

Cochins International

Summer 2006 Newsletter



Bird Health and Backyard Poultry Keepers

By Rich Barczewski

There is no doubt that the poultry industry and the animal health people, who monitor it, have been stirring the pot with increased regulations and proposals in an attempt to protect the industry from disease. Unfortunately, poultry enthusiasts have been singled out as a major problem; however we know that this is not the case when it comes to poultry exhibitors.

First of all, let me say that there is a big difference between poultry fanciers, backyard poultry keepers (who raise birds for meat and/or eggs), and hoarders of birds. I make this distinction because each of these groups is totally different in how they approach their birds, how they acquire their birds and any potential for spreading disease.

While I hate to single groups out, one of the backyard groups that concerns me the most is hoarders. You know the type. They go to every auction, swap, or gathering and buy, sell and trade birds continuously. They often do not have proper pens at home, often allowing their birds to wander their property and they usually have far more birds than they have space to keep them. Bird hoarders are also hoarders of other animals and it is not unusual for them to have so many animals that they don't have a lawn as the poultry and livestock have eaten every blade of grass on the place. I have known some of these types of people in the past and I generally avoid contact with them whenever possible as they often have birds that are sick.

Backyard bird keepers who have a flock of poultry for meat and eggs fall into a second category. These individuals usually purchase their birds from a hatchery to raise for their eggs and don't come into contact with many other bird

keepers. They may attend auctions or swaps for the purpose of getting rid of some surplus birds, but for the most part, they single source purchase their birds when they need them. As a rule, they keep their birds well cared for and will seek outside help if they run into any health problems.

Exhibition poultry hobbyists are the third group of bird keepers and the group that the vast majority of us fall into. The commercial industry has one major problem with and that is that we travel to shows, co-mingle our birds with hundreds of others in enclosed buildings and then bring them home again before setting off for another show in a week or two. To be honest, I can see why they might be concerned if it were not for the care that the vast majority of exhibition poultry keepers provide their birds. Out of the three groups, it is only the

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Grand Champion of the Show at the Mid Valley Poultry Association in Harrisonburg, VA in May 2006, a white cockerel owned by John Burgess

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Your President's Chicken-scratch...

Hello from Virginia!

By now I am hoping that all of you have some young birds that are shaping up into nice round balls of champion hopefuls for the fall show season. I myself hatched a little over 200 Cochins this year, and that includes Large and Bantam Buffs, Bantam Blacks, Columbian, Partridge and Barred, as well as some Large Whites and Large Partridge. I hope to have some nice representatives of our breed for the Crossroads of America Show in Indiana this November. You can't look anywhere in the Poultry Press without seeing something about the Crossroads show. That's good! This is well promoted show and the proceeds that are left after paying all the show costs will go to the youth program. You can't go wrong when the young fanciers benefit. In the past our club policy has been to target shows that will be able to showcase Cochins for our National meets. Almost every breed club is holding their National meet with Crossroads and in my opinion we would be amiss in our duties to the fancy if we did not do likewise.

We may not be showcased as a breed club with our National meet, but our breed will certainly be the highlight of the show if one of us manages to take the Champion of the Show honors. You can't get much more spot light than that! I am also hopeful that we will shatter the 500 Cochin mark and come close to or eclipse 1000 Cochins in attendance at this poultry extravaganza! I have been ticking off numbers on my fingers lately and if I were to take a couple of this and a couple of that, I will easily have 30 Cochins entered. The numbers add up quick!

On the subject of the Nationals, both Eastern and Western, as in the past, we will be taking donations and awards sponsorships for both meets. I will need this information as soon as possible so that I can get it to the respective clubs for inclusion into the show catalogs. We can always take awards up to the last minute, but they won't be in the show catalogs. TODAY is not too early! Give me a call and let me know what you want to sponsor or send me an email but don't put it off. I am working on having some different awards sponsored by the club at the Nationals this year. Something different than the standard plaque or trophy! I will try to keep information on the awards updated on the website. Your participation and assistance with the awards is what makes or breaks our meets. Last year we had two one-of-a kind charcoal drawings for Champion Bantam and Champion Large Cochin at our Eastern National Meet. I thought they were awesome and would have loved to add them to my poultry artwork collection! However, I didn't have birds at that time and Bill Ziehm, and Bill West got to take them home!

