# Ameraucana Bulletin

Ameraucana Breeders Club ~ <u>Ameraucana.org</u> Winter 2013 ~ Volume XXXIV, Issue 4

Welcome new member

Ciera Walters, WA





Photo courtesy of Clif Redden



Photo courtesy of Sharon Yorks

## In This Issue:

New Member Welcome1
President's Report2
Club Notes2
Eastern District Report3
NC District Report6
Treasurers Report6
Founders Spotlight7
SC District Report8
Should I Vaccinate9
Western District Report10
Upcoming ABC Meets10
Board of Directors10

## Are your dues due?

Remember if your 2014 dues aren't paid by December 31st you won't be a club member on the 1st of the year. If there is a break in your membership your ABC Forum membership is also canceled and you forfeit any points accumulated under our Exhibitor Point System. These are just a couple reasons to always keep your ABC membership current... Read more about this on page 2

#### Wayne Meredith

Wayne has been breeding chickens since he was eight years old. Back in the seventies, he was actively raising what has come to be known as Easter Eggers.

Lucky for us, he concentrated his efforts on pea combs, muffs and beards. He was crossing black to black, white to white, etc. Towards the end of the decade, Mike Gilbert had perfected his bantam line of Wheatens, and sought out Wayne's involvement... Read more about this on page 7

# <u> President's Message ~ Connie "Jean" Ribbeck</u>



Another year has come and gone. I was fortunate to attend seven shows this year. I always enjoy seeing old friends and making new ones. I even learn a thing or two from Master Breeders and judges that I have come to know throughout the past years. Showing is not only about exhibiting the birds, there is so much more.

It is time to start thinking about putting together next year's breeding pens and what steps to take next on the project birds, but first I need to get through this winter. I wrote

this summer about the birds drinking a lot of water with the heat, but now I am dealing with some of the coldest weather I have seen since I started with poultry. My large barn is now getting cold enough to freeze the waterers and it has never happed since I had it built in 2008. I have been hauling water out for two weeks straight for the birds that are housed outside and now I have to take additional water for the birds inside.

I will make this report short and sweet and hope you all have a great year in 2014.

We are still looking for bantam blue wheaten birds. If you have any available or know someone with them, please contact me or your District Director.

Have a Merry Christmas!

# <u>Club Notes ~ John W Blehm</u>

Remember if your 2014 dues aren't paid by December 31st you won't be a club member on the 1st of the year. If there is a break in your membership your ABC Forum membership is also canceled and you forfeit any points accumulated under our Exhibitor Point System. These are just a couple reasons to always keep your ABC membership current. If you receive this Bulletin thru the US mail the year your dues are paid thru is printed next to your name on the address label. For those receiving this via email there will be a note attached, if you haven't paid for 2014 yet. Please feel free to pay for up to two years beyond the current year. The membership form has been updated with check boxes to indicate which years you're are paying for. PayPal also works for paying your ABC dues!

I plan to start putting together the new 2014 version of our ABC Handbook pretty soon. Over \$1,500 in ads have been sold for the Handbook, so that will be a big help in paying for the project. It will feature many new articles and maybe some reprinted from prior versions. These will be sent to new/first time members and also they will be available to purchase. I'll have an update in the next Bulletin and of course post any progress reports on our ABC Forum.

Deadline for the next Bulletin is February 15th. Ads in the Bulletin are FREE to members. Please email your ad info and artwork to me to be included. Ads won't run "till further notice". Please let me know which issues you would like your ad in.

If you are receiving your Bulletins via email and would rather get them thru the US mail or you receive them in the US mail and would rather get them by email, please let me know. I have had problems with the membership database, so some members received two copies of the last Bulletin. Please let me know if this happens to you and I'll try to make corrections.

If you are listed in the Breeders Directory please check your listing and let me know of any updates. Some members only want a website, phone number and/or email address listed for contact information. Not listing your street address may help eliminate customers from stopping in unannounced and also may help with possible security issues. Just send an email to me with changes or note them on your membership form when sending in dues.

If you are not registered on the ABC Forum and would like to be just send an email to me. Only dues paying ABC members can post on the ABC Forum and view the Members Only sub-forum that is closed to the public.

