

# Ameraucana Breeders Club WINTER BULLETIN

Issue 4 Volume XLVIII

## A word from our club president...

*I hope all is well with everyone, that you had a Merry Christmas and your New Year is shaping up nicely. I'm thinking that most everyone is at least thinking about what birds you will be putting into your brood pens. I set my pens up early this year hoping to be able to show a little more mature birds this season. I am looking forward to seeing pictures of your young grow-outs on Facebook. I hope to see a good turnout at the Shawnee show in December for the self blue qualifying meet. I hope you have a great hatching and grow out season!*

-Clif Redden

**Congratulations to Sharon Caywood for receiving the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award from the ABC! Its also time to announce the High Award Point winners for this past year! Congratulations to all of the winners!**

Overall Open High Point Award winner, \$100, goes to Ernie Haire! Ernie earned 1225 points from Louisiana (863) and Texas (362) shows.

Overall Junior High Point Award, \$50, goes to Colton Brush!

### North East District

**Open, \$35, goes to Temple DaSilva**

**Junior, \$20, goes to Colton Brush**

### South East District

**Open, \$35, goes to Susan Mouw**

**Junior, \$20, goes to Gwen Lynch**

### South Central District

**Open, \$35, goes to Ernie Haire**

**Junior, \$20, goes to Clara-belle Galbraith**

### Western District

**Open, \$35, goes to Debra Hogan**

**No Junior points**

### North Central District

**Open, \$35, goes to Jerry DeSmidt**

**No Junior points**



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## Its time to renew your ABC membership!

If you haven't yet renewed your membership, now's the time! You can renew on our website at

<http://ameraucanabreedersclub.org/membership.html> or just send a

paypal payment to sales@ameraucanabreedersclub.org. You can also snail mail your renewal to: Ameraucana Breeders Club, 156 Titanic Road, Aiken, SC 29805.

Juniors - \$10/year

Individual - \$12/year

Family - \$18/year

Individual Lifetime - \$200

Family Lifetime - \$300

## Secretary/Treas Report by Susan Mouw

Ahh, so much to do and so little time! Or maybe it is just so little energy to get it all done, at my age both amount to the same, I think.

We're waiting on a few more meet reports to come in, but I was hoping we would be able to announce the High Point award winners, for this, the last, High Point awards year. But, that's not going to happen just yet. New points totals have been posted on the website, at [ameraucanabreedersclub.org/points.html](http://ameraucanabreedersclub.org/points.html), so everyone can look up their totals. If you see a discrepancy, let us hear from you! We want every member that exhibits to get the points that are due them.

2018 is going to be a very exciting year for the ABC! We've successfully completed both pre-qualifying meets for the APA acceptance of Self-Blue large fowl and our first Qualifying Meet will be set soon – probably at the APA National in Shawnee. So, get those self-blues ready to go and show, folks! If you are not now a member of the APA, please

join. Only those birds shown by APA members can be included in the Qualifying Meet.

2018 is also an election year. While it is too early to start nominating people, it is not too early to start thinking about who you want to nominate, or if you want to run for office yourself. We have a great Board right now, but new ideas and new "blood" is always welcome.

The venue for the 2018 ABC National has been selected as the Dayton Fancy Feathers Show, Greenville, OH, Oct 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Start getting those birds ready – it's going to be a big one! I'll see you there.

-Susan



## District Announcement:

After a vote by the Board of Directors, members in the following states are now in the South East District: Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Their District Director is currently Don Cash.

## January Photo Gallery Competition:

### White Ameraucana

A new competition for photos for the ABC Gallery began on June 1st, 2017. Every month, a new variety will be selected for folks to send their images in of adults, chicks, young started birds. The best photos will then be selected by a panel of judges: Walt Leonard, Rip Stalvey, and Tom Roebuck. The winning photos will be announced and used in our ABC Gallery.

The variety for the January competition is White Ameraucanas, bantam and large fowl. You can send pics of adult male and female (profile shots preferred), chicks (group images ok), and young started birds.

The goal is to have the best representation of each variety, at the various stages of development, in our gallery.

Pictures must be a minimum of 600px wide x 400 px high to be included. Send your photos to in-





## **South Central District Report by Paul Smith**

Greetings from the South Central District

Now, mid-way through show season, there has been some very good Ameraucanas shown with some being on champion row and champion or reserve show champion. A word of encouragement for beginners-this has been the most difficult year that we have ever experienced trying to get birds in condition to show, due to the weather conditions. Some of the birds would start to molt at seven months of age, even before they reached prime. Others started to molt after being shown one time. This is not the normal. Most everyone, of many different breeds, that I have visited with at the shows has experienced the same issues this year. I'm already looking forward to next year and a better show season for everyone.

