org

Photo left: 1993 Gathering—Champion ram gets a treat from Page Jacobs, Wim Schoonhaven & Reserve Champ looking on. Photo right: 1997 Gathering—Norton Jacobs & yearling ewe share a moment of mutual appreciation

Check out their life stories on the NEWS page, and read other tales about funny, likeable, charming Page and spouse Norton on our BLOG.

Anyone have a photo of Karakul ram *The Prophet* to share?

Alliance Services & KSAR (The Registry)

Our primary motivation has always been to locate Karakul flocks and offer services, support and encouragement to their shepherds, while providing an easy way to communicate and share. Please introduce your Karakul contacts, new and old, to karakulshepherds.org. We want to locate Karakul flocks of any size and add sheep numbers to the historical record. The same form used for the 2017 census is now located under the **Flock Finder** tab. And while you are there, check out the **Census Results**. Our US Karakul count expectations were far surpassed.

We offer Registrations to Karakul breeders in an Open Flock book. We are especially interested in historical bloodlines from isolated flocks. Check out the **Registry** page for new forms—updated policies, fees, and our [Traditional Flocks](#) document which describes the core of Alliance & KSAR work.

Thank you for using KSAR—Karakul Shepherds Alliance Registry!

An Alliance Newsletter had been in the works for over a year. The passing of two shepherds who brought Karakuls to the forefront of West coast sheep show-circuits in the early to mid-1980s, years before any other region; this is written in honor of their love for the breed....

Dr. Norton and Page Jacobs Karakul Showmanship Pioneers, Coolidge, AZ



On December 8, 1988 Page Jacobs couldn't sleep and handwrote an 11-page letter to Julia DeVlieg about all things sheep. The letter was a 'stream of consciousness' about the Show Arena, Lowry Hagerman, how he challenged her to think with his sarcastic wit, and

how much she appreciated his sheep. Lowry advocated for keeping a super flock of 25, best-of-the-best sheep. Given the fair & festival winnings the Jacobs' racked up in 20 years, it is clear those sheep were the basis for their awesome show string Karakuls. ..."the size. Hagerman rams just have a look—symmetry and balance." Starting with super flock Karakuls and the confirmation she was looking for, Page then selected for staple length and fleece consistency, and rams with large horns.

Jacobs Karakuls were bigger, fleeces longer; their sheep had pizzazz. Page and dentist spouse Norton were quite a team in showmanship. Watching them at the 1997 2nd Gathering they had a form of unspoken communication—walking into show rings, the placement of sheep to catch the judge's eye.

Page & Norton bred, raised and showed a spectacular ram named The Prophet, never beaten in his show career. He was inherited by Liz South, and descendants passed to other west coast breeders.

A California Karakul breeder in the 1970s and 80s donated the *Alice Gatterdam Memorial Get of Sire Trophy*. Page won it both at the 1993 Gathering I (Estes Park, Colorado) and 1997 Gathering II (Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival).

At the end of her letter to Julie, Page discussed Registries and left us these words of wisdom "*Registries are only as good as we breeders make them.*"

Norton and Page died within five days of each other, May 11th and May 16th, 2019... the same unspoken communication. ~ Deborah



Advertising your sheep, farm, and/or related products on our **For Sale** page is available for \$10 per ad, good for one year, using the fillable online form under **Advertise**.

Requests for Karakul sheep are listed under **Sheep Wanted**; check it out regularly for possible sales.

Breeders have been asking & it is here! ~ The

BLOODLINES page
Is now posted on
karakulshepherds.org

Contact

Deborah Hunter

Librarian, Historian,

Registrar & Web
Shepherd

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Karakul Shepherds  
Alliance

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Thanks in advance for helping the Alliance to connect with as many breeders as we can, while we build the Karakul database.

Please keep in touch. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

KSAR Forms

Modernizers June-Aug 2019

Deborah Hunter,
Alliance Founder

Letty Klein,
Senior Alliance Advisor

Julia DeVlieg,
AKSR & Alliance Founder

First-ever Database for American Karakul Sheep



Anakus Karakul lambs. Photos above & below by Julia DeVlieg

KSAR is building a first-ever database for our Karakul sheep! The database will track information from new registrations and ancestors. In addition to displaying pedigrees on certificates KSAR will be able to track bloodlines, including the rare lines. We will also be able to generate reports such as breeders/flocks per state or region, colors of sheep and where to find them. The database will be online so that breeders can search for pedigrees, as well as upload information and photos to the Registrar for final certificate preparation.

KSAR Registry News - Old Forms, New Forms & PayPal

Brown Karakul lambs.
Look for pink nose & eyerims



All Alliance forms have been updated with new wording in preparation for our database. New fields in the Application will correspond to online data fields. There is now a second option for registering with Photos Only. The Fee Schedule is updated and the Standard of Perfection has been modernized with new wording in the Color section. Updating the forms caused a delay in getting certificates returned to you this summer. As Registrar, I apologize to you for any concerns this may have caused.

Old forms dated 2016 & 2017 are now obsolete. Please recycle them. Karakul Shepherds Alliance now takes PayPal, in addition to checks.

Education Focus - Persian lamb



Dawley Polly with twin black rams, PLF Prince(curls) & PLF Plato(moiré) @ 3 days. Photo by Letty Klein

Would you like to learn more about Persian lamb pelts? Do you find them so enchantingly beautiful, yet mysterious enough that you can't find words to describe them?

Make learning about pelts easier by using the latest form uploaded to the **Registry** tab - the **Karakul Lamb Barn Worksheet** with an abbreviated **Pelt Assessment** form on the flip side. Each of the 11 categories used to evaluate lamb pelts is now numbered in 3 places for easy reference. It is hoped this numbering system makes it easier to cross reference, less likely to overwhelm, as it encourages Karakul breeders to examine pelts soon after birth. The top of the **Worksheet** has basic lamb identifiers for Registration PLUS other categories most breeders track such as Extra teats, Bone, Conformation, and Mouth over/underbite. Use what you like to track your Karakul lambs.

I've heard positive things at first review, but I would like to hear from breeders who use it next lambing season to get your thoughts. Thanks! ~ Deborah