



Volume XXXIII, Issue 3

# Ameraucana Bulletin

Ameraucana Breeders Club, 33878 Hwy 87, California, MO 65023-3911  
www.ameraucana.org

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## President's Report, Connie "Jean" Ribbeck

It has been a slow start for me this year with the downsizing of my flock. I have gone from over 300 birds in January to just under 200. This number includes lots of chicks from my projects. I plan to still get down to around 75 adult birds before the middle of summer. To those of you still contacting me for chicks or hatching eggs, it doesn't look like I will be selling very much of anything but project birds.



And speaking of projects, the chocolates are off to a good start. I have lots of bantam pullets available to use for my next generation cross and the large fowl are on the ground and going strong. I recently took a bantam chocolate pullet to a show and Gary Overton was very impressed with the color. I told him I was looking for more feedback on type and he said she looked good. I think I will have type down on the next cross. I have saved a cockerel that has been placing Champion or Reserve AOCCL at the last few shows I have been to for that purpose.

A silver laced Wyandotte cockerel has been purchased for my silver laced project. The bird at this point appears to have white skin, but only time will tell. I figure I will get a head start on that project before the silver laced Orpingtons arrive in the US and \$5.00 is a lot cheaper than \$500.00.

As many may know I also have a blue improvement project in the works also. I have my second generation cross on the ground and plan to hatch many chicks since I have bred brother to sister ½ Ameraucana – ½ Orpington crosses. I will end up with many unusable offspring from this cross but am hopeful I can get a few usable birds to cross back to true Ameraucana next year. I may just scrap these birds though next year when I see what the silver laced project produces.

I am still working on improving my silver variety. I have hatched lots of chicks from the pen and currently have a cock bird from John Blehm over my hens. I have also purchased one batch of eggs from an outside source to see if they can offer anything to my line.

The lavenders have been the latest to start laying this year. I will be breeding my lavender hens to a split black male this year to see if I can improve the fretting of the feathers. I have several pullets from last year that have a nice light, even shade about them and am hopeful to see how the next generation progresses.



Larry Clionsky  
Ameraucana  
Black, Blue, Blue, Wheaten,  
Wheaten,  
White and Buff  
Large Fowl Ameraucana

### Hatching Eggs and Day-Old Chicks

Larry Clionsky  
9 Zion Church Rd  
Grantville, PA 17028-9651  
(717)469-7509  
[Lclionsky@yahoo.com](mailto:Lclionsky@yahoo.com)



## President's Report, continued . . .

My business partner Christina Korfus is still working on improving the brown red variety and is making progress. The size is up on the large fowl since crossing to black Orpingtons, but they have lost some of the color. The good news is that fertility is high. Her bantam stock is also doing well. They have been crossed to black Ameraucana bantams and again fertility is high. In the later cross she has only lost the color pattern since type is set very nicely in the blacks and brown reds she acquired for her project.

Hope you all have a successful year and remember to show those birds!!!!!!

## North Central District, Jerry De Smidt, Director

No report available at time of publication.



## Western District, Jeanine McKee, Director

Hello from the Western District! Hope everyone's hatches are going well. I have several bantam Ameraucana on the ground, mostly blacks, but a few very nice blues with some heavy lacing. Two young cockerels growing up now as well that will be going into the breeding pen soon...happy I chose to hatch early this year!

I have yet to receive any meet requests from anyone. We have a HUGE district, I'm sure someone wants a club meet somewhere! Email me soon so we can get the ball rolling for the fall shows!! [barterazia@hotmail.com](mailto:barterazia@hotmail.com)

I wish everyone an enjoyable summer! I am not looking forward to all the extra effort put in this time of year to keep the birds cool, but it's all worth it for our bearded beauties!

## Southeast District, Tina Dinkins, Director

We have had a really nice spring in Tennessee. The weather has been mild and the hens have been laying really well. I am on my third batch of incubated eggs. I have four really nice bantam black Ameraucana from Jeanine. I am thinking they are all pullets so I will be looking for a cockerel if anyone has an extra. I now have a nice pair of standard wheaten that I purchased from Barbara Campbell. I have a few of those eggs in the incubator now. Hope everyone's hatches went well.