Our ABC national meet will be in Greenville, OH. First weekend in Oct., 2018, so everyone will need to start hatching early. Our South Central district meet and first qualifying meet for large fowl self blue will be at the APA national meet at the special show in Shawnee, OK. on November 17 & 18, 2018. The regular Shawnee show hosted by the Oklahoma State Poultry Federation will be Dec. 8.

Any ABC member desiring to request an ABC club meet within the South Central district needs to contact me. We will get it set-up provided its not the same weekend as our district meet (Nov. 17 & 18).

Hope everyone gets their incubators started soon. We have had 5000 K lights on our breeders for several weeks. Egg production and hopefully fertility is good now. We plan to have our first hatch of 2018 on Jan. 8, then one every two weeks ending June. 11. We had two very low hatch rates on Sept. 11 and Oct. 16 due to fertility issues, which can be expected in the fall out of old cocks' breeding pens. I have learned my lesson-if we hatch in the fall of 2018, it will be from eggs out of breeding pens with cockerels. We did manage to fill four chick orders this fall. Presently we have 28 chick or-

orders and can supply plenty more. Day old chicks are the most economical and sure way to get a start.

Hope everyone has a Merry CHRISTmas and Happy New Year.

-Paul Smith



**We plan to have 12 hatches from Jan. 8th through June 11th. We will have day old large fowl Ameraucana chicks in black, blue, splash, wheaten, blue wheaten, splash wheaten, white, self blue and splits.**

**Paul & Angela Smith  
psmith@ntin.net**



## North Central District Report by Gordon Gilliam

I certainly hope all you ABC members had a Merry Christmas and are celebrating the New Year with hopes of those new chick arrivals. For those of us in the Northern States, Poultry Shows have come to a screeching halt for now. Winter is upon us with the blowing snow and below zero temperatures. My hens have quit laying so I am anxiously awaiting the return of gathering eggs for early spring hatches. For now, it's just feed and water the birds. Not my favorite time of the year to do the chores, but they must be done. Time to bundle up, grit your teeth and get out there in the cold, numb fingers and all.

It was an exciting year in 2017 for the ABC with many areas of furthering the Ameraucana Breed. The new 2017 ABC Handbook was a reality with the hard work of many that contributed articles and pictures and Susan's guidance. I have heard many good reviews from new members receiving one in their welcome package, not to mention some older members such as myself amazed by the quality and larger content of the new ABC Handbook. Great job Susan and other contributors. It seemed to me that the number of ABC sanctioned shows was up in 2017. Also the status of the Ameraucana Breed continued to rise in the show world. Quality birds moved forward with not only more entries, but more moving on to AOSB and AOCCL Champions and Reserve Champions with an occasional Champion of Show. The 2017 ABC Show in Hutchinson MN had some nice entries despite this year being one of the worst years of birds going into heavy molt before and during the National Show dates. Despite the snowy conditions, ABC members drove many miles to attend the show. Paul and Angela Smith from Texas, Jan and Mike Geis from Oklahoma, Jerry DeSmidt from Wisconsin, Katie Proffit from Wisconsin, Nathan Thompson from Wisconsin, Andrea Drenth from North Dakota and even Susan Mouw had birds shipped in for the show from South Carolina. I would like to also thank those ABC members who contributed to the Silent Auctions at the National Show and those who purchased items. \$936 will be forwarded for the 2018 ABC National Show.

2017 brought forth the continuation of establishing the acceptance of LF Self Blue as another APA Ameraucana variety. Many of the steps needed to have this happen have been done and this should be completed in the coming months. Also work is progressing on Splash and Splash Wheaten to have them as an added variety, but this is in the early stages and probably down the road a while before reality. Thank you to those ABC members working on the proposed projects.

2018 arrives with numerous opportunities to advance the Ameraucana Breed. Get your birds out to the shows, talk up the Ameraucana Breed, and hatch those chicks.

-Gordon





## North East District Report by Larry Clionsky

Baby it's cold outside and I mean cold like single digits at night and highs of 12 to 14. A frigid cold spell has settled on the northeast and going to be with us for ten days or so. Very difficult to protect the birds who aren't in houses that are closed up to keep water thawed. I have five electric water bowls out and covering cages birds with moving blankets. This morning I picked up 2 birds lying on their sides because their feet were frozen hard. I can only assume they stepped in their water and it froze their feet instantly. They are in the house and hopefully their feet will thaw and they will be ok. One is a very promising Sumatra. These are the days when I wish I lived in Florida. Sharon agrees.

Any way, happy New Year from Central PA . I hope ABC President Cliff Redden and my fellow Directors, Paul, Jean, Don, & Gordon as well as club Secretary Susan and all you ABC members had a very joyous Holiday season and celebrated with family and friends like Sharon & I did. And we wish all of you a healthy happy 2018.

