

Ameraucana Newsletter

Fall 2018 ~ Volume 4, Issue 4

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Welcome New Members...

Marilyn S Arendall, AR	Becky Hohol, WI
Donna Davis, WA	w/Victoria
Heidi Grable, NC	Kaitlyn Brooks, WI
Klaus Terfort, Germany	Levi Dulmes, WI
Leonie Terfort, CA	Lindsey Dowd, TX
Katie Proffit, WI	Justin Snyder, UT
w/Rylie, William & James	Illia Chavez, WA
Nate Rynish, WI	Alison K Abbott, MI

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Alliance members that attended our Saturday evening Ameraucana Banquet & annual meeting were, from left to right...Jen Fegan, Jim Fegan, Jeff Sonsalla, John Blehm, Bob Rennolet, Russ Blair, Jacob Sonsalla, Bob Walchak, Marina Blair, Max Strawn, Mike Gilbert, Scott Lepak, Dave Blair & Anne Lepak.

"Our story with Ameraucanas started on a Sunday morning in 1998 at the Ohio National poultry show..."
[read more on page 2](#)

"...Entire commercial hog and poultry houses were under water, as well as much of the crop land. You'd be hard pressed to find any building within 100 miles that didn't sustain at least some damage..."
[read more on page 3](#)

"...and the beautiful birds that he was grooming were Ameraucanas. He took a great deal of time to explain things to us like what he was doing and why. Looking back, now that we understand just how hectic show..."
[read more on page 8](#)



CH AOCCL & CH Ameraucana Overall bantam white pullet, by Mike Gilbert



Champion AOSB large fowl black cock, by Nate Rynish

Neil & Donna Townsend receive Lifetime Achievement Award



Our story with Ameraucanas started on a Sunday morning in 1998 at the Ohio National poultry show. Mike Gilbert was tending to his birds before his long haul back to Wisconsin; we started talking with him about his Ameraucanas and the rest is history.

Our first National was at Connersville, Indiana. That is where we first met John Blehm. We remember John had a whole trailer load of Buff Ameraucana bantams. In 2001 we traveled to Galax, Virginia for the Ameraucana National Meet. Donna had Best of Breed with a Blue Wheaten pullet, champion overall in our national meet, and Reserve AOCCL of the show. And I had reserve large fowl Ameraucana with a White cock!

Mike asked me to fill in for District Director because the club needed one until the next election, so I said OK. That was in 2002 when we went to Columbus again. We had a great National there, and a raffle like NO OTHER!

The year 2003 took us to Lucasville, Ohio, for the national meet. We had one on champion row in the AOCCL class. We had a nice raffle that year also to help the Club. We also attended the APA National Meet in New York.

In 2008 we had three Best of Variety wins at our national meet at Columbus, Ohio. Then in 2010 we traveled to our national meet in the blue grass state of Kentucky where we enjoyed great weather. We had one Best of Variety there.

The year 2011 our national meet was at the huge Indy #2 show. There was no map in the show catalog, and it was difficult to find our way around the city. In 2015 it was another long haul, this time 20 miles north of Indianapolis in Lebanon. We had best Blue Wheaten bantam. We had the 2016 national meet at the same location; it was okay.

Birch Run Michigan was the site for our 2017 national meet. It was a nice big show room. We had BV and RV White bantams, and that evening we went to the Blehm's for a party. A WONDERFUL time was had by all!

As you can see we have tried to attend as many national Ameraucana meets as we could, supported the club with donations, etc., served as District Director, and raised money for the club by running the raffle table!

In closing we say A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to the Alliance for our Lifetime Achievement plaque and the 40th Anniversary rosette. They are priceless!

Signing off: the retired folks from LOUD & PROUD POULTRY, Neil & Donna Townsend, 11605 Hunters Ridge Blvd, Apt#4. Meadville, PA 16335-6269

Beth Curran ~ President

Greetings, friends! Hope this finds you all well. The end of the year has snuck up on me, and I just realized this is my last newsletter report as president. I have enjoyed serving on the board these last four years and may give it another go when life settles down.

