

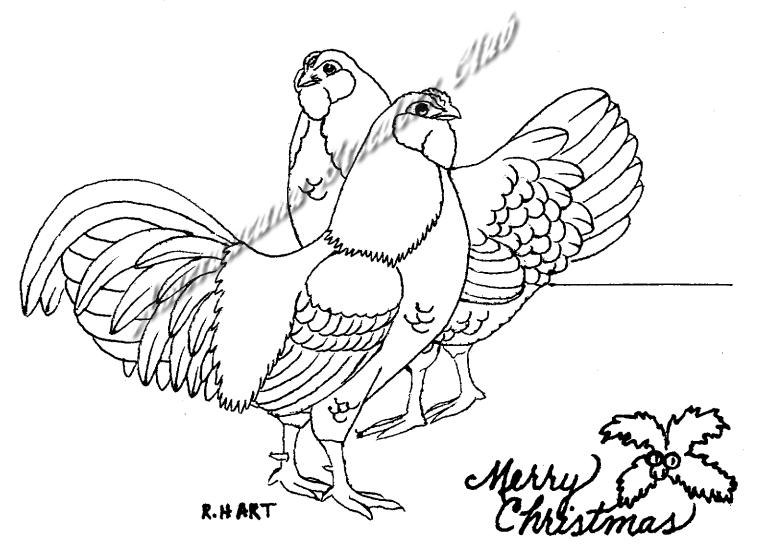
BREEDERS CLUB AMERAUCANA

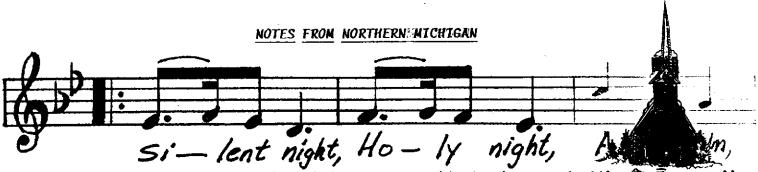
Winter - 1990 -

Vol.XII

S.K. HELLEN

R.R. 1 Box 196H, Central Lake, MI 49622





Hi to all as we head into the holiday season. This is the eve of rifle season as well (Nov. 14). I'm sure the deer hunters will be unhappy with the weather. It's to be in the 60's and sunny. Great for me but too hot for hunting. A week ago we had a snow storm - got about 10" here. It was heavy wet stuff. Weighed down tree branches and power lines. Many folks were without power at least 24 hours. I noticed the big old, old lilac bush has several broken branches. The Jeep's 4x4 lever is still in good working order. Had to use it a few times. Most of that snow is gone. Good. Got more wood to stack and hay to get into the barn. Stay away winter a few more days!!

Not much news and happenings to report. About & the membership voted. Thanks to all who took the time. Dues are due again as of Jan. 1. \$7.50 each..\$10.00/Family. After the printing of this bulletin we'll be about back to square one. Please get those dues in. Printing and postage of the bulletin is about \$70. each time. The bulletin keeps us in touch and IF and I feel it generally has a fair amount of useful information. Rusty, our artist, has promised me a cover. Should be here tomorrow. I have no idea what he'll come

up with. Always a surprise and always neat.

Rusty just got back from the Columbus show. He called me at work and I had a brief chance to talk to him. He said a fair amount of Ameraucana bantams were shown. Large fowl as well. Blues got best and reserve in LF. I didn't go. I didn't have anything ready to show. I did get a big surprise and treat. Haven't seen it yet, but friend, Tim, sent me a pair of Ameraucana bantam wheatens - via Rusty!! Seems a friend of Tim's got 25 chicks from Crow Hatchery and Tim shred them and gave me a pair. Rusty says the pulletts color is excellent. That may be a source for us in the spring. Chicks are kind of expensive but as I always say. "Start a stash". You have to get 25 and I think it was \$33.00 but out of 25 one could expect some good ones. From all the folks I've heard from..we are all struggling for birds. I sure am. I'm at rock bottom again. I've got to do a major stash & come up with money for a new building by spring. The days of "free range" here are over. I have a few "high hopes" safely locked away for now.

