

Ameraucana

WINTER 2002



Bulletin

Vol. XXII # 4

AMERAUCAANA BREEDERS CLUB 6442 CHESTNUT AVE., ORANGEVALE, CA 95862



Barbara Campbell, our newly elected ABC Secretary-Treasurer with her Blue Wheaten large fowl.

Election Commissioner Bernard "Pop" Kellogg reports that Mike Gilbert was re-elected President and all Directors whose names appeared were re-elected as well, leaving Neil Townsend at Eastern, John Blehm at Central, Koralyn Kibbee at Western and Paul Smith, South Central. Mike has appointed Lucy Bridges as Southeastern Director and Southwestern yet to be appointed. ABC annual dues for 2003 remain at \$7.50 for an individual yearly membership, \$10. for family and only \$5. for juniors. Our fiscal year begins on January 1 and all club memberships will become due at that time. Your prompt attention to this matter will be appreciated. Thank you!

Please send dues and all club-related correspondence to Secretary-Treasurer
Barbara Campbell, at 392 Whitaker Hollow, Lake City, TN 37769.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Boyers, Terry, Katie & Meg 725 Wood St., Wauseon, OH 43567
Chapa, Elizabeth PO Box 208, Madison, IN 47250
Davis, James 1050 Pisgah Ln., Morris Chapel, TN 38361
Garwood, John 13155 Hatch Rd., Westerville, OH 43082
Gladhill, William 6051 Mt. Phillips Rd., Frederick, MD 21703
Hange, Logan 433 N Kurzen Rd., Dalton, OH 44618
Hawkins, Laurie 289 370th Ave., Janesville, MN 56048
Lantz, Duane 135 Cup Rd., Sattsburg, PA 15681
Newman, Barry 3811 Beeline Rd., Holland, MI 49424
Osborn, Daniel 17105 Garjan Ln., Ramona, CA 92065
Roberts, Clyde & Jane & Jesse Matherly 4621 Fox Chase Run, Gum Springs, VA 23065
Simmons, Abigail 5 Clemens Ave., Jamestown, OH 45335
Zollinger, SueAnne 2420 S Broadview Dr., Bloomington, IN 4740

WELCOME BACK

Renwick, Teresia 13333 Quarterhorse Dr., Grass Valley, CA 95949

FINANCIAL REPORT

Due to the circumstances inherent in transition from one account to our new account established by our new Secretary-Treasurer, we have at present, two accounts. The account here in California will be closed soon after this report reaches you and all club monies will be transferred to the account in Tennessee under the control of Barbara Campbell. For accuracy, the two accounts will be listed separately, but the bottom line will reflect the total of both present accounts.

California Account:

Income-

Dues, donations and directories \$ 504.23

Tennessee Account

Income-

Dues, National Meet receipts \$909.93

Total ABC financial assets as of December 4, 2002: \$1414.16

Respectfully submitted, Don Cable, Sec/Treas.

From The Hills Of Western Wisconsin . . .
Mike Gilbert, November, 2002

Warm and blessed holiday greetings to all of our good friends in the growing world of Ameraucana poultry. With the onset of cold winter weather it's time to "batten down the hatches" until spring arrives. Make sure your birds are kept in dry, wind-free quarters and they will do just fine during the very coldest temperatures, as it has been bred into them. Small pea combs, muffs, and abundant feathering were not an afterthought, but planned from the beginning to create a cold-resistant fowl.

Ameraucanas have fared well at the poultry shows this past season. A number of champions and reserve champions of show have been exhibited by members Paul Smith, Jerry DeSmidt, and Dan Pasche. Champion AOCCL's and AOSB's have been won by Gary Rossman, Arne Schmidt, and Randy Buske. Sorry if I missed anyone, and a hearty congratulations to all the winners!

The Ohio National at Columbus was site of our 2002 national meet, and results are posted elsewhere in this bulletin. Congratulations to Jerry DeSmidt on his champion AOSB (Any Other Standard Breed), a black hen, in a show with entries reaching nearly 9,800 birds. Congratulations also to Randy Buske for winning champion Ameraucana overall with his white bantam pullet. I don't think I ever saw more breeding stock sell in such a short period of time, yet there would have been many more sales had the birds been available. We need to bring more sale birds next year – or raise prices!

About next year – at this point it appears as though our 2003 national will be hosted by the Southern Ohio Poultry Club at Lucasville, Ohio, the first weekend of October. Here's a word to the wise: hatch early, as competition will be fierce. American Bantam Association President David Adkins presented us a very nice offer of \$500 plus other incentives if we vote to go with Lucasville, his home club. More later.

