

AMERAUCANA BREEDERS CLUB BULLETIN

AMERAUCANA BREEDERS CLUB, RR1 Box 196H, Central Lake, Michigan 49622

Winter - 1989

Vol. XI No. 4



NOTES FROM NO. MICHIGAN -

I finally finished my reports and if I don't get too windy I can wrap this up. Weather had been up and down and all around..blizzard, warm, freezing rain..you name it. I'm sure all of you are well into the holiday business. I'm running behind, as usual. We were suppose to get a turkey from Rex's boss for Thanksgiving..Wednesday night before Thanksgiving...no turkey. All the stores are closed..it is 9:00 pm. We found a store open..22 iles away. We rushed to get there before they closed at 10.00. We made it. The turkey was frozen but I remembered a "MOM" trick. I put the turkey in a pan of water (even put it on the wood stove for awhile). Good news..it was thawed Thurs. am. Got stuffed, cooked and we had a great meal. Just a little shaky for awhile.

Well, the big show came and went. I was great. We had 110 Ameraucanas. I think there might have been a few more..there were a couple trios that were extras. Turned out it took Rusty & me only 12½ hrs to get there. Sure are a lot of corn fields between here and there. Only mishap was on the way back. WE stayed at a Motel 6 (Jim Boudett & all and no, they don't leave the light on for you plus they had the same drapes and bedspread as the one in our room at Wikiup). Anyway, got up Mon. am to a flat tire on the Jeep. Well, we got it fixed with no problem. Thank goodness it happened at the motel and not on the road.

We drove straight through to the show. First friendly face I saw was JF. Everybody else kind of filtered in. All Ameraucanas were in one spot. We are getting respect for that, at least in the Central District. They put all the large and bantam in the same area. Not hidden away aor separated. We had some rather long impressive rows of AM's.

The club table (hopefully one of us got it on film) was rather impressive..with so much stuff...club trophies (four really nice ones), ML's awards (really nice), Rusty's drawings, club stuff, patches, handbooks, T-shirts, etc. Bernard's picture board behind the table. I saw some of you had sent in photos. Thank you. BK has everything labeled and arranged nicely. It is a must see. We do have two tee shirts left..one white medium and one gray large. Several of our members needed XXL or whatever...they are on order. Tee shirts can be ordered at \$10.00 each from JF, JT or BK.

We had a good time, same peopleas always. I got to meet Matt Betz, a jr. and David Bandomir, another jr. of our club. These kids are so great and so intense into the AM thing...plus they were a great help. Robbie Gilbert, too. All three just ran around and did whatever needed to be done. Elva, it's starting here. Let it start everywhere. The three boys helped me so much. It was great seeing kids being regular kids. All three had really nice birds, too.

I got to meet Rande Buske...great person. He is a cohort of Bernard's. A young man... is part owner of a florist shop. He got some candid shots of us and brought a stage (a prop used to take pictures of the champions). Hi, Rande and thanks. We sure are glad to have you with us. Met Cliff Ikenberry, Bruce Hutchinson and Jim Allan. If you recall, Jim has the "long crowsers". They wound up in Michiganwith me. JF couldn't take them on the plane with her. Just yesterday I delivered feed to my kids (still at Howard's) and heard the long crowsers crow. I was amazed. The last "doodle doo" is held and sustained for quite some time. Much different than our AM. They are also quite large and black. They seemed to have adaped to No. MI and my AM's. The plan is to get them to Montana sooner (or later). Meantime, I'm enjoying them immensely. All birds seem to be having a great time at Howard's. It has been decided that they shall remain until Spring at Howards. No sign of the dog at my place but Howard likes to have them around and they are living in the lap of luxury. Chicken folks are such special people..I hope you have run across some in your area. That's what amazes me at the show. We don't know each other really but we have that common denominator..the AM's and it's like we have slways been friends. Seventeen of us sat in the motel room and seriously discussed club business well into the small hours because we felt that was part of the show and things had to be decided. Too bad we are all so scattered. I'd love to see half of us be able to be together at least once a year..say.

Just know we had a great time, we had 110 birds present, impressed a few folks and did some "club stuff" and cemented yet again the club ties. Be sure to get in touch with your AM club members. They are special. Bruce Hutchinson will be moving around in the Southern District. Cliff Ikenberry was at the show. He couldn'g believe our comaraderie.

PEACE · LOVE · JOY ·

Notes from No. Michigan...continued

"I always heard" but "can't believe". Jim Allan had a bunch of Wheaten Ameraucana bantams to share. Matt Betz was dying for a pair. He said, "We don't need any more chickens." But Carl Fosbrink, being the great person he is, came away from the show with at least a pair for Matt. Thank you, Carl, for instilling such knowledge into Matt..all about chickens and for being so helpful at our meeting.

It's late, wood fire finally getting this house warm. Best go to bed. Rusty is to deliver the cover for this bulletin in the morning. Hope all of you have a great holiday season. Thanks for all of your help and support. We welcome any and all input. Feel free to state your opinion on anything and everything.

Happy Holidays to you and yours,

Jeanne Trent
Nov. 29, 1989

Congratulations to Bernard Conkling...he got Best AOV on a blue Ameraucana pullet large fowl. He sent me a photo. Lovely bird and proud looking owner.

Mary Lou got AOCCl on a Wheaten bantam hen at the NO. Iowa Poultry Expo. That's two folks this past Fall. Are we knocking at the door, folks? Maybe 1990 is the year of the AMERAUCANAS. About time, I say.

Jeanne had a long letter about the club meeting in Highland, IL but because of space I have really condensed it.

1989 Club Meeting of the Ameraucana Breeders Club was held in Room 17 of the Wikiup Inn at Pocahontas, IL on Nov. 4, 1989. There were 14 members present and one guest. We kept our meeting close to the printed agenda because of the time element (10:30 pm) DUES were discussed and raised. M/S/P (Please see the membership form on the last page of this newsletter. DUES DUE JAN 1990

ADDENDUM to handbook will be written on a flyer by D. Cable and mailed to all club members for their handbooks. This is less expensive than rewriting the book and having it reprinted.

ELECTION NOMINATIONS were made..DC nominated J. Freak to remain as Pres., J. Trent to remain as Sec/Treas. and ML Phelps to remain as Cent. Dist. Dir. Also nominated was Bruce Hutchinson as So. Dist. Dir. Please note..anyone can run for these offices..if you would like to run for an office or as Dist. Dir. please let JT or JF know..or if you have someone you would like to nominate. Elections will be held this fall. More in next newsletter.