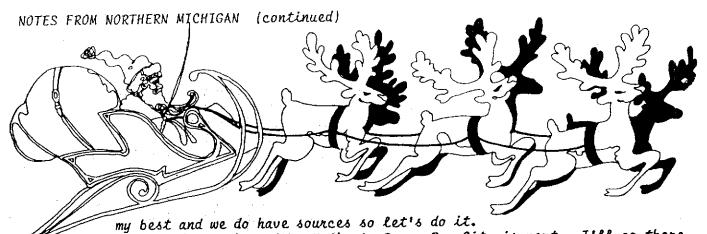
APA News & Vues just came today. If you belong to APA and receive this bulletin exactly in the middle is a basic article "Protecting Your Flock" by Roger Voter. It's stuff we all know but as he says "Please let these writings serve as a reminder. If not please accept them as suggestions." I had 9 years or so of no problem. Big beautiful healthy birds roaming all over. We all (friends and all)miss the birds not roaming around. I had barn people, tree people and then those who roosted in the chicken houses. Last three years..nothing but losses. This article says lock them up. I guess he's right. I do think there are more critters around now and they have learned there are chickens here. I am convinced a big inside area is what is needed. The birds do so well when they are free and it's such furn to watch them. When I think over how many great birds I lost the last three years I could just cry. I'm determined that the worm will turn. That is my New Year's resolution. I plan to build up my flock. I have a few ogod one under lock and key. Young LF that should help me once again regroup.

Pray for a lot of snow (dread the thought) so we get a lot of skiers. I make more \$\$

that way and can get my pole building by spring. Predator proof.

Mike Gilbert in Wisconsin informs me he has found a source of white LF Ameraucanas. The person is working om other varieties but nothing to share yet. Mike says the fellow culls sells regularily. May be too late now but then thinking ahead. "Mike Gilbert's address is: W5171 Baker Road, Holmen, WI 54636. I have received several LF inquiries. I haven't been able to help. Also, Mike thinks Duane Urch in Minnesota can help us with wheaten chicks in spring. As we get any info we'll pass it along.

We have the big show in the fall so we need to get chicks hatched, champions picked. Shall we aim for 200? Why not? I'd like to see a good showing of LF as well. I'll do



I haven't been to a show since Mother's Day. Bay City is next. I'll go there. It's only three hours away. John Blehm and I can go head on again. We have a great time about who's going to snitch who's bird. Looking forward to seeing him and remember he

also helps.

From someone who didn't have anything to say, I managed to think of something. Hopefully some of my ramblings was helpful. I'm always on the alert for articles or any bits of helpful information. Just didn't have anything this time until I started digging and lo and behold... I could ramble for several more pages. I always enjoy doing my "N from NM". I sit down and feel as the I'm writing a letter to a friend. Which is what is so great about this club. We all feel as friends, helping each other. IF and I (JT) hope to encourage and contain that attitude. That's how this club was founded and it seems to be carrying through the years. It makes me feel proud to be a part of it. It is one of my most fierce determinations...to perpetuate the club and get more AM's to all.

I'm dying to see Rusty's cover. I know it will be special. Well, folks, thanks for listening. Hope you all have a Happy Holiday and don't get to frazzled.

Much love and God bless Jeanne Trent

HESIMAS

Jeannette,

Greetings from the sunny south. I know I'm late again. It's ahrd to believe it's been a year now that I've had Ameraucanas. Most fun in the five years of being retired.

Like a lot of first timers, I hatched some of anything I could find. I have about 10 fairly good wheaten pullets and 7 or 8 cockerels. Glad I waited on several..muffs and beards look much better at 6 months. Seems that best hackles in males are paired with bad muffs. In fact the best golden hackles is on a male with no muffs.

Three weeks ago had my first live bird shipment from Jerry Segler. It's great! 24 hours or less. Birds in good shape. Acted like it had been a long night. First pullet has started to lay a big blue egg. I think this is the way to go.

Been thinking about the '91 National. 18 months ago many were praying for 100 birds. "200 in '91" is not to hard.

