

Fall

Volume XXVIII, Issue 3



# Ameraucana Bulletin



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

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ABC Forum Administrator



## Features this Issue:

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## President's Report, John Blehm

The nominations are in for the election of officers for the next two year term. We only have one nominee for each position. Often times when members only see one person running for an office they don't bother voting thinking their vote doesn't mean anything. Well, it may. Once we had only one person running for a district office and no one from that district voted, no even the nominee, so no one was elected. The President could have appointed someone, but the board did some redistricting and we ended up with 5 districts instead of 6. Also, because there is one proposal on the ballot for amend the Constitution/By-Laws it is important that you take the time to vote. It will only cost you a minute of your time, plus an envelope and a 42 cent stamp. Ballots must be sent to our Election Commissioner, Susie Winder. Her address is on the ballot.



I proposed the amendment to the By-Laws. As a show club Superintendent and former ABC Secretary I know that most Directors do their jobs and properly place the State and Special meets. Some don't and that means the Secretary hears about it and has to help out. Even when the meets are placed by our Directors they do it at the request of a member, placing the meet with a show club and forward all the necessary meet information to the Secretary. The show clubs are supposed to send the meet reports to our Secretary, after the show. Our Secretary has to track down the meet reports sometimes that often times are turned in late. Anyway, although it may sound like we are putting more work on the Secretary in my opinion it will be less work by cutting out the middle man (the Directors) and let our club Secretary deal directly with the show club superintendents. Please study the proposal and vote either yes or no.

There is still time to donate cash, specials or whatever for the National meet. Just contact Jerry De Smidt with what you have to offer. Kathy and I plan to be there with our son, David, and have our hotel reservations made at the America Inn. Please exhibit or just come and mingle at our annual national meet in Hutchinson, MN, on October 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>.

## Meet Reports

The club has not received meet reports for the following meets: **Heartland Classic Poultry Association**, Cape Girardeau, MO, **Gateway Poultry Association, Inc.**, Bloomington, IN, **York County Poultry Fanciers Club**, York Fairgrounds/Expo Center, PA, **Badger Poultry Show**, Richland Center, WI, and the **Montana State Fair**, Great Falls, MT.

If any members were at these shows and have meet information please contact Michael Muenks so that the information may be reported in the next bulletin.

## Sussex County Poultry Fanciers

### Augusta, NJ Meet Report

State Meet, April 27, 2008, reported by Arlene Sliker

#### 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)

2 bantams shown by 2 exhibitors, Judged by Eric Englesman

RB, BV buff H by Jack Kiska – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor  
BB, BV white H by Janet Little – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

4 large fowl shown by 2 exhibitors, Judged by Eric Kutch

BB, BV black C by Larry Clionsky – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor  
RB, RV black H by Larry Clionsky  
BV blue C by Larry Clionsky – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor  
BV blue wheaten C by Jack Kiska – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

## Muskingum Valley Poultry Show

### Zanesville, OH Meet Report

Special Meet, March 1, 2008, reported by Patty Pickard

1 bantam shown, by 1 exhibitor

BB, BV wheaten C by Kim Munden – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Champion Ameraucana**

1 large fowl shown by 1 exhibitor

BB, BV blue P by Janis Orndorf – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

2 junior bantams shown by 1 exhibitor

BB, BV wheaten C by Caleb Pickard – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Champion Junior Ameraucana Over-All**

RB, RV wheaten H by Caleb Pickard

6 large fowl shown by 2 exhibitors

BB, BV black C by Anthony Heitger – out of 4 shown by 2 exhibitors, **Champion AOSB**  
RB, RV black H by Nicole Pickard, **Reserve Champion AOSB**  
BV blue H by Anthony Heitger – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor  
BV silver H by Anthony Heitger – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

## Iowa State Fair

### Des Moines, IA Meet Report

State Meet, August 9, 2008, reported by Alnice Nichols

33 bantams were shown by 2 exhibitors, judged by David James-Georgia

BV black C by Nancy Dean – out of 8 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV black H by Nancy Dean

BB, BV blue K by Nancy Dean – out of 8 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Reserve AOCCL**

RV blue C by Nancy Dean

BV white H by Nancy Dean – out of 8 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV white P by Nancy Dean

BV AOV black gold by Nathan Downey– out of 9 shown 2 exhibitors, **Best of Breed in Junior Show, Reserve AOCCL in Junior Show**

RV AOV splash by Nancy Dean



Blue Wheaten Portrait

## Buckeye Fancy Feathers Poultry Show Canfield, OH Meet Report

Special Meet, June 14, 2008, reported by Patty Pickard

### 5 bantams were shown by 1 exhibitor

RB, BV white H by Kathy Gratsch – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV white C by Kathy Gratsch

BB, BV wheaten H by Kathy Gratsch – out of 3 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Champion AOCCL, Champion Ameraucana**

RV wheaten H by Kathy Gratsch

### 5 large fowl were shown by 2 exhibitors

BB, BV black by Kathy Gratsch - out of 5 shown by 1 exhibitor

RB, RV black by Kathy Gratsch

### Junior Show – 3 bantams were shown by 1 exhibitor

RB, RV blue wheaten C by Caleb Pickard, out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BB, BV wheaten C by Caleb Pickard – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Champion Ameraucana Over-All Junior Show, Champion AOCCL**