The 2005 National Plaques are all completed and by now should have been mailed to you from the trophy shop. I do owe Bill, Bruce and Al some framed prints, and they are in my car. If you haven't gotten them by the time you read this, you will soon. Bill and Bruce I may very well bring yours with me to Cobleskill.

2007 brings with it a new election of club officers and directors. You will find a couple of articles in this newsletter announcing that some of your officers will not be running again for the 2007-2008 term. Now is the time to think about throwing your name in the hat. We will afford anyone that is inclined to run for office the chance to submit a short article in the fall newsletter announcing their intent to run. New blood is good for any

organization, be it at the National level or at the poultry club level.

2007 also brings with it a new Breeders Directory. Watch the next newsletter for a form to fill out and send in to get updated information into our club directory!

Send in your dues. Don't forget. We've had to purge the membership roster of members who didn't send in dues for 2006. We don't like to do it but the club loses money if they continue to receive newsletters without submitting dues. Until next time, Cochins Rule and I will see you at Indy!
~ Tom

Poultry Keepers continued from page 1

exhibition poultry group that would vaccinate their birds for disease. Additionally, they are also the group that monitors their birds the closest and treats birds individually or as a group should one get sick. They also provide the best of feeds and generally provide the most space per bird since one of their main objectives is to keep their birds in top condition. Finally, exhibition poultry fanciers don't knowingly show sick birds.

Regardless of this fact, I think it is extremely important that the poultry fancy remain diligent in continuing to work to keep our birds in the best health. At exhibitions, show personnel need to monitor birds brought into the show halls and speak up if someone brings in birds that appear unthrifty. Here in Delaware, our animal health people routinely walk our show hall and look at each bird. You may have noticed them if you have attended the Delmarva Show and for the most part, they let us know that things look good, however, show personnel have the right and the obligation to remove sick birds if they show up. Thankfully, most exhibitors won't try to exhibit a sick bird.

There is no doubt in my mind that the exhibition hobby is made up of individuals who genuinely care for and go the extra mile to insure the health of their birds. If our hobby is to continue, we'll need to continue and improve upon this trend.

WANTED

(preferably alive)

Secretary-Treasurer

Cochins International was established in 1992 at which time Dennis Wollard became a member and responded to a "want ad" placed in the newsletter from Pat Lacey, President and Newsletter Editor at that time, for help in generating labels. Dennis figured since he knew how to turn on a computer he could learn how to generate a data base for membership labels. No need for Pat to write out those labels each time to send out the Newsletter. One thing led to another. Next Elton Minnich stepped down as Secretary-Treasurer and Dennis was elected to that position in January 1994. At some point in time he was also the Southwest Director and later did membership for a brief period of time. January 1996 brought a new Newsletter Editor, Karl Rau, followed by Tom Roebuck Jr. in 1998 and Tom has been the Newsletter Editor ever since.

In Dennis's words, "Throughout the years I have met many wonderful poultry people, some by correspondence or by voice over the phone, some by mail, and some in person at shows. It is always great to be able to place a voice with a face and name at the shows. I will have been Secretary-Treasurer for thirteen years this coming January. It has been enjoyable, but do feel that it is time for someone else to support the club and take over the Secretary-Treasurer position. So we can get back to a wanted ad;

WANTED
SECRETARY-TREASURER
 For
COCHINS
INTERNATIONAL

Director's Reports

West Central, Mark Peterson

Summer is here in the northland and that means its time for county and state fairs. We had a good year with all of the breeds that we keep and raised plenty of Cochin bantams so now all we have to do is watch them grow and hope that they turned out as well as we planned when we mated up their parents for the breeding season. The young Buff Cochin bantams seem to have good color at this point so that's a plus now we'll have to see if the other parts fall into place. The young Blacks look to have good type at this point. They have a ways to go yet but the early signs are promising. It appears in all of the varieties this year here that they are cockerel heavy – some years are that way, that's one of those variables you can just never plan for.

