



Winter 2007

Volume XXVII, Issue 4

Ameraucana Bulletin



Ameraucana Breeders Club, 33878 Hwy 87, California, MO 65018-3911
www.ameraucana.org

President's Report, John Blehm

Another Ameraucana Breeders Club National meet is over. This was one of the few that I have missed, since I attended my first ABC National. I think that was in Milwaukee, in 1991. It seems like a long time ago. From what I've read and the great photos I've seen posted on the ABC Forum the show in Great Falls was...as Tony The Tiger would say...Grrrrreat! I'm planning to be at the next ABC National in Hutchinson, MN, on October 25th & 26th, 2008. How about you?

Back at the ABC National meet in, Galax, Virginia, in 2001 an ABC award was instituted. The idea for the annual "Ameraucana Breeders Award" for lifetime achievement was conceived by Don Cable, of California. Mike Gilbert was the club President at the time and I was honored to receive the award that year, but before Mike presented it he was presented with the very first Breeders Award, dated for the year 2000, at the meeting. This is a very special award and is the only poultry related plaque on the wall in my office. The other recipients are the late Arne Schmidt – 2002, Rande Buske – 2003, Wayne Meredith – 2004, Koralyne Kibbee – 2005 and Paul & Angela Smith – 2006. The award was renamed "Lifetime Achievement Award" somewhere along the way. This year the Achievement Award went to the guy responsible for it, Don Cable. Don was a Charter member of the Ameraucana Bantam Club/Ameraucana Breeders Club, former Secretary/Treasurer, exhibitor at breed qualifying meets & was instrumental in getting the breed recognized, former District Director, writer of many ABC articles over the years for the club Bulletin and Poultry Press promoting Ameraucanas and the club, former President, donated financially to buy awards for many ABC National meets, 1st Honorary Vice President of the ABC, traveled extensively to attend ABC National meets and the list goes on. Congratulations, Don.

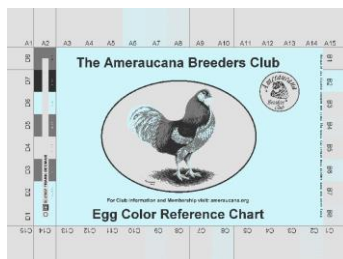


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ABC Forum Administrator



Features this Issue:

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The ABC Egg Color Reference Charts are now available from our club Secretary for a nominal charge. The charts are 4" by 6" and the color chips around the border of these charts were developed from real egg shells and not computer generated. The charts are not intended to describe the perfect shade of an Ameraucana egg, but rather they are to be used as a reference or comparison chart so we can all be on the same page, so to speak, when talking about egg shell color. These charts were designed by Frank Decmar, from the UK, and are based on the charts he originally developed for the British Araucana Club.

Continued on Page 14

Badger Poultry Club Show

Richland Center, WI Meet Report

Special Meet, June 2, 2007, reported by Ruth Lefebvre

26 bantams shown by 6 exhibitors, Judged by Robert Carothers

BV black C by Robert Walchak – out of 3 shown by 2 exhibitors

RV black H by Mike Gilbert

RB, BV blue wheaten H by Mike Gilbert – out of 6 shown by 4 exhibitors

RV blue wheaten C by John & Lois Bashaw

BV brown red H by Robert Walchak – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV brown red C by Robert Walchak

BB, BV buff C by Mike Gilbert – out of 2 shown by 2 exhibitors, **Champion Ameraucana & Champion AOCCL**

RV buff C by Robert Walchak

BV silver H by John & Lois Bashaw – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BV wheaten C by Robert Walchak – out of 3 shown by 2 exhibitors

RV wheaten H by Robert Walchak

BV white C by Robert Walchak – out of 9 shown by 4 exhibitors

RV white H by Robert Walchak

6 large fowl shown by 3 exhibitors, Judged by Paul Monteth

BV black C by Michelle Kupper – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BB, BV blue C by John & Lois Bashaw – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Reserve Champion Ameraucana**

RV blue H by John & Lois Bashaw

RB, BV brown red H by John & Lois Bashaw – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV brown red C by John & Lois Bashaw

BV silver H by Jason Stiever – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

Junior Show

black large fowl C by Michelle Kupper, **Champion Ameraucana Junior Show**

Iowa State Fair

DeMoines, IA Meet Report

State Meet, August 18, reported by Alnice Nichols

19 bantams shown by 1 exhibitor

BV black C by Nancy Dean – out of 4 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV black C by Nancy Dean

BV blue K by Nancy Dean – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BV blue wheaten H by Nancy Dean – out of 4 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV blue wheaten C by Nancy Dean

BV brown red C by Nancy Dean – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BV wheaten H by Nancy Dean – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Reserve Champion Ameraucana**

BV white H by Nancy Dean – out of 7 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Champion Ameraucana**

RV white P by Nancy Dean

BV AOV gold laced H by Nancy Dean – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

2 large fowl shown by 1 exhibitor

BV buff K by Ron Dinger – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV buff P by Ron Dinger

Abbreviation Guide for Meet Reports

BB=best of breed

RB=reserve of breed

BV=best of variety

RV=reserve of variety

C=cock

H=Hen

K=cockerel

P=pullet

AOV=Any Other Variety,

AOCCL=All Other

Combs Clean Legged (bantam)

AOSB=All Other

Standard Breeds (large fowl)



Blue Wheaten Portrait

The Wisconsin International Show Portage, WI Meet Report

State Meet, September 29-30, 2007, reported by Elizabeth Breuer

11 bantams were shown by 3 exhibitors, judged by Don Karasek

BV black K by Robert Walchak – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV black P by Robert Walchak