RV wheaten H by Caleb Pickard

### Junior Show – 4 Large Fowl were shown by 2 exhibitors

BB, BV black C by Anthony Heitger – out of 3 shown by 2 exhibitors

RV black H by Anthony Heitger

RB, BV silver H by Anthony Heitger – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

## Birds Of A Different Feather 4-H Club Creamery, PA Meet Report

Special Meet, August 13, 2008, reported by Nancy Niggel

### 32 large fowl were shown by 8 exhibitors, and judged by Waski

BB, BV black K by Susan Bachman – out of 11 shown by 3 exhibitors, **Champion Ameraucana Over- All, Champion AOSB**

RB, BV blue P by Mathew Holliday – out of 10 shown by 2 exhibitors, **Reserve Champion AOSB**

BV blue wheaten P by Emma Holliday – out of 4 shown by 1 exhibitor

BV wheaten K by Emma Holliday – out of 3 shown by 2 exhibitors

BV AOV H by Taylor Young – out of 4 shown by 2 exhibitors

## Delmarva Poultry Fanciers Harrington, DE Meet Report

State Meet, March 29 -30, 2008, reported by Richard Barczewski

### 5 large fowl were shown by 2 exhibitors

BV black P by Carolyn Blum – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BB, BV blue C by Larry Clionsky – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BV blue wheaten C by Larry Clionsky – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

RB, BV buff H by Carolyn Blum – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BV wheaten H by Carolyn Blum – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor



### Club Merchandise

1982 Club Handbook - \$5

1998 Club Handbook - \$5

2005 Club Handbook - \$5

ABC 4" Patch 1 for \$3 or 2 for \$5.50.

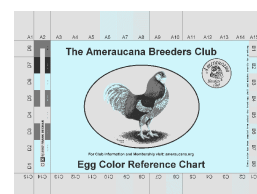


Bulletins 1979-1984 - \$30

Bulletins 1985-1993 - \$35

Breeders Directory - \$2

Egg Shell Reference Chart  
1 for \$3 or 2 for \$5



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



## North Central District, Jerry DeSmidt, Director



Hey everybody, the national meet is approaching very fast and I hope that every one will be coming. Jake and I are getting ready for the trip to MN and sorting birds and trying to get every one in good feather condition. We have some awards set and I had Michael order the plates and mugs for the BV and RV in each of the colors and for the AOV in the bantam and standard. The MN state poultry club will be giving money and awards for best and reserve in the bantam and large fowl and also for best large fowl and bantam display. If any one wants to sponsor any special awards please send the money and contact me at:

Jerry DeSmidt  
N912 Hill Road  
Pulaski, WI 54162  
[jwoodhaven@aol.com](mailto:jwoodhaven@aol.com) or by phone 920-833-9772.

The summer is going by very fast here and we are always busy with work around the yard. Jake keeps the gardens looking very nice. I have also been busy judging poultry at some of the local county fairs. We have had several beef shows with the Pinzgauer cattle and have done very well, at two different district shows we had champion female with our first breed and owned and are planning on taking her out to Washington State for the national show in September.

I hope to see all of you at the nationals.

## Western District, Lisa Cree, Director



Just a reminder on the upcoming Meets in September- Spokane County Fair in WA and the Big Sky Expo In MT. I hope anyone who can, will make a point of attending.

It's not too soon to start planning for the Stockton Show in January. For anyone who hasn't had the pleasure of attending this show, it's pretty much been the biggest thing on the West Coast. The show, people, and facilities are first rate.

The 2009 District Meet has been placed at the Pacific Poultry Breeders Association Winter Show in Stockton CA, January 24th and 25th, 2009.

Show Co-Superintendents are: Lowell Sherman, 5615 Memory Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628-2936, (916) 967-1539, [skuter2@earthlink.net](mailto:skuter2@earthlink.net) and Jim Sallee, PO BOX 697, Pine Grove, CA 95665, (209) 296-8084, [jbsallee@volcano.net](mailto:jbsallee@volcano.net)

Show secretary is Teresia Renwick, 1333 Quarterhorse Dr, Grass Valley, CA 5949. (530) 268-2488, [renwickranch@sbbmail.com](mailto:renwickranch@sbbmail.com)

Show judges are: Steve Jones, Jerry Yeaw, Bill Patterson, Paul Kroll, Danny Pagent, and Terry Britt. Terry, Paul and Bill will do a showmanship class each.

I'd like to take this time to thank Michael Muenks for all the hard work he does as our secretary. If you can, drop him a note and tell him how much you enjoy your newsletter. I've done one for a local club and I know how much work it is. Thank you Michael!

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer and has pens full of promising young birds coming along.



## South East District, Barbara Campbell, Director

I have received quite a few emails over the past month from clubs in the southeast district that are interested in hosting Ameraucana Breeders Club meets. If any members are making plans to show please consider contacting me to request that the club you are planning to show with host an ABC meet for us. Even if you are the only member showing, I think this is a great way to promote the breed and the club.

