

Winter 2008  
Volume XXVIII, Issue 4

# Ameraucana Bulletin



**John W. Blehm**  
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**Michael J. Muenks**  
Secretary/Treasurer  
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**Rob Sando**  
Director - Northeast  
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**Susie Winder**  
ABC Forum Administrator



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Ameraucana Breeders Club, 33878 Hwy 87, California, MO 65018-3911  
[www.ameraucana.org](http://www.ameraucana.org)

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

## President's Report, John Blehm



It is mid-November as I write this and the ground is covered with a dusting of snow. It'll make many deer hunters happy. After a mild start to the month it looks like some very cold temps in the upcoming forecast. I put the hose away today, so we'll have to use a bucket to water the birds and I put the "bird bath" water heaters in the chicken's water pans.

The elections went as expected (ABC...not US, state or local), with no opposition to any candidate. Susie Winder was our election commissioner and she provided the results. Effective January 1<sup>st</sup> the officers will be: President - John W Blehm, Secretary/Treasurer - Michael Muenks, NC Director - Jerry DeSmidt, NE Director - Harold Knapp, SC Director - Paul Smith, SE Director - Barbara Campbell and Western Director - Connie "Jean" Ribbeck. Thanks to Lisa Cree and Rob Sando for serving as Directors over the past years. They choose not to run this time. The amendment to have State and Special meets placed by the Secretary passed by 23 to 2. A copy of the updated Constitution/By-Laws will be included in this Bulletin or the next.

We attended two shows this year and both were great. Grandpa Tiny's Frankenmuth Fowl Fest hosted our NC District meet, the second weekend in October. The show report is in the Bulletin and there are some photos and information posted on [FowlFest.org](http://FowlFest.org). Later in the month we traveled to the National meet in Hutchinson, MN. It was fun to meet with many of our Ameraucana friends and enjoy a very nice show. Thanks to Jerry De Smidt and Michael Muenks for making it all happen. I think our annual club meeting was the shortest ever, but we covered the ground that we needed to. The details are in the minutes.

Each year since 2000 the club President presents an ABC Lifetime Achievement plaque to one member. This year it was awarded to charter member Jerry Segler, of Illinois. Nate Downey stood in and accepted the award for Jerry during the club meeting. Jerry was the first Central District Director and instrumental in developing Ameraucana bantams and getting them accepted in the Standards. Congratulations Jerry and Thank You.

Now it's time to start planning to attend our 2009 ABC National meet, in Columbus, on November 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>. The show is called the Ohio National and they generally have a lot of entries. The show club has a website, [ohionational.org](http://ohionational.org), with information about lodging and the show. If you haven't attended an ABC National before please try to work this one into your schedule. Whether you show Ameraucana or not it'll be your opportunity to see & study the entries, meet fellow members & compare notes and be part of a great weekend!

## Badger Poultry Club Show

### Richland Center, WI, Meet Report

Special Meet, June 7, 2008, reported by Ruth Lefeber

#### Abbreviation Guide for Meet Reports

- BB**=best of breed
- RB**=reserve of breed
- BV**=best of variety
- RV**=reserve of variety
- C**=cock
- H**=Hen
- K**=cockerel
- P**=pullet
- AOV**=Any Other Variety,
- AOCCL**=All Other Combs Clean Legged (bantam)
- AOSB**=All Other Standard Breeds (large fowl)

#### 5 bantams shown by 2 exhibitors, Judged by Phil Bartz

- BB, BV blue C by Michael Gilbert – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor
- BV blue wheaten H by Michael Gilbert – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor
- RV blue wheaten C by Michael Gilbert
- RB, BV wheaten H by Michael Gilbert – out of 2 shown by 2 exhibitors
- RV wheaten H by Earl Whilhemi

#### 5 large fowl shown by 3 exhibitors, Judged by Gary Rossman

- BB, BV black H by Gary Klug – out of 2 shown by 2 exhibitors, **Champion Ameraucana, Reserve Champion AOSB**
- RV black H by Greg Stebnitz
- BV blue P by Gary Klug – out of 2 shown by 2 exhibitors
- RV blue P by Greg Stebnitz
- RB, BV wheaten C by Stallman's Poultry in the Pines – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

## Wisconsin International Poultry Club Portage, WI, Meet Report

State Meet, September 29, 2008, reported by Elizabeth Breuer

#### 12 bantams shown by 2 exhibitors, Judged by Dennis Thompson

- BV black K by Robert Walchak – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor
- RV black P by Robert Walchak
- RB, BV blue P by Michael Gilbert – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor
- RV blue C by Michael Gilbert
- BV blue wheaten K by Robert Walchak – out of 2 shown by 2 exhibitors
- RV blue wheaten P by Michael Gilbert
- BV brown red K by Robert Walchak – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor
- RV brown red P by Robert Walchak
- BV buff C by Michael Gilbert – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor
- BV wheaten P by Robert Walchak – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor
- BB, BV white P by Robert Walchak – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Reserve Champion AOCCL**
- RV white K by Robert Walchak

#### 5 large fowl shown by 3 exhibitors, Judged by Jerry Yeau

- BB, BV black P by Jeffrey Stevens – out of 4 shown by 2 exhibitors, **Champion Ameraucana, Champion AOSB**
- RB, RV black K by Jeffrey Stevens, **Reserve Champion Ameraucana, Reserve Champion AOSB**
- BV white P by Amber and Ashley Flees – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

#### Junior Show

- BB, BV black K by Adam Meinert, **Junior Show Champion Ameraucana**



Blue Wheaten Portrait

## Eastern New York State Poultry Association Cobleskill, NY, Meet Report

Special Meet, September 28, 2008, reported by Jamie Matts

3 bantams were shown by 1 exhibitor, judged by Mike Waski

BB, BV wheaten K by Anthony and William Wynne – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Reserve Champion Ameraucana**

