

Looking Ahead in 1980

Your Board of Directors has adopted a constitution and bylaws under which your association will be able to function in a positive manner in the years ahead. A copy of the constitution and bylaws is now in the process of being printed for each member and will be mailed to each of you with the Summer issue of the Bulletin.

The basic awards at each of our club meets will be rosettes for the champion Ameraucana bantam and the reserve champion Ameraucana bantam. These rosettes, custom designed to our specifications, have a six inch rosette with two foot streamers in purple and white with gold lettering that any fancier would be proud to win and display. We ask only that there be a minimum of two members to compete for these beautiful rosettes at each of our forthcoming club meets.

In as much as the Central District currently contains the largest number of club members, it is logical that we hold our first National Meet in that district. The Eastern Iowa Poultry Association Show is the tentative site, but a final determination will be made by your Board of Directors in the near future. In the meantime, your District Directors will be setting up District Meets as well.

On a sad note, Mary Allison, our Western District Director, from Lakeside, California, had to resign her post due to personal tragedy. As you may recall, Southern California had disastrous flooding with resulting mudslides that did millions of dollars worth of damage. Such was the situation with Mary, who lost virtually all of her poultry and had severe damage to her home. We wish her our best and hope that she will be back in bantams soon. We will miss her.

Our Central District Director, Jerry Segler, will be moving this spring to another site in Illinois, and will send his new address when he gets settled. Due to this move, Jerry will have no bantams nor eggs for sale this year. Hopefully, Jerry will have stock and eggs to share next year as he is one of the foremost breeders of Ameraucana bantams in the land and has developed some new varieties. Jerry has also been kind enough to share his knowledge in practical breeding and his latest article on breeding black and blue varieties of Ameraucana bantams appears elsewhere in this issue of the Bulletin.

If you have not sent in your varieties for the Breeders Directory as yet, there is a form for your convenience on the last page of the Bulletin. The Breeders Directory will be a part of the Summer issue and you will not want to be left out. Incidentally, if you have not paid your dues for 1980, please do so as this will be your final notice. A red "X" in the box at the bottom of this page indicates that we have not received your club dues for 1980. Please take care of this soon. Thanks!

Dues are \$5. single, \$7.50 family. Please send your dues to the address at the top of this page. Thank you.
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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 1980

### President, Mike Gilbert

I am 36 years old and live with my wife, Mary, and four children. Our nine year old, Melissa, is the only girl. The boys are Chad, 14, Robbie, 4, and Jason, 2. We live on 40 acres, mostly woodland, in Western Wisconsin, about 22 miles north of La Crosse, where I commute daily to work as co-owner of a public accounting business. I have a business administration degree from University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, and took a year of post-graduate work at Colorado State University, Ft. Collins. Raising chickens has always been a favorite hobby of mine whenever I lived in a place where I could keep them. My first bearded blue-egg laying bantams came from an assortment of chicks from Marti Hatchery of Missouri. I eventually settled on wheaten as the color to breed for and have been raising them ever since. I'm also working on white, blue and a couple of other colors.

### Secretary-Treasurer, Don Cable

Don Cable lives with his wife and four sons in Orangevale, a suburb of Sacramento, California. He graduated from California State University, Sacramento in 1960 and teaches science at Pasteur Intermediate School in Orangevale. Don coaches a high school baseball team and following that season, manages a Senior Little League team. He also judges the ~~4-H poultry at local county fairs each summer.~~

Don grew up in San Francisco, where at age ten, purchased his first chicks-white Leghorns- from Sears, Roebuck for 5¢ each. He has kept and bred a variety of poultry, pigeons and cage birds over the years, but finds Ameraucana bantams as challenging as any. In addition to his bantams, Don has a topical collection of poultry on stamps, hopes for a bountiful garden and when time permits, enjoys trout fishing in the Sierras.

