

AMERAUCANA BREEDERS CLUB BULLETIN

November, 2000 **Vol. XX #4**

Ameraucana Breeders Club, 4599 Lange, Birch Run, MI 48415

Yearly Membership Dues are \$10.00 / Family, \$7.50 / Individual and \$5.00 / Junior.

Members receive quarterly Bulletins & are eligible for awards offered by the club.

New Members also receive a ABC Handbook. www.ameraucana.org

President.....Mike Gilbert, Holmen, WI
ameraucana@aol.com (608) 857-3386
Director/central.....Ron Klemmedson, Blair, WI
ambams4u@aol.com (608) 525-7353
Director/southern....Scott Eutsler, Stuart, VA
tucherth@swva.net (549) 694-5910

Secretary/Treasurer...John W. Blehm, Birch Run, MI
johnblehm@wknx.com (517) 777-9683
Director/eastern.....Neil Townsend, Cochranton, PA
(814) 425-3313
Director/western.....Koralyn Kibbee, Manhattan, MT
(406) 284-6978

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

- Claude & Linda Mecham family, PO Box 70, Firth, ID 83236
(208) 346-6122 work (208) 346-6050
- Sandy Kavanaugh, 216 Meadowbrook, Richmond, KY 40475 (859) 369-7244
- Paula Kellermann, 358 Hwy 10 West, Livingston, MT 59047 (406) 222-6952
- Debra Janes Blake, 31903 SE Bluff, Gresham, OR 97080
(503) 663-3330 djblake@teleport.com
- Jamey & Sherry Weaver family, 494 McCollum, Ellijay, GA 30540 (706) 635-2215
- Lucie Cole Bridges, PO Box 1131, Calhoun, GA 30703
(706) 602-1358 labluv98@aol.com
- Wayne Gritter, 7548 W. Ivy Lane, New Palestine, IN 46163
(317) 861-5503 wjgritter@aol.com
- Dale Onsager family, W11662 Knutson, Blair, WI 54616
- Sara Leisgang (jr. member), 6404 Bollinger, San Jose, CA 95129
- Mary Betz, 8795 Cranford, Sun Valley, CA 91352-1724
- Jarad Thomson (jr. Member), 6741 Hohenbeck Hwy, Manitou Beach, MI 49253
(517) 467-4842
- Beth Collier, 670 White Oak Flat, Charlotte, TN 37036
(615) 789-3126 hbecollier@aol.com
- Sandra Harrison, 1582 E. 2250 S., Vernal, UT 84078 (435) 789-1498
- Nathan Eklund (jr. member), 1213 Shumay, Adrian, MI 49221-8514 (???) 263-3863
- Kim Rauber, 36 Cardigan, Harrison, AR 72601-9003
(870) 427-2289 coedwig@pyatt.net
- Levi L. Huffman, 1830 S. 49th, Kansas City, KS 66106-2320 (913) 287-1619
- Brian H. Seefeld, 11299 Lincoln, Athens, WI 54411 (715) 675-7164
- Ed Luke, 5259 Lakewood, Duluth, MN 55804

Also welcome back to:

John Bashaw family, 1785 Bush Valley, LaCrescent, MN 55947
Diane & Emily Gilpin, 321 2ND St. W., Jordan, MN 55452 (952) 492-2573
Jerry Schimelpfenig, 7748 130th, Glencoe, MN 55336 (320) 864-4682
Steve Klotz, Rt, 1m Box 89, Utica, MN 55979 (507) 932-4922

"Annual dues...shall be payable on January 1st for each...year".

If the address label on the envelope has two zeros in parentheses (00) your dues are not paid for 2001. Please don't hesitate to get a check in the mail.

As of 11/24/00 we have 42 paid ABC memberships paid for 2001.

Please Let me know of any e-mail or street address changes and corrections.

Treasurers Report

8/18/00 - 11/24/00

ABC Checking Account #16980-10

Frankenmuth Credit Union, 485 N. Main, Frankenmuth, MI

<u>Starting Balance,</u>	<u>\$632.36</u>
Income - Membership Dues & Donations,	\$288.50
Income - Handbook Sales,	\$5.00
Income - Silent Auction,	\$36.00
Income - Designated for Awards,	\$50.00
<u>Subtotal,</u>	<u>\$1,011.86</u>
Expense - Postage,	\$0.00
Expense - Supplies & Printing,	\$78.16
Expense - Cash Awards for National Meet	\$175.00
Expense - APA Web Site Link Annual Fee	\$0.00
Expense - Flowers for funeral	\$25.00
<u>Balance as of 11/24/00</u>	<u>\$733.70</u>



Merry CHRISTmas
& Happy 2001!

Respectfully Submitted, John W. Blehm, Secretary/Treasurer

ELECTION RESULTS

(for this club, not the U.S. President)

These are the results.

President: Mike Gilbert

Secretary/Treasurer: Don Cable

Central Director: Ron Klemmedson

Eastern Director: Neil Townsend

Southern Director: Scott Eustler

Western Director: Teresa Renwick

Thanks again to Daniel Pasche for serving as our Election Commissioner.

CLUB NOTES

New club officers will take office on 1/1/01.

HELP! Christe Nass has joined the club, but I still can't find an address for her. If you can help with any information about her please contact me.

The deadline to submit articles & ads for the next bulletin is February 15th. Starting January 1st send all club correspondences to Secretary/Treasurer elect Don Cable. Don's address is: 6442 Chestnut, Orangevale, CA 95662 ambantams@aol.com

Thanks to Don Cable for accepting the responsibilities again (he was the first club Sec.).

I have enjoyed this Secretary/Treasurer position over the past several years. The club has grown, the treasury is in good shape, the quality of Ameraucanas is better than ever, and we are educating the public about Ameraucanas especially thru the website and e-mail. The Lord has blessed us and continues to. Second to Him I thank Mike Gilbert for the growth and progress. As ABC President and a friend he has made it possible. Advertising in this Bulletin is FREE to all members.

Some of the filler ads and photos in this Bulletin are borrowed from the Poultry Press. Are your dues paid for 2001?

We have extra copies of our ABC handbook for \$6 each, including shipping. Congratulations and thanks to Jim Fegan and Dawn Wozney. They were the high bidders for the two original ABC Handbooks that were auctioned off at the National meet. As I went thru the show reports, I see that Jeoff Stevens did a lot of winning with his LF blacks. If you see him, congratulate him and try to get him back into the club.

ABC BREEDERS DIRECTORY

Both members and non-members have inquired about sources to buy Ameraucanas. We know the BIG hatcheries are usually NOT a good place to look. Mike Gilbert has put together an ABC Breeders Directory to help with this problem. The ABC Breeders Directory, is available for \$5 to non-members and \$2 to club members thru our club Secretary. Please keep Mike up-to-date on the varieties you have and if you are willing to sell chicks, ship chicks, sell adult stock, etc.

