

# Ameraucana



# Bulletin

SUMMER 2001

VOL XX1 #2

AMERAUCANA BREEDERS CLUB 6442 CHESTNUT AVE., ORANGEVALE, CA 95662

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Two of our favorite people, Ron and Rene Klemmedson, seen here at our National Meet in Hutchinson, Minnesota last October, were recently married. The Klemmedson's will make their home in Blair, Wisconsin, along with several varieties of pigeons and their Ameraucana bantams.

Ron is an ABC Charter Member, Central District Director and is currently working with the Golden Quail variety. Rene is a successful bantam breeder and exhibitor in her own right, having won the Champion Ameraucana at our National Meet in 1999 with "Charley", a Wheaten cockerel.

This dynamic duo are two of the nicest folks you'll ever want to meet- typical ABC members!

# Welcome New Members!

Randy Bradbury 2222 S Hwy 89, Brigham City, UT 84302

Janie Carle Box212, Mayfield, NY 12117

Edwin Fretz, 6355 E Urban Lane, Floral City, FL 34436

Gary Gates 1948 W Devonshire St., Mesa, AZ 85201

Lyne Guay 351 Wexford, Shannon 9C, GNA4NO, Quebec, Canada

Diana Lauck Box131, Crestline, KS 66728

Charles Markham Box 198, TyTy, GA 31795

Ellen Neilley 169 Old Country Road S., Frankestown, NH 03043

Louis Sandersfield 2265 S Ave., Williamsburg, IA 52361

Dwayne Smith 16148 Hamlin, Van Nuys, CA 91406

Angela Stanley 777 Bluegrass Rd., Conway, MO

Randy & Christian Wessman Box 326, Cashmere, WA 98815

AND welcome back Jay Horn 9510 Carmel Rd., Atascadero, CA 93422

## Financial Report

### INCOME

Balance received from John Blehm, 1/8/01	\$700.85
Dues, directories and donations	509.50
ABC patches	<u>40.00</u>
Total	\$1250.35

### EXPENDITURES

Printing	\$227.73
Office supplies	80.70
Awards	138.15
Poultry Press ad	65.00
Postage	112.81
Web site fee through 2010	189.00
ABC patches	<u>40.00</u>
Total	\$853.39

BALANCE ON HAND 6/1/01	<u>\$396.96</u>
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Respectfully submitted, Don Cable, ABC Secretary/Treasurer





## *From the Hills of Western Wisconsin*

*With Mike Gilbert*

By the time this is read our hatching season will be over, and thanks to John Blehm, our line of large fowl Brown Red Ameraucanas has a new lease on life. A couple of years ago we failed to keep our own advice and kept only one male for breeding in this variety. He was far superior to any other male we had produced in the LF Brown reds, with excellent type and a "gentle giant" temperament. We would build the entire line around him - or so we thought. Unfortunately he failed to father a single chick for two years running, bringing our work on this variety to a skidding halt.

As luck would have it, the 2001 breeding season found us with two "sorta" Brown Red two year old hens and two Birchen pullets left to work with, along with the cockerel furnished by John, who brought him along to the national meet last fall. This male is not a Brown Red, but is one out of John's blacks that developed a fair amount of lemon color in his hackles. I would rather have obtained one with red instead of yellow in the hackles, but none was to be found. This male is extremely nice in all other respects however, including size and temperament, albeit not a show bird due to his color fault.

The yellowish hackle feathers tell us he carries one gene for the sex-linked gene Silver, and one for Gold. Remember genes are inherited in pairs, one each from the mother and father. The exception is for genes carried on the single sex-link chromosome; in all birds the males inherit two sex-linked chromosomes and the female but one. Since the Silver / Gold allele is found on this chromosome, all female chickens have either Silver or Gold, but cannot have both. Whichever it is, their sire is responsible. Males, on the other hand, with two sex-link chromosomes, can be pure for the dominant Silver gene (S), pure for the recessive Gold gene (s), or inherit one of each in which case they are heterozygous with respect to this particular gene. All chickens without exception have one or both of these as part of their genotype, and this factor is the primary difference between such corresponding varieties as columbian and buff columbian, silver and light brown, and birchen and brown red to name just a few examples.