This past year has been a whirlwind, between two total knee replacements and a major hurricane, in addition to Walker's sports and other school activities. Life is slowly getting back to something that resembles normal, but it will be many years before Eastern North Carolina fully recovers from Hurricane Florence, if we ever do. While our farm was spared any major damage, the impact to agriculture throughout the region has been staggering. Entire commercial hog and poultry houses were under water, as well as much of the crop land. You'd be hard pressed to find any building within 100 miles that didn't sustain at least some damage. Many homes, including apartment buildings, were a total loss. At least half of the people I know have tarped roofs and/or mold issues. Every school in our county, public and private, was damaged. Walker was out of school for 5 weeks, and some schools didn't reopen until November. It's now been more than two months and still everywhere you look you see people's whole lives piled on the sides of the highway, many families are still displaced, businesses remain closed, leaving people out of work, and we hardly take notice anymore of the big tandem semi trailers moving mountains of debris, they've become part of life here. Please keep the people of our region in your prayers, along with those to our south hit by Hurricane Michael, and everyone affected by the devastating wildfires out west. This has been a tough year for so many...

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe, happy, healthy and prosperous 2019!



Russ Blair ~ Director

Greeting my fellow Ameraucana Alliance member's. As I sit and write this winter has arrived in Michigan with several small snow falls. I will admit I am not ready for it but I will not let it influence my determination to start hatching. My goal is to try and get several Large Fowl on the ground in time for our 2019 National Meet.

Speaking of National Meets as usual our 2018 commemorative National Meet was a huge success. With Michael Gilbert taking the Overall Champion Ameraucana honors with a spectacular white bantam pullet. Nate Rynish, a new member, took Reserve Overall with a Large Fowl Black. Congratulations to you both again for your respectful wins.

I will not get into the full details of all the winners as I am sure Mike or John probably has this covered. I would like to take a moment and give thanks to the many members who donated breeding fowl or items for our silent auction. This would include Michael Gilbert's donation of two breeding pairs of bantam Wheaten/Blue Wheaten, Robert Rennolet's donation of a trio of Large fowl Lavender and trio of Black Ameraucana, John Blehms wonderful donation of plates with exhibiting stand (he also donated several other plates and magazines which helped draw people to our club table), David Blair donated a bowling ball décor with an Ameraucana Alliance brass plate attached. The generous donations brought in a total of \$277 worth of winning bids.

I would also like to thank Rebecca for donating another beautiful hat to be auctioned off. Like last year we waited to do this at our club meeting. Michael Gilbert graciously placed the winning bid of \$100 and respectfully won. As you see the generosity of members plays a part in making this one if not the best breed specific club I know of. I will be putting together another silent auction for next year's National Meet. If you are planning on attending please keep this in mind during the upcoming hatching season.

Well like my show season I guess I should wrap this report up. Please keep the meet requests coming in, more importantly get out of your comfort zone and attend...

(continued →)



a new show next year. I know exhibiting our Ameraucana is not a requirement for our wonderful Alliance but the joy and friendships I make are truly priceless. May all your planning this winter and the resulting mating's result in a crop of Ameraucana better than last years in your grow out pens. Until next time try and stay warm, and get them setters and hatchers ready. For hatching season will be here next, take care and God Bless.

Jeannette Frank ~ Director

Since this is my last article as a Director I will reminisce and ramble a bit. Hope that is okay with you. I am hoping some of the younger and more involved members will pick up a pen and contribute. I will be looking forward to future articles by others. As much as I enjoy being around poultry, and more importantly poultry people, I am seldom close enough to communicate with them other than with email, facebook and snail mail. There was time when I wrote articles, found lots of information and trivia. Believe it or not, I at one time made up quizzes and puzzles for newsletters. I did newsletters for more than the Ameraucana club. That seems centuries ago. I wrote letters – tons of letters. The post office loved me; I averaged ten/twelve letters a week although the letters weren't always regarding poultry. I don't know if I still have all my files of correspondence but at one time three of my drawers in my lateral file were full of letters. This was all long before the era of texting (which I still do not do) and computers.



My early newsletters were all hand written and typed then cut and pasted before being taken to the print shop to be printed. The assembly and envelope stuffing I did at night sitting on my living room floor after I got home from work and all the chores were done. By the time I was ready to call it a night all the envelopes had been stuffed, addressed, stamped and sorted - ready to mail on my way to work in the morning. Those were the days!