Speaking of 2018, it is with great pleasure that I announce that the NE ABC District will be hosting the New Years Annual Meet and it has been approved by the Board to be held in Greenville, Ohio with the Dayton Fancy Feather Club as the host. Greenville is as far west as my district goes so hopefully many members from all parts of the country will be able to attend. It will be held the first weekend in October which is the 6th and 7th. So get your Ameraucana eggs hatched by March or April and get those youngsters entered for the Annual Meet. There will be trophies awarded for Champion and reserve Champion large and bantam fowl for both Open and Junior and yours truly is offering \$100.00 for supreme over-

all champion Ameraucana. Show Secretary Amanda has offered a monetary award for the club and will provide awards, a display table and a room for our annual meeting. This show fits the ABC very well and members that have shown there rave about how the club makes you feel like family. I think we all can appreciate that right? So now you know where and when so stay tuned for updates about added specials, events and that ever so popular Blue egg contest which this writer has never lost when having an entry. I also want to appeal to members to offer other awards, solicit your local feed stores and businesses for donations etc. I would really like to make this Annual Meet one to remember. Stay tuned folks.

Before I forget, I would like to correct an omission I made to club member Neil Townsend at the Bath, NY show and forgot his black bantam cockerel was second Best bantam of the show. Sorry Neil.

Speaking of shows and accolades, I cannot forget to mention that ABC member and former NC Director Jerry Deschmidt had Champion AOCCL with his white cockerel and ABC Club Secretary Susan Mouw had Best of Breed with her black hen in the AOSB class at the Ohio Nationals in Columbus back in October. Congrats to both of them for showing great birds. There were over 5,000 birds entered.

In closing, I just read some emails about ABC members being solicited via phishing and whatever to join the other Ameraucana club and I think the matter has been put to rest and ended. So, this is America and people are free to make choices in life so the ABC is here for anyone to join and learn all about Ameraucanas and I urge our current membership to invite any and all Ameraucana enthusiasts to consider joining our club. Remember, we have the most up to date website about our breed and a directory of all

members. And I see that my district has 48 members currently and I would like to see that number increase over the next few months so new members can enter the fall show in Greenville and reap nice rewards.

Oh and I forgot to mention that another qualifying meet was held this year for the acceptance of self blue by the APA so that hopeful variety addition to the breed is proceeding as planned. And speaking of new varieties, I read a very informative narrative from member Sarah Meaders concerning her pursuit to work on and produce a splash blue wheaten over the next several years. Sarah has a lot of knowledge involving genetics and even discovered that a change in the wording description of our blue wheaten variety may need corrected and has found out what needs to be done to achieve this in the future.

FYI, I will be attending the PA farm show next week which is only for PA residents, then Delmarva and Sussex county in the spring so anyone interested in any young Ameraucanas let me know.

Until Spring, stay warm, good luck on your future hatches and remember to visit the ABC website for all your show info and breed topics. Start thinking about what you can do to make 2018 Annual Meet a great success as in the past. Clionsky out





## **South East District Report**

**by Don Cash**

The fall shows are complete and in the books for the year. A look back shows much was accomplished this season with some Great meets, new members and some milestones for the Breed. Thanks for the many folks that came out for the Knoxville Show and the second pre-qualifying meet for the Self Blue variety. There was a Great turn out and the quality of the variety at this show was very impressive. Many breeders came out to support this meet, some traveled 14 -16 hours just for this special meet. The APA has approved it to move ahead to the next level. Now we are looking forward to the APA committee to confirm where the first Qualifying meet is to take place.

Next year's ABC National has been placed at the Dayton OH show which will be early Oct 2018. It is very early in the season for most of the folks in the southern regions, so conditioning will probably be tricky. Bantams should be ok hatched at the usual times. But LF on the other hand should be hatched this month or as soon as possible in an attempt to be ready for this show. It should be a good location for a large turnout and I hope many of you can show are at least attend and enjoy the birds and meet some of the breeders from other parts of the country.

Please let me know if you want ABC other meets placed in the South East District for the spring and fall shows. It's great to see more people showing in several parts of the district. We have seen an uptick in the LF AMs but also in the Bantams in a number of varieties as well. Several people noted that all but one accepted variety of Bantams were exhibited at the Knoxville show. It was a nice representation for the Breed and Club as well. There were a lot of folks that asked about the Breed. Hopefully more breeders will come along to help progress the breed from this exhibit.

I hope everyone has a Great Holiday Season and a great kick off for the Spring hatching season too!

-Don

### **South East District Meets**

#### **Set for Winter 2018:**

**NC:**

**Friendship Poultry Club Morganton, NC  
March 17**

**Forysth Poultry Club, Winston-Salem, NC  
March 31**

**SC:**

**Hobby Farms of America Sweet Water Ten  
Governors Poultry show, Blackville  
SC, March 24**

**GA:**

**Northeast GA Poultry show, Jefferson,  
GA Jan 20**

**FL:**

**Florida Sunshine Classic Lake City,  
FL Jan 6-7**



## Western District Report by Jean Ribbeck

Happy winter to everybody! All these days of hauling water and marching through the snow drifts just means the spring breeding season is right around the corner. It's time to ready the incubators and the brooder rooms.

