

Ameraucana Newsletter

September 2022 - Volume 8, Issue 3

A warm welcome to our new members!

Janessa Storace, CT

Judy Blehm, MI
Matt Boensch, MI

Stephanie Sandgren, KS

President - Michael Muenks

Greetings all! I hope your spring hatching season was successful and your Ameraucana grow-outs are doing well and that a few are exceptional! I wish I could say that my hatching season is over, but I still have a few eggs being incubated by either hens or the incubator.



I am doing my best to try to squeeze three or more generations into two years on some of the varieties I am working to improve. It is exciting to see good results showing up while some very interesting defects come up due to the genetic pressure I am putting on some of the improvement lines. It is a bit startling to see things like cross beak and crooked toes in the same batch of offspring that are much better than their parents and standouts. Genetics is truly fascinating.



I have a start of ermine Ameraucana thanks to fellow Missourian Lisa Helms. I was really thrilled with the hatch rate of the eggs from Lisa. Twenty-five out of thirty eggs hatched and of those eighteen were ermine and seven were black. They are all growing nicely. I also came home with a trio of smaller body sized large fowl ermine from Lisa. They will be used to start a line of bantam ermine Ameraucana. I'm happy to join those other breeders working with the ermine color.



2022 Club Elections

This is an election year for the Ameraucana Alliance. Mike Gilbert has agreed to serve as the election commissioner and Janie Villa has agreed to serve as the assistant election commissioner. Article 6 of the constitution describes the requirements for service as president of the club and on the board of directors.

I will take this opportunity to express my desire to not serve in the capacity of president of the club if others are willing to run for the position. I am willing to continue in the capacity of a director but given my ongoing long-haul COVID-19 symptoms, chronic migraines, and cervical spine related issues, I do not feel that I can give the position of club president the attention and energy it deserves. Hopefully, others who meet the requirements to serve as club president outlined in Article 6 of the constitution will be willing to run for the office. We also need additional members for the board of directors, and I encourage qualifying club members consider running for the board of directors.

National Meets

Thank you to the teams that are organizing the North Central and Western 2022 National Meets. It is a wonderful thing to have dedicated members in both areas of the country willing to organize and host the national meets this year. It is a testament to the dedication of the members of the club to support multiple national meets every few years to assist in more opportunities for large numbers of Ameraucana to be shown together and for club members to enjoy the fellowship. I am sad that health and family obligations are keeping me close to home for the time being and that I will not be able to attend either national meet this year.

It is difficult to imagine that it is already time to begin thinking about bids for the 2023 National Meet location. Please contact me at Michael_Muenks@yahoo.com if you would like a bid package to submit for your favorite local show. All bids for the 2023 National Meet need to be submitted by November 1, 2022, to the board of directors who will then decide and post that decision no later than November 15, 2022. Because local clubs often need to have a meeting to consider bidding on a national meet, it is important that potential hosts for national meets be contacted early. For more information regarding national meet placement please consult the club meet policy located on the club website.

Postscript 9-21-2022

My health has been precarious the last several weeks. I had the newsletter almost done and then things got significantly worse, and I was in bed if not working or doing the minimal of chores. I have been taken off one of the medicines that was recently added to the cocktail of things I take for migraines, and I am feeling a bit better.

During the last few weeks, I had a fascinating conversation with one of our Ameraucana Alliance and long-time Ameraucana breeders, Royce Van Blaricome. Royce lost his flocks of chickens, ducks, and geese to HPAI (avian flu) over the summer by state depopulation. The December newsletter will have recommendations that Royce has from his experience for members. The most notable recommendation for this time of year is to keep your coop cards from shows as proof that your birds are not just production or barnyard birds. More to come from my conversation with Royce in the December newsletter.

Director - Becky Howie



Hi again to all our Ameraucana enthusiasts. We are well past the halfway point of 2022, and it has been another challenging year.

It is hot, hot, hot here and very dry. Now I prefer the hot over the cold any day, but that does mean some extra work to keep cool, fresh water in the pens. If you have automatic waterers, kudos for being prepared to provide the extra water your animals have needed this summer. Fans are hanging in the coops here and frozen blocks of water help cool the air blowing through.

I hope everyone has escaped the wildfires raging in some areas. Fires have come very close to member's farms, but as far as I know, no one has had to evacuate. Covid just won't go away and HPAI is still cropping up in the United States.

We are all tough and will go through all this "stuff" and be OK on the other side.