Just as an aside, the fact that roosters determine whether their female offspring will be "Silver" or "Gold" may be responsible for the old claim that males are more responsible for color and females for type in their offspring. This is almost pure rubbish, since there are many other factors that determine color and type as well. Remember, even solid white or black birds do carry Silver and/or Gold. I do believe that white birds carrying Silver instead of Gold will be less susceptible to the common fault of brassiness, but have not done enough experimentation to prove it.

Robin, let us know how those recessive whites out of the Brown Red bantams turn out, OK? If brassiness is not a problem this theory will be disproven. We digress.



At any rate, John's rooster and our female breeders are on track to produce about 50 chicks this season, an ample supply in which to select progeny with the color traits necessary to put us "back in business" with the large Brown Reds. We will need a season or two to segregate out the proper color pattern, such as breast lacing, etc. About half these chicks however, will be either pure Birchin (females and males from the Birchen pullet breeders), or impure male Birchins (from all four females). If anyone is interested in working with the Birchen pattern in an attempt to have them recognized by the Standard, this is a great opportunity. We will ship started chicks when they are six or more weeks old, or they can be picked up at the farm. We will not have any brown Reds to offer for about two years, and only then if present plans come to fruition.

Until next time - Mike Gilbert

## Breeder's Directory

President Mike Gilbert is updating the Breeder's Directory that proved to be so timely and popular this past year. If you have address or other changes or wish to be either added or deleted from the forthcoming issue, you will need to contact Mike and make your wishes known, as he is putting this together this summer. The selling price will remain the same, that is \$3. for ABC members and \$5. non-members. The club receives very little from these directories after printing and mailing costs and is intended as a service rather than a fund-raiser. You may contact Mike at:

W5171 Baker Road, Holmen, WI 54636  
(608) 857-3386 [ameraucana@aol.com](mailto:ameraucana@aol.com)

## ABC Patches

We still have ABC club patches available for only \$7. each. The attractive 4" patch displaying the ABC logo is in five colors. The embroidered patch is suitable for your jacket, cap, or especially on your showcoat. They are available from your club secretary or Rene Klemmedson at:

N 27113, U.S. Hwy 53, Blair, WI 54616 (608) 525-7353

### FRANK AND ERNEST

By Bob Thaves







# Out West

Notes from your Secretary

My hope is that you folks have had a successful hatching season with a number of potential winners for the fall and winter shows. My incubator is turned off for the year as the summer heat here in the Sacramento Valley is just too rough on chicks to hatch much beyond Memorial Day.

The next issue of the bulletin will be our annual membership issue containing the names and the addresses of all of our club members. If you have a name or address change from what is currently listed, please do not put off letting me know - time has a way of getting away from us.

Last October while attending our national meet in Minnesota, I was struck by what Mike Gilbert said following the placing of awards when it was learned that he had won champion Ameraucana on a fine, white bantam pullet. It was something to the effect that any number of birds present could have become champion. If you know Mike, this was not some display of false modesty and he began to tick off the various birds and their owners that he had observed there in the showroom that he felt were equally deserving of the award that he had just won.

On the long drive back to California an idea began to form in my mind that Mike's remarks had been responsible for creating. Nobody knows the Ameraucana breed like Mike Gilbert, so why not put that knowledge, experience and integrity to work for the betterment of the breed and the club by offering an award to be presented at our national meet for excellence in breeding to be chosen by Mike. This would be an award presented each year to a member who had made a significant contribution in breeding Ameraucanas - large fowl, bantams, or both. The person chosen need not be present at our national meet the year it was awarded and would be kept by the recipient. It would be by, of and for Ameraucana breeders - the Ameraucana Breeder's Award.

