

Aug 28, 1985

Ameraucana Bantam Bulletin

AMERAUCANA BANTAM CLUB, W5171 Baker Road, Holmen, Wisconsin 54636

Spring and Summer, 1985 (double issue)

Vol. VII, No. 1

DON CABLE RESIGNS

As many of you already know we have lost the best secretary a poultry breed club ever had. Don Cable for personal reasons has been forced to give up his bantams and has relinquished his post as Secretary-Treasurer of the Ameraucana Bantam Club. The search for his replacement continues. We sincerely hope Don can put things together so that one day soon he can again keep some bantams. For the benefit of newer members, Don was the moving force behind the eventual acceptance of the Ameraucana standard by both A.B.A. and the A.P.A.

In the meantime, several members have been contacted about assuming the job on an interim basis until the fall election is held; all terms of office are on a biennial basis and expire this time around on December 31, 1985. It is my sincere hope that at least one of you will agree to have your name placed on the fall ballot for this position, as my vocation(s) really do not allow the amount of time the job requires. Let me hear from any interested member.

FRED JEFFREY GIVES NOTICE

We see by the A.B.A. Quarterly and in Poultry Press that Fred Jeffrey will step down as secretary of the American Bantam Association. Fred cites age and length of service as factors influencing his decision. Like Don, Fred Jeffrey has a great aptitude for this type of work and excels at it. These men and their work will be sorely missed by the members of both organizations. But, they have left their marks on the bantam fancy, and we are all the better for it.

FREE ADVERTISING

Before this gets to sounding too much like an obituary column lets strike one positive note. This bulletin will carry free of charge, until further notice, any classified ads for you, the members. These can be For Sale, Wanted, Give Away, or what-have-you as long as they relate to the poultry hobby. Remember to include your address, phone number, and shipping information if applicable.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Membership dues are \$5.00 per year and are set up on an annual basis. If a red mark appears here _____ it means we have no record of receiving your 1985 dues. If your renewal is not received by the time our next Quarterly Bulletin is mailed it will be assumed you are not interested and thus are to be dropped from our mailing list. If your payment has inadvertently been lost from our records, please let us know that too. If you are dropping your membership, please send us a line explaining your dissatisfaction so we can try harder in that area(s) in the future.

According to Don's records we have experienced a 66+% renewal rate thus far from 1984 to 1985. Current paid membership stands at 43. Thanks folks!

* * *

THE SHOWS

District Directors are responsible for placing annual District Meets and also for coordinating the National Meet when, in rotation, it falls within his or her district. Due to the confusion emanating from the turnover of the Secretary's position (in part), no district meet and no national meet have been scheduled for 1985. As soon as our new slate of officers are chosen for 1986 - 1987, it is expected the new or returning officers will once again become active in promoting Ameraucanas by placing the required meets at quality shows around the nation.

A State Meet has been requested and awarded for the Ohio National, Columbus, Ohio on November 9th and 10th, 1985. Cash awards are being supplied by the A.B.C. and rosettes by members Tom Lippincot and Jeanne Trent. These two, along with new member Lois Bouk have been very active showing Ameraucana bantams and large fowl around the Michigan - Ohio territory. Way to go Central District!! Anyone wishing to compete should write Clell Agler, 3407 Bean Oiler Rd., Delaware, OH 43015 for a show catalog. Entries for this show close October 18th, 1985.

It was my pleasure to attend the Dairyland Classic at Richland Center, Wisconsin on June 29th & 30th, 1985. New member Carroll Johnson took home a nice pair of very small blue-wheaten bantams and indicated he would soon begin hatching chicks. Jim Tuckwood showed a nice string of Ameraucana bantams and also sold some surplus stock. This was not a club meet, but thanks to Jim for providing a real nice trophy for Best of Breed (bb). The results, with Harold Halbach judging were as follows.

White -	Tuckwood: 1(bob)C, 2H, 1K, 1,2P
	Gilbert: 1H
Wheaten -	Tuckwood: 2H
	Gilbert: 1(bb)H
Black -	Tuckwood: 1,2H
Blue -	Tuckwood: 1P

It is requested that directors and members responsible for meet reporting please forward results to the secretary in the above manner, except also indicating the best and reserve of variety (bv and rv or bov) when competition warrants a breakdown. Thanks for your cooperation.