# Eastern District Report ~ Sharon Yorks, Director

Greetings from the chilly state of Ohio! I hope everyone is having a wonderful holiday season and is getting ready to settle in for the upcoming winter months. The Ohio National this past November in Columbus had a nice Ameraucana turnout, with 110 LF and bantams being displayed, two making it onto Champion Row in the Junior show with Alexis Parker's Ameraucanas winning both Champion AOSB and Reserve Champion AOSB. Matt Parker also made it to Champion Row in the Open, winning Reserve AOSB. The Ohio National's full meet report is posted below. We look forward to seeing more Ameraucanas being shown next year and making it to Champion Row.

We have finally obtained the Wapakoneta, OH meet report and as you will probably notice, some judges are still not aware that lavenders are not yet recognized and shouldn't be listed as RB\*.

All of the shows for 2013 are over now, but the new show season will be starting up soon and the 2014 National Meet will be here before you know it. I have a feeling 2014 is going to be a very busy year, so if you're planning to order chicks in the spring, you will be wanting to contact those breeders soon as I'm sure their hatch orders are booking up fast. I know mine are, and you will want plenty of birds to choose from for next year's National Meet. We will be offering many prizes and awards for our class winners and champions, along with additional exhibitor prizes and a Participation Appreciation table of awards that I will be announcing soon. I will be posting information periodically on the ABC forum so be sure to check there often. To highlight just one, our

Champion Over-All Ameraucana winner will be receiving a 3-Hole Chicken Carrier which is being sponsored by Clif Redden and built by Matt Parker. This is a beautiful carrying box that has a gold metal plate displaying the Ameraucana Breeders Club logo, date and location of show, the specific class won, and names of all contributors.

Along with the 3-hole chicken carrier, our Champion Over-All Ameraucana winner will also receive a Rosette from the Ameraucana Breeders Club and a beautiful fall-colored basket, similar to the one pictured, which is being sponsored by Manna Pro and will contain several Manna Pro poultry products. I would like to personally thank



all of our sponsors and contributors who have generously jumped on board early to help promote our awards program for 2014: Victor Hakes of Hakes' Twin City Poultry Supplies, Manna Pro, The Cloverleaf Book Series, Matt Parker, Clif Redden, Harold Knapp, Woodhaven, Patty Pickard, Jean Ribbeck, Max Strawn, Mike Gilbert, Bill Wulff, Sharon Yorks, Sheryl Allred, Country Star Farm and AG Bedding, LLC.

If you, too, would like to become a sponsor or have something you'd like to donate as an award, please let me know – This will be a National Meet you won't want to miss! And as always, if you have any questions regarding placing a meet, attending a show, raising chicks, or anything at all, please feel free to contact me, at: <a href="mailto:syorks4@gmail.com">syorks4@gmail.com</a>. I hope to hear from you.



## Buckeye Fancy Feathers – Corrected report from Summer Bulletin Ohio Special Meet, June 8th, 2013, reported by Rhonda Simmons

<u>2 bantams by 1 exhibitor, judged by Daniel Dysart</u> BV lavender C by Ralph Malys, out of 2 RV lavender H by Ralph

12 large fowl by 4 exhibitors, judged by Daniel Dysart
RB - BV black K by Sharon Yorks, out of 2
RV black K by Sharon Yorks
BV blue K by Sharon Yorks out of 3
RV blue H by Sharon Yorks
BB - BV white P by Matt Parker, out of 5
RV white C by Austin Parker
BV splash K by Sharon Yorks, out of 2
RV splash C by Ed Stanish Jr



<u>Junior Show, 4 large fowl, judged by Curtis Oakes</u> **Champion Ameraucana Over-All, BB** - BV white P by Alexis Parker, out of 4 **RB** - RV white P by Austin Parker

## Southern Ohio Poultry Association – Lucasville, OH

Ohio District Meet, October 5-6, 2013, reported by Sharon Yorks

<u>6</u> bantams by <u>4</u> exhibitors, judged by Matt Lhamon
BV black C by Caleb Pickard, out of <u>1</u> **RB** - BV blue wheaten K by Sharon Yorks, out of <u>1</u> **BB** - BV buff K by Nicole Pickard, out of <u>2</u>
RV buff H by Nathanael Medley
BV wheaten C by Caleb Pickard, out of <u>1</u>
BV splash wheaten K by Sharon Yorks, out of <u>1</u>