I would encourage you to support the shows in your area and of course show some of those great Cochins at these shows, it's the only true way to compare them to other exhibitors' birds and see which ones the judge prefers. You don't have to agree but it is still interesting to see how they compare!

Northeast I, Donna Lamb

Yippee, it's finally summer. The spring supplied way too much rain and at one point, with the flooding, I was unable to get to the grain store for a week since all the flooded roads were closed. The chickens weren't too happy with me, but we managed. I hope all in the flood area didn't have too many problems and everyone dried out once again. I also hope everyone had a successful hatching season. I've had a nice hatch thus far and am pretty much done – but there's always "one more hatch" that I let a broody take care of for me. I don't like to hatch out too many though, as overcrowding can be quite detrimental to a breeding program.

I have most of the spring show results and will briefly list the Cochin winners. Northeast Poultry Congress – BB White hen by Bruce Robinson, RB – Black Cockerel by Bill West; CT

Poultry Breeders Society - BB Black Cock by William Serrine, RB White Cockerel by Bill Serrine; New England Bantam Club – BB White Cockerel by Bill Serrine; RB Black Cock by Bill Serrine; Central Maine Bird Fanciers – BB Black Cock by Bill Serrine, RB White Cock by Donna Lamb.

I'd like to congratulate Bill Serrine for becoming an ABA Maser Exhibitor. His accomplishments were further demonstrated by quite a successful spring show season, and as well as BB and RB's listed above, on several occasions,

(continued below)



Super Grand Champion of New England Bantam Club spring show 2006, a White Cochins Cockerel by Bill Serrine

his Cochins went on to win Champion of the Show. Also in our Junior membership, Cody Schwieger has received several Junior championships with some nice black and white Cochins as well as doing very well in the showmanship competitions – keep up the good work.

Elizabeth Clapp now reports on the junior show results at the New England Poultry Congress in January. Junior cochins exhibitors were well represented at this year's New England Poultry Congress, January 14th and 15th 2005. Both bantams and standards were exhibited, with beautiful birds in both categories. In bantams, the best black was a hen exhibited by Sara Orłowski. The reserve black was a cockerel also by Sara

Orłowski. The best of variety white was a pullet, and the reserve was a cockerel both by Sara Orłowski. The best buff was a cockerel by Elizabeth Clapp and reserve went to a hen by Mckenzie Robey. The best blue was a pullet exhibited by Sara Orłowski, and the reserve went to Sara's cockerel. The best brown red was a pullet, and reserve was a cockerel, both exhibited by Sara Orłowski. The best red was a cock exhibited by Mckenzie Robey. The best barred was a pullet exhibited by Sierra Wilson, and the reserve was a hen by Marisa Lefebvre. The best cochins bantam went to Sara Orłowski's black hen, which was also champion junior featherleg. The reserve cochins was a blue pullet, which was also the reserve featherleg by Sara Orłowski. In Standard Cochins, the best blue was a pullet exhibited by Sierra Wilson. The best black was a hen exhibited by Sara Orłowski, which was also the best of breed and best junior Asiatic. The reserve black was a hen by Julia Rotondo, which was also reserve of breed.

At this time, I'd like to discuss Biosecurity. I'm concerned with all the media hype surrounding the Bird Flu Pandemic. Hopefully AI will not reach the states, but I think we should be prepared. Not only do we want to protect ourselves and families, but I know that we have worked hard on improving our Cochins and I'm sure we don't want to see anything happen to them. Good biosecurity practices are the best way to prevent diseases. Personally, I have implemented preventative measures for my own coop and would suggest that you all start thinking about creating plans for your flocks as well. My current biosecurity program includes: wearing separate shoes that I only wear in my coop and any one who wishes to come visit must wear footwear that I provide, I will not use previously used equipment, and birds that have been shown are quarantined for two weeks. In case of an AI outbreak, however, I am ready to cover my runs so my birds are not contaminated with wild bird droppings and am prepared to keep them cooped if need be; we'll of course not take the chickens off the property and no new chickens will be brought into my coop. These are just a few of my thoughts, and I welcome any from you as well. Many of the poultry web sites have articles on biosecurity measures we can implement. I think it's important that if there is an outbreak, we show our communities that we are activity taking precautions.