RB, RV wheaten P by Anthony and William Wynne

5 large fowl were shown by 2 exhibitors, judged by S. Robert Powell

BB, BV blue wheaten K by Doug Dillingham – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Champion Ameraucana**

RB, RV blue wheaten P by Doug Dillingham

BV wheaten P by Doug Dillingham – out of 3 shown by 2 exhibitors

RV wheaten K by Doug Dillingham

Junior Show

P by Megan Matts, **Champion Ameraucana Junior Show**

## Big Sky Poultry Expo Show 1 Great Falls, MT, Meet Report

Special Meet, September 20, 2008, reported by Sharon Eliasson

15 bantams were shown by 3 exhibitors, judged by Bruce Murdoch

BB, BV blue wheaten H by Nadine Wisniewski – out of 12 shown by 3 exhibitors, **Reserve Champion Ameraucana**

RB, RV blue wheaten C by Nadine Wisniewski

BV wheaten K by Nadine Wisniewski – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV wheaten H by Nadine Wisniewski

4 large fowl were shown by 3 exhibitors, judged by Bruce Murdoch

BV blue P by Shawna Oostema – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BB, BV buff C by Larry and Koralyne Kibbee – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Champion Ameraucana**

RB, BV white P by Shawna Oostema – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BV AOV - splash P by CJ Oostema – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

## Gateway Poultry Association Bloomington, IN, Meet Report

Special Meet, April 12-13, 2008

7 bantams were shown by 2 exhibitors

BV black C by Curtis Beck – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BV silver H by Curtis Beck – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV silver P by Curtis Beck

BB, BV wheaten H by Wayne Gritter – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV wheaten P by Wayne Gritter

RB, BV AOV - lavender C by Curtis Beck – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV AOV - lavender H by Curtis Beck



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*Michael Gilbert*



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At Winter Brisk



Robert Walchak's bantam buff cockerel at the national meet

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## Big Sky Poultry Expo Show 2 Great Falls, MT, Meet Report

Special Meet, September 20, 2008, reported by Sharon Eliasson

15 bantams were shown by 3 exhibitors, judged by Jim Adkins

BB, BV blue wheaten P by Larry and Koralyne Kibbee – out of 12 shown by 3 exhibitors,  
**Champion Ameraucana**

RV blue wheaten K by Nadine Wisniewski

RB, BV wheaten K by Nadine Wisniewski – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV wheaten H by Nadine Wisniewski

BV AOV - black-tailed red K by Larry and Koralyne Kibbee – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

4 large fowl were shown by 3 exhibitors, judged by Jim Adkins

BV blue P by Shawna Oostema – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BB, BV buff C by Larry and Koralyne Kibbee – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Reserved  
Champion Ameraucana**

RB, BV white P by Shawna Oostema – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BV AOV - splash P by CJ Oostema – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

## Spokane Interstate Fair Spokane, WA, Meet Report

State Meet, September 10-13, 2008, reported by Tony Albritton

3 bantams were shown by 1 exhibitor, judged by William Wenger

RB, BV blue wheaten C by Janet Adams – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BV brown red ? by Janet Adams – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BB, BV silver H by Janet Adams – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

22 large fowl were shown by 9 exhibitors, judged by William Wenger

BV black H by Connie Jean Ribbeck – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor

RV black C by Connie Jean Ribbeck

BV blue H by Connie Jean Ribbeck – out of 2 shown by 2 exhibitors

RV blue P by Nathan Rex

BV buff P by Connie Jean Ribbeck – out of 1 shown by 1 exhibitor

BV silver P by Connie Jean Ribbeck – out of 7 shown by 6 exhibitors

RV silver ? by Linda Garratt

RB, BV wheaten K by Connie Jean Ribbeck – out of 2 shown by 1 exhibitor, **Reserve  
Champion Ameraucana, Reserve Champion AOSB**

RV wheaten P by Connie Jean Ribbeck

BB, BV white C by Connie Jean Ribbeck – out of 6 shown by 4 exhibitors, **Champion  
Ameraucana, Champion AOSB**

RV white H by Connie Jean Ribbeck

BV AOV – splash P by Connie Jean Ribbeck – out of 3 shown by 2 exhibitors

RV AOV - splash C by Gary Broadbent

## Southern Ohio Poultry Show Lucasville, OH, Meet Report

Special Meet, October 4-5, 2008, reported by Patty Pickard

### 9 bantams were shown

BV wheaten by Heather Krut – out of 7  
RV wheaten by Heather Krut  
BV white by Kathy Gratsch – out of 2  
RV white by Kathy Gratsch

### 14 large fowl were shown

BB, BV black by Tom Kernan – out of 9  
RB, RV black by Tom Kernan  
BV silver by Darla Coriell – out of 1  
BV white by Kathy Gratsch – out of 4  
RV white by Kathy Gratsch

### Junior Show 3 bantams where shown

BB, BV white by Jennifer Kelly  
RB, BV AOV by Aubrey Brown  
RV AOV by Aubrey Brown

### Junior Show 9 large fowl where shown

BB, BV black by Camille Lewandowski - out of 5  
RB, RV black by Camille Lewandowski  
BV wheaten by Craig McDonald – out of 1  
BV white by Craig McDonald – out of 3  
RV white by Craig McDonald

## Maryland State Poultry Fancier's Association Frederick MD, Meet Report

State Meet, November 1-2, 2008, reported by Will Morrow

1 bantam was shown by 1 exhibitor. Judged by Will Burton  
BV buff H by Jack Kiska – out of 1 shown

12 large fowl were shown by 2 exhibitors. Judged by Frank Harris  
BB, BV black C by Tom Kernan – out of 4 shown, **Reserve AOSB**  
RB, RV black P by Tom Kernan  
BV blue P by Kathleen Ladue – out of 2 shown  
RV blue C by Kathleen Ladue  
BV blue wheaten C by Kathleen Ladue – out of 2 shown  
RV blue wheaten P by Kathleen Ladue  
BV wheaten P by Kathleen Ladue – out of 2 shown  
RV wheaten C by Kathleen Ladue



Maryland State Meet



Egg Display at Maryland State Meet



Black LF Cock by Tom Kernan

### AMERAUCANA CHICKS

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and May.



