

Ameraucana Bulletin

Ameraucana Breeders Club ~ Ameraucana.org
Fall 2014 ~ Volume XXXVI, Issue 3



Since 1978

Welcome New Members...

Patricia Vidalin, BC

Hannah Brush, OH

Skaidrite Bir, WV

Trina Shew, OR

Cindy Clark, VA

Art Smith, AL

Emily Marsh, TX

Colton Brush, OH

Tracey Pintell-Quade & Andrw Quade, MD

Robert & Sheala Roof, WY

Mindy & Tom Best, OH

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The ABC holds elections for officers every two years. When only one member accepts the nomination for any office that person will be elected by acclamation... read more on page 2.

The National Meet will be here before you know it and I hope everyone is planning to attend and have made their reservations. It'sshaping up to be a very nice event with lots of... read more on page 3.

The Board of Directors have moved Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama... read more on page 4.



Walter Malcolm and his silver hen won Grand Champion Junior Poultry Showman. A LF black hen that belongs to Walt's friend David Vetter won Reserve Grand Champion of Show and a bantam white pullet David bred from Bob Wolchak's birds was Grand Champion of Show.

The Ameraucanas did very well at the Arapahoe County Fair in Colorado!

President's Message ~ Connie "Jean" Ribbeck



Elections are upon us! It appears we have someone running for all positions except for Secretary/Treasurer. If you would like to be Secretary/Treasurer or know someone that would like to fill this position, feel free to write your name in or their name on the ballot. The Club seems to run a little more smoothly with input and help from our members.

Speaking of positions, I was convinced to run again for Western District Director by some of our members, so I have accepted the nomination at the last minute.

I have now placed my silver and wheaten/blue wheaten varieties in the hands of other breeders. I will now be concentrating on my solid patterned large fowl birds including the lavender and chocolate varieties. I have kept the black, wheaten/blue wheaten and chocolate bantams.

This year's National Meet is fast approaching and I would like to remind those that are attending to please bring your splash, lavender or other project birds. Getting your birds seen by a licensed judge is the best way to get your project color attention and perhaps some feedback to consider when moving forward with your breeding program.

I am unable to attend the National this year and am sure it will be a good time for all who attend. Good luck to all and safe travels.



Hello fellow Ameraucana lovers! For those of you who haven't met me, my name is Shakti, and I am the new points keeper. The points are now up to date, up to the last bulletin, summer 2014.

I've been a member for a couple of years, was at last years national show in Great falls, and will be at this next national show in Lucasville. I live in Montana, with my wonderful husband Jon, who happens to be from Ohio, daughter, step son, chickens, turkeys, dairy goats, and Great White Pyrenees livestock guard dog. We live completely off grid in the mountains, so if anyone wants to know how to breed and raise chickens with little to no power, I'm the one to ask! My focus with chickens is Ameraucana wheaten/blue wheaten/splash wheaten LF and BF.

I have accepted nomination for this years election ballot, for Western District Director. Whether you vote for me or not, please don't forget to vote!

Enjoy the rest of the summer, and I hope to see everyone at the national show!

Shakti O'Melveny-Rupp

Clif Redden was nominated for club President and said "I accept the nomination, and if elected, I would be honored to hold the position of President of the Ameraucana Breeders Club".

John Blehm is also running for President and said "If elected president and no one is elected secretary, I'll also continue as interim secretary/treasurer until someone volunteers that I think is ready for the job and then make an appointment".

The ABC holds elections for officers every two years. When only one member accepts the nomination for any office that person will be elected by acclamation and that is the case in the Eastern, North Central & South Central districts for this election, so no directors will be elected for those districts from this ballot. Official Election results will be posted on the ABC Forum and in the Winter Bulletin that is due around the 1st of December.

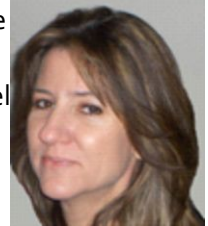
Beth Curran, from North Carolina, is running unopposed for Eastern District Director.

Duane Schroeder, from Indiana, is running unopposed for North Central District Director.

Paul Smith, from Texas, is running unopposed for South Central District Director.