> Love to all and a Merry Christmas Bruce Hutchinson Southern District Director November 14, 1990

WERRY CHRISIMA

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Jeannette,

Sorry I haven't kept in touch. It is rare for me to actually write. I hope you can read it. I may even send a bio as you requested once. I have been busy trying to correct past breeding mistakes. On the whites I have got some very nice birds that are 7/8 bantam 1/8 large fowl. The size is right and comb and no brassy backs in roosters. On the down side I picked up a recessive clean face from the large fowl. This was actually started to tame the meanness in the large fowl but anything 50% or above large fowl was too mean. The hens were always half naked and the roosters

always had their tail feathers pulled out. I dropped the large fowl.

The 50% pullets were the best looking I ever saw. They had a nice glow to them so I brought the size down. This should keep the vigor up for a few years. The brassy back in whites and red in other colors was a ghost of the past. It came from the silver thru the whites and then into the other colors. I always used whites when improving other colors and always kept the whites that came out of the colors. It was great for vigor and

tupe but kept throwing red in the males.

The silvers have been kept to themselves for too long now and the vigor has suffered. I was trying for a long shot on getting a good clean rooster. But when I did get one something always happened to him. So I have now gotten one really great cock bird from the following cross 3/4 bantam 1/4 large fowl (all silver) x silver Old English. I picked up the OE at Highland. Out of about 30 chicks I got one clean cockerel but he has white legs. I now have about 10 chicks (3 weeks to 1 day) out of this cockerel and the old line of bantam. The hens are in a moult now.) Only 3 have slate legs. I doubt if I get any clean cockerels out of that. If I don't I will use slate leg pullets from this back to the clean cockerel in the spring. I will let mendals law work it's magic and cull heavily. I hope that cleans up the silvers.

As for the blacks I have none. If you know who now has them (hopefully my bloodlines)

I may try and get some and clean them up.

The brown red type can be corrected by one cross to white and then inbreed and sort out the color. But Mike doesn't like to cross colors. He has done an excellent job on the lacing and is the only color I saw improved after I had to disperse many of the colors.

On light brown I have about seven fair pullets but no promising cockerels. That's up from the one 5 year old hen in 1989. I had no cock bird in light brown. Years of work almost lost.

I saved the best for last. On buff I got buff Orpington eggs and hatched one cockerel in July. I will use him on white pullets as soon as he is old enough and the pullets are laying. Probably December or later. I will see how the color holds. I will probably have to inbreed the F1 generation and select for color. Then perhaps back to white and inbreed and select for color again. At any rate I should have F2 generation that will be too young to show (and probably not good enough) by the time we meet in Michigan in 1991.

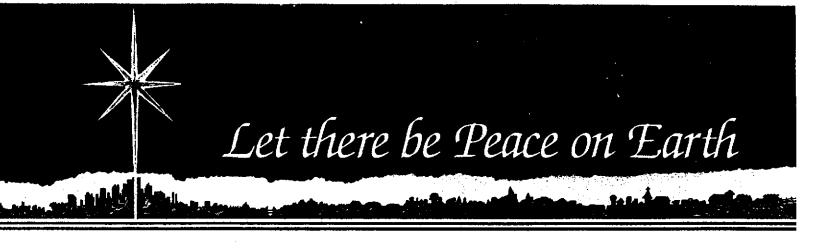
I must admit I like playing with the genetics but am not much of a showman.

Well I best go.

Sincerely,

Jerry Segler

(Editors note: Jerry..thank you for your offer but as you should know I can not accept at this time .. the offer of birds. Maybe in the future. In the meantime I am still working on your tape and will get it finished hopefully by the next newsletter. I hope you have continued success in you breeding program and certainly look forward to futher reports from you on your birds. Keep in mind that you can always bring some of your birds to show the rest of us...without showing per se. And I am like you..as to showing. I'd rather judge them than show them.