BV blue wheaten K by Robert Walchak – out of 3 shown by 2 exhibitors

RV blue wheaten P by Robert Walchak

BV brown red P by Robert Walchak – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV brown red K by Robert Walchak

BB, BV wheaten P by Robert Walchak – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Champion**

Ameraucana, Champion AOCCL

RV wheaten K by Robert Walchak

RB, BV white P by Robert Walchak – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV white P by Robert Walchak

8 large fowl were shown by 4 exhibitors, judged by Tim Bowles

BB, BV black K by Jeffrey Stevens – out of 8 shown by 4 exhibitors, **Reserve Champion**

Ameraucana & Champion AOSB

RB, RV black H by Gary Klug

JR Show

BB, BV white K by Ashley Flees, **Champion Ameraucana Junior Show**

Southern Missouri Poultry Club Sedalia, MO Meet Report

South Central District Meet, October 13, 2007, reported by Paul Smith

9 bantams were shown by 3 exhibitors, judged by Anthony Ashley

BV black P by Michael Muenks – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BV brown red C by Michael Muenks – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BV buff C by Michael Muenks – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BB, BV wheaten H by Chris Link – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Reserve Champion**

Ameraucana, Reserve Champion AOCCL

RV wheaten H by Christ Link

RB, BV white H by Chris Link – out of 3 shown by 2 exhibitors

RV white C by Chris Link

BV AOV black gold C by Wesley Wyche – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

48 large fowl were shown by 4 exhibitors, judged by Forrest Beauford

BB, BV black K by Paul & Angela Smith – out of 18 shown by 4 exhibitors, **Champion**

Ameraucana, Champion AOSB

RV black K by Paul & Angela Smith

BV blue K by Paul & Angela Smith – out of 8 shown by 3 exhibitors

RV blue K by Paul & Angela Smith

RB, BV blue wheaten P by Paul & Angela Smith - out of 3 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV blue wheaten K by Paul & Angela Smith



Chris Link at the ILL-MO Bantam Club Show in Highland, IL with his wheaten and white hens. The bantam hens were Best of Breed and Reserve of Breed at the South Central District meet in Sedalia, MO.



**AMERAUCANA
DAY-OLD CHICKS**

Bantam & Large Fowl
Ameraucana from

ChickHatchery.com

Don't be disappointed,
order early for limited
hatches in April & May.

Go to ChickHatchery.com
for all the details and an
Order Form or send a #10
SASE to:

ChickHatchery.com
4599 Lange
Birch Run, MI 48415-8137



For spring 2008 we are offering day-old large fowl Ameraucana chicks in black, blue, splash, wheaten, blue wheaten and splash wheaten varieties.

Eight hatches-one every two weeks February 4, 2008 through May 12, 2008.

Paul & Angela Smith
2257 CR 224
Gainesville, TX. 76240
940-668-0719
E-mail:
sw_psmith@swmail.net



Bantam Hill

Interested in Ameraucana?
Visit our website at www.bantamhill.com for more information or send a SASE to
Bantam Hill
33878 Hwy 87
California, MO 65018

For 2008 we will only have started Ameraucana available.

BV buff P by Michael Muenks – out of 4 shown by 2 exhibitors
RV buff H by Michael Muenks
BV silver H by Michael Muenks – out of 4 shown by 2 exhibitors
RV silver C by Michael Muenks
BV wheaten H by Michael Muenks – out of 7 shown by 3 exhibitors
RV wheaten P by Paul & Angela Smith
BV white C by Wesley Wyche – out of 3 shown by 1 exhibitor
RV white H by Wesley Wyche
BV AOV splash by Paul & Angela Smith – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

Grandpa Tiny's Frankenmuth Fowl Fest Frankenmuth, MI Meet Report

State Meet, October 13-14, 2007, reported by John Blehm

15 bantams were shown by 3 exhibitors, judged by Matt Lhamon

BV black P by John Blehm – out of 2 shown by 2 exhibitors
RV black K by Kate Sparks
BV blue P by Kate Sparks – out of 2 shown by 2 exhibitors
RV blue K by John Blehm
BV brown red P by John Blehm – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor
RV brown red K by John Blehm
BV buff P by John Blehm – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor
RV buff K by John Blehm
BB, BV wheaten P by Wayne Gritter – out of 4 shown by 2 exhibitors, **Reserve Champion Ameraucana & Reserve Champion AOCCL**
RB, RV wheaten P by Wayne Gritter
BV lavender/AOV P by John Blehm – out of 3 shown by 1 exhibitor
RV lavender/AOV K by John Blehm

23 large fowl were shown by 4 exhibitors, judged by Matt Lhamon

BB, BV black K by Rick Straight – out of 14 shown by 3 exhibitors, **Champion Ameraucana & Champion AOSB**
RV black P by Rick Straight
BV blue K by Kate Sparks – out of 2 shown by 2 exhibitors
RV blue K by John Blehm
BV brown red P by John Blehm – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor
RB, BV buff P by John Blehm – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Reserve AOSB**
RV buff K by John Blehm
BV silver P by John Blehm – out of 3 shown by 2 exhibitors
RV silver K by Kate Sparks
BV wheaten P by John Blehm – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

JR Show, 2 bantams shown by 1 exhibitor, judged by Gary Overton

BB buff K by Brandon Borke
RB buff P by Brandon Borke

JR Show, 6 LF shown by 3 exhibitors, judged by Gary Overton

BB black P by Mikayla LaBar, **Champion Ameraucana Junior Show**
RB White P by Mikayla LaBar

