

For Your Information...

AMERAUCANA BREEDERS CLUB

Sept/Oct 1993

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1993 NATIONAL MEET RESULTS
Sept. 18-19, 1993, at Mason City Iowa
(Bart Pals, judge)

LARGE FOWL (16 shown)

White(6): Conkling 1(rv)P; Segler 1(bb)K, 1H; Berg 1C;
Blehm 2, 3K
Blue(6): Conkling 1H, 1(rb), 3, 5P; Schmidt 2(rv), 4P
Black(2): Schmidt 1, 2P
Nonstandard(2): Conkling

BANTAMS (70 shown)

Black(16): Segler 1H; Blehm 1(rv), 2, 4, 5K, 1(rb)2, 3, 4P;
Gilbert 1C, 3K, 5P (9 pullets shown in all)
Blue(3): Blehm 1K, 1(bv)P & 2(rv)P
Buff(12): Berg 2P; Blehm 1, 2, & 4K, 3, 4, 5 & 6P; J. Gilbert
1(bv), 2H, 3K, 1(rv)P
Silver(2): Segler 1(rv)C, 1(bv)H
White(4): Schmidt 1C, 1(rv)H, 1(bv)K, 1P
Brown-red(1): Gilbert 1H
Wheaten(18): Berg 1K; Conkling 3C; Phelps 2, 4C, 1(bb), 2, 4H, 2P
Ikenberry 1(rv)C, 2, 3K, 1, 2P; Gilbert 5C, 3H, 4K, 3P
Blue-wheaten(11): Phelps 1, 2C, 3, 4, 5, 6H, 2P
Gilbert 1(rv), 2H, 1(bv)K, 1P
Splash (3): Blehm 1K, 1(bv) & 2(rv)P

Explanation of Codes: C = cock H = hen K = cockerel P = pullet
bb = best of breed rb = reserve of breed
bv = best of variety rv = reserve of
variety
bb will always be best of variety.
rb will be best of variety also, unless of
the same variety (color) as bb, in which
case it will be reserve of variety.

IMPRESSIONS: The 1993 National Meet

As usual, the A.B.C. national meet was a super-enjoyable event for the Gilbert family. Even though our birds were not the big winners, we came away feeling like anything BUT losers. The excitement carried well past the weekend of Sept. 18 & 19 at Mason City, as friends from the club visited our home following the show.

First, John & Kathy Blehm followed us home and stayed until late Monday afternoon. Then Don Cable pulled in with his motor home the following Thursday and stayed until Monday morning. Don and I finally had a chance to complete the proposed A.P.A. standard revisions which will be voted upon by the membership prior to submission to the A.P.A. We even took in another poultry show, the Wisconsin International. We also visited Bernard & Dorothy Kellogg in Readstown, took in the International Crane Foundation tour at Baraboo, and swapped a lot of stories. Thanks John & Kathy and Don, for the memories, and I hope we can do it again next year.

At Mason City we heard many positive comments about the new "Bruce Hutchinson Memorial plaque," which will be awarded for nine years to the exhibitor of the best pair of large fowl Am's of the same variety. Congratulations to Jerry Segler for winning the first round on a pair of whites, including top Large Fowl Ameraucana of the show, a cockerel.

Special cash awards for best three bantams of the same variety went to Cliff Ikenberry on wheatens, yours truly on blue-wheatens, and to son Jason on buffs. Top bird shown by a junior exhibitor went to Jason on a buff hen, reserve by a junior to Matt Berg on a wheaten cockerel. I know the boys, and their friend Bryant LeJeune who joined our club, had a great time. Wilmer Vorwerk also joined. Best A.O.V. awards (variety other than champ or reserve champ) went as follows. In large fowl, Arne Schmidt took best and reserve A.O.V. on a nice pair of black pullets. In bantams, Arne again took top A.O.V. on a white cockerel. Reserve A.O.V. bantam was awarded to Jason on the buff hen.

In all, 70 bantams and 16 large fowl were shown by 9 exhibitors hailing from 7 different states. Overall champion was awarded to Mary Lou Phelps, who three-peated on her little wheaten hen. Reserve Ameraucana overall was a black pullet by John Blehm; all in all a very nice showing. I suspect complete placings of the various varieties will be found elsewhere in this newsletter, so thanks to all who showed and who just came to take in the show. It was super to see folks like Jeannette, Don, Charlie Simpson, and Bernard, even though they could not show birds this year.