I am looking forward to my next generation of chocolate large fowl birds. I have picked out an impressive split cockerel that I hope to put over a couple of nice black hens from Susan.

I am also excited to move my self blue bantams forward. The flock that the majority of my birds came from closely resembled d'Anvers, so I bred all my hens to a black cockerel and my cock bird to all blacks. The best birds will be picked out to move forward with.

My white pen will also be leaping forward this year. I crossed to blue several years ago to remove some recessive genes that were causing a lazy wing and crossed sickle feathers. Last year I produced a few nice white cockerels that I believe are worthy to go into the breeding pen.

It is exciting to know that this year we will be having our second prequalifying meet for the large fowl self blue birds. All those breeders out there keep breeding and doing your best to improve your flock. The final meet will swoop down on all of us before we know it! We will need all the birds we can get to fill the numbers required by the APA.

Good luck to everyone in 2018.

-Jean



## Self Blue Prequalifying Meet

The prequalifying meet for self blues was successfully completed at the Dixie Classic poultry show in Knoxville, TN this past December. The requirements for each category (C, H, K, P) were 4-4-4-4. Numerous ABC members drove in from across the country and also from Canada to meet the prequalifying numbers. There were 29 total entries, with Lindsay Helton receiving BV with a Self Blue hen and RV with a self blue pullet. The national APA meet is set for Shawnee, OK. on November 17 & 18, 2018. **This will be our first qualifying meet.** We will need 5 APA members to show a minimum of 1 head in each of the 4 classes (C, H, K, P) which will be 20 head, and then we need an additional 5 head. A husband and wife team cannot count as 2 exhibitors in the classes. We look forward to the continuation of this process. A special thank you to all of the contributors to this project. Be getting your self

## Member Spotlight: Tom Kernan

The member spotlight for this quarter is Tom Kernan. Tom resides in New Jersey and runs a farm named Bruised Acre Birds. Tom enjoys showing birds across the east coast and also ventures to other shows across the U.S. He focuses on raising show quality black Ameraucanas and has done very well in poultry shows over the years. Tom primarily sells pullets, cockerels, and trios and will deliver to shows. He will also occasionally deliver hatching eggs and chicks to shows. Tom has been raising poultry for over ten years. He was initially drawn to Ameraucanas because of their pretty blue eggs, He likes that he can hatch them in the early spring and have them ready for fall shows. Some of the other breeds he has worked with are more slow to develop. Tom is a great advocate for the Ameraucana breed. He is known for selling his best birds, because he wants to see his customers do well in shows. He has gotten several breeders off to a great start. Thank you for representing the Ameraucana breed well Tom! See you at the shows!

## Ameraucana Breeders Club National Meet

Ameraucanas, and the ABC, were well represented at the Minnesota State Poultry Show in Hutchinson, MN. The depth of quality was amazing in both LF and bantams, in both the Open and JR shows. There were 34 LF Ameraucana in the Open, with black, blue, buff, wheaten, blue wheaten, white all represented. BB was a black cockerel by M & J Farm, and RB was a black pullet by M & J Farm. There were 15 Bantam Ameraucana in the Open with black, blue, buff, blue wheaten, wheaten and splash shown. BB and CH AOCCL was a wheaten cockerel by Jerry DeSmidt, and RB was a blue pullet by Jerry DeSmidt! Nathan Thompson received BB with a white cockerel in the LF Junior show. Nathan also received BB with a white cockerel, and RB with a white pullet in the bantam Junior show. The 2018 National meet has been set! Join us for a great time, great friends, and gorgeous birds at the Dayton Fancy Feathers Poultry Show, Oct 6th-7th, 2018, in Greenville, OH!

Description	Beg. Bal.	Income	Expense
Carryover from 2016	5965		
Advertising - 2017 Handbook		1130	
Advertising - ABA Yearbook		45	
Advertising - APA Yearbook		238	
Donations		936	
Dues - New Members		1827	
Dues - Renewals		2164	
Postage & Supplies		148	
Sales - Handbook		145	
Sales - ABC Patches		10	
Sales - Egg Color Card		91	
Sales - Egg Color Wheel		167	
Sales - Store Merchandise		278	
Advertising			744
Awards, Trophys			1243
Bank Fees - Paypal			270
Computer Exp			336
Dues and Subscriptions			78
Election Expense			49
Internet			650
Postage & Supplies			1356
Printer			99
Publishing			661
Store Merchandise			268
	5965	7178	5755