## Southern Missouri Poultry Club Fall Show Sedalia, MO, Meet Report

District Meet, October 18, 2008, reported by Michael Muenks

17 bantams were shown by 1 exhibitor, Judged by Forrest Beaufort

BV black H by Michael Muenks – out of 3  
 RV black H by Michael Muenks  
 BB, BV blue H by Michael Muenks – out of 2, **Reserve AOCCL**  
 RV blue H by Michael Muenks  
 RB, BV blue wheaten C by Michael Muenks – out of 2  
 RV blue wheaten H by Michael Muenks  
 BV brown red C by Michael Muenks – out of 2  
 RV brown red H by Michael Muenks  
 BV buff C by Michael Muenks – out of 1  
 BV silver H by Michael Muenks – out of 1  
 BV wheaten C by Michael Muenks – out of 3  
 RV wheaten H by Michael Muenks  
 BV AOV – splash C by Michael Muenks – out of 3  
 RV AOV – splash H by Michael Muenks

21 large fowl were shown by 3 exhibitors

BB, BV black H by Pam Hamilton – out of 9, **Champion Ameraucana, Reserve AOSB**  
 RB, RV black C by Paul and Angela Smith, **Reserve Champion Ameraucana**  
 BV blue C by Paul and Angela Smith – out of 4  
 RV blue P by Paul and Angela Smith  
 BV blue wheaten K by Paul and Angela Smith – out of 2  
 RV blue wheaten P by Paul and Angela Smith  
 BV buff H by Michael Muenks – out of 2  
 RV buff H by Michael Muenks  
 BV silver H by Michael Muenks – out of 2  
 RV silver H by Michael Muenks  
 BV wheaten H by Michael Muenks – out of 1  
 BV AOV – black gold C by Michael Muenks – out of 1

Junior Show 2 bantams were shown by 1 exhibitor

BB, BV wheaten H by Nathan Schwartz, **Junior Champion Ameraucana, Reserve AOCCL**  
 RB, BV wheaten C by Nathan Schwartz

Junior Show 2 large fowl were shown by 1 exhibitor

BB, BV blue P by Daniel Garren, **Champion AOSB**  
 RB, RV blue P by Daniel Garren, **Reserve Champion AOSB**

## Central Florida Poultry Breeders Association Inverness, FL, Meet Report

November 15, 2008, reported by Valerie Hirvela – **Not an Ameraucana Breeders Club Meet**

2 large fowl were shown by 1 exhibitor, Judged by Rick Hare

BV white H by Starlene Kalinski – out of 2  
 RV White P by Starlene Kalinski

### Club Merchandise

1982 Club Handbook - \$5  
 1998 Club Handbook - \$5  
 2005 Club Handbook - \$5

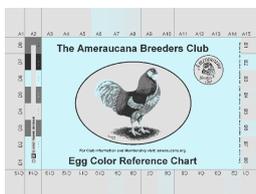
ABC 4" Patch 1 for \$3 or 2  
 for \$5.50.



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.

## Central Indiana Poultry Show Lebanon, IN, Meet Report

State Meet, October 18, 2008, reported by Doug Akers

3 large fowl were shown by 2 exhibitors, Judged by Jeff Halbach

BB, BV black P by John and Anne Foley – out of 2

RV black P by John and Anne Foley

BV brown red P by LeeAnn Sanders – out of 1

Junior Show 4 large fowl were shown by 2 exhibitors, Judged by Jack Patterson

BV black P by Brandi Powell – out of 4, **Junior Show Champion Ameraucana, Reserve Champion AOSB**

RV black P by Matthew Perkins

## Grandpa Tiny's Frankenmuth Fowl Fest Frankenmuth, MI, Meet Report

District Meet, October 11-12, 2008, reported by John Blehm

18 bantams were shown, Judged by Gary Overton

RB, BV black C by Kate Sparks – out of 7

RV black P by John W. Blehm

BV brown red P by John W. Blehm – out of 1

BV buff P by John W. Blehm – out of 1

BV wheaten P by John W. Blehm – out of 1

BB, BV white H by Ann Solce – out of 2

RV white K by Ann Solce

BV AOV – lavender P by John W. Blehm

RV AOV – lavender P by Rachel Wylie

15 large fowl were shown, Judged by Jim Fegan

BB, BV black C by Rick Straight – out of 10, **Champion AOSB**

RB, RV black K by Rick Straight

BV blue K by Jeanne Trent – out of 3

RV blue P by Rachel Wylie

BV blue wheaten P by Gretchen Wylie – out of 2

RV blue wheaten P by Rachel Wylie

Junior Show 7 bantam were shown, Judged by Bill Patterson

BV black P by Ethan Haviland – out of 1

BV buff C by Brandon Borke – out of 2

RV buff H by Jolene Cooper

BV wheaten P by Benjamin Tobia – out of 1

BV AOV – lavender P by Rachel Wylie – out of 3

RV AOV – lavender K by Emily Wylie

Junior Show 11 large fowl were shown, Judged by Bill Patterson

BV black C by Rick Straight – out of 7

RV black K by Rick Straight

BV blue P by Rachel Wylie – out of 1

BV blue wheaten P by Gretchen Wylie – out of 2

RV blue wheaten P by Rachel Wylie

BV brown red H by Trevor Houthoofd – out of 1

### Pips & Peeps

#### Large Fowl Ameraucanas

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Black LF Cockerel by  
Michael Muenks at Shawnee