I will be placing some meets in the next few weeks. Other than that, it has been quiet on my end. There was a show in Knoxville and one in Crookville, but I wasn't able to attend either so I don't know how the Ameraucana did. If any of you were at any of these shows, email me and let me know about the results.

I have become active with a group in our local community center and have been promoting the Ameraucana breed there. There seems to be a lot of interest. Most that are interested only new about Easter Eggers, but called them Ameraucana, so I gave a lesson on the differences and all seemed really interested. I will be giving them the website for our club in my next meeting. Maybe we will get some new members.

Wishing everyone a nice summer!

## South Central District, Paul Smith, Director

Greetings from the South-Central District!

Now that hatching season is almost completed, we will start working on our 2012 national meet! We truly enjoy hatching, but it sure increases the time and work load to make it a success. Once it gets in full gear, its set a pair of incubators on one Monday, then hatch a pair of incubators the following Monday. Sort and prepare 330 hatching eggs every other Sunday night after church, so they will be ready to slide into the incubators early the next morning. On hatch days we get overloaded with extra work. Each of the chicks get toe punched before they are mixed with progeny from different pens. This requires several hours, but it is worth the extra effort to know how they are bred when breeding season comes around again next fall; or when exceptional good ones appear; or when some problems start surfacing.

Even though it has been seventeen years of experience hatching, there is always something new to learn each season! This time we learned, we needed to set the Rhode Island Red eggs on Sundays, so they would hatch the same time as our Ameraucana, which were set on the following Mondays. Last year we learned to put 2 to 3 table spoons of bleach in one gallon of water that was put inside the incubator pans-to help improve the air quality inside the incubators. Life is a learning experience all along the way.

It appears we are going to be able to keep our 100% record of all received orders filled with the exception of one cancellation from a lady who cancelled her splash order, because she didn't want the chicks later than requested. We had to back several of the early orders up to later hatches, either due to delayed egg production or fertility issues with the early hatches. We have had nine hatches with 1,127 chicks. Our last one had 216! Still one more on Tuesday, after Memorial Day, then we are finished for 2012.

Hope all have had a successful hatching season with some good show/breeding prospects in their pens. Please make plans to show at the Ameraucana National Meet October 27, 2012 at Sedalia, Missouri.

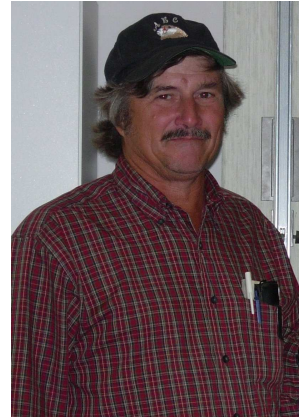
## Northeast District, Harold Knapp, Director

We have had a crazy spring, weather doing funny things for this time of year. Chickens not laying much, and poor fertility on eggs I did get. I don't feed a breeder ration, and that may be part of it, but other years have been good under same feeding program, many birds have started to molt. I have not talked to many breeders in the N.E., but I am interested in how they are doing, I will just hatch later this year till I get what I need.

I have placed all but one show that was requested this year. Some show club officers are very poor at responding. I would like to urge the ABC members to show as much as they can. Get your Ameraucana out there in front of judges and other breeders. If you have a bird or two for sale, maybe you can help someone else become an Ameraucana breeder.

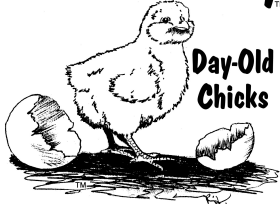
## Electronic Bulletin

Over the last several years several members have requested to receive their Bulletins in an electronic format. If you would like to receive your Bulletins via E-mail, please let Michael know if you would like to begin receiving your Ameraucana Bulletin electronically and he will add your name to the list.





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8137

## From Under the Black Locust, Michael Muenks

Greetings to the Ameraucana Breeders Club! As you read this issue of the Ameraucana Bulletin your hatching season is possibly complete. Unfortunately, ours has restarted due to a wildly crazy attack by raccoons. As some as you may know, the Muenks' headed up to the La Crosse, WI area to attend the first show of the Coulee Region Poultry Club. The show was well run. There were over 1,000 birds shown. The Ameraucana were well represented. I definitely want to go back! As a side benefit we had a super visit with many Ameraucana Breeders Club members. In addition we spent a few days camping and exploring the La Crosse area. Thanks to Mike Gilbert for taking care of our birds while we enjoyed the area.

