

COCHINS INTERNATIONAL



NEWSLETTER

MAY 1, 2018



BEST IN SHOW
Pearl River Classic
Columbia, MS
January, 2018
Bantam Black Hen by
Tony & Angela Mills



CHAMPION LARGE FOWL
Northeast Poultry Congress
West Springfield, MA
January, 2018
Large Fowl White Hen by
Tom & Sandra Roebuck, Jr.

The CI Club Newsletter is published three (3) times per year. Approximate printing dates are January 1, May 1 and September 1. Please send all submissions to the Newsletter Editor at least two weeks prior to the printing date. All members are invited and encouraged to submit articles for the Newsletter.



CELEBRATING EXHIBITION EXCELLENCE!

SHOW CHAMPION
Pacific NW Poultry Assn.
Ridgefield, WA
February, 2018
Bantam Black Hen by
Joe Mazur



BEST IN SHOW
Chattahoochee Valley
Poultry Assn.
Newnan, GA
February, 2018
Btm. Black Pullet by
Rhonda Smith

★ *It's a (Smith) Family Affair!* ★

JUNIOR
BEST IN SHOW
Alabama Bantam Club
Clanton, AL
March, 2018
Bantam Black Cockerel by
Rihana Smith





CELEBRATING EXHIBITION EXCELLENCE!



BEST IN SHOW
Show Me Classic
Sedalia, MO
March, 2018
Bantam Black Cock by
Craig Hansen

BEST IN SHOW
NorCal Poultry Assn.
Red Bluff, CA
March, 2018
Bantam Black Hen by
Heidi Hylkema

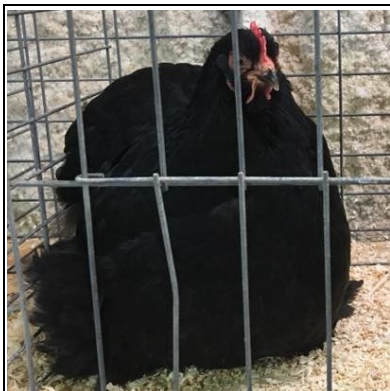


CHAMPION OF SHOW
South Central Regional Classic,
El Dorado, AR
April, 2018
Bantam Black Cock by
Will Bryles



CELEBRATING EXHIBITION EXCELLENCE!

JUNIOR
RESERVE SHOW CHAMPION
National Western Stock Show
Denver, CO
January, 2018
Large Fowl Blue Hen by
Macy Michall



SUPREME SHOW CHAMPION
Uniontown Poultry Assn. Show
Dunbar, PA
April, 2018
Bantam Black Hen by
Becky Salinger, DVM

ANNUAL LEGACY AWARDS

are given in honor of our Master Breeders who have passed or retired from showing. The award is given in their home District and in their specialty Variety.

2018 Otes Ray, Sr. Legacy Award

Awarded to **Rhonda Smith** for the Best Bantam Black at the Southeast District Meet held at the Peachstate Poultry Association, January, 2018.

2018 Maxie Chastain Legacy Award

Awarded to **Judy Gantt** for the Best Bantam White at the Southeast District Meet held at the Peachstate Poultry Association, January, 2018



CELEBRATING EXHIBITION EXCELLENCE! ~ MASTER BREEDER MILESTONES ~



In February at the 2018 Greater California Show in Fresno, California, APA President John Monaco presented **Lacy Conlan** with her Cochins International Junior Master Exhibitor Award. Lacy earned her title at the end of 2017, after earning 3500 points in the Junior Program. Congratulations Lacy!!



In November, 2017, **Wade and Kasey Collins** became our 13th Master Breeders of Bantam Blacks! The Gold Master Breeder title is awarded when a member earns 500 points in one Variety in no less than five years. We congratulate Wade and Kasey on their hard work, commitment and well-deserved wins

In December, 2017, **Rhonda and Rihana Smith** earned their Bronze Certificate of Achievement for Bantam Blacks in the Master Breeder Program. The Bronze level is attained when a member earns 100 points in one Variety. Congratulations Rhonda and Rihana! Keep up the great work!





CELEBRATING EXHIBITION EXCELLENCE! ~ 2017 ANNUAL EXHIBITOR AWARDS ~

The Cochins International Annual Exhibitor Awards were established to recognize and reward, on an annual basis, those members who have earned the most Master Breeder points in their respective (recognized) Variety for the calendar year. Master Breeder points are earned based on the number of Cochins exhibited at shows which host Cochins International meets. Winners are awarded with Certificates documenting their achievements.

Please join us in Congratulating the **2017 Exhibitors of the Year:**

BANTAMS:

Barred:	Edison Cigany
Birchen:	Nancy Compton
Black:	Rhonda & Rihana Smith
Black Frizzle:	Tim Johnson Family
Blue:	Christie Ross
Brown Red:	Bill Mackowski
Buff:	Donna Lamb
Buff Columbian:	Craig Hansen (<i>tie</i>) Tony & Angela Mills (<i>tie</i>)
Columbian:	Craig Hansen
Lemon Blue:	Pilot Mtn. Poultry - Ivy & Jason Young
Mottled:	Joe Mazur
Mottled Frizzle:	Lisa Lillis
Partridge:	Annamay Carlson (<i>tie</i>) Gerald & Barb Church (<i>tie</i>)
Red:	Anita Hunsperger-Bailey
Silver Laced:	Craig Hansen
Splash:	Heidi Hylkema
Splash Frizzle:	Kyle Godwin
White:	Judy Gantt
White Frizzle:	Tessa Young
Overall Bantam:	Judy Gantt

LARGE FOWL:

Barred:	Linda Tobia
Black:	Rick Klehr
Blue:	Jodi Frye
Buff:	Rick Klehr (<i>tie</i>) Treffert Exhibition Cochins (<i>tie</i>)
Partridge:	Rich Barczewski
White:	Tom & Sandra Roebuck, Jr.
Overall Large Fowl:	Jodi Frye

MEMBERSHIPS & MASTER BREEDERS

Linda Lucas, Chairperson

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Welcome to our newest Members!

We're happy you have joined our Cochin Family!

Alabama

Tonya MacRae

Arkansas

Brian, Bryce, Terrie & Kallyn Sossamon

California

Chris Cinotta

Florida

Charles Keller & Tina King

Lily Crawford

Erin Rosskopf

Flynn & Isabel Dempsey and

Laura Corriveau

Emily Murphy

Georgia

Cynthia & Alexandria Tether

Sarah Batz

Greg & Lisa Hancock

Justin Harper

Cindy Gaston

Sandi & David Coombs

Savanna, Kenna, Ken & Angela Bright

Illinois

Beth Schreurs

Susan & Robert Grimm

Kansas

Ethan Nuzum

Matthew & Diane Roggenkamp and

Kenworth Coffrell

Constance & Hudson Asher

Kentucky

Brently Beard

Kendell Staton

Massachusetts

Steven Rogers

Michigan

Soulsister Bantams

Missouri

Deborah Groce

Mississippi

Chad & Karen Powell

North Carolina

Robert Morris

Jason Young

Tyler Maxwell

Jacob Fipps

North Dakota

Katya Baranko

Nebraska

Brooke Wiese

New York

Seren & Samantha Bass

Ohio

Karen Warner

Pennsylvania

David Cutter & Katie Camp and

Autumn & Travis Voyer

Robert Martell

Robert Elsbree

South Carolina

Rhiannon Williamson

Bryan Kalisek

Tennessee

Ty Atchley

Bruce & Barbara Bell

Texas

Maura Lund

Magen Tow

Utah

Kade Esplin

Janet Tipton

Washington

Madison Scott

West Virginia

Michelle Adkins

Congratulations to **Ivy Young** for winning the 4th Quarter Membership Drive sponsored by Country Road Bantams! Thank you to **Tony & Angela Mills** of Country Road Bantams for your award contribution of \$100 in club merchandise.

LINDA LUCAS REPORTS CONTINUED . . .

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Happy Spring, everyone! Well according to the calendar it's supposed to be, but it is snowing in Michigan again

Starting September 01, 2017, it was decided that with Linda Tobia stepping down from CI President, I was to take over mailing the Breeder's Directory to new members and past members that have rejoined CI. On October 01, 2017 I started to mail the membership cards to members along with a letter explaining what Cochins International has to offer and thanking them for being a member of CI. As of April 03, 2018, I have mailed 72 Breeder's Directories and 204 membership cards. We now have 213 members: 12 Juniors, 129 Single and 72 family memberships.