GET PATCHED IN 2000

Our club patches are now available. Everyone at Hutch seemed to be quite pleased with the outcome. So show off your breed and purchase a patch for \$7 this includes postage. They can be ordered from John Blehm or myself at N 27113 HWY 53, Blair WI. 54616 Wishing you all a very happy holiday season.

Rene Koch

APA Yearbook Ad

Do you think members of the ABC would be interested in purchasing a page or two in the 2001 APA yearbook? It would cost each member \$12 for a square. There are 6 squares on a page plus the club's title and logo at the top that takes up a quarter of a page and the APA supplies for free. I don't know how this is usually handled, please let me know. The deadline to submit materials is February 1st, 2001.

Teresa Renwick

Please send your check and ad copy to John Blehm or Don Cable, after January 1st. We already have a few members committed to this.

ABA Yearbook Ad

Last year some of us pooled together to have a club page in the ABA Yearbook (p. 380). The cost is \$14 each for 6 members and the deadline is March 1, 2001. Again send your check and ad info to me or Don, if you are interested. Last year I did the ad layout and sent camera ready artwork in, so you don't need to have anything fancy to start with.

ARTICLES & REPORTS

AMERAUCANA FORUM

by Mike Gilbert

This is the first installment of what is planned to be a regular monthly column featuring the Ameraucana breed and the Ameraucana Breeders Club (ABC) members. For those readers who may be seeking more information in less time let me refer you, first of all, to the Standards published by the American Bantam Association and by the American Poultry Association. Secondly, for those with internet access, check out our website at www.ameraucana.org, where some breed information, photographs, bios of club officers, and membership information may be found. If "Ameraucana" is found difficult to spell, as many apparently do find, just click on the link to ABC from the APA website.

The ABC currently serves approximately 120 paid members. More than 20 of these fanciers attended our national meet held October 28 - 29, 2000, at Hutchinson, Minnesota. The Minnesota State Poultry Association hosted this year's ABC national meet, and their warm hospitality is appreciated by all those who attended. We were told the 58 large fowl Ameraucanas on display outnumbered the large fowl Plymouth Rocks; the Rock Club was holding their national meet at the same show.

The quality of the large Am's shown was evident from the judging results - five large blacks on champion row. They included best AOSB and champion large fowl trio of the entire show shown by Paul & Angela Smith of Texas and reserve AOSB on a nice cockerel by John Blehm of Michigan. No fluke, folks; both these birds had won in previous shows this year. Paul's pullet took reserve champ large fowl at the Texas State Fair. The Smiths had best Ameraucana large fowl display on their blacks (110 points) as well. Beside the blacks, some nice individual large Am's were shown in blue, white, buff, silver, wheaten, and blue-wheaten. Only the brown-red variety was not represented at this year's national in large fowl.

Moving on to bantams, the national meet brought out 110 entries for the open show, with all eight standard-recognized varieties represented plus two non-standard varieties, i.e., golden quail and barred. We are happy to report that this time no "mutts", otherwise known as "easter egg chickens," were entered. This indicates, in my opinion at least, that our educational efforts - ongoing for the past 20 years - are taking root. Bantam awards included best display (178 points) on some exceptional whites shown by Rande Buske of Hillsboro, Wisconsin. Best trio went to the Pasche's of Minnesota on wheatens. Top golden quail was a cock by Klemmedson and Koch of Blair, Wisconsin, while reserve golden quail was a pullet by Milton Solberg of Lanesboro, MN. The interesting pair of barreds were shown by Jerry Schimelpfenig of Glencoe, MN, who also had the sole entry in blue, a very nice but slightly out-of-condition hen. Top entry in brown-red bantams was a cockerel raised by the Robert Walchak family of Holmen, WI, while reserve brown-red was a cock shown by John Bashaw of LaCrescent, MN. Reserve white bantam was a beautiful cockerel by Rande Buske. Best white and reserve AOCCL, according to judge John Thomforde, went to the Gilbert family of Holmen, Wisconsin, on a pullet. John Blehm showed BV silver bantam, a cockerel, while the Gilberts had RV silver, a pullet. The Gilberts were also awarded best and reserve bantams in the wheaten, blue-wheaten, buff, and black varieties.

Reserve Ameraucana bantam overall went to the BV wheaten pullet, but at least three wheaten males, the top white cockerel, and one or two of the blacks were equally or more deserving in my opinion.

In addition to the 110 bantam entries in the open show, 13 bantams by four exhibitors were on display in the junior portion of the show. Emily Gilpin, Seth Onsager, Jason Stievea, and Adam Wozney combined to show a real nice group of golden quail, brown-red, buff and white bantams, and trophies were awarded to the best golden quail and brown-red. Congratulations to all the junior exhibitors.

The ABC annual meeting was well attended by the members present, and a variety of issues were discussed. The new club logo/arm patch was presented, development of an ABC youth program and appointment of a national youth director was discussed, and club policy for placing club meets was explained. Following presentation of the numerous cash, plaque, trophy, and rosette awards outgoing secretary-treasurer (and continuing webmeister) John Blehm was presented with a token of appreciation for his four years of service "above and beyond the call of duty." Recently elected incoming secretary-treasurer Don Cable (California) was introduced and will assume his duties on January 21st, 2001. Don will write many of these Ameraucana Forum columns in the future. Coming up next time: How to LOSE with Ameraucanas that are superior to their competition in type, color pattern, condition, and size. Until then, this is Mike Gilbert, president, Ameraucana Breeders Club.

Central District Report

by Ron Klemmedson Director

The National at Hutchinson, MN was all that we expected--and then some. The absence of Scott & Kay Eutsler and Neil & Donna Townsend was offset by the appearance of Bernard (Pop) Kellogg and our new secretary Don Cable, accompanied by his wife Ruby. This resulted in having four of the five charter members present. The other two are Mike Gilbert and this writer. Only Jerry Segler was absent. Paul and Angela Smith were there all the way from Texas-with young son Matthew. They tell me that they plan to go to the next year's national in Virginia. One highlight of our meeting was the presentation of a plaque to the well-deserving person of John Blehm, our outgoing sec'y. We should all personally thank him for his service to the club. I must say again-we have a great breed of poultry and we have a great membership. Ameraucana folks are a great bunch, friendly and outgoing. They are gregarious and quite ready to enjoy a good meal. Speaking of bunches- The Blair, WI. Bunch was there in force. The "old geezer" sez "the best thing you can win at a chicken show is a new friend"

FRANK & ERNEST



ECHOES OF THE NATIONAL MEET

by Don Cable

Having not attended our national meet for several years, I was genuinely impressed by the quality and numbers of Ameraucanas exhibited at Hutchinson, Minnesota the last weekend in October. There were over one hundred bantams and the large fowl classes, especially black, were outstanding. Paul and Angela Smith with baby in tow, were up all the way from Gainesville, Texas with their outstanding blacks and took the lion's share of the top awards in large birds.

President Mike Gilbert had Champion Ameraucana on a fine white bantam pullet which now resides in California. A breakdown of the classes and awards are elsewhere in the bulletin.