The Montana Poultry Fanciers Association Great Falls, MT Meet Report

National Meet, October 6-7, 2007, reported by Jerry DeSmidt and Paul Smith

69 bantams were shown by 6 exhibitors, judged by Brian Decker

BB, BV black P by Mike Gilbert – out of 15 shown by 4 exhibitors, **Reserve Champion**

Ameraucana, Reserve Champion AOCCL

RV black P by Mike Gilbert

BV blue P by Mike Gilbert – out of 7 shown by 3 exhibitors

RV blue P by Mike Gilbert

BV blue wheaten P by Robert Walchak – out of 13 shown by 9 exhibitors

RV blue wheaten P by Mike Gilbert

BV brown red P by Robert Walchak – out of 4 shown by 2 exhibitor

RV brown red K by Robert Walchak

BV buff C by Michael Muenks – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BV wheaten P by Robert Walchak – out of 9 shown by 4 exhibitors

RV wheaten K by Robert Walchak

RB, BV white P by Jerry DeSmidt

RV white P by Robert Walchak

BV AOV splash P by Mike Gilbert – out of 8 shown by 3 exhibitors

RV AOV splash H by Jerry DeSmidt

65 large fowl were shown by 5 exhibitors, judged by Brian Decker

BB, BV black K by Paul and Angela Smith – out of 15 shown by 6 exhibitors, **Champion**

Ameraucana, Champion AOSB

RB, RV black P by Paul and Angela Smith, **Reserve Champion AOSB**

BV blue P by Paul and Angela Smith – out of 9 shown by 4 exhibitors

RV blue P by Jerry DeSmidt

BV blue wheaten P by Paul and Angela Smith – out of 5 shown by 3 exhibitors

RV blue wheaten K by Jean Ribbeck

BV buff H by Michael Muenks – out of 13 shown by 5 exhibitors

RV buff H by Jerry DeSmidt

BV silver C by Michael Muenks – out of 4 shown by 2 exhibitors

RV silver H by Michael Muenks

BV wheaten P by Paul and Angela Smith – out of 9 shown by 3 exhibitors

RV wheaten K by Paul and Angela Smith

BV white H by Jerry DeSmidt – out of 8 shown by 2 exhibitors

RV white P by Jerry DeSmidt

BV AOV splash H by Jerry DeSmidt – out of 2 shown by 2 exhibitors

RV AOV splash P by Paul and Angela Smith

JR Show

BB black K by Tegan Riley, **Champion Ameraucana Junior Show**

Southeast Ohio Poultry Breeders Marietta, OH Meet Report

Special Meet, March 31, 2007, reported by Rob Sando

3 bantams were shown by 2 exhibitors, judged by Gary Overton

BB, BV wheaten C by Rob Sando – out of 3 shown by 2 exhibitors

RB, RV wheaten H by Rob Sando



ABC member Jeannette Frank judging at the National Meet

Photo by Jean Ribbeck



Paul and Angela Smith's large fowl black cockerel Champion Ameraucana and Champion AOSB at the National Meet.



Mike Gilbert's bantam black pullet Reserve Champion Ameraucana and Reserve Champion AOCCL

Photos by Paul & Angela Smith



Club Merchandise

1982 Club Handbook - \$5
1998 Club Handbook - \$5
2005 Club Handbook - \$5
ABC 4" Patch (2) - \$5.50
Bulletins 1979-1984 - \$30
Bulletins 1985-1993 - \$35
Breeders Directory - \$2



Egg Shell Reference Chart
1 for \$3.00 or 2 for \$5.00

Make Checks Payable to
the Ameraucana Breeders
Club and send to the club
secretary.



Ameraucana T-Shirts

Black – 12" ABC Logo
100% preshrunk Cotton
\$10 - M, L, XL

Natural – 2 5/8" ABC Logo
50% cotton/50% polyester
\$10 - L
\$12 – XXL

Shipping is included in the
price of the shirts.

Send payment to:

John W. Blehm
4599 Lange Rd.
Birch Run, MI 48415-8137

8 large fowl were shown by 3 exhibitors, judged by Gary Overton
BB, BV black K by Harold Knapp – out of 6 shown by 3 exhibitors
RV black P by Harold Knapp
RB, BV blue H by Harold Knapp – out of 2 shown by 2 exhibitors
RV blue C by Rob Sando

JR Show

BB, BV wheaten H by Caleb Pickard, **Champion Ameraucana Junior Show**

Bluegrass Poultry Association Danville, KY Meet Report

Southeast District Meet, October, reported by Barbara Campbell and Laura Haggarty

4 large fowl shown by 1 exhibitor

RB, BV blue wheaten P by Barbara Campbell – out of 3 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Reserve Champion AOSB**

RV blue wheaten K by Barbara Campbell

BB, BV wheaten K by Barbara Campbell – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Champion AOSB**

JR Show

BV blue wheaten by Kelsey Choate – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Reserve Champion AOCCL Junior Show**

BV wheaten H by Kelsey Choate – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV wheaten C by Kelsey Choate

Dayton Fancy Feather Greenville, OH Meet Report

Special Meet, April 28-29, 2007, reported by Rob Sando

5 bantams were shown by 3 exhibitors, judged by Matt Lahmon

BB, BV wheaten H by Caleb Pickard – out of 4 shown by 3 exhibitors

RB, RV wheaten C by Caleb Pickard

BV white H by Kathy Gratch – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

16 large fowl were shown by 4 exhibitors, judged by Danny Pagent

BB, BV black H by Kathy Gratch – out of 9 shown by 4 exhibitors, **Champion Ameraucana**