Cochins International Membership Totals			
Type	4/14/17	4/22/18	Change
Single	95	129	+ 35.8%
Family	52	72	+ 38.5%
Junior	14	12	(14.3%)
	161	213	+ 32.3%

MASTER BREEDER POINTS REPORT

Thank you to all of the District Directors for getting the 2017 show reports to me by March 31, 2018, so I could complete the 2017 Exhibitors' Award Winners and the Master Breeder Points. Also, thank you for all of the members that sent in show reports.

There is a couple of things I want to remind everyone when it comes to filling out the Cochins International Show Reports:

- Don't forget to send the Exhibitor's List.
- If you can scan the show report and email it to me, please do, but if you can't then they will have to be mailed.
- **Do Not list** any other feather-legs except **COCHINS!!** No Silkies, Brahmas, Langshans etc.
- List all of the Cochins varieties that were actually shown and judged even if there is only one bird in the variety and/or the exhibitor is not a known CI member, **you must** list them because it will change the Total Number of Cochins Exhibited, **which will change** your points.
- The total number of Bantam Cochins **MUST** equal the Bantam Cochins Varieties and Large Fowl Cochins **MUST** equal the Large Fowl Cochins Varieties.
- If you are not sure on how to fill the report out or have a question, please contact me and/or any of the Officers or Directors.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Gail Carlson, President

816-884-5511

HappyHens1@hotmail.com

Spring Greetings to my Cochin Family!

Although the calendar says it is mid-April, Old Man Winter doesn't seem to want to let go; but the blooming daffodils and broody hens are telling me that Spring is still on the horizon!

Welcome to all our new Club members and thank you to those that renewed for 2018 and continue to support this great Club! **Memberships are UP 32.3%** over this time last year – a testament to the hard work and efforts of your District Directors to insure we maintain our place in the fancy as one of the premier breed clubs. We do this not only with our unequalled top benefits, but also with our commitment to help one another succeed in the show aisles.

Our new State Representative Program is alive and growing! In just a short three months, we have already appointed volunteers in 12 states. It's great to see more and more members helping their District Directors bring localized Club involvement to the state level. Please contact your District Director for more information or to volunteer.

Our 2018 Nationals are set – so mark your calendars! The Western National is in the Pacific District and is being hosted by the Pacific Northwest Poultry Association, December 1, in Ridgefield, Washington. **Terry Britt** has been selected to judge the Cochins. The Eastern National is in the Southeast District and is being hosted by the Tennessee Valley Poultry Club, December 1-2, in Knoxville, Tennessee. **Jonathan Patterson** will be our Cochin judge. Remember it's never too early to donate premiums or volunteer your time!

We are currently accepting bids for the 2019 Nationals. The Eastern National will be in the Northeast 1 District, and the Western National will be in Canada. Bid Sheets for our Nationals can be found on the website.

Congratulations to our members who have reached Master Milestones:

Master Breeder: **Wade & Kasey Collins** in Bantam Blacks

Bronze Certificate of Achievement: **Rhonda & Rihana Smith** in Bantam Blacks

Junior Master Exhibitor: **Lacy Conlan**

I was very proud to recently announce the winners of the 2017 Annual Exhibitor Awards. Certificates for the most Master Breeder points earned in 2017 were awarded to 25 members in 30 different Varieties. The winners are all recognized in this Newsletter.

A huge thank-you to **Linda Lucas** for maintaining our Master Breeder points, and to all the Directors for helping to secure show reports.

While we mourn the passing of Master Breeders, we honor them with Annual Legacy Awards given in their home Districts and specialty Varieties. The Board has recently approved two new Legacy Awards: the Sheryl Butler Legacy Award will be for the Best Bantam Black at the Pacific District annual meets, and the Sandy Isler Legacy Award will be for the Best Bantam Blue at the North Central District annual meets.

The 2018 Otes Ray, Sr. Legacy Award went to **Rhonda Smith** for the Best Bantam Black at the Southeast District Meet in January. The 2018 Maxie Chastain Legacy Award went to **Judy Gantt** for the Best Bantam White, also at the Southeast District Meet in January.

We have recently upgraded our website, and now have the capability of adding videos to our extensive library of education articles. If you have an instructional or educational video to contribute, please contact me.

Don't forget to watch the News Page on the website for Club announcements in between Newsletters. The minutes from Board of Directors meetings are also posted there. Master Breeder Points (and shows reporting) are also on the website. Look for point updates on the Master Breeders Page every three to four months.

All Club Officer and Director terms expire at the end of this year. We will be holding elections by mail in November to fill the positions for the 2019-2020 terms. All terms are for two years. All Letters of Intent from candidates will be published in the September 1st Newsletter. The Letters of Intent must be submitted to me no later than August 7th.

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 6th. If you have an item you would the Board to address, please contact an Officer or your District Director.

Hoping all your Spring grow-outs are Fall winners, Gail

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Matt Lhamon, Vice President

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Dear Members.

Old man Winter will not let go here in the Midwest! Cold and snow are the norm as we near the middle of April! It has to warm up soon and we are supposed to be in the 70's by the weekend.

Hope everyone is having a great hatch. I have several early ones out and getting ready to start batch two. Been a good year as I have had great fertility and about a 99% hatch rate on Cochins. This is the first year I let the White bantams naturally breed and they have been doing great.

Several big shows in the District this year I hope to attend. The APA Semi Annual in Greenville, OH is one I plan to be at. Always a nice show and a great host club! Next our District meet will be in May at the Moon City Poultry Show in Wapakoneta, Ohio. There is not a better run show in the fancy and they also have the Langshan National and the Plymouth Rock Club National meets so the Cochins will have to be spot on. Then on to the ABA National in Columbus, Ohio in November. Whenever the ABA National comes to Columbus you can bet it will be the biggest show of the year and 7000+ birds is not unusual.

After that I hope to make it down to Eastern Kentucky and show a few birds. This up and coming show is typical of Southern hospitality and I enjoy it very much! In Dec, all eyes and birds head to Knoxville, TN to the great Dixie Classic and the CI Eastern National Meet. This will be a great one and neither Mike Sayre or I are judging so we hope to be able to show some birds and our pigeons as they also have a super Pigeon Show in conjunction with the Poultry Show.

I am also taking up ads for the ABA Yearbook for anyone who wants to be on the Club Page. Need your ad copy and payment to me by May 15th. Email is moderngameman@gmail.com and that is also my PayPal. We have several B&W ads to qualify for the 3-page Discount and not doing a color page unless we get more interest.

Collective Full Page Club Rates

Full page club ad is made up of individual ads (6 maximum)

This leaves the 1/4 page on top of page for the sponsoring club at no charge

NEW THIS YEAR: Special quantity pricing for club pages!!

Color	Color (3 pages or more)	Black & White	Black & White (3 pages or more)
\$240 (\$40 per square x 6)	\$180 (\$30 per square x 6)	\$ 120 (\$20 per square x 6)	\$ 90 (\$15 per square x 6)

Deadline – June 1, 2018

Remember to thank your officers and directors for their service to the club. They take a bunch a grief from those who like to complain about everything but do nothing for the club. Elections are coming this fall and consider giving back to the Cochin fancy and serving as an officer or Director. Bill Wulff once told me, no one should be able to complain until they have been a Show Secretary, Breed Club Officer and a Judge. I have been them all and know what he meant by that comment! Throw your name in the hat and make a difference in the hobby!

Enough from me for now, hope to see you on the show trail this fall and may you hatch a winner!

Yours in the Cochin Fancy, Matt Lhamon

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Christopher Rob, Secretary

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silkies.r.awesome@gmail.com

Hello Everyone!

I'm sure all are well on their way with the hatching season and some have even started on conditioning the young ones! Here in Western PA we have finally reached a reprieve from the never-ending winter. The coming of spring weather will make the chores 1/2 as extensive. Now we can get a chance to blow all the chick dust out from them growing up all cooped inside! I hope all those still showing are enjoying themselves and I want to congratulate those on all their wins no matter how big or small. A Cochin win is a Cochin win to me! I personally don't show in the Spring and don't know how some of you do it. I get all caught up in the breeding, hatching and rearing of the kiddos and can't even imagine showing/conditioning birds at the same time. Plus, half of my birds look like they got into a fight with a tornado and all they won was to stay alive with a few feathers! What a true commitment that is to these birds and someday will have to figure it out for myself! I may go to a show or 2 this Spring just to support and enjoy some comradery but we will see. I hope all are taking care, especially of themselves, and getting out those winners for the Fall Season (not wishing for the cold weather back too soon though!) Take Care all and keep on with the dedication to the fluffy butts we love!