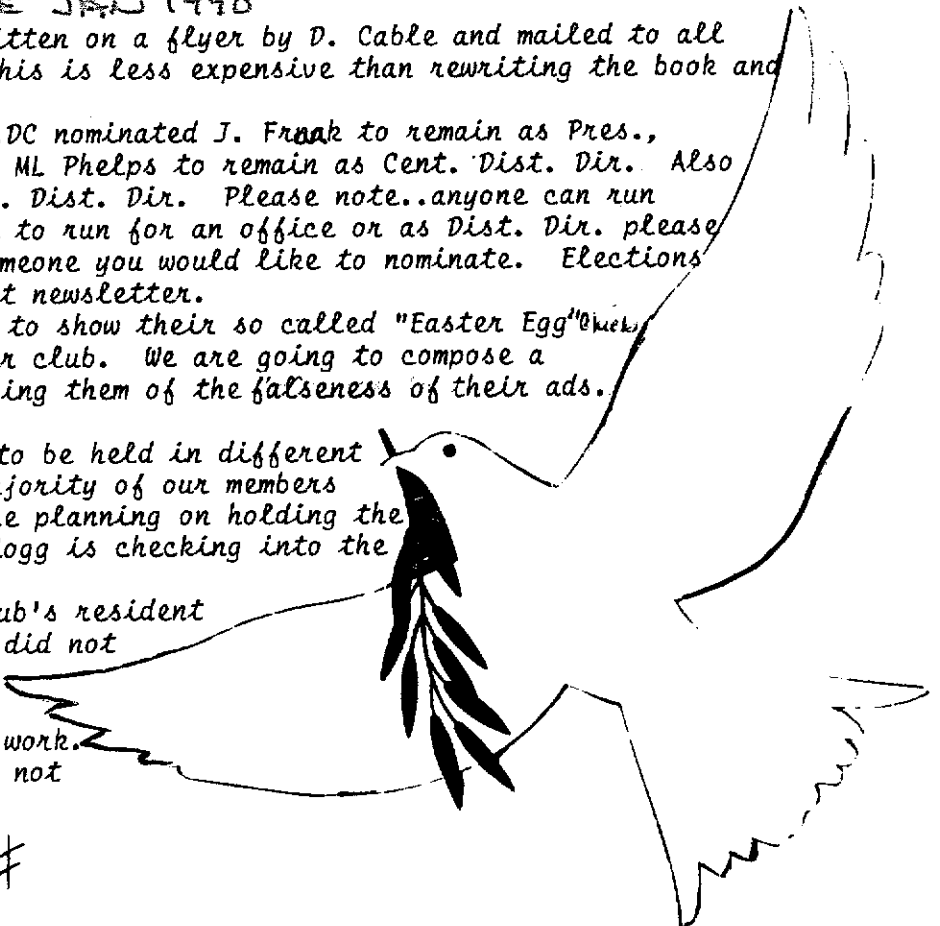
HATCHERIES that are advertising to show their so called "Easter Egg"^{chick} as Ameraucanas are a black eye to our club. We are going to compose a letter to be sent to hatheries advising them of the falseness of their ads. No guarantees but worth a try.

NATIONAL MEETINGS are supposed to be held in different districts each time but since the majority of our members are located in the Cent. Dist. we are planning on holding the next National in 1991...Bernard Kellogg is checking into the possibility of Milwaukee, WI.

ARTWORK is to be done by the club's resident artist...RUSTY HART. Any of you who did not see his fantastic color drawings at Highland missed true works of art. You will be seeing much more of his work.

NPN ad was voted down. We will not renew.

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PEACE ON EARTH

The 1989 National held Nov 3-5 at Highland, Illinois will be remembered as the greatest gathering of Ameraucana exhibitors and of Ameraucana bantams, prior to the 1990's, in the history of the breed.

If memory serves, some 12 exhibitors and 17 members (counting two father-son combinations) descended on the Ill-Mo Bantam Club Show to take part in what has become our semi-annual National Meet. One hundred or more bantams were on display - a grand sight to one who can remember "national" meets with only two exhibitors - and not so very many years ago. You can ask Jerry Segler about that!

Most encouraging to this writer was the participation of three junior exhibitors, all of whom left with renewed enthusiasm and new varieties to work with. Matt Betz, Dave Bandomir and Robbie Gilbert will be forces to be reckoned with in Ameraucana meets of the near future. I know they will keep us older members on our toes if we wish to remain competitive.

I especially enjoyed visiting with our newer members and rekindling friendships with longtime acquaintances. The beautiful plaque I received at our club meeting was something unexpected and undeserved, but thanks to those responsible - they know who they are.

Another major highlight at Ill-Mo was the artwork of Rusty Hart. I believe we can look to Rusty to improve the Ameraucana pictures in both the ABA and APA standards and that the club should commission him to do so as soon as possible.

In the meantime, I am to revise the written descriptions in both standards to eliminate differences and clarify certain points. Anyone with strong feelings on this subject should get in touch with me ASAP. My phone number is (608) 857-3386. Evenings and week-ends - but not Sunday mornings, please. My mailing address is: W5171 Baker Rd., Holmen, WI 54636.

We need to improve both type consistency and color in our birds, and given a few more years work by the dedicated members we have, this will be accomplished.

Best wishes to all. Is it too soon to start promoting Milwaukee for 1991?

Mike Gilbert
Nov. 11, 1989

FROM THE OZARKS -

As I write this I'm still floating on a little cloud - I don't think I'll ever come down off this one! What a grand show - and to see over 100 Ameraucanas lined up was almost too much. I'm so proud of our club and members for this record showing.

What a treat it was to see Don Cable and Jeannette after two years. There is always so much to talk about the time just flies. Wish we could figure out how to make it last longer. I was pleased to meet Jerry Segler for the first time and welcome Bruce Hutchinson and Cliff Ikenberry. Hope to see all of you at future shows. It was good to see Jeanne Trent again and meet Rusty Hart. And the WI crowd..Mike Gilbert and son , Robbie with Dave Horman. Bernard Kellogg brought Rande Buske and David Bandomir. I'm looking forward to seeing these fellows at future shows.

Speaking of future shows, it's not too soon to be thinking about our next National Meet at Milwaukee, WI in 1991. It's no short haul from Springfield but I've already got my maps and tour guide and even have my route plotted. Seems as tho I can't avoid St.Louis but after driving in Columbus, OH last year it seems easy. I haven't been to the Milwaukee show but have heard good things about it. Do you suppose we could set another record? It's sure possible.

Going back to Highland - what a fun time it was. One of my special treats was watching Don feeding "oaties" to my Wheaties. Most of mine are spoiled rotten and I'll be the first to admit it. Choosie is extra special and loves to be carried around in your hand. She will sit for hours if you'll let her. She was a runt as a baby - a true ugly duckling. In fact, she really never grew much until last Spring. I've only shown her twice - the first time at our district meet at the North Iowa show in Sept. where she walked off with Champion Ameraucana and Champion AOCCL. And at Highland she placed second to my little hen who was named Champion Ameraucana and Reserve AOCCL with 150 in the AOCCL class. To say I'm proud of my guys is a true understatement. I know I'll treasure the memories of this Fall for years to come.

