

Fall 2019

plymouthrockfanciersclub.com

Plymouth Rock Quarterly

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Show season is in full swing and the reports are rollin in. It looks as though the Plymouth Rocks have taken more than their share of Class Champions, both American and Single Comb Clean Leg.

The Plymouth Rock National in Sedalia, Missouri was a great time for all that attended. I got to meet several new Rock friends face to face, and they are a lot prettier than me!! Thanks to the Jarvis family for haulin' the old man and his birds, and the trip was very entertaining. Bert will have a report in this issue with all the winners. We held our annual meeting at the show hall, and discussed upcoming elections and the bids for the 2020 Rock National. We still have a Director vacancy in District 6, and getting that District's shows covered was discussed. Thanks to Henry Kestner, our District 5 Director for putting this National together for us!

In other business, John is updating our membership list, and dropping those with unpaid dues. So if you're overdue, get a check to John now and stay in the fold.

Many thanks to our Newsletter Editor Jill Burks for her excellent work getting this newsletter out. No doubt, we have one of the nicest newsletters in the poultry world. Jill made it to the APA National/Ohio National on November 9th and got to meet many of our members

and took some pictures to share in this newsletter.

You'll find ballots in this issue for an addition to the Hall of Fame and for voting on the location of the 2020 Plymouth Rock National. Please get your ballots returned by December 15th so we can make the announcements in the next newsletter.

This is also the time of year we need to pay close attention to our facilities and the comfort of our birds. While they do need sufficient ventilation, eliminate any drafts. I don't heat my buildings, and barring another polar vortex, my birds seem to fair quite well. Keeping your bedding dry cannot be overemphasized. Regular watering is a must in winter. If they don't have water, they will not eat. Help them out on hydration by providing some green feed and soaked oats daily. As we progress into colder weather, we'll also be setting up breeding pens. Be sure to have plenty of good quality lighting for males and females. I like to start the males on increased lighting at least 6 weeks before breeding starts. Matt Lhamon has described a new type of light that increased his fertility immensely. I'll have to check with Matt for more info.

In the meantime, keep those Rocks rollin!!
Kraig Shafer

TREASURER'S REPORT

Previous Balance: **\$3,789.02** **Life Membership Fund:** **\$6,501.08**

Current Balance: **\$3,140.37**

(as of Sept. 16, 2019; does not include life memberships)

DISTRICT 1 REPORT

Hello from New England,

The number of birds shown this Spring seemed to be about the same as last year. Our first show was the New England Bantam Club. In Bantams Dog River Bantams had BB and Best SCCL with a White pullet. I had RB with a Columbian pullet. No large fowl shown.

At the Green Mountain Poultry Show in Vermont, Matt Martin took home all honors. Bantam BB and Best SCCL White hen, RB and Res. SCCL Columbian pullet, large fowl BB White hen, RB White cockerel, Best and Res. American Show Champion standard White hen, and Res. Show Champion with his bantam White hen. Edward Blash in the Juniors got BB and Champion SCCL with his bantam White hen and Res. Champion with a White cock.

At the Rhode Island show Matt Martin had show

champion with a bantam Barred hen and large fowl Best American with his White hen.

At the Central Maine show in bantams Matt Martin BB and Best SCCL with a Barred hen. RB and Res. SCCL White pullet. In large fowl Matt Martin BB and Best American White hen, RB and Res. American went to Eric Nelson on his Barred hen. In Junior division in bantams Edward Blash had BB and Best SCCL with his White cock and Sadie Olmsted RB with her Columbian cock.

Our last show for the Spring was the Connecticut Poultry Society show. Dog River Bantams got BB and Best SCCL on their White hen, Matt Martin got RB with a White pullet and Res. American with a White pullet.