### Eastern District Director, Ken Carpenter

I was born in 1956 and am still single, but still looking for "Mrs. Right." I'm a Marine Insurance Specialist and live with my mother on a ten acre "Asylum"--(You'd have to be crazy to live here). We have 8 horses; a thoroughbred stud horse, My Crazy Sundown- three gaited American Saddlebred, Budweiser, a 35 year-old Clydesdale, Star's Mascot, Shetland pony, Twinkle T, miniature horse (36" high), imported from Argentina, Mate and Skipper- Western bred quarter horses and Thunder, Western bred Morgan horse. We also have two Nubian goats(Holy Terrors) named Hanky and Panky, ten geese, bearded white, buff and partridge Silkies, B.B. Red Tailed Araucana bantams, five dogs, three cats and a pair of promiscuous doves.

I like Rock Music, painting, drawing, gardening, books, riding, Rock Concerts and a variety of other activities.

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Central District Director, Jerry Segler

Jerry Segler has been a resident of Speer, Illinois for the past ten years. He grew up in Bartonville, Illinois, married in 1970, and has two children. Jerry, Jr. is seven years old and Debera is six. Jerry has been breeding pigeons since childhood and bantams for about nine years. An avid gardener and member of Seed Savers Exchange (An organization devoted to saving and propagating heirloom vegetable varieties), Jerry has developed a few vegetable varieties that are unusual or better adapted to his climate. Jerry is employed by the Caterpillar Tractor Company in Moxville Illinois, near Peoria and his interest in genetics led him to his work in developing new varieties of Ameraucana bantams.

Election Commissioner, Bernard Kellogg

Bernard Kellogg of Viroqua, Wisconsin started teaching in 1940; entered service in 1942 where he served in the Pacific Theater; married in 1943 while home on furlough; returned to teaching in 1946; and retired in 1970. The couple had no children, but were foster parents of several boys. He has been breeding and showing bantams of many breeds for over fifty years; collects glass and ceramic hens and roosters on the nest which numbers 191; enjoys a garden and flowers; and has been a charter member of the Badger Poultry Club serving as director and club historian. He also served as election commissioner of the Ameraucana bantam club.

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Ed. note: Many thanks to the members of the Board of Directors for taking the time to send in the foregoing thumbnail biographies. This will give the membership some idea of who will be guiding the club for the next couple of years and hopefully, make your Board less impersonal.

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Dr. Cawley on Araucanas

It was my pleasure to meet Dr. William Cawley last fall at the Golden Gate Bantam Club Show in Pleasanton, California. I had the opportunity to thank him for a position paper on the Araucana that he had written and sent to me previous to our meeting. The paper is clear, well documented and objective. Any serious student of the breed should have a copy. Write Dr. William O. Cawley, Extension Poultry Specialist, 107 Kleberg Center, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843.

## Producing Black and Blue Varieties of

### Ameraucana Bantams

By Jerry Segler, Sr.

I have been asked to write an article on the black and blue varieties in the Ameraucana bantam. Since I am no expert on the exact genetic properties of these colors, I will just write what I have found to be true. My blues were started by using a white male on a black hen in an effort to put a better comb and beard on the blacks. This mating produced some blue pullets. I have always gotten a few nice blue pullets by using a black male on these but have never gotten a blue cockerel. The closest I have come is a couple of blue reds.

I started the blacks because I couldn't find any and decided to make them myself. I used a white Ameraucana male on a black Old English hen. The pullets from this mating were mated to a standard size black Araucana that had some red in neck and saddle. I had hoped to overpower the white with this second use of black.

A little red in the male will often produce a lot of glossy sheen in his daughters. A word of caution is that the red can become fixed in the male birds and hard to get rid of.

I then used the best pullets and a cockerel with some white in neck and saddle. This mating produced my 1979 young. The pullets were all fairly good, but many of the cockerels had red in them.