We kind of had to "make do" with our meeting(s). Hopefully next time we'll have a better arrangement. I know we'll have a hard time finding another place as nice as the AmericInn at Hutchinson, MN two years ago. We did get some business taken care of and are going full steam ahead for the next two years.

Now, we can just sit back and relax and exchange pictures. I still get my Minnesota ones out and can re-live that show almost like it was yesterday. Most all of us get extra prints made and the pictures fly back and forth in the mail. You never know who might have the "one" that is just extra special.

Since I mentioned SO. MO. was hosting the Dominique National meet I thought you might like to know it was a grand success. A record entry of 85 Dominiques..57 large fowl and 28 bantams. We had birds from the Buffalo, NY area, Philadelphia, PA. Two exhibitors from Iowa, two from the Oklahoma City area and five from Missouri. What really pleases me is the fact that we had more Dominique large fowl than we did black Old English! And even better news - our Large Fowl Champion was a blue Ameraucana pullet shown by Bernard Conkling from Iowa and reserve as Roger Voter's Dominique cockerel. We had 121 open class large fowl and what makes it so special to me is that every Dominique that was entered was shown.

We have had a taste of winter - a bitter day last week with snow flurries. The troops stayed in and really didn't even want out. Now we are up in the 70's again and really dry.

The Central District meet will be back at the North Iowa show next September. Hope to see Bernard, Mike, Dave and Rande up there. After that, it's only a year and a couple of weeks 'til our next National. Watch out, Milwaukee, here we come!!!

A Merry, Merry and a Happy, Happy to all -

Mary Lou Phelps
11-20-89



Holiday
Greetings



OUT WEST -

Echoes of the National Meet -

We arrived in Pocahontas late Friday night and were welcomed by the affable Dave "Chainsaw" Horman, who calmed our fears of a sleepless night by announcing that he was sharing a room with Mike Gilbert and son Robby several rooms away in the motel. Mike and Robby were already in bed trying to get some sack time before Dave fired up the old saw.

Next morning we saw the three of them briefly before we left for the show in neighboring Highland. My old friend Mike was a bit bleary eyed, but otherwise in fine fettle as we toured the well-stocked Ameraucana aisles. More than a hundred bantams were a sight to behold along with Mary Lou Phelps feeding oaties to her wheaties. She and Mike had the finest display of Wheaten and Blue Wheaten I have ever seen and there were a number of impressive birds in other colors as well.

Only a small amount of time was spent with my friend Jeannette Frank, as she was busy clerking, serving as president and rolling out the red carpet for one and all in her usual competent manner. Secretary Jeanne Trent was busy in the club booth boosting the breed along with Rusty Hart among our awards and his impressive artwork.

The traveling club bulletin board was much in evidence along with that gadabout raconteur and former grand poobah of the Readstown Coffee Boys, our own club historian, Bernard Kellogg. My old pal Jerry Segler had driven down and had recovered sufficiently from a bad case of furniture disease to add his bit to the levity and tomfoolery. I also had the opportunity to meet some of our really fine newer members in Bruce Hutchinson, Carl Fosbrink, Cliff Ikenberry and Rande Buske who are already making their mark with the breed.

My congratulations to our officers, Jeannette, Jeanne and Mary Lou, who managed to put on an excellent meet which was as usual, the class of the show. My congratulations too, to Mary Lou on a great win - champion Ameraucana - and to Mike for an equally fine reserve. Either of these folks will be hard to beat and they are equally deserving.

I had put Mary Lou in charge of the weather (I like my snow on calendars and Christmas cards) and she came through with a fine, sunny weekend. She also took time to take C.J. and me birding and managed somehow to provide close-up viewing of not one, but two beautiful Cardinals!

My thanks to all of you for a memorable weekend - it was worth the wait and my cup runneth over. God bless you all.

Don Cable.

A B C JUNIORS

I'm not sure how many of us "older" poultry people have a chance to be around the younger crowd but I want to take a little time to tell you about the three that were at the Ameraucana Breeders Club National Meet in Highland, IL. One I remember meeting at the 1987 ABC National in Hutchinson, MN. The other two were new to me.

I'll introduce **ROBBIE GILBERT** from WI to you first since I know him from 1987. I really didn't spend too much time talking to Robbie but that isn't unusual...he is still shy and reserved. I knew he was around because I would see him in the background watching. If my memory serves me Robbie was the quietest of the Gilbert family in MN. He hasn't changed that way...just grown taller. He is a fine young man - a tribute to his family. I'm sure his father, Mike, is very proud of Robbie. I know that when it was time to coop out he was very busy. I'd take him home with me in a minute but then he won my heart in MN. One of the Ameraucanas exhibited by Robbie that stands out in my mind is a Blue Tailied Buff cockerel. I know that Mike has worked hard with Robbie to perfect this variety or is that visa versa? Anyway, the Ameraucana was impressive.

The next young man is **DAVID BANDOMIR** of WI. He came down with Randal Buske and Bernard Kellogg. I really didn't get to spend much time with David but knew he was around...especially when the White Ameraucana bantams were being judged....I felt him breathing down my neck in anticipation. He had a very fine white cockerel in a trio that was almost overlooked due to a bookkeeping error. Quickly and easily corrected. He did all right in the winning department. Good work, David. I hope I see your name often in show reports and hope you will be at the ABC National in 1991.

Last and certainly not least is **MATT BETZ** of IN. I had heard of Matt and his fine birds from Bernard Kellogg. Bernard had sent me material for a thumbnail sketch on Matt for one of the past newsletters. I knew he was doing all right in the showing of his poultry...I have seen his name in several show reports. Matt travels and shows with his step-father, Carl Fosbrink. Anyone who knows Carl knows what a great exhibitor/showman he is..and that's not mentioning his winnings. Matt is one of those special young men who is always there to do any running needed for us "older" folks. He always has a smile and a polite, courteous manner. The cockerel of Matt's that stays in my mind is a Birchen. Mighty nice. True, it is not a standard variety for our breed (yet) but he was/is a beautiful bird. [My son was upset with me because I hadn't gotten a better picture of the Birchen.] Matt had some self blue Ameraucana bantams that I would have poultrynapped in a second. Of course, self blues have always been a favorite feather color for me. Matt also had some very nice black bantam Ameraucanas. Matt, all I can say is that you would make a fine future president of ABC...my job is open as soon as you are old enough. All it takes is a great gift of gab, a smile and lots of PR.