My carport has two finished “runs” that are housing little Ermine chicks that will be the foundation for a bantam line of that variety and I am so excited to work with them.



I have a small pen of 2022 pullets that have just started laying little blue eggs and a handful of cockerels that are beginning to strut their stuff. My hens are in various stages of molt. Many started molting earlier this year and may just be in fine feather by October. After the cancellation of a lot of spring shows, I can imagine everyone is anxious to get out and see other poultry enthusiasts again this fall.



Plans for the two Nationals are coming together in Michigan and Utah. Other shows around the country are looking forward to a good turnout, you can be sure there will be a Poultry Show close to you to attend and I encourage everyone to support as many as you can.

Director - Jeff Sonsalla

The Ameraucana Alliance’s account balance is doing well. We have new members joining each month and few expenses at this time of year. The treasurer’s report is in the later pages of this newsletter.



Summer is coming to a close here in Wisconsin. School is about to start, and county fairs are winding down. We had to cancel our Coulee Region Poultry Club show this past June due to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza. Luckily, we were able to enjoy our Trempealeau County Fair in July since the last case of HPAI in Wisconsin was May 23rd. It was so nice the youth were able to show their birds at the fair. Additionally, the gnats have not been a big issue here in Wisconsin this summer. Some years people lose numerous birds to death by gnats.

I am in the middle of moving to my new place and cleaning up my current house so it can be listed for sale. I decided not to hatch any chicks this year with everything going on, so I won’t have any young birds to show this fall. I also decided to wait on trying the red Ameraucana project until my life settles down and I have room for them. Hopefully many other members have had a good hatching season and are planning on bringing a large group of Ameraucana to our Nationals this fall.



I hope many members are able to make it to our Nationals again this year. It is really special to view all of the quality Ameraucana and to converse with old and new Ameraucana friends.

Wishing everyone a good fall and a successful show season.

If anyone has any questions, please contact me at myhometownvet@gmail.com or (608) 738-8701.

Director - Mindy Waters



Hello again from Washington State!

I hope the hatching season has been productive for all the breeders and to those of you that have gotten Ameraucana for your backyard flocks this year, I hope you are enjoying them as much as I do.

I've not hatched as many chicks as I usually do this season because life has gotten quite hectic, but I expect to have a few standouts to move forward with by early next Spring. Improving these birds is a marathon- not a sprint, and I'm grateful to have these wonderful creatures in my life as I continue to learn how to achieve my personal goals with them.

I still plan on attending the Western Nationals in October, although I may not take any birds. I'm excited to help run the egg show and to meet those who are also able to attend. The members of this club are a big part of what makes working with this breed so enjoyable. It should be a fun time for all! If you would like to mail eggs for the egg show, please reach out to me for details. You don't have to attend the meet to enter eggs, I'll take them down to the show with me.

With our 2022 election coming up, I would like to take the time to encourage you to volunteer for the next term or nominate those you feel would be a good fit to help promote the Ameraucana Alliance and the breed as a board member. I've enjoyed helping on the board these past two years and plan to continue to do so if possible but would like to invite everyone interested to participate. It just takes a little time and a lot of dedication. I'm grateful to this club for everything it has done to help me on my Ameraucana journey.

Upcoming Meets

September 3, 2022

Wisconsin

Club Meet, requested by Jerry DeSmidt

Northwoods Poultry Fanciers Club Show #1, Wisconsin Valley Fairgrounds, 1201 Stewart Avenue, Wausau, WI

Contact: (715) 921-4399, northwoodspoultryfanciersclub@gmail.com

September 3, 2022

Wisconsin

Club Meet, requested by Jerry DeSmidt

Northwoods Poultry Fanciers Club Show #2, Wisconsin Valley Fairgrounds, 1201 Stewart Avenue, Wausau, WI