Highlighting our annual meeting at Columbus was presentation of the annual "Lifetime Achievement/Breeder of the Year/Don Cable" award, the third in this series. This time it went to Arne Schmidt of Minnesota. Arne has been breeding up, developing and promoting Ameraucanas for many years. Large fowl blacks, whites, blues, buffs, and white and buff bantams have been his primary focus. Arne, with the able assistance of his wife Bev, is very deserving of this award. Congratulations!

January 1st, 2003, marks a change in club leadership, and a number of issues are on the table. The new board of directors will vote on a change in our dues structure, renaming of the districts, a point system for exhibitors, meet policy, a change in the standard description for shank color in blues and brown-reds, and more. If you have strong opinions on any of these matters, contact your director or president soon.

A huge thanks goes to retiring secretary-treasurer Don Cable for his able work these past years. This position will now be handled by Barbara Campbell of Tennessee, so direct any dues or correspondence to her starting January 1st, 2003.

Thanks also to retiring Central District Director Ron Klemmedson who did a great job of scheduling meets, following through with the paperwork, and promoting Ameraucana bantams. John Blehm of Michigan is our newly elected Central Director. Paul Smith was appointed and re-elected South Central Director, while Scott Eutsler is serving out his term as Southeastern Director until January 1st when Lucy Bridges (Labluv Bantams) takes over. Thanks, Scott, we will never forget the 2001 National.

From The Hills . . . (continued)

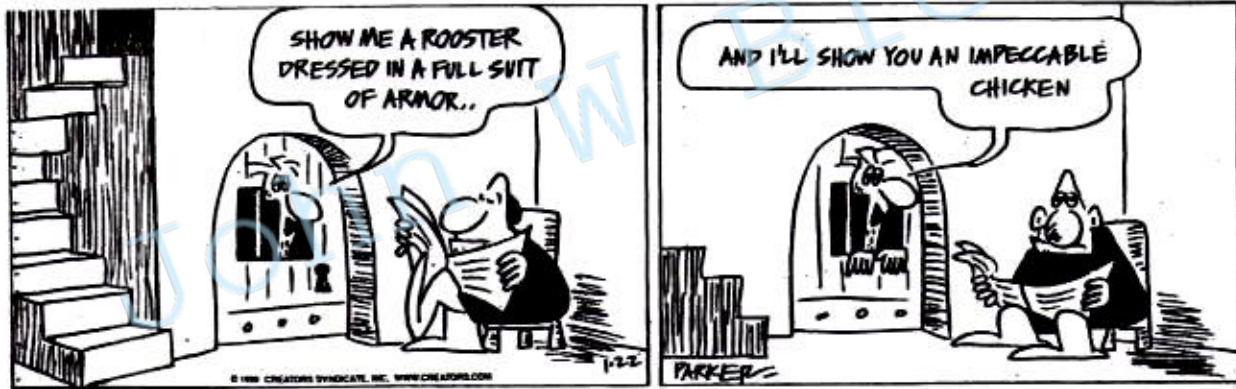
Returning officers and directors include: Koralynn Kibbee of Montana – Western Director; Neil Townsend of Pennsylvania – Eastern Director; and yours truly as president. An appointment for the vacant Southwestern directorship will be announced at a later time. Anyone with an interest in that position should contact me as soon as possible. We do have an able candidate, but only if no one else steps forward.

This report would be remiss if we failed to thank Neil and Donna Townsend for just an outstanding job of organizing and hosting the 2002 National Meet at Columbus. Everything flowed very smoothly and a great time was had by all. Will anyone ever forget Kathy Gratsch in her wonderful home-made chicken custom at our Friday night party at the Clarion hotel? Or little Matthew Smith in his brand new Ameraucana cap that was produced by Larry Clionsky? Larry has more of those caps for sale, by the way. See ordering information elsewhere in this bulletin. They look great.

We will attend one more Ameraucana meet before the year draws to a close, the Eastern Iowa Poultry Association show at Iowa City the Friday and Saturday right after Thanksgiving. Hope to see many of you there. Don't forget Who gets the thanks and credit at your Holiday table. To Him be the glory.

WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



FRANK AND ERNEST

By Bob Thaves



2002 Annual Meet Results

November 8 – 10, 2002

Columbus, Ohio

- Junior Show Large Fowl** 9 birds, 2 exhibitors
All awards to Sean McKee of New York state (BB Red, Golden, Silver, & White)
- Junior Show Bantams** None entered
- Open Show Large Fowl** 112 birds, 17 exhibitors, Judge: Duane Urch
- Black (49) BV, BB, **Champion AOSB** – Hen by Jerry DeSmidt
RV – Pullet by Jerry DeSmidt
- Black Trio (4) Best – Paul & Angela Smith
- Blue (19) BV – Pullet by Paul & Angela Smith
RV – Hen by Arne Schmidt
- Blue Wheaten (8) BV – Hen by Paul & Angela Smith
RV – Cockerel by Barbara Campbell
- Brown Red (1) BV – Pullet by Mike Gilbert
- Buff (5) BV – Pullet by John Blehm
RV – Cockerel by John Blehm
- Silver (5) BV – Cockerel by Paul & Angela Smith
RV – Pullet by Paul & Angela Smith
- Wheaten (8) BV, RB – Cock by Paul & Angela Smith
RV – Cockerel by Paul & Angela Smith
- White (17) BV – Cockerel by Arne Schmidt
RV – Hen by Bob Rennolet
- Best Display of Large Fowl – Blacks by Jerry DeSmidt
Bruce Hutchinson Memorial Plaque for Best Pair – Blacks by Jerry DeSmidt
- Open Show Bantams** 78 birds, 11 exhibitors, Judge: Duane Urch
- Black (7) BV, RB – Cockerel by Mike Gilbert
RV – Pullet by Donna Townsend
- Blue (1) BV – Pullet by John Blehm
- Blue Wheaten (12) BV – Cockerel by Neil Townsend
RV – Hen by Lucy Bridges
- Brown Red (9) BV – Cockerel by Mike Gilbert
RV – Pullet by Mike Gilbert
- Buff (5) BV – Cock by Barbara Clarkson
RV – Cockerel by Mike Gilbert
- Silver (2) BV – Pullet by Mike Gilbert
RV – 2nd place Pullet by Mike Gilbert
- Wheaten (21) BV – Cockerel by Gary Rossman
RV – Cock by Lucy Bridges
- White (21) BV, BB – Pullet (in trio) by Randy Buske
RV – Cock by Mike Gilbert
- White Trio (2) Best - Randy Buske
- Best Display of Bantams – Whites by Randy Buske
- Champ Ameraucana–All Entries Competing: White Bantam Pullet by Randy Buske**

EXPLANATION OF ABC MEET POLICY

Current policy as set by the Board of Directors allows for ABC meet awards at two tiers or levels. At least three members must show in competition to qualify for rosettes or other club-sponsored awards. At the first level an award is earned for best Ameraucana and an award is earned for reserve Ameraucana. Large fowl and bantams may compete in order to qualify. But if they are not judged against each other, and only two members show bantams and one shows large fowl (or vice versa) then three members did not compete and club awards would not be forthcoming.

At the second level, if five or more members show in competition, awards may be earned for champion and for reserve champion large fowl and also for best and reserve bantam, for a total of four awards. However, in order for any member to receive a club award, he or she must compete against at least two other exhibitors. Nonmembers are not eligible for club awards. If members holding a "family" membership enter a meet as individuals, they may compete against each other for purposes of club awards.

The site of the annual National Meet is selected by the ABC Board of Directors. Any member may solicit a bid from any show secretary and forward it to an ABC officer for consideration, preferably to his or her district director. All other meets (district, state, and special) are placed by the appropriate district director at shows within his or her district. The secretary will be promptly notified by the director of all meets scheduled. Meets will only be placed by a district director if a member in his or her district requests a meet for a specific show in time for the distribution of information via the ABC quarterly newsletter prior to the entry deadline for that show. For planning purposes, members need to know well in advance when and where meets are placed. Directors, as a general rule of thumb, should only place meets where it is reasonably expected that three or more members will show.

Here are some reasons for this policy.

1. Club awards should be meaningful and valued by the winner. Therefore a minimum level of competition is desirable.
2. Club awards require resources in terms of purchase money, shipping, and the time of the secretary. We should all be good stewards of our resources, not wasteful.
3. Lack of member participation in meets can be a source of embarrassment.
4. Placement of meets by District Directors encourages contact with their constituents and affords them a greater degree of involvement with club business.
5. The minimum participation requirement should encourage current members to recruit new ABC members.
6. Awards that are too easily come by are not generally highly regarded.
7. Club policy does not preclude individual members from offering awards of their own for Ameraucana large fowl or bantams.

In the unlikely event a member is refused placement of a meet by his or her District Director, the director shall provide a satisfactory explanation to the member. If the member is not satisfied, he or she then may appeal the decision in writing to the ABC Secretary, who shall poll the Board of Directors. The director will have an opportunity to defend his or her decision to the entire Board; a simple majority vote of the Board Of Directors shall be final in any such dispute.