RV black K by Harold Knapp

BV blue H by Barbara Trump – out of 3 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV blue H by Barbara Trump

BV blue wheaten H by Kathy Gratch – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

RB, BV white H by Kathy Gratch – out of 3 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Reserve Champion Ameraucana**

RV white H by Kathy Gratch

JR Show

BB, BV wheaten H by Caleb Pickard, **Champion Ameraucana Junior Show**

Southern Ohio Poultry Association Lucasville, OH Meet Report

Northeast District Meet, October 6-7, 2007, reported by Rob Sando

14 bantams were shown by 3 exhibitors

BB, BV wheaten P by Bridges LabLuv Bantams – out of 14 shown by 3 exhibitors

RB, RV wheaten H by Bridges LabLuv Bantams

BV white H by Kathy Gratch – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV white C by Kathy Gratch

3 large fowl were shown by 2 exhibitors

RB, BV black H by Rob Sando – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BB, BV white C by Kathy Gratch – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV white H by Kathy Gratch

JR Show

BB, BV Black P by Anthony Heitger, **Champion Ameraucana Junior Show, Best AOSB, Reserve Large Fowl**

Ohio National Poultry Show Columbus, OH Meet Report

State Meet, November 10-11, 2007, reported by Patty Pickard

2 bantams were shown 1 exhibitor

BB, BV wheaten by Rob Sando - out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor

RB, RV wheaten by Rob Sando

4 large fowl were shown by 2 exhibitors

BB, BV black by Rick Straight - out of 4 shown by 2 exhibitors, **Champion Ameraucana**

No reserve variety was given

JR Show, 1 bantam shown by 1 exhibitor

BV blue wheaten by Hanna Lucas

JR Show, 9 LF shown by 4 exhibitors

BB, BV black C by Nicole Pickard - out of 6 shown by 3 exhibitors, **Champion Ameraucana Junior Show & Champion AOSB**

RV black P by Nicole Pickard

BV blue wheaten C by Katlyn Miller - out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

Maryland State Poultry Fanciers Frederick, MD Meet Report

State Meet, November 5, 2007, reported by Rick Barczewski

1 bantam was shown 1 exhibitor, judged by Rick Porr

BB, BV blue wheaten by Jack Kiska - out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

10 large fowl were shown by 2 exhibitors, judged by Tim Bowles

BV black K by Elizabeth Coyne - out of 5 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Champion Ameraucana & Reserve Champion AOSB**

RV black K by Elizabeth Coyne, **Reserve Champion Ameraucana**

BV blue K by Elizabeth Coyne - out of 3 shown by 1 exhibitor



Large Fowl Wheaten Ameraucana cockerel by Barbara Campbell
Champion AOSB at the 2007 Southeast District Meet



2 to 6
Buff Ameraucana
bantam
pullets or hens

Mary Jo Keith
Crossville, TN
(931) 277-5553



Large Fowl Buff Ameraucana hen by Michael Muenks awarded the Arne Schmitz traveling award for large fowl at the national meet.

Eastern Iowa Poultry Association Iowa City, IA Meet Report

North Central District Meet, November 24-25, 2007, reported by Michael Muenks



Paul and Angela Smith's large fowl black pullet Champion Ameraucana at Eastern Iowa.

18 bantams were shown by 4 exhibitors, judged by James Konecny
BB, BV black P by John Blehm - out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor
RV black P by John Blehm
BV blue K by Mike Gilbert out of 3 - shown by 2 exhibitors
RV blue P by Alnice Nichols
BV blue wheaten P by Michael Muenks - out of 2 shown by 2 exhibitors
RV blue wheaten P by Mike Gilbert
BV brown red P by Mike Gilbert - out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor
RV brown red P by Mike Gilbert
RB, BV buff P by John Blehm – out of 3 shown by 2 exhibitors
RV buff P by Mike Gilbert
BV white H by Alnice Nichols – out of 4 shown by 1 exhibitor
RV white P by Alnice Nichols
BV AOV lavender P by John Blehm – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor
RV AOV lavender K by John Blehm

31 large fowl were shown by 4 exhibitors, judged by Bob Carothers
BB, BV black P by Paul and Angela Smith – out of 10 shown by 3 exhibitors, **Champion Ameraucana**

RB, RV black K by Paul and Angela Smith, **Reserve Champion Ameraucana**
BV blue H by Michael Muenks – out of 6 shown by 2 exhibitors
RV blue P by Paul and Angela Smith
BV blue wheaten K by Paul and Angela Smith – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor
RV blue wheaten P by Paul and Angela Smith
BV buff P by John Blehm – out of 5 shown by 2 exhibitors
RV buff P by Michael Muenks
BV silver C by Michael Muenks – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor
RV silver H by Michael Muenks
BV wheaten H by Michael Muenks – out of 5 shown by 3 exhibitors
RV wheaten P by Paul and Angela Smith
BV AOV splash P by Paul and Angela Smith – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

JR Show, 1 bantam shown by 1 exhibitor, judged by Gary Underwood
BB white H by Nathan Downey, **Champion Ameraucana Bantam**

JR Show, 4 LF shown by 1 exhibitor, judged by Gary Underwood
RB, BV black P by Matthew Smith – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Reserve AOSB**
RV black K by Matthew Smith
BB, BV blue P by Matthew Smith – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Junior Show Champion Ameraucana, Best AOSB**
RV blue K by Matthew Smith



Nate Downey looks on while Al Nichols tries to dodge the picture!



Paul and Angela Smith's large fowl black cockerel Reserve Champion Ameraucana at Eastern Iowa.