## <u>13 LF by 4 exhibitors, judged by Heather Hayes</u> BV black K by Sharon Yorks, out of 3

DQ black, 2 of the 3 BV blue H by Tom Kernan, out of 2 RV blue H by Tom Kernan BV wheaten P by Sharon Fildes, out of 2 DQ wheaten, 1 of 2 BB - BV white P by Matt Parker, out of 6 RB - RV white P by Matt Parker

<u>4 Junior bantams by 2 exhibitors, judged by Matt Lhamon</u> **BB** - BV black H by Caleb Pickard, out of 1 **RB** - BV buff P by Nicole Pickard, out of 2 RV buff P by Nicole Pickard BV wheaten by Caleb Pickard, out of 1

8 Junior LF by 2 exhibitors, judged by Matt Lhamon BV black K by Xander Meeks, out of 2 RV black P by Xander Meeks BB - BV white K by Alexis Parker, out of 6 (Champion Junior LF - Champion AOSB) RB - RV white P by Alexis Parker

Champion Over-All Ameraucana in Junior Show: Wasn't judged

West Central Ohio Poultry Club – Wapakoneta, OH Ohio Special Meet, March 8-9, 2013, reported by Tom Graham

11 bantams by 3 exhibitors, judged by Gary Overton
BV blue C by Nathanael Medley, out of 2
RV blue C by Nathanael Medley
BV buff P by Nathanael Medley, out of 2
RV buff K by Nathanael Medley
BB - BV wheaten H by Doug Akers, out of 1
RB\* - BV lavender H by Diane Zipp, out of 6
RV lavender H by Diane Zipp

<u>5 LF by 2 exhibitors, judged by Gary Overton</u> **RB** - BV black H by Tom Nuseman, out of 2 RV black P by Tom Nuseman **BB** - BV white K by Austin Parker, out of 1DQ DQ - AOV, 2 of 2

# Smith Ameraucana

Day-old large fowl Ameraucana chicks in black, blue, splash, wheaten, blue wheaten, splash wheaten & lavender, also large fowl day-old Single Comb Rhode Island Reds

# Paul & Angela Smith

2175 CR 224, Gainesville TX 76240 psmith@ntin.net - (940)768-8405



Sharon Yorks Black / Blue / Splash

Ameraucana (Large Fowl) Accepting orders for Spring 2014 Day-old chicks Hatched March - May

Adults & Juveniles When Available

Sharon Yorks 5745 Sleepy Hollow Rd Valley City, OH 44280 (330)416-8419 <u>Syorks4@gmail.com</u>

(continued  $\rightarrow$ )

6 Jr bantams by 3 exhibitors, judge - Bud Blankenship BV black H by Nicole Pickard, out of 1 **BB** - BV blue H by Nicole Pickard, out of 2 **RB** - RV blue C by Dawson Latham BV buff H by Nicole Pickard, out of 1 BV white H by Alyssa Latham, out of 2 RV white C by Alyssa Latham

#### <u>6 Junior LF by 2 exhibitors, judged by Gary Overton</u>

**BB** - BV black C by Alyssa Latham, out of 2 **RB** - RV black H by Alyssa Latham BV blue wheaten H by Dawson Latham, out of 1 BV white H by Alyssa Latham, out of 3 RV white H by Alyssa Latham

## Ohio National – Columbus, OH

Ohio State Meet, November 9-10, 2013, reported by Sharon Yorks

42 bantams by 4 exhibitors, judged by Matt Lhamon **BB** - BV black H by Jerry DeSmidt, out of 13 RV black C by Jerry DeSmidt **RB** - BV blue K by Jerry DeSmidt, out of 3 RV blue P by Jerry DeSmidt BV blue wheaten C by Jerry DeSmidt, out of 1 BV buff P by Patty Pickard, out of 10 RV buff K by George & Joyce Heitger BV wheaten P by Jerry DeSmidt, out of 4 RV wheaten C by Caleb Pickard BV white P by Jerry DeSmidt, out of 9 RV white C by Jerry DeSmidt BV splash P by Jerry DeSmidt, out of 2 RV splash H by Jerry DeSmidt

## 39 LF by 9 exhibitors, judged by Lewis Cunningham

BV black P by Will Kitsch, out of 12 RV black H by Will Kitsch **RB** - BV blue C by Will Kitsch, out of 5 RV blue K by Will Kitsch BV blue wheaten K by Robert Sando, out of 1 BV buff C by Will Kitsch, out of 8 RV buff P by Will Kitsch BV wheaten P by Robert Sando, out of 1 **Res. AOSB** - **BB** - BV white P by Matt Parker, out of 9 RV white H by Matt Parker **Best AOV** - BV splash P - Brian & Peggy Gates, out of 1 **Res. AOV** - BV lavender H by Jennifer Louden, out of 2 RV lavender C by Jennifer Louden