Unfortunately, we arrived home to find ourselves under attack! It soon became apparent that raccoons were the culprits. I didn't appreciate how serious the situation was until I went out at night on June 6<sup>th</sup> with a headlamp on and the trees lit up with pairs of eyes like Christmas lights! I felt sick to my stomach. The following night a hole was ripped through the roof of the large chicken house to get at chickens that were caged. Needless to say, June has been exhausting as I have guarded chickens and peafowl, while trapping and hunting raccoons every night. I am up to 18 raccoons so far, but I wary of the future. My neighbor has begun losing chickens and is now trapping raccoons. In addition the black snakes are becoming aggressive and I have lost chickens to them. The end result was that I lost all of my young Ameraucana except for three. Luckily, I have not lost many breeders at this time. I have fired up the incubator and have started hatching every egg that is laid. The only positive way to spin the last month is to say that at least I have the opportunity to hatch eggs from the hens that have the ability to lay in the heat. I am prepared for a long summer of battling raccoons, opossums, black snakes, and coyotes as the drought becomes worst.

Speaking of heat and Missouri, the warm and early spring here in Missouri quickly turned into a very hot and dry summer. We had no measurable rain at our place the last three weeks of April, the month of May, and one shower in June that provided  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch of rain. Oddly, the winds have been from the south west and west most days, so the normal Missouri humidity was been missing. The absence of normal Missouri summer humidity has suppressed our main source of summer moisture . . . the pop up thunderstorm.

It has been weird for the "feels like" temperature to be less than the actual temperature. It is also odd to be able to tell the difference between 105° and 98°. Hopefully, the weather will be cooler by October when Club members will be visiting Missouri. If you are in need of ideas places to visit, please feel free to contact me.

The dry weather and heat has reminded me of the year that I had a fowl pox outbreak. I will be vaccinating for fowl pox soon in order to prevent it. If you are in an area of the country facing the same heat and drought conditions of Central Missouri, I encourage you to consider vaccinating for fowl pox. A quick web search or call to your local poultry club, county extension agent, veterinarian, or state poultry specialist should provide localized recommendations. The last time we had fowl pox we missed the entire show season as the virus slowly made its way through the flock.

## Advertisements in the Ameraucana Bulletin

Bulletin advertisements are free for club members and need to be submitted by August 15, 2012. Those members who are currently advertisers need to confirm that they wish to continue to advertise by August 15, 2012. Please let Michael know if you are interested in advertising in the next Bulletin.

## 2012 Elections for Ameraucana Breeders Club Officers

It is hard to believe that it is an election year for the Ameraucana Breeders Club! We have several district directors who have indicated they are going to retire or not run this year. Thanks to Jerry De Smidt, Harold Knapp, and Tina Dinkins for their years of service to the Club. All three have announced that they will not seek reelection this year. Currently, Jean, Jeanine, Paul, and Michael are willing to run for the positions they currently hold. Club members may nominate themselves or other members as candidates for a position. If a member is nominated by someone as a candidate for a position, the Secretary/Treasurer will contact the nominee to confirm their willingness to run for the position. A thread will be created at the Forum where potential candidates may be nominated.

The following are positions and the current candidates:

North Central District Director	Candidate Needed	Candidate Needed
Northeast District Director	Candidate Needed	Candidate Needed
Southeast District Director	Candidate Needed	Candidate Needed
South Central District Director	Paul Smith	Candidate Needed
Western District Directory	Jeanine McKee	Candidate Needed
Secretary/Treasurer	Michael Muenks	Candidate Needed
President	Jean Ribbeck	Candidate Needed

The following is an over overview of the duties/responsibilities of each position. The full description may be found in your constitution of the Ameraucana Breeders Club.

**Director** – The director places meets for the district, organizes the National Meet when it falls within the district, promotes Ameraucana with the district, and answers questions regarding Ameraucana. The district director is a voting member of the board of directors and assists the president in running the Club.