Well the spring shows are over with in New England. I will be placing the fall show meets soon. The CI NE1 District Meet will be held at the Little Rhody Poultry Fanciers Fall Show at the Washington County Fairgrounds, Richmond, RI on October 15. I'll be asking for award contributions as the date nears. I hope to see many of you at the fall shows with this year's winning birds.

Feel free to contact me with any comments and questions: lamb@psicorp.com - 978-374-2481. Hope you all hatch out some winners for 2006!

Northeast II, Rich Barcewski

Everything is moving along here in the NE II district. We are still seeing some problems with individual states having different rules for A.I. testing and while some are accepting the every 90 day test, now we are seeing some states sticking to the 10 days prior to entering the state requirement. This is not good for the fancy and will definitely hurt some of the shows in the states that are not accepting the every 90 day requirement. The following excerpt came from an article that I wrote for a local farm paper. Since it applies to those of us in the fancy I thought I'd include it here.

Avian Influenza is a real concern, however, talk about pandemics and major human death losses are (while possible), at this point, highly unlikely. The organism that causes Avian Influenza is a virus and viruses have the ability to mutate. The reason anyone even brought up the possibility of a pandemic are several fold. First of all, based on recorded history, the world is due for a major influenza outbreak, secondly, if and when the virus mutates to cause human to human transmission of the disease, our ability to travel across the globe in a matter of hours makes the potential for the organism to spread more likely. Finally, the fact that there have been some human cases of the disease makes some medical scientists believe that this virus has the potential to make the jump to become a major human health problem.

Let's back up a little and discuss Avian Influenza. The virus that causes Avian Influenza comes in several forms and one type of the virus is not the same as another. The virus is identified by two specific proteins that can be found on the surface of the virus, one known as a hemagglutinin

(H) and another known as a neuraminidase (N). When you hear someone talk of a strain of avian influenza, you hear them use these letters combined with numbers. There are 16 different hemagglutinins and 9 different neuraminidase types that are known to exist and they can combine in different ways to form a virus that can infect birds. Every type of the virus is different and many of them are less harmful than others. The strain of Avian Influenza that is of concern and the one that you hear referred to the most in the press is H5N1 which stands for the 5th type of hemagglutinin and the 1st type of neuraminidase.

Scientists believe that the H5N1 strain of Avian Influenza has the potential to mutate to a human to human transmissible form. One of the reasons for this belief is that the H5N1 form of the disease can infect humans, however, up to now, the vast majority of human infections have occurred in a bird to human contact and the virus does not routinely infect humans. It should also be noted that in many of the countries where this has occurred, proper sanitation practices are not in place, and in many cases, people live very close to and in many cases, with their birds. Children use the fowl as pets and spend lots of close contact with them as well.

What does all this mean to individuals who have birds? First of all, be aware that if the H5N1 strain of Avian Influenza reaches the U.S. (and it is possible that it will), bird keepers need to eliminate any contact with other birds, and people that keep birds or they put their own flocks at risk. This should occur as soon as we know the disease is in the states and until it is contained. (Remember that just because the virus may gain entry to our country, doesn't mean it will spread) Every effort needs to be made to prevent the spread of the virus and anyone with birds should minimize their movements and practice high level bio-security. The disease can spread by coming in contact with infected poultry or the secretions/excretions from infected birds. People can carry the organism on their shoes or clothes so special care should be taken to avoid using the same clothes/shoes that you wear around the community, to care for your birds.

If you suspect that your birds may be infected it is important to report the disease to your state animal health professionals. Symptoms of Avian Influenza can in the milder strains be as

minimal as rough looking feathers and a minor drop in egg production to hot strains resulting in mortality rates of 90 to 100 percent of the flock in as little as two days. The condition is respiratory and can be manifested by sneezing, swollen heads, crusting around the eyes and nostrils and diarrhea.

In humans, based on the 124 cases reported so far in other countries, symptoms can mimic typical influenza like symptoms such as fever, cough, sneezing, sore throat and muscle aches. In the severe cases, pneumonia to acute respiratory distress has been observed followed by death.