PROGRESS REPORT: November, 1990

Frequently, I am asked by prospective Ameraucana owners, "Where can I purchase such-and-such variety of Ameraucana large fowl?" Unfortunately, if the requested variety is anything other that black, white, silver or blue, I really don't have a ready answer. The other four recognized varieties, namely buff, brown-red, wheaten and blue wheaten, still need to be developed by someone - to the best of my knowledge. If someone is breeding any of the latter four varieties in large fowl, and has any stock or eggs to share, I for one would like to know so as to be able to pass on the information to others.

I would love to take on the task of "breeding up" the four needed large fowl varieties, but space and time commitments prevent it. In my mind I know how to go about getting the job done, so if any has an interest and needs ideas, please write.

At this point I have "bred up", practically from scratch, the bantam varieties in all standard colors except white, plus the non-standard variety of black tailed buff. Some of these projects are nearing completetion, but still need a generation or two to finish up. (Those would be bantams in buff, silver and brown-red.) I hope to be able to show a few of all these at our 1991 National and will be looking for persons to take over some of those projects, either partially or totally. No one can do a good job of producing show quality birds when they have as many breeding projects in progress as I have been carrying. If we are to continue with and be successful with all these varieties, other members will need to take over. If this sounds like a pleas for help, it is!!

There are a few other breeders who have had the vision to work on developing new varieties, among them Jerry Segler of Illinois, John Blehm of Michigan and a former member but still active breeder Wayne Meredith of Milwaukee. I'm sure there are others I will regret not having mentioned, but these three have certainly done much to advance the breed.

There have been a few others, lacking in vision, who presisted in raising birds lacking certain standard characteristics when a simple 2 generation outcross program would have brought the strain into conformity. Most of these have departed the ranks, and the breed is better off for it.

This is not to say the so-called "finished" varieties have reached a level of acceptable, recognizable uniformity. Work needs to be done yet on all the bantam and large varieties. If judging has been inconsistent, perhaps it is because we are not showing birds with a consistency of type that is easily recognizable, at least not to the same level as for example: Rocks, Cochins, Wyandottes or Leghorns.

All breeds were new at one time and must have suffered through a similar phase. We can look forward to a very bright future for the Ameraucanas, because as they gain standard uniformity they will advance more and more in popularity. In my opinion, this is a breed that has more to offer than many of the old, established breeds. It could be the wave of the future if we rededicate ourselves now to its steady improvement.

Mike Gilbert



OUT WEST

Judging is the rendering of an opinion based upon a variety of factors. Ideally, those factors are how well the bird measures up to the standard, the condition in which it is exhibited and how well it shows itself to advantage. Judging however, is done by human beings such as you and me and we are well aware of the whims, idiosyncricies and prejudices that visit the human condition and we delude ourselves if we do not think these foibles enter poultry judging.

Nevertheless, it is a rare individual who does not do his best to be fair and impartial and it is far more often a lack of knowledge or experience with a breed that results in poor or mediocre judging than anything else.

This is particularly true of newer breeds and varieties as they are admitted to the standard and we have seen this often enough with Ameraucanas in the show-room. This problem may continue in parts of the country where our breed seldom appears or where fanciers show their birds infrequently or not at all.

It is for this reason that those within the club should be encouraged to exhibit their birds as often as is practical and thereby expose judges to Ameraucanas.

It is the practice of some judges to take on one or several breeds for a period of years in order to familiarize themselves with it and thereby improve their competency in the showroom. In the past, I have provided judges with birds for this purpose and thus enable both the judges and exhibitors to benefit. Exhibitors may also gain knowledge by inquiring about the placement of awards following the judging. A free exchange of ideas between exhibitors and judges can be profitable for both providing it is conducted in the right spirit and does not develop into a mere gripe session by some disgruntled exhibitor.

I believe the most important club goal for this decade is to educate. The most knowledgable people of the Ameraucana breed are members of this organization. We developed the breed and we created the standard. However, if we want more competent judging, none of our expertise will be of use unless we work with the present judging establishment and also produce judges from within the club. In the meantime, take your wins with pride and your losses with a grain of salt. If you are exhibiting the best you have and are willing to both teach and learn, then you are doing your part.

Best wishes for the coming Holidays.