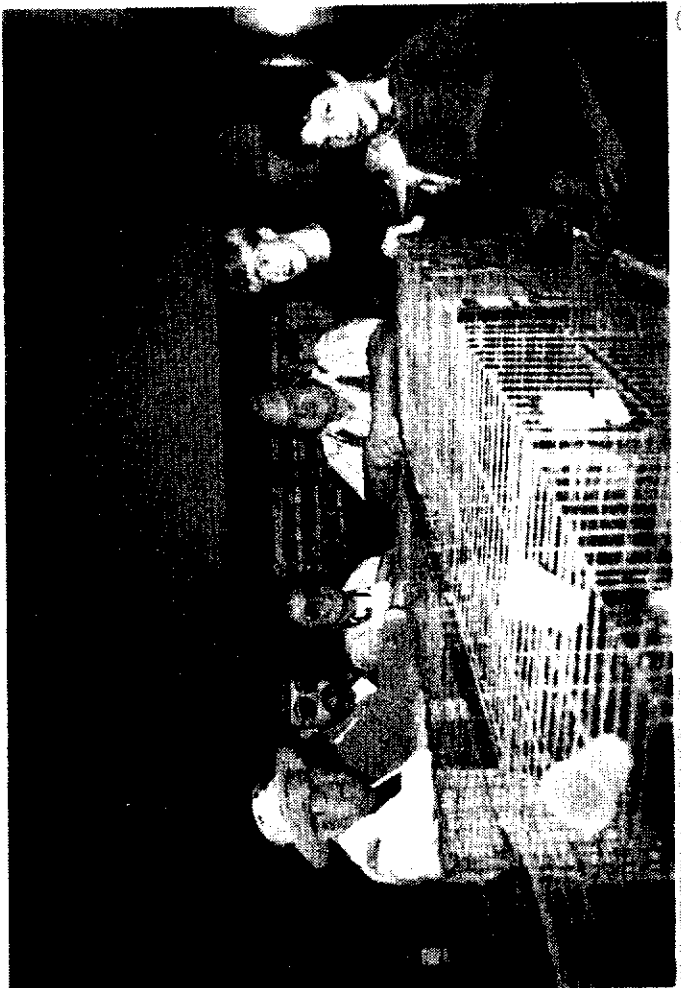
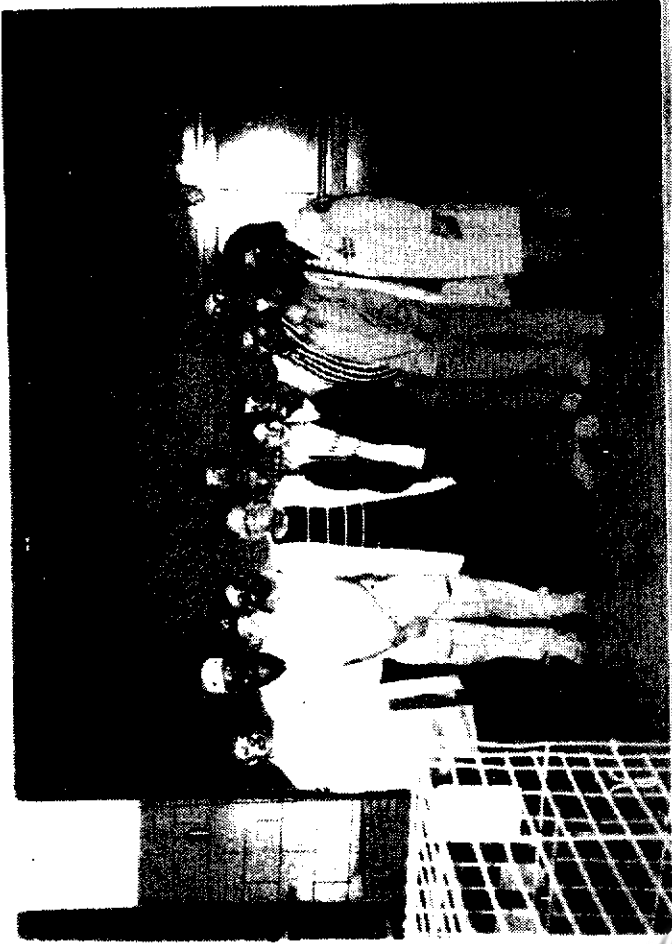
I really think it is great that the AMERAUCANA BREEDERS CLUB has this trio of young men on our side. We have two or three other young people as members but I haven't met them. I want to say "Good Luck to all of you. You are a tribute to our club. I am very proud of all of you."

JF
11/6/89

*Wishing you a Christmas
of comfort and joy!*



Christmas Rose



explanations of the photos in the issue of the newsletter.

- #1. THE CHAMPION at the National in Highland, IL...CHOOSIE...and her proud owner, Mary Lou Phelps. (MLPhelps photo)
- #2. THE GROUP..Some of the ABC members gathered together on Nov.5 before we all headed our separate directions. L to R: J. Frank, Cliff Ikenberry, R. Gilbert (front), M. Gilbert, B. Kellogg (front), Jerry Segler, Matt Betz (front), M.L. Phelps, Don Cable (front), Dave Horman and J. Trent. (D. Cable photo)
- #3. L to R: Bernard Kellogg, Mike Gilbert, Jeanne Trent, Carl Fosbrink, Dave Bandomir, Matt Betz. (R. Buske photo)
- #4. Three of the ABC Club founders standing L to R: Jerry Segler, Mike Gilbert, Don Cable. Seated Randal Buske. (J. Frank photo)

[You know it amazes me that the club ever was founded...these three men plus several others live in such wide spaced areas..J. Segler is in the Peoria area of IL, Mike Gilbert lives in south central WI and Don Cable way out by Sacramento, CA. Thanks, fellows.]
- #5. Jeanne Trent manning the Club table with its trophies. B.Kellogg's picture board in the background. (ML Phelps photo)
- #6. Blue Wheaten cockerel (ML Phelps photo)
- #7. Club table. David Bandomir, Jeanne Trent and Rande Buske. (ML Phelps photo)
[It is too bad none of us got a real good photo of Rusty's great pictures. This photo gives you an idea of the table and the picture boards behind it.]
- #8. Rusty Hart checking over a live model for a future picture. Actually it looks like Choosie is ~~checking~~ Rusty over!! (ML Phelps photo)
Checking

All of these photos were taken at the AMERAUCANA BREEDERS CLUB NATIONAL Show in Highland, Illinois, November 3-4-5, 1989.

Thank you to all who contributed photos. If any of you have any to spare or would be willing to send the negatives to me I would like a copy of any and/or all. I promise to return negatives promptly. I will pay for ~~copies~~ ^{copies} if you would prefer. Thanks.