Wishing you all the best,
Dean Clark

UPCOMING EVENTS // DISTRICT 1

DATE	HOST	MEET TYPE
November 17	New England Bantam Club, MA	Special
Jan. 18-19, 2020	Northeast Poultry Congress, MA	District

DISTRICT 2 REPORT

Hello From District 2,

I hope everyone had a great summer and is enjoying the fall season. I was able to hatch out a lot more than I have in the past few years. I have been crazy busy tending to a lot of chicks, I have been very fortunate this year as we have a couple that are renting my parents house and he has fell in love with the chickens. He has been so much help to me this summer, helping feeding and watering the birds. He is also a good carpenter and has helped me do some much needed repairs. He has told me to go to shows and he will tend to things for me while I am gone. I took him with me to the York show and he had a blast he even bought some chickens. I have given him some pen space so he has some ducks, he also has some rabbits. Me and my father used to raise rabbits but I had to cut back on some animals when everything was on me. So he has fixed up my rabbit hutches and has filled them all, his wife

told me I have created a monster. Speaking of the York show it was good to see them having the show back at the Fairgrounds. We had a good time and I was able to sell some birds. It was good to see some poultry friends that I have not been able to see in a while. It was sad that the Sussex New Jersey show and the Virginia show had to be canceled hopefully they will both be back strong next year, I had scheduled the District meet at Virginia I usually go to both shows. I hope I can get to some more shows and see some old friends and make some new ones, remember it is about the friendships. Also take time to help new exhibitors and juniors they are the future of the hobby. Looking forward to hearing results of the rocks from the National meet and the APA National. I hope everyone has a great show season and a blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas.

God Bless,
Greg English

DISTRICT 4 REPORT

Greetings from Central Illinois!

Weather has been hot and humid some days and cool other days. I'm waiting for the cool weather to stay to grow feathers for the chickens.

Looking forward to seeing you in the Rock aisles at the shows, including the National Rock meet in Sedalia, Missouri on October 26! Missouri State Poultry Association always does a nice job putting on the show. Please introduce yourself to me at shows if we haven't met yet. I will have applications for membership available at the shows I attend. January will be here

before we know it, so don't forget to renew your Plymouth rock dues.

Let me know if I can help you regarding Plymouth Rock questions.

December is just around the corner, so wishing all of you an early Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year filled with peace, joy, and love, along with much happiness.

God bless you and the USA!

Dianne Weer

UPCOMING EVENTS // DISTRICT 4

DATE	HOST	MEET TYPE
November 16	Appalachian Classic, KY	State
November 30	Red Hill Bantam Club Show, IL	Special

DISTRICT 5 REPORT

Greetings from the Midwest,

It was nice to have fall one day then turn to winter. Temps went from early October at 90 to last week at wind chill of 0. So far no frozen spikes on the males that were outside.

It was good to put faces with names at Sedalia, Mo and Columbus, OH shows. Got to talk to Kraig more at these shows than in all the past years. Was great to finally meet Jill. We had a long talk about the news letters and how I'm always late or don't even send anything. She does a great job but she depends all of us to send her info about our birds or show we attend.

Hope everyone has a good Thanksgiving and better Christmas this year. Maybe the weather will cooperate with travel plans.

Thanks,
Henry D. Kestner



Part of flock that attacks when we drive up. All looking for feed. Guess they can't find it in there feeders?

FUN FACT:

Chickens can see and dream in full color.

www.thefactsite.com

SO WE MIGHT KNOW THEM BETTER: FRANK REESE

Q: How did you develop an interest in the poultry hobby?

I am a fourth generation Barred Rock breeder. My aunt Rose Reese was known for her fine Barred Rocks back in the 1920's. I showed Barred Rocks for ten years in 4-H.

Q: Where did you get your start in Plymouth Rocks?

Got my first Barred Rocks in 1956 from Ralph Sturgeon.

Q: Who influenced or mentored you when you first started?

Hy Patton was my first good mentor. Harry Halbach, Norman Kardosh, Gene Barnard and Gerald Donnelly were also big influences in my life.

Q: How many varieties do you raise?

Barred Rocks have always been my main variety but have kept Silver Pencil, Colombian and White. I only breed Barred Rocks now.