Eastern District Report ~ Sharon Yorks, Director

It was great to see so many ABC members (old and new) at the Canfield, OH show this past June 14th with 29 Ameraucanas being shown by 14 different exhibitors. The show producer commented how pleased she was to see the Ameraucana numbers up this year. A black cockerel I was showing took top honors in the Open class, winning BB and also Champion AOSB. A blue cockerel I was showing won RB. Bantam top honors went to Debbie Mock with her blue cock winning BB and her wheaten cock winning RB.



In the Junior LF, congratulations to new member, Hannah Brush, who won BB and Champion AOSB with her white pullet and she also won RB and R-AOSB with her black pullet. Hannah was also the one who purchased my winning black cockerel, so when she shows up at our National Meet in Lucasville this October, don't be surprised if she has her game face on. You go, girl!



In the Junior Bantams, Sadie Evans won BV with a lavender hen and RV with a lavender cock. Those were the only 2 bantams shown in the Junior class.

I'd like to remind everyone that we still have several more meets in this district that are coming up soon. Be sure to check the "Upcoming Ameraucana Meets" section of this bulletin and also be sure to check the "ABC Meets" page on our website periodically for any added information or changes. The National Meet will be here before you know it and I hope everyone is planning to attend and have made their reservations. It's shaping up to be a very nice event with lots of prizes and awards and I'm looking forward to getting the opportunity to finally meeting a lot of you there.

Eastern District Meets Results...

West Central Ohio Poultry Club – Lima, OH

Ohio Special Meet, March 15, 2014 (Show #1)

No Bantams were entered.

6 Open LF by 2 exhibitors, judged by Bill Veihm

BB - BV black C by Terry Disney, out of 3 **CH-AOSB**

RB - RV black H by Terry Disney **R-AOSB**

BV - lavender C by Tom Naseman, out of 3

RV - lavender P by Tom Naseman

No Junior Exhibitors

West Central Ohio Poultry Club – Lima, OH

Ohio Special Meet, March 16, 2014 (Show #2)

No Bantams were entered

11 Open LF by 3 exhibitors, judged by Gary Overton

BB - BV black C by Terry Disney, out of 6

RB - RV black H by Terry Disney

BV - blue wheaten K by Robert Sando, out of 2

RV - blue wheaten K by Robert Sando

BV - lavender H by Tom Naseman, out of 3

RV - lavender P by Tom Naseman

No Junior Exhibitors

(continued →)

Eastern District Meets Results...