Due to the fact that I only had 1 cock and 10 hens to breed from this year I only hatched out a small number of wheaten/blue wheaten chicks. After culling for obvious defects I only have 16 growing out that show promise, 11 of which are cockerels. I'm considering hatching a few more chicks from individual mating this fall to see if I can come up with a few more nice pullets. Looking at my hatch record for the spring though, I'll probably get all cockerels! It's nice to know that member Randy Garner of Chickamauga, GA (within easy driving distance for us) has hatched a lot of good quality birds and is willing to share a few if I need them.

Regretfully, Dick and I won't be able to make it to the National this year and will miss seeing everyone as we always look forward to showing and visiting with other members. Good luck and safe travels to all!

## South Central District, Paul Smith, Director

Greetings from the South-Central District where lately warm weather has been replaced by HOT. It's been a 100° or more for several weeks with a few days over 105°. Ameraucanas tolerate the high temps' fine up to 105°, which is the point where some will pass by having heat strokes. Thus far we haven't lost any due to the heat, even though there have been a few days over 105°.

The popularity of Ameraucanas is on the rise again, in the South-Central district. We have had more request for both layers and show quality breeder birds than we have ever had during the Summer. I was concerned, that record high feed and fuel prices might greatly affect the sale of birds, causing even more problems for the hobby, but it hasn't had a large negative effect, just cost more to raise them. Grain producers (farmers) are going to have to get more for their products as diesel, fertilizer, taxes, labor, equipment and seed cost them more. They won't continue to plant a crop and lose money on it! It would be a sad situation if we had to import feed grains due to the U.S. farmers not planting any. The higher feed cost will eventually show up in the grocery stores, causing higher meat, egg and dairy products. It may be a good time to have a food source in the backyard.

The fall show season will soon be here. I'm looking forward to some cooler weather, so we can prepare some for the shows. Our district show will be at Sedalia, Missouri, Oct. 11 two week-ends before the National at Hutchinson, Minnesota on Oct. 24-26. The Oklahoma State meet is Dec. 13 & 14 at Shawnee. I hope to see you at the shows this fall.

May the Lord bless each with some good Ameraucanas to show.



2 to 6  
Buff Ameraucana  
bantam  
pullets or hens

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

## Club Notes

The deadline to submit pictures, articles, ads, reports, etc. for the next bulletin is November 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](http://www.ameraucana.org/abcforum), to keep up with current topics in the Ameraucana world.



New meet requests are due by November 15, 2008! To request a meet send the information to your district director and copy the club secretary.



## Blast from the Past: That Marginal Bird, by Don Cable, Summer 1982

*As I was looking for a Blast from the Past for this bulletin I thought it would be appropriate to reprint the following article about marginal birds.*

And ancient cocker, whose advice - like his birds - was often found wanting, once said to me in a moment of rare insight, "A poultry man's best friend is his axe!" Now knowing and doing are often strangers, yet even he least aware must cull his flock occasionally to eliminate the obvious misfits. However, it is not the bird with the glaring defects that tend to undo our well-laid plans, but rather the bird that we feel is too good to cull, yet just not good enough to sell, either. It is the bird that for various reasons - in retrospect, often the flimsiest - that we keep, and in doing so, often do ourselves and our flock a disservice. In short, this is that marginal bird.

More often than not, the marginal bird is a pullet. Typically, breeders are much tougher in selecting cockerels since the majority of breeding units seem to be trios or small pens of four or five birds. Those breeders who pair mates are one leg up on the rest, assuming of course, that they are equally selective with both sexes.

Breed only from your best! How many times have you read or heard this? It is probably the best advice in the world, yet somehow that marginal birds seems to find here way into your third or fourth best mating, and guess who's eggs wind up in the incubator when the hens of your better matings are in a laying slump and you find all of that extra room in the incubator egg tray? After all, she's with a good cockerel and long shots do occasionally pay off, right? Well, in three weeks you have marginal chicks to brood, which not only compete with your better chicks for space, heat and that expensive starter feed, but do their part to help inflate those ever increasing electric bills.

Thus, the marginal bird - or birds, depending on how well we deceive ourselves - are kept, "just in case" and increase our feed bill, our workload and compete for space with worthier specimens. Just how much feed will a hen put away in a year's time? Large birds will eat about a hundred pounds while a bantam of average size will consume a good portion of this - even the time Coturnix quail will more than twenty pounds in a year! If, line most breeders, you are buying and feeding a commercially prepared mix, then you may now have an idea of just what that marginal bird is beginning to cost you. Multiply that figure times the number of marginal birds that you are keeping and you may really have something to mull over.

Could the marginal bird be the best looking specimen in your flock? Certainly, if she does not produce viable chicks or is generally unproductive. Each breeder must make this decision based upon his knowledge and understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of his family of birds and what he perceives to be the basic worth of each individual.

So what is the bottom line? What is that marginal bird actually costing you - in time, money and mediocrity? Think it over. You may find that for a variety of reasons that marginal bird is definitely a great deal more than you can afford.



