

Specialty Club Reports

(Continued from Page 41)

list allowing the ADRC the right to substitute awards of equal or higher value in place of those listed and also to add additional specials.

This is where "you" come in — I am asking for donations to "ADD" to the Dutch specials for the '85 ARBA Convention in Houston, Texas. It's too late to list your name in the convention catalog, but we will keep our membership updated with all incoming specials and the donors through our bi-monthly publication, *The Dutch Reporter*.

You may send your specials donation directly to me. Please state if you have a preference as to where it is to be placed. Please do not send cash! Make check or money order payable to the "American Dutch Rabbit Club" and send to Norma Hart, Secretary, 190 N. First Ave., Coal City, IL 60416. Your cooperation in upgrading the Dutch specials list will be greatly appreciated!

Dianne Williamson is our new *Dutch Reporter* editor. All articles and ads should be sent directly to her at 6588 E. Ashlan, Clovis, Ca. 93612. I'm certain that Dianne would appreciate receiving some articles for publication. We have many knowledgeable people within our membership and many of us could benefit greatly through their experiences.

Our new Guidebook and Standard is in progress and should be available to our members soon! There were some problems encountered

when the Dutch Standard was submitted for approval. These problems had to be resolved before printing could begin. If you have any questions regarding the Guidebook, please contact ADRC President, Scott Williamson. His address is listed above.

We realize that many of our members have been without a Guidebook since joining, and we are eager to have this new edition distributed to both our membership and to those who supported us through their advertisements. Your "PATIENCE" is appreciated!

The new sweepstakes year started April 29. The sweepstakes final for the '84-'85 year closed with the completion of the NDS in York, Pennsylvania. Vicki Hertel, sweepstakes chairperson, will tally the points accumulated by each member and have a final published in an upcoming issue of *Domestic Rabbits*.

The Iowa Dutch Rabbit Club has been awarded the '86 NDS. I urge each and every Dutch fancier to give them their support!

Keep yourself and your Dutch cool!

American Polish Rabbit Club

By Andy Fraser, Secretary-Treasurer

Dear Secretary,

Please send me all the information you have on the Polish Dwarf.

"Hi Breeder, how much are your Polish

Dwarfs?"

"Are these Dwarfs for sale?" "They are Polish rabbits not Dwarfs." "What's the difference?"

Sound familiar? Unfortunately, this type of dialogue occurs all too often. The only way we can stop them is by informing those who ask that a Polish rabbit is just that, a Polish rabbit. We shouldn't even say "its dwarf type" because it's not. Let's all be proud of the breed we raise and let people know how great the breed is.

So much for the soapbox; now on to more practical matters. The newsletter was finally mailed on June 5... without any financial report. That is the reason for the delay. I had hoped to close everything out for 1984 in the very first newsletter, but was unable to do so.

The next newsletter will come to you in August and will hopefully close out 1984; I will definitely provide you with a mid-year sweepstakes standing.

Thanks to each of you for your patience and understanding in 1985. We will be back on schedule in August.

P.S. I hope everyone is breeding for Houston and Columbus.

Hotot Rabbit Breeders International

By C. Murphy Street, Secretary/Treasurer

The Hotot rabbit has been in the United States for seven years now, and breeders who have worked with it have met with mixed success. Some have reported health problems. Others have had problems with markings or fertility, or specks of off-color in the eyes. And many Hotots still have a ways to go before meeting the "standards".

Having encountered these setbacks, some people have "thrown in the towel". Others have simply grown more determined than ever to make a success of the breed.

One club member who has taken that approach is David Carpenter of Salinas, California. Actually, daughter Tammy Carpenter has already been a leader in Hotot, showing for some years. But David says there has still been room for improvement in their line of Hotots and he and his wife decided last year to put extra effort into making the breed better. now he says their Hotots are working well, with a nice group of does producing what may well be future show winners.

If we can get a few more folks involved with improvement efforts such as this, the future of the breed and our Hotot Rabbit Breeders International Club will be a good bit brighter.

A reminder to show secretaries: there are differences between standard Hotots and dwarf Hotots. Both are all-white rabbits with black eye bands (or circles). The dwarf is about 1/3 the size of the regular Hotot. Some of our members raise both kinds. But each breed has its own club and own secretary. It will save

Domestic Rabbits / July-August, 1985



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time, paperwork and money if you will be sure that the club you contact and the sanction you request are for the breed you expect to have exhibited. I hope we'll see an increasing number of shows where both are sanctioned.

C. Murphy Street

Lop Rabbit Club of America

By Dave Larson

Having just returned from Terre Haute, Indiana, where the National Lop Show was held on May 17, 18 and 19, and I can testify that it was a very well organized affair and a good time was had by all.

We had 69 exhibitors in the open and 7 in the youth show. The participants represented 17 states and Canada. We had 344 French and 80 English in the open, and 51 French and five English in the youth, for a grand total of 480 Lops crossing the show tables.

The BOB French Lop was a solid sr. doe belonging to Russ Palmer, and the BOS was a solid sr. buck, owned by Earl Harrah. The best Broken was shown by Joan and Jim Garnsey with the BOS Broken belonging to Ruth Ann Abbs and Nancy Kast came up with the Best Display.

Sally Weiland won the major honors in the English Lop competition. Sally had BOB with a solid 6-8 buck and BOS with a solid 6-8 doe. The Best Broken and BOS Broken English belonging to Charlotte Bowley, and Jay and Marge Layton came away with the Best Display.