2018 COCHINS INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT & NATIONAL MEETS

Jan 13	Peachstate Poultry Assn.	Madison, GA	Southeast
Mar. 23-25	NorCal Poultry Assn.	Red Bluff, CA	Pacific
May 12-13	Moon City Poultry Show	Wapakoneta, OH	North Central
Sept. 30	Eastern NY State Poultry Assn.	Cobleskill, NY	Northeast 1
Oct. 13	Vernon Pigeon & Poultry Club	Armstrong, BC	Canada
Nov. 3-4	Maryland State Poultry Fanciers	Frederick, MD	Northeast 2
Nov. 17-18	North American Poultry Breeders	Shawnee, OK	Southwest
Nov. 24-25	Eastern Iowa Poultry Assn.	Davenport, IA	West Central
Dec. 1	Pacific Northwest Poultry Assn.	Ridgefield, WA	Western National
Dec. 1-2	Tennessee Valley Poultry Club	Knoxville, TN	Eastern National

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jamie Matts, Treasurer

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Hi everyone,

I hope this newsletter finds everyone happy and healthy and raising tons of cochins. This past quarter has been extremely busy for me. Between the weather and animals, life here is never dull. I recently purchased a 12x16 Amish shed to serve as my day-old chick raising area. This is where my five GQF's are located and two table top brooders. I had a wall mount propane heater installed and even with the negative temps the incubators and brooders kept the chicks warm. I keep the chicks here for about two weeks then I move them to my brooder house.

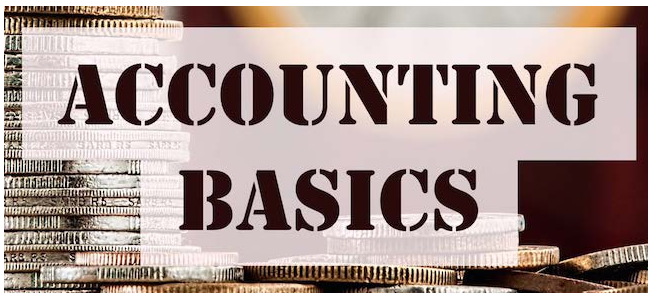
After 30 years of raising them I feel I have it down to a pretty good set up. I have not turned off two of the GQF's in almost 7 years. Last year was a banner year for me shipping birds and this year is turning out quite similar. My goal has always been to get more cochins out there in hopes to spark the next poultrymen and women for the future. We all have different reasons for being in this hobby some for points, others for starred wins, some for social interaction, but at the end of the day we all should be looking towards the future and how each and every one of us can promote the club.

The treasurers report will follow and you all can thank Gail for helping with the spreadsheet info, I spend very little time on the computer. This quarter I ordered and received the ribbons for this year's nationals. I hope everyone has a great summer and that summer lasts until December!! Its April and I am still dealing with snow.

Until next time take care, Jamie

COCHINS INTERNATIONAL - ACCOUNTING OF CASH ON HAND

	12 Mos. Ended Dec. 31, 2017	2018 January	2018 February	2018 March	3 Mos. Ended Mar. 31, 2018
Revenues:					
Membership Dues	2,200.67	413.50	577.50	382.50	1,373.50
Membership Dues & Merchandise	1,152.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Merchandise	872.00	402.50	204.50	120.00	727.00
Less: Merchandise Sale Discounts	0.00	0.00	(12.60)	(15.30)	(27.90)
Merchandise Shipping Fees	17.00	5.00	0.00	19.00	24.00
Breeders Directory Ads	1,089.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Raffles & Auctions	317.00	103.00	0.00	0.00	103.00
Other - Merchandise Drive	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other - Donation from Key Chain Sales	36.00	57.00	3.00	6.00	66.00
Total Revenues	5,783.67	981.00	772.40	512.20	2,265.60
Expenses:					
Advertising	125.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Breeders Directory	1,749.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
COGS - ABA Cochins Bantams Book	88.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dues - YEPA	25.00	0.00	0.00	35.00	35.00
Junior Program Awards	190.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Member Memorial Donations	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Newsletter	638.61	14.82	0.00	0.00	14.82
PayPal Fees	9.02	0.76	3.22	4.93	8.91
Plaques	96.00	0.00	0.00	32.00	32.00
Postage & Shipping	453.54	40.00	172.40	0.00	212.40
Rosette Ribbons	1,128.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Self Blue Qualifying Meet	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00
Website	19.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Expenses	4,574.55	55.58	225.62	71.93	353.13
NET CASH PROFIT (LOSS)	1,209.12	925.42	546.78	440.27	1,912.47
Beginning Cash Balance on Hand	3,014.98	4,224.10	5,149.52	5,696.30	4,224.10
Net Cash Profit (Loss)	1,209.12	925.42	546.78	440.27	1,912.47
ENDING CASH BALANCE ON HAND	4,224.10	5,149.52	5,696.30	6,136.57	6,136.57



COCHINS INTERNATIONAL - ACCOUNTING OF INVENTORY ON HAND

Item	Retail Value	12/31/17 Inventory Count	Value	1Q 2018 Sales Count	Value	3/31/18 Inventory Count	Value
T-Shirts	20.00	37	740.00	2	40.00	35	700.00
Sweatshirts	25.00	59	1,475.00	8	200.00	51	1,275.00
Hoodies	35.00	61	2,135.00	10	350.00	51	1,785.00
Caps	10.00	16	160.00	2	20.00	14	140.00
Patches	5.00	94	470.00	4	20.00	90	450.00
Decals	9.50	9	85.50	6	57.00	3	28.50
Cochins Bantams Book	10.00	8	80.00	4	40.00	4	40.00
			<u>5,145.50</u>		<u>727.00</u>		<u>4,418.50</u>

PRESIDENT EMERITUS' REPORT

Tom Roebuck, President Emeritus

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goldenfeatherfarm@gmail.com

Around the Show Hall

As I travel around for my judging assignments, I try to take the time to look through the Cochin classes, even when I don't get tasked with the Featherleg or Asiatic classes. Gail asked me to provide some of my observations. Generally, I have found the classes to be inconsistent. There are usually a handful of top notch birds, but then the remainder of the class has issues that in my opinion can be fixed fairly easily with tough culling and very selective breeding. So what am I seeing in particular? Focusing on the bantams for this article...

Heads: I am seeing some narrow heads, long beaks, and sloppy combs, with the comb issues being more prevalent in the males, but that is mainly because the males have larger combs by design. Select birds with shorter beaks for your breeding program. More space from the top of the head to the top of the eye will result in an inherently better head as it is the polar opposite of the crow head issue. Also, look for shorter heads front to back. What I mean by that is look for shortness from the back of the head behind the eye to the back of the beak. That, combined with a shorter beak will result in a much better head. Width of skull is also important but not so much that you lose sight of the bird attached to the head. The first three words in the Standard under the description for the head are: Short, broad, and deep. And on a show prep note, trim the beaks on your birds. It takes a couple seconds and makes the birds look so much better. As far as the combs go. We are looking for a medium comb. While 5 points are the ideal as far as structure, extra or less points on the comb aren't as big a deal from an exhibition perspective as things like twists in the blade or a blade that falls to one side, or a single comb that just isn't straight. Pay attention to the combs on your females in the breeding pen. Females with comb issues are going to pass that on to their offspring.

Leg color: See some awful leg color, especially in the white bantams. Leg and beak color in whites is yellow. Not white, not willow or blue. I give due consideration for a female in production but white males with white legs? I have also seen some blacks with willow legs and some with white legs. Yellow to swarthy yellow needs to have some yellow in there somewhere.

Lack of symmetry: One of the more prevalent issues in my opinion. Simply, I am seeing many Cochins that lack balance. Mostly this is from front to back. Maybe not enough back end to balance out the front or they stand too tall, dropping the tails way below the head, or they have no backs whatsoever. Neck/hackle transitioning right into cushion/saddle is not the structure of a properly proportioned Cochin.

Feather quality: narrow feathers which allow for the fluff to show through, and lots of females with stringy cushion and tail feathers. How do we fix this flaw? Select away from it when picking your breeders.

Overdone Cochins. What does that mean? Mainly I see this with the larger Cochin bantams. Granted we don't weigh the birds in the show, but the bigger birds tend to have fairly sloppy structure, undefined transition from neck to back to cushion, poorly tucked wings, and lack the lines that a good Cochin needs to showcase.