Splash Wheaten Pullet  
by Jean Ribbeck

## 2008 Ameraucana Breeders Club National Meet Minnesota State Poultry Association Show

October 24-26, 2008



The 2008 Ameraucana Breeders Club National Meet will be held October 24-26, 2008 at the Minnesota State Poultry Association Show in Hutchinson, Minnesota. North Central District Director Jerry DeSmidt has headed up the organization of the 2008 national meet.

The Minnesota State Poultry Association Show will be held at the McLeod County Fairgrounds in Hutchinson, Minnesota.

The following are directions to the fairgrounds:

### South from St. Cloud

Drive south on HWY 15 through Hutchinson's Main Street. When you reach McDonald's, turn right (west) at the stoplight onto Century Ave. Go approximately .75 miles; the fairground is on your left. Enter through the main gate.

### North from New Ulm

From HWY 15 South, turn left (west) at the third stoplight (McDonald's) onto Century Ave. Go approximately .75 miles; the fairground is on your left. Enter through the main gate.

### From Buffalo Lake/Hector Area on HWY 212

Continue east on HWY 212, take a left (north) on HWY 15. From HWY 15 South, turn left (west) at the third stoplight (McDonald's) onto Century Ave. Go approximately .75 miles; the fairground is on your left. Enter through the main gate.

### West from Glencoe

Go west on HWY 22, take a left on Airport Road. Cross HWY 15. Approximately one mile later take a right into the South Gate of the fairgrounds.

### West from Minneapolis

Go west on HWY 7, turn left on HWY 15. Drive south on HWY 15 through Hutchinson's Main Street. When you reach McDonald's, turn right (west) at the stoplight onto Century Ave. Go approximately .75 miles; the fairground is on your left. Enter through the main gate.

The Poultry Barn is building number 19 on the map of the fairgrounds.

Please contact Mary Ann Rademacher for a show catalog at [ajmrademacher@embarqmail.com](mailto:ajmrademacher@embarqmail.com) (952)442-4031  
9185 County Road 10E  
Waconia, MN 55387

The Ameraucana Breeders Club will meet on Saturday night at a location to be announced at the club table for fellowship and a club meeting.

Don Karasek has been selected as the judge for the 2008 National Meet.

Continued on page 8



Hutchinson, MN

### For Sale Large Fowl and Bantam Ameraucana

Limited quantity of quality Ameraucana bantams in blue wheaten and brown red, wheaten males and blue females, and one or two black pullets.

Looking for someone to take over my complete line of large fowl brown red. I will be concentrating on silvers & blue-silvers in large fowl next season.

I will deliver to the Wisconsin International in September, the national meet at Hutchinson, MN, and possibly the Eastern Iowa show at Iowa City this November.

Call Mike Gilbert evenings at (608)857-3386 or email:

[ameraucana@redstagacres.com](mailto:ameraucana@redstagacres.com)





## For Sale Spring 2009

We are going to offer day old, large fowl Ameraucana chicks in black, blue, splash, wheaten, blue wheaten and splash wheaten.

Shipping available February 2, 2009 - May 11, 2009

**No hatching eggs.** The PO ruins too many of them in transit.

Paul & Angela Smith  
2257 CR 224  
Gainesville, TX. 76240  
[sw\\_psmith@swmail.net](mailto:sw_psmith@swmail.net) 940-668-0719



The egg contest will be held on Saturday afternoon starting at approximately 1:30pm. There is no fee for the egg contest. There are four classes for the egg contest: bantam pullet, bantam hen, large fowl pullet, large fowl hen.

The following rules apply to the egg contest:

1. Ameraucana eggs only.
2. Awards will be given for the "Best" and "Reserve" Large Fowl and Bantam eggs.
3. Entries will consist of six eggs presented in a suitable container of the entrant's choice.
4. Exhibitors may enter the same class more than once only if each entry represents a different Ameraucana variety and/or under hen or pullet status. Entries from pens or flocks of commingled varieties shall be limited to one per class and shall be designated "Various" on the entry form.
5. No unsolicited remarks by any exhibitor may be made within hearing of the judge during the judging process. Violations will result in automatic disqualification of all entries of the violator(s).
6. All entries become the property of the Ameraucana Breeders Club at the time of entry.
7. Two out of each entry of six eggs will be opened by the judge or the clerk to facilitate the judging of interior qualities and coloring.
8. Each class will be judged to third place.

If you are interested in participating in the egg contest, but will not be able to attend in person please contact Jerry DeSmidt to arrange for the receipt of your shipped eggs.

The Minnesota Poultry Association has suggested the following hotels for lodging:

1. Super 8 Motel - 1-320-587-9299 (Headquarters) (\$69.00-\$73.00 a night)
2. America Inn - 1-320-587-5515 (\$97.00 a night)
3. Best Western Victorian Inn - 1-320-587-6030 (\$90.00 a night)
4. King Motel - 1-320-587-4737
5. Economy Inn - 1-320-587-2129

It appears that the Super 8 Motel is filling up very fast and several club members have made reservations at the America Inn.

Jerry is still taking donations for awards and members may donate toward the general award fund or send donations for specific awards.