White LF Pullet by  
Jerry De Smidt at the national meet

## Oklahoma State Poultry Federation Shawnee, OK, Meet Report

State Meet, December 13-14, 2008, reported by Steve Jones



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[creefarm.fateback.com](http://creefarm.fateback.com)



#### 25 large fowl were shown by 2 exhibitors

BB, BV black K by Michael Muenks – out of 9, **Champion Ameraucana**  
RV black C by Paul and Angela Smith  
BV blue H by Paul and Angela Smith – out of 3  
RV blue P by Paul and Angela Smith  
BV silver C by Michael Muenks – out of 5  
RV silver C by Michael Muenks  
BV wheaten H by Michael Muenks – out of 2  
RV wheaten H by Michael Muenks  
RB, BV white H by Michael Muenks – out of 4, **Reserve Champion Ameraucana**  
RV white C by Michael Muenks  
BV AOV – black gold C by Michael Muenks  
RV AOV – splash H by Paul and Angela Smith

#### 13 bantam were shown by 1 exhibitor

BV black H by Michael Muenks – out of 5  
RV black H by Michael Muenks  
BV blue H by Michael Muenks – out of 2  
RV blue H by Michael Muenks  
BV blue wheaten C by Michael Muenks – out of 1  
RB, BV brown red C by Michael Muenks – out of 2  
RV brown red H by Michael Muenks  
BB, BV wheaten C by Michael Muenks – out of 1  
BV AOV – splash H by Michael Muenks – out of 3  
RV AOV – splash C by Michael Muenks



Paul Smith cooping out at Shawnee

#### Junior Show 6 large fowl where shown by 3 exhibitors

BV black K by Tiffany Botkin, **Junior Show Champion Ameraucana**  
RV black P by Mathew Smith  
BV blue K by Tiffany Botkin  
RV blue P by Mathew Smith

## Illini Poultry Show Belvidere, IL, Meet Report

September 13-14, 2008, reported by Ruth Vanfleet – **Not an Ameraucana Breeders Club Meet**

#### 10 large fowl were shown by 3 exhibitors

BB, BV black P by Jeff Stevens – out of 8, **Champion AOSB**  
RB, RV black H by Gary Klug, **Reserve Champion AOSB**  
BV blue P by Greg Stebnitz – out of 2  
RV blue P by Gary Klug

## North Central District, Jerry De Smidt, Director

Greetings from the North Central District!

Congratulations to Michael Muenks and Jeff Stevens on their Big Wins. I would like to thank all the members who drove all the way to Hutchinson, MN for the National meet. We had a great time getting to visit with old friends and meeting new members. I would like to also THANK Michael Muenks for the great job with all the help on the awards and goodies that were in the bags for the big winners, I could not have done it without you Michael.

As some of you may already know I am going back to school for computers in the Microsoft IT field. I am very busy with class 2 nights a week and 5 hours each night, then all the homework and studying. I do apologize if I do not get back to you right away if you call or Email me. The good thing is that I will be done with classes by the first part of April.

I would hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving and gearing up for the up coming holidays. With the New Year right around the corner I have already started the incubator and will hopefully have my 2<sup>nd</sup> batch of eggs set for some early hatches and then I plan on taking a short break and have a later hatch for the Nationals in Columbus, Ohio in November.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

## Northeastern District, Rob Sando, Director

No report submitted.

## Western District, Lisa Cree, Director

No report submitted.

## New Meet Placement Procedure, Michael Muenks

As of January 1, 2009 the Ameraucana Breeders Club has modified the way state and special meets are to be placed. State and special meet requests by members will be sent directly to the secretary/treasurer for placement. Members should supply the following information if at all possible when requesting an Ameraucana Breeders Club meet to be placed at a show:

- Official name of the show
- Date(s) of the show
- Show Superintendent 's and/or Show Secretary's name and contact information

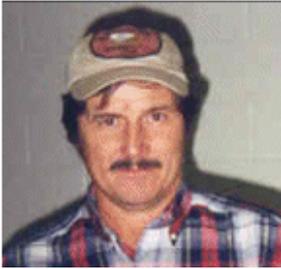
Please send your requests for meets as early as possible because there is paperwork that has to be completed in order for a meet to be placed. **Meet requests for shows March 1-May 31, 2008, must be in to me by February 15, 2009.**

I will work with the district directors to avoid placing state or special meets at shows where the district directors are planning to place district meets. District meet placement is still the prerogative of the district directors.

I printed several show reports in this issue that were not Ameraucana Breeders Club meets. I have many requests from show clubs for meets that are posted on the club forum. I encourage members to request meets. I know the Illini Show in Belvidere, IL would love to host an Ameraucana Breeders Club meet.



### South Central District, Paul Smith, Director



Congratulations to Michael Muenks of California, MO for showing the National Champion, a black bantam hen at Hutchinson, MN. We managed to make it to Sedalia, MO. to our district meet. Michael showed the same bantams there, and did very well with them. His blue hen was champion bantam and blue wheaten cock was reserve bantam. Congratulations also to Pam Hamilton of Troy, MO. on the S.C. District champion a black LF hen. One of our black LF cocks was reserve Ameraucana. We missed seeing the Ameraucana gang at Hutchinson. This is the first national meet that we have missed since we started showing at them nine years ago. Our birds weren't in very good condition due to the extreme heat that we had this past summer, and I didn't feel that we could spare the week away that it would require to participate. We are still trying to complete the inside of our new house. I was hoping to be finished before cold weather, but didn't make it. Hopefully, things will be better in 2009 and we can get back to showing like we did in the past. The Oklahoma State meet will be at Shawnee, OK. on December 13th and 14th. Hope to see many of you there!