CLUB LOGO CONTEST ANNOUNCED

The club will offer free membership dues for 1986 and 1987 (\$10.00 value) to the member who submits a suitable club logo for general use on stationery, arm patches, etc. The design should be submitted to the secretary in the form of a circle 3 inches in diameter, similar to the A.B.A. and A.P.A. arm patches. Use paint, colored pencil, or whatever to indicate the coloring of your design. The winning entry will be selected by majority vote of the Board of Directors.

NOTICE - FREE FOR THE ASKING

The acting secretary has one extra copy of the Winter, 1984 and the Summer, 1984 Quarterly Bulletins. They will be mailed to the first member who requests them. Anyone needing copies of past issues or articles will receive them upon payment of ten cents per page plus providing a self addressed, stamped envelope.

* * *

NEW MEMBERS

The following have paid their 1985 dues, received their membership cards and "Ameraucana Bantam Handbooks", and joined our growing organization.

Rev. William P. McKinnon
623 Martha Lane
Cedartown, GA 30125

Ronald Bugner
RR, Box 32
Reeder, ND 58649

Lois Bouk
9519 Ridge Rd.
Goodrich, MI 48438

Mary Lou Phelps
Rt. 22, Box 388
Springfield, MO 65803

Carroll E. Johnson
457 E. South
Caledonia, MN 55921

To all the above, Welcome To Our Club! If you ever have questions, comments, or just thoughts to share, please write your District Director and/or the Secretary-Treasurer. We hope the Handbook (produced by Don Cable) will help you to gain an understanding of the organization and history of the club, also helpful tips on selecting and mating Ameraucanas.

CLUB TREASURY REPORT

As of August 21, 1985:	Balance forwarded by Don Cable (cashiers check)	\$200.00
	Donation from Don Cable for Poultry Press Ad	20.00
	Dues and renewals received 6/85 to date	<u>30.00</u>
	Current Balance	\$250.00

We also have a large stock of Handbooks which are paid for. We do need to order a supply of club rosettes for show awards. The cost of producing and mailing this bulletin has not been deducted.

BREEDERS DIRECTORY - 1985

Please complete and return the following form if you wish to be included in the 1985 Ameraucana Breeders Directory. This compilation will be included in the next Bulletin. The deadline is October 1st, 1985.

CLUB POLITICAL ACTION

Now is the time to submit nominations for club offices for the 1986 - 1987 biennium. You may nominate yourself, or you may nominate another member providing you have first secured his or her consent. Nominations close November 1st and a ballot mailed to all members shortly thereafter. Present officers will not be automatically placed on the ballot, so should indicate to the acting secretary their intentions of seeking another term.

Tom Lippincott has announced his hat is in the ring for Central District Director. Tom headed the "Araucana Booster Club" before joining ranks with us and hopes to include Ameraucana large fowl in our club's future endeavors.

Our current slate of elected officers are as follows.

President	Mike Gilbert
Secretary-Treasurer	now vacant (Mike Gilbert acting sec.)
Eastern District Director	Ken Carpenter
Southern District Director	Jack Fugate
Central District Director	Jerry A. Segler, Sr.
Western District Director	Marie Rayher

In addition, we have currently two non-elective positions. Honorary Vice-President is Frank Gary. This is a lifetime elected term. Also, our Election Commissioner, appointed by the president, is Jim Tuckwood.

For your prior thought and discussion, the following items will be on the fall ballot also.

- A. Whether to amend our Constitution and Bylaws to allow for the promotion of Ameraucana large fowl (currently we promote only bantams).
- B. Whether to elect Don Cable as a second Honorary Vice President.