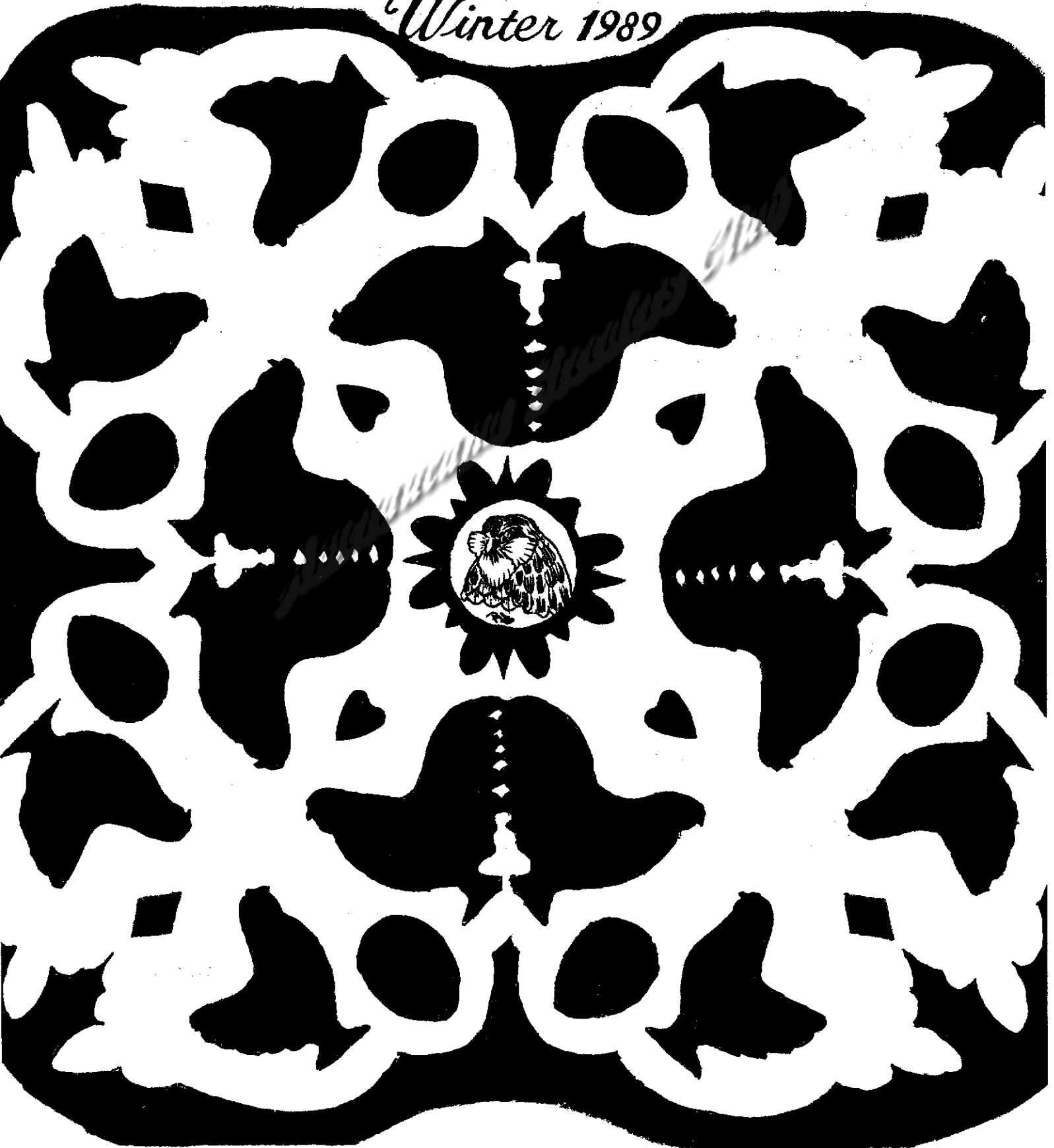
Jeannette Frank

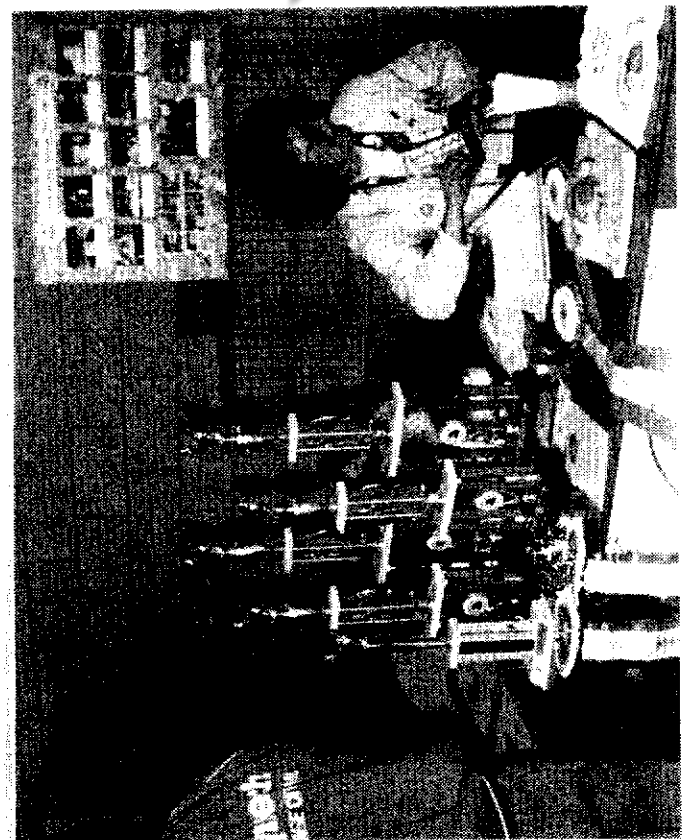
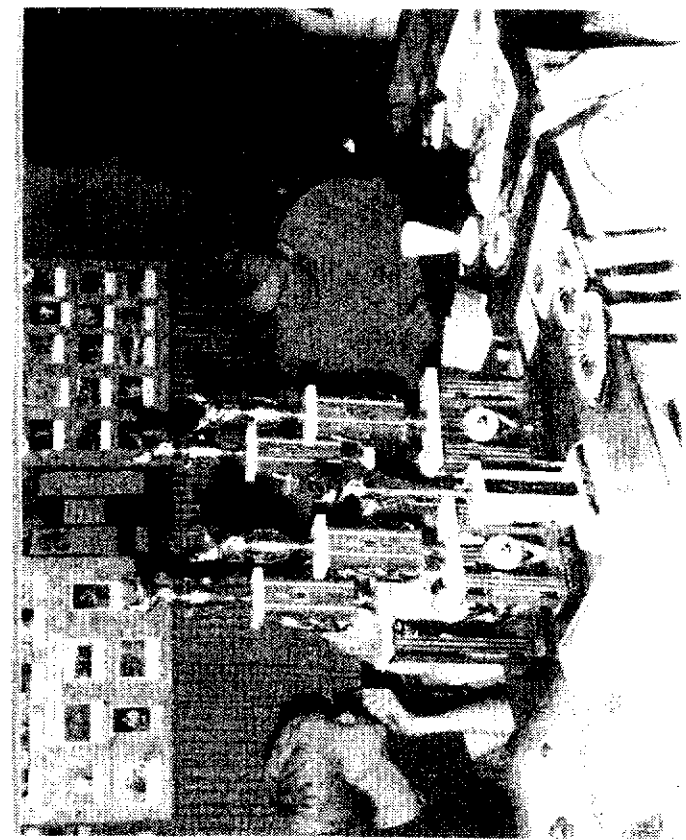
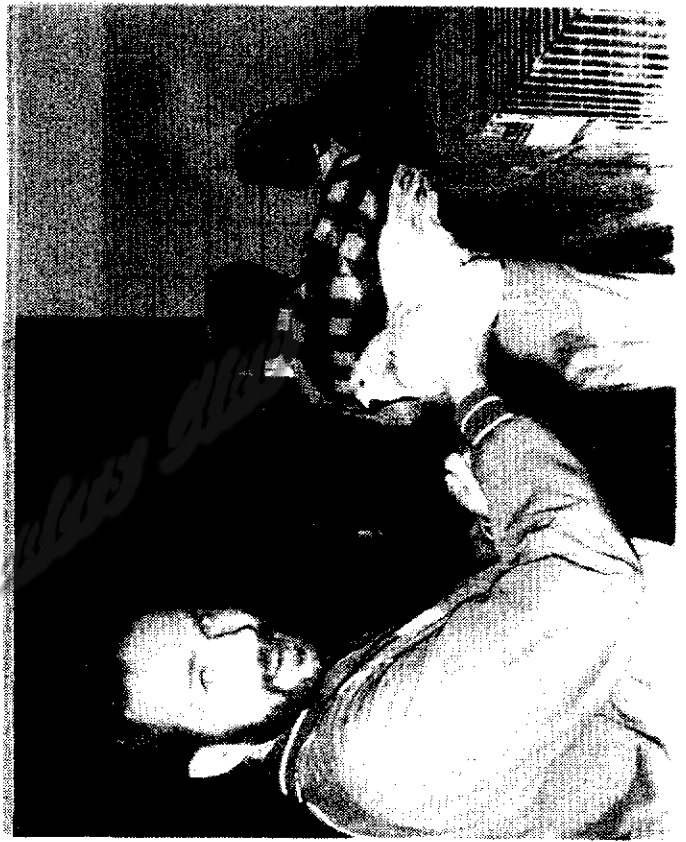
P. O. Box 824