Carolina Feather Fanciers – Greensboro, NC

North Carolina Special Meet, April 12, 2014

1 Open Bantam by 1 exhibitor, judged by Dwane Jonis

BB - BV silver C by Amy Colbert, **Champion AOCCL**

1 Open LF by 1 exhibitor

BB - BV wheaten C by Jerry Sineath

No Junior exhibitors

Delmarva Poultry Fanciers – NC

Delaware State Meet, April 5-6, 2014

2 Open Bantams by 2 exhibitors

BV – buff P by Larry Clionsky

BV – B.B. Red C by Linda Quattrone

37 Open LF by 9 exhibitors, judged by Rick Hare

BB - BV black H by Camelle Lewandowski, out of 15

RB - RV black H by Tom Kernan

BV – blue K by Will Kitsch, out of 7

RV – blue H by Camelle Lewandowski

BV – blue wheaten C by Tom Kernan, out of 2

RV – blue wheaten C by Larry Clionsky

BV – brown red C by Jamie Seale

BV – buff H by Will Kitsch, out of 5

RV – buff C by Larry Clionsky

BV – silver C by Larry Clionsky

BV – wheaten C by Tom Kernan

BV – white H by Dan Castle, out of 3

RV – white P by Larry Clionsky

BV – lavender H by Camelle Lewandowski, out of 2

RV – lavender H by Camelle Lewandowski

11 Junior LF by 4 exhibitors

BB - BV black C by Jamie Seale, out of 6

RV – black K by Will Kitsch

RB - BV – blue K by Will Kitsch, out of 2

RV – blue C by Jamie Seale

BV – buff H by Will Kitsch, out of 3

RV – buff H by Will Tornambe

Buckeye Fancy Feathers – OH

Canfield, OH Special Meet, June 14, 2014

5 Open Bantams by 3 exhibitors, judge: Daniel Dysart

BV – black C by S. Bozinovich & Kim Munden

BB – BV – blue C by Debbie Mock

RB – BV – wheaten C by Debbie Mock, out of 3

RV – wheaten H by Debbie Mock

14 Open LF by 6 exhibitors, judged by Glenn See

BB - BV black K by Sharon Yorks, out of 6 **CH-AOSB**

RV – black P by Debbie Mock

RB - BV – blue K by Sharon Yorks, out of 7

RV – blue C by Abby Besida

BV – white K by Debbie Mock

2 Junior Bantams by 1 exhibitors, judge: Daniel Dysart

BV lavender H by Sadie Evans, out of 2

RV lavender C by Sadie Evans

8 Junior LF by 5 exhibitors, judged by Curtis Oakes

RB - BV black P by Hannah Brush, out of 2 **R-AOSB**

RV – black C by Xander Meeks

BB - BV white P by Hannah Brush, out of 2 **CH-AOSB**

RV – white H by Colton Brush

BV - ginger red H by Zachary Slimak, out of 2

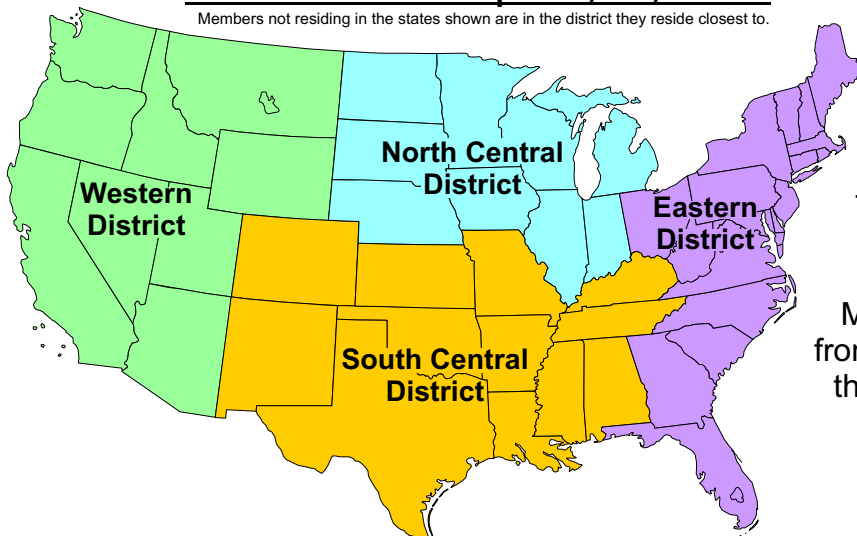
RV - ginger red H by Cody Slimak

BV – golden duckwing C by Hannah Brush

BV – splash H by Xander Meeks

ABC District Map - 8/11/2014

Members not residing in the states shown are in the district they reside closest to.



The Board of Directors
have moved
Kentucky, Tennessee,
Mississippi and Alabama
from the Eastern District into
the South Central District.

North Central District Report ~ Duane Schroeder, Director

The North Central District Meet was conducted June 7, 2014, at the Coulee Region Poultry Club meet in Galesville, WI. The results are shown below. There were a total of 48 Ameraucanas shown by 12 exhibitors. Two juniors exhibited large fowl Ameraucanas and two exhibited in the bantam classes. Jacob Sonsalla, son of Jeff, is a junior who won Champion AOSB.



It was my pleasure to meet a couple of our newest members, Carrie Gildersleeve and Scott & Kirstin Thompson. Carrie spent a considerable amount of time with John Blehm discussing genetics. I expect this young lady to become quite the poultry geneticist! The Thompsons are raising their children to be Ameraucana fanciers, and their results in the junior competition show they are doing a fine job.

Galesville is a beautiful city located where Beaver Creek flows into a wide area of the Mississippi River valley. I know some of you participate exclusively in our National meets, but you really should consider exhibiting in the smaller ones. The communities in which these meets are conducted typically are charming, and they welcome outsiders with open arms. One of the highlights of my trip to Galesville, was a breakfast discussion I had with the ladies behind the counter at a local dinner. I love the accent in this part of the U.S., but they insisted it was I who had the accent! Go figure.



I had taken a dozen fertile eggs with me, not sure what I was going to do with them. At the suggestion of Mike Gilbert, I set up a silent auction and earned a whopping \$20 for the ABC. John, I'm going to have the auditors make sure that twenty made it to our account!