Contact: (715) 921-4399, northwoodspoultryfanciersclub@gmail.com

September 8-18, 2022

Utah

Club Meet, requested by Janet Tipton

Utah State Fair Show #1, State Fair Park, Salt Lake City, UT

Contact: Mike Spencer, mikecspencer@comcast.net, (385) 290-7291

September 8-18, 2022

Utah

Club Meet, requested by Janet Tipton

Utah State Fair Show #2, State Fair Park, Salt Lake City, UT

Contact: Mike Spencer, mikecspencer@comcast.net, (385) 290-7291

October 1, 2022

North Central National Meet

Ameraucana Alliance Private Ameraucana Only Meet

Birch Run, MI

Contact: John Blehm, johnnyb.goode@charter.net

October 8-9, 2022

Michigan

Club Meet, requested by John Blehm

Fowl Fest - <http://FowlFest.org>, Chesaning, MI

Contact: Matt Boensch, mjwaterfowl@yahoo.com

October 14-16, 2022

Western National Meet

Utah Fancy Poultry Association Fall Show #1, Ogden, UT

Contact: Michelle Muldowney-Stevens, michelle.muldowneystevens@aggiemail.usu.edu

October 14-16, 2022

Utah

Club Meet, Utah Fancy Poultry Association Fall Show #2, Ogden, UT

Contact: Michelle Muldowney-Stevens, michelle.muldowneystevens@aggiemail.usu.edu

October 15, 2022

New Jersey

Club Meet, requested by Janet Little

Sussex County Poultry Association Fall Show, Sussex County Fairgrounds, 37 Plains Road, Augusta, NJ

Contact: Karen Unrath, sussexcountypoultry@gmail.com

October 15-16, 2022

Pennsylvania

Club Meet, requested by Kraig Shafer

Uniontown Poultry and Farm Products Association Shows and Swap Meet, Fayette County Fairgrounds, Albert Lilley Poultry Building, Dunbar, PA

Contact: Steve Stanish, 2105 University Drive, Lemont Furnace, PA 15456 or Liesa Stiller, uniontownpoultry@hotmail.com

October 22, 2022

Missouri

Club Meet, requested by Rebecca Howie

Missouri State Poultry Fall Show and Swap #1, Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia, MO

Contact: Bernita Miller, 300 N. Franklin, Windsor, MO 65360, bmillier@iland.net, (660) 647-2427

October 22, 2022

Missouri

Club Meet, requested by Rebecca Howie

Missouri State Poultry Fall Show and Swap #2, Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia, MO

Contact: Bernita Miller, 300 N. Franklin, Windsor, MO 65360, bmillier@iland.net, (660) 647-2427

November 5-6, 2022

Arkansas

Club Meet, requested by Rebecca Howie

Heart of the Ozarks Poultry Association 14th Annual Fall Show, Fayetteville, AR

Contact: Jacob Bates, jakeab42@hotmail.com (479) 965-5222

November 12, 2022

Washington

Club Meet, requested by Mindy Waters

Stevenson Poultry Classic, Skamania County Fairgrounds, 720 SW Rock Creek Drive, Stevenson, WA

Contact: Barb Tuss, barbtuss@gmail.com

November 12, 2022

Utah

Club Meet, requested by Janet Tipton

Beehive State Poultry Classic, Deseret Peak Complex, 2920 West Highway 112, Grantsville, UT

Contact: Josh Stout, jjstout06@gmail.com

November 19, 2022

Kentucky

Club Meet, Requested by Lainey Miller

Appalachian Classic Double Meet Show #1, Derrickson Agricultural Complex, 25 MSU Farm Drive, Morehead, KY

Contact: Vinson Workman, (304) 617-9588 or Marty Short, (859) 274-3337, easternkypoultryassoc@yahoo.com

November 19, 2022

Kentucky

Club Meet, Requested by Lainey Miller

Appalachian Classic Double Meet Show #2, Derrickson Agricultural Complex, 25 MSU Farm Drive, Morehead, KY

Contact: Vinson Workman, (304) 617-9588 or Marty Short, (859) 274-3337, easternkypoultryassoc@yahoo.com

November 19, 2022

Virginia

Club Meet, requested by Stacy Melton, Janie Vila

Virginia Poultry Breeders Association Fall Double Show #1, Caroline County Fair Grounds, Doswell, VA

Contact: John Miles, Jr., jmiles@canadademo.com

November 19, 2022

Virginia

Club Meet, requested by Stacy Melton, Janie Vila

Virginia Poultry Breeders Association Fall Double Show #2, Caroline County Fair Grounds, Doswell, VA

Contact: John Miles, Jr., jmiles@canadademo.com

December 3-5, 2021

Tennessee

Club Meet, requested by Michael Muenks

Dixie Classic Poultry Show, Jacobs Building - Chilhowee Park, 3301 E. Magnolia Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37914