~~I have again picked a cockerel with white in neck and saddle for a breeder.~~ I am trying to avoid fixing the red in the male line, but may end up fixing white trying to avoid red. I am keeping one of this year's hens that produced the best birds and will breed my cockerel to her hoping to produce sound, black males. I will continue to breed from the best until I finally get pure, black males.

I might add that if you consider starting a color of your own and must use another breed to get it, try to find a breed with as many of the traits that you want in the Ameraucana, and not just color. You must consider leg color, lobe color, clean legs and beard. I regret to say that most breeds that would have the beard, leg traits and lobe color that you want will be almost impossible to find in the color you want. Comb is also a consideration, but single comb is common and one of the easiest to get rid of with a little care.

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Ed. note: One important factor not mentioned in Jerry's article is a characteristic that makes the Ameraucana somewhat unique- the blue egg. Our proposed standard calls for a bird that produces blue eggs, not an off shade of green or brown or other shades commonly found when blue egg birds are crossed with brown egg layers. Inheritance of egg color is well established- will somebody pick up the challenge and write an article on this for a future Bulletin?

Welcome New Members!

Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Book 745 North 3rd Ave., Upland, CA 91786  
Todd Lan kin Rt. 1, Box 104, Arcadia, Indiana 46030  
William Pearson Rt. 3, Box 116, Winchester, Indiana 47394  
Peter J. Salvin 151 Bull Run Rd., Trenton, N.J. 08638  
Bob Russell Box 755, Tres Piedras, N.M. 87577

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From the Backyard Flock: ON Oats

To me, whole oats are one of the best poultry feeds around and over the years I have seen some fantastic results in flocks fed this grain free choice.

Certainly oats should not be fed to broilers or any time you are trying to obtain maximum growth in the minimum length of time. In the conditioning of large fowl and bantams for the show room, there is a definite place for whole oats in your feeding program.

Whole, crimped, ground or clipped oats can be fed to mature birds, while hulled products such as pinhead oats, oat groats or oat flakes are the form given to chicks. ~~I would not recommend the feeding of~~ oats before the chicks are six weeks of age.

Ohio researchers found whole oats fed free choice practically eliminates feather picking, cannibalism and pick-outs. Workers from the Iowa Experiment Station showed oats to be superior for poultry feed in comparison with corn, wheat and barley.

The Western Washington Agricultural Experiment Station has shown the cannibalism preventing properties of oats is due to the fiber fraction of the oat hulls. The Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Texas A&M University has reported "Unknown" factors in oat hulls which greatly improve feathering. A later report from the Iowa Experiment Station back up these findings from Texas. Oklahoma indicated a certain amount of bulkiness apparently aids in more complete digestion of nutrients in their passage through the digestive tract. From these findings it appears the oat husk, hull or fiber has a nutritional value.

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"A Manual of Poultry Diseases"

Texas A&M University has put out a newly revised edition of its Manual of Poultry Diseases. It is said to contain the most accurate word description of disease symptoms available. A single copy is free to any Texas address by contacting Mrs. Anita Pitt, Poultry Science Department, 107 Kleberg Center, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843. Out-of-state people send \$1.50 per copy to Mrs. Mildred Kennedy, Department of Agricultural Communications, Room 101 Reed McDonald, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843. Please make checks payable to: Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

## Why Not A Club Meet at Your Favorite Show?

Any member may request a Club Meet at his or her local show. All we require is that there be two or more members in competition for our club awards. This is perhaps the most liberal awards policy of all of the specialty clubs, so please take advantage of it and request a Club Meet for your favorite show this year. Our basic awards are described on page one- if you would care to supplement these awards with a donation of your own, so much the better.

Get together with another Club member and start planning soon. When you have decided which show you would like to have a Meet placed, contact your Secretary, providing the name and address of the show secretary, and together, we will make the necessary arrangements. Do not put this off, as it takes time to get our copy for the show catalog or premium list in before printing deadlines. At the termination of the show, please send along the results of the Meet and they will be included in the Bulletin. Think it over!

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