We had four of the five charter members present including Mike Gilbert, Ron Klemmedson, Bernard "Pop" Kellogg and myself and a substantial turnout of other club members, many of which I met for the first time. It was good to spend time with secretary John Blehm, who can really put away the grub at a local fish fry, Randy Buske with his good white bantams and Arne Schmidt with his big blacks. I met for the first time Jim (Lorpman) Fegan, Dan Pasche, Jerry Schimelfenig with his interesting barred bantams and Paul and Angela Smith, mentioned before, who drove up from Texas with their baby boy. I finally got together with Ron Klemmedson after some twenty years of membership in the club and Rene Koch, who had last year's Champion Ameraucana. They loaded me up with goodies from the Cheesehead State along with a fine trio of Golden Quail bantams, company for the Whites from Mike Gilbert. The Saturday night dinner at a local German restaurant was first rate, topped off with a bit of apple-flavored schnapps- ach himmel, was ist los? Der hundert! At any rate, all seemed to have a good time at the dinner, the meet and the show. In spite of the rain, wind, sleet and snow on the way home, I'd do it again. Thanks folks for a wonderful time and some great memories.

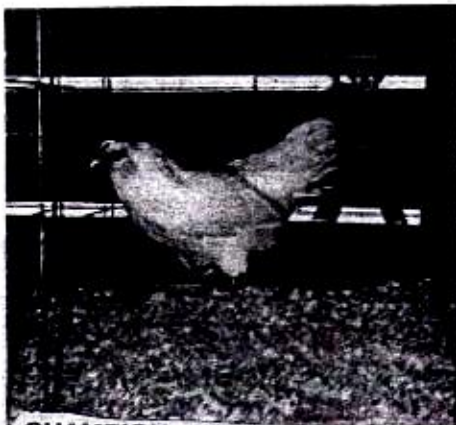
UPCOMING CLUB MEETS

Indiana Poultry Breeders Assoc. 12/2&3/00, Connersville, IN info: (765) 825-0621

PEACH STATE POULTRY FANCIERS - Commerce, GA - 1/20/01 info: (706) 789-2869

2001 ABC National - The Blue Ridge Poultry Club's Fall Show in Galax, VA., Oct. 2001

2002 ABC National - Columbus, Ohio ? (maybe)



**CHAMPION AOCCL, A WHITE
AMERAUCANA PULLET BY GARY ROSSMAN**



**RESERVE CHAMPION AOCCL, A BLACK
AMERAUCANA COCKEREL BY GARY ROSSMAN**

SHOW REPORTS

Montana Fair, 8/17/00, in Billings, MT, reported by Koralyne Kibbee
judge: Ken Cooke. 20 bantams shown by 3 exhibitors
BB, BV blue wheaten & Res. AOCCL - cock, by Koralyne Kibbee
RB & RV blue wheaten - hen, by Koralyne Kibbee
BV wheaten - hen, by Paula Kellerman
RV wheaten - hen, by Paula Kellerman

Land of Blackhawk, 9/9/00, in Wisconsin, reported by Joan Laue
21 bantams shown by 4 exhibitors. Judges: Kirk Keene & Earl Jones

BV black - pullet, by Gary Rossman
BV blue wheaten - cockerel, by Eric Wilhelmi
BV brown red - pullet, by Walchak family
BV wheaten - pullet, by Walchak family
BV white - pullet, by Gary Rossman
4 LF shown by 1 exhibitor

BB, BV black & Champion AOC - pullet, by Jeff Stevens

Illini Poultry Show, 9/16-17/00, Belvidere, IL, reported by Ruth Ann VanFleet

21 bantams shown by 6 exhibitors. Judge: Jeff Halbach

BB, BV black & Res. AOCCL - pullet, by Gary Rossman
RB & BV wheaten - pullet, by Teresa Brittnacher
BV blue wheaten - cockerel, by Eric Wilhelmi
BV white - cockerel, by Gary Rossman
7 LF shown by 2 exhibitors. Judge Harry Halbach

BB, BV black & Res. AOSB - cockerel, by Jeff Stevens

Wisconsin International, 9/23-24/00, reported by Ron Klemmedson

24 bantams shown by 5 exhibitors. Judge: John Thomforde

BB & BV black - pullet, by Gary Rossman
RB & BV white - pullet, by Gary Rossman
BV blue wheaten - cockerel, by Eric Wilhelmi
BV brown red - pullet, by Rene Koch & Ron Klemmedson
BV buff - cockerel, by Gary Rossman
BV golden quail, pullet by Mike Gilbert

Junior Show

BV golden quail, pullet by Adam Wozney



**John and Lois Bashaw
Good Time
Thanks Fellows**

Michigan State Meet, 10/14 & 15/00, in Alma, MI, reported by John W. Blehm
Host Club-Bay City Poultry Breeders Association, Judge: Wilber Stauffer

28 bantams shown, by 6 exhibitors

BB, BV wheaten & Res. AOCCL - hen, by Larry Donahue
RB & BV blue - hen, by Ruth Whitney
BV black - pullet, by John W. Blehm
BV blue wheaten - cock, by Larry Donahue
BV buff - pullet, by John W. Blehm
BV silver - cockerel, by John W. Blehm
BV white - pullet, cockerel, by John W. Blehm

21 large Fowl (LF) shown, by 4 exhibitors

BB, BV black & Res. AOSB - cockerel, by John W. Blehm
RB & BV buff - pullet, by John W. Blehm
BV blue - pullet, by Larry Donahue
BV silver - pullet, by John W. Blehm
BV white - cockerel, by Larry Donahue

Junior Show, 2 bantams and 4 LF shown, by 4 exhibitors

BB & Best AOCCL on a wheaten hen by Jared Thomson
BB & Best AOSB on a blue hen by L.J. Donahue

Thanks for hosting the
National Australorp Meet
Champion Australorp
Grand Champion Large Fowl
Reserve Champion of Show
Australorp cockerel
Reserve AOCCL
Black Ameraucana pullet
Gary Rossman
Union Grove, WI
1-262-878-2862

Beaver Pigeon & Bantam Show, 10/14/00, Beaver Dam, WI, reported by Ron Klemmedson

15 bantam shown by 6 exhibitors. Judge: Harry Halbach

BB & BV white - cockerel, by Jerry Desmidt
RB & BV wheaten - cockerel, by Rene Koch & Ron Klemmedson
BV brown red - cockerel, by Rene Koch & Ron Klemmedson
BV golden quail - cockerel, by Adam Wozney

6 LF shown by 3 exhibitors. Judge: Jim Fegan

BB, BV black & CH. AOSB - cockerel by Jerry Desmidt
RB, RV black & Res. AOSB - pullet by Jerry Desmidt

ABC National Meet, 10/28 & 29/00, in Hutchinson, MN, reported by Ron Klemmedson

Host Club-Minnesota Poultry Breeders Assoc.