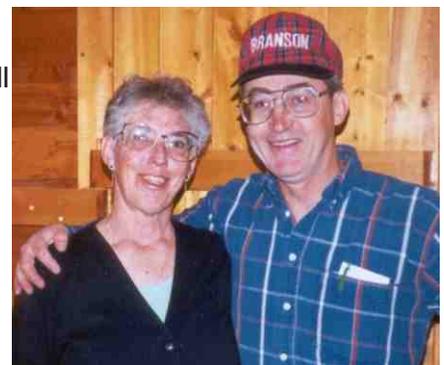
I am in the process of downsizing, because I know one of these days in the near future I will most likely be moving into a smaller abode. There will be no way I can take fifty years plus of collecting with me. In this process I have already trashed so much. (Did I tell you I knit, crochet, garden, fish, and take pictures?) I know I filled at least ten +/- 30 gallon trash bags with hard copy patterns and photos. I have one bookcase of nothing but poultry and gardening books. I had four shelves of another bookcase with 20 ring binders and books of knitting/crocheting. I have narrowed that down to two shelves of ring binders and books of knitting and crocheting. I took three boxes of books to the local yarn shop. I still have all my gardening and poultry books. One of these days I will pare these down.

Back when I was doing newsletters I would get letters and articles from so many. Anyone remember the volumes that Jeanne Trent used to write? She would write for weeks and then send it to me to type and fit into the newsletters. I sure miss her. Sometimes I would have to boil some of the articles down or change wording (no auto spell back then).

So many memories of so many good times with good friends. It was interesting and rewarding when I met all the people that I had been exchanging letters with when we had a national meet in Hutchinson, MN, so many years ago. And the interesting part was it was as if we had all been together just a few days before. And there was Highland, IL, when I was testing for my judging license and Jeanne kept me up almost all night talking. I looked like a raccoon the next morning. That is a special memory for so many reasons. And Mason City, IA.

That was the last time we were all together and had such a great time.

I am so proud of all those that have carried the torch for the Ameraucana in the past and now. May the flame continue to burn bright. I will be here in support of all.



Jeannette Frank & Mike Gilbert years ago!

Mike Gilbert ~ Director

Alliance members from around the Midwest and as far away as Texas celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the Breed Club's 1978 founding at Portage, Wisconsin, the weekend of September 28-29, 2018. Hosting the event was the Wisconsin International Poultry Club (WIPC).

It was Don Cable's idea to form a club to promote the muffed and tailed blue egg laying bantams after he acquired two pair of Wheaten bantams from Mike Gilbert, who shipped them to Don at Sacramento, CA, via air freight from the Cedar Rapids, IA, airport. Don served as the first Secretary of the Ameraucana Bantam Club, while Mike served as President. In 1980, Don organized an ABA qualifying meet in California which succeeded in having the ABA recognize the Wheaten and White varieties. In 1983, the ABA recognized six more varieties at a second qualifying meet at the Ohio National in Columbus. The six were Black, Blue, Blue Wheaten, Brown Red, Buff, and Silver. A year later, the American Poultry Association recognized all eight bantam varieties, plus the same varieties for large fowl in the Ameraucana Breed. This was announced at the 1984 APA National, which was held in Milwaukee that year. The salient points of much of the rest of Ameraucana history are covered extensively in our Ameraucana Handbook, which comes free to all new members.

Some 230 Ameraucana entries were received for the open show by the WIPC for our 40th Anniversary and 2018 Ameraucana National Meet. The Junior show had an additional 19 entries. When the judging was completed, three Ameraucanas were on Champion Row in the open show, and three Ameraucanas were class champions in the junior show. Don Karasek and Dennis Thompson did a nice job of judging the Ameraucana bantams and large fowl, respectively. They got together to pick an overall champion and reserve champion. Reserve Ameraucana was Nate Rynish's Black large fowl cock, and top Ameraucana was Mike Gilbert's White bantam pullet. Reserve large fowl was John Blehm's black pullet, and reserve bantam was Bob Walchak's buff pullet.

Other large fowl variety winners in the open show were Nate Rynish in Blues, John Blehm in Brown Reds, Jeff Sonsalla in Buffs, John Blehm in Silvers, and Bob Rennolet in Whites. A couple of unrecognized varieties of large fowl were shown as well. Max Strawn had the best Splash, John Blehm had best Lavender Silver, and John Blehm had the top Lavender. Judged best of the large fowl AOV's was the Splash pullet by Max Stawn.