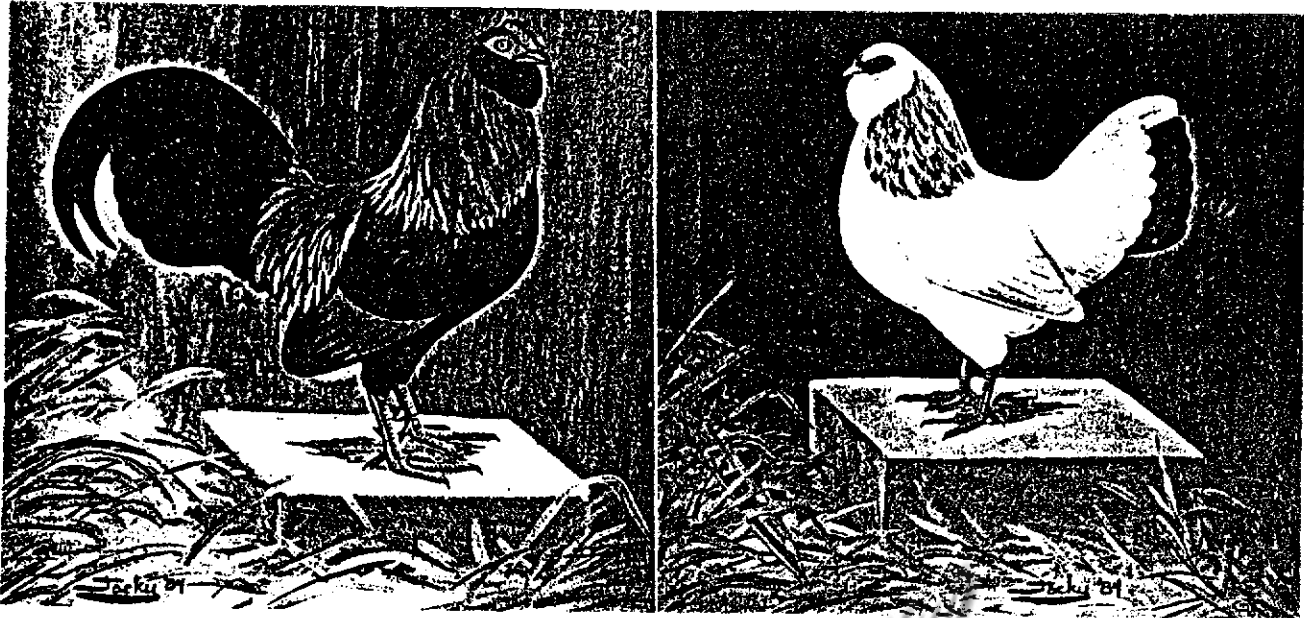
If any member has other items to be voted upon this fall it should be brought to the attention of the club president and acting secretary immediately.

CLUB ARTWORK & PHOTOS CONTEST

Shown below is a poor photocopy reproduction of the artwork done by Diane Jacky and approved by Don Cable for use in the next edition of the A.P.A. Standard Of Perfection. The originals depict the wheaten color pattern, and the photocopies do them no justice at all. Your comments, pro or con, will be appreciated concerning the way the photos represent breed conformation and characteristics.

Also, the American Bantam Association would like to receive good black and white photos of male and female bantams (any variety is O.K.) for the next edition of Bantam Standard. Will someone give this project their best shot and submit pictures to the Board for approval? Again, we will award two years free dues to the winning entry. "Good intentions soon fade away if not quickly acted upon."

OOPS! Photo copy of Diane Jacky's artwork appears on the next page as we ran out of room, folks. A typist I'm not.



AMERAUCANA BANTAMS

THE 1984 NATIONAL MEET - SOME OBSERVATIONS

The Wisconsin State Poultry Breeders hosted our 1984 national meet at the Wisconsin state fairgrounds near Milwaukee on the first weekend of October. A total of 29 bantams were exhibited by four midwestern members. While the numbers were disappointing, enthusiasm ran high and several new memberships were secured. Those of us who attended the annual meeting were treated to a report from J. Ralph Brazleton about his pioneering efforts many years ago with what are now Ameraucana bantams. The following critique is strictly opinion and is not intended as criticism of either exhibitors or the judge, Eugene Barnard, who did a fine job.

Sixteen whites were shown, and all four exhibitors represented. The one hen and one cock were good specimens of the breed but neither were in the peak of condition and the male was extremely wild. Tail carriage was correct in both birds at about 40 degrees above the horizontal; tails were also reasonably well spread in both, a feature lacking in many of the whites shown.