## Junior ABC Member has Show Success

New ABC member Rachel Wylie participated in the Livingston County's Fowlerville Fair with her new Ameraucana chickens. Rachel's chickens were 4 months old at the July fair. Rachel showed a pair of large fowl blue and won Champion large fowl pair. Rachel also took a pair of lavender bantams and won Reserve Champion bantam pair. Rachel took a pen of three blue wheaten production pullets and won second place with them. Rachel also took other breeds of chickens from her flocks and won several champions and reserve champions with those also. The highlight of Rachel's showing was one of her Black Australorp production hens won Best Bird in the Barn.



## 2008 National Meet Awards

The following awards will be given at the 2008 National Meet:

Awards offered by: The Minnesota State Poultry Association and  
The Ameraucana Breeders Club and its members

- ▣ \$25.00 Best Large Fowl Display
- ▣ \$25.00 Best Bantam Display
- ▣ Plaque for Champion and Reserve Large Fowl
- ▣ Plaque for Champion and Reserve Bantam
- ▣ Additional awards by Breeders

Champion Ameraucana	Rosette & Hand Painted Plate
Reserve Champion Ameraucana	Rosette & Hand Painted Plate
Best Display, LF or Bantam	Hand Painted Plate
Reserve Display, LF or Bantam	Hand Painted Plate
Best Trio, LF or Bantam	Hand Painted Plate
Reserve Trio, LF or Bantam	Hand Painted Plate
Best of Breed Bantam	ABC Rosette & Goat's Milk Soap by Bantam Hill
Reserve of Breed Bantam	ABC Rosette & Fruit butters from Bantam Hill
Best of Breed Large Fowl	ABC Rosette & Goat's Milk Soap by Bantam Hill
Reserve of Breed Large Fowl	ABC Rosette & Jellies from Bantam Hill
Best Ameraucana - Junior Show	ABC Rosette
Best Large Fowl Ameraucana – Junior Show	ABC T-shirt donated by John Blehm
Best Bantam Ameraucana – Junior Show	ABC T-shirt donated by John Blehm
Best of Variety Bantam	Hand Painted Plate, MSPA rosette
<b>Black, Blue, Blue Wheaten, Brown Red, Buff, Silver, Wheaten, White, &amp; AOV</b>	
Reserve of Variety Bantam	Hand Painted Mug
<b>Black, Blue, Blue Wheaten, Brown Red, Buff, Silver, Wheaten, White, &amp; AOV</b>	
Best of Variety Large Fowl	Hand Painted Plate, MSPA rosette
<b>Black, Blue, Blue Wheaten, Brown Red, Buff, Silver, Wheaten, White, &amp; AOV</b>	
Reserve of Variety Large Fowl	Hand Painted Mug
<b>Black, Blue, Blue Wheaten, Brown Red, Buff, Silver, Wheaten, White, &amp; AOV</b>	
Best LF white	The Arne Schmidt Memorial Traveling Plaque
Best Bantam Hen Eggs	Rosette & ABC T-shirt donated by John Blehm
Best Bantam Pullet Eggs	Rosette & ABC T-shirt donated by John Blehm
Best Large Fowl Hen Eggs	Rosette & ABC T-shirt donated by John Blehm
Best Large Fowl Pullet Eggs	Rosette & ABC T-shirt donated by John Blehm

Other awards pending

Only Ameraucana Breeders Club Members are eligible for awards from the ABC & its members.



Sample of painted mugs and plates



Very blue large fowl hatching eggs in any variety.

Dianne Diehl  
Currie, NC  
(910)283-4604



## Upcoming Club Sanctioned Meets

**September 8-13, 2008**

Special Meet, requested by Tina Dinkins  
Tennessee Valley Fair Poultry Show, Knoxville, TN  
Contact:  
Eddie Dunlap, (865) 982-9737, (865)742-5525  
460 Patterson Road  
Walland, TN 37886

<http://www.tnvalleyfair.org/Catalog%20&%20Forms/Poultry%20Entry%20Form.pdf>

**September 10-12, 2008**

**Washington State Meet**, requested by Connie Jean Ribbeck  
Spokane County Fair, Spokane, WA  
Contact:  
Tony Albritton, (509)465-9405

**September 20, 2008**

Special Meet, requested by Jeannette Frank  
Big Sky Poultry Expo, Great Falls, MT  
Contact:  
Sharon Eliasson, [eliasson@midrivers.com](mailto:eliasson@midrivers.com), (406)323-1655

**September 27-28, 2008**

**Wisconsin State Meet**, placed by Jerry De Smidt  
Wisconsin International Poultry Club Show, Portage, WI  
Contact:  
Elizabeth Breuer, [birdbrainfam@aol.com](mailto:birdbrainfam@aol.com), (608)877-9901  
3402 Rutland-Dunn Rd.  
Stoughton, WI 53589

**September 28, 2008**

Special Meet, requested by Doug Dillingham  
Eastern New York State Poultry Association, Cobleskill, NY  
Contact:  
Jamie Matts  
283 State Highway 235  
Harpursville, NY 13787