It was easier to create the award than it was to convince Mike that he should be the one to select each year's recipient, and it was not my cleverly honed arguments, but rather persistent badgering that in the end convinced him to take the assignment and get me off his back. So there it is, and I will be glad to fund it each year as a part of my contribution to our national meet awards.

Speaking of our national meet and awards, if you would like to offer an award of any kind for this year's national meet, I am sure that Scott Eutsler would be glad to hear from you in this respect. His Southeastern District Report on a following page, provides details for those planning to attend this event including lodging, entertainment and a request for the number and type of Ameraucanas that you intend to exhibit. Please act on this soon so that we can list the awards in the next issue of the bulletin, ahead of the show date.

In addition to the Ameraucana Breeder's Award, I will offer \$25. for champion Ameraucana bantam, \$20. for reserve champion and \$5. for the best bantam by a senior of Swedish descent from Blair, WI.



## **Southeastern District Report**

**Scott Eutsler, Director, 88 Dobyns Church Rd., Stuart, VA 24171 (549) 694-4910**

Greetings from wonderfully soggy Virginia! I can hardly believe that after talking about it and planning for it for three years, the 2001 National is now only 5 months away. So far the response has been great and we should see record numbers of birds this year. I really need to get a fairly concrete idea of total numbers so I can reserve the appropriate number of coops. The show attracts nearly 2000 birds and they have to turn exhibitors away every year. I do not want to have any bearded birds turned away so please get me your wish list for coop space. I do not need specifics only numbers of large fowl or bantams. Call or e-mail or fax to the address etc. listed below ASAP please.

I have some information to convey concerning lodging: the official Blue Ridge Poultry Club Motel is the Super 8, 1-(540) 236-5127. Rates are \$43.86 for all rooms and if you wish to stay here you should reserve soon.

We still have some space available for adventurous folks at Spirithaven Farm. If you like to camp we have plenty of room. We have some "rustic" space (under roof but without facilities) and if you think this is something you would like please call me and let us know what you need. It's FREE.

As I hope you have heard we are having a real Southern Shindig at the farm after the show on Saturday night. We live in Stuart, VA, about an hour's drive from Galax. We hope that all of the exhibitors will come and celebrate with us.

If you would like to stay close to us there are two options. The Virginian Motel is in Stuart on route 58. They have 23 rooms available for \$40. plus tax and up. They will give us a discount if we reserve a block of 10 or more rooms, so if you call there, please tell them you are with the ABC and mention my name. The other option is the Chocolate Moose, also on route 58. This is a bed and breakfast with just three rooms available at \$65. per night and recommend you register early. The phone number is (540) 694-3745. If anyone has special needs, please let me know. There are other lodging options in Galax and Stuart if anyone would care for this.

The date of the show is Saturday, October 27, in Galax, Virginia. The site is the Ruritan Club on RT 89. I will include a map in my next report. You can coop in on Friday and Kay and I will be there to assist with any of your needs. Your birds should be Pullorum tested prior to entering Virginia but we can help with this if necessary. Please find us prior to checking in with the club.

Thanks to everyone who has sponsored a special- we still have categories available for sponsorship, so please contact me for details.

In closing I would once again like to cordially invite all Ameraucana people to show and celebrate with us at this year's National. We trust it will be one to remember.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Eutsler

Ed. note: Scott's e-mail address is tucherth@swva.net

## Central District Report

Ron Klemmedson, Director, N 27113, US Hwy 53, Blair, WI 54616 (608) 525-7353

This time of year before the big show season begins in September, finds me with little to report. If you will allow me a personal note, Rene and I were recently married. This is the culmination of a thirty year friendship and years of mutual interest in small animals and bird fancies.

We are raising a crop of 34 Ameraucana bantams. For the past few months we have been debating adding one more breed of bantams or one more breed of pigeons. We both felt that the Ameraucanas were all one could ask for in a bantam, hence we added one more breed of pigeons. They are kasseler Tumblers, an old German breed. We now have four breeds all classified as rare

We are already planning our trip to Galax, Va for the National in October. Be assured that Scott and Kay will roll out the red carpet- ably assisted by Scott's Mom, Jeanne Don't miss it!