Four white cockerels were entered plus one to make up a trio. Most were rather large, had oversized combs, and had more or less brassiness across back and wings. As with many bantam males, wing carriage was generally too low.

From the white pullet class came best of breed and reserve of variety. The 1st place bird showed well on this particular day, displaying correct body carriage, tail angle and spread, correct size, and very good muffs and beard. She could be faulted, however, for lacking depth of body, being a trifle long in tail, and too light in eye color. The standard calls for an eye of reddish bay, something difficult to achieve in whites. Some are nearly yellow (like this bird), others very dark brown, and some are red.

Among the colored birds were a very nice pair of blues, a cockerel and a pullet. Both appeared a little too young for exhibition; another month would have put them at a higher state of finish. The male showed no red in the hackle and was, I thought, the best in overall type of the male birds shown. He was correctly disqualified for white shanks, but could serve well as a sire of future winners.

Three black pullets were shown. The 1st and 2nd finishers showed good muff & beard development, but the 3rd lacked in that area. All three appeared to be by the shape of their combs, heterozygous for single/pea combs (as did the blues). Again, these birds could be used well in the proper breeding program, but lack potential as individuals in the exhibition hall. Size, color, and type were not bad. Tail spread and angle could stand a little improvement.

(cont. on next page)

Observations of 1984 National Meet - Continued

Next, four blue-wheatens were exhibited, two pullets and two cockerels. Judged best of variety, and properly so, was a pullet showing good type and with reasonably sufficient blue coloring in her tail. She was just a little large and a little uneven in wheaten top color, a common problem among wheaten and blue-wheaten females. Reserve of variety went to the other pullet, a smaller bird but quite immature. She also displayed very good tail color. First cockerel went to a bird with a coarse comb, a rather abrupt break between back line and tail, and a little striping in the hackle. The other cockerel was disqualified for shank color (white). The latter was a real showy, small bird - but a rather obvious cross with Old English game. He had excellent plumage coloration but was not representative of the Ameraucana breed in type. He could be mated back to pure Ameraucana females to improve size and color in the breed - if one has the patience to segregate out impure shank color, muffs, comb, and type over a period of several generations.

Finally, the wheatens were represented by only one cockerel and three pullets shown by two exhibitors. The cockerel was obviously immature as his muffs had not yet turned fully from wheaten to black. More age might have brought out better type, but he again had some hackle striping. He was judged reserve of variety. All three pullets had quite good type and finish, though the 3rd place bird had not reddened in the comb yet. She was the best colored bird of the three, being a light creamy shade of wheaten, but lacked quite enough black in tail and wings. The second and first place pullets were superior to her in the black sections of plumage, but were uneven in top color across the back and were a bit darker than the desired shade. (one tends to look for the Old English shade of wheaten until the Ameraucana standard requirements are studied in-detail)

The first place wheaten pullet was judged reserve of breed, a choice not too far off the mark, as she had very nice Ameraucana female type.

Once again, the above is not intended as any form of criticism. It is hoped the foregoing might help someone in his or her selection process, whether for breeding or for exhibition.

* * * * *

WE SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

American Bantam Association
P.O. Box 610
North Amherst, Mass. 01059
dues \$6.00/year or \$10.00/two years
Quarterly bulletin plus free
yearbook with two year membership

American Poultry Association, Inc.
Bertha Traver, Secretary
Box 351, R.D. 4
Troy, New York 12180
dues \$6.00/year, \$10.00/two years
free yearbook to all members

Poultry Press (monthly newspaper)
Box 947
York, PA 17405
\$8.00/year, or \$20.00/three years

Countryside & Small Stock Journal
312 Portland Rd.,
Waterloo, WI 53594
(monthly magazine) \$18.00/year

Hen House Herald
P.O. Box 1011
Council Bluffs, IA 51502
28 page newspaper
\$8.00/year in U.S.A.

Your local House of Worship
"Let us not give up meeting together,
as some are in the habit of doing, but
let us encourage one another - and all
the more as you see the Day approaching."
(Hebrews 10:25 NIV)

* * * * *