Alice Nichols' splash pullet at the national meet

I was concerned that the high feed, electricity and fuel prices were going to raise the price of our birds so high, that they wouldn't sell well, but they were sold in record time this year. All of our 2008 hatched layers were sold within a month after releasing them for sale. They spread from local to San Antonio. All the show pullets were sold on our way to Sedalia. We still have a few good black cockerels for sale. They have improved since the decent weather has been around now for a while.

We will offer day old chicks again starting Feb. 2 and ending May 11. Eight hatches at two week intervals. We should have about a thousand to offer. They will be \$6 each for potential show quality birds, plus shipping and handling. The PO changes require a zip code to know what the charges will be.

Hope all are having a great show season and are preparing to start another breeding season. Hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving.

God Bless, Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

### Southeast District, Barbara Campbell, Director



Hello again! Things are pretty quiet here in east Tennessee. Due to late hatches this year and to being a very busy grandma these past few months, I didn't make it to any of the fall shows. Below is a report from club member Tina Dinkins on the special meet that took place in September. Congratulations Tina!

"Here are the results of the special meet that I requested at the TVA&I Fair in Knoxville, Tennessee. In the bantam Ameraucana, there were only two exhibitors. In the large fowl, there were 11 exhibitors. My blue wheaten hen got on champion row. My blue wheaten rooster won 1st place, my silver rooster and one of my silver hens won 1st place. My blue wheaten hen won champion Ameraucana and my blue wheaten rooster won reserve Ameraucana. These are bantams. In the large fowl, a white Ameraucana won first and reserve AOV and was champion Ameraucana for the large fowl and silver was reserve Ameraucana. Only one color seemed not to fit the standard and that was a couple of the brown red hens. It was good over all. . . . ."  
Tina Dinkins Kingston, Tennessee

## 2009 Membership Renewals

All yearly memberships are due January 1, 2009. Yearly members may renew for two years at a time. The lower right hand side of the bulletin address area indicates your membership type and when it expires. Dues will go up March 1, 2009 to the following amounts based on a vote of the board in September 2008: Juniors - \$10.00, Individuals - \$12.00, Family - \$18.00, Individual Life - \$200.00, Family Life - \$300.00.

## 2008 Ameraucana National, Jerry De Smidt



The 2008 Ameraucana National was held October 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> and hosted by the Minnesota State Poultry Breeders in Hutchinson MN. Not enough can be said about the wonderful group of Minnesota people that so graciously opened their doors to host our show. From the wonderful awards, prize money and most of all the hospitality that made us feel so welcome. The weather was warm, sunny, and a little windy, but over all perfect for a poultry show.

Judging was in the capable hands of Don Karasek who commented on the great quality. Results are as follows. Large Fowl: Black BV and RV went to Jeoff Stevens, Blue BV and RV both went to Jerry DeSmidt, Buff BV to John Blehm and RV to Michael Muenks, White BV and RV went to Jerry DeSmidt, Wheaten BV to Michael Muenks, Silver BV to John Blehm RV to Michael Muenks, Brown Red BV and RV to Mike Gilbert, AOV BV to Jerry DeSmidt and RV to Michael Muenks. Best of Breed, AOSB and Reserve Over-All Ameraucana went to a Black pullet owned by Jeoff Stevens and Reserve of Breed went Jerry DeSmidt with a White pullet.

Bantams: Black BV went to Michael Muenks and RV to Robert Walchak, Blue, BV went Michael Muenks and RV to Mike Gilbert, Buff BV and RV to Robert Walchak, Blue Wheaten BV and RV to Mike Gilbert, White BV and RV to Robert Walchak, Silver BV to Michael Muenks, Brown Red BV to Mike Gilbert and RV to Robert Walchak, Wheaten BV to John Blehm and RV to Robert Walchak, AOV BV to Alnice Nichols and RV to John Blehm. Best of Breed, AOCCL and Champion Ameraucana Over-All went to Michael Muenks with a Black hen. Reserve of breed also went to Michael Muenks with a Blue Hen.

Best Trio went to LF Blacks owned by Jeoff Stevens and the Reserve Trio went to Bantam Blue Wheaten owned by Mike Gilbert. Best Ameraucana Display and Reserve LF Display of show went to LF Whites owned by Jerry DeSmidt and the Reserve Display went to Bantam Blue Wheaten owned by Mike Gilbert.

In the egg competition it went as follows, Best Bantam Hen and Pullet Eggs was won by Robert Walchak, Reserve Bantam Hen eggs went to Mike Gilbert and Reserve Bantam Pullet eggs went to Dan Pasche. Best LF Hen, Reserve LF Hen and Best LF Pullet eggs were all won by Jerry DeSmidt.

A short annual meeting was held after the judging and a get together was held at a local restaurant.

Quiet a few birds exchanged hands and a few new breeders were welcomed by the group.

Next year's show location and date is still in the works. Anyone that is interested in this growing and fun breed can check us out on our web site [www.ameraucana.org](http://www.ameraucana.org). There is also loads of information and pictures to enjoy.

Hopefully everyone is planning their breeding pens for next year, who knows, one of those little chicks may be your next big winner.

## Club Notes

The deadline to submit articles, ads, reports, etc. for the next bulletin is February 15, 2009 and need to be sent to the club secretary.



Bulletin advertisements are free to all members!



Check out the ABC Forum, [www.ameraucana.org/abcforum](http://www.ameraucana.org/abcforum), to keep up with current topics in the Ameraucana world.



You may update your membership information or breeders directory information at any time.