I know it sounds like I am slamming the Cochins. I am not. Merely pointing out some deficiencies that seem (to me) to be trending in the show halls in varieties that we shouldn't be seeing them in. I am also seeing some fantastic representation in many of the other varieties. Brown Red, Birchen, Lemon Blue, Columbian, Buff

Columbian, Barred. I will also give a nod to some very nice Silver Blues that I've seen in person and in photos from shows I haven't attended. Keep in mind that they are not yet recognized so are not supposed to be selected for anything higher than Best or Reserve of Variety. I am not saying they aren't deserving of a higher award, but as the rules are written our judges shouldn't be putting them as class champions or reserves. It is a very eye catching color, and I am hopeful that we have a qualifying meet for the Silver Blues in our future!

That's all for now. I will see you around the show halls!

Self Blue Cochin Bantam Qualifying Meet

Yes, you read that correctly. The fees are paid, the paperwork submitted to the American Bantam Association and everything is set in motion to hold a qualifying meet at the 2018 ABA National Meet, hosted by the Ohio Poultry Breeders Association, this November 10th and 11th in Columbus, Ohio.

So, for those of you that have been working hard on improving your Self Blues, it's time to wash and polish those gems and put them on display. The requirements for the qualifying meet are pretty simple. We need to have a minimum of 25 entries in the Self Blue Cochin Bantam class with representation in all four classes (cock, hen, cockerel, and pullet), exhibited by at least 5 ABA members. Mark your calendars and hatch a pile of Self Blues.

I have been coordinating with a couple of the other Self Blue breeders and you can expect some special awards and other items to commemorate the qualifying meet. If you have any additional questions or would like some more information feel free to contact me at either (540) 661-9530 or via email at goldenfeatherfarm@gmail.com. We are confident that we will have a successful qualifying meet and I am throwing out a challenge to our breeders to lay down Self Blue entries that push us over 100 Self Blue Cochin bantams for the qualifying meet. That would really be something.



Bantam Self Blue Hen and Cock by Tom Roebuck

WE'RE HERE TO SERVE YOU!

OFFICERS

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Jamie Matts , Treasurer	607-725-7390	mattsjt@aol.com
Christopher Rob , Secretary	724-593-2290	silkies.r.awesome@gmail.com
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All other State and Canadian Providence Representative positions are Open!
Please contact your District Director for more information or to apply.

NORTHEAST 1 DISTRICT REPORT

CT, ME, MA, NH, NY, RI, VT

Lisa Podgwaite, Director

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Hope everyone is having a great hatching season. Reports from many members vary from not-so-good to great. I, for one, am having a great season so far. I have a ton of Black and White Bantams on the ground as well as a few large Blacks. Yup have a few of Colleen Toole's blacks to play around with. They certainly are gentle giants.

I have placed meets at the following shows so far; Little Rhody, Central Maine, Connecticut Poultry Breeders, New Hampshire Poultry Fanciers, as well as the Northern New York Show. The 2018 District 1 District Meet will be at the Eastern New York State Poultry Association show at Cobleskill NY the last Sunday in September. This is a great show in a great location. I certainly hope you can join us.

Bill Mackowski and I have a few special things plan for the upcoming meets; watch the CI page for details.

See you around the shows! Lisa

Whether you go West or go East, all roads lead to a **Cochins International National Meet**
the first weekend of December, 2018!!



The **2018 Western National** will be in the Pacific District, and is being hosted by the **Pacific Northwest Poultry Association, December 1, in Ridgefield, Washington.**

The **2018 Eastern National** will be in the Southeast District, and is being hosted by the **Tennessee Valley Poultry Club, December 1-2, in Knoxville, Tennessee.**

Now is the time to mark your calendars, and it's never too early to contact the District Director to volunteer your time at the show, or to donate premiums, auction and raffle items.

Director **Bryant Helvey** is your contact for the Western National at bryant.helvey@gmail.com.

Director **Ivy Young** is your contact for the Eastern National at ivyoung@bellsouth.net.

Cochins Rule!

NORTHEAST 2 DISTRICT REPORT

DE, MD, NJ, PA, VA, WV

Rich Barczewski, Director

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First of all, I hope that all of you are having excellent hatches this spring. I decided after many years of getting an early start that I was going to delay my hatches for this one year only. Just getting started in early April instead of January. Picked a good year to do it with all the cold weather this year. Not intending to raise that many either, hopefully just about one half of my normal 50. After 37 years as a working large animal veterinarian, my wife decided to retire this year. She is going to have me by about a year and a half but it is nice to see her enjoying her hobbies more now that she has slowed down a bit. I'm shooting for next June so hopefully; I'll be able to spend even more time with the birds then.

I wanted to talk a bit about social media in this report. I know a lot of our poultry hobbyists frequent Facebook and some of the other social media venues, but one thing that I've noticed is that we often forget the golden rule in how we use these mediums. That being to treat everyone the way you would like to be treated. Many folks who use social media seem to have thin skin and things are quickly taken as negative or mean spirited when in fact someone might have just given an honest opinion or quick answer to a question.

Social media has offered many of our breed clubs an opportunity to reach out to folks who might normally not have found us so in some cases, it may be worth making an extra effort to educating them up to speed. I say this knowing full well that many who troll through our pages may not have a serious interest in exhibition poultry but every once in while we may find some new members who do have that interest.

Here in NE II we have several spring shows this year. Besides Delmarva, which was held last weekend (March 24 and 25), we will also have Uniontown PA, York, PA (returning after being absent for a few years), and Sussex County Poultry Fanciers show in New Jersey. If you would like to have a Cochins International meet for your show, all you have to do is ask, and then be sure to fill out the show report form. We have been experiencing some problems with certain clubs not submitting their show reports and failure to do so will result in you not getting future meets.

Feel free to contact me if I can be of any service to you. As always, your friend in Cochins, Rich.

NATIONAL MEET ROTATIONS

EAST DISTRICTS

2018 – Southeast / Dec. 1-2 / Tennessee Valley Poultry Club / Knoxville, TN

2019 – Northeast 1 / Open

2020 – North Central / Open

2021 – Northeast 2 / Open

WEST DISTRICTS

2018 – Pacific / Dec. 1 / Pacific Northwest Poultry Assn. / Ridgefield, WA

2019 – Canada / Open

2020 – Southwest / Open

2021 – West Central / Open

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT REPORT

IL, IN, KY, MI, OH, WI

Dustin Drake, Director

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Good morning. With hatching season well underway and everyone is busy trying to keep track of everything at least I am most of you know that I collected a job in California working for a Tuff shed been training people in San Diego and learning the trades of the new company. I have been offered a new job back in Ohio with same company transferring back here soon, with all the traveling I been doing I have neglected to keep track of some things. But a little bit of a heads up on things there is a special meet at the Green River poultry show April 21st. There also is a special meet at the Greenville Ohio poultry show the end of April. Moon City in May a first show has a district meet and the second show is a special meet. I will be attending the Greenville show and Moon City shows.

CANADA DISTRICT REPORT

Kathy Stevenson, Director

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It felt like winter would never end this year, but eventually spring always arrives. I hope spring brings you a new generation of Cochin chicks that meets or exceeds your expectations. As they grow and develop, we always hope for a few outstanding birds that out-perform their parents. These few will, in turn, be some of next-season's breeders, and the ongoing cycle of flock improvement continues. This goal of breeding better birds is such a worthwhile one, for so many reasons. It can be very fulfilling since every step forward gives us a sense of accomplishment and keeps us invested and committed for another year.

For me, breeding and raising Blue Cochins has been a long- term obsession! I'm not ready to let go of them yet but I have decided to cut back. I'm making a few changes to reduce the workload around the farm, and that includes raising fewer chicks than in past years.

I've also decided not to run in the upcoming CI elections. Serving on the CI Board and representing the members of Canada for the past 2 terms has been an honour. I believe that supporting and ensuring the continuation of this active breed club is just as important as it's ever been, if not more. People who are just entering this hobby are being bombarded by contradictory information and false advice from online sources and we need to make sure trusted and reliable resources stay available. CI fills this need through the website articles, breeder directories and newsletters. At the heart of CI is a spirit of giving, of sharing wisdom and a willingness to help others. Please consider putting your name forward to serve as the CI representative for Canada. It's a great way to promote Cochins while helping to strengthen and steer the direction of a very worthwhile organization! If you'd like to chat more about the role of director for Canada, please feel free to contact me.