Great Falls, MT 59403-0824

THIS IS THE COVER RUSTY HART DID FOR THE WINTER ABC NEWSLETTER BUT IT CAME IN THE DAY AFTER I HAD ~~TAKEN~~ THE NEWSLETTER TO THE PRINTER. Sorry, Rusty. I thought the members should have it anyway because it is so unique. Jeanne wants to know how many chickens and how many eggs you count.

Winter 1989





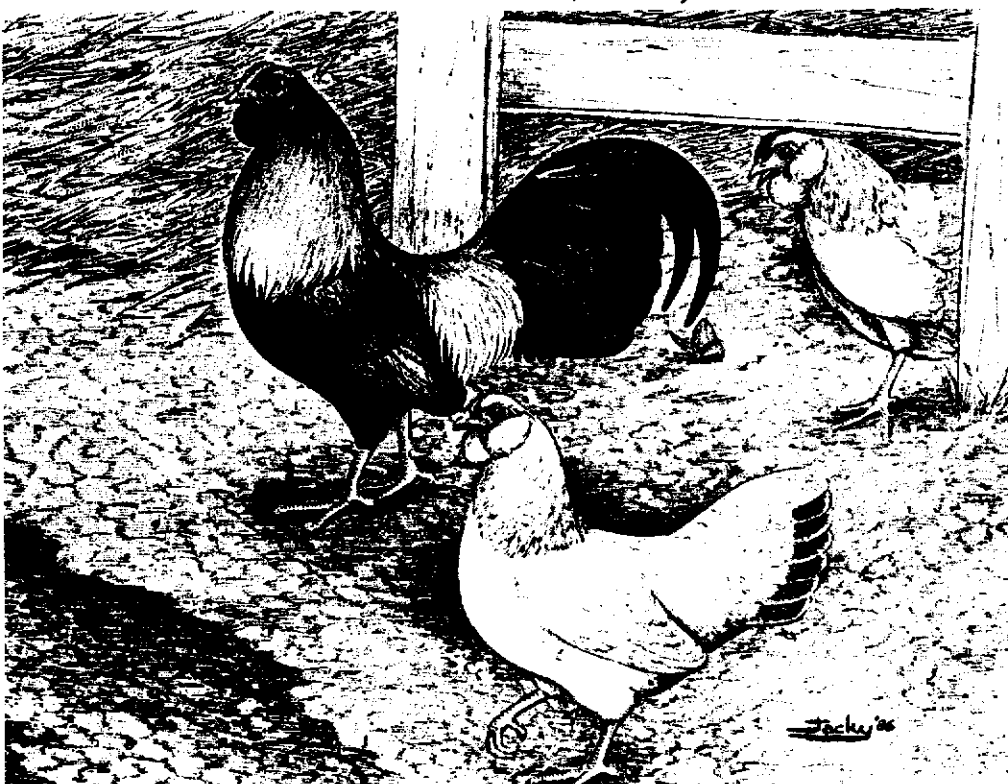
NOTES FROM SOME OF THE MEMBERS -

JERRY SEGLER is a good talker but hates to write letters so I told him..sit down with a cup (or pot) of coffee and a tape recorder and talk to me. He did. I have almost two hours of tape to transcribe. I will get this done in the next year. The following is important to this newsletter. "Hello, Jeannette, I finally got around to trying to send you a letter. I'm behind schedule as always..it's been over two weeks. As I recall, you wanted me to send you my impressions of the show. I must admit I was rather impressed with the amount of birds that showed up. I wish there had been more varieties other than wheaten. We had a representative of a few of the other colors. I can see I've got my work cut out for me in the future. I should get better at promoting the other colors and get back into the swing of things here. The other thing that sticks in my mind..I was extremely pleased to see someone like Rusty Hart that can do the paintings for us. And I was really impressed with the quality of the members that we have got now. Back when I was falling out of it and Don Cable was giving up his position and at that time I wondered if the club was going to fold or not, but I can see with you and Jeanne that we've got some good people who took over the leadership and we've got some very good members. It looks like the club is going to be strong for some time to come and that was a pleasant surprise. I enjoyed the fellowship and being able to meet everyone that I hadn't been able to meet before. I was very surprised and pleased when the plaque was presented to me. I guess that is kind of an incentive to see that what work I've done on the color varieties has been appreciated..." There is much more to his tape but that will be in the next newsletter.