### 2008 National Meet Picture ABC Club Picture



Black bantam Hen by Michael Muenks  
Champion Ameraucana



Black LF Pullet by Jeffrey Stevens  
Reserve Champion Ameraucana



Lavender bantam Pullet by John Blehm



Back Row: John Blehm, JR Resberg, Jerry De Smidt, Robert Walchak, Michael Muenks, Daniel Pasche  
Second Row: Nathan Downey, Alnice Nichols, Nancy Dean, David Blehm, Michael Gilbert  
First Row: Shannon Phillips  
Not Pictured: Eva Muenks, Jeffrey Stevens, John Bashaw



Blue Wheaten bantam  
Pullet by Michael Gilbert



Club Award Table



Robert Walchak, Michael Muenks, and Michael Gilbert



Robert Walchak & Jerry De Smidt



Eggs with Awards



Shannon Phillips and Jerry De Smidt



Lucy, Eva and Michael Muenks & Jerry De Smidt



Alnice Nichols, Nathan Downey, Shannon Phillips



John Blehm and Jerry De Smidt



Alnice Nichols and Jerry De Smidt



Evening Meal



Evening Meal

## National Meet Donations

On behalf of the club members a huge thank you to Michael Gilbert, Jerry De Smidt, Paul and Angela Smith and Rose Konold for their generous donations toward awards at the 2008 National Meet.

## Upcoming Ameraucana Breeders Club Meets

January 10, 2009

**Special Meet**, requested by Mimi Niggel

Pennsylvania Farm Show

Harrisburg, PA

Contact:

Director – Poultry Show, (717) 787-2905

<http://www.agriculture.state.pa.us/farmshow/site/default.asp>

2300 N. Cameron Street

Harrisburg, PA 17110-9443

January 24-25, 2009

**Western District Meet**, placed by Lisa Cree

Pacific Poultry Breeders Association Winter Show

Stockton, CA

Contact:

Teresia Renwick, (530) 268-2488, [renwickranch@sbbmail.com](mailto:renwickranch@sbbmail.com)

1333 Quarterhorse Drive

Grass Valley, CA 95949

April 18, 2009

**Missouri State Meet**, requested by Michael Muenks

Missouri State Poultry Association Double Show, Meet 1

Sedalia, MO

Contact:

Bernita Miller

[bmiller@iland.net](mailto:bmiller@iland.net)

April 18, 2009

**Special Meet**, requested by Michael Muenks

Missouri State Poultry Association Double Show, Meet 2

Sedalia, MO

Contact:

Bernita Miller

[bmiller@iland.net](mailto:bmiller@iland.net)

November 14-15, 2009

**National Meet**, placed by Rob Sando

Ohio National

Columbus, OH

Contact:

Eric Markley, 419-568-7402, Cell 419-303-6909

[markley@ohionational.org](mailto:markley@ohionational.org)

THANK YOU

## Lost

One bantam  
Wheaten  
Ameraucana Hen

Last seen before  
cooping out at the  
national meet on  
Sunday October 25,  
2008 in  
Hutchinson, MN

### Contact

Michael Muenks  
Michael@bantamhill.com

## Twin Tier Poultry Club, A Letter from Harold Knapp

I attended the Twin Tier Poultry Club show in Bath, NY Sept. 7, 08. We did not have a meet there, but I wanted to share results with the club members.

Large Ameraucana, 7 black & 1 silver shown by 3 exhibitors

Judge – Paul Monteith

Harold Knapp had 1 black C – 1 silver H

Sarah Nafziger had 1 black K (BB), 2 black K, and 1 silver P (RB)

Carolyn Blum had 3 black K, 2 silver P, and 1 silver H

Bantam Ameraucana, 2 blue wheaten, 2 wheaten, 1 buff shown by 2 exhibitors

Judge – James Carson

Carolyn Blum had 1 blue wheaten K (RV), 1 blue wheaten P (BV), 1 wheaten C (BB), and 1 wheaten H (RB)

Ken and Mary Learn had a buff H

Now for the reason I wanted to share this with you. Sarah is a teenager, and Carolyn is a youth leader who brought Sarah and some other young people to this show. I thank her for working with our youth.

Sarah showed in youth and open show, which we encourage. Her cockerel was a beautiful bird, he was BB, Reserve AOSB (40 ASOB) in open and Champion AOSB in the youth show. We need and should recognize and encourage our youth. Sarah did a Great job.

Paul Monteith did a good job judging the large Ameraucana. The bantams were a different story. I felt the judge rushed because the class was small.

This is a wonderful show, I would like to see more Ameraucana, but I am pleased to see a youth win.

## From Under the Black Locust, Michael Muenks

Winter in Missouri is mainly brown with intermittent cold rain, ice, cold winds that plummet our temperatures to below zero Fahrenheit and dustings of snow. This year seems to have been consistently cold starting far earlier and for a much longer period of time. It is during this time of the year that I am grateful for the hardiness of Ameraucana.

Over the last several weeks there have been some interesting conversations on the club forum at [www.ameraucana.org](http://www.ameraucana.org). The main topic has been expanding the number of varieties of Ameraucana and what one can or cannot do given the genetic constraints that come with the slate leg color. I have mostly sat out of the conversations, but they have caused me to go back to my set of old Ameraucana Breeders Club Bulletins to review my history of the breed to confirm experiences of those that have worked with the breed since the 1960's and 1970's. The spring issue of the Ameraucana Bulletin will have a [Blast From the Past](#) regarding work on Black Breasted Red, Silver, Golden, and Light Brown that I found as I was browsing.

I will admit up front that I am not a genetics expert, but I have found several resources from the Old English world that have guided my genetic work with Ameraucana. I came to Ameraucana from the bantam side. I had raised bantams since I was ten years old and had in the 1980 what were eventually recognized as Ameraucana. The references I always used for color were for written for game chickens. There must have been someone in the area who was interested in game chickens and requested the books or donated the books to the local library.



I was not in 4-H or FFA, so what I learned during that time before the internet was from the references I could find. I didn't learn about the Ameraucana Breeders Club until I was an adult returning to the fancy and found references to the ABC on the internet. How times have changed!

