

I am Cynthia Huckins, owner of Ruby Mtn Sheep Co. located in Spring Creek, Nevada. I am running for a seat on the Board of Directors for the United Suffolk Sheep Association in district one. Although I don't consider this going into politics, I am very passionate about the Suffolk Sheep and hope to bring that passion to the association and the members in which the association represents. The experiences that I have had while raising and show Suffolks amplified the love I have for the breed. I feel that I will be able to share that enthusiasm with other breeders and people that are interested in the Suffolk breed.

One of the biggest asset with in the association is that the Suffolk breed and the people that raise them are so diverse. It is my strong belief that everyone should be able to raise, market and show their sheep as they chose. The association should help support and encourage breeders to do so. Promoting, encouraging, educating, and helping new breeders, as well as, members with in the association should be the focus of taking this association forward in the future. We raise the greatest sheep in the world. Moving forward can only be done with directors and members working closely in a manner that in a win-win for all. We need to work together and compromise to better the breed without compromising our integrity. We need to utilize input from our members.

If I am elected, it would be my goal for the association to develop better informational and marketing tools. For instance, developing an informational brochure that would be available for members to use at clinics, fairs or other educational projects. We could also have a poster that would concentrate on promoting the diversity of the breed. There needs to be more activities for members, besides just showing, so that members do not feel excluded. One activity could be a photo contest. The photos could then be used for a calendar, which could also serve as a fund-raiser for the association. We need to have social gatherings that members want to attend and visit with other breeders and welcome and encourage new members and reacquaint others.

We are the "Breed in the Lead". but we need to work had to stay that way.

In closing, I would like to share one of my favorite quotes, "It is not our abilities that show who we truly are, but the choices that we make."