We are trying out the ABA seamless bands this year and find they must be put on at 8 -9 weeks. We also plan to vaccinate for Laryngo-Tracheitis for the first time prior to the show season.

One final note- I would appreciate any news from Central District members. I need material for reports- have as yet never received any. If you find my ramblings less than newsworthy- send me something.

We still have the beautiful ABC Patch available at \$7. Send check made out to Rene Klemmedson at the address listed above.



ABC junior members Adam and Maranda Wozney of Blair, Wisconsin holding their Golden Quail chicks hatched by Mike Gilbert from eggs from Ron and Rene Klemmedson- a real community effort!



## Eastern District Report

by Neil Townsend, 22769 Steen Hill, Cochran, PA 16314 (814) 425-331

Soon after the last bulletin came out our oldest son, Eric, hit a tree headon. He fractured his femur near the hip. So between 3 ambulance rides + 1 Life Flight Helicopter ride and 23 days in an Erie, PA hospital, we got him home. I had surgery on my right foot and am not getting along too well on crutches. The surgery was in Pittsburgh and I had to miss many shows. That's life!

To date we have 40 Ameraucanas hatched - mostly bantams in Golden Quail and Buff. In large fowl we have Whites and Silvers but Wheatens laid the best. The Brown Red bantams forgot to set their clock! We feed the Ameraucanas a 22% gamebird breeder pellet in rabbit feeders with screen bottoms and lids on them for no waste. I have been using rabbit feeders since 1966 and it works well. If anyone is interested, send me an e-mail at loudandproud@csonline.net and I will forward the information. We live one mile outside of Cochran, PA. a town of only 1174 people. The now famous "Poker Run" was held in April with over 6,400 4 wheelers in town. Some riders came from Japan, bought new 4 wheelers, ran the race, then auctioned them off!

Hope everyone has had a great hatch of young birds for the big Ameraucana National Meet! Till next time- Neil Townsend.

PS. Total snow for the winter was 149.6 inches.

## Western District Report

Koralyn Kibbee, Director, 9069 Wooden Shoe, Manhattan, MT 59741 (406) 284-6978

I finally plugged in our incubator- wasn't going to, as we had had such an awful luck year. The shells on my Ameraucanas are so hard and we are so dry. The chicks never turned and would die at about 18 - 19 days and we lost dozens. We sent some eggs to Dr. Bishop at Montana State University. He upped the temperature by one degree and the humidity and hatched some last May. I'll send some again this spring.

We made the Utah show and met a new member who commented on our good bulletin. Our bulletin is the lifeline of our club and is most important! Montana shows are as follows:

Galatin County Fair, Bozeman. APA approved, Judge: Jim Adkins, July 18-21 Call (406) 222-6952 or call the fair office at (406) 582-3270

Montana State Fair, Great Falls. APA & ABA approved. Judge: Jim Adkins, Show 1, Scott Adams, Show 2. Aug. 2&3. Call Vicky at (406) 866-3548 or Jeannette Frank at (406) 761-5853. These shows will be Western District Meet and Montana State Meet of the Ameraucana Breeders Club.

Montana Fair, Billings. Two shows on the same day, Aug. 16, both sanctioned. Judges: Merelyn Novat (NM) and Jeannette Frank (MT). Contact Jamie Rensmon, Box 2514, Billings, MT 59103 or call (406) 256-7295. Both are APA/ABA Youth Program shows.



## South Central Report

Robbie Lindsey, Director, 318 Whispering Oaks, Burnet, TX 78611 (512) 75

Two show reports: the Heartland Classic. Cape Girardeau, MO. The Lindsey large fowl were the only Ameraucanas in the AOSB class and were beaten by a Sumatra. There were two bantams shown by a former club member. I highly recommend this show for the friendly and helpful people great raffle, excellent facilities and abundance of motels and restaurants in town.

