

AMERAUCANA BREEDERS CLUB BULLETIN
Ameraucana Breeders Club, 4599 Lange, Birch Run, MI 48415
August, 1997 **Vol. XVII #3**

As of June 20, Jeanette Frank resigned as Secretary/Treasurer of the Ameraucana Breeders Club(ABC), due to the time involved and her busy schedule. Thanks to Jeanette for many years of service as an officer to the club. She will continue to support the club as a member.

Until the Board of Directors fills the position, please send all correspondence to the club President, John W. Blehm at the above address.

Please let me know if I don't have your address right. Also notify me if you know someone that should be receiving the bulletin and isn't.

Check out page 54 of the Poultry Press, August '97, for a list of awards offered at our National meet to be held in Janesville, Wisconsin, September 27 & 28.

An entry form is on page 56. I plan on being there. How about you?

The Bay City Poultry Association will host a Central District meet, in Alma Michigan, on October 11 and 12. Contact Dick Ross, 2180 Froede, Caro, MI 48723 for show information.

Looking ahead, we will probably have our 1998 National at Alma, Michigan.

We'll have more on that in the future.

Just a reminder to District Directors to let me know (well in advance) of any and all upcoming meets so we can have the info published in the bulletin in time for members to make plans. After the shows pass on the results and I'll do the same.

I don't have any correspondence to pass on this time. I have two President's Corner articles that didn't get printed before and an order form for next year's chicks to include in this bulletin. The order form is will help fill the back side of the second page and you may want to look it over around January.

President's Corner

John W. Blehm 1/25/97

What's in a name? The Ameraucana Breeder's Club is a club for people that breed Ameraucanas. That's what the name seems to imply, but don't let it fool you. Remember we were originally the Ameraucana Bantam Club, but changed **Bantam** to **Breeders**, in 1986, to have a name that does not exclude large fowl and is not a radical change from the old name. We still use the initials ABC to designate the organization. Although the name was changed, the purpose of the organization was not. Article II, of our Constitution reads *"The purpose of this club is to encourage the continued improvement of Ameraucana... (chickens)... through breeding, exhibition, and dissemination of information relative to their progress"*.

Did you hear that? It's not a club for Breeders only. Three means are given to help improve our breed. Breeding is listed first and without it coming first we wouldn't have anything worth exhibiting. I enjoy breeding most, but if you only want to keep and exhibit Ameraucanas that's great! The club needs more exhibitors to show off our breed and help it become even more widely accepted. Perhaps you're not be a breeder because you don't think you're qualified or you don't have the time, space or desire. No problem. I don't have much desire to show my birds, although I try to make it to at least one show each year where I can see Ameraucanas exhibited and meet with fellow club members to discuss "information relative to their progress".

Some members don't even own any Ameraucanas, at this time, but they are helping to promote our breed by being dues paying members, serving as officers and supporting club activities.

We have a very inclusive organization. Every member is not expected to have all the talents and ambition to do everything. Let's continue to work together to achieve our common goals.

1 Corinthians 12:18-20

As it is, God arranged the parts, fitting each of them into the body as He wished. If all of it were one part, how could there be a body? As it is, there are many parts but one body.

President's Corner
John W. Blehm 6/13/97

As of the writing of this letter many of you are done hatching your 1997 crop of Ameraucanas. I am further behind this year than in the past. My young ones range in age from two to six weeks old. The worst part about that, they won't be ready for our ABC national meet, in September. Most of my breeders have been sold and only about 12 adult Ameraucanas are left, in the pens. From the chicks, that make it through my several culling steps, I will continue to breed buff and silver bantams along with buff, black, blue and silver large fowl next year.

Remember the national meet, for our club, is in Wisconsin this fall. Please make plans to attend and show Ameraucanas, if possible. I have received a notice to be on call for jury duty during that time. I have requested that they allow me to go the poultry show and serve before or after that weekend. Kathy and I look forward our annual get-a-away to meet with our chicken friends.

This year most of the requests for Ameraucanas, that I received, were for black large fowl. I sent two boxes of day old chicks out. One went to Mary Matthews, of New York, and the other to L.T. Williams, in Maine. Both reported that their chicks arrived in good condition, even though Mr. Williams' chicks spent two days in the mail. Over the years I've sent chicks all over the country and normally they arrive in good shape, but twice they didn't. My guess is they got too cold by being put in an unheated compartment of a plane. Although adult birds must be sent "Express Mail", day old chicks are usually sent "Priority Mail" which is quite a bit cheaper. Keep in mind that just because something is sent "Express Mail", that doesn't guarantee overnight, or next-day delivery.

Have a great summer!

BIRCH RUN HATCHERY

John W. Blehm
4599 Lange,
Birch Run, MI 48415
517-777-9683

1998

We are offering day old **Ameraucana** chicks that will be sold "Straight Run". An assortment of color varieties will be included, in your order, depending on our hatches. The varieties are listed on the order form. Chicks are shipped by "Priority Mail" on Tuesdays and should arrive within 48 hours. Your local Post Office will call you to pick up your chicks as soon as they arrive. To order please send the information requested below, along with your payment for the chicks. Pay the shipping and insurance fee, at your Post Office, C.O.D. If you live in IN, KS, MN, MT, NJ, or VT we will need sufficient time to meet special importation requirements.

Years of selective breeding are behind these chicks, but unwanted characteristics may show up. No guarantees will be made. A limited number of chicks will be available so please order early.

We support the Ameraucana Breeders Club, the National Poultry Improvement Plan, Poultry Press, and John 3:16.

1998 ORDER FORM

Name: _____

Address _____

Post Office: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ - _____ - _____ or: _____ - _____ - _____

Preferred shipping: April() May()

() 25 Amer. chicks, bantam - buff,	\$50.00
() 20 Amer. chicks, large fowl - black, blue, silver, buff	\$50.00
Ameraucana Breeders Club members check here () and deduct	\$5.00
Grand Total	_____