Looking ahead, the top bid for our 1994 national meet appears to be the "Illini" show (northern Illinois) which is held the same weekend as the North Iowa show. So mark your calendars now to make plans to attend and show your best Ameraucanas. (Mike Gilbert v.p.)

Minutes of ABC 1993 Meeting - September 18, 1993, Mason City, Iowa

Prior to the business meeting Mike Gilbert presented the club awards. (Show report elsewhere in newsletter.) Mike gave an explanation of the new traveling Memorial award for large fowl in honor of Bruce Hutchinson. This first year this award was presented to Jerry Segler for a pair of large fowl whites. Mary Lou Phelps (who provided the traveling award for bantams) won it for best bantam (third time). Trophy for best overall (LF or bantam) went to Mary Lou. Reserve overall went to John Blehm.

Present at the meeting were: President Don Cable (CA); Vice President Mike Gilbert (WI); Central DD Mary Lou Phelps (MO); Bernard Kellogg (WI); Cliff & Dora Ann Ikenberry (KS); Jerry Segler (IL); Arne & Bev Schmidt (MN); John Blehm (MT); Matt Berg (WI); Jason Gilbert (WI); Bryant Lejeune (WI); C.J. Matthews (CA); Bernard Conkling (IA); Charles Simpson (IA) and Sec/Treas. Jeannette Frank (MT).

Meeting was brought to order at 6:45 P.M.

Old business: Mike Gilbert & Don Cable are to review the APA Standard of Perfection for revision and corrections for large fowl and bantam Ameraucanas. General descriptions of the breed and varieties are to be thoroughly reviewed. Any changes to be made will be put to the membership for comments before being presented to the APA Standard Revision Committee.

General discussion followed with a brief example of changes needing to be made to help the members present understand. Anyone with thoughts, suggestions, ideas, so forth are asked to contact Mike Gilbert.

Jerry Segler asked about the requirements for leg color on black varieties and suggested it should read black instead of dark slate. The 1989 APA Standard calls for dark slate to black with pinkish white bottoms.

John Blehm commented that it is sometimes difficult to understand slate, dark slate and blue slate. Mike Gilbert gave a brief explanation of the epidermas and dermis of leg color.

Pres. Don Cable asked at this point if there were any other matters regarding the review of the standard. S/T offered to loan the 1993 APA Standard to Don & Mike for their review. There were no other comments regarding the standard.

There was no other old business.

New business: ABC National show for next year?

Mike Gilbert informed the members that he had received a bid from No Central Ill. They have offered four hand carved trophies, four hand carved plaques and 100.00.

The question was raised...Does the club members want a National Meet every year? The general thought was that it should be the decision of those who drive the distance to the shows.

Jerry Segler commented that a year or two ago there were enough people showing so it made it reasonable to hold annual meets. That doesn't seem the case now.

Pres. suggested it be put to a vote. Motion made, seconded, passed by show of hands.

Cliff Ikenberry asked for a date of the ILLINI show? Mike said 1995 not 1994. DC - comments from members? Mary Lou thought money from members not attending was a bit of a hardship for general membership. Mike Gilbert suggested that award money of \$100.00 can usually be adequate for the needs of a show. And one person doesn't have to come with all of it. So the pressure isn't on anyone if several give \$5.00 or so.

Pres. asked what do you -the members- want to do. What do you suggest? Jerry Segler suggested a straw poll. See who is willing to show. Arne Schmidt thought the MN show a month later might be better for everyone. Don suggested Arne and Mike work together regarding the MN show and get information together to be put in the club newsletter. Let the members decide. Motion made, seconded by B. Kellogg.

Don Cable mentioned difficulties in getting people to respond to newsletter. Commented on the difficulties he and Mike had when the club was being established. And now that the club is approved and accepted it is more difficult...to get new names...but it is tiresome to see the same old names time after time. Any suggestions?

Bernard Kellogg mentioned that the first newsletters carried brief bios of members...could this be done again...on new members especially. S/T explained that this has been the practice with new members...to ask them for a bio. Most do not respond to the request. Any suggestions?

ABC Meeting (continued)

Mike Gilbert wondered why a list of upcoming show and show results are not printed. S/T responded that if the reports from the shows are not received they cannot be printed and ditto with upcoming shows. Any volunteers to keep this information current?