Over in the bantam aisles, the top Black was by Russ Blair, the top Blue by Gary Rossman, the best Brown Red by Bob Walchak, top Blue Wheaten by Russ Blair, the best and reserve Buffs by Bob Walchak, best Silver by Bob Walchak, top Wheaten by Jacob Sonsalla, and reserve White by Bob Walchak. Again, a couple of unrecognized varieties were exhibited. The top Lavender went to Russ Blair and the Splash Wheaten to Mike Gilbert. Top AOV went to the Lavender. So the awards were well spread out. And that's just the way we like it, as it keeps everyone interested and coming back.

Each year we present a special plaque as a Lifetime Achievement award. This year it went to Neil and Donna Townsend. They had been very active at promoting the breed and helping out at our National Meets, but recently had to move to an apartment due to health issues. So they are out of birds but will continue to be loyal members of the club. Congratulations to them both!

In honor of our 40th Anniversary, a special Wisconsin shaped oak plaque was offered to the best bantam of a parti-color variety. Varieties eligible were Blue, Brown Red, Silver, Wheaten, and Blue Wheaten. Judge Don Karasek picked the Silver pullet of Bob Walchak's to receive this keepsake award.

The Club also holds an Ameraucana egg competition at our annual national meets. This year \$50 went to each of four categories: Best and Reserve bantam eggs, and Best and Reserve large fowl eggs. Both of the large fowl awards went to Bob Rennolet, and both bantam awards to Mike Gilbert.

The annual member meeting and awards ceremony was held in the lower level meeting room of Dino's restaurant Saturday evening after we enjoyed a fine meal. After our meeting awards were distributed to the winning exhibitors. Each Alliance member at the show received a beautiful purple and black 40th anniversary commemorative rosette.



Jensen Pierson ~ Director

When I was in 4H during my first 3 years I would pick a hatchery and order a trio of chicks of a different breed in each large fowl class. I knew I needed to experiment and find what type of chickens struck my fancy. I got Orpingtons, speckled Sussex, Jersey Giants, Buttercups, Leghorns, even Polish. Every year after the county fair I would go through my flock of 30 or so birds, cull the males of the breeds I did not care for, and send those hens to my laying flock. The birds I did like I kept back to show as hens and cocks the next year. It was in this way that I was able to quickly decide what breed I liked. That breed of course was an Easter Egger. Now keep in mind I was only 12 and didn't know any better. When I tried to research the breed I learned much to my dismay that my easter egger was not a true breed and that the breed I wanted was an Ameraucana. To this day, since I was 13 I have always raised Ameraucanas.



Why Ameraucanas? When people ask me that, and the first thing that comes to mind is not to answer the question, but to file it in the back of my brain as a perfect showmanship question. Perhaps I am an odd person. Perhaps I have attended and participated in a few too many showmanship competitions. Either way I think that is a brilliant question to ask anyone. Why Ameraucanas? The same question could be said to an Orpington breeder, a Rare Buttercup breeder, even a Japanese Bantam breeder and we would all respond with similar answers. "Because we like the breed," is an easy comeback. "I raised this breed since I was a 4Her," is a reply I myself can claim. Whatever the reason we all love our breeds deeply and we always have that one breed of poultry that speaks to us and always has a place in our flock. For me I can easily say that was the Ameraucana. I have tried many breeds over the past few years. It is not to say they were not lovely birds or good stock, but I found myself always going back to the Ameraucanas. This year I have learned the importance of focusing. I focus on just two breeds now, my Ameraucanas, and my Dorkings. To my surprise, I have not missed my other breeds of birds. Of course I have quite a menagerie in my laying flock, but there is something satisfying about seeing a pen full of your favorite breeds.