Contact: mummados@gmail.com, <https://tvpoultryclub.com/handbook/>

December 10, 2022

Oklahoma

Club Meet, requested by Michael Muenks

Oklahoma State Poultry Federation, Heart of Oklahoma Exposition Center, 1700 W. Independence, Shawnee, Ok 74802

Contact: oklahomastatepoultryfederation@gmail.com

Treasurer's Report 8-10-2022

Checking Account at Waumandee State Bank,
Arcadia, WI

Previous Balances as of 6-1-22	
Checking	\$4,473.00
PayPal	\$41.96
Total Balances	\$4,514.96
Income	\$89.60 (membership checks \$10.00, PayPal \$79.60)
Expenses	\$70.00 – Poultry Press Ad for one year
Balances as of 8-10-2022	
Checking	\$4,413.00
PayPal	\$121.56
Total Balances	\$4,534.56

Respectfully submitted, Jeff Sonsalla – Treasurer

Newsletter/ Meet Deadlines

Have something to share in the Ameraucana Alliance Newsletter? Great! Email your ads, articles, opinions, stories, photos, etc. to AmeraucanaAlliance@gmail.com by November 15, 2022. Please send ads, articles, opinions, and or stories in Word or Rich text.

If you have a meet request, with an entry deadline after December 1, 2022, email it to AmeraucanaAlliance@gmail.com by August 15, 2022.

Please request meets as early as possible. If there are multiple shows at the event such as a double show, please make a meet request for each show at the event.



2022 APA Yearbook and Ameraucana – Mike Gilbert

I received my 2022 APA yearbook in the mail today. The Alliance full color ads are on pages 168 and 169. My contribution can be found on pages 52 and 53. There are educational articles, lots of ads, some show results, and a lot more. Pages 392 and 393 list the numbers of entries by breed that were shown in 2021.

In large fowl, the Ameraucana came in 2nd out of 54 breeds shown with 934 entries. Top large fowl breed was Cochins with 965 shown. Third place in large fowl was Australorp with 446 shown.

In the bantams, the number of Ameraucana shown were 789, which was good for 10th place out of 61 breeds. The leading bantam breed shown was, of course, O.E. Games with 4799. Second was Silkies with 3,066.

Based on these numbers, we can say unequivocally that Ameraucana are one of the most popular breeds in the U.S.A. and Canada.



North Central National Meet – John Blehm

The 2022 North Central National Meet is fast approaching. If you are attending it is time to start keeping eggs for the egg contest. Show entries are due September 19, 2022. Please call me at (989) 598-5555 if you have questions.

A tent will be setup and exhibitors may house their birds, in their own transport coops, in the tent during the show. Some may prefer to house their birds in their own trailer or vehicle during the show. Exhibitors will move their own birds to and from the show coops, in the show barn, as each class is judged. BV and RV birds will remain in the show barn and cooped in a champion row. Birds that don't place BV or RV will be returned to their transport coops where owners will feed and water them. Feed and water will be available at the show. Judging will begin Saturday morning at 9:00 AM.

Three meals will be available at the show, in our enclosed pavilion, for \$10/person per meal and reservations should be made with me in advance or the show. These meals include bottled water, pop, coffee, vegetable salads and dessert. Payment may be made at the show.

- Friday at 7pm - pulled pork buffet, with buns, coleslaw and loaded baked potatoes.
- Saturday afternoon - Fried chicken luncheon, with mac & cheese and biscuits.
- Saturday at 6pm - Pizza & subs banquet.

Please feel free to bring any of your own meals to the show for special dietary reasons or whatever. A microwave is available, in the pavilion. Also, there are many restaurants nearby, in Bridgeport, Birch Run and Frankenmuth.

The Americas Best Value Inn, Birch Run is the host hotel for the North Central Nation Meet and has special "Chicken Show" The hotel's phone number is (989) 624-4440. The special "Chicken Show" rates are: 1 Queen - \$100.00 + tax & 2 Queens - \$105.00 + tax per night.

Western National Meet – Janet Tipton

The Utah Fancy Poultry Association is once again thrilled to be hosting the Ameraucana Alliance Western National during our 2022 Fall Show. The show will be held at the Golden Spike Events Center, Exhibition Hall at 1000 1200 W St. Ogden UT 84404. The Ameraucana Alliance Western National will include an open show, junior show (juniors can also enter the open show) and an egg show. It is a double show and will be also hosting the Silkie Breeders Western National, Cochins International Western National, Polish Breeders Club District 6 meet and the Marans Chicken Club special meet and will be held October 13-15. The judge will be announced at a later date. If you would be interested in donating eggs, birds or equipment to the fundraiser to benefit AA please contact me, Janet Tipton at FlyingTAcres@gmail.com. Also, if you would like to ship birds to enter and then be auctioned off that would be great too.