**October 4-5, 2008**

Special Meet, requested by Patty Pickard  
Southern Ohio Poultry Association Fall Show, Scioto County  
Fairgrounds, Lucasville, OH  
Contact:  
Dave Adkins  
1988 Cook Road  
Lucasville, OH 45648

**October 11-12, 2008**

**North Central District Meet**, placed by Jerry DeSmidt  
Michigan Poultry Fanciers – Frankenmuth Fowl Fest,  
Frankenmuth, MI  
Contact:  
John W. Blehm, [John@FowlFest.org](mailto:John@FowlFest.org), (989)777-1234

**October 11, 2008**

**South Central District Meet**, placed by Paul Smith  
Southern Missouri Poultry Club, Sedalia, MO  
Contact:  
Pat Johnson, [ijohnson013@centurytel.net](mailto:ijohnson013@centurytel.net), (417)993-0099

**October 18, 2008**

**Indiana State Meet**, requested by Jerry DeSmidt  
Central Indiana Poultry Show, Lebanon, IN  
Contact:  
Doug Akers, [dakers@purdue.edu](mailto:dakers@purdue.edu) (765)482-7182  
Ron Patterson, [rpatter815@earthlink.net](mailto:rpatter815@earthlink.net) (765)676-6192

**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](mailto:ajmrademacher@embarqmail.com),  
(952)442-4031  
9185 County Road 10E  
Waconia, MN 55387

**October 25, 2008**

**Southeast District Meet**, placed by Barbara Campbell  
Bluegrass Poultry Association, Franklin County Fairgrounds,  
Frankfort, KY  
Contact:  
Laura Haggarty, [Lhaggarty@blueone.net](mailto:Lhaggarty@blueone.net)  
<http://www.franklincountyfair.info/maps.htm>

**October 25, 2008**

**Georgia State Meet**, requested by Brian Blair  
Fancy Fowl Club, Criswell Park Arena, Monroe, GA  
Contact:  
Toni-Marie Astin, (770)267-3648

**November 1-2, 2008**

**Maryland State Meet**, requested by Will Morrow  
Maryland State Poultry Fanciers Association Fall Show,  
Frederick, MD  
Contact:  
Kay St. Amour, (410)836-3753  
2017 Castleton Road  
Darlington, MD 21034

**November 8-9, 2008**

**Ohio State Meet**, requested by Patty Pickard  
Ohio Poultry Breeders Association, Columbus, OH  
Contact:  
Eric Markley, [markley@ohionational.org](mailto:markley@ohionational.org), (419)568-7402

**November 27-28, 2008**

Special Meet, placed by Jerry DeSmidt  
Eastern Iowa Poultry Show, Iowa City, IA  
Contact:  
Phil Shank, [pbshank@netins.net](mailto:pbshank@netins.net) (319)646-2001

**December 13-14, 2008**

**Oklahoma State Meet**, placed by Paul Smith  
Oklahoma State Poultry Show, Shawnee, OK  
Contact:  
Steve Jones, [ghia4me@sprynet.com](mailto:ghia4me@sprynet.com), (972)636-9093

**January 24-25, 2009**

**Western District Meet**, placed by Lisa Cree  
Pacific Poultry Breeders Association Winter, Stockton CA  
Contact:  
Teresia Renwick, (530) 268-2488, [renwickranch@sbbmail.com](mailto:renwickranch@sbbmail.com)  
1333 Quarterhorse Drive  
Grass Valley, CA 95949

**Treasurer's Report**

ABC Checking Account, Central Trust Bank, Jefferson City, MO	
<b>Opening Balance January 1, 2008</b>	<b>\$ 1207.62</b>
Income – January Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	240.50
Income – February Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	248.50
Income – March Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	170.00
Income – April Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	223.50
Income – May Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	100.00
Income – June Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	0.00
Income – July Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	63.50
Income – August Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	289.00
<b>Income Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 1335.00</b>
Expense - Postage	272.50
Expense – Office Supplies	197.57
Expense – Other: Memorials	25.00
Expense – Memberships, Advertisements	251.00
Expense – Bank Charges (return item fees)	36.50
<b>Expense Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 782.57</b>
<b>Ending Balance as of August 31, 2008</b>	<b>\$ 1759.40</b>
Respectfully Submitted, Michael J. Muenks, Secretary/Treasurer	



Splash Wheaten Cockerel  
By Jean Ribbeck

**Large Fowl  
Ameraucana**

Blues, Blacks and  
Splashes from our  
show quality  
flock.

Hatching eggs, chicks  
and breeding stock.  
NPIP flock.

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Lisa and Gary Cree  
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**Pips & Peeps**

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



Jean Ribbeck  
PO Box 461  
Newman Lake, WA 99025  
509-226-3833

[rribbeck@sprynet.com](mailto:rribbeck@sprynet.com)  
[home.sprynet.com/~rribbeck/](http://home.sprynet.com/~rribbeck/)

## **Black Gold Ameraucana Proposed Variety Standard, Spring 2001**

A few months ago on the Ameraucana Forum, Mike Gilbert asked if anyone had the original plumaged description for black gold. I replied that I knew I had it some where . . . I just needed to find it. After searching through my old bulletins, I found it in the very first bulletin I received – spring 2001. In the summer bulletin, due to printing issues, these pictures were not printed in color and I have included the description and the pictures for everyone's convenience. The original proposed name for the variety was golden quail, but there was so much confusion that the name was changed to black gold at the 2004 National Meet in Portage, WI, although if memory serves the following description was not changed at that time.

