

Presidents Message

Hello everyone,

I hope everyone has recouped from our show, it was a great success! Special thanks to Paul Kroll for all his hard work being the show secretary. I think we made a record on setup day, it only took 2 hours on the dot! Thanks to all that help with setup and teardown after the show on Sunday. I would like to mention all the names but we had so much help I would be afraid to miss someone.

Ed and Marge and their crew in the kitchen as always did a great job along with Dick and Heidi doing the raffle. I think this year we made a record between the kitchen and raffles on income. We will have the totals at the next meeting.

There were many of our fancy friends from different states and Canada showing with us this year and did very well on champion row. Our own George Beyers did the best as a club member winning Champion bantam and reserve of show-congrats George. For those of you that don't know that's 2 champion bantams in a row for George! We have all the results on page 4.

We also had a woman from Canada filming our show for a Discovery channel documentary she is working on, that shows the hobby of showing poultry. She filmed our entire show and did interviews with many of the exhibitors and club members, I'm looking forward to it.

We will go over all the details at our next meeting on our show, so plan on attending not to miss anything! Thanks again to all that helped with the show, I over some exhibitors from other states and Canada how helpful and all the members we have doing all the hard work putting on the show, they wished their club had so many members that helped with their shows. It made me proud to be a member of the B&WNY club!!

Until next time,
Rick Hare

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Paul Kroll

Many thanks to all who worked so hard to make the 2006 Buffalo and Western New York Show a success. I'm not going to list names, at the risk of leaving someone off the list. MANY people helped out in many different ways. All these folks - indeed, the entire club - need to feel good about what happened as a result.

We are in the black, having cleared over \$400 on the show. That's great!

There are a few folks who have yet to pay their dues for this year. Please check with me by email [pfkroll@adelphia.net] or by telephone [716-652-8658] and I will look up the record of your payment.

I apologize if I was short to anyone at the show. There is SO much to do at the last half an hour before awards are passed out and champions announced. Anyone who tries to talk with me at that time probably got their ears pinned back! I am sorry for this. I just couldn't take the time at that moment to help you out.

We can all be proud of the show we put on and
CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WINNERS!

Hello all,

Hope everyone's breeding season has been successful. I've been busy cleaning coops, building nest boxes, turning eggs and looking after ducklings (among a million other things). All my waterfowl starting laying late this year and talking with other breeders has proven to find it's the same throughout most parts of the country,

My chickens have been having an average year both laying and hatching. I've been working on Red Pyle Rosecombs and this year marks my second generation, hope to get a few nice ones. The Sebrights don't lay well for me and this year hasn't been any different.

I was over to Ricks the weekend of the show and got a nice tour of his bird facilities. We all know he has some of the nicest birds around and I saw why – very nice set-up. If you ever get the time, check out his place, I got some good ideas on housing and feeding. We'll be visiting some other member's facilities this summer (I think Steve is scheduled for July and Bruce for August). More on that at our meetings.

The spring show season is winding down and I'm finishing up my writing here at the Lucasville show. Next thing you know it'll be fair time and a first chance to show off some of our 2006 hatched birds.

As always, I invite anyone to write articles for the news letters or the website. It would be good to get someone's views on the birds they raise or the hobby in general. Pictures are welcomed as well. How about some of you juniors out there, wouldn't it be nice change to write something you are interested in instead of some boring essay for school? (Don't mean to offend any teachers out there).

That's about all for now,

Chris Choate

2006 Buffalo Show results

I'm only going to have the best of listed here, I don't quite have the space to list all the reserves or juniors. Forgive me if I have something wrong, I just made my own list at the show.

If anyone would like to see pictures of the winners and the show goings on, they can be found at our newly improved website.

www.freewebs.com/wnypoultryclub

Best American – Silver Laced Wyandotte hen by Aaron Strauss

Best English – Black Australorp cockerel by Kay St.Amour

Best Asiatic – White Cochin hen by Kay St.Amour

Best Mediterranean – S.C. Light Brown Leghorn hen by Steve Wojtkowiak

Best Continental – Black Hamburg hen by Don Krahe

Best Modern – Birchen Modern Game by Troy Laroche

Best Game – Wheaton Old English cockerel by Art Lundgren

Best Waterfowl – White Call cock by Art Lundgren

Best Guinea – Pearl cock by Don “the Guinea man” Perrin

Best Feather leg – Buff Brahma by Steve Wojtkowiak

Best S.C.C.L. & Reserve of the show– White Leghorn hen by George Beyer

- Best all other standard and show champion -

Blue Sumatra cock by Tom Kernan

Q & A from the Poultry Connection

Q - Mandarinman wrote: Ok I have NEVER shown any of my ducks before, so I need some help as to good cage training tips and what is the age to start training with them?

A – Patrick wrote: In general younger is better, but older birds can be trained too. Basically set up a show cage, either an actual one that you buy yourself, or one made to a similar size. Start putting the bird in it for an hour or so at a time, or you can use the total immersion method and leave them in for a full day, repeating several days in a row. It's just as important to get them used to the process of being caught up and cooped in and out as it is to learn to stay quietly in the cage. I've used small shows or even one 4 day fair as training events too, where I didn't care or hope to win, but the birds get the experience there. Depends somewhat on breed too. Runners might take some more time to get used to the process. If you're doing mandarins they may need more patience too, and care to not get their feathers damaged. I've found that it helps to set up 2 or 3 training cages or more next to each other. The birds are less anxious with company. I've found that older birds that have been shown the previous year need little or no training, and have been fine for me the first time out. It may be a combination of experience and confidence that comes with age.

Q - Pippers Mom wrote: What do you do to condition birds for showing?

I know feeding is important.....but what exactly?

They get a good layer ration, free choice. I also mix Red Cell and Wheat Germ oil with ration and feed a little of it for breakfast. Scratch grains for something to do before they are put into their grassy pens for a few hours. Apple pieces for a treat.

Cage training...ok, that's a no-brainer.

But, is there something else? Anything SPECIAL????

A – GL Heywood wrote : conditioning is a 24 7 every day of the week

the first thing you mentioned is okay once a week about 2 tbsp per adult bird

with black birds they have to be shiny green on black

so don't feed any milo to them.

also I never fed my birds scratch grain, just good laying mash.

Conditioning means the feathers don't get busted up from other birds

so single pen them especially males

A – Patrick wrote: Feeding is a good place to start. Also try one bird per roomy cage, especially males, and access to sunshine, rain and grass. Not the easiest thing to do, especially to keep them predator free in a set up like that, but if it were easy to do then everyone would be winning.

2006 Summer Meeting Schedule

June 24th (Saturday) 11am @ Chris Choate's house. I will have hamburgers on the grill and pop. Everyone is asked to bring a dish. My address is 9524 Beaver Rd, Alexander. I live about 10 minutes from Darien Lake. Please let me know if you can make it so I know how much meat to buy. 585-815 7652 (leave message) or cchoate@excite.com. Any one needing directions just call or email.

July - Date not set yet but will be held at Steve Wojtkowiak's house. Pot luck dinner. More details coming soon.

August – Date not set yet but will be held at Bruce Robinson's house. Our 2nd lawn show, last year was a blast. Special guest judge – Art Lundgren. More details coming soon.

Buy – Sell - Trade

My quest continues for Emperor Geese. Any age, sex or quantity.

I have a few Golden Sebright Males available @ \$10 each. Breeder quality.

For any of the above - contact me via email – cchoate@excite.com or phone 585 815 7654.

Anyone interested in posting something here please email or call me. I can be reached at

cchoate@excite.com

585 815 7654

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