There was general discussion about the show reports from Cent. DD Mary Lou. Pres. suggested the DD's appoint a state representative for their districts and make it the state reps job to know about shows and reports.

Mike Gilbert commented on all the ribbons still available to members because there had been no requests for them.

Cliff Ikenberry commented that there is a need for new blood in his area...he is tired of competing against himself.

Don Cable...back to the newsletter responses.

John Blehm said he had suggested some time ago to the editor that if each member wrote just one article a year there would be more than enough material for the newsletter. J. Frank asked how to get an article from each member was still a problem..any suggestions?

Mike Gilbert offered that sometimes members are reluctant to write...they feel they don't have the experience to share with others.

Don Cable reminded the members that it is tiresome for everyone to see some names time after time. Thinks it is time for new names. And let's get on to the next subject.

John Blehm commented on the new Murray McMurray wording regarding the "Easter Egg" chicks and suggested the club write a letter thanking them for the needed change. J. Frank responded that the reason for the change was the club's ongoing letter campaign to them regarding their false advertising and when they changed the wording the club sent Murray McMurray a thank you letter and received a thank you from MM for noticing.

At this time copies of the club financial report and membership lists were distributed to the members. Pres. Don Cable suggested the members study the financial report and if ~~the~~ had questions or comments to see the S/T the next day.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 P.M.



9/23/93

Dear Jeannette,

Just a note as I found your letter of 5/5. Thanks for writing me in regard to availability of AM large fowl eggs. I have a (tail)tale to tell on my old rooster. I thought something had got him. I was feeding in teh barn - heard his low voice singing. Thought I was hearing things, but followed the sound. Over in a corner, under a lumber stack, I found his tail sticking out. He was badly beaten up - seems the Black Giant rooster had turned on him. (He had been boss before.) Anyway, the Black Giant is no more, and Mr. Whiskers has fathered several almost silver off spring. The hatchery run Ameraucanas are very difficult to get true color patterns from, so I'll persue getting a couple pure color stain birds.

I have gotten rid of all the old Ameraucanas I had and will go on with the ones raised this year as they are more uniform, close to the silver ones I'm wanting. I only work with large fowl.

Thanks again for your consideration and attention.

Sincerely,

Tom Knoche

FROM THE OZARKS

Memories from Iowa - for me this was a trip to go down in the book! I had car problems, but fortunately, "Brownie" got me home safe and sound. The young man who built the engine said there is NO WAY you should have made it 500 miles! To make a long story short the key in the balance wheel which holds the crankshaft in place had worn a groove - the crank was just flopping around and that's where that horrible noise was. Amazing as it seems, Mike says it seems to be okay - after a new part (the balance wheel & key) was installed. The front seal is okay and the crank is true. For sure, somebody was looking out for me this trip. Told my mechanic if my guardian angel had nine lives - he used 8 7/8th of them. I left Mason City at 11:30 a.m. and pulled into my garage at ten minutes to nine that night and that included driving the last hundred miles in a blinding thunderstorm. Came to find out, there were also tornado watches and warnings! Gald I didn't have the radio on.

It was sure great to see everyone at the show. I know I wure will enjoy exchanging pictures and letters for some time.

"Sweetie" chalked up another BEST OF BREED to her illustrious career. She was Best of Breed and Reserve AOCCL at Highland, Best of Breed and Champion AOCCL at Milwaukee, Reserve of Breed at Mason City last year, and Best of Breed this year at Mason City. Not bad for a seven year old Lady. She is a charmer and somehow seems to know when a judge is looking at her. Sometimes it is almost spooky watching her.

We've had rain and more rain - 8½ inches last Friday and Saturday. I've lived here since 1962 and this was the first time we've ever had water standing in the basement. When i got up about 5:30 a.m. Sat., it was running throughlike it usually does - when I started out to do chores about 7 a.m., it didn't sound quite right down there. I flipped the light on and water was about 4" deep and rising - Panicsville! We were able to find a plumbing shop that had a small pump that would hook up to a garden hose. I had to go to work so left Jim to baby sit the pump. It worked! I cleaned out the wet stuff and scrubbed the floor yesterday, then turned the fan on. It's all dried up today. Some places in the area had up to 16 inches of rain in this 36 hour period. What and experience! Not one I care to repeat. Then today I locked myself out of the house__.

Oh well, my momma told me there would be days like this.