**President** – The president runs the Ameraucana Breeders Club and interacts with other organizations on behalf of the members of the Ameraucana Breeders Club. The president conducts meetings of the members and board of directors. Assists and running the national meet.

**Secretary/Treasurer** – Keeps the membership roll of the club, updates the Breeders Directory, conducts club business and correspondence, assists in running the national meet, and answers questions.

## 2012 National Meet

The Ameraucana Breeders Club 2012 National Meet will be held in Sedalia, MO at the Missouri State Fairgrounds, October 27, 2012 at the Missouri State Poultry Association’s Fall Double Show. Please attend on planning to attend the show. We will have a great time. The Club is planning an egg competition, sale area, and our first Ameraucana Seminar. Many of our Junior members competed in the Open Class at our National Meet in 2011 and showed very impressive Ameraucana. I hope that we will have another year of good Junior participation in 2012 at the National Meet.



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### Club Notes

The deadline to submit articles, ads, reports, meet requests, etc. for the next bulletin is August 15, 2012 and need to be sent to the club secretary.

Bulletin advertisements are free to all members!

#### We now take PayPal!

To send payments use [purchases@ameraucana.org](mailto:purchases@ameraucana.org)

### Club Merchandise

1982 Club Handbook - \$5

2005 Club Handbook - \$5

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



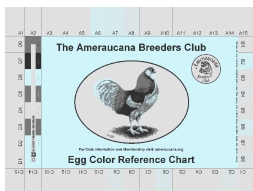
Bulletins 1979-1984 - \$30

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.

## 2012 National Meet, continued . . .

The Club hotel for the National Meet is the Best Western Sedalia. The hotel is near the fairgrounds. A block of 20 rooms has been reserved for Club members from October 26-28, 2012.

To make your reservation please call 660-826-6100.

Room Block Name - THE AMERAUCANA BREEDERS CLUB

The room block rate is \$78.29 plus tax. The rate is for a king room or a room with 2 double beds and includes a full hot breakfast every morning.

The location of the ABC's award ceremony will be announced in the next Bulletin. Michael and Anastasia Muenks will host a social event one evening at their farm for Club members and their families. Their farm is about 45 miles east of the fairgrounds in California, Missouri.

The Club is collecting donations for awards. If you would like to sponsor an award please send a check to Michael Muenks made out to the Ameraucana Breeders Club with a note indicating which award you would like the money to go toward. Thanks to Jeff and Patty Pickard for their donation of the Junior Show awards.

## Upcoming Ameraucana Breeders Club Meets

September 22-23, 2012

**Wisconsin State Meet**, placed by Jerry De Smidt

Wisconsin International, Portage, WI

Contact:

Terry Lund

[wipoultryclub@yahoo.com](mailto:wipoultryclub@yahoo.com)

October 6, 2012

Special Meet, placed by Jerry De Smidt

West Central Wis. Pigeon & Poultry Club "Red Cedar Showdown", Menomonie, WI

Contact:

Dan Paff, [juddan@wwt.net](mailto:juddan@wwt.net), (715)723-2750

6977 County Hwy N

Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

October 6-7, 2012

**Northeast District Meet**, placed by Harold Knapp

Southern Ohio Poultry Association Fall Show, Scioto County Fairgrounds, Lucasville, OH

Contact:

David Adkins, (740)259-2852

1988 Cook Road

Lucasville, OH, 45648-9006

October 27, 2012

**National Meet**, placed by Paul Smith

Missouri State Poultry Association Fall Double Show, Meet 1

Sedalia, MO

Contact:

Bernita Miller, [bmiller@iland.net](mailto:bmiller@iland.net)

## Ameraucana Breeders Club Upcoming Meets, continued . . .

October 27, 2012

**Missouri State Meet**, requested by Michael Muenks  
Missouri State Poultry Association Fall Double Show, Meet 2  
Sedalia, MO  
Contact:  
Bernita Miller, [bmiller@iland.net](mailto:bmiller@iland.net)

November 10-11, 2012

**Ohio State Meet**, requested by Patty Pickard  
Ohio National  
Columbus, OH  
Contact:  
Eric Markley, 419-568-7402, Cell 419-303-6909, [markley@ohionational.org](mailto:markley@ohionational.org)  
[www.ohionational.org](http://www.ohionational.org)

## Getting to Know Jensen Pierson, by Jes Kemp

As this article publishes, Jensen is completing her junior year of high school. She is home schooled and lives in the small town of Wilmington, Ohio. This very talented young lady caught my attention at the 2011 Crossroads show with her poise, professionalism, graciousness and dedication to her animals.