ABC life member Bob Rennolet (second from left) donated more than 250 chicks of various breeds for auction to benefit the local club. I promised I wouldn't tell how many Ameraucanas he exhibited!

The excitement is building for our 2014 National meet in Lucasville. I hope to see many of our members there.

North Central District Meets Results...

Coulee Region Poultry Club Show, Galesville, WI

North Central District 2014 Meet, June 7, 2014

32 bantams by 7 exhibitors, judged by Bart Pals

BV black C by Gina Neta, out of 3
RV black P by Jerry DeSmidt
BV blue H by Gina Neta, out of 3
RV blue P by Jerry DeSmidt
BB/BV blue wheaten P by Jerry DeSmidt, out of 4
RV blue wheaten C by Tom Stallman
BV brown red H by Mike Gilbert, out of 3
RV brown red K by Mike Gilbert
BV buff H by Mike Gilbert, out of 2
RV buff C by Natalie Sonsalla
BV silver H by John Blehm, out of 4
RV silver H by John Blehm
RB/BV wheaten H by Mike Gilbert, out of 5
RV wheaten H by Jerry DeSmidt
BV white P by Jerry DeSmidt, out of 7



RV white H by Mike Gilbert
BV splash H by Jerry DeSmidt

16 large fowl by 7 exhibitors, judged by Jim Fegan

CH-AOSB/BB/BV black C by Jacob Sonsalla, out of 5
RV black H by Nate Rynish
BV blue K by Stacy Wozney, out of 2
RV blue H by Jacob Sonsalla
BV blue wheaten H by Jerry DeSmidt, out of 4
RV blue wheaten C by Jerry DeSmidt
BV wheaten H by Duane Schroeder, out of 4
RV wheaten C by Tom Stallman
R-AOSB/RB/BV white C by Jerry DeSmidt

South Central District Report ~ Paul Smith, Director



Greetings from the SC District.

Hatching season was completed for us on June 9 which was a two week extension so we could fill all our chick orders. It was a relief to be able to fill all of them. We sent out 61 boxes totaling 1,055 head with 36 more picked up at our place for a total of 1,091 day old chicks with new homes.

Now the easy part is keeping all the remaining chicks properly fed and watered. The hard part is keeping them protected from the many different predators that love to eat chicken.

We were having a heavily infestation of grasshoppers which were eating everything-especially the corn crop, so we moved a pen of "out" birds close to our house and released them to feed on the grasshoppers. Having lost none and needing more help with the heavy infestation, we moved 45 head that were kept from our seventh hatch and a pen near the pen of outs. This was the most that we had managed to retain from one hatch due to having so many chick orders. Two weeks to the day of moving them out of the brooder house into the corn field we had a predator come while we were gone to church on Sunday morning. Midday we returned home to find piles of feathers scattered over the yard and near their pen and four dead chicks which were left behind. I inventoried the remaining chicks to find that nine were missing. Looked for tracks to see what the culprit was, but didn't find any. Locked the remaining 36 up in their pen that night. The next morning went out to a shocking surprise to find all 36 dead with either missing heads or head wounds. A mink was near their pen! It had entered the chicks living quarters through the 2X4 welded wire! An hour later I saw another one cross our drive. We have had traps set all around the birds since the massacre, but the pair of mink haven't been back. A week later we moved 42 chicks from our eighth and ninth hatch combined, into the same pen which was moved over and had the 2X4 holes reduced to hail screen wire. Later we also moved 40 from our tenth hatch and final hatch near the other end of the corn. The mink haven't been back, all the birds are doing fine and the grasshoppers are only few in number now, but they devastated the corn crop. During the corn growing season we were extremely hot and dry, which helps the grasshoppers become more plentiful. The heat and drought stress causes Afalatoxin in the corn, which was greatly increased by the grasshopper damage.

Due to the chick massacre, we didn't know whether we would make the 1,000 mile trip to Lucasville. We have a few show quality birds from the first six hatches that are going to allow us to have some to show-so we are planning on going.