Eastern Director Neil Townsend and his wife Donna at the ABC raffle table at our National Meet in Columbus, Ohio. Largely due to the outstanding work of this couple, our annual meet was the largest, best organized and most financially profitable activity in the history of the club. Super job!



President Mike Gilbert presenting the Ameraucana Breeders Award for 2002 to longtime member Arne Schmidt, of Minnesota. Congratulations, Arne, you're certainly deserving of the award.

FEEDS AND FEEDING - PART II SUPPLEMENTS

If you are satisfied with the results of your present feed, supplements may be out of the question. As they will alter to some degree, the nutritional value of your basic feed. As an example, if you supplement a balanced commercial ration with scratch, the most common supplement, chances are that at no more than 12% protein, most scratch mixes will compromise the total amount of protein provided by a commercial mix at 16%. The whole grains in the scratch do have value, but in the above case, you will lose a percentage of total protein, so that it is wise to weigh the pros and cons when feeding any supplement.

If your birds have access to grass and direct sunlight, they are receiving the greatest supplement naturally. Moreover, any insect that has the bad luck to fly, hop or crawl into the area patrolled by your birds will provide a high protein, nutritious snack. Sunlight and green succulent grasses will provide added vitamins and minerals for ranging poultry and you can't beat the price!

There are a number of exotic supplements on the market including a wide range offered on the internet. Garlic is an old standby said to strengthen the immune system and provide a multitude of other benefits. I have yet to find a reliable scientific report to support any of these claims, but it's your money. Certain kinds of kelp are also said to be helpful by providing a full range of minerals, but again, I'm from Missouri on this one.

Other supplements are used to improve feather quality, as grains high in oil content such as safflower and sunflower seed which are fed during the molt and prior to and during the show season. Foods with high oil content such as fish-based cat food are also fed for the same purpose. Perhaps the ultimate supplement is mealworms. This is a highly nutritious treat, but expensive unless you raise them yourself. Last year I saw a woman at a poultry show encouraging her Modern Game bantams to "reach" in the desired posture by offering mealworms which she carried in a coughdrop box in the pocket of her coat.

Again, if you are having good results with what you are feeding, be cautious about supplements that are touted to bring about some dramatic results- the results may prove expensive and cause unexpected problems. Go by the old adage, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

UPCOMING MEETS

Special Meet, Fort Worth, TX Jan. 18 & 19

State Meet, Littlerock, AR Feb. 8 See Poultry Press or contact Paul Smith for these two meets.

State Meet, Bloomington, IN April Fred Abbitt RR1, Box366, Spencer, IN 47460

Special Meet, Des Moines, IA April 26 Deb Taylor, 14376 220th Ave., Milo, IA50166

IMPORTANT NOTICE

It is time to update the Ameraucana Breeders Directory, as many changes have occurred since the previous edition of August, 2001. The Directory serves our members as a means of marketing hatching eggs, chicks, and surplus stock. It also helps newer Ameraucana fanciers to locate sources of the kind of stock they are seeking to acquire. Finally, it helps the Ameraucana Breeders Club raise some revenue to help defray expenses and keep annual dues to a minimum. Members may order a copy from the Secretary-Treasurer for \$2, and nonmembers may order it for \$5; shipping and handling are included.

Please take a moment to fill in the information, then clip the form out and mail it to Mike Gilbert, W5171 Baker Road, Holmen, Wisconsin 54636

A.B.C. BREEDERS DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

E-mail Address (if applicable):

I (check one)	Yes	No
Ship Hatching Eggs:	___	___
Ship Baby Chicks	___	___
Ship Started Stock	___	___
Ship Adult Stock	___	___
Deliver To Shows	___	___

List Varieties Available in Large Fowl Ameraucanas:

List Varieties Available in Bantam Ameraucanas:

Forward this listing or changes to Mike Gilbert, W5171 Baker Road, Holmen, WI 54636

CAPS! CAPS! CAPS!

Member Larry Clionsky has taken the initiative to have baseball type caps made up with an Ameraucana logo/symbol on the front. The cap is black, and the colored symbol is a wheaten female head with the letters A.B.C. above it. It is very attractive and may be ordered directly from Larry at RR#1, Box 7509, Grantville, PA 17028-9651. Or you may e-mail Larry at: Lclionsky@yahoo.com This is a very good quality cap that would make an excellent holiday or birthday gift. The price is \$15 plus shipping; a third of all sales will be donated to the Ameraucana Breeders Club treasury.