Judge Open-John Thomforde

Judge Youth-Mark Peterson

Number of Exhibitors Bantams 14 Large Fowl 5

Number of Birds shown " 108 "58

Number of Exhibitors Youth - 4

Number of Birds shown Youth Bantams only 14

Best of Breed Bantam-white p- Mike Gilbert Large Fowl-blk p- Paul Smith

Reserve of Breed Bantam-white p- Mike Gilbert Large Fowl-blk k- John Blehm

Best AOSB-LF Paul Smith (Black) Reserve AOSB-LF John Blehm (Black)

Best Large Fowl Trio of show (all breed) Paul Smith

BANTAMS

Best of Variety Black Mike Gilbert (P)

Reserve Black Mike Gilbert (C)

BV Blue Jerry Schimelpfenig (H)
 BV Blue-Wheaten Mike Gilbert (C)
 RV Blue-Wheaten Mike Gilbert (P)
 BV Brown-Red Mike Gilbert (K)
 RV Brown-Red John Bashaw (C)
 BV Buff Mike Gilbert (P)
 RV Buff Mike Gilbert (K)
 BV Silver John Blehm (K)
 RV Silver Mike Gilbert (P)
 BV Wheaten Mike Gilbert (P)
 RV Wheaten Mike Gilbert (K)
 BV White Mike Gilbert (P)
 RV White Randy Buske (K)
 BV Golden Quail Rene Koch & Ron Klemmedson (C)
 RV Golden Quail Milton Solberg (P)
 BV Barred Jerry Schimelpfenig (K)
 RV Barred Jerry Schimelpfenig (P)
 Best Display of Bantams Randy Buske (White)

LARGE FOWL

BV Black Paul Smith (P)
 RV Black John Blehm (K)
 BV Blue John Blehm (K)
 RV Blue Paul Smith (P)
 BV Blue-Wheaten Paul Smith (P)
 RV Blue-Wheaten Paul Smith (P)
 BV Buff John Blehm (P)
 RV Buff Arne Schmidt (P)
 BV Silver Jim Fegan (H)
 RV Silver Paul Smith (P)
 BV Wheaten Paul Smith (K)
 RV Wheaten Paul Smith (P)
 BV White Mike Gilbert (P)
 RV White Arne Schmidt (P)
 Best Display Large Fowl Paul Smith (Black)

JUNIORS

BV Golden Quail Adam Wozney
 RV Golden Quail Adam Wozney
 BV Brown-Red Seth Onsager
 RV Brown-Red Seth Onsager
 BV Buff Emily Gilpin
 RV Buff Emily Gilpin
 BV White Jason Stivea
 RV White Jason Stivea

Great Show
Champion Large Fowl
Reserve of Show
Australorp cockerel
Champion AOCCL
White Ameraucana pullet
Gary Rossman
19120 Washington Ave
Union Grove, WI 53182
1-262-878-2862



Mike Gilbert's BB bantam at Hutch.

The Iowa State Meet of the Ameraucana Breeders Club was hosted by the Eastern Iowa Poultry Association on November 24 - 24, 2000. Only one large fowl was shown, a blue, and that by a nonmember. About 25 bantams were entered, but only 19 were actually present, as one member who entered did not show up. Where were you Roger? Here are the results, as judged by ABC member and APA District Director Duane Urch. Best and reserve whites were shown by John Bashaw on a cock and hen, respectively. The only wheaten, but reserve of breed, was a pullet shown by Teresa Brittnacher. Best blue-wheaten was won by John Bashaw on a pullet, while Mike Gilbert took reserve on a cock. The best and only buff was a nice pullet shown by John Bashaw. Reserve brown-red bantam was a cockerel by Phil, Linda, and Camber Jones of Iowa City. Best brown-red, champion Ameraucana, and champion A.O.C.C.L. of the show was a pullet by Mike Gilbert. A number of birds changed hands, with member Judith Graf going home as proud owner of a pair of blue-wheatens, and the Ken Lawniczak family started out in Ameraucanas with a trio of brown-reds. "Remedial" club member Jim Fegan judged all the large fowl chickens and entertained the Saturday evening banquet guests with a great report. A good time was had by all, and hopefully 2001 will see a larger entry of "Am's" at this nice show, which was the last of the season for many of us. Reported by Mike Gilbert

CORRESPONDENCES

I have included some, but not all of the correspondences that Mike and I have received. Most are e-mail messages and all get a reply, even if it is not printed here. Some have been edited. If you send a correspondence to us that is confidential, please make it known. These should give the members some ideas of the concerns of other breeders, let the members know of some of the problems others experience and give you an idea of the questions this club gets about poultry. None of us were born knowing anything about poultry. As a club we need to continue educating poultry fanciers about Ameraucanas (Americanas, Americanas, etc.).

8/1/00

Teresa Renwick has a new mailing address: 13333 Quarterhorse Dr., Grass Valley, CA 95949.

8/18/00

What are the leg colors Ameraucanas can have? I thought Ameraucanas always have willow colored legs. Is it possible for them to have orange legs as well? I have someone telling me an Ameraucana can have orange legs. Is there any one single characteristic that all Ameraucanas share? If so, please let me know what that could be. Thank you for any information you can give me. Also, is there any commercial hatchery that sells good quality Ameraucanas? I am very interested in this breed and in purchasing some of the birds... I just don't know where to get actual Ameraucanas. Thank you very much.
Tara Zinsmeister, San Antonio, TX

MY REPLY

All the characteristics are defined in the APA and ABA Standards. Leg color for Ameraucanas is slate (blue), never willow or yellow. Black Ameraucanas may have black legs. Pea combs and blue eggs are some of the other characteristics that all varieties of Ameraucanas share.

8/21/00

Hi, We purchased a few of these chickens in early april of this year. We figure they will begin to lay about the middle of December of this year. Is that about right? Also can you please tell me if there is any way to know what color of egg each one will lay before they actually do lay. I know these questions may seem strange but if there is any info you can give please do. Sincere Thanks, The Reichners'

8/21/00

Hello John,

*I joined Ameraucana Breeders Club in July. I'm really glad I did. I've sure enjoyed the two Bulletins I've received & the Handbook. I feel like we've learned a lot all ready. We built some more housing over the weekend. Now we're ready for some true Ameraucanas...
Jenifer L. Ridgeway*

8/22/00

*My daughter obtained 5 chicks while we were away... 1 is a rooster and the others are hens. Knowing nothing about them, she claimed they were anaconas, but they look like the picture of the brown/red bird on the cyborganic.com web site... She was told they would lay blue eggs - are they edible? For chickens to lay eggs, do we need to get the rooster out of the coop? We are not farmers, but would like to learn more...
Thanks, Sharon*

8/21/00

enjoyed the latest fine newsletter - the chicken jokes are a wonderful addition, and I appreciate the letters and email from everywhere. Many of them take me back to when I was trying to show feed store birds. I also had my share of commercial hatchery rip-offs, but what are you to do when you don't know any better? I have also bought very expensive birds (not Ameraucanas) that were actually disqualified when shown! My advice to anyone buying mail-order birds is to ask the breeder if they actually show their poultry. I have seen photos on the internet that are proof positive that the breeder has never seen an APA or ABA Standard of Perfection, yet the birds are claimed to be "exhibition quality". I would suggest publishing the addresses of Poultry Press, American Poultry Association, etc. in a newsletter or on the website for those interested in standard bred poultry and waterfowl. I also have an easy way to diagnose coryza. Open the chicken's mouth and smell it's breath! If it really smells rotten, it's coryza. I never found a successful treatment other than vaccinating the whole flock to start with. The best treatment I have found for most illnesses is Tylan 50 injectible, but it is really a lot of work. For eye infections I use pink - eye puffer cattle medication. This letter has gotten too long. Next time I'll tell everyone how to stop cannibalism. We have a great newsletter! Robbie Lindsey, Burnet Texas

Are your dues paid for 2001?