The SC District has recently grown in size! We have gained Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee and Kentucky. Welcome to the SC District! I had been trying to obtain a good show in October or early November as far North and East as possible for our 2015 national meet. I had Angela e-mail three show clubs requesting bids to hold our Ameraucana national. Only one, Sedalia, Missouri has responded to the request. Since the addition of Kentucky, we have been in contact with the Bluegrass Poultry Association in Frankfort, to see if they would like to hold our National which usually increases a show over 200 head! We will know in the next few days if the 2015 national meet will be in Sedalia, Missouri, Frankfort, Kentucky or one of the other two clubs that haven't responded at this time. The SC District meet has been set for Shawnee, Oklahoma. Several other meets are set now. If you would like one at a show that you attend, let me know.

Hope everyone is blessed with a great growing season which is predator free. See you at the Fall shows.

South Central District Meets Results...

Missouri State Poultry Assoc.-Sedalia, MO.

Missouri Special Meet April 19, 2014 (show #1)

9 Open LF by 3 exhibitors, judged by Dwayne Jonas

BB-BV Black P by Clifton Redden, out of 3

RB-RV Black K by Clifton Redden

BV Blue Wheaten P by Wallace Buttram

BV Wheaten H by Clifton Redden

BV B.B. Red P by Jim Wetzal, out of 4 w/3 disqualified

14 Jr Bantams by 2 exhibitors, judged by Melody Jonas

BB-BV Wheaten H by Woody Springer, out of 13

RB-RV Wheaten H by Woody Springer

BV Black P by Kali Massey

1 junior LF by 1 exhibitor, judged by Dwayne Jonas

BV of Brown H by Lila Wantland

(continued →)

South Central District Meets Results...

Missouri State Poultry Association-Sedalia, MO.

Missouri Special Meet April 19, 2014 (show #2)

9 Open LF by 3 exhibitors, judged by Melody Jonas

BB-BV Black K by Clifton Redden, out of 3

RB-RV Black P by Clifton Redden

BV blue wheaten P by Wallace Buttram

BV wheaten H by Clifton Redden

BV B.B. Red P by Jim Wetzal, out of 4 w/3 disqualified

Treasurer's Report

Cking account at Credit Union Plus, Birch Run, MI

Previous Total Balance of 5/24/2014 = \$5,738.49

Previous Cking Balance as 5/24/2014 = \$5,674.31

Income = \$184.00

Expenses = \$193.05

Checking Balance as of 8/18/2014 = \$5,665.26

PayPal Balance as of 8/18/2014 = \$97.41

Ending Total Balance as of 8/18/2014 = \$5,762.67

Western District Report ~ Christina Korfus, Director

No Report



Classifieds...

Offering day old LF Ameraucana chicks in black, blue, splash, wheaten, blue wheaten, splash wheaten and lavender. (SC Rhode Island Reds are GONE! They wouldn't hatch in 2014!) We plan on starting Feb. 17 and ending June 8, 2015 with nine hatches at two week intervals.

Paul & Angela Smith- psmith@ntin.net or 940-768-8405 for info and prices.

Club Notes ~ John W Blehm

Deadline for the next Bulletin is November 15th. Please have reports, articles, photos, ads, etc to me by then.

In the past we generally included a membership list in the Bulletin annually and a Breeders Directory recent years. Since the Breeders Directory is now readily available on our Ameraucana.org site, and often updated, I don't include it here. If you can't access the site and want a copy please let me know. To protect our members from being added to mailing, emailing and calling lists I think it is best not to publish the membership list (at least not with all contact information), but any member that requests it may have a copy (in Microsoft Excel) and is asked to keep it confidential.

We have always included ads, from members, in the Bulletin for free. Over time the classifieds were made into display ads. With the Breeders Directory, on our website, and the Ameraucana Market, on the ABC Forum, members have advertising options that didn't exist when the club formed in 1978. I have reverted back to classified ads in the Bulletins. Please have them to me by the Bulletin deadline to be included in each Bulletin.

Remember if your 2015 dues aren't paid by January 1st you won't be a club member on the 1st of the year. Please don't hesitate to send a check or use PayPal to keep your membership current. A membership form and all the details are on our Ameraucana.org site.

The Board of Directors has voted to further define the rules for our Exhibitor Point System by saying: **All birds actually exhibited at a show count towards points including any that may have been disqualified.** When you enter Ameraucanas in an ABC sanctioned meet please use the same name (not Joe Jones sometimes and Joe & Joy Jones or Jones Poultry other times.) each time to accumulate points under that ABC member name. In junior competition points are only accumulated under a junior's name, not the name of the family membership or a farm name. Member point totals and all the details are at Ameraucana.org.