What should you do about Avian Influenza? Keep informed. If the virus finds it's way into the United States, it will be announced in the media. Stop traveling to bird related activities and incorporate a strict bio-security plan on your property to protect your birds. Remember that the appearance of the virus on U.S. soil doesn't mean we have a pandemic. The virus has not been able to spread continuously from human to human, however we all need to do our part to stop its spread should it arrive.



Reserve of Breed, Buff Cochin hen, at the Hartwell, GA Show 2006, by Doug and Teresa Bishop

Southwest, Bernita Miller

Greetings from Missouri. It has been a great spring and summer – lots of great shows. Our Missouri State Poultry Assoc show was held April 15, 2006. The champion cochin of the 1st show was a Bantam black hen by Gerald Church. The reserve cochin was a white hen by Ken and Bernita Miller. The champion large fowl as a black cochin hen by Gerald Church and the reserve was a buff cockerel by Gerald Church. In the second show, Reserve Champion of the show, reserve champion bantam, champion featherleg bantam was a black cochin cock by Ken & Bernita Miller. The reserve featherleg was a bantam black cochin cockerel by Gerald Church. We had 90 bantams and 23 large fowl this year.

We have hatched several barred cochins this spring that look great, possibly some champion in the next year. We have not been able to go to many shows because of my work, working seven days a week most of the time. We did get to go to Avoca, IA, which was a great show. We had champion bantam on a black cochin cock, on the first show and reserve on the 2nd show. Gerald Church did very well in these shows as well.

Our next show will be the Missouri State Fair at Sedalia, and then the Southern Missouri Show which will also be held at Sedalia in Oct 2006.

I understand Hutchinson, KS, has two great shows coming up in the fall, also Texas and Arkansas. Hope more people get to go to the shows.

I wish everyone good luck on all the upcoming shows. If you have any questions or suggestions for any of the shows, please tell the secretary of the shows so they can put in their plans.

International, John Burgess

The biggest topic on the international scene is still the Avian Influenza (bird flu), the H5N1 variety in particular. With almost all poultry events shut down, seemingly everywhere except in the Americas and Australia, most international news relates to the potential for a flu pandemic.

The latest country to report finding the bird flu is Spain (Jul 06). Again, a water fowl was the culprit. An unprecedented human outbreak in

Indonesia may trigger a higher global alert level - TBD. Health officials there have confirmed that the H5N1 virus has killed at least six (6) members of one extended family and possibly a seventh. The timing of these deaths makes it unlikely that all these family members contracted the disease from the same source, i.e., infected chickens. World Health Organization (WHO) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) officials are on the scene conducting investigations with results pending.

On 30 Jun 06, Oprah Winfrey devoted her show to "A Flu Pandemic." Her guest was Dr. Osterholm, Senior Infectious Disease Specialist at the Univ. of Minnesota. Excerpts from the show follow: Dr. Osterholm stated that "It's going to happen." Waterfowl, chickens and many other species of birds have it, so it just a matter of time. A flu pandemic is expected every 20 - 40 years, so it is due. Virus in birds is not a problem for humans unless the virus mutates and becomes transferable human-to-human. He noted there is no warning that you have it! Humans are infected one day before they know they have it. No vaccine can be available for approximately one year after the DNA of the virus is identified. A pandemic will last for a year to eighteen months. This flu (H5N1) is a cousin of the 1918 bird flu. It is an infectious disease. The whole world will be vulnerable! Projections for the U.S. are: 90 million will get it, 45 million will need medical assistance and 2 million will likely die. He noted that 80 per cent of all our drugs come from overseas. Municipalities only have a 5-7 day chlorine supply for treating water supplies. He quoted the Secretary of Health and Human Services (Michael Levitt) as saying that (he) "is not sure how the bodies can even be taken care of." There is some evidence of mutation in cases in Turkey now and maybe in Indonesia, the latter TBD. Dr. Osterholm states that there will not be enough nurses, doctors and morticians available. Those at highest risk are in the 20-40 age group, not seniors and children. This group (ages 20 - 40) has the healthiest immune systems and will be the most vulnerable. Symptoms include muscle aches, fever, and cough; but, not diarrhea or a runny nose. He explained that the disease infects the lungs. Then the immune system goes into overdrive, and kills the victims. The drug "tamiflu" is effective against current flu viruses; but will only lessen the effects of the bird flu! In his opinion, tamiflu should be