8/26/00

Dear Mr. Blehm: I recently joined the ABA and got your email address out of their 2000 yearbook. I want to get one, and possibly two, breeds of bantams next spring to go into the 16 x 20 chicken house that I'm currently building. One possible breed is the araucana and the second maybe one of the hamburgs, although they're not as available. My question is, how does the ameraucana you raise differ from the araucana, or do they? Do yours still lay the colored eggs? Any information you can give me this would be greatly appreciated. Sincerely, Ray L. Claycomb

9/1/00

I saw these birds on Martha Stewart Living and would like to purchase some chicks in the spring. Could you e-mail me some ideas on where to purchase these and other breeds of chickens? Maybe some websites that have prices and pictures? Is there a source in Connecticut??? McGillens or something like that? I would appreciate any help. Please send the e-mail to my attention. Thanks- Jennifer Goodwin

9/2/00

What do you feed the Americauna or Araucana Chickens to get there eggs to be a brighter color? We have both breeds of chickens.

9/3/00

Mike,

An update from hot Indiana. I was able to save two pullets out of the male I got from you , the one is fair quality and the other is frying pan quality. I also saved a nice cockerel out of him that may be better than his sire. He is a little smaller and slightly better tail. Now the question, does it make more sense to mate the sire back to his daughter or mate his two offspring? After all losses were counted I have left three young males, all worthy of being used and eight females. Three of this years hatch, only one any good, and five females of '99 hatch all pretty good. Unfortunately they are not presently laying, so I will have to keep them around for awhile if i hope to get any hatches from them.

Carlton (Yoder)

MIKE'S REPLY

Carlton, sounds like you have enough to stay in business a while longer. I personally don't like brother sister matings, so my advice would be to use the old male over his daughter, and to use the good young male on some other females, then mate the cockerel back to his daughters from that mating. I'm not sure which old male you are referring to, but assume it was the one I secured from Jerry Schimelpfenig at Hutchinson last fall? Incidentally, I am keeping the blue-wheaten pullet I got from you (a hen now) to use again next year. She has a wild disposition, but has some very good qualities also. Due to the infertility of my wheaten male, I don't think I got anything out of her this year. Good luck, and I will be interested to hear your progress reports from time to time.

Your friend, Mike Gilbert

Mike,

Yes the rooster is the one from Jerry...I find it interesting that the blue wheaten pullet is on the wild side. The male that she is out of was perhaps the wildest ameraucana I have had, he was in turn out of a wild disposition male...I got rid of him after one season because of his attitude and then wished I would have kept him because of the quality of feathering, especially width of tail feather, of his offspring. The sire of the blue wheaten is one I lost in the "rain, rein of "TERROR". That trait has carried through to his descendants, both the disposition and feathering. I have a full sister to yours "not quite as nice as yours" and a full brother that is quite nice. Style and feather is their strong points, on the down side their weaknesses are disposition, large size, and black in hackle. In the remaining birds left, I have three different blood lines represented. One is strong in overall quality of the females, wonderful sweet disposition, but they are weak in tail, this family would be represented by the little hen that Ron liked at Belvedere, another is represented by your blue wheaten hen, (she is related to your breeding on the female side, being a granddaughter of the original blue wheaten male) but out of a different female line than the little hen. The third would be the male from Jerry. I have some question about the females out of him. The males however look pretty good.

Carlton (Yoder)

back row:
John Bashaw
John Blehm



middle:
Don Cable,
Mike Gilbert,
Bernard Kellogg,
Ron Klemmedson,
Randal Buske,
Paul Smith

front row:
Jerry Schimelphenig
Rene Koch,
Arne Schmidt

Some ABC members at Hutchinson, MN 10/29/00

9/5/00

John, I need the memberships opinion on whether I should keep breeding and developing bantam Ameraucana birchen and golden duckwing colors. I have had these two varieties for several years now. Scott Eutsler has seen both and thought they were worth further development. I have 5 pairs of the birchens, and 3 pairs of the golden. I would like club members opinion on whether to keep or cull! I also get a few silver blues and ginger reds. Are they worth keeping also?

Thank you, John Marshall

MIKE'S REPLY

John (Marshall), it depends. Are you aware of what it takes to get new varieties admitted to the standard? Five breeders, five years, a qualifying meet with at least 50 birds, etc? Golden is a natural adjunct to our Silvers as is Birchen a natural adjunct to Brown-red. So these two are natural choices if enough breeders have the desire and commitment to follow through and get them recognized. If you are convinced these are good enough quality to serve as foundation stock, then why not raise a bunch of them next season and get stock out to others who would be willing to assist in the recognition project? Anybody out there interested in helping?

Best regards, Mike Gilbert

SEVERAL OTHER REPLYs

John (Marshall)

*In my very novice and humble opinion I say continue. If you've got the space and the food why not? The more varieties in a breed the prettier and the longer the row at the show!
Robin Guerra*

Hi, John (Marshall), it depends. Are you aware of what it takes to get new varieties admitted to the standard? Five breeders, five years, a qualifying meet with at least 50 birds, etc? I'm working on a new variety which I call the Bald Eagle. To become an official variety, it looks like I have to get four other people to breed some of these birds. What about the five years? Do all five of us have to breed them for five years or do I breed them by myself for five years to get a consistent appearance?

Paul Intihar

Hi John (Marshall), greetings from southern california.