[Upcoming Ameraucana Meets - Go to Ameraucana.org for updates](#)

September 20-21, 2014

Ohio Special Meet, requested by Jamie Corey
Eastern Ohio Poultry Association, Tallmadge OH
Contact: Nathanael Medley (740)946-4039

October 4-5, 2014

National Meet, placed by Sharon Yorks
Southern Ohio Poultry Association, Lucasville Ohio
Contact: David Adkins (740)259-2852

October 4, 2014

Wisconsin Special Meet, requested by K. Thompson
W Central WI Pigeon & Poultry Club, Menomonie WI
Contact: Dan Paff judan@live.com

October 11-12, 2014

Michigan State Meet, requested by John W Blehm
Fall Fowl Fest (FowlFest.org), Birch Run MI
Contact: Matt Boensch mjwaterfowl@charter.net

October 11, 2014

Pennsylvania Special Meet, req. by Heather Rhoad
Lebanon Valley Poultry Fanciers, Lebanon PA
Contact: Carl Richard frich93359@aol.com

October 25, 2014

North Carolina Special Meet, req. by Beth Curran
Friendship Poultry Club, Morganton NC
Contact: Carol Hipps (828)381-9949

October 25, 2014

Colorado State Meet, requested by Kristine Malcolm
Rocky Mountain Feather Fanciers, Brighton CO
Contact: Brenda Strong (303)204-6191

November 1-2, 2014

Nebraska State Meet, requested by Gordan Gilliam
Nebraska State Poultry Show, Lincoln NE
Contact: Vicki Gilliam gilavina@hotmail.com

November 1, 2014

Arkansas State Meet – show #1, req. by Clif Redden
Heart of the Ozarks Poultry Assoc., Fayetteville AK
Contact: Jacob Bates jakeab42@hotmail.com

November 1, 2014

Arkansas Special Meet – show #2, req. by C. Redden
Heart of the Ozarks Poultry Assoc., Fayetteville AK
Contact: Jacob Bates (479)965-5222

November 7-9, 2014

Eastern District Meet, requested by Sharon Yorks
Ohio National Poultry Show, Columbus OH
Contact: Eric Markley (419)303-6909

November 22 2014

California Special Meet, requested by Katie Surratt
Gold Rush Fowl Association show, Sonora CA
Contact: Chris Tamayo (916)508-5550

November 22, 2014

Louisiana State Meet – show #1, req. by A. Hickson
Gulf Coast Poultry Fanciers Assoc., Baton Rouge LA
Contact: Rhona Silva gcpfa01@gmail.com

November 22, 2014

Louisiana Special Meet – show #2, req. by A. Hickson
Gulf Coast Poultry Fanciers Assoc., Baton Rouge LA
Contact: Rhonda Silva (985)801-9540

November 29, 2014

North Carolina Special Meet, req. by Beth Curran
Forsyth Fowl Fanciers, Winston Salem NC
Contact: Mark East (336)341-9281

December 12-13, 2014

SC District Meet, placed by Paul Smith
Oklahoma State Poultry Federation, Shawnee OK
Contact: Derrell (405)802-2330

December 13, 2014

North Carolina Special Meet, req. by Beth Curran
Cape Fear Poultry Association, Smithfield NC
Contact: Carol Lynn (910)897-8001 or Wilbur Hanley
langshanman@gmail.com

[Ameraucana Breeders Club Board of Directors](#)

President, Connie "Jean" Ribbeck
PO Box 461, Newman Lake WA 99025 jribbeck@q.com (509)226-3833

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

Director - Eastern District, Sharon Yorks
5745 Sleepy Hollow Road, Valley City OH 44280 syorks4@gmail.com (330)416-8419

Director - North Central District, Duane Schroeder
3233 South Greensboro Pike, New Castle IN 47362 dschroeder@hughes.net (765)987-7582

Director - South Central District, Paul Smith
2175 Country Road, Gainesville TX 76240-0481 psmith@ntin.net (940)768-8405

Director - Western District, Christina Korfus
PO Box 681, Cle Elum WA 98922 korfuskluckers@aol.com (509)-607-0405



Ameraucana Breeders Club Ballot - 2014

Please vote for President, Secretary/Treasurer and District Director for your district only.
Also vote Yes or No on the proposed amendment to the club's Constitution/Bylaws.
Mail/email your ballot within ten days after receipt directly to the Election Commissioner.
Newly elected officers shall assume office on January 1st and serve for two years.