With kind regards, Kathy Stevenson, Director

IN MEMORIAM - A TRIBUTE TO SANDY ISLER MASTER BREEDER OF BANTAM BLUES

By Matt McCammon

It is with a heavy heart that I write this tribute. Sandra "Sandy" Isler, of Otisco IN and the lone CI Master Breeder of blue Cochin bantams, passed away in 2017. I first met Sandy in the early 1990's. I contacted her and requested to purchase a blue cockerel. She had an extra and met me at the Gateway show in Martinsville, IN. That was the beginning of a superb friendship.

Sandy and her husband, Tom, lived a simple life. Today we would call it "off the grid"! They were two of the happiest people I have ever met. Although this article is to focus on Sandy's achievements, the couple was always together and shared in each other's wins. They always entered shows as Tom and Sandy Isler. Sandy raised her blue, splash, and black Cochin bantams. She also had some of the nicest red Cochin bantams I have ever seen. She raised caged birds of every color and species. Walking in that "bird room" was like walking in a tropical rain forest. Whether it was plants, birds, rabbits, guinea pigs, or some other venture, Sandy always did a fantastic job! Tom also raised superb golden and silver Sebrights. Tom and Sandy were active members in the Kentuckiana Poultry Club.

On a May morning, I attended the Kentuckiana show and began cooping my birds. I was met by a friend who informed me that Tom had suffered a heart attack and died the day before. I asked my friends to finish cooping in for me, and I immediately headed to see Sandy. They only lived about 15 minutes away. We spent that day together laughing and crying. Life after Tom was rough for Sandy. She had lost her mother, who lived with them for several years, and her daughter who battled cancer for a long time. Now she was alone. Living in such an isolated manner, there was always work to do that was often too much for her. She was not comfortable driving to shows, so we came up with an arrangement. A few years earlier I had given my blue bantams to Sandy. I had begun having very good results with my mottleds, and I needed room to keep them for a while. So, Sandy combined our lines. I offered to take the best back and keep them during show season. I entered them in her name and showed them. Of course, they did well. When Tom died I think she was about 30 points away from Master Breeder Status, and she wanted that so much. I couldn't let her stop there. I distinctly remember calling her from the Columbus, OH show and informing her that her birds had gotten BV and RV with about 20 blues in the class. That gave her 501 Master Breeder Points! She screamed so loudly on the other end, then the line became very quiet. After checking to see if she was still there, I realized she was crying. She was so emotional! I still have a card she sent me after that as a thank you. Emotion was in every pen stroke.

On a very warm March day, Henryville and Otisco were struck by multiple tornadoes. Sandy's house and property were badly damaged, and she was very lucky to escape with her life. It was several weeks before I could find any information about Sandy's condition. When able, I drove there and asked neighbors. She was living with her sister awaiting assistance with the rebuild. During that time, I lost contact with her for a while. No home phone and no cell. Really off the grid this time. I visited months later and found a mission group putting the finishing touches on a modest home that Sandy was so proud of. Sandy lived there for a couple of years before being diagnosed with cancer. She received very good care from neighbors whom she and Tom had befriended years ago. She passed away in a care facility, only living away from her beloved home a few weeks.

Lots of tragedy, but I don't think of that when I think of Sandy and Tom. I think of the best friends a guy could ask for. I think of a couple that was married for many years but still acted like newlyweds. I remember the kindness that never sent you home without a dozen cookies, or a cool plant to grow in my classroom, or a pair of diamond doves, and once (and only once!) a pair of guinea pigs. I hope each of you has someone like the Islers that you have met as a result of your time in this hobby. I know I am a better breeder, exhibitor, friend, and human being because of Tom and Sandy Isler.



Sandy and Matt at the Red Hill Bantam Club, Bridgeport, IL, 1992



and at the White River Poultry Club, Spencer, IN, 1995

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT REPORT AR, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, TX

Bernita Miller, Director

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Hi from Missouri,

The weather can't make its mind up. Cold, warm, rain, sleet, snow and next week is supposed to be in the 70's. I am working on coop cards for MO State Poultry Association April 21st. I am hoping for nice weather.

Chickens aren't sure what to do. Looking really good. Remember to help out a 4-H youth. KS show is next week, hope they have a good turnout. MO already has 45 open entries and 15 juniors; don't have all the entries as of yet.

Hope all have a good season.

FEATURED GUEST ARTICLE

By Karl Rau

I'm Back!

Cochin breeding and showing is a disease that never really goes away. I can attest to that . . . because I'm back after a hiatus of 15+ years.

Some of you may remember me from the last 3 decades. Although I never was able to travel to Columbus, I made it to most of the shows in the Northeast along with my Dad and traveling partner... Norman Rau. We had separate coops and lived over an hour apart but shared birds in our quest for that perfect cochin! As I have aged, memories of my past have become more and more important. The trophies I won, the breeding challenges I faced in the barn and certainly not least, the great friendships I discovered will never be forgotten.

Many of the breeders I befriended seem like names from a history book. Whites from LeGrande, Lacey and Vines, Blacks from Carrol and Hooker, Buffs from Hawes, Mottles from Mazur...all of these birds were blended into my own flock. The best white I ever purchased came from Luther... he was spectacular. I also remember calling Craig on the phone and asking for 2 pair of blacks that would bring me to another level. He said ok but it will cost you \$400. I almost fell over backwards....as a HS teacher making only \$8000/yr. But I said yes and it was the best purchase I ever made. Do you think I told my wife . . . heck no!

Another memory... One evening, I called Mr. X about improving my blues ... he said to me why would you want birds from me ...you and your Dad have the best blues and mottles in the country. I paused and smiled. Whether we did or didn't isn't the point.... the point is that it's the memories.

No one wanted to find success more than I... learning to relax during judging and accepting the judges' decisions was and will always be an important part of the cochin hobby. Hopefully we all can learn from life's experiences ...I certainly have.

Enough of my past.... now I'm 70 years old, still living in the same house here in Maine, daily walking past empty or dismantled coops. A few months ago, while walking down my driveway to get my mail... an unfamiliar car pulls into my driveway... out steps a familiar face but I couldn't place him. It was an acquaintance from my cochin past... after he left, I made the "cochin mistake". I emailed him asking if he wouldn't mind a visit. The dagger was set! In the span of 3-4 months I went from no cochins to well let's just say I have a few!!! WE now email almost every day! Friends for sure.

This new "Cochin Chapter" will be with a somewhat different twist. Always loved genetics...studied it in college and played the color game long ago even when it wasn't popular. Silver Laced Cochins aren't new, I had some 25 years ago! In my hay-day I had at one point 17 different colors of cochins.... did I ever get frustrated showing non-standard colors...you bet? In the early days if it wasn't black or white...it would never win...but at the end... things were beginning to change . . . a change I applauded.

Yup...now I'm back...hook line and sinker!

Any Cochin regrets . . .? Well I wish the process for making a "new" color showable (Accepted) wasn't so long. tedious and time consuming.... I will never understand why Black Mottles can be shown but Blue Mottles from the same nest aren't accepted. I hope the process changes... until it does the colors will always take a back seat. That makes me sad.

Having said the above, you ask what my goals are now. that's easy! Getting too old to drive 24 hours to a show.... I will enjoy the hobby from my own barn creating colors that might not exist today or at least help develop existing ones with proper and better cochin type.

In this CI letter, I am choosing not to name names and friends who have helped with my return / the last thing I want is to offend someone by leaving them accidentally out. but there have been many ...you know who you are...thanks for the friendship and help ... I truly mean it.

Today I wake to a new day smiling.

Are you interested in Salmon, Chocolate Buff Columbian, Lavender Furness, or Coronation...? There is a long list of "projects" in my notebook...each with a plan of attack, both phenotypically and genotypically. Some projects will be relatively easy...simply a plan of selection...while others will be from the ground up!!!!!!!! There is a gentleman in the state of Washington, I might add who has become a great friend overnight, he alone knows of a Cochin Bantam color I am creating that does NOT exist today in the USA. stay tuned! ☺

Before I close I want to comment about 3 photos I have included with my letter. One is a photo of an old Boston Poultry show Cochin "line-up" ... My Dad on the left with Best Blue...Bob Hawes in the center with Best Buff and yours truly on the far right with CH (white) Cochin of the show.... you might notice I was only 51 years old then and had hair! A second photo is one of my Dad and Mom at the Windsor show...I believe this was the last show he attended.... they are both now in heaven. I often think of you both. The last photo is of a Best Featherleg Pullet bred by my Dad... perhaps biased, but I think the nicest Blue Cochin Bantam I have ever seen.