What I have found interesting about the discussions on the forum regarding color varieties is that many people are not aware of how the different color variety families work together. I attribute this to people being interested in large fowl and the limited color varieties of the major breeds of large fowl. The idea that Ameraucana have eight accepted varieties and that the club is open to pursuing those which can gather a large enough following is like being a kid in a candy shop it appears! Unfortunately, genetic walls drop into place when the color variety meets the standard in some cases, but still it is interesting to try experimenting with variety creation.

The following are references I would suggest for anyone who is interested in learning how color variety families work:

Baldwin, John P., Baldwin's American Breed Book of Old English and Modern Game Bantams, 1940 Edition, American Bantam Association  
Bantam Standard, American Bantam Association  
 Jeffrey, Fred P., Bantam Chickens, Second Edition,  
 Jeffrey, F.P. and William Richardson, Old English Game Bantams as Bred and Shown in the United States, 1995

Sturgeon, Ralph H., Start Where You Are With What You Have: A Guide to Poultry Breeding

My other piece of advice is that if there are not any experience Ameraucana breeders in your local club/area, make friends with the Old English breeders. The color variety family knowledge of most Old English breeders is amazing.

## Treasurer's Report

ABC Checking Account, Central Trust Bank, Jefferson City, MO	
<b>Opening Balance January 1, 2008</b>	<b>\$ 1207.62</b>
Income – January Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	240.50
Income – February Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	248.50
Income – March Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	170.00
Income – April Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	223.50
Income – May Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	100.00
Income – June Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	0.00
Income – July Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	63.50
Income – August Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	289.00
Income – September Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	57.00
Income – October Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	0.00
Income – November Dues, Directories, Donations, etc	391.50
Income – December Dues, Club Items, Donations, etc	84.00
<b>Income Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 1867.50</b>
Expense - Postage	396.55
Expense – Office Supplies	589.84
Expense – Other: Memorials	25.00
Expense – Memberships, Advertisements	251.00
Expense – Bank Charges (return item fees)	36.50
Expense – National Meet Awards/Awards	918.11
Expense - Refunds	5.00
<b>Expense Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 2222.65</b>
<b>Ending Balance as of December 31, 2008</b>	<b>\$ 852.47</b>

Respectfully Submitted, Michael J. Muenks, Secretary/Treasurer



A beautiful LF brown red from the national meet



Enthralled by the Club Meeting



Daniel Pasche running away at the national meet



A LF white cockerel who didn't want his picture taken at the national meet!

## BREEDING FOR THE FINER POINTS: EYE COLOR

Michael K. Gilbert, November 8, 2008



A black LF cockerel by Jeffrey Stevens at the national meet

We have all seen Ameraucanas go to Champion Row, which is good, but then not get picked for best/reserve large fowl, best/reserve bantam, or best/reserve land fowl. Oftentimes a bird can make it to the finals on the basis of type, condition, docile manner, coloring, or most likely all of the above. But it then gets passed over for top honors because of what some may consider the "finer points." I remember a national meet in Michigan when the judge told me the finest White Ameraucana cockerel I had seen before or since was not picked as champion because one or two tail feathers were not completely grown in. Or it may be that pea comb was not perfectly straight and serrated, with the center row of points higher than those on either side, and with the back of the comb coming down to neatly meet the skull. Some of these fine points are fairly obvious, and others not so much.

One point that perhaps should be obvious but is apparently being overlooked is that of proper eye color. This year again Ameraucanas were shown, both large and bantam, with a dark brown (nearly black) eye color at the national meet. All Ameraucanas should have a shade of reddish brown eye that the Standard terms "bay." Some of these birds with off-colored eyes placed very well; none were named best or reserve of show.



A brown red LF pullet from the national meet by Michael Gilbert

According to Sellers' website on poultry genetics, the eye color of chickens has not been widely studied, but a number of things are known that should help us sort out what is necessary for improvement in our lines of Ameraucanas.

The E-locus genes E (extended black) and E>R (birchen) will result in dark brown eyes in the absence of genes that inhibit (prevent or minimize) eumelanin pigment from being deposited in the eyes. And so it is we will often see black, blue, or brown red Ameraucanas with those off colored dark eyes. Black eyes used to be prevalent in some lines of white bantams, and I would hazard a guess those white bantams had E or E>R at their e-loci, the dark feathers being masked by two copies of the recessive white gene. Even more odd is that we sometimes see large fowl buffs with those dark eyes.

It is known there is a dominant, sex linked gene that inhibits eumelanin (dark pigment) from being deposited in the eyes. This gene is symbolized as "Br." The fact that Br is sex linked means that female chickens either have it or they don't – they only get one copy. Males, on the other hand, can have none, one, or two Br's. The lack of Br is symbolized as br (lower case). If males or females have none, they will have those unwanted dark eyes. If they have one, they will have bay eyes, and if a male has two of Br he is homozygous (pure) for bay eyes. And that is the most desirable situation for the Ameraucana breed. For that reason it is extra important that breeding males be used that have bay colored eyes. If he has dark eyes (genotype br/br), all his pullet offspring will also have dark eyes. If he is Br/ br, half his pullets will have dark eyes, the other half bay eyes. Pullets and hens, on the other hand, can only throw dark or bay eyes to their *male* offspring, or more accurately they can only throw br or Br to their *male* offspring. It is important to remember about sex linked traits - that males inherit one copy of each pair of genes from each parent for a total of two. Females will get only one such gene and that from their sire. If any of this seems unclear feel free to direct questions to the author. Here's to better Ameraucana – see you on Champion Row.



Caught John taking a picture!