My best to all,

Mary Lou

Sept. 27, 1993



Mary Lou Phelps
+
Sweetie

ECHOES OF THE 1993 NATIONAL MEET

York, NE

V.P. Mike Gilbert and family arrived the night before the show, as did most of the other members. Mike garnered the awards in blue wheaten bantams, while Jason Gilbert had best bird by a junior, on a buff bantam hen. Mary Lou Phelps, our district director, had champion Ameraucana on her wheaten bantam hen - this is a repeat for this bird! Congratulations!!

Our Secretary-treasurer, Jeannette Frank, was in attendance, but was busy taking her APA Judges test. John Blehm came in from Michigan with a number of birds in several varieties and had reserve champion on a black bantam pullet. Jerry Segler, looking good after a severe bout with cabbage disease, had the top large fowl awards on a pair of whites. Also showing large fowl was Arne Schmidt, *viti best* and reserve AOV on two black pullets. Arne also had a fine white bantam cockerel.

Matt Berg had reserve champion junior bird on a wheaten cockerel. Cliff Ikenberry, up from Kansas, was the big winner on wheaten bantams with reserve of variety on a cock bird and most awards in cockerels and pullets. Bernard Conkling had reserve of variety on a large white pullet and showed a pair of wheaten bantams as well.

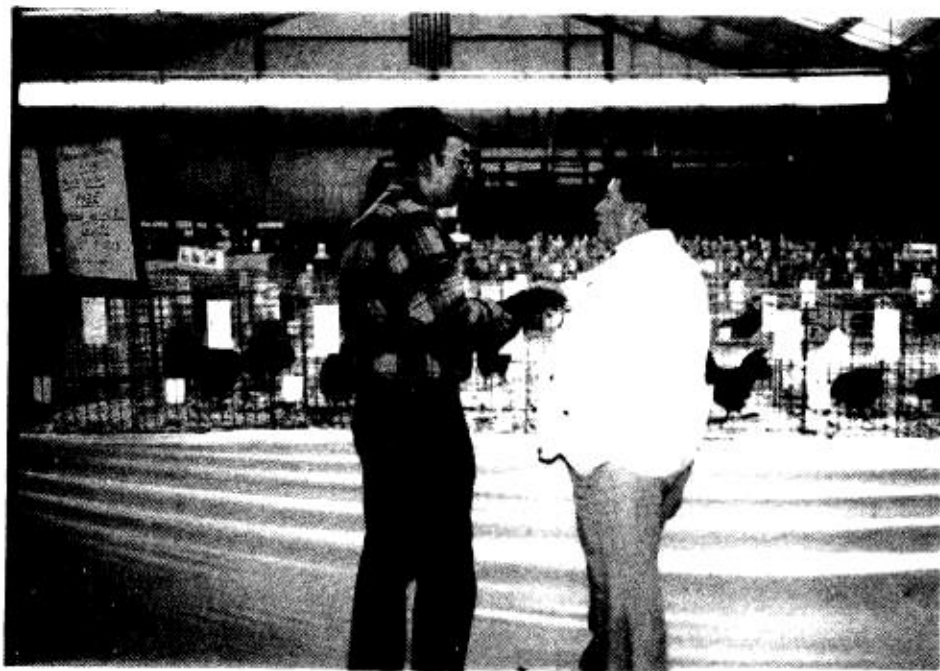
It was a pleasure to finally meet Bernard Conkling, Cliff Ikenberry and John Blehm. Welcome also, to our two new members, signed up at the show - junior member, Bryant LeJeune and veteran breeder, Wilmar Vorwerk.

The business meeting was well attended and Mike Gilbert and I will have some proposed standard changes for Ameraucanas in a future club bulletin. All members will have an opportunity to look them over and vote on them. A need for more input in the form of written articles for the bulletin was discussed as well.

Not showing Ameraucanas, but in attendance also, were Charles Simpson and my buddy from Readstown, WI, Bernard "Pop" Kellogg. I was fortunate to be able to spend a day with Bernie and his lovely wife, Dorothy following the show. Mike and Mary Gilbert put up with me for several days as well, so I had the best time ever and have a good many great memories to take back to the desert this winter.