Best of luck to you all, Karl F. Rau ... living in Maine
Email anytime! krau@fairpoint.net



WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT REPORT IA, MN, MT, NE, ND, SD, WY

Craig Hansen, Director

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Greeting from here in Iowa where winter weather has been hanging around for long enough. No Shows to report in this district since the CI Western National last November. I have a few chicks already hatched and several hundred eggs in the incubators at this time. Always a time of year I look forward too.

First show of the year in West Central District is the show in Missoula Montana May 5. The other one this spring is at Avoca Iowa, May 12-13 then nothing for shows until fair shows start.

Ken Splett is now CI State Representative for South Dakota. Interested in being a State Representative please contact me or Gail Carlson.

Wishing everyone well and hope you have a great hatch this spring.



2017 WESTERN NATIONAL JUDGE'S SYNOPSIS by Dwight Madsen, APA/ABA General Licensed Judge

It was an honor to be asked to judge the Western National Thanksgiving weekend in Davenport, Iowa. Wonderful location and facility well suited for the show.

The representation of birds was tremendous, in large fowl the blacks and buffs had the best numbers, the black I picked was a very nice bird specimen to represent the breed, the buffs also nice typed but lacking in smoothness of color. The bantams unlike the large fowl had a very nice selection of varieties represented, can not name them all. A nice number of blacks which I found several birds well-conditioned nice type one female I really liked her for type, color but could not get her to stand up for any period of time, which I gave her several opportunities to do so ended up going with a black male as best variety. Going on to the others, good representation of several other colors, partridge, silver laced, buff and one I will not soon forget was the butterscotch, type was really nice but color was a ways to go, females a little too light and the males closer to what I consider the color describes. All in all I found a very nice female to put up as Best of Breed. Thanks again for allowing me to judge your birds.

Dwight Madsen

PACIFIC DISTRICT REPORT

AK, AZ, CA, HI, ID, NV, OR, UT, WA

Bryant Helvey, Director

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Hello from the Pacific District!

I hope everyone is enjoying a fruitful hatch. I have not begun hatching or even moved birds to breeding pens yet- there have been too many other farm tasks. Lambing season is recently over, and the orchard fence is almost complete. I did start forty broiler chicks last week to get the brooders warmed up and fill the freezer in the coming months. Soon I will begin setting some cochin eggs.

Those of you planning to have prime, young birds available for our December 1st Western National, at the Pacific Northwest Poultry Association show in Ridgefield, WA should have chicks on the ground already! Remember that this national will be held at a double show, so it is worth the travel! This club held a double show this spring at the same location so they are well practiced and we expect a great turnout.

When you do bring your birds west, expect tight competition. We held our 2018 District Meet (you can have a district meet and national meet in the same year!) in March at the NorCal Poultry Association spring show in Red Bluff, CA. Heidi Hylkema, a long-time CI member from Oregon, won Grand Champion of the show with a large black cochin hen, and topped that off with Reserve Feather-legged with a bantam blue hen. Great job Heidi! Heidi shows on the west coast consistently but prides herself on a small breeding flock and hatching a select number of chicks each year. We all hear and strive for the mantra of "breed many and keep few", but Heidi's success proves that the small flock owner can have great results if you are careful about your breeding.

As a long-time Cochins International member, I am really proud of the recent wins and very competitive classes we have seen around the country by some of the previously rare varieties. For bantams, brown reds, birchens, blues, and mottleds have been up for more best of breed awards in the past year than I can remember in the previous decades. Some members share great videos of show classes at their favorite show, and there are groups of barred and Columbian birds out there that are ready to compete. The self blue variety has been highly developed and will make a run at Standard acceptance this fall. I believe that in the last five years there has been a very focused club effort to encourage exhibitors and breeders to adopt one of these "other" standard varieties, and as an enthusiast of color genetics it is very rewarding to see that our membership has responded. Social media is easy to debate, but one of its benefits is the ability for people to connect around a common interest. I believe that the combined timing of Cochins International's rare variety initiative and rise of social media have done more for the future of silver laced cochins (and all of these other great varieties) than anything since they were admitted to the standards.

Hatch some great cochins of your favorite variety this spring- bring your best to Washington in December and share the second best with a youth near you!

SOUTHEAST DISTRICT REPORT

AL, GA, FL, MS, NC, SC, TN

Ivy Young, Director

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Happy Spring! This show season in the southeast has been one for the record books!

The district meet was held in Madison, GA at the Peach State Poultry Association on 1/13/18 and what a huge turnout of cochins we had. Over 200+ bantams and a small class of LF. But still amazing. I personally have never seen a district meet so huge.

Congratulations to the winners:

BANTAMS: BB **Rhonda Smith** Black K (and ROS); RB **Judy Gantt** White K; 3rd **Darrell Garland** Blue K (Best AOV); 4th **Justin Harper** Birchen H (Resv AOV); 5th **Ivy Young** Lemon Blue P; Best Frizzle **Tony Mills** White H; Resv Frizzle **Tony Mills** White H. **LARGE FOWL:** Champion LF **Tony Mills** Black P; Resv LF **Jodi Frye** Blue H. **JUNIORS:** Ch. LF & Overall Ch. Cochin **Jodi Frye** Black H; BB **Rihana Smith** Black K; RB **Jodi Frye** Splash P; Best AOV **Jodi Frye** Blue P; Resv AOV **Jodi Frye** Mottled P.

I want to personally thank all who came and supported the district meet. And also helped out with donation of awards. Truly blown away with the quality of birds at this show. It was amazing to say the least!

As spring is here hatching season starts and ends. I'm really thankful so far, I've had an early hatching season and can officially say it's over for us. I'm loving the looks of my grow outs. I hope I can finally get back on track this year. It was surely rough watching from the sidelines.



2018 Southeast District Meet Winning Line-up!

Peachstate Poultry Assn. • Madison, GA • January 13, 2018

Left to Right: Teri Frye, Jodi Frye, Rhonda Smith, Rihana Smith, Judy Gantt, Justin Harper, Darrell Garland and Tony Mills

SOUTHEAST DISTRICT CONTINUED . . .

I'm so thankful to everyone in the SE for the help and support I've gotten. It has truly been a blessing to be your District Director. The friendships and fellowship are why I enjoy it so much.

Last but not least I want to remind everyone the SE is hosting the Eastern National this year, In Knoxville TN December 1st & 2nd. I would like to personally invite everyone to come to this show. Anyone wanting to sponsor awards towards this please feel free to contact me.



Jacob Hodes won Junior
Champion Featherleg
at the 2017 ABA National at
the TVPA in Knoxville, TN in
December.

BB, Champion FL and
Overall Champion Cochin
at the 2018 Southeast
District Meet at the
Peachstate Poultry Assn. in
Madison, GA in January.
Black Cockerel by
Rhonda Smith



BB & Champion FL at the
Friendship Poultry Club Meet in
Morganton, NC in March.
White Hen by
Tessa Young

INTERNATIONAL REPORT

John Burgess, Director

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International Cochinday, by Ardjan Warnshuis

On the 11th of November breeders and Cochin lovers met in Tiel, Holland. A great new location as you can see on the pictures. Breeders from Italy, France, Belgium, Germany, Rumania and Holland came with birds to the show. We had judges from Germany, Italy, France, Belgium and Holland. There were visitors from the eastern part of Europe and even Turkey. A couple of breeders from the States had send some prizes for this special day.

65 Cochins had been entered in eight colours. One splash male made the start, followed by three mottled birds. All in good quality. Nineteen birds in white. The best birds from B.Molderman (NL) and P.Rolla (I). Eleven birds in black where J.D.Nijkamp (NL) had best male and best female. A male and two females in blue. Eight cockerels and twelve pullets in buff. Very nice birds from Sebastian Seculici from Rumania. Two birds in bobtail and six in cuckoo. All very nice birds. Best Cochin was a white pullet from Paolo Rollo (I). Best opposite sex a buff cockerel of Seculici (RO).