Sometimes I laugh at myself and think how I should have been more witty to these people and tell them, "why not Ameraucanas?" Sadly I am not as clever with my words as I would like. That being said, I challenge you to give Ameraucanas a try. If that doesn't convince you let me respond to that question as a woman reliving her showmanship days. "The Ameraucanas are a breed revered for their robin blue eggs. In addition they are prolific layers and the males serve as meat birds due to their dual purpose classification. Furthermore, the Ameraucana is an attractive bird in the laying flock with their beard and muffs. It is an excellent breed for a youth who wishes to start a laying flock or exhibit birds. Lastly the birds are easily tamed and have a docile nature." After that comment I would smile at the judge and proudly display my black Ameraucana hen and point out her good and bad points because that is the overachiever in me. Sadly as I write I am in the house with no bird in my lap to be able to tell you that part. I hope you find my argument convincing and give the Ameraucana a chance! If not, I understand, we all have that special breed in our hearts and sometimes our barn can only hold so much. If you would like to get into Ameraucanas I know a great group of folks ready and willing to help you out, including myself of course. The Ameraucana Alliance is nothing but an alliance of people seeking to improve this fine breed and I hope those interested will choose to be a part of it. I hope everyone has a great holiday season and new year.



Mike Gilbert presents his Ameraucana 40th Anniversary Memorial Award to Bob Walchak during our annual meeting in Portage, WI

Ameraucana National Meet Report

Wisconsin International Poultry Club

Wisconsin International - Portage, WI 9/29-30/2018

111 bantams by 12 exhibitors, judge Don Karasek

BV black H by Russell Blair out of 21
RV black K by Russell
BV blue K by Gary Rossman out of 6
RV blue K by Gary
BV blue wheaten H by Russell out of 15
RV blue wheaten P by Russell
BV brown red K by Robert Walchak out of 4
RV brown red K by Mike Gilbert
BV, RB buff H by Bob Walchak out of 7
RV buff H by Robert Walchak
BV silver P by Robert Walchak out of 14
RV silver K by Robert Walchak
BV wheaten P by Jacob Sonsalla out of 19
BV wheaten K by Robert Walchak
BV, BB, Champion Ameraucana Overall & Champion AOCCL, white P by Mike Gilbert out of 9
RV white P by Robert Walchak
BV lavender P by Russell out of 15
RV lavender P by John W Blehm
BV splash K by Mike
Champion Trio white YT by Mike Gilbert
Reserve CH Trio blue wheaten OT by Russell Blair
Champion Display Overall & Champion Bantam Display of Show black bantam by Russell Blair

105 large fowl by 17 exhibitors, judge Dennis Thompson

BV, BB, Reserve Champion Ameraucana Overall & Champion AOSB black K by Nate Rynish out of 40
RV, RB, Res. CH AOSB black P by John Blehm
BV blue H by Nate
RV blue P by Scott Lepak
BV brown red P by John W Blehm out of 3
RV brown red K by John
BV buff K by Jeffrey Sonsalla out of 15
RV buff P by John Fegan
BV silver H by John out of 8
RV silver C by Jacob Sonsalla
BV white C by Robert Rennolet out of 3
RV white K by Robert Rennolet
BV lavender P by Jen Fegan out of 14
RV lavender H by Jen Fegan
BV lavender silver P by John W Blehm out of 3
RV lavender silver K by John
BV splash P by Max Strawn out of 2
RV splash P by Anne Lepak
Champion Trio black YT by James A Fegan
Reserve CH Trio black YT by Robert Rennolet
Reserve Display Overall & Champion Large Fowl Display of the Show black by James A Fegan

Bantam Egg Contest, judges: Anne Lepak & Scott Lepak

Best – Mike Gilbert
Reserve – Mike Gilbert

LF Egg Contest, judges: Jim Fegan & Jen Fegan

Best – Bob Rennolet
Reserve – Bob Rennolet

7 junior bantams by 3 exhibitors, judge Don Karasek

BV blue K by Matt Rossman
BV white H by Nathan Thompson

11 jr large fowl by 6 exhibitors, judge Dennis Thompson

RV, RB black K by Kaitlyn Brooks out of 5
RV blue P by Kaitlyn Brooks
BV white H by Lauren Thompson

Ameraucana Club Meet Report

Michigan Poultry Fanciers

Fowl Fest - Birch Run, MI 11/3-4/2018

27 Bantams by 5 exhibitors, judge Tim Bowles

BV, BB black K by Russell Blair out of 15
RV black H by Russell
BV blue K by Russell out of 2
RV blue K by Russell
BV, RB blue wheaten H by Russell out of 4
RV blue wheaten P by Russell
BV buff K by John W Blehm out of 2
RV buff P by John
BV wheaten K by John out of 2
RV wheaten P by John
BV lavender K by John out of 2
RV lavender P by John