## 2009 National Meet, Michael Muenks

The placement of 2009 National Meet has certainly been a learning experience for Rob and me. The club is in the second year of rotating the National Meet among the districts. Requests for proposals were sent to shows in New Jersey, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Ohio. Responses were received from only one club by the November 15, 2008 deadline for the meet to be placed in Northeast District. If the 2009 National Meet was not placed in the Northeast District by November 15, 2008 the meet would have automatically rotated to the Southeast District for placement.

The 2009 National Meet will be in Columbus, OH November 14-15, 2009. Rob made the decision to place the meet at the Ohio National so the meet would be in the Northeast District instead of passing the meet to the Southeast District. The following is the letter from the club:

### 2009 Ameraucana Breeders Club National Meet

The Ohio National would like to place a formal bid to host the Ameraucana Breeders Club National Meet for the 2009 show year. The Ohio National will be held on November 14, 15 2009.

The Ohio National can offer \$100.00 in awards to be dispersed at the direction of your club. The only restriction is that all monies must be dispersed at the Ohio National show. The Ohio National will provide your club with a meeting room, and four trophies (champion, reserve champion large fowl, champion, reserve champion bantam), and a club table for you to promote the Ameraucana Breeders Club and to sell or raffle any items your club sees fit to do.

The Ameraucana Breeders Club will have its choice of judges from the list of judges that the Ohio National will hire for the 2009 show. The judges list will be published in early June of 2009.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at any time at the contacts list below. Thank You for your consideration.

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Eric Markley  
Secretary Ohio National  
Email [markley@ohionational.org](mailto:markley@ohionational.org)  
Phone 419-568-7402  
Cell 419-303-6909

Several members in the Northeast District would have liked to have seen the National Meet at the Southern Ohio Poultry Club Show in Lucasville, OH. Lucasville has a very nice national meet package of \$500.00 for awards, a free meal, meeting room and choice of judge. Unfortunately, Lucasville had many requests for national meets and the club had to vote where to begin extending offers to host national meets. Tim Bowles was very nice to visit with and took our request to the club. As Tim indicated, a club can only host so many national meets well. Neither Rob, nor I heard from the Southern Ohio Poultry Club before the November 15, 2008 deadline.

As a club secretary I have learned several lessons regarding show clubs throughout this process that I have passed along to Barbara Campbell regarding the placement of the 2010 National Meet. First, start early! Second, many show clubs only have one or two meetings a year and do not authorize the club officers to make bids on hosting national meets and additionally most do not have standing national meet packages, so the general first reaction is silence and then the need to bring the national meet request up at the next club meeting. With the help of John Blehm I have developed a request for proposals document that explains what the Ameraucana Breeders Club minimally requires for a National Meet. I plan to work with the board on a proposal evaluation for the district director to use to score proposals in the event more than one proposal/bid is submitted. I personally believe it is not too early for Paul to begin talking to clubs in the South Central district about hosting the 2011 National Meet, which I believe he has started doing.

I want to personally thank Rob for his offer to help our incoming Northeast District Director, Harold Knapp, with logistics and organization for the 2009 National Meet at the Ohio National, Columbus, OH November 14-15, 2009. Columbus, here we come!



Columbus, OH



Gotcha Teresa and JM!



Splash bantam cockerel from the national meet



A white bantam cockerel at the national meet

**Welcome to our  
New Members**

Pam Hamilton, MO

Ben Powell, VA

**Features in the****March Issue:**

- Minutes from the  
National Meet
- Blast from the Past
- NAIS Update
- Meet Reports

**Blast from the Past: “Larn ‘Em to Eat ‘Maters,”****John Fugate, Summer 1984**

A problem that the Ameraucana breeder has in this large country is disseminating breeding stock. I think all of us agree that shipping eggs leaves a lot to be desired and shipping mature stock is prohibitively expensive. There is an alternative; it is illegal and I understand the Post Office will prosecute – but it works!

On June 11<sup>th</sup> Jack Fugate shipped Don Cable a dozen three and four-week old bantam chicks. They left Athens, Tennessee at 12:30pm on a Monday and arrived at the Orangevale, California Post Office at 6:30am on Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. They spent only a little over 18 hours door to door! Jack lives in an area where there are a lot of game chickens raised and asked a cocker friend how they shipped chickens. The cocker told him to “Larn ‘em to eat ‘maters,” so several days before the planned shipping date, Jack would put tomato halves on the brooder floor and the chicks learned to eat tomatoes. On the shipping day, food was withheld four hours prior to shipping, but the chicks were allowed to eat and drink their fill just before they were boxed. One tablespoon of sugar and one-half teaspoon of salt were added to the vitamin supplemented water per pint. The chicks drank copiously and ate some starter/grower. The top and bottom were cut from four large tomatoes and these pieces were placed in each corner of a 25 chick size shipping box. The box was sealed and the chicks were on their way West.

Don reports that they were not apparently stressed, nor even excessively thirsty, but – they had eaten the “maters!”

P.S. This method also works with watermelon, soft pears, apples and lettuce for ducks.

**Ameraucana Breeders Club Board of Directors****President, John Blehm**4599 Lange Road, Birch Run, MI 48415 [john@ameraucana.org](mailto:john@ameraucana.org) (989)777-1234**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, Rob Sando**2116 Street 121 W, New Madison, OH 45346 [rsando\\_shrop@hotmail.com](mailto:rsando_shrop@hotmail.com) (937)996-0117**Director-South Central, Paul Smith**2257 CR 224, Gainesville, TX 76240 [sw\\_psmith@swmail.com](mailto:sw_psmith@swmail.com) (940)668-0719**Director-Southeast, Barbara Campbell**392 Whitaker Hollow Road, Lake City, TN 37769 [BlueEggAcres@comcast.net](mailto:BlueEggAcres@comcast.net) (865)494-0876**Director-West, Lisa Cree**Seabeck, WA [creefarm@peoplepc.com](mailto:creefarm@peoplepc.com)