Don Cable





It's a cloudy, blustery, rainy, off and on, kind of
day today. After a couple of cold snaps, we've had a most
delightful fall. Last week our temps ran in the upper 70's - way above our
mid 50 normals. It's really been a strange fall - flowering crabapples blooming in Oct. - Iris here and there.
I've never seen or heard of anything like it. I can sure vouch for the crabapples - my Radiant by the back door

was full of blooms in mid October.

Ir has been a fun fall for me. Right after the So-Mo Fall show, I took eight days and flow to Pennsylvania to visit my Dominique friends - Roger and Carol Voter. This trip has been a couple years in the planning stage. They really rolled out the red carpet and I believe we must have toured the whole SE section of PA. Even a trip to a poultry show - the York show at York, PA. Met several folks who before had been only names and pictures in the PP. We went to Philadelphia to the 200 - saw the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall and ate lunch at the City Tavenn - a place as historic as Independence Hall. I was totally in ave! A trip to Valley Forge on another day. Another was a journey to Strasburg and a ride on the old steam locomotive (I love steam trains by the way), and the PA Railroad Museum. This is right in the middle of Amish Country (Lancanster, PA) and it is truly beautiful. The farms are neat and well kept – and they do this all without any kind of "modern conveniences" – like electricity and tractors. Being an old farm kid myself I really enjoyed it. And the mode of travel for these folks is horse and buggy. It was raining the day I arrived so Carol took me to the Brandywine Museum - I'm a Wyeth admirer so this was a real high point. And, in the gift shop I found a print by Wyeth's sone. Jamie. that I "couldn't live without". It's called Leghorns – a hen sitting in an old white enamel wash basin and a rooster standing beside her. I really like son Jamies's work better than his fathers. Jamie does more with animals and chickens! Probably the high point of the trip for me was a trip to Paoli to visit John Norris at his home there. A brief visit then "Let's go upstairs to the "chicken room"." WOW - This must be heaven!! Even tho Mr. Norris has more or less retired from dealing in books he still does some buying and selling. Needless to say, I didn't get away from there without leaving some \$\$\$. But I had taken some trading stock - a couple of years ago I bought three old poultry books at our Friends of the Library sale - among them was an 1888 Standard of Perfection and and1887 one by Felch adn this 1898 book on the the American Game by C.L. Fransisco. To make a long story short the only one I took along was the book by Fransisco. When he offered \$50.00 for it I nearly fell out of my chair. It ended up that I brought home a three volumn set by Harrison Wier (without the color plates) another oldie and the Chicken Book by Page Smith. It's a fairly new one but full of interesting goodies. All told, it cost me \$18.00 out of pocket. John Norris had recently bought someone's collection, but was sending most of them to England to Veronica Mayhew.

There weren't any Americanas at the York Show and only two Dominiques - bantom cockerels - whose ancestry

was very much in question - but it was fun to see a new show in a different part of the country.

I've veen kind of wandering around since I got home thinking about who to put with whom for next year's chicks. It's sure not too soon, because Milwaukee rolls around a month or so earlier than most of us are use to for showing. That means Feb. chicks at the latest - the weather can be great around here or it can be cold and snow up to you know where! It will sure be great to see everyone again - even tho time seems to fly by two years is a long time. We all need to go thru the picture stack and get some new ones sent to Bernard for the bulletin board. I'll bet no other club has one that even begins to compare with Bernard's - great job, BK!! Keep it going.

Well, I've rambled on long enough. Happy Holidays to all and let's get those little future champions on the

way.

Moliday tings

(continued)

FROM THE OZARKS (continued)

In case anyone is interested in a catalog from Veronica Mayhew, I'll send her address along:

Veronica Mayhew

Trewena,

Behoes Lane

abodcote,

Near Reading,

RG8 OPP

England

We had eleven Ameraucanas at the Central District Meet at North Iona in Sept. Mike, Bernie and I were there and Dave H. had sent birds along with Mike. Show results are elsewhere. A good time was had by all and indidentally the North Iona Club has asked us about hosting a future National for the ABS. Food for thought. I know they would roll out the red carpet for us.