Mike Gilbert and John Blehm at Eastern Iowa discussing "chicken issues."

Boise Valley Show Boise, ID Meet Report

November 3-4, 2007, reported by Koralyn Kibbee

11 bantams were shown by 5 exhibitors

BB, BV buff C by Larry and Koralyn Kibbee - out of 2 shown by 2 exhibitors, **Champion AOCCL**

RV buff P by Jared Vandewater

RB, BV wheaten K by Wes Garth - out of 4 shown by 3 exhibitors

RV wheaten H by Larry and Koralyn Kibbee

BV blue wheaten K by Jared Vandewater - out of 4 shown by 3 exhibitors

RV blue wheaten C by Larry and Koralyn Kibbee

BV silver P by Susan Beasley - out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

2 large fowl were shown by 1 exhibitor

BB, BV blue P by Evan Vandewater – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor

RB, RV blue K by Evan Vandewater

JR Show 2 large fowl were shown by 1 exhibitor

BB, BV blue P by Evan Vandewater – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Junior Show Champion**

RB, RV blue K by Evan Vandewater



Mike Gilbert's blue bantam pullet at the National Meet.
Notice the lacing!



Bob Walchak's bantam wheaten pullet at the National Meet.
Look at the color on that tail!

Photos by Paul & Angela Smith

Upcoming Club Sanctioned Meets

December 1-2, 2007

Oklahoma State Meet, requested by Paul Smith

Oklahoma State Poultry Show, Shawnee, OK

Contact:

Steve Jones, ghia4me@sprynet.com, (972)636-909

December 8-9, 2007

Washington State Meet, requested by Lisa Cree

SW Washington Fairgrounds, Chehalis, WA

Contact:

Mike Dooms, mpdooms@localaccess.com, (360)736-2751

March 15-16, 2008

Special Meet, requested by Michael Muenks

Heartland Classic Poultry Association, Cape Girardeau, MO

Contact:

Kirk Keene, whtrock@hotmail.com (618)827-4800

April 19, 2008

Missouri State Meet, requested by Michael Muenks

Missouri State Poultry Association Double Show, Show #1,

Sedalia, MO

Contact:

Bernita Miller, bmiller@iland.net (660)647-2474

April 19, 2008

Special Meet, requested by Michael Muenks

Missouri State Poultry Association Double Show, Show #2,
Sedalia, MO

Contact:

Bernita Miller, bmiller@iland.net (660)647-2474

August, 2008

Montana State Meet, requested by Koralyn Kibbee

Montana State Fair, Great Falls, MT

Contact:

Bert Thompson, Box 99, Sunriver, MT 59443
(406)264-5219

October 11, 2008

South Central District Meet, placed by Paul Smith

Southern Missouri Poultry Club, Sedalia, MO

Contact:

Brad Buttram, bradtiff122306@yahoo.com (417)462-7792

October 24-26, 2008

ABC National Meet, placed by the Jerry DeSmidt

Minnesota State Poultry Association Show, Hutchinson, MI

Contact:

Mary Ann Rademacher, ajmrademacher@embarqmail.com
(952)442-4031

2007 National Meet Roundup



Egg Judging at National Meet



Eggs at the National Meet



Egg awards at the National Meet

Photos by Paul & Angela Smith



The 2007 National meet is now just a fond memory for the club members who had the opportunity to attend the meet. Our host club, the Montana Poultry Association, provided very well for us as a club.

Koralyn Kibbee and Paul Smith substituted for Mike Gilbert as the egg competition judges and did an outstanding job. There were six entries in the egg competition this year and Koralyn Kibbee's bantam pullet eggs won the bantam pullet class, Susie Winder won the bantam hen class, Koralyn Kibbee won the large fowl pullet, and Jean Ribbeck won the large fowl class.

During the club meeting in the show barn the Arne Schmitz traveling plaque was awarded to Michael Muenks for the best buff large fowl. The bantam traveling plaque went to Mike Gilbert for the best bantam for his black bantam pullet. The minutes from the 2006 club meeting were read and approved. Reports on the black gold development, change on silver description, and ABA blue wheaten portrait were discussed to conclude the old business. The Ameraucana egg color chart that Frank Decmar from the United Kingdom proposed for the Ameraucana Breeders Club to customize and adopt was discussed. Samples of the egg color chart were viewed. All present were in favor of the chart. Jerry DeSmidt reported on the bids from shows to host our 2008 national meet. The meet awards were passed out to the winners. Don Cable was named recipient of the lifetime achievement award for his work on helping get Ameraucanas started and his work for the club. Jerry DeSmidt volunteered to collect donations for the club ad in Poultry Press. The meeting was adjourned and a group picture of the Ameraucana Breeders Club members was taken.

On Saturday night a banquet was held at Elmer's for the Big Sky Poultry Group. The Ameraucana gang set together in a group and enjoyed a nice meal. Several members received open show and junior show awards during the banquet from the Montana Poultry Association.



Back row: Michael Muenks, Jerry De Smidt, Susie Winder, Nadine Wisniewski
Front row: Koralyn Kibbee, James Freeman, Paul Smith, Bob Walchak (holding Mike Gilbert's stand-in), Jean Ribbeck and Gracie

Picture by Liz Church

2008 Membership Renewal, Michael Muenks

It is that time again . . . time to renew your membership to the Ameraucana Breeders Club! Membership renewals may be sent to the club secretary for 2008 at any time. **All yearly memberships are due January 1, 2008.**

The name line of your address on the envelope within which the bulletin was mailed indicates your membership level and when it expires. Within this bulletin mailing you will find the 2007 membership list, a breeder's directory, and a new membership renewal form. This new form has your current information pre-populated along with your current membership status. Please update any information that is incorrect or missing and return the membership form with your dues.