There will be a UFPA group dinner at a location to be determined on Friday night for anyone who would like to attend. We will have final details at show check in.

If you would like a show premium emailed to you please send a request to utahfancypoultry@gmail.com with the title of "UFPA 2022 Fall Show" in the subject line and they will be sent out as soon as they are available. The show premium will have details on a special group rate at a local hotel as well as the final plans for dinner Friday night.

If you are attending and would also be willing to assist in staffing the Ameraucana Alliance breed table please let Janet know as well.

Thank you and I hope to see many of you there.

2022 National Meet Awards

Awards List for the 2022 Ameraucana Alliance National Meets

Birch Run, MI & Ogden, UT

<u>Open Show Competition with 3 or more entries in a class</u>	<u>Award Amount</u>
Champion Ameraucana Overall (bantam and large fowl)	\$100.00
Reserve Champion Ameraucana Overall (bantam and large fowl)	\$75.00
Best of Breed Bantam	\$50.00
Reserve of Breed Bantam	\$25.00
Best of Breed Large Fowl	\$50.00
Reserve of Breed Large Fowl	\$25.00
Best of Variety Bantam (10 recognized, plus Best AOV)	\$25.00
Reserve of Variety Bantam (10 recognized, plus Best AOV)	\$15.00
Best of Variety Large Fowl (9 recognized, plus Best AOV)	\$25.00
Reserve of Variety Large Fowl (9 recognized, plus Best AOV)	\$15.00
Champion Bantam Trio	\$50.00
Reserve Champion Bantam Trio	\$25.00
Champion Large Fowl Trio	\$50.00
Reserve Champion Large Fowl Trio	\$25.00
Champion Display Overall	\$50.00
Reserve Campion Display Overall	\$25.00

Ameraucana Egg Competition, with 3 or more entries in a class

Best Bantam Eggs	\$75.00
Reserve Bantam Eggs	\$50.00
Best Large Fowl Eggs	\$75.00
Reserve Large Fowl Eggs	\$50.00

Junior Competition, 17 and under

Best of Breed Bantam	Rosette
Reserve of Breed Bantam	Rosette
Best of Breed Large Fowl	Rosette
Reserve of Breed Large Fowl	Rosette
BV Bantam and Large Fowl	Blue "Ameraucana National Meet" Ribbon
RV Bantam and Large Fowl	Red "Ameraucana National Meet" Ribbon
Exhibitor (other than BV and RV)	"Ameraucana National Meet" Ribbon

*Ameraucana Alliance Members are eligible for these awards offered by our club and our members. Note: "Special Awards" donated by our members will be awarded by them.

** Eggs entered into the egg judging contest become the property of the Ameraucana Alliance.

*** Winning members that prefer plaques, rosettes, trophies, etc., may request assistance from the Ameraucana Alliance officers in procuring them using their cash award(s).

Updated 6/29/2022

New Ameraucana Alliance Patches

New Ameraucana Alliance sew on patches are available now. They are 3-inch round patches with the new Wheaten cock logo and a blue background. They will be \$5.00 shipping included. You can order them online or send a check to the following address made out to the Ameraucana Alliance for \$5.00.



Rebecca G Howie
19699 Jewell Dr.
Gravette, AR 72736

Ameraucana Alliance Board of Directors

President - Michael Muenks

33878 Hwy 87
California, MO 65081
michael_muenks@yahoo.com
(573) 418-3755

Director - Becky Howie

19699 Jewell Drive
Gravette, AR 72713
Rebecca@mac.com
(407) 327-1212

Director - Mindy Waters

PO Box 1089
Connell, WA 99326
TheWaterstead@gmail.com
(509) 431-7134

Director - Jeff Sonsalla

W 24453 Benrud Road
Galesville, WI 54630
myhometownvet@gmail.com
(608) 738-8701



Join us on Facebook at:

[facebook.com/groups/Ameraucana Alliance](https://www.facebook.com/groups/AmeraucanaAlliance)



Join us on MeWe at:

<https://mewe.com/group/5ffbc2402b70ff573c4a5f16>

Join us on the Ameraucana

Forum at:

<http://ameraucanaalliance.org/forum/>