There were entered 170 Cochin bantams in nineteen colours. In the AOC-class eleven new, not recognized colours. Also, some frizzles were entered. Overall very good quality, with many high predicates. There were birds in silver partridge (cock breeders) (4), wheaten (7), silver wheaten (8), Laced silver partridge (pullet breeders) (4), birchen (5), splash (1), mille fleur (16), mottled (17), blue mottled (5), white (5), black (26), blue (3), buff (10), bobtail (17), chocolate (2), cuckoo (5), blue partridge (1), partridge (6) and 8 braungebändert (German laced partridge with rather red ground colour). All birds were judged and each judge pointed out his best male and best female. These 16 birds were lined up and then the best in show and best opposite sex were picked. Best Cochin bantam was a pullet in braungebändert from Mike Gallasch (D). Best opposite sex was a black cockerel from Henk Don (NL). Both birds got 97 points. The highest possible score.

Many visitors were there to buy birds. Most of the birds in the sale got new homes. Overall, we can say the day was a great success with many international visitors. From the UK Elaine Oliver and her husband, John Soper and his wife were present as well as Tim McNeight who was very interested in the judging system on the continent.

Due to the European show in Herning (DK) 2018 the Int'l Cochinday will be held on the 27th of October at the same location. We hope to meet you there.





International Cochinday
Tiel, Holland
November 11, 2017
The judges represented
six different countries!
Photos Courtesy of
Ardjan Warnshuis



It's Time to Stand Up
and
Make a Difference!

Be the Change . . .
. . . Lead the Change!



Are you dedicated to Excellence in the
Advancement, Breeding & Exhibition of Cochins?
Cochins International Needs You!



**ALL Officer & Director
Positions
are up for election this fall
for the 2019-2020 terms.**

**Letters of Candidacy
must be submitted by
August 7, 2018
to Gail Carlson
at
HappyHens1@hotmail.com**

**Together We Are
Cochin Strong!**

CHICK DOWN COLOR? NOT AS EASY AS YOU THINK!

By Karl Rau, Guest Contributor

I have always been fascinated by the various down colors in poultry. But I also must confess in my past cochin life I never really paid much attention to it... They were either black or blue or yellow or? The only time it mattered was when breeding BBS, I would notice a chick was blue and remark—Oh good a blue! As I was partial to them. Turning the page of time brings me to today with my new “project” mode in hand. all of a sudden it DOES matter. Phenotype is important but its GENOTYPE that rules!



Soooooooooooo being a researcher I knew I needed more knowledge! Passionate man that I am, I hunted and hunted / information was not as forthcoming as I thought it would be... The amount of information out there was very limited. In fact, I got discouraged early on. So, for those of you excited that you would read further and gather all the down color information one would need...you will be greatly disappointed! ***Think of this article as a stimulus to help each of you make color discoveries of your own...*** based on the simple basic facts that will follow. Keep notes and never trust your memory! Once you hit 70 as I have, you remember almost nothing!!!



In conversation with one of my cochin friends, we were discussing Black Breasted Red and that at least in the USA this color does not exist in the Cochin world... How to ID BBR baby chicks? easy Chipmunk stripes! But I am getting ahead of myself. Below are the basic five color bases and their “chick down coloration”. Remember the title?

With all the hidden genes and modifiers, it sadly isn't this simple.

Down Color

e+: chipmunk pattern **e^b:** helmet pattern

e^{wh}: little pattern (yellowish) **E^R:** overall dark pattern, dark legs

E: penguin pattern

Yes.... eb is the base for many cochins in the USA. e+ indicates “wild type”. e wh are the wheaten and their derivatives, ER stands for the birchen family and lastly E are the solids, eg black.

Chick identification is extremely difficult, unless “they are true lines” distinctive markings therefore will be evident. However, second degree as I call it culls, have the potential to show define marks as they lose their third lot of feathers.

One cannot also ignore the genetic coding that is embodied in the gene pool. Any recessive genes or other can heavily impact on the outcomes of the Chicks. Noting that the rooster can carry more than one genetic code. Therefore, “throw backs” can and will occur. Thus, can impact on the color and patterning (markings) of the chick. The variables are too complex. (Johnry Ramos)

Here are some chick photos from the ABA.
Can you ID the color base?



Before I go much further I would like to thank Bryant Helvey, Bob Hawes, Brian Shamblin and Johnry Ramos for their help with my never-ending questions along with their direct and indirect contributions to this article.

I had considered adding a few paragraphs delving deeper into the complexity of modifiers etc that Johnry referred to... but due to the great diversity of knowledge out there in our club, I felt that it best to keep my "story" semi- brief.

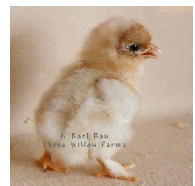
Did I stimulate any of you to give further study to down colors? I hope so because that was my plan all along! ☺

I would be remiss if I didn't include two photos I recently took here at the FARM! It illustrates how knowledge can indeed shorten the time to find success in the breeding pens AND it also shows that knowledge can indeed help to make less breeding mistakes!



These chicks on the left, were 2 of the first 4 I hatched (of a selected breeding pair), I thought they initially were keepers, but I wasn't sure it was what I wanted???? Then today 3/8 I got a fifth chick.... it was then I KNEW this was the one I wanted! CHICK DOWN!

DOMINANT WHITE...yeah!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



I will close with some recent chick photos (all my birds) Photos I have taken in 2018... I will call it a quiz, hopefully it will stimulate all vets and newbies alike.

The Quiz: WHAT Phenotypic Color is this chick (OR what colors were the parents?)

Take the quiz and email me your answers (krau@fairpoint.net) For those who want the answers I will post them on the Facebook CI Group page a couple of weeks after our next newsletter goes public... in fact, if anyone gets them all correct I will publicly congrat each of you on FB! ENJOY / have fun!
Best of luck in 2018...in the pens... and at the shows!

Regards, Karl Rau

**Quiz Photos will be numbered left to right ... top to bottom. 1, 2 - 3, 4 etc
Many are cochins, some are not**



JUNIORS' REPORT

Teri Frye, Junior Program Leader

931-319-4189

terikfrye@gmail.com

ATTENTION JUNIORS!! CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT!!!

Happy Spring!! I know everyone has experienced a very long winter, and if you are like us on our farm, we are having a hard time getting our birds to settle into a breeding pattern with the crazy roller coaster weather. So, I would like to kick-start the 2018 breeding season with a contest for junior members who are 9 years old (by Jan 1, 2018) to 18 years old (as long as you are still in high school). As you may know, a requirement of the Junior Master Exhibitor Program is to complete a Breeding and Hatching Record for one breeding season. This year, I'd like to kick it up a notch and add a fun reward!! The CI Junior Program will award a \$50 gift card and an achievement certificate to the junior who hatches the most bantam cochin chicks, the junior who hatches the most large fowl cochin chicks, and the junior who hatches the most bantams and large fowl cochin chicks combined. The guidelines are as follows:

1. Print a Breeding and Hatching Record from the CI website and complete it for EACH breeding pair or breeding pen of cochins according to the requirements of the Junior Master Exhibitor Program.

2. Take a picture of the chicks you hatch each week. Attach your pictures to 8 ½ x 11 paper. Label each picture with the date and name or band number of the parents of the chicks. Attach it to the corresponding hatching record upon completion. An example has been provided below.

3. Provide a summary of all of the breeding and hatching records that you are submitting with your full name, age, birth date, grade, mailing address, parent email, and the total number of bantam and/or large fowl cochin chicks that you hatched. I will need your return address if you would like to have your project returned to you.

4. The breeding birds used for this contest must be OWNED BY YOU, THE KID, i.e.; they must be birds YOU own~ (The birds may not be owned by your parents, grandparents, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, friend, neighbor, Santa Clause, etc.). The chicks you hatch must have been bred by YOU.

5. The Breeding and Hatching Records, photos, and summary must be submitted by US Postal mail and post marked by November 30, 2018.

Something to keep in mind for those of you who are also YEPA members: Cochins International is a club partner with the Youth Exhibition Poultry Association. Therefore, the Breeding and Hatching records that you complete may also be submitted with your Coop Tender, Flock Tender, or Flock Master project books for lots of activity points (hint, hint).

Submit all Questions and Contest Packages to:

Teri Frye
5976 Cookeville Boatdock Rd.
Baxter, TN 38544
Attn: CI Junior Program Contest

Email: terikfrye@gmail.com



4/15/18

3 Bantam Chicks

-Big Stuff x Lily

-Sassy Pants x Rosemary

-TickerTape x Thumbelina

1 Large Fowl

-Gus x Alice b Erica

~

"Erica", Large Fowl Black Hen by
Jodi Frye

Junior Reserve LF, Ch. Asiatic &
BB at Dixie Classic, Knoxville, TN
in December, 2017.