A new feature in the membership renewal form is a section which collects information regarding which standard and non-standard varieties of Ameraucana are being kept by members. The non-standard variety information is needed for the process of entering new varieties of Ameraucana into the ABA and APA Standards.

Due to the increase in postage costs Champion, Reserve Champion, Junior Champion, Best of Breed, and Reserve of Breed rosettes will be mailed with the quarterly bulletins as a general rule. If you wish to **not** receive rosettes, please indicate this preference on your membership renewal form or contact me directly.

Feel free to contact me with any questions you might have and to update your Breeders Directory information.

A Mixed Bag, Don Cable

First, my sincere thanks for awarding me the Lifetime Achievement Award voted upon at the ABC National Meet in Montana. Obviously, it came as a complete surprise since I have not been active in the club for several years. The name of the award has changed since it was initiated some years back and Mike Gilbert was deservedly chosen as the first recipient. This change in name had me confused with the original award and so let me make a fool of myself over accepting it. But, as Bill Shakespeare said, "All's well that ends well." And I am honored to receive the award.

In the October issue of Poultry Press, Club President John Blehm brought up the long standing issue of the use of the Ameraucana/Araucana name by a number of commercial hatcheries in order to sell what are obviously mixed breeds. I say long standing, because virtually every ABC Club president has had to fight this battle since our inception. In spite of the disclaimers that their birds are "Not for Exhibition", this kind of questionable marketing continues year after year. As a matter of fact, the use of a disclaimer is about as much as we have been able to achieve on the matter.

I cannot imagine these hatcheries using the same deceptive methods to sell Rocks, Red or Wyandotte. Even the misspelling "Americana", might well be a ruse to wiggle out of responsibility, not just an indication of ignorance. Perhaps the only way to make any progress is to involve the APA and the ABA, as the Ameraucana Club, even with the help of the Araucana Club do not present a sufficiently large enough opposition to the shady hatchery methods in order to bring about change. Looking back, no one worked harder on this problem than Jeannette Frank and I am gratified to find that John Blehm has not given up on the fight. However, this is not a one person task and I hope that the Ameraucana membership will continue to provide support for an endeavor that is not only just but possibly a continued long-term commitment. In any case, you have my very best wishes now and for the future of the club and the breed.

Club Notes

The deadline to submit pictures, articles, ads, reports, etc. for the next bulletin is February 15, 2008 and need to be sent to the club secretary.



Bulletin advertisements are free to all members!



Check out the ABC Forum, www.ameraucana.org/abcforum, to keep up with current topics in the Ameraucana world.



2007 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, Don Cable

Photo provided by Mike Gilbert



The Ameraucana Breeders Club extends a thank you to the following members who donated money toward the national meet awards and district meet awards:

Montana Poultry Association

Koralyn Kibbee

Marie Cantrell

Barbara Campbell

Mason Creek Farm

Lisa Cree

Paul Smith

Mike Gilbert

John & Anne Foley



Gracie Ribbeck meets Eva and Lucy Muenks ... the next generation of club members???

Photo by Liz Church

Ameraucana Points of Consideration, M.K. Gilbert

Many years ago Don Cable wrote an informative and entertaining (Don is always that) article for the ABC newsletter dealing with proper head traits for the Ameraucana bantam. His piece was reprinted in at least one the ABC Handbooks, so I will not belabor or rehash his main points. Suffice it to say that, all else being equal, most poultry judges will pick the chicken with the “prettiest face” according to Don. I agree.

A few items dealing with the coloring of a proper Ameraucana head are worth mentioning however. The first is eye color. For all varieties of Ameraucana the eyes must be some shade of reddish bay. The exact shade of bay will vary depending on the variety and even the particular strain or line. For example the eyes of most buffs will be lighter in shade than the eyes of most brown reds. As responsible breeders we must avoid eyes that are “pearl” (very light in color) or dark brown to black. I have seen pearl (pale yellowish green) eyes in wheaten bantams, and I have seen very dark brown eyes in blacks, blues, white bantams, and buff large fowl. The gene responsible for dark brown eyes is recessive and is carried on the sex-linked chromosome. That means a dark eyed hen or pullet will throw the unwanted gene to 100% of her offspring. And a male may have bay eyes but be a carrier of the gene for dark brown eyes. I recently used a beautiful brown red bantam cock (on loan) that was a perfect example of this. Half his pullet progeny were dark eyed. I personally would never use a dark eyed female breeder unless it were in the very early stages of creating a new variety, and probably not then.

Another head-point problem that may reoccur from time to time is white in the earlobes. Ameraucana lobes are to be solid red, at least genetically. Positive enamel white is a disqualification, and any white at all is a serious defect. The phenotypic color of female lobes may be very difficult to determine as they are often very pale – approaching the color of the bird’s skin – which is white. It stands to reason then that selection efforts must center on the males, who seldom if ever display the pale lobe syndrome. I have made it a standard practice to never breed from a male that shows even a trace of white in the earlobes. In my experience those “traces” often become positive enamel white in just a generation or two.

Tails. The Ameraucana breed has a medium length tail that is neither pinched together from the side view, nor is it fan shaped. A tail that resembles that of an Orpington or Wyandotte is not an Ameraucana tail; those are too short. A tail resembling that of a Leghorn is not good either; it is too long. A good Ameraucana female tail will rise at a 40 degree angle from the horizontal and be very moderately spread – just as the A.P.A. color standard depicts. The tail coverts will flow well up the sides of the main tail but leave enough of it showing to allow for easy observation of color, condition, and placement of the seven or eight feathers on each side.