All the very best for the coming year...... Many Lou Phelps

Central District Director

Dear Jeanne.

In my years of showing poultry I haven't seen very many Ameraucanas, but I guess it is a new bird. I don't understand why there is not more people into Ameraucanas because I think they are one of the most interesting birds.

I have learned all kinds of things. By talking to different people, for instance, Bernard Kellogg, Jeanne Trent, Jeannette Frank, Mike Gilbert and Carl Fosbrink.

Carl has helped me get started in Ameraucanas and has helped me along the way. He is the one I want to give special thanks to.

Sincerely,
Matt Betz





GIANT SPRINGS - Great Falls, Montana

Seasons Greetings from Montana

It is raining/snowing as I sit here with pen in hand trying to figure what wise words of wisdom to send your way. 1990 is on it's way out - it has been an extremely trying year personally for me. How about you? I've manaaged to keep my sanity but my poultry has had to take a back seat to everything else.

I've read all the articles by other members (see all previous pages) and find it interesting all the thoughts that cross the minds of fellow Ameraucana club members. None of them realize how very thankful I am for their contributions to this newsletter...or that without their input it wouldn't get printed or in the mail to you.

I am amazed at what our founders accomplished in such a relatively short time. We are still a long way from the top but as is pointed out in the articles...if we (the club members) do not share our know-

ledge and exhibit our Ameraucanas then how will the rest of the poultry world know what a great breed we have? In this case – exposure is the word!

I have admired Mike and his ability, patience and knowledge for years. Knowing what to breed, when and where.. proof of good record keeping and using what is stored in the mind. I really do appreciate the time he has taken to share his knowledge with all of us.

Jerry Segler is doing better than I am. I still have to finish transcribing his tape from last year. Thanks,

for understanding busy schedules, Jerry, and for your upgrade.

Ever faithful Mary Lou. She always has interesting things to tell us about. This is the first time since I took over the newsletter that she was not the first with her article. I know she has been busy...very busy. It was nice to see that the Central District knew what a good director they had and voted to keep Mary Lou.

Bruce Hutchinson is a fairly newcomer to actually having Ameraucanas (he acquired his first at the ABC Nat'l at Highland last year). He's been a member for some time and is the newly elected Southern District Director.

Don't be afraid to get in touch with Bruce. He is super fine fellow and will help in anyway he can.

Candy Patene in NY - the newly elected Eastern Distric Director contributed an article for the last newsletter.

I hope we will hear more from her - often.

Susan Getyine in CA is the new Western District Director. I know she has been a member for a long time but that is all I know. I hope Susan will drop us a line and let us know more about her and what's going on in her section.

Our election commissioner, Bernard Kellogg, did a great job. I imagine you think that is a rather simple job but it really isn't. It can be rather exaspirating. trying to get the votes in the right district. This year addressed envelopes were sent with the ballots. I'm sure glad we didn't wasted money on stamps too. Half of the members voted. To those who took time to vote... THANK YOU. If some of you aren't sure what district you are in please check the election page again...District Directors are listed with their addresses.

Jeanne came thru with her article and the cover - before I had mine written or even composed in my mind. WAY TO GO, JEANNE!! She has had her hands full trying to outwit the varmit/dog. Her plans for a new barn and yard

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from the junior members .. what they have to say. They are our future.

Election results are printed elsewhere. I want to thank all of you who voted to keep me as your leader for another two years. With your assistance and advice I will try to keep the club on the right road in the right direction. I will listen to you if you write me.



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REFELECTIONS FROM THE BIG SKY COUNTRY (cont'd)

It is the Ad of another year. That means club dues are due in January, 1991. Please take a few moments to fill out the membership form and send it with your dues to Jeanne as soon as possible. This form serves a double purpose...it lets us know you chose to be a member of the best poultry club and it

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also lets us know what you have and what you need.

The ABC has a national show coming up in the fall of 1991. This means we need to start thinking of the award fund. The award fund \$ and what for should be sent to me. I realize Fall of 1991 seems a long way from now but we all know it has a habit of sneaking up on us. The next two newsletters will carry more information about the show, etc.