Linn Peterson of California provided these excellent pictures of her black gold and blue gold bantam Ameraucana.



Black Gold bantam  
Ameraucana



Blue Gold bantam hen & Black  
Gold bantam cock

### **Color of Male**

**COMB, FACE, AND EARLOBES:** Red  
**HEAD:** Golden bay  
**BEARD & MUFFS:** Light golden brown tinged with grey  
**NECK:** Hackle – Golden bay, slight black striping permitted in lower hackle  
Front of Neck – Golden orange  
**BACK:** Golden bay, each feather penciled with a single broad band of black  
**SADDLE:** Brilliant black, each feather laced with golden orange and with straw colored shafting  
**TAIL:** Main Tail – black with straw colored shafting  
Sickles, Lesser Sickles and Coverts – brilliant black with light orange shafting and thinly laced with light orange  
**WINGS:** Bows – Deep orange bay  
Coverts – Orange bay  
Primaries – Dull black, leading edge light gold coarsely stippled with black, straw colored shafting  
Secondaries – Black, lower edge orange-gold stippled with black, producing a wing bay of orange gold heavily stippled with black  
**BREAST:** Upper breast – same as front of neck  
Lower breast and Upper Thighs – Orange gold, each feather having a broad single penciling of black  
**BODY, STERN, and FLUFF:** Dull black irregularly barred with light golden orange  
**LOWER THIGHS:** Same as body and stern  
**UNDERCOLOR:** Slate

### **Color of Female**

**COMB AND FACE:** Red  
**EARLOBES:** Very pale, conforming to color of skin  
**HEAD:** Light golden bay  
**BEARD & MUFFS:** Light golden brown tinged with grey  
**NECK:** Hackle – Light golden bay, striping in lower hackle permitted  
Front of Neck and Upper Breast – Golden orange  
**BACK AND CUSHION:** Black, finely laced and shafted with bright golden straw  
**TAIL:** Main Tail – Black, finely laced and shafted with bright golden straw  
Coverts – Same as main tail  
**WINGS:** Shoulders, Fronts, Bows, and Coverts – Dull black, finely laced and shafted with bright golden straw  
Primaries – Dull black, leading edge light bordered with golden straw  
Secondaries – Black, shafted with golden straw, leading edge stippled with golden straw



LOWER BREAST: Dull black, each feather shafted and penciled with golden straw

BODY: Black, finely laced and shafted with golden straw

STERN: Dull black

LOWER THIGHS: Same as lower breast

UNDERCOLOR: Slate

#### Defects

Failure of single broad penciling on lower breast and back of males. Excessive black on upper breast of males and females. Excessive black striping in hackles of either sex.

The 2005 ABC Handbook has an article on breeding black gold Ameraucana by Mike Gilbert.

## From Under the Black Locust, by Michael Muenks



When I first joined the Ameraucana Breeders Club Don Cable was the secretary/treasurer and in each bulletin he wrote a piece entitled Under the Mulberry Tree. While I have several mulberry trees in the yard and on the farm, a better tree for me to write from under is the black locust. We have many black locust trees that grow here in the yard around and over our house; so as I put my fingers to the keyboard in the tradition of the secretary/treasurers from years past I am thinking of all of their contributions to the Ameraucana Breeders Club.

Spring 2008 was a "real" spring here in Missouri. We had a long and cool spring which is unusual for Missouri and this summer has also been wet and mostly cool. We are about fifteen inches ahead on rainfall for the year. One side benefit has been the large amount of fruit produced here. It has been at times unbelievable the amount of fruit we have had this summer. The apple and pears will finish out what has been an amazing year in the next six weeks. The crisp mornings of the last month make me think that winter is just around the corner. In fact there are leaves already changing!

In the Ameraucana world here under the black locusts it has been a long and frustrating spring and summer. The hens started to lay late, despite my best efforts, and fertility has been terrible for most of the year. As I write from under the locust tree I hear in the background a few Ameraucana chicks have just hatched. There will be many more late hatches this summer to try to fill in the amount of chicks I would like to have in order to achieve some breed and variety improvements in 2008. There have been several bright spots in the hatching season. The only buff bantam pullet I have from 2007, which has a damaged eye, started to lay very late, but has ended up being a good producer of nicely colored eggs. I have been really worried about my buff bantams. I love their personality and charm, but the fertility has been low. Hopefully new blood will help along with a cross back to wheaten. I have been struggling with general egg production with by wheaten/blue wheaten bantams and I think a cross will be helpful to all three varieties.

I am looking forward to the fall show season and hope to make it to a couple of shows and the National Ameraucana Meet. I failed to attend any spring shows much to my personal disappointment and relief. I have been dealing a liver ailment since right after the 2007 Ameraucana National Meet. I won't go into the details, but I understand completely anyone with chronic fatigue. After some recent unplanned surgery I am now feeling a little better each week and I hope to make a full recovery in time.