<u>9 Junior Bantams by 5 exhibitors, judged by Duane Urch</u> BV black H by Caleb Pickard, out of 1 **BB** - BV blue P by Allie Purves, out of 1 BV buff P by Nicole Pickard, out of 1 **RB** - BV wheaten C by Caleb Pickard, out of 1 BV lavender H by Sadie Evans, out of 5

RV lavender P by Sadie Evans

20 Junior LF by 7 exhibitors, judged by Duane Urch BV black P by Blaise Runyan, out of 8 RV black P by Blaise Runyan BV blue K by Abby Besida, out of 3 RV blue P by Ari Katz Champion AOSB - BB - BV white K by Alexis Parker, out of 8

**Reserve AOSB - RB** - RV white P by Alexis Parker AOV DQ EE P by Ethan Baughman, out of 1

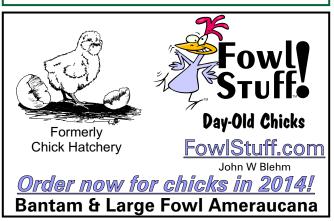
Champion Over-All Ameraucana in Junior Show: White K by Alexis Parker

## Larry Clionsky Ameraucana

Black, Blue, Wheaten, Blue Wheaten, and Buff Large Fowl Ameraucana

## Hatching Eggs and Day-Old Chicks

Larry Clionsky 9 Zion Church Road, Grantville PA 17028-9651 (717)469-7509 (717)599-6815 Lclionsky@yahoo.com





# North Central District Report ~ Duane Schroeder, Director



The report for the Nebraska State ABC Meet is shown below. Congratulations Gordon for Champion AOSB, BB and RB awards!

We've recently had our first major snowfall, and single digit temperatures in the Midwest. With this type weather, it is a bit of a chore to coax the hens and pullets into laying. I have supplemental light in the breeding coops starting at 3:00 a.m. This seems mighty early, yet it just barely accomplishes the recommended minimum 14 hours of light, as it is dark here shortly

after 5:00 p.m. With the extra light, my LF Wheaten/Blue Wheaten pullets are cooperating, but not so for the 18 month old hens. Problem is, the new cock I have over the 6 pullets doesn't seem very enthusiastic yet. My first batch of eggs for my 2014 hatch will go in the incubator next week, but I suspect fertility will be low.

Speaking of snow, I always am amused at chicken behavior when the white stuff is on the ground. Even a light dusting keeps them out of their runs unless I shovel off a space for them. As long as there is bare dirt showing they'll come running, but they make a great effort to avoid any patches of snow left behind.

Happy Holidays and happy hatching!

Nebraska State Poultry Show

Nebraska State Meet, Nov 8th & 9th, 2013, reported by Don Madden

<u>1 bantam by 1 exhibitor, judged by Art Rieber</u> **BB** - BV black C by Gordon Gilliam, out of 1

13 large fowl by 3 exhibitors, judged by Rev. Roland Romig Champion AOSB - BB - BV black K by Gordon Gilliam, out of 5 RV black P by Vicki Gilliam BV blue P by Gordon Gilliam, out of 3 RV blue P by Gordon Gilliam BV blue wheaten P by Gordon Gilliam, out of 1 RB - BV wheaten P by Gordon Gilliam, out of 3 RV wheaten K by Gordon Gilliam BV white P by Patty Peters, out of 1

Junior Show – There were no junior entries





Gordan's large fowl wheaten pullet



## Treasurer's Report

ABC checking account at Credit Union Plus, Birch Run, MI

Income - Dues, Donations, sale of club merchandise and ads for Handbook = \$413.45 Expenses - Total = \$153.23 (Postage, Web Hosting & Envelopes) Transferred \$1,000 from PayPal into checking.