Don Cable

"On The Road"



Jerry Segler

Don Cable



*Bernard Kellogg
Club Historian*

Club Photo Album

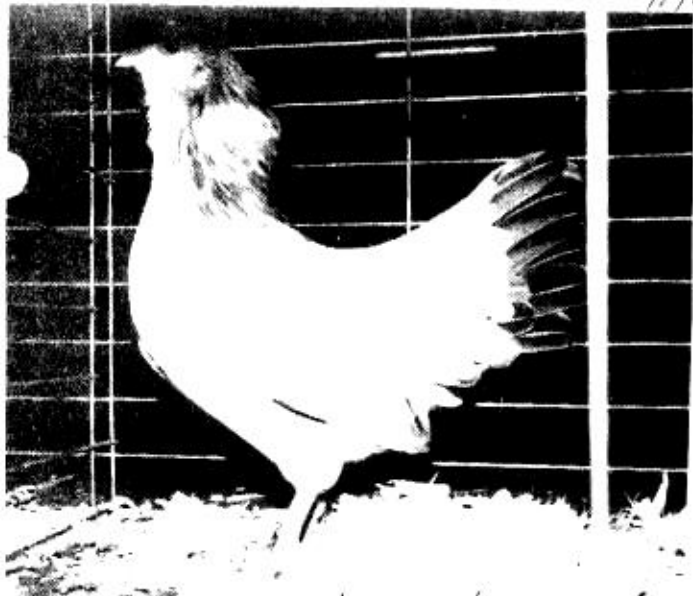


Serry Segler
Mary Lou Phelps
Mike Gebert

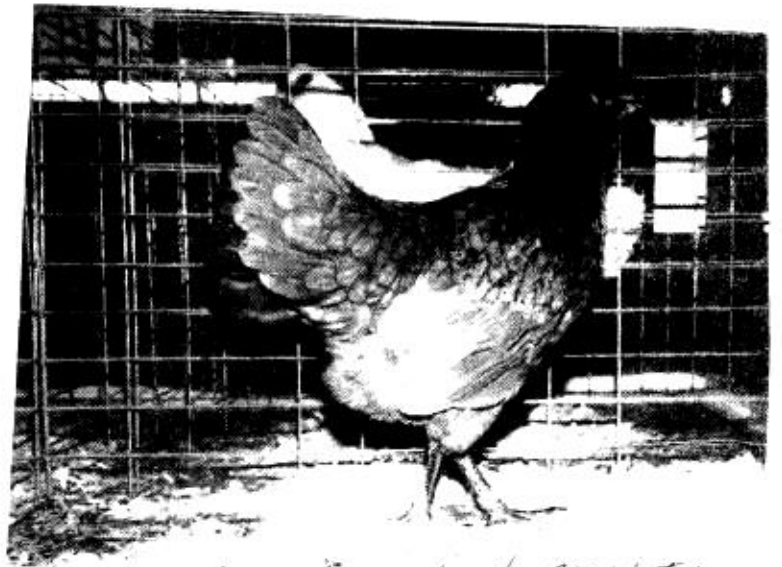
Cliff & Doris Ann
Stenkerry



Bryant Lejuene
Matt Berg
Mrs Berg



White bantam hen



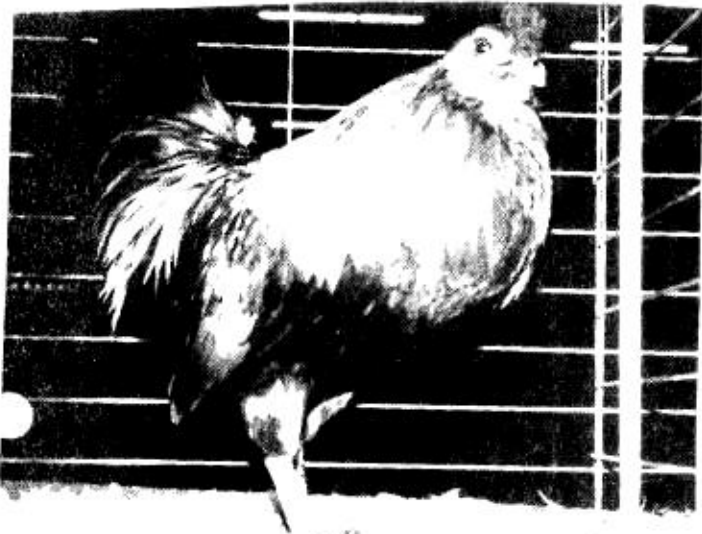
Blue large fowl pullet



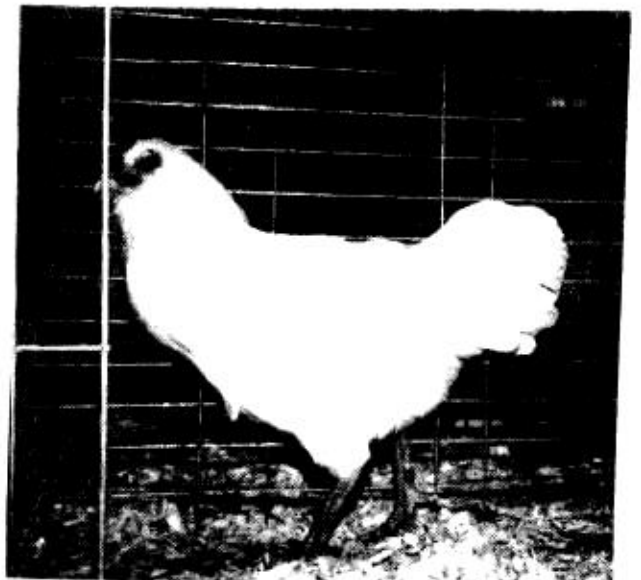
Black bantam pullet



Buff bantam hen



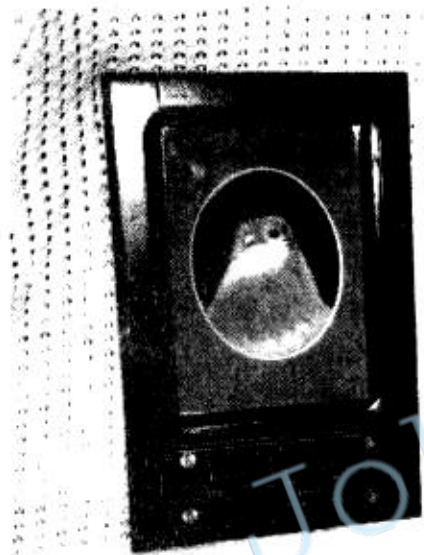
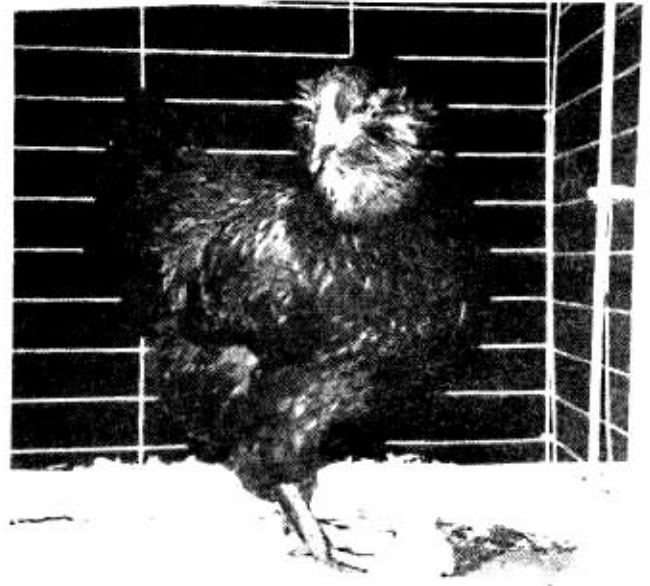
Blue wheaten bantam cockerel



White large fowl cockerel



Bruce Hutchinson award



my plaque



Ltr - Don Coble, Mike Guebert, John Blehm, Charles Simpson, Jerry Segler, Frank, Arne Schmidt + CJ Matthews.



Ltr - Jerry Segler, Arne Schmidt, CJ Matthews, Bernard Callings + Cliff Skinsbury



Bernard Keelogy + John Blehm

REFLECTIONS FROM THE BIG SKY COUNTRY

Well, the Ameraucana Breeders Club National Show for 1993 is over - even the shouting. Somehow I thought it would be easy to write about it - but - believe it or not this is my eleventh attempt to put into writing the thoughts and feeling - and the memories --- what neat memories!!

The whole weekend was rather wet and cool but it didn't dampen the spirits of the members. May Lou's car was not user friendly after the long haul to the show room so after she got her traveling companions safe in their show cages she called me at the motel.