16 Large Fowl by 8 exhibitors, judge Phil Bartz

BV, BB & Champion AOSB black C by Nate Rynish out of 13
BV, RB & Res AOSB blue P by Russell Blair
BV buff P by Jeffrey Vance

Junior Competition:

3 Bantams by 2 exhibitors, judge Phil Bartz

6 Large Fowl by 2 exhibitors, judge Tim Bowles

BV, BB & Champion AOSB black P by Adler Pirouz out of 6

Adler Pirouz
at Fowl Fest
next to her
winning Jr
Champion AOSB
black
Ameraucana
pullet on
Champion Row!



We, Nathan, Lauren, and David Thompson,
2628 110th Avenue, Woodville, WI 54028
wish to recognize Mike Gilbert, Holmen, WI
for extraordinary contributions to WI youth poultry, because:

About a decade ago, when we were debating whether to buy poultry or not, we met Mike Gilbert. Our family decided to check out our very first poultry show. While there we walked around the cages, drooling over the beautiful birds. In one aisle was a gentleman putting something on the combs of his birds. We didn't have a clue what he could be doing, so we asked him. The man was Mr. Mike Gilbert and the beautiful birds that he was grooming were Ameraucanas. He took a great deal of time to explain things to us like what he was doing and why. Looking back, now that we understand just how hectic show morning can be, we realize how extraordinary his patience with our simple questions and limited knowledge really was. That was the first time we met Mike and our friendship has grown from there. He has been kind and generous to our family, always willing to help find just the right birds that we need to improve our flock. Mike has hauled birds for us from as far away as Ohio to give us the opportunity to breed the next generation better than the last. He has been especially helpful to Lauren, getting her started with her flock of Chanteclers. She now raises several varieties of bantams and large fowl Chanteclers which wouldn't have been possible without Mike's guidance. He teaches by example by breeding, raising, and showing beautiful, well-conditioned birds. He is the true professional that we strive to be.

Thank you, Mike, for being such a gentleman and the ideal role model for us. Your kindness, generosity, values, and dedication have helped shape us into the kids we are today and for that we will be forever thankful!

Club Notes

- ◇ The votes are in and Dayton Fancy Feather Club will host our 2019 Ameraucana National Meet, on October 5-6, in Greenville, Ohio. More details are on last page of this Newsletter and the Meets page of our Ameraucana.org site. Please consider coming and start planning your vacation time and hatch dates accordingly. You certainly don't have to exhibit birds to come to our annual Ameraucana National Meets...just come to enjoy a nice weekend with fellow fanciers.
- ◇ Special thanks to Rebbecka Howie for donating another beaded Alliance cap. It was auctioned at our national meet and fetched another \$100 for the club.
- ◇ If you haven't paid your Alliance dues for 2019 PLEASE do it before the end of this year. You'll not only avoid a lapse in membership by renewing, but save work for us officers so we don't have to



Russ Blair, Jim Fegan, John Blehm & Jeff Vance at Fowl Fest

remove you from our membership list and then add you back if you rejoin after the 1st. It is very simple to renew on the Join page of our Ameraucana.org site and there are drop down options, on the PayPal buttons, to pay for a couple years in advance. By doing so it locks you in at our current membership rates...in case of increases.

- ◇ The proposed Constitution & Bylaws (enclosed) passed by an overwhelming majority and our Alliance officers as of the first of the year will be President John Blehm and Club Directors Russ Blair, Stan Alder and Jeff Sonsalla.

AMERAUCANA ALLIANCE
Annual Member Meeting Minutes
September 29, 2018, Portage, Wisconsin

The meeting was called to order by club Secretary-Treasurer John Blehm at 8:10 p.m. in the lower level meeting room at Dino's Restaurant in Portage, Wisconsin, following the dinner meal upstairs.

Introductions were made: Members and guests present were Jeffrey & Jacob Sonsalla, John & Kathy Blehm, Bob & Sandy Rennolet, Max & Tawnya Strawn, Ann & Scott Lepak, Russ Blair & his daughter Marina, Dave Blair, Jim & Jennifer Fegan, Bob & Teresa Walchak, and Mike & Mary Gilbert.

No Secretary's report was presented.