I can not express an opinion as to the new colors, because I have never seen either. But I can say that I used to breed and show Netherland Dwarf rabbits, whose accepted colors exceeded thirty. I really enjoyed seeing all the different variations and how different people favored certain color patterns. I do, however, have a question about color. In corresponding to a breeder about plymouth rocks, I was told that the chickens must be mated to the same color to have showable colors--bared to bared, black to black. This really confuses me. With my rabbits, I frequently crossed different color parents and raised showable, winning offspring. How can it be that within a breed of chicken, that some of the colors cannot be crossed? I understand that not all colors will be good crosses and that some will be completely dominant over others.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Annalisa

MIKE'S REPLY

Annalisa, you received good advice. There are a few colors that can be crossed to get showable birds, but not many. I think chickens have more genetic variability than do rabbits when it comes to colors, and each breed is recognized by the official breed standards in just certain color patterns. It still can be fun to cross colors, breed the next generation together, and observe what colors and patterns segregate out from their parents. In fact our new "Golden Quail" color pattern was generated from crossing brown-red with buff bantams. Several patterns emerged, and this one was chosen to worth with for eventual standard recognition. Mike Gilbert - Wisconsin

9/6/00

*Do ameraucanas and araucanas develop slower than other breeds?
(Such as feather and determining whether they are pullets or cockerels?)
Thanks Judy Eisnor*

9/6/00

*Dear Mike and John, I believe our 4-H club members have two pairs of these birds here in NJ. We got them with our order of Standard blacks from Duane Urch. Can you get some pictures of them up on the website? Also would it be possible to have all the varieties on the web site? We're still waiting for them to fully feather out. They are 4 months old now. Also wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed the last ABC newsletter. We would love some more info on breeding, genetics, culling, etc.
Thanks for keeping the club in touch like this.
Zusan Ehrhardt Poultry Plus 4-H Club Leader*

MIKE'S REPLY

*Zusan, thanks for the suggestions. Perhaps at this year's national meet we can get some more good photos of most of the varieties. I'll try to do just that, and I'm sure John, who oversees the website, will have some of the better ones put up. Our club has a blend of "oldtimers" like myself and newer fanciers, so it is hard to come up with new ideas to write about that all would benefit from. If you have any specific ideas or suggestions please let us know. Thanks again for touching base.
Mike Gilbert - Wisconsin*

9/7/00

*The West Central Ohio Poultry Breeders would like to host an ABC meet 3/17-18/01. For show info contact Matt Lhamon (419) 224-9369.
To request a club meet contact your ABC District Director.*

9/9/00

I just learned that Ron Klemmedson's wife, Dinah, passed away this morning, September 9th, at about 9 am central time. She had told Ron she was too tired to get up, and he went to make her some coffee. When he returned she was gone. Arrangements are pending. On a related note, Scott Eutsler's father is critically ill with cancer and is not expected to live very long. Scott may not make it to Hutchinson. Please keep these folks in your thoughts and prayers. Mike (Gilbert)

9/14/00

...I attended Dinah Klemmedson's memorial service and a gathering at the home on Wednesday. I ordered a flower basket on behalf of the club. It came to \$25 and looked very nice - a bright red azalea in full bloom...Also, it was announced at the funeral that Scott Eutsler's dad had passed away on Tuesday. I sent him a card, letter, and memorial gift from the Gilbert family. His two little girls had thought of Dinah as a special "grandmother" and then they lost their real granddad a couple of days later, so it must be very hard for them...

Mike (Gilbert)

9/11/00

The best thing I have ever seen to candle eggs is a slide projector. With colored eggs and those that have extra thick shells this is the real answer; this works very well. Good hint to use in the bulletin.

Sincerely, Betty Rundquist

9/16/00

Just wanted to let everyone know that I have moved. My snail mail address would be Randal S. Buske, S1960 Cty Hwy. F, Hillsboro, WI 54634. My phone no. is 608-469-4572.

9/17/00

Hi. Okay, I'm stumped. I would really like to raise an Ameraucana or Araucana; however, after much searching on the Web, have found no "supplier" that will "sell" a "certified" chick--or even egg. How does one go about this? I'd really appreciate any help--especially since I reside in Hawaii.

Thank you for your time, Lee

9/16/00

Can you explain the personality of the ameraucana. I have raised some of the meanest, ill tempered roosters ever! Is that the personality of them all, or am i doing something wrong. I love these chickens, and even though their mean, they are my favorite breed. It makes me and my granddaughter happy to see those nest full of easter eggs. Please tell me something about this breed. thank you.

Carolyn Beckner

MIKE'S REPLY

...First of all, have all your birds come from one source? Are you sure they are Ameraucanas, or just crossbred chickens that happen to lay colored eggs? Are you familiar with the breed requirements? How many generations of these birds have you raised? You are probably not doing anything wrong. Temperament is something that derives primarily from inheritance. Within the Ameraucana breed you will find some strains that can be mean, while others will be very well mannered. My suggestion is to put the mean ones in the freezer, and obtain some stock from a reliable breeder who will assure you he or she is selling you chicks from a strain that does not generally exhibit a "mean streak." There may always be a few exceptions, but out of an order of, say 25 chicks, you should be able to raise some males that you like and are docile. Good luck! Mike Gilbert, pres. ABC

9/18/00

Mike, good to hear from you! I do not plan on attending the Janesville show. My boss announced last Monday that he is going to sell the herd. The sale will be held on Oct. 16 so lots of work getting ready. I will be unemployed thereafter. Soooooo much fun!! I have applied at a large dairy just down the road from my house. Also a couple of other leads that need to be checked out. However, I do plan on making Hutchinson. Bernard would like to go but has not committed yet. Nothing much to show but will be good to see everyone. Most of the birds have been moved however, Elsie (the little old lady that kept the breeders and is neighbors with my boss) decided she would like to have a few birds around...at least until the snow falls!! She is a real peach! Bernard gave me quite a bit of cooping and have the metal shed/shop looking like we are ready for a show. Nothing much else news...talk with you later...R(andal Buske)

9/18/00

Dear Mike and John, Just wanted to let you know that our 4-H Poultry Plus club members will be entering their Ameraucanas in the Garden State Fanciers Association Show Sept. 30 & October 1 in Flemington NJ. I will keep you posted as to the results. Also I mentioned earlier that we have two pair of what we think are the bantam American Bald Eagle variety. Anyone need these? We only really wanted Standard birds so if someone wants them please let us know. Thanks.

Zuzan Ehrhardt

MIKE'S REPLY

Could you explain what exactly the American Bald Eagle variety is? We have no knowledge of it, as it is not in the standard. Would it be possible to send photos? There has been no coordinated effort nor request to get these into the standards, but that is not to say it could not be done if general agreement among club members and officers is reached. Thanks for any help you can give us on this.

Sincerely, Mike Gilbert, pres. Ameraucana Breeders Club

9/19/00

Mike,

They arrived just fine. I got a call from the post office this afternoon. I was so glad they didn't have to sit around another day because it's so unseasonably hot here. I think they're beautiful. I keep forgetting that BRs are my very favorite variety. They're so rich looking. I think this little cockerel is going to be my personal favorite. He's a sweetie. Thanks so much I'll keep in touch.