Jerry, Thank you. I know there is much information there that will be appreciated by the members. (I might suggest to any other members that really do not care to write letters [I know everyone isn't like me and thrive on letterwriting] please take a hint from Jerry and feel free to send me a tape of what you have to say.)

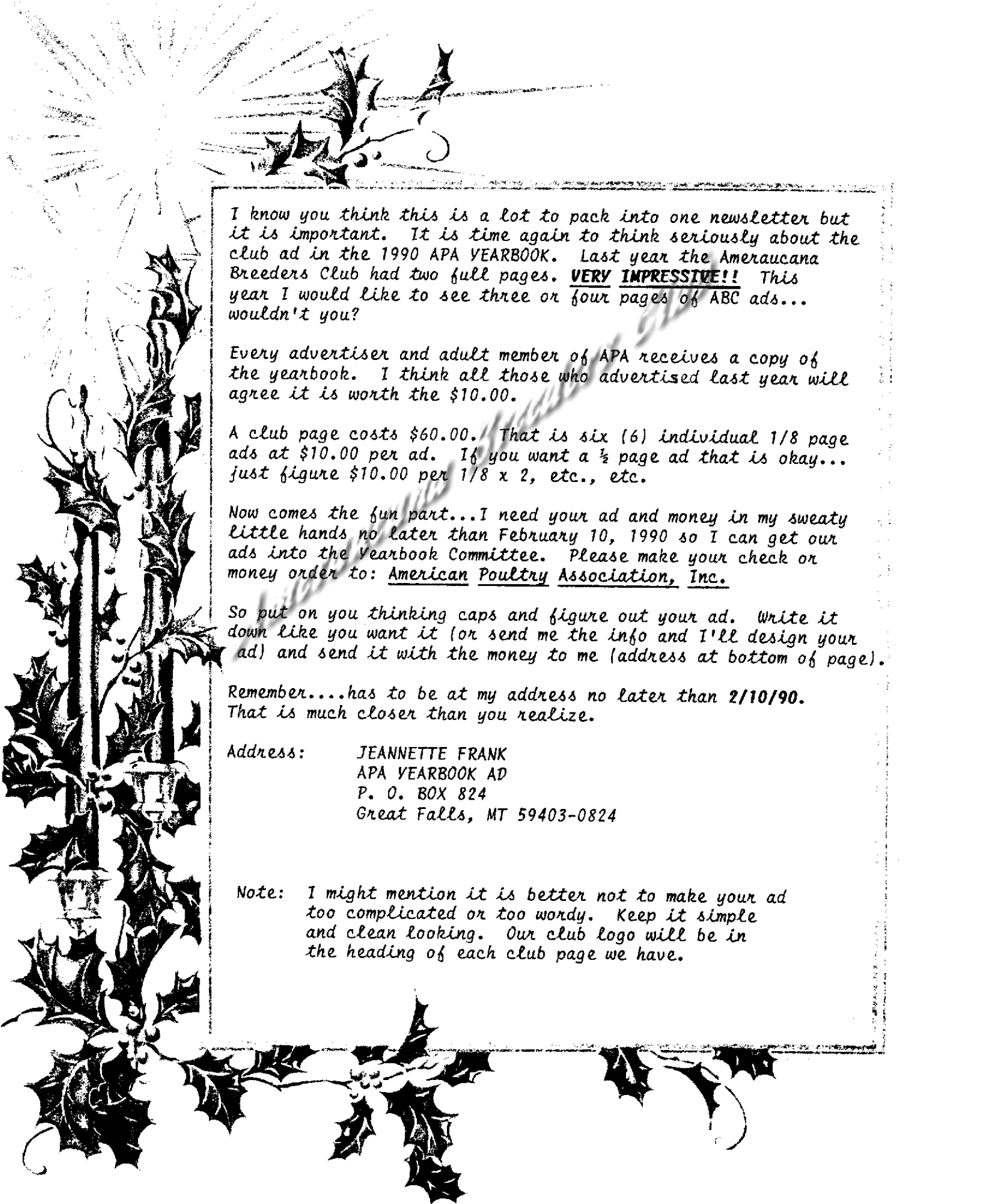
RANDE BUSKE sent me a couple/three photos that he had taken at the show with a note: "Dear Jeannette - Have you recouped sufficiently from the "BIG" weekend? Sure was a grand time and I can hardly wait 'til AM NAT'L of '91! I'm sending you a few photos of the show. I would like to make a picture collection of the National of '89 and then display the photos for our next meet in '91. While the show is fresh in everyones mind I would like for you to make a plea for me for photos from some of the other photographers. And then, I can compile them all together into one collection.

It was a pleasure to meet all of the AM breeders and the people who are the hub of the ABC. You people do an excellent job. I know it involves much work...but all of the work and headaches are worth it...especially if someone can appreciate your efforts. Keep up the good work - you're great!!



Well, off to Columbus - tonite. They are hosting the Eastern Cornish National for the ICBBA. Three shows back to back makes for long days. But it sure is fun. I look forward - all year long to attending the fall shows"

Editors note: Thank you, Rande & Jerry. Any words of thanks the whole club appreciates. WE ARE A GREAT CLUB AND A GREAT TEAM. IT TAKES ALL OF US TO MAKE IT WORK.



I know you think this is a lot to pack into one newsletter but it is important. It is time again to think seriously about the club ad in the 1990 APA YEARBOOK. Last year the Ameraucana Breeders Club had two full pages. **VERY IMPRESSIVE!!** This year I would like to see three or four pages of ABC ads... wouldn't you?

Every advertiser and adult member of APA receives a copy of the yearbook. I think all those who advertised last year will agree it is worth the \$10.00.

A club page costs \$60.00. That is six (6) individual 1/8 page ads at \$10.00 per ad. If you want a 1/2 page ad that is okay... just figure \$10.00 per 1/8 x 2, etc., etc.

Now comes the fun part...I need your ad and money in my sweaty little hands no later than February 10, 1990 so I can get our ads into the Yearbook Committee. Please make your check or money order to: American Poultry Association, Inc.

So put on you thinking caps and figure out your ad. Write it down like you want it (or send me the info and I'll design your ad) and send it with the money to me (address at bottom of page).

Remember...has to be at my address no later than 2/10/90. That is much closer than you realize.