Previous Balance of 10/26/2013 =	\$4,227.41
Income =	\$413.45
Expenses =	\$153.23
Checking Balance as of 12/12/2013 =	\$3,317.79
PayPal Balance as of 12/12/2013 =	\$1,169.84
EndingTotal Balance as of 12/12/2013 =	\$4,487.63



# Founder's Spotlight – Wayne Meredith

by Duane Schroeder



Wayne Meredith (left) and Duane Schroeder

I had the great pleasure last November of meeting Wayne Meredith. I was looking to bring greater size into my Wheaten/Blue Wheaten flock, and he graciously offered to let me select one of his cocks prior to the winter cull. I will admit I got some strange looks from friends and family when I told them I was going to make a 650 mile round trip drive to pick up a single bird, but believe me, I jumped at the opportunity.

Wayne was instrumental in developing the Ameraucana breed and is renowned for having introduced large fowl Wheaten/Blue Wheaten Ameraucanas to the poultry world.

Wayne has been breeding chickens since he was eight years old. Back in the seventies, he was actively raising what has come to be known as Easter Eggers. Lucky for us, he concentrated his efforts on pea combs, muffs and beards. He was crossing black to black, white to white, etc. Towards the end of the decade, Mike Gilbert had perfected his bantam line of Wheatens, and sought out Wayne's involvement. Wayne put one of Mike's large, bantam Wheaten cocks

over a LF Wheaten-colored EE hen, and the rest was history. Of course it took several generations to perfect the cross. This large fowl variety was accepted by the APA in 1984.

It fascinates me that I still have the opportunity to rub elbows with the founders of the Ameraucana breed. Granted, they haven't developed a cancer vaccination, or negotiated a treaty between warring countries, but still, 100 years from now their names will be synonymous with the Ameraucana breed. For a detailed history of the breed, go to the ABC's website at <u>http://Ameraucana.org/history.html</u>.

I asked Wayne, "What is your best piece of advice for the novice breeder of this variety?" "Hatch out as many each year as you possibly can," he replied. Oh, and incidentally, the cock I took home is now named Wayne!



# South Central District Report ~ Paul Smith, Director



Greetings from the South-Central District.

Show season is well underway. It is great to have several ABC members breeding and exhibiting their Ameraucanas in the Ameraucana meets within the district! Sorry we didn't get to go to Fayetteville to the Arkansas meets; Farmington, New Mexico state meet, and Baton Rouge to the Louisiana meets. I know the Ameraucana breed was well represented at the Arkansas meets

with Jan, Sharon, Max and Clifton showing their best. A show report is at the end of this district report.

Our district show at Shawnee, OK. will be completed by the time this is published. The special meet at the Bluebonnet Classic in College Station is Jan. 4. The Texas State meet at the Ft. Worth Stock Show on Jan. 26 and 27 should produce a good turn out of Ameraucanas. A special meet at the South Texas State Fair in Beaumont is set for March 29, 2014. All the Texas shows allow only Texas exhibitors due to state animal health regulations. Soon it will be time to start hatching again! I like spring time even though it puts life on overload with all the extra activities of planting the garden, hatching chicks, farrowing pigs, and birth of lambs. Presently there are several inches of winter mix-frozen rain, sleet, snow covering everything, closing the roads, shutting down the schools and businesses. There are several hundred-thousand people without electrical power a few miles South of us, where the freezing rain took down power lines and broke up trees.

We are still accepting/receiving day old chick orders. Presently we are about one-fourth booked up for our 2014 hatch. The past several years we have become fully booked and turn chick orders away, long before the end of hatching season. Contact me at <u>psmith@ntin.net</u> for chick order info.

## Heart of the Ozarks - Show #1

Arkansas State Meet, Nov. 2, 2013, Reported by Paul Smith from info by Max Strawn

## 34 Large fowl by 4 exhibitors, judged by Amanda Clark

Champion AOSB, Champion Ameraucana Over-All, BB, BV Black P by Max Strawn, out of 20

RB, RV Black K by Clifton Redden BV Blue P by Sharon Caywood, out of 7 RV Blue P by Max Strawn BV Wheaten P by Clifton Redden, out of 1 BV Splash P by Clifton Redden, out of 2 RV Splash P by Clifton Redden BV Lavender P by Clifton Redden, out of 4 RV Lavender P by Max Strawn Max's winning pullet

## Heart of the Ozarks - Show #2

Arkansas Special Meet, Nov. 2, 2013, Reported by Paul Smith from info by Max Strawn

## 34 Large fowl by 4 exhibitors, judged by Jim Sallee

Champion AOSB, Champion Ameraucana, BB, BV Black K by Clifton Redden, out of 20

Reserve Champion AOSB, RB, RV Black P by Sharon Caywood

BV Blue K by Max Strawn, out of 7 RV Blue P by Max Strawn BV Wheaten P by Clifton Redden, out of 1 BV Splash P by Clifton Redden, out of 2 RV Splash P by Clifton Redden BV Lavender P by Max Strawn, out of 4

RV Lavender P by Clifton Redden

No bantams and no junior birds were shown in the Arkansas meets.