Q: What faults do you see in the showroom that bother you when showing?

Faults I see are: Under size, drop wings, loose feathering, off balance, too big tail and no front end, and lack of muscle development.

Q: What do you enjoy most about breeding and showing your Rocks?

Plymouth Rocks are king of the farm. Most reliable dual production bird there is. Can't be beat for taste and nutritional value in the market. In my eyes Barred variety is the most beautiful. Great egg and meat variety. I enjoy selling show birds to 4-H kids and seeing them in the shows.

Q: Tell us a little about your life outside the hobby.

I sell about 5,000 Barred Rocks a year to the market to Heritage Foods USA. I also sell around 8,000 Standardbred turkeys too. Keeps me busy year round breeding, hatching, raising and processing.

If you are interested in participating, please send your answers to the seven questions above to the Editor at jllburks@gmail.com. All members including Juniors are welcome! Photos appreciated, but not required.

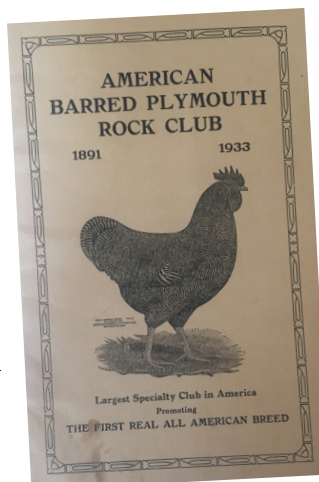
Breeder flock



Roasted Barred Rock



Champion Large Fowl



Favorite book

CLASSIFIEDS

Our website features an advertising section — \$25 for a one year ad.

If you're interested in placing an ad, please send your ad info and payment to:

**John
Beauchamp,
PO Box 387,
Federsburg,
MD 21632.**

MEMBER DUES

Unless you are a life member, yearly club fees are due January 1st of each year. Your membership expiration date can be found on the mailing label next to your name.

Please send your dues to:

**John Beauchamp, P.O. Box 387,
Federsburg, MD 21632**

If you have a change of address, please notify John at (410) 310-5242 or johnsfourseasons@yahoo.com

GO DIGITAL

If you would prefer to receive your issues of the Plymouth Rock Quarterly via email, please notify club Secretary John Beauchamp.

GET IT EARLY

FULL-COLOR

**SAVE THE
CLUB MONEY**

BE GREEN

IN THE KITCHEN

CHICKEN POT PIE CASSEROLE (PRESSURE COOKER RECIPE)

Submitted by Pam Watson

Ingredients:

1 lb. cubed chicken (or turkey, ham, sausage, beef, etc.)
16 oz. bag frozen mixed veggies (it doesn't have to be limited to mixed veggies, I like to add fresh celery and other herbs)
16oz egg noodles
1 cup heavy cream
4 cups chicken broth (or beef or vegetable)
1 tsp garlic powder
1 tsp onion powder
1 tsp salt
1 tsp pepper
Dash of nutmeg

Directions:

1. Place your pressure cooker on sauté or brown, Add chicken, spices, and olive oil.



2. Sauté about 2-3 minutes until the outside of the chicken is white.
3. Add egg noodles, broth, and veggies.
4. Cook on manual high pressure for 5 minutes.
5. Do a quick release. Stir in heavy cream.
6. Place pot back on sauté/brown. Cook for another 2-3 minutes or until thickened. Serve.

JUST FOR LAUGHS:

Q: Why does a chicken coop have two doors?

A: Because if had four doors it would be a chicken sedan!

PLYMOUTH ROCK NATIONAL

PLYMOUTH ROCK FANCIER'S CLUB OF AMERICA NATIONAL MEET

Hosted by the Missouri State Poultry Association

October 26, 2019

Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia, MO



Kraig Shafer's BB White hen.



Kraig Shafer's
RB Barred
hen.



Henry
Kestner's
RB Barred
Bantam
pullet.



Grant Tenley's BB Columbian Bantam pullet.