By the time I got there Jerry Segler had shown up so the three of us went to dinner and then back to the show room. Several other members were there by then..Mike Gilbert and his family, John Blehm, Matt Berg, Don Cable, CJ Matthews, Arne & Bev Schmidt, Cliff & Dora Ann Ikenberry. Very much missing was Jeanne Trent. (We (ML, JS & I) headed to the motel shortly after Russ Carlson and I decided on a time for my test.

Saturday morning Mary Lou and I were at the showroom fairly early so she could coach her feathered friends on how to impress the judge. Bernard Kellogg had set up the Club photo display and was busy with his smooth necked friends. He stopped long enough to give me one of his famous hugs and let me know Rande Buske was pulling double duty at work. (Rande, you were missed.)

The North Iowa Poultry Association members are a great group and the showroom was large enough so the cages could be single decked with wide aisles. They had furnished us with a club table and cages for our club champions were in front. We were able to hold the club meeting in a meeting room at the showroom.

Reports of the show and minutes of the meeting are in this newsletter.

After my test I was able to relax and enjoy being around the club members. Mike Gilbert had a good turn out for the Trivia Test. I didn't take the test..I had answered enough questions to last me awhile. Mike's wife, Mary, and John Blehm's wife, Kathy, supplied the club with refreshments after the meeting. I don't know if I ever got around to telling them "THANKS".

At the end of the club meeting Pres. Don Cable explained that the club usually honors a member of the club with a special plaque for special recognition or appreciation of work done for the club. At this point he asked Mary Lou to come forward. I thought the club was honoring her for a job well done as Central DD. Imagine my surprise when she turned around and asked me to come up front. I received a beautiful plaque (don't know if the photo will reproduce but I'll try). Thru tears and lump in my throat I tried to read the inscription out loud for the club and after saying my much appreciated thanks started to go back to my chair when the prez told me to wait a minute there was something else for me and handed me a large gift wrapped package. I removed the paper and almost fell over when I saw what was inside...a framed collection of poultry cards. Hard to describe. After my first cry of surprise my thought was "How do I get this gorgeous collection back to Great Falls in one piece?" I tried to convince Don he should bring it to me but he insisted he didn't want to get stuck in Montana thru the winter and was heading south. I had several members offer to "store it" (on their wall) for me for an indefinite time (hoping I would forget about it). I opted to find a shipper before I left Mason City.

Then Don presented Mike Gilbert with the two original oils of the Ameraucanas used in the APA Standard. I think Mike was as overwhelmed as I was.

For those interested in my collection - I have written to Montreal for more information. Hopefully I can give you an update in the next ABC newsletter. I'll try to print a picture in this newsletter but black & white does not do it justice. And - yes - it did arrive safely and is on my office wall at home.

As many photos as I took would you believe that we failed to get a picture of all of us together? When we all get together there is so much going on and things happen so fast that I forget important photos. (Sorry, Bernard, I'll send you what I did get for the club bulletin board.)

Reflections (continued)

Sunday morning we were at the showroom fairly early for cooping out. Mary Lou spent a lot of time in the rain trying to get her pumpkin to turn into a coach. She finally ended up getting a new battery. She was lucky to get home as safely as she did. I stayed in Mason City 'til Monday morning for a couple of reasons...Mary Lou was the major one. If she needed help along the road I wanted her to be able to contact me. She arrived home safe by the grace of God. I had a chance to do some visiting with Cliff and Dora Ann Ikenberry for awhile before they left. What a delightful couple. I gave Dora Ann a neat crochet pattern and Cliff told me about a disease that has hit the maple trees in their area.

Oh, the second reason I stayed in Mason City was so I could ship my precious before I left for Minneapolis. (That is another story...some day I'll tell you about it.)

Monday morning after I got my precious to the shipper I goofed off....checked out a beautiful park in Mason City. Watched some people fishing and spent my time checking out greenhouses all the way to Minneapolis. A very rare treat for me to goof off and in greenhouses. What pure joy for me.

My flight home on Tuesday morning was uneventful. It didn't take long after my flight landed for reality to take effect. I still have my pictures and memories of the good times.

Who knows...maybe someday I can go to another ABC National. Maybe if I promise to be a very good girl...what do you think?



Berg receives two state fair championships

Matt Berg of West Salem captured a pair of championships in junior poultry competition at the 1993 Wisconsin State Fair. Berg is shown here with Bill Krueger, president of the Wisconsin International Poultry Club and State Fairest of the Fair Sue Adams.

Best A.O.C.C.L. Bantam-Wheaten
Cockerel