For Ameraucana cocks and cockerels the proper tail transitions smoothly and not abruptly from the saddle at 45 degrees above the horizontal. Tail coverts are abundant, and the two sickle feathers extend beyond the main tail.

Always keep in mind the Ameraucana is a breed of moderation, not extremes. If one feels the need to breed for *something* extreme he or she can always try for extremely blue egg shell color. Regrettably, when all is said and done – more is said than done.



Blast from the Past, National Show 1987

Comments by Jeanne Trent

Thumbing through my collection of Ameraucana Bulletins has become a favorite ritual each quarter as I look for items to reprint. I usually browse bulletins from ten or twenty years past in the same quarter of the year looking for information that seems timely. In the Winter 1987 Ameraucana Bulletin I came across ABC Secretary Jeanne Trent's comments about the 1987 National Meet and I thought those would be fun to share since the 2008 National Meet will once again be in Hutchinson, MN. ~ Michael

What can I say that hasn't already been said? We had a great time. Mike (Gilbert) won everything. I did come away with a trophy, two of the certificates and \$12.00 plus three BW (blue wheaten) pullets and a nice wheaten cockerel. Maybe this spring I'll have better luck with bantams.

We acquired three new members. Bernard (Kellogg) did a fine job on the picture bulletin board, which we decided to keep and add to. Anyone wanting pictures of themselves, birds or whatever relating to the club send to Bernard Kellogg and he'll add to the board. I'm trying to talk him into Bay City, MI show on Jan 30-31, but I have a feeling he won't be around until the Centerville, MI show on Mother's Day. At any rate send those photos to: Bernard Kellogg, Box 152, Readstown, WI 54612.

The MN folks were really great to us. We were front and center bantam and large fowl. Our club table was next to all of their awards. Plus at the banquet, which we all (except Rex who stayed at the motel to dog sit with Paki and they enjoyed a movie while we were entertained by magicians) attended and sat together. Each judge was asked to say a few words. Our judge, Russ Carlson commended us on how we were "getting things together", our birds looking consistent and how hard we have worked. Well, we all sat up a little straighter and felt **proud**. That and our meeting at the Inn when Don got his plaque stick out most in my mind. Don had no idea and he was totally overcome (so were some of the rest of us). The magicians – well, what can you expect from magicians from South Dakota? You got it – not much. We all went back to the motel suite and just kind of laughed about it. It was that bad – really.

We had another just chicken talk. I did get kidded about "getting a letter from Jeanne Trent . . . you have to carry it in on a wheel barrow."

The next thing I remember most is when I arrived there with no sleep. Jeannette Frank and I sat up like two teenagers chit chatting. Remember we had never met before. We got thoroughly acquainted. Jeannette Frank is an organized person, we must keep her. Mike Gilbert and I decided horse people, dog people, maybe some other poultry breed clubs might be as nice to each other, but we doubted it. We decided maybe because we are a relatively new breed and finally getting recognized and we help each other – eggs, chicks, even birds – but Mike Gilbert and I decided NO. We are just special people who love these birds and only another Ameraucana person would understand.

Those of you who get Poultry Press – I wrote an article and sent pictures right after the Hutchinson Show, but apparently the MN folks didn't get their report in so Bill didn't put anything in the Nov. or Dec. issue. He assured us that it would be in the Jan. issue. It's late and I have work in the morning so I'll finish the rest later.



Snow!



The Continental Divide



Gracie Ribbeck and Eva Muenks sharing secrets at the National Meet banquet . . . I wonder what trade secrets were exchanged?

Photos by Jean Ribbeck



Jeannette Frank &
Jeanne Trent
at the
1987 National Meet

Photo provided by Mike Gilbert





President's Report, Continued

Grandpa Tiny's Frankenmuth Fowl Fest was really nice. The show report is in the Bulletin. We had over 40 Ameraucanas shown between the open and junior shows by many exhibitors. That's very good for a State meet. We even had ABC members come from out of state, like Harold Knapp, from NY and Wayne Gritter, from IN. Thanks to all that came and congratulations to the winners.

All is well here in mid-Michigan as we prepare for the winter months ahead and look forward to the hatching season that follows. Have a Merry CHRISTmas and Happy New Year!

Western District, Lisa Cree, Director

Happy fall to everyone! I understand the National in Montana was a success. Gary and I wish we could have made it. One of these years!

Hope everyone's breeding season was a huge success. We had an interesting fiasco recently when sending a bird down to CA. Who knew when he was shipped how very bad the situation would become. We received an e-mail from a friend of the party asking us to hold off on shipping; unfortunately the bird was due to arrive that morning. The folks who'd placed the order had been evacuated from their homes and were staying in temporary quarters at an area high school. Freeways were shut down and it took some doing for someone to get into the post office and pick up the bird. (Dare I say a road block was crossed?) All's well that ends well. The bird made it safely home and was dubbed the first bird back into the San Diego area.

For anyone who can make it, please keep the Washington Feather Fanciers Winter Show in mind. We'll have our breed meet their and it's always a very enjoyable show. Chehalis, WA December 8-9, 2007.