The Heart of America Bantam Club 50th anniversary spring show in Ottawa, KS. Two exhibitors of large Ameraucanas, one a junior exhibitor who won the class and reserve large with a Sumatra. My birds all had broken and missing feathers, and "just came along for the ride." There was no champion row, (it matters to me), but the club members were nice and had about 500 years collective poultry experience to talk about. If you are pulling any kind of trailer, be prepared to shell out about \$20. to the Kansas Turnpike.

SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT MEET: September 29, 2001, in Gainesville, TX. For a show catalog, contact Monty Fitzgerald, 1500 C.R. 1340. Chico, TX 76431 (940) 644-5622. The Smiths and I will bring lots of competition And now some friendly advice for CHICK SHIPPERS: when you know it will be a two day trip, don't hold over any early hatched chicks. They will be too weak to learn to eat and drink and will die slowly- the younger chicks will do just fine. That belly full of egg yolk is vital to their survival. Next report: Special Meet, Idabel, Oklahoma, June 2.

## Southwestern District Report

Teresia Renwick, 13333 Quarterhorse Dr., Grass Valley, CA 95949 (530) 268-2488

It's that time of year again...incubators humming, chicks peeping, brooder lamps glowing in the night, feed store owners smiling. Here in California, it's a very exciting time. With last year's show season behind us, folks are starting to gear up for the fall shows. They are checking their stock to see who to keep and who to cull, and closely examining their young birds to see if they have any potential show champions. Dreaming, hoping, waiting. This is the summer of the poultry fancier. I hope everyone is having a good hatch.

Our District Meet was at the Fresno Show on February 24-25th. It was very successful. We had eight members showing a large amount of beautiful birds. The best of breed bantam Ameraucana was a white cockerel shown by a new member- Dwayne Smith from Van Nuys. Congratulations Dwayne, keep up the good work and welcome to the club. The best of breed large Ameraucana was my white pullet. Best bantam by a junior was won by Ella Trimble on a Blue Wheaten hen. Ella received a nice trophy for her win, which was generously donated by Don Cable. We had our display set up, with a nest of blue eggs that attracted many passers-by. We gained a few members and had a fun time.

I hope everyone has a great summer, with lots of good birds in their brooders. Until next time,

Teresia Renwick

# The Mail Box

Letters and E-mail from our Members



Mr. Cable,

Thank you for supporting our juniors. This kind of support keeps the juniors interested and I feel, builds character by having them take care of their birds to a certain standard. Thank you again.

Beth Trimble, Grass Valley, CA

My pleasure, Beth. Give my regards to Ella and "Princess Goldie."

Hi Don,

Thank you for mailing my bulletin in an envelope- mine used to come more or less shredded. And you did a real good job- glad to have you back in harness!

Mary Lou Phelps, Springfield, MO

Thanks for the kind words and the copy of Frank Gary's letter. If you're still getting Poultry Press, parts of the letter will be in my monthly ABC column- probably the July issue.

Hi Mike and Don,

Just wanted you to know that I was at the Bloomsburg Show and my black hen lost to a Sumatra for champion AOSB by a feather. Believe it or not, after three very close examinations by judge Porr of both birds, he found a miniscule gray spot on one of my hen's one tail feather. He told me he really wanted to give the award to my hen but could not with the gray spot. So I learned to closely examine those feathers before a show. Looking forward to seeing you in Virginia in the fall. Well. happy hatching to you both.

Larry Clionsky, Grantville, PA

Thanks for your e-mail, Larry, and permission to use it in the bulletin. That was a hard knock, but I suppose the tough lessons are the ones we learn from best. Hang in there.

For Sale (cheep): One Golden Quail bantam rooster, 200 hatch, used successfully for 2001 chicks. Good red earlobes and a tame disposition, but coloring not great. Also one old trio of buff bantams-rooster '99 hatch, proven breeder. Females hatched '99 or prior, but still somewhat productive. This would make a good start in buff bantams for someone not looking for a lot of eggs the first year. Contact Mike Gilbert at (608) 857-3386 or e-mail [ameraucana@aol.com](mailto:ameraucana@aol.com)