Hope everyone is having a great show season and is blessed with a wonderful Christmas and New Year.



# Should I Vaccinate For Laryngotracheitis?

by Paul Smith

Laryngotracheitis (la-reen-go-tray-key-eye-tis) is also known as LT. It is a highly contagious respiratory disease of poultry caused by Herpes Virus.

Lt usually affects chickens, but has been found in pheasants, peafowl and turkeys.

Once LT is introduced to a susceptible (unvaccinated) flock the virus spreads rapidly by contact. Birds which recover from LT may continue to shed the virus for prolonged periods of time. The virus enters a bird's respiratory system or eye area. It causes the cells in the Larynx and trachea to die and slough, which leaves blood vessels exposed and difficult breathing.

LT infected poultry exhibit a number of signs, such as coughing and gasping, watery bubbly eyes, swollen sinuses, nasal discharge, bloody secretions from the trachea, mouth or nose. The most typical sign is gasping for air as an infected bird will stretch their neck forward and upward with each breath. They may cough out blood, splattering walls and floors.

The incubation period of LT maybe as soon as 2 days, but is usually 6-15 days following exposure to the virus. The virus usually enters a flock by the introduction of a carrier bird, or by the movement of personnel or visitors, or contaminated equipment.

There are 2 kinds of LT vaccine. One is a Chick Embryo Origin (CEO). The CEO LT vaccine is restricted in Texas, and should not be used anywhere in a breeding show flock, because vaccinated birds will be a carrier of LT and will cause unvaccinated birds to get LT when they are exposed to each other.

The LT vaccine in Texas that Texans must use, and everyone in the fancy should use, is a modified tissue culture called LT-I-VAX. It is an eye drop administered at 4 weeks and again at 10 weeks of age. When administered properly the birds will be protected their entire life and are not a carrier of LT.

If we had known the above information and been using the LT-I-VAX, we would still have our flock of Ameraucanas. Unfortunately we weren't vaccinating for LT because I had the opinion "not to vaccinate, unless you had a problem with the disease." In other states, that opinion maybe acceptable, but in Texas, if someone gets LT in their flock, the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) will kill their birds in an attempt to keep LT out of the state, so the huge commercial poultry operations will not have to vaccinate for LT. This legislation was brought about by Texas Poultry Federation, a small group of very large commercial poultry producers who literally bought the Texas Legislature, several years ago. I have an attorney friend who has a picture of one of the main members, caught passing out \$10,000 checks to legislature members.

Each state has their own rules dealing with LT. I have been told that in Georgia and Pennsylvania it is required that the birds be vaccinated for LT. A friend from Pennsylvania confirmed that info in a personal e-mail to us. It would be interesting to hear what other states require on the LT situation in their state.

Apparently at one of the shows that we attended this past fall, someone showed some CEO vaccinated or recently LT-I-VAX vaccinated birds and our flock became infected with the LT virus, because they had not been vaccinated. January 5, 2004-dooms day for our flock, set by the TAHC. We butchered 158 head and the TAHC gassed 48 head of our breeder males and older hens, all at our expense; as they didn't pay anything for the birds which they condemned. It was very difficult seeing 3 BB, 1 RB and many BV at the last 4 national shows, destroyed.

LT is not transmittable through the eggs, if the eggs are disinfected before incubation. We used 6 ounces of Oxine and 1 gallon water for disinfecting the eggs. Presently we have over 130 chicks for our new start of Ameraucanas.

The newly hatched babies were vaccinated for Mareks. The LT-I-VAX was given to the first hatched when they were 4 weeks old. It will be given to all the others when they are 4 weeks and again at 10 weeks.

This has been a devastating experience, which sometimes seems like a nightmare that came true! Having had the chickens for over 9 years, the early morning silence has been extremely hard to get use to. We miss the crowing, but it should be here again in about 5 months. The worst thing of it all is that it could have been prevented, if we had been using the LT-I-VAX. Hopefully, everyone who reads this will be able to learn from our experience, so they won't have to experience what we did!