Warmest regards,
Lisa

Southeast District, Barbara Campbell, Director

The Bluegrass Poultry Association did a great job of hosting our Southeast District Meet in Danville, KY. Unfortunately, I had the only large fowl Ameraucanas in the open show. This is really nice for winning, but I'd much rather have some competition. The BPA provided a table for a small display of our club bulletin, a few blue eggs from my pullets and the informational flyers. There was a good bit of interest in the breed expressed and quite a few of the flyers were taken. I also finally met former member Laura Haggarty (Laura has temporarily had to give up her Ameraucanas) and David and Matt John of Poultryman's Supply. The Bluegrass club has plans to hold next year's fall show in a brand new facility located further north near Lexington, KY just off I75. Hopefully, some of you northerners will be able to attend?!

I am planning to place a meet with the Upper Cumberland Fancy Feather Club in Cookeville, TN for their spring show. If I remember correctly it takes place in April. Look for details in the next Bulletin. Until then Blessed Holidays to All!



South Central District, Paul Smith, Director

Greetings from the South Central District!

Show season is well underway with hatching season soon approaching. Nearing a decade of being involved in the fancy with Ameraucanas has been an exciting and challenging experience. We have seen the number of participating members rise and fall. Its good to see and have the new ones.

Our recent South Central District meet was the largest and best that we have had since I have been involved. We had 3 members show 9 bantams and 4 members show 48 large fowl. Unfortunately no juniors participated this year. Four states were represented with a total of 57 Ameraucanas. Chris Link had the BB bantam on a wheaten hen which also won reserve AOCCL and reserve Ameraucana. Chris also had the RB on a white hen. The same LF black cockerel that won the national meet was the BB, champion AOSB and champion Ameraucana Paul & Angela Smith also had the RB on a blue wheaten pullet.

I have decided to set our 2008 district meet at the Southern Missouri Poultry Club Show in Sedalia the middle of October. Texas is still out of consideration because Texas shows are closed to out of state birds. Shawnee, Oklahoma has been good, but it is a long distance for the Missouri breeders to drive. If anyone has a suggestion for our 2009 meet or wants to place a meet please let me know.

May the Lord bless you with abundance of joy this Christmas.

Northeast District, Rob Sando, Director

Hi all from the Northeast District. It's been a busy year so far. I only made it to a few shows this year and the Ameraucanas have looked great. Our district show did not have many people showing there, but those that did had great birds. Start getting your requests to me for 2008. I already have a few, but I know there must be more show requests. Let me or Michael know if you have a show request for 2008.

I hope each and every one in the Ameraucana Breeders Club has a great Christmas and a good New Year. Until next time!

NAIS, Michael Muenks

The main item I have been watching on the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) front is the insertion of NAIS into the Farm Bill on Capital Hill. The 2007 Farm Bill is still floating around and I encourage everyone to stay alert and involved in how provisions of the Farm Bill may impact our flocks.

Office Depot Rewards Program, Michael Muenks

The Ameraucana Breeders Club has an account in the Office Depot Rewards Program. I signed the club up when I took over as secretary and needed to purchase a printer for the club. The club earns 5% of our lifetime purchases quarterly. If you purchase items from Office Depot and would like the amount counted toward the club just give the clerk my phone number (573)796-3999 and the amount will be credited to the club. Just to show how the amount counts up quickly, the paper and envelopes for this bulletin were purchased with the gift card sent by Office Depot.



Pips & Peeps

Large Fowl Ameraucanas
Black, Blue, Blue
Wheaten, Buff, Silver,
Wheaten & White



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Bob Walchak's bantam blue
wheaten pullet at the
National Meet.
Look at the color on that tail!

Photo by Paul & Angela Smith



**Welcome to our
New Members**Joey & Shelley
Armstrong, NY

Billy Joe Boozenny, ND

Leslie Gonzales, TX

Chris & Pam Link
Family, MO

Rachel Moothart, OR

Ron Nelson, WI

Rick Straight, MI

Mariah Terrian, MI

Nadine Wisniewski
Family, MT**Features in the****March Issue:**

Blast from the Past

National Meet Round Up

NAIS Update

North Central District, Jerry DeSmidt, Director

Hello everyone! As I sit here and write this article I am thinking of what I will be making for Thanksgiving, and what I have to be thankful for. I plan on making stuffed mushrooms for the hors d'oeuvre, a tossed green salad with raspberry vinaigrette dressing, and for the entrée Turkey, stuffing, garlic mashed potatoes, green beans for the meal and for desert pumpkin crème Brule, and pumpkin pie. We are both thankful to God for our health, the great friends that we have in our lives, all the animals (poultry, cows, and horses) and Emmy, and our families.



I would also like to thank the Montana Poultry Club for hosting a great 2007 National Ameraucana poultry show. The hospitality was great and it seemed to me that everyone had a wonderful time at the show. My Congrats go to Paul and Angela Smith for the Champ Ameraucana with a LF Black Cockerel and Mike Gilbert for the Res. Champ. Ameraucana on the bantam Black Pullet form the Trio. I would also like to congratulate Koralyne Kibbee for the Champ Bantam eggs and Champ Large fowl eggs.

I have placed the 2008 Nationals at the MN state poultry show in Hutchinson, MN the 25th and 26th of Oct. it would be great to have at least 200 or more Ameraucanas there. So hatch lots of chicks for the show. I would like to hear from the ABC members on what they would like to have for awards, and would greatly appreciate any donations that you would like to give. Send suggestions to jwoodhaven@aol.com and you can mail donations to:

Jerry DeSmidt
N912 Hill Road
Pulaski, WI 54162

The last couple of days I have been getting ready for the Christmas season and working lots of hours. We sell Christmas trees, wreaths, garland, roping, decorated pots, and boughs, with all that the season goes very fast and we will be in the New Year before we know it.

I would like to wish everyone a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a JOYOUS NEW YEAR.

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