In addition to breeding and showing chickens she also shows horses, turkeys and 4-H market chickens.

Some of her most exciting achievements in the past year include:

- **Purchasing her dream horse & then going on to win many awards including "Most Improved Rider" at the Clinton Co. Fair**
- **"Poultry Queen" at the county fair**
- **Top Ohio Market Poultry Exhibitor at the Ohio State Fair**
- **Top Place at the Ohio State Poultry Judging Competition, and 5<sup>th</sup> place in the National Competition**
- **Reserve AOSB Crossroads Poultry Show**

Jensen is thinking of pursuing Equine & Poultry Science in college, but she has not decided on a definite major or where she will attend college.

**JK-How long have you been raising chickens and what sparked your interest in Ameraucana?**

JP-I have been raising chickens for 8 years. I started out my first year with a little Easter Egger hen. She won best female at the county fair! Ever since then, I have devoted myself to Ameraucana.



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## Getting to Know Jensen Pierson, continued . . .

JK- Please tell me about your flock...How many Ameraucana do you have? Which varieties? Approximately how many chicks do you hatch in a typical season?

JP- I have 50-100 Ameraucana constantly, and when hatching starts I will have around 200. I raise Black, Buff, Blue & Splash in large fowl and also have a few black and lavender bantams. I will hatch roughly 100 birds.

JK- What are your goals in your breeding program?

JP- My main goal is to raise the perfect bird, but no one really can. This year I am focusing on the uniformity in the three rows of the pea comb.

JK- What has been the biggest challenge you have faced in your breeding program?

JP- The biggest challenge I have is breeding the buff variety.

JK- Is there one tip or information that you wish you had known in the beginning but did not that you are willing to share with our members?

JP- One thing that has helped me is increasing the protein for the breeding birds. It helps increase the laying production. I would also encourage anyone wanting to show competitively to acquire good stock. TSC chickens simply cannot compete with John Blehm's birds.

JK- In your opinion, what is the overall state of the Ameraucana as a breed? Where have the breeders made the most progress and what areas still need work?

JP- The Ameraucana breed has grown in popularity over the past few years. More youth have become interested in the breed; they are an eye appealing breed with interesting eggs. I believe that Ameraucana breeders have worked hard to be good ambassadors for the Ameraucana breed. Their enthusiasm and willingness to help attracts new breeders. We need to work to meet all the standard areas, not just the muffs or comb. Ameraucana are supposed to be dual purpose birds, which means we need to have a solid, well fleshed frame.

JK- Jensen is a big part of the future of our breed and this sport.....I would say that both are in very strong, capable hands!!!