### DAY-OLD AMERUCANA CHICKS

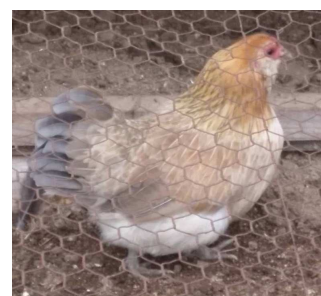
Don't be disappointed, order early for limited hatches in April & May.

Go to [ChickHatchery.com](http://ChickHatchery.com) for all the details and an Order Form or send a #10 SASE to

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4599 Lange  
Birch Run, MI 48415-8137



Blue Wheaten x Silver Cockerel



Blue Wheaten x Silver Pullet



Wheaten Hen

**Welcome to our  
New Members**

Brian Blair, GA

Nancy Bostrom, CO

Wendy, Emile, Colby Folse,  
LA

Nancy Ginn, TX

Jessica Klick, VT

Christina Korfus, WA

Adam Loeffel, TN

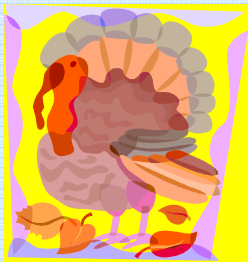
Jim Phillips, NC

Kathy Rubalcaba, VT

John Taylor, MO

Royce & Cynthia Van  
Blaricome, WA

Susan Wheatley, GA

**Features in the****December Issue:**

Blast from the Past

National Meet Results/Pics

Club Election Results

A few years ago in an Ameraucana Breeders Club bulletin, Mike Gilbert mentioned a book entitled Starting Where You Are with What You Have, by Ralph Sturgeon as being the conceptual base for many of his breeding practices. Mike kindly allowed me to borrow and read his copy of the book which has been out of print for many years. I continue to what the Poultry Press as book collections are offered for sale as well as other online book retailers for the title with the hope that some day I will be able to find a copy. I thought it would be timely to discuss and demonstrate my application of the philosophy within the book.

Some of the new members will have missed the story of my ongoing battle with a red fox I shared on the ABC Forum in spring 2007, which I eventually won. In the aftermath of the battle I was left with no wheaten or blue wheaten bantam hens and no silver bantam cocks. As many people do after such a loss, I looked for replacement birds so that I could continue progress toward my breeding goals. Unfortunately, I was not able to find any replacement birds as is generally the case in these situations. Based on what I had, I decided to start where I was with what I had and cross my silver hens with my blue wheaten cock. John Blehm had shown me the results of such a cross and I knew how he was using the resulting birds to improve both his silver and wheaten large fowl. I know you may be thinking that it would have made more sense and been quicker to use wheaten x buff and black x silver, but I didn't have the necessary birds and had to start with what I had. In the back of my mind I was considering the creation of blue silver to pair with silver bantam Ameraucana, but my true end goal was to recover breeding stock and to improve the breed and the silver and wheaten varieties. The pictures included with this article show mature pullets and cockerels from the cross. The chicks from this initial cross all had down that was of the "wild" type. Similar to the down of a silver chick, but the stripes were not as regular and the color of the down on the bright yellow side. The chicks did not mature with the wheaten color phase changes, but instead feathered as in the silver.

In the meantime, I was able to obtain a silver bantam cockerel in fall 2007 and I am currently using him as my flock sire, but I do plan to use the blue wheaten x silver cockerel in the coming weeks with my silver hens to complete the process of the cross. The pullet produced from the initial cross has been a very good producer with nicely colored eggs and she is now with the silver cock and will be rotated to a wheaten cock if I decide to keep the few wheaten bantams I have.

## Ameraucana Breeders Club Board of Directors

**President, John Blehm**4599 Lange Road, Birch Run, MI 48415 [john@ameraucana.org](mailto:john@ameraucana.org) (989)777-1234**Secretary/Treasurer, Michael Muenks**33878 Hwy 87, California, MO 65018-3911 [michael@bantamhill.com](mailto:michael@bantamhill.com) (573)796-3999**Director-North Central, Jerry DeSmidt**N912 Hill Road, Pulaski, WI 54162 [jwoodhaven@aol.com](mailto:jwoodhaven@aol.com) (920)833-9772**Director-Northeast, Rob Sando**2116 Street 121 W, New Madison, OH 45346 [rsando\\_shrop@hotmail.com](mailto:rsando_shrop@hotmail.com) (937)996-0117**Director-South Central, Paul Smith**2257 CR 224, Gainesville, TX 76240 [sw\\_psmith@swmail.com](mailto:sw_psmith@swmail.com) (940)668-0719**Director-Southeast, Barbara Campbell**392 Whitaker Hollow Road, Lake City, TN 37769 [BlueEggAcres@comcast.net](mailto:BlueEggAcres@comcast.net) (865)494-0876**Director-West, Lisa Cree**PO Box 148, Seabeck, WA 98380 [creefarm@peoplepc.com](mailto:creefarm@peoplepc.com)