Another thing before I get off my scapbox...the APA Yearbook will be wanting add by the middle of Feb. 191. I don't know if the ad prices will change.. I doubt it. Last year it was \$10.00 for an 1/8 page ad on the

club page. If you want an ad start working on it. Send ad info and \$\$ to me.

And with that I will close for this year. Hope you holiday is joyous for you and your loved ones.

Happy Birthday, Bernard.

Jeannette Frank President P. O. Box 824 Great Falls, MT 59403-0824

P.S. Next deadline for any of you who wish to contribute an article is February 13, 1991.

God gave us two ears but only one mouth. Some people say that's because He wanted us to Spend twice as much time listening as talking. Others claim it's because He knew listening was twice as hard as talking.

Show reports will appear in the next newsletter as will the members list. Anyone who would be kind anough to send me a bio - please - we'll do Hiose!

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AMERAUCANA BREEDERS CLUB ELECTION RESULTS - 1990

votes

President: Jeannette Frank (MT) 25 - elected

Mary Lou Phelps (MO) 1

Secretary/Treasurer: Jeanne Trent (MI) 23 - elected

Jeannette Frank (MT) 1

DISTRICT DIRECTORS:

Eastern: Candy Patene (NV) 3 - elected

RR 2 Box 18, Pine Ridge Rd., Canastata, NY 13032

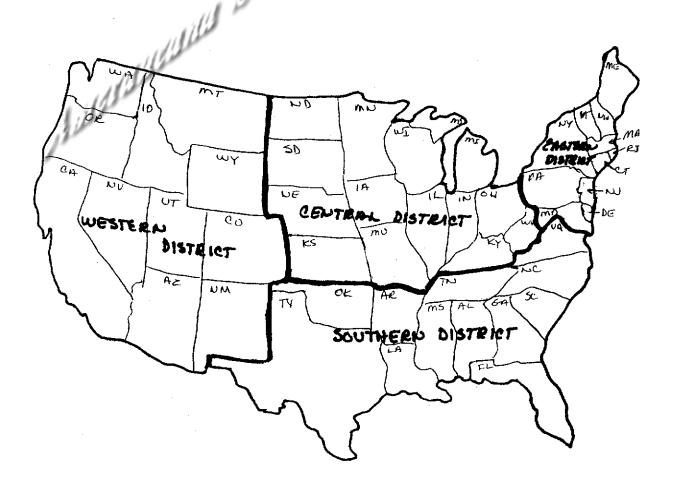
Central: Mary Lou Phelps (MO) 16 _ elected

Rt 22 Box 388, Springfield, MO 65803

Southern: Bruce Hutchinson (AL) 5 - elected

RR 9 Box 571H, Gadsden, AL 35903

Western: Susan Getyina (CA) 2 - elected 1401 York Drive, Vista, CA 92084



1994 AMERAUCANA BREEDERS CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

<u>Dues</u> ; Fam	ily \$10.00	Individual	\$7.50	Junior 3	\$5.00 (AU	L dues due 1/1)
NAME:					<u> </u>	
	 ;					
сіту:			STATE:		ZII	2:
PHONE #: ()		•			
If you are	paying for a	family would yo				
Use additi	onal paper if	necessary.			W	
I (WE) rai LARGE FOWL		he following AM	IERAUCANAS.	115	Adult	
BANTAM:			312			
1 will sel	l: Hatching Eg	gsChicks_	The Court of the		Adult	Birds
will you s	hip any of the	above?	<i>y</i>	•		
Will you a	leliver to show	us any of the ab	oove?		.•	
List other Large Fowl	breeds of pour	ıltry you raise Bearded or Non-l	or breed, pl	ease. Be arieties,	sure to st please.	ate if they are
	/					
					4	
Please use about you	the space be or your famil	low for your cor y. Any suggest	mments, thoug ions for futu	hts, ideas re newsles	s or genero tters would	l information 1 be appreciated.
Please r	eturn this que	stionaire and m	embership due	RR	ANNE TRENT 1 Box 19 ntral Lake	

Remember ALL Memberships are renewable on January 1, 1991.