Robin (Guerra)

9/20/00

Thanks Mike,

The box arrived this afternoon and all the birds were in great shape. I gave them grower crumbles and water as soon as I put them in their pen. They started eating and drinking right away. I really pleased with them and am looking forward to working with them. Thanks again! Jessica (Sanders)

9/19/00

John Blehm,

We have a Ameraucana rooster who seems be wheezing. He seems fine other then this. We can't find anyone who knows anything about chickens. Is this a problem with the breed and is there anything we can do for this. We would greatly appreciate any help you can give us. Thanks,

Dave and Judy Sackett

MIKE'S REPLY

David, John Blehm asked that I respond to your message. The wheezing could be from any number of causes, including certain types of worms and/or many types of respiratory ailments. The problem with chicken diseases is that so many of them have the same symptoms. It really takes a laboratory report to identify the culprit, and that will take some time and money. "Prescription without diagnosis equals malpractice." None of us fielding the questions are veterinarians. If you want to try something, soluble Terramycin is a good bet to cure or help most respiratory conditions, and probably won't hurt the rooster unless overdosed. You could try phoning David Clausing who sells medications and other poultry products out of his home in Florida. His number is (863)993-2542. Good luck! Sincerely, Mike Gilbert, Pres. Ameraucana Breeders Club

9/23/00

hi

we are new to chickens my son joined the FFA this year and is planing to raise chickens to show we were told by some breeders that Araucana chickens lay eggs that continue no cholesterol can you tell me if that is true thank you Ed Reasoner



Wayne Merideth & Arne Schmidt

Oct. 1999

9/26/00

To whom it may concern:

I would like to request a meet of the Ameraucana Breeders Club for the Pacific Coast Bantam Club Winter Show. The show will be held on December 2-3, 2000 at the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds in Pomona, Ca. Any help you can give me in securing a meet would be appreciated, thank you for your kind attention to this matter

Regards, James Eklund Show Secretary 2306 Kella Avenue Whittier, Ca. 90601

9/29/00

Hi John

I have several good birds that I ordered from you and of course about half are cockerals. I am trying to select the best to keep for next year. The blue or lavender ones: should I be choosing ones that are more a solid blue or ones that have a combination of blue with glossy black hackles and saddles or should I keep one of each? I am tending to prefer the latter but don't know if those are what I should be striving for as breeders.

Thanks! Macia (Delaski)

MIKE'S REPLY

My advice would be to pick for breed traits first (shape, comb, lobes, feather quality, vigor, size, etc.) and color last. Blue is quite variable, genetically. Breeding blue to blue will give you a variety of shades of blue, black, and splash. Dark, glossy hackles in the males is good, but the breast and body feathers should be a lighter shade of blue with a dark blue edging. This is called lacing, and is found most perfected within the Blue Andalusian breed. I have also seen Blue Sumatras with very nice lacing. It is something we should be striving for in breeding Blue Ameraucanas. Another option would be breeding blue to black, as that mating will give you about one half of each of the two varieties.

Mike Gilbert, pres. Ameraucana Breeders Club

10/6/00

Hi Mike, Just want to let you know I will not be attending the national meet. My brother-in-law was seriously injured in a farm accident yesterday. A wrench slipped driving his wrist into the cutter bar on the combine, cutting the tendons and nerves in his wrist. So I will be needed for the fall harvest. If you do find a wheaten cockerel, that be great, if not that's ok. Let me know. Gary (Rossman)

10/7/00

Hi John

Just wanted to send my new address. Jim (Fegan) is supposed to be stopping by sometime to look at an Ameraucana that I have so I'm sure we'll looking at some of the other birds as well. I've kept out what I think are the best males but I'll ask him (if he has time) what he thinks of them.

Marcia (Delaski) hennypenny@webtv.net

10/12/00

Hi, Please visit www.clubcorner.co.uk and submit a listing for your club free of charge.

Regards, Terry 10/9/00

Dear John,

Mike Gilbert referred me to you for blue and silver Ameraucana's. I recently visited a friend in Washington, Paul Chen, and was so taken by his blue's! I have a small hobby flock, and adore my chickens. Our chickens have a cottage/gingerbread hen house, and the birds free range in a huge fenced in area during the day. I want to add the beautiful blue, and some silver birds to my "collection", and Mike said that you do sell your chicks. How do I go about purchasing chicks from you?

Thanks in advance for your help! Kim Rauber 870-427-2289

10/16/00

An Ameraucana won Reserve Large Fowl at the Texas State Fair!!!!!!!!!!!!

Sam (Caldwell)

10/19/00 - from Mike Gilbert

I had e-mailed Sam Caldwell to get more details about an Ameraucana winning reserve champion at the Texas State Fair. Here is the reply.

I did not write up a report as others were doing it. I am sure Sam Brush has a report. All I know is that one diehard bad loser made the statement that if something like that mutt chicken won over his that he was going home and eat all of his!!!! The judge was Gary Agajanian and the other judge was Pat Malone.

NOTE: We found out later it was Paul Smith's black LF pullet that won.

10/16/00

Mike,

We went to our first show of the season Sat. I let my daughter enter the BR cockerel you sent me. I thought for sure he would get bb but he didn't. The hen that won, a Blue Wheaten has taken Reserve AOCCL for two shows in a row. I thought we'd beat her but we didn't. She must be nicer than I thought. I do love my BRs though. I've been doing some research on the genetic stuff. I seem to be getting somewhere. I can't wait to fire up my incubator and give what I learned a whirl this year. Thanks again for the birds, just love em.!

Robin Guerra

10/18/00

Dear John,

Please note I have a new e-mail address. I have contacted Scott Eutsler about getting some Brown-Reds. I can't wait to get my first Ameraucanas!

Sincerely, Carmen Hodges CarmsFarm@tqci.net

Are your dues paid for 2001?

10/23/00

Hello

My name is Beth Collier, a new member of ABC. I currently have mixed large fowl ameraucana/easter egg chickens. I now realize that that are no where near a recognized color. I still like mine, My rooster Arnold Swartzachicken is my favorite. However, I think I would like to get a pair or trio of "good birds" that I can show. What is the most popular variety? I tend to be the kind of person that doesn't go with what everyone else has. The blacks and silvers look nice, maybe wheaten. About how much should I expect to pay for a nice pair/trio?

Beth

10/25/00

Hi, I'm a 15 year old poultry fancier and i just recently found the ameraucana website via the apa link. I noticed that you said you will have ameracauna chicks available in the spring, i would like to know how much, the minimum order, and what varieties you will have available, as i am very interested.

thank you, Nathan

10/27/00

Hi John,

I joined a large poultry discussion group online and we are having a debate about the methods for shipping adult birds. I was told that the only way they could be shipped was by Express Mail, and just lost a sale for a number of ducks because another seller told the buyer he could send them by Priority mail for a lot cheaper. How do you ship yours? I am trying to get some advice from some of the well known breeders to inform the group how others do it. It would help to end some of the confusion that seems to be attached to this subject. I don't think I've paid express mail charges for chicks or ducklings before, so is there a difference in the size and age of the birds? Thanks for any info you can provide on the issue.

Marcia Delaski

MY REPLY

I don't have the rules in front of me, but do have a copy. My understanding is other than day old chicks, all poultry must be sent Express Mail. If the post office determines your chicks can get to their destination within 48 hours of hatching you can send them Priority Mail. I have given up on it and send all birds by Express Mail.