saved for health care officials. Otherwise, what health care workers will be available and willing to work in an infectious environment leaving their families behind? The drug "amantadine" is another flu drug that has been rendered useless already because of overuse. He notes that chicken is safe to eat. The real worry is human-to-human transfer of the disease! He states that our government officials need to be notified, informed and convinced of the seriousness of this threat. Seven billion dollars was proposed for a U.S. vaccine program; \$350 million was approved.

Editor's Note: \$100 million was distributed in Feb 06 to identify the problems. Another \$225 million was released to cities and states this week to buy supplies and fix up medical and emergency services.

These excerpts from the Oprah Winfrey Show are provided in the hope that it will better inform our members of the realities surrounding this disease in the event that human-to-human transfer does occur. Consider Dr. Osterholm's comments as an expert in the field and think about what course of action would be best for you and your family when the time comes. Hopefully, it won't infect humans in a pandemic this time around!!

In other news, one of our members, Helen Pope (formerly Serle) in the UK was recently struck by a cunning night robber who entered her garden and helped himself to the majority of her small flock of self blue (lilac) and black pekings (bantam cochins). Too bad there wasn't a fowling piece handy loaded with rock salt to warm their breeches!!

In June, the National Zoo (Wash., D. C.) moved all their chickens (27) and ducks (18) to their research center in Front Royal, VA as a precaution over concern about the bird flu. The zoo's bio-security practices include foot baths to disinfect their shoes before/after visiting animal areas.

In closing, maintain good bio-security practices and take care of all those new chicks!!

The following article was submitted by CI member Ardjan Warshuis

Second Cochin Day, Zeddum, Holland

On the 10th September 2005 I achieved another ambition in my life in the poultry fancy when I judged large Cochins at this European Show at Zeddum in Holland. Almost 30 years ago I visited Cochin fanciers in Holland when I was just into my 15 year term as Cochin Club secretary. Late one evening our Cochin friends we were staying with took us across Holland to visit a man with the best Black and White Cochin Bantams. This man's daughter had a boyfriend who did not rate chickens at all until these mad Englishmen's visit in the middle of the night. That gentleman, Ardjan Warnhuis, is now "Mr. Motivator" in the Cochin world in Europe and he says it's all my fault. 1977 was our Cochin Club's 75th Anniversary and we engaged a top Dutch judge, Cor Aalbers, to judge our Club Show. Since that day I had nourished the idea of a visit to judge Cochins in Holland and the dream came true.

It was not without some concerns that there might be a last minute postponement because of the Dutch Government's move to keep all free range birds indoors. However there were no restrictions on movements of birds and the show went ahead with an increased entry from last year. I was very fortunate to have a fellow Cochin fancier, Dennis Norvill, to offer me a lift. After spending many years driving commercial vehicles on the Continent, driving on the other side of the road was no problem for him. We went via the Dover-Calais route, up through France and Belgium and across Holland to East of Arnhem. We found our nice hotel, clean rooms, good food and service, just opposite the show hall. Next morning after an early breakfast we were able to walk about 100 yards into the show. How often does that happen?

Two rooms were set aside for the Show, one for the Open Show and the other for the Selling. 200 Large and Bantams with nearly equal numbers of each, plus 30 pens for the Selling, many of these with trios. Based on the figures of last year I had been due to judge Large with the other four judging Bantams. We ended up sharing them plus adding another judge. Reasons for this are that all birds have to have a grading card with a story written on

each and finally a grade. I complicated things as I had to have a steward to translate and write my cards in Dutch. Ardjan did this but as he also organised the event every 15 minutes or so he had to go and sort something out. I just filled my time by talking to those who spoke English and many did. I ended up with 30 large Mottles which were by far the most numerous. I had many excellent birds and most of the criteria that we judge by over here are the same. One part of the bird which merits much closer scrutiny over there is the head. An otherwise excellent bird can be demoted to the bottom end of the merit order by even a small fault on its comb. I was grateful to my fellow scribe, Hans Schippers, who attended the show to take photos for his advice on this matter.