The 1986 National Lop Show has been awarded to the Kansas Lop Club and the Missouri Lop Club. The two clubs will work together on this venture. The show will be held at the Missouri State Fairgrounds at Sedalia, Missouri. Look for more information on this show in future issues.

American Himalayan Rabbit Association

By Bev Pearsall, Secretary

Do you know what is pure white in color; with pink eyes; and ears, nose, feet, legs, and tail that are black — has a head that weaves from side to side when resting — weighs 3½ to 4 pounds — is docile by nature — has a great personality? The Himalayan, of course!

It seems that many new Himalayan breeders do not give their Himalayans enough time to mature before culling them. Baby Himalayans, when slightly chilled in the nest box (even in the summer), will develop a gray coat. This does not mean that bunnies have a "dark" past and are from cross-bred stock. Given about three to four months, the coat will turn white. The marked areas of the Himalayan — ears, nose, tail, feet and legs — are very light or even white at birth. The markings get black as
Domestic Rabbits / July-August, 1985

the youngster matures. Some color well by four months of age - others may take until seven to nine months of age, or longer. Each strain of Himalayan matures at different ages.

It is up to the Himalayan breeder to have patience to see how their strain develops. Breeders have a tendency to get upset too soon, and get disgusted with their stock. Be fair - give your Himalayans time to develop and mature before you "put them down", or sell them.

The 1985 National Himalayan Show was held in Norwalk, OH, May 26. Phil Macy judged 45 Himalayans. He did an excellent job of handling the breed on the table, posing them properly. There were 13 SB, 13 SD, 9 JB, and 10 JD, with one entered in the fur class. No Blues were exhibited. BOB went to a SD owned by Bev Pearsall, and BOS went to a JB owned by John and Becky Wightman, MD (youth members). 1st SB, Bev Pearsall; 1st SD, Bev Pearsall; 1st JB, John and Becky Wightman; and 1st JD, David Helfer, youth member, NY. Fur entry was by Joel Kritzer,

OH.

Members exhibiting were Richard Hunkley, OH; Wells Ortnier, OH; Sandy Dempewolf, MD; David Helfer, youth, NY; Edith Davis, MI; Elbert and Virginia Lentz, OH; Joel Kritzer, OH; John and Becky Wightman, MD; and Bev Pearsall, MD. Other members attending were Robert Talley, MD; and Jack Miller, youth, OH. Thank you to the parents of the youth members for taking them to the national show. It was a small, but very successful show. The beautiful, unique ceramic trophies were made by Wells and Reva Ortnier and their daughter. Thank you to Virgie Rouch for being the show secretary. And thank you to all AHRA members that donated specials. Thank you to the Huron Co. RBA for sponsoring the show.

Everyone please remember that a Himalayan is not a Netherland Dwarf.

If you have any questions or problems concerning Himalayans or the AHRA, please contact me at 6103 Jefferson Pike, Frederick, MD 21701.

American Checkered Giant Rabbit Club

By Dave Freeman, President

The 1985 American Checkered Giant Rabbit Club Annual held May 4 and 5 in Terre Haute, IN, is now history. It was a great show and wonderful weekend, and everyone came away smiling. As anticipated, we had a record turnout with 445 total entries and exhibitors from 16 states and Canada.

The quality in every class was excellent, but probably none better than the black jr. does where Judge Glen Carr stated that the top 20 were all first-place quality does and he hated to see any of them lose.

The first place black jr. doe had excellent markings and type, with strong legs and great length of body. This doe was owned by Gordon and Evelyn Halsey of Michigan, and was so outstanding that she went on to win Best Black and Best of Breed and proceeded to win B.O.B. again the second day.

Yet even as sharp as this doe was, there were other rabbits nearly as good, and indeed the judges both days studied long and hard before making their final decisions. As further indication of the strength of the competition, the 16 first-place winners were owned by 14 different breeders from 6 different states. We are truly proud to say that the quality of our Checkered Giants is excellent from coast to coast. David Ross of Ohio won Best Opposite with a big, strong black sr. buck.

This show was in honor of Joe Gognat, and we had a well-attended banquet with a program to honor Joe. We also surprised Chet Jenkins by honoring him, and we presented both Joe and Chet very nice plaques for their dedication and devotion to the breed.

The ACGRC also initiated a breeder Hall of Fame this year with the first members in-



"Hall of Famers". Left to right: Joe Gognat, Leonard Biskie, Chet Jenkins.

ducted at Terre Haute. The members inducted were Joe Gognat, Chet Jenkins, Leonard Biskie, Corniel Bos and Wayne Willmann. Also inducted posthumously were Lester Wells, Eugene B. Shultz and Jake Holmes. These eight breeders have served the club well over the past 50 years, and have truly helped make the ACGRC the strong, active club it is today. They all deserve this award, and provide a fine standard for which to judge future Hall of Fame candidates. Congratulations to all!

I'm very proud to say that all of our officers were able to attend the Annual, with the exception of Director Darrell Wallace who was in the hospital at the time. It helps make our club run smoothly when the officers are active and attend the important meetings and shows. We're all very proud of the ACGRC. There will be an excellent entry of Checkered Giants at the Houston Convention and large entries at most of the fall shows.

(Continued on Page 44)