10/29/00

Dear John, Mike and Larry,

The Poultry Plus 4-H Club members are really enjoying their birds though we're still not getting eggs at this time. Maybe in a few weeks? We look forward to the spring and hatching chicks. Our County Fair was a muddy mess and we didn't get the crowds we normally would get because we lost 20 acres of parking due to flooding. However we did enter the Garden State Fancier's Show in Flemington, NJ and Rainer Klock's black Standard Ameraucana pullet won Junior Champion Large Fowl. Kristina Carle just came back from the Boston Show and her blue Standard cockerel won Junior Reserve

Champion Large Fowl. Her black Standard Ameraucana pullet sold for \$100 to a breeder. Very exciting. Zuzan Ehrhardt Poultry Plus 4-H Club, Somerset County NJ

MIKE'S REPLY

Wow, that sounds great! Keep up the good work with our junior exhibitors. We just got back from the Ameraucana national meet at Hutchinson, Minnesota. We had 110 bantams entered, 58 large fowl, and a number in the junior show as well. Counting champion trio of the show, we had six birds on champion row - five large fowl and one bantam. Don't forget, next year the national will be in Virginia.

10/31/00

Dear Mike, It has been a long time since I have heard from you. I want to say thank-you for the very prompt reply. This set my mind at ease and made my day. You see, even though I am a Great Grandmother, I am still learning. I really feel good about the pullets that I have from John's stock. These are really nice and I hope to do well with them at the big Boise club show this weekend. I am now a married lady. I married Glen Schneider on October 14. We had a small formal wedding and a very large reception. We even had music to dance to. We held the reception at the Senior center because this is where we met. He will not admit that he likes my chickens, but he never misses a morning that he doesn't help me feed. He really enjoyed himself at the summer shows in Montana. Good to hear from you.

Sincerely, Betty (Rundquist)



Jerry Desmidt, Jerry Schimelpfenig,
Mike Gilbert & John Blehm at the club table,
at the ABC National in Hutchinson, MN

11/6/00

Hi, thought I should tell that I found a nice Black Cockerel at the big Boise Club show in Caldwell, Idaho. I also come home with another Black pullet of the same breeding that I bought from this party. She is younger but has a good big muff. My big black pullet was the best of all the Ameraucanas. We had 8 in this class and this is good for this region. I took photo but do not have them developed yet. I won Best Continental with my 5 month old White Crested Black Pullet. I sold off some my older stock of White Ameraucanas that I don't show anymore and generally I am getting ready for winter. Bye-now. Betty Schneider (Rundquist)

11/1/00

The Southeast Ohio Poultry Breeders Assoc. would like to host an ABC meet June 9-10/01 at the Marietta, Ohio. For show info contact Rose Marie Isgrigg (740) 592-5613. To request a club meet contact your ABC District Director.

11/11/00

Hi john

It was great to see you, Kathy and all the Ameraucana gang at Hutchinson. What a great show - 110 and 58! I'm already looking forward to the 2001 National in Galax, VA and the Southern District meet at Commerce, GA. Three other shows that we participated in had a total of 3 Ameraucanas, other than ours. Hopefully this will soon change as other fanciers in the area start raising the magnificent, muffed, bearded, pea combed, slate legged, blue egg laying Ameraucana. We have several good silver and black cockerels and pullets and a few decent wheaten cockerels for sale...I thank you for all that you have done to advance this great breed, and wish you the best with your radio station.

Sincerely, Paul Smith

11/13/00

I have been considering breeding Ameraucana chickens, but haven't been able to find out much information about them. If you know of any links, please let me know what they are. Currently I have New Hampshires, Partridge Rocks, and some Silver Laced Wyandottes. Most of these were acquired through the local ASPCA, but all they did was spark my interest in and allowed me to decide on some of the breeds I don't want to get. Some questions I have are; what is the size range of Ameraucanas, do they have the tendency to be mean, as some of the larger breeds are, and what is a good source for acquiring healthy chicks? Thanks, and any information/help you can provide would be appreciated.

MIKE'S REPLY

Paul, this is Mike Gilbert, president of the Ameraucana Breeders Club. John Blehm forwarded your e-mail for me to reply to your questions. First of all, there is only one website devoted exclusively to the Ameraucana breed, and it is www.ameraucana.org. I assume you had not found it yet based on your spelling of the breed name. The size (in weight) of Ameraucana large fowl and bantams, as well as the rest of the breed's requirements, is to be found in the Standard of Perfection published by the American Poultry Association. Large fowl weights are 6 1/2 pounds for cocks, 5 1/2 pounds for cockerels and hens, and 4 1/2 pounds for pullets. Bantam weights are 30 oz. cocks, 26 oz.

cockerels and hens, and 24 oz. pullets. There are quite a number of strains of Ameraucanas due to the fact there are eight recognized varieties in large fowl and the same eight in bantams. Most are not wild or mean, but it is possible some are. Mine are almost entirely with nice temperaments because I select breeders with those qualities (I have been raising these birds for about 25 years continuously). There are always exceptions. As far a source for good quality chicks, and I assume you mean large fowl as opposed to bantams, John Blehm has some nice birds and does ship chicks. We, the Ameraucana Breeders Club, offer a five page breeders directory listing 37 sources of stock. The cost is \$2 for our members, \$5 for non-members. Membership only costs \$7.50 per year and includes a 40 page book about the breed as well as newsletters and other benefits. All this may be obtained through our secretary-treasurer, John Blehm. Incidentally, you will not get purebred Ameraucanas from any large commercial hatchery. They sell "colored egg chickens" and some call them araucanas or ameraucanas, but they are neither. Good luck!

11/17/00

hallo

We are chicken breeders ins Switzerland and are very interested of hatching eggs of ameraucanas. Could you please let us know, who is able to sent us eggs for a parent stock or maybe for final products. If possibly we would like to by a few cases. Thanks for your informations. Our Home page is: www.geisser-trupro.ch
Best regards Verena Geisser

11/24/00

I have the following birds for sale in LF wheaten:

1 cock (7/99 hatch)

2 cockerels (spring 2000 hatch)

I am asking \$10.00 each plus shipping and handling.

Barbara Campbell campbfour@aol.com (865)494-0876

11/25/00

Hi John!

Just wanted to be sure to comment on how much we enjoyed the National Ameraucana meet. Great to meet you, to meet all the other breeders that were there, and of course, to see all those birds! We had a wonderful time! Congratulations to Mike Gilbert for being the big winner! Dan and Jeanette Pasche

Ameraucana Large Fowl for sale.
Will ship or deliver to shows that we attend. Blacks, Blues and Silvers. Also accepting orders for 2001 spring hatch in Black, Blue, Silver, Wheaten, Blue Wheaten, Buff and White.
Paul & Angela Smith 1-940-668-0719 (nights)
2257 CR 224 Gainesville, Texas 76240



Silver Bantam Ameraucanas



Wheaten Bantam Ameraucanas



Black Large Fowl Ameraucanas