## Meet Reports

### Cape Fear Poultry Association – Corrected Meet Report

State Meet, December 10, 2011, Reported by Carolyn Lynn

4 large fowl where judged by Paul Gelroy

RB, BV blue wheaten K by Beth Curran

BB, BV buff P by Beth Curran, **Champion Ameraucana**

BV white H by Amy Colbert

RV white C by Amy Colbert

2 Junior Show large fowl were judged by Lloyd Thomas Kane

BV black C by Walker Curran, **Junior Show Champion Ameraucana**

BV blue wheaten P by Walker Curran

### Humboldt Poultry Fanciers

Special Meet, February 11-12, 2012, Reported by Harry Majors

3 large fowl where judged by Don Barger

BV brown red H by Sarah Cox

DQ wheaten

BV white K by Bridget Riddle

1 Junior Show large fowl was judged

BV white K by Bridget Riddle

### Gateway Poultry Club

Special Meet, April 14, 2012, Reported by Phyllis Saucerman

2 large fowl were judged by Robert Power

BV black H by Keeney & Smith Waterfowl, **Champion Ameraucana**

RV black H by Keeney & Smith Waterfowl

1 Junior Show large fowl was judged

BV white H by Madison Keith, **Junior Show Champion Ameraucana**

### Rocky Mountain Poultry Association

Special Meet, May 5, 2012, Reported by Jamie Rensman

9 large fowl were judged by Gary Overton

BV black P by Connie "Jean" Ribbeck

RB, BV blue C by Connie "Jean" Ribbeck

BV blue wheaten H by Jennine Mazel

BV brown red H by Christina Korfus

BV buff C by Connie "Jean" Ribbeck

BV silver C by Paul Wilson

BV wheaten P by Connie "Jean" Ribbeck

BB, BV white P by Grace Ribbeck, **Reserve Champion Ameraucana**

BV AOV lavender P by Connie "Jean" Ribbeck

2 bantams were judged by Gary Overton

BV black K by Connie "Jean" Ribbeck, **Champion Ameraucana**

BV AOV chocolate P by Connie "Jean" Ribbeck

1 Junior Show large fowl was judged by Gary Overton

BV white P by Grace Ribbeck, **Junior Show Champion Ameraucana**

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Laurie, & Dence Ditton,  
VA

Teresa Elliott, OH

Bill Francis, OK

Charles Gibson, MS

Ant hun Hnen, MI

Kevin Knoblett, MN

Caroline Laurendeau,  
Quebec

Raquel Lehrmann, AK

Heather Rhoad, Amy &  
Jacob Rogers, VA

Zach Rose, CA

Nina Pace, PA

G. Ivy Parker, NC

William Sauve, WA

Greg Stebnitz, WI

Angie Stephenson, AL

Abbie Stockett, MO

Bonnie Van Meter, OH

Alexis Wilkins, TX

Diane Zipp, IN

**Meet Reports, continued . . .**Coulee Region Poultry Club, Inc.

Special Meet, June 2, 2012, Reported by Michael Gilbert

15 large fowl were judged by Don Karasek

BB, BV black H by Nate Rynish, out of 6

RB, RV black H by Josh Flees

BV blue C by Jeff Sonsalla

RV blue H by Jeff Sonsalla

BV blue wheaten C by Tom Stallman

RV blue wheaten H by Tom Stallman

BV buff H by Hilde Everson, out of 3

RV buff K by Hilde Everson

BV wheaten C by Tom Stallman

RV wheaten H by Tom Stallman

27 bantams were judged by Jeff Halback

BV black H by Gabby Dingman, out of 7

RV black C by Greg Stebnitz

BV blue H by Mike Gilbert

RB, BV blue wheaten H by Michael Muenks, out of 3

RV blue wheaten H by Jacob Sonsalla

BV brown red K by Mike Gilbert

BV buff C by Nate Rynish

BV silver H by Tom Stallman

RV silver C by Tom Stallman

BB, BV wheaten H by Michael Muenks, out of 9

RV wheaten C by Michael Muenks

BV white C by Gabby Dingman, out of 3

RV white H by Bob Walchak



Sharon York's Splash Ameraucana Large Fowl

**Ameraucana Breeders Club Board of Directors****President, Connie "Jean" Ribbeck**PO Box 461, Newman Lake, WA 99025 [jribbeck@q.com](mailto:jribbeck@q.com) (509-226-3833)**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 De Smidt**N912 Hill Road, Pulaski, WI 54162 [jwoodhaven@aol.com](mailto:jwoodhaven@aol.com) (920)833-9772**Director-Northeast, Harold Knapp**5299 Jerico Rd, East Bethany, NY 14054 [knapp@2ki.net](mailto:knapp@2ki.net) (585)343-0408**Director-South Central, Paul Smith**2175 Country Road, Gainesville, TX 76240-0401 [psmith@ntin.net](mailto:psmith@ntin.net) (940)768-8405**Director-Southeast, Tina Dinkins**309 Rogers Ridge Road, Kingston, TN 37763 [tinadinkins@comcast.net](mailto:tinadinkins@comcast.net) (865)376-4646**Director-West, Jeanine McKee**1960 South Fir Street, Canby, OR 97013 [barterazia@hotmail.com](mailto:barterazia@hotmail.com) (503)953.0488