John reported an amount of \$2,360 in the treasury, with some receipts not yet counted.

Old Business: None was discussed

New Business: Russ Blair suggested we procure a large club banner for our national meets. John said we had one, but no one wanted to take responsibility for taking it to the next national meet. Jim Fegan said he likes the idea of a banner, as they can be seen from a greater distance than items on the club table. Anne Lepak said she knew someone who made pop-up vertical banners with a stand. Resolved: we will bring the idea to the club Board of Directors.

We discussed bids for our 2019 national meet, including bids received and those we are waiting for.

Mike Gilbert brought up the change-of-life situation with Neil and Donna Townsend, as due to health issues they have sold their farm and moved to an apartment. Will no longer keep birds, but will remain members of Ameraucana Alliance.

Neil and Donna Townsend were the recipients of the annual Lifetime Achievement award plaque. The plaque and a 40th anniversary rosette will be sent to them by John.

M/S/P to adjourn meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Following adjournment of the meeting, the Meet award winners were announced and cash prizes were distributed, along with a beautiful purple and black 40th anniversary rosette to each participant. Thanks were given to all who donated cash and prizes for awards.

Respectfully Submitted, Michael Gilbert



Our Alliance club table and silent auction area at our Ameraucana National Meet, in Portage, Wisconsin

Important Dates

Deadline for the next Ameraucana Newsletter is February 20th. Please have reports, articles, photos, ads, etc. emailed to John by then to be considered.

That is also the date to request meets be placed by, thru John, for any shows that have an entry deadline after March 1st...the date the next Newsletter is due by. Please request meets as early as possible & request meets at both shows when there are two shows at one venue.

Upcoming Ameraucana Meets

December 8-9, 2018

Florida Club Meets (2 on the 8th & 1 on the 9th), requested by Jonathan Stone

[West Florida Poultry Club](#), Brooksville FL

Contact: Craig Prusansky info@FloridaPoultryShow.com

January 5-6, 2019

Florida Club Meets (2), requested by Rebecca Howie

[Florida Sunshine Classic](#), Lake City FL

Contact: Danny & Norma Padgett

nPadgett@windstream.net (386)496-2561

March 9, 2019

Utah Club Meet, requested by Janet Tipton

[Utah Fancy Poultry Association](#) - Farmington UT

Contact: Michelle Muldowney-Stevens

utahfancypoultry@gmail.com (435)363-5589

October 5-6, 2019

Ameraucana National Meet

Dayton Fancy Feathers Club – show #1, Greenville OH

Contact: Amanda Heitzman

Amanda.Heitzman@hotmail.com (937)681-6002

Treasurer's Report

Checking accounts at Great Lakes Federal CU, MI

Previous Total Balance as of 8/28/2018 =	\$4,335.90
Previous Checking Balance as of 8/28/2018 =	\$4,114.56
Income =	\$1,615.56
Expenses =	\$2,490.80
GLFCU Checking Balance as of 11/21/2018 =	\$3,239.32
PayPal Balance as of 11/21/2018 =	\$174.82
Ending Total Balance as of 11/21/2018 =	\$3,414.14



Nate Rynish at Fowl Fest in Birch Run, Michigan

Honorary Vice Presidents of the Ameraucana Alliance: Jim Fegan – Mike Gilbert – Jerry Segler

Ameraucana Alliance Board of Directors:

President - Beth Curran

136 Twin Oak Road, Maysville NC 28555 bncairey@hotmail.com (910)743-8311

Secretary/Treasurer - John W Blehm

4599 Lange Road, Birch Run MI 48415-8137 John@FowlStuff.com (989)777-1234

Director - Russ Blair

13100 South Adrian Hwy, Jasper MI 49248 Slicktree@hotmail.com (419)410-2613

Director - Jeannette Frank

169 Cove Lane, Great Falls MT 59404-6124 jljfrank@q.com (406)761-5853

Director - Mike Gilbert...contact Mike to request Club Meets!

W5171 Baker Rd, Holmen WI 54636 chantecler7@gmail.com (608)857-3386

Director - Jensen Pierson

1004 SR 350 West, Wilmington OH 45177 kaljenfarm@gmail.com (937)725-1991



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

Ameraucana.org - AmeraucanaAlliance.org - Ameraucana.club