Election Commissioner: **Mike Gilbert, W5171 Baker Road, Holmen WI 54636** chantecler7@gmail.com

President: John W Blehm
 Clifton Redden

Secretary/Tresurer _____

Western District Director: Shakti O'Melveny-Rupp
 Jean Ribbeck

Shall the ABC Constitution/Bylaws be amended as follows? Yes No

I've made the following proposed changes to our Constitution/Bylaws and the Board of Directors voted to put it to a membership vote. The proposal is to add the text in Red and delete the text that is Bold and ~~lined out~~. My comments to explain the reasons for the changes are in Blue.

In Article II I would like to add the option to have an appointee(s) distribute the awards. Currently the language doesn't allow for anyone other than the Secretary to do it and this change could lighten the load.

Article II – Secretary/Treasurer

The Secretary/Treasurer shall conduct club correspondence, collect and receive all monies due the club, pay all bills undertaken by it, and keep a record of these transactions. The Secretary/Treasurer shall make an annual financial report to the membership via the club bulletin and interim financial reports at meetings at which a quorum of club officers are present. For this purpose a majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum. The Secretary/Treasurer shall be custodian of all club records and be responsible for issuing a quarterly bulletin to all club members detailing current and forthcoming club activities. The Secretary/Treasurer **or appointee(s)** shall distribute meet awards. The Secretary/Treasurer shall surrender all files, monies, and other club property to the new Secretary/Treasurer at the expiration of his or her term of office in a timely fashion.

This new first sentence in Article IX isn't a change, but it would help define/clarify the historical voting practices of the club especially for new officers.

The second sentence would specifically include email as mail. In Article VII we had added "or via email" several years ago for voting, but with this change that could be deleted since saying email is a form of mail it also covers all the other places "mail", "mailing" and "mailed" are used.

Article IX - Interpretation

A simple majority is required for passage of membership votes and an absolute majority is required for passage of Board of Director votes. Email counts as "Mail". In all cases of dispute arising from interpretation of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Ameraucana Breeders Club, and on all other matters not covered herein, a majority vote of the Board of Directors shall decide the issue. Such decisions shall be declared final.

Article VII - Election of Officers

Any paid member in good standing may send in a nomination for candidates for the various offices. All nominees must be members of the Ameraucana Breeders Club at the time of nomination. Officers shall be elected every two years by means of a mail ballot sent to each member. Such ballots shall be mailed by the Secretary/Treasurer via the club bulletin in the fall of the election year. Voting may be by mailing a marked ballot **or via email** within ten days after receipt directly to the Election Commissioner. When only one member accepts the nomination for any office that person will be elected by acclamation. The election shall be completed and the new officers declared by mid-December and the new officers shall assume office on January 1st.

Article III already says directors "shall" place an annual district meet and report the results, so I don't think it is needed in Article VIII.

By adding "in accordance with the ABC Meet Policy" the Constitution recognizes the Meet Policy that we've been using for years. By eliminating many of the "shalls" about club meets here will allow the board to address more concerning our sanctioned ABC meets in the Meet Policy.

Article VIII - Club Meets

The Ameraucana Breeders Club shall hold an annual National meet to be rotated clockwise each year among the club districts. The District Director will place the National meet by November 15th for the following year. If it is not placed, with notification to the Board, by that date the Director of the next District in rotation will have 30 days to place the National meet. Should a district be unable to host the National meet in its allotted turn the meet shall pass on to the next district in rotation.

The placing of the annual District meet shall be the prerogative of the District Director, who shall assume responsibility for its planning and execution and who shall coordinate these activities with the Secretary/Treasurer. The District Director shall be responsible for a detailed report of results and awards to be sent to the Secretary/Treasurer promptly at the termination of the meet.

Annual State meets and Special meets shall be placed by the District Director at the request of any member **in accordance with the ABC Meet Policy. Members requesting such meets shall assume the responsibilities as outlined for District Directors if the Director is not in attendance.**