Address: JEANNETTE FRANK
APA YEARBOOK AD
P. O. BOX 824
Great Falls, MT 59403-0824

Note: I might mention it is better not to make your ad too complicated or too wordy. Keep it simple and clean looking. Our club logo will be in the heading of each club page we have.

ILL - NO BANTAM CLUB HIGHLAND SHOW RESULTS - NOV. 3, 4, 5 1989

Ameraucana Bantams:

Wheaten (35) Cocks - Gilbert, 1 RB RV; Phelps 2; Allan 3, 4.
Cockerels - Allan 1, 3, 5; Phelps 2, 4.
Hens - Phelps 1 BB BV, 2; Allan 3, 4, 5.
Pullets - Phelps 1, 3; Ikenberry 2; Gilbert 4; Horman 5.
Trio - Gilbert 1.

Blue Wheaten (16)

Cocks - Phelps 1 RV, 3; Ikenberry 2.
Cockerels - Phelps 1, 2; Gilbert 3; Ikenberry 4.
Hens - Gilbert 1; Phelps 2, 3.
Pullets - Phelps 1 BV, 4; Gilbert 2; Ikenberry 3, 5.

White (15)

Cocks - Horman 1, 2; Segler 3.
Cockerels - Betz & Fosbrink 1.
Hens - Buske 1, 3; Horman 2, 4; Segler 5.
Pullets - Buske 1 BV, 2; Trent 3.
Trio - Bandomir ckl RV.

Black (11)

Hens - Betz & Fosbrink 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.
Pullets - Buske 1 BV, 2 RV; Betz & Fosbrink 3, 4, 5, 6.

Blue (5)

Hens - Betz & Fosbrink 1 BV; Buske 2 RV.
Pullets - Buske 1; Gilbert 2, 3.

Blue Tailed Buff (1)

Cockerel - Gilbert 1 BV.

Brown Red (2)

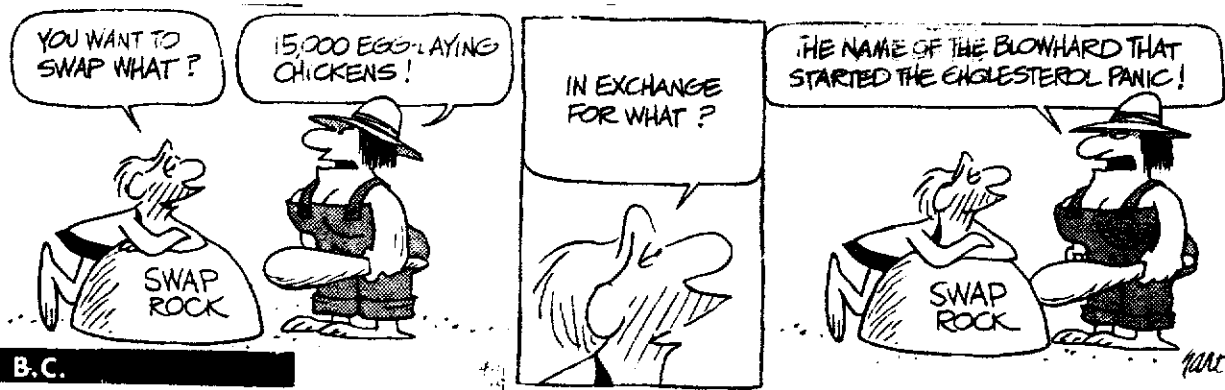
Cockerel - Gilbert 1 RV.
Pullet - Gilbert 1 BV.

Birchen (1)

Cockerel - Betz & Fosbrink 1 BV.

We do not have the Large Fowl report at this time. Hopefully we will have it by next newsletter.

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REFLECTIONS FROM THE BIG SKY COUNTRY -

Well, it's all over - even the shouting - the National Meet. But what memories!! We (The Ameraucana Breeders Club) had twelve exhibitors from seven states exhibiting over 100 Ameraucanas. Is that a record? You bet!

Now trying to put on paper all the excitement of Nov 3-5. Impossible..You just had to be there. The showroom was great..well lighted, well ventilated, comfortable. The ILL-MO Bantam club did a great job. We thank them for their contributions in making this a great show for us.

I arrived early Friday afternoon, checked into the motel and headed back to the showroom. I had no trouble finding it. After looking around and letting the host club know I was there I checked out the Ameraucana section. Since it was early and I was tired I thought I'd head back to the motel for a quick nap but ~~just~~^{as} as I was getting into my car I spotted a truck that looked familiar..a closer look at the driver revealed Jeanne Trent and her driving companion, Rusty Hart from MI. I had never met Rusty before...that is an experience all by itself. I helped Jeanne & Rusty unload and as we were finishing with Jeanne's Ameraucanas in walked Mary Lou Phelps from southern MO. She had already checked into the motel so we left her caging her birds and drove to the motel so Jeanne & Rusty could check in. While they were in the office I called my people in MT to let them know I was okay and found out my younger sister had been taken to the hospital with a blood clot to her heart. At that distance all I could do was pray. I told my family I'd get in touch with them Sunday.

After we got settled in the motel we headed back to the showroom. Carl Fosbrink and his two youngsters, Matt Betz & Truda Fosbrink had shown up and were caging their birds. We also found Dave Horman, Mike Gilbert & Robbie Gilbert from WI busy caging their birds. Jeanne and I started setting up the club table and all of a sudden there was Bernard Kellogg from WI with his traveling companions, Rande Buske & David Bandomir. Bernard had the club bulletin board...revised since 1987. It is now six panels with each panel 28"x36" made into three sections. We put the club book on top of the Champion cages so all could see them. Generally speaking, the Club table was very impressive with the trophies, the fantastic drawings by Rusty, the tee shirts and so forth.

Jim Allan's Ameraucanas were already in their cages when I got there. I met Mr. Allan later. Very fine man. Thank you, Jim. I'm sure I will enjoy the birds you so generously gave me.

When all the birds were caged, watered & fed we decided it was time for us to feed us. Four carloads of us and the restaurant was crowded. After dinner we checked back in at the showroom and then headed for the motel. Had a couple, three club people stop by Jeanne & my room to chit chat before we called it a night. Of course, Jeanne and I have lots and lots of talking to do so it was late before we finally closed our eyes.

Since I was clerking and had to be at the showroom early we kind of decided to get everybody up early (just getting even for 1987). Several of us managed to get to the restaurant for breakfast before heading for the showroom. On the way we picked up Jerry Segler from IL. And found that Don Cable & C. J. from CA had arrived late Friday night.

I can't speak for the rest of the club because I was busy clerking for Johnny Batson from SC but the day was long and interesting. I really enjoyed working with Mr. Batson. He is a fine Southern gentleman. A real pleasure to be around. I learned quite a bit.

(You know judges are a unique group of people..at least the ones I have met. In a

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