After judging we all repaired downstairs for lunch and besides Hans we also had Hans Rignalda who I used to write for in his Avicultura magazine. My Dutch is so rusty now it was useful having English speakers on our table. During lunch the Championship Judge went through our top birds and when we went back I was very pleased to see my top bird, a cockerel, had won Best in Show and the pullet had won Best Opposite Sex.

I then had a chance to look around and take some photos. Virtually all the birds were young but well grown. There were entries from four countries although visitors came from many others. Besides the Mottled there were Partridge, only fair. Whites and Blacks had good entries and considering their ages there were some good well-feathered birds. Blues, with 11 entries, were more numerous than you see over here and although varied in colour the lighter Blues would be welcome additions to our stock. Buffs I did like although a number showed the same faults we have over here with cutaway fronts on the males. One of the pullets won the award I gave for the bird I would most like to take home with me. A couple of Cuckoos and some Non-Standard made up the numbers. In the Bantams it was harder as we look for a different type in our Pekins, however some Buff females really took my eye and I felt we could use them in the UK.

At the end of the day, which was much too short for me, the presentation took place. Many trophies up for keeps. John & Sylvia Soper won two to bring back to England. Ardjan translated a few words from me. We sat around and chatted for

a long time. We Brits were some of the last to leave. Peter Heywood, our Cochin Club President, had a great time with his wide circle of Cochin friends he has made over the years. Jeff & Betsy Parry were the last friends we said goodbye to. Jeff makes beautiful models of Cochins. A pair of Buffs are one of the Duchess of Devonshire's proud possessions. A model he made for Ardjan of a Partridge male was really beautiful. Will try to get a photo of it to show people.

A great experience and one I would not mind repeating. Thanks to all who made it possible especially Ardjan, Dennis and Peter Heywood who had a lot of input into me going over there.

Michael Hatcher

Cochins International Bank Statement Feb 06-May 06

02-01-06 Previous Balance	3,882.73
02-27-06 deposit	+550.00
	4,432.73
03-30-06 deposit	+322.50
	4,755.23
04-03-06 ck 268 sp newsletter	-576.94
	4,178.29
04-03-06 ck 269 APA ad	- 32.00
	4,146.29
04-21-06 deposit	+230.00
	4,376.29
05-05-06 deposit	+45.00
	4,421.29

Breeders Directory 2007

The fall newsletter will have a sheet to be filled out and sent back in for the 2007 Breeders Directory. We will be accepting ads again and full details will be provided as well as instructions for ad layouts.

2007 Club Elections

2007 is another election year for Cochins International. If you are interested in running for an officer or director position please let me know. All candidates are encouraged to submit a short article announcing their candidacy in our fall newsletter. Many of our current directors have held their positions for a number of years and new ideas and fresh faces are what make a club continue to grow. Yes, the pay is low, okay there is no pay, but volunteers are what enable the club to exist.

2007 Presidential Vacancy

I wanted to let everyone know that I will not be running for President in 2007. I have been a member of Cochins International almost from its inception, and took over the newsletter in the fall of 1998. Now that I am retired from the Marine Corps and have Cochins again, I find my time very limited, and after two terms as your president I feel it is time for someone else to step up to the plate and lead our very fine club. I am honored to have been able to represent one of the best breed clubs in the fancy, and will continue to support Cochins International and the poultry fancy. I will be staying on as the breeders directory chair. ~ Tom

Next Newsletter in December

The next issue of the CI newsletter will come out in December, will contain this year's show results and the updated Master Breeder points and hopefully at least a few pictures of the birds and the folks at the Crossroads show.

I apologize for the delay in getting this issue out, but there's a learning curve in figuring out the formatting of productions such as this one. Also, this issue isn't as "visually" interesting as some in the past, but that can be remedied by your sending me photos or articles for the next issue!

- Jay Smith
(your humble newsletter volunteer)