When the question arises-"Should I Vaccinate for Laryngotracheitis?" I hope you will answer-YES with LT-I-VAX! I know from the past five years of showing that there are a lot of Christian brothers and sisters involved in the fancy. No doubt, some will have the same opinion I once had, which is "Our birds belong to the Lord, we are only care takers of them, so nothing will be able to infect them." My only advice to them is read John 10:10, then vaccinate your birds for LT with the LT-IVAX.

Hopefully this info has not discouraged anyone from showing their birds. It's entire intent is to encourage everyone to vaccinate properly with the correct vaccines, and lets go to the shows.

# Western District Report ~ Christina Korfus, Director

It has been really cold in central Washington. I was driving home from work the other night and was surprised to see it was only 7 degrees. My birds are all cozy, but as many of you know, what we have to deal with as the temperatures drop. Packing out water several times a day and providing extra bedding. My coops are insulated and I do not provided a heat lamp. I did provided heat lamps several years ago and lost birds due to the power being out for a week. The birds were not acclimated to the cold temperatures. I have not lost anything to the cold this year. The brown reds are doing well both large fowl and bantams. I think they are a very cold



hardy breed. I have not started getting eggs from the large fowl, but the bantams are laying up a storm. Even with this cold weather. So, I find myself rushing out to the coops several times a day to get the eggs before they freeze. This last year I crossed my brown red bantam male on some nice black females. I am happy with egg color and type so far in both the young pullets and cockerels. I am looking forward to the chicks that hatch this year. I am hoping to have a few that will be correct in brown red coloring and have good egg color as well. But with most things, it is always a work in progress.

I would like to encourage fellow district residents to contact me about upcoming shows, you would like meets placed at. I know when people see the show catalog and a meet is placed they look forward to meeting with fellow Ameraucana Breeders. You can always email me at korfuskluckers@aol.com or you can call or text me at 509-607-0405 be sure to leave a voice mail. I try to respond to all calls on my days off.

Looking forward to the upcoming show and hatching season.

# **Upcoming Ameraucana Meets**

January 4, 2014 Texas Special Meet, requested by Aaron Hickson <u>Bluebonnet Classis</u>, College Station TX Contact: Claudia Choate Claudia@bluebonnetclassic.com (512)273-2010

January 26-27, 2014 Texas State Meet, requested by Aaron Hickson Fort Worth Stock Show, Ft. Worth TX Contact: Monty Fitzgerald <u>mfitzgerald@tvmdl.tamu.edu</u> (940)736-4204

March 15-16, 2014 OH Special Meet, show #1, req. by Sharon Yorks <u>West Central Ohio Poultry Club</u>, Lima OH Contact: Brian Schmieder <u>chickenjbrown@aol.com</u> (937)623-7749 March 15-16, 2014 Ohio Special Meet, show #2, requested by Sharon Yorks <u>West Central Ohio Poultry Club</u>, Lima OH Contact: Brian Schmieder <u>chickenjbrown@aol.com</u> (937)623-7749

March 29, 2014 Texas Special Meet, requested by Aaron Hickson <u>YMBL of Beaumont</u>, S TX State Fair, Beaumont TX Contact: Debra Corbello (409)350-2901 October 4-5, 2014

National Meet, placed by Sharon Yorks Southern Ohio Poultry Association, Lucasville OH Contact: David Adkins johndavid.adkins@gmail.com (740)259-2852

## Ameraucana Breeders Club Board of Directors

President, Connie "Jean" Ribbeck PO Box 461, Newman Lake WA 99025 <u>jribbeck@q.com</u> (509)226-3833

Secretary/Treasurer, John W Blehm 4599 Lange Road, Birch Run MI 48415-8137 John@FowlStuff.com (989)777-1234

Director - Eastern District, Sharon Yorks 5745 Sleepy Hollow Road, Valley City OH 44280 <u>syorks4@gmail.com</u> (330)416-8419

Director - North Central District, Duane Schroeder 3233 South Greensboro Pike, New Castle IN 47362 <u>dschroeder@hughes.net</u> (765)987-7582

Director - South Central District, Paul Smith 2175 Country Road, Gainesville TX 76240-0481 <u>psmith@ntin.net</u> (940)768-8405

Director - Western District, Christina Korfus PO Box 681, Cle Elum WA 98922 <u>korfuskluckers@aol.com</u> (509)-607-0405