- and -

Junior Ch. Large Fowl, Overall Ch.
Cochin at Peachstate SE District
Meet, Madison, GA in January,
2018.



On the Farm

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D	H	B	D	A	L	C	H	O	R	E	S	C	N
I	C	M	G	S	U	S	A	D	D	L	E	T	M
K	H	E	S	T	H	M	C	E	R	E	F	O	I
F	I	G	R	M	H	O	R	S	E	S	I	R	L
A	C	A	F	U	U	G	R	A	I	N	A	T	K
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SADDLE
MILK
ROCK
GRAIN
LADDER
FARMHOUSE
HORSE
LOFT
CHORES
MANURE
FARMER
TOOLS
TREES
FEED
BARN
CHICKENS
TRACTOR
FENCE
KIDS
GRASS

Play this puzzle online at : <http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/513/>

YOUTH EXHIBITION POULTRY ASSOCIATION



Hello Cochins Folks,

I would like to take a minute to bring everyone up to date on the happenings in our YEPA group and your Cochins International group. As I'm sure you are aware, YEPA is an educational club for kids from 5 -18 and are involved in the exhibition poultry hobby. We don't give out awards for our juniors for showing their birds, we leave that end up to you and the show clubs. Our main purpose is to help kids learn more about the hobby overall and the standards that we all strive to breed to.

The most important part of belonging to YEPA is the ACE Program. The ACE Program is where our members fill out a record book geared to their age level. We have a few members of Cochins International that are in the process of working on their first record book. Recently, Jodi Frye of TN completed her second level record book with flying colors. As a member completes each book they move up to another level. As they complete their level that are recognized with a certificate of achievement, a plaque and a patch. Jodi plans on working on her Flock Master book. As soon as she completes this book, being that she is 16, she will be eligible to take a test to become a certified showmanship judge. She has also earned tons of points participating in our showmanship points program. I hope to see more of our Cochins kids participate soon. This is such a great opportunity for youth exhibitors.



I'm sure you are also aware that we sanction many showmanship meets where our members earn points and pins when they place first or second. We have just ordered new trophies to be given out at the shows thanks to Cackle Hatchery that generously and heartwarmingly sponsors our program for youth that do showmanship. Below is a picture of our fancy new 13-inch trophies for first and second place. Along with winning a trophy each member of YEPA earns points and are sent pins to place on their show jackets. Once enough points are earned then that youth becomes an Advanced Showmanship Exhibitor and is awarded a patch



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I hope everyone is hatching lots of chicks for the fall show season and I hope we get to see a lot of you at the shows you attend.

Good luck this coming year!!

Doris Robinson, National Director/Coordinator
www.youthexhibitionpoultry.org
YEPA, 810 Sweetwater Rd., Sweetwater, TN 37874

HISTORIAN'S REPORT

Mike Sayre, Historian

419-309-5718

michaelsayre@gmail.com

BREEDING WHITE COCHINS BANTAMS

by Art V. Granger (*originally published in the 1934 ABA Yearbook*)

The breeding of white Cochins bantams does not differ a great deal from the other varieties as far as type and general confirmation go, but there is a wide variance in methods employed to obtain color. I shall try to outline the methods I follow in breeding my White Cochins bantams.

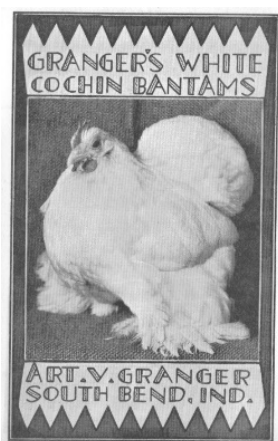
One mating is all that is necessary to produce both male and females of exhibition quality for the male and female correspond in most respects in a masculine and feminine way. When putting a pen together, I like to select females first, and then pick a male to fit them. Naturally, I pick those for each pen that are similar and uniform in quality and nearest standard requirements. Pick the females that are vigorous, well rounded, and those not possessing straight sides or flat spots, in other words avoid the angular bird, and also those that rear up in front like an Indian Runner Duck. The females should represent a rotund figure, with raised cushion, neatly curved downward main tail feathers having soft quills, and plenty of breast carried well forward. The cushion should be carried as near level with the head as possible and should not make an abrupt break at the base of the hackles, but rather should carry a continuous curve. The females should be broad and carry the same width from front to rear when viewed from the top, without any tapering to a point at the tail. The fluff should be plentiful and soft standing out from the body in globules rather than possessing that pasted pomade hair effect that follows the hock out to a point in the rear. The hock feather should be soft and loose with a tendency to curve slightly in. Stiff hocks are a serious defect. There should be no break where the feathers follow down the leg to the foot, but should be continuous in growth from the body, blending into the leg and foot feathering, so as not to appear as the man in the high-water pants. Wings should be short and well tucked up, thus showing off the fluff to greater advantage and creating the impression of even greater massiveness than actually exists. The wings should not project beyond the body in the rear. While it is desirable to have the wings well tucked up, I dislike those that cling so tightly to the body that when the bird is viewed from the top, the wings appear to notch in. The primary and secondary wing feathers should curve inward slightly to fit the contour of the body. Some breeders go daffy over long foot feathering. While the toes should be profusely feathered to the outer ends, with the exception of the inside toes, I do not like extremely long toe feathering. What I favor can be best illustrated by holding a deck of common playing cards firmly in one hand and spreading them with the other, using one corner as the center of the spread circle. This I think will give about the proper length and spread, and is plenty long. Next comes the head. Pick the birds having strong female heads denoting vigor, with well set five-point combs of medium height and fine texture. The eye should be reddish bay, and the ear lobes brilliant red, free from creaminess or white. The eye should be surrounded with fleshy protrusions of rings to set off the head and add to the massiveness desired in Cochins bantams. Avoid the flat sided and flat-topped head. It is part of the Cochins makeup to have the protruding eye and thick set beak. The Cochins female should be of medium length in leg, with great depth of body swung down between these legs in balanced proportion to the overall length of the bird from breast to tail. By this I mean she should not be so short on leg that from the profile she will appear longer than she will high, or vice

versa. What I strive to attain is a well-balanced bird, all sections in relation to each other. From the side I like to have a Cochins appear as though it would fit into a circle and touch all sides. In selecting a bird to fit these qualifications, do not neglect to take into consideration feather texture. They should be soft, well rounded on the ends, and possess body. I do not go a great deal on "thin" feathers. I like them heavy but soft. I try to avoid feathers that are square across the ends, and those that are stringy and pointed. Extremely great length of feather is not necessary if the feathers are broad and have fine texture and rest upon great underfluff.

Now I have described the qualifications for a desirable female, I might add that I have never had one to measure up to these standards I have set up in my mind, and I try to visualize this ideal when I select females, and pick them as close to it as I can. Next comes the selection of a male to mate to such females. After the lengthy discussion of what the female should be, it is not hard to describe the male. I go through all my male birds carefully and try to pick a male bird that is a real guy- a male that is good enough to deserve such a pen physically, and one that possesses as near as possible, in a masculine way, what I have described for the females. I have heard breeders say they wanted to mate up so many pens the coming year, or that they want so many females for this pen or that. I do not do it that way for I go by quality and if there is but one female to my liking she goes into the pen and the others go into the setting hen division. I would rather have two pair matings that were good, than a dozen pens of mediocre or poor birds.

Now, getting back to the subject of the male-try to avoid any defects in the male that the females may have, for to breed two birds together with the same defects, you are only prolonging the life of that defect and establishing it in a more pronounced fashion upon the young stock. The comb on the male should be neat and not beefy or coarse. The blade should follow the head and not point skyward. The legs of both male and female should be yellow. Avoid the willow legged birds and also those possessing creamy white plumage. Due time should be given all molting and young birds to allow the sap in the feathers to dry up before discarding them, for nearly all white feathers appear creamy while growing, and it is wise to allow the feathers to become completely matured before casting out any birds, for they may turn out pure white. The color problem is one that you cannot be too careful with, for a well feathered bird that is just crippled with type is not worth a dime if he is creamy white or lemon on top. I have made quite a few experiments on color and have proven and disproved a few of the popular theories. I might add that I have never shown a chemically bleached bird at any show.

What I have written may not meet with the approval of all the readers of this article, but we all have various points that we ride to death and these happen to be mine. If this article happens to be of any value to other breeders, I shall be glad, and if not, just file it away with the non-usable. -Art V. Granger



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www.CochinsInt.com/club-merchandise



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