

# Ameraucana

## Lifetime Achievement

The idea for the “Breeder’s Award for Lifetime Achievement with the Ameraucana Breed” was conceived by Don Cable and instituted, in 2001, at our National Meet, in Galax, VA. The club president decides on which member will receive the honor each year. Mike Gilbert was the president at the time and chose John Blehm to receive the first award, but before Mike presented it he was surprisingly presented with the first Ameraucana Breeder’s Award, dated 2000.

The original plaques were engraved “Ameraucana Breeder’s Award” and since 2004 the title has been “Lifetime Achievement Award”. The honor is no longer all about breeding. This award is based on a member’s overall achievements that fit with our mission statement...”an alliance of folks focused on the promotion of standard bred Ameraucana chickens and positive support for those interested in standard bred Ameraucana chickens”.

This annual award continued as a tradition and in 2019 the board of directors developed a written policy to detail the process. The recipients are members that have been in the club for many years. Some have been breeders that developed and/or improved varieties of Ameraucana, have served as officers in the club, published articles promoting the breed and club, traveled extensively to club sanctioned meets, exhibited Ameraucanas, donated financially to the club, and the list goes on.

Ameraucana Breeders Award	Ameraucana Breeders Award	Lifetime Achievement/Breeder of the Year	Breeder of the Year
2000 Mike Gilbert	2001 John Blehm	2002 Arnie Schmidt	2003 Randy Buske
2004 Wayne Meredith	2005 Koralyn Kibbee	2006 Paul & Angela Smith	2007 Don Cable
2008 Jerry Segler	2009 Jeanne Trent	2010 Jeannette Frank	2011 Michael Muenks
2012 Barbara Campbell	2013 Jerry DeSmidt	2014 Harold Knapp	2015 Bob Walchak
2016 Robert Rennolet	2017 Jim Fegan	2018 Neil & Donna Townsend	2019 Richard Orr
2020 Beth Curran	2021 Duane Schroeder	2022 Max Strawn	2023 Stan Alder
2024 Mike Gilbert			