

Blanc de Hotot Rabbit International

by Aimee Tanguay Brown

Blanc de Hotots are turning up everywhere! As the membership to our club is growing, I have heard of hotots being sanctioned and shown all over the country and with a good reception every time. This is the next up and coming breed and it's great to see the increased interest. Our website had generated increased visibility for our breed and has provided an additional method for contacting hotot breeders. I will be putting up a message board in addition to our classifieds section, so those seeking information have a place to go and ask questions. Hotot nationals are coming up April 24 & 25th in Crescent City, IL. I hope to see good turnout at this year's show.

The entire club would like to extend its deepest condolences, thoughts and prayers to our club president Bill Fulkes for the loss of his mother. Bill has been a cornerstone to the hotot club and we wish him the best during this difficult time.

By the time you read this, I will have completed my move to Southern Vermont and look forward to bringing Blanc de Hotots back to New England. I have received a very warm welcome from members of District 7 and look forward to introducing and showing the breed in the area - not to mention being so close to the ARBA convention in Providence!

Please continue to send your sanction requests to Sheila Spillers and any news you would like to put up on the website or right here in *DR*!

Good luck to everyone and see you at the shows!

National Angora Rabbit Breeders Club

by Jack & Karin Bailey, Publicity Chairs

We continue our series of interviews with the officers of the NARBC. Sharon Vecchiola is our newly elected Secretary and lives in Hamilton, NJ.

Q: Sharon how did you get into rabbits?

A: My mother-in-law bought my daughter an Easter bunny. That was the beginning of her 4-H project.

Q: How long have you had rabbits?

A: 12 years

Q: What type have you raised and what are you presently raising? What is your favorite breed?

A: We raised an English Spot and a Fuzzy Lop. We are currently raising all 4 angora breeds. My favorite breed is the English Angora, but the Satin Angora is a very close second.

Q: What clubs do you belong to? Are you an officer?

A: I am a member of the ARBA, NARBC, and Everything Angora Rabbit Society (EARS). I'm the Secretary of NARBC and President of EARS.

Q: Do you have a special story or experience about a rabbit or rabbit event?

A: My daughter, Alex, had a litter of 8 English babies. There were 2 white bucks in the litter, she gave me one of my choice. He was my first show bunny. His show career started out with the grooming and fluffing. The fall show season was just kicking in and I was preparing my rabbit for his first show. My beautiful white buck was on the grooming table, I turned to get a different brush and he took a flying leap off of the grooming table

onto the asphalt driveway. He landed on his face, he had a big fat lip and scratches. I picked him up and ran into the house. I put ice on his lip and checked for chipped teeth. He was fine but he needed time to recover. I couldn't take him to the show that weekend.

A week had passed and there was another show. I put my white buck on the grooming table but this time it was in the grass. Wouldn't you know it, the rabbit jumped off the table again... and into a pile of mulch. Not on the grass, just my luck. It took all afternoon to get all of the junk out of his coat. He finally got to this first show and took Best of Breed, and Best in Show (Open all breed show). He also got a name that day. He was named after Jim Carey's character in the movie, "Dumb and Dumber", 'Lloyd Christmas'.

Q: What challenges or goals do you have for the NARBC?

A: I would like to see NARBC be more supportive with our youth members. They are the future of our club.

Thank you Sharon!

CA: Betty Chu - BIS 12/16/03 NCAG Angora Specialty - English Colored Senior doe; BIS 12/13/03 Tehama-Butte Rabbit Assoc. All Breed Show B - English Colored Senior doe; BIS - 1/10/04 Sierra-Foothill Rabbit Breeders Association All Breed Show B - English White Senior doe; RIS - 1/10/04 Sierra-Foothill Rabbit Breeders Association All Breed Show C - English Colored Senior doe; RIS - 1/17/04 Sonoma-Marin Rabbit Association All Breed Show A - English Colored Senior doe

We hope to have a fashion show at this year's ARBA banquet. The show is open to all and includes garments/accessories made from rabbit fur or fiber. Models are needed too. For information, contact Linda Kolassa at (315) 827-4333 or e-mail: dak9557@america.net

Congratulations to Brenda Hunneshagen, Orchard Park, NY who had a Broken English shown on Good Morning America on September 30, 2003, as part of its 20th anniversary celebration for animal expert, Jack Hanna. "Tootsie" (chocolate doe) spent the entire segment with Diane Sawyer.

IN MEMORIAM

Cheryl Buck
1947-2004

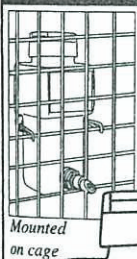
On a sadder note, a long time club member, Cheryl Buck died January 6, 2004, after an extended illness. She lived in Horsebranch, KY. Cheryl was an avid angora breeder, especially Satins. She served this club in various capacities over the years and will be greatly missed at the show table.

Information can be forwarded to us at 35 High St., Lyons, NY 14489 or e-mail us at: stjohnslyonsny@eznet.net

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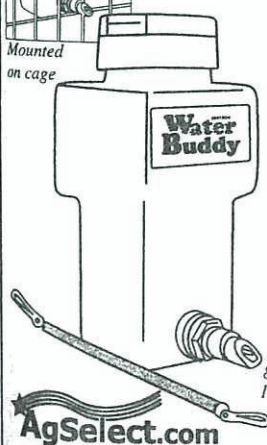


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THANKS
for the cards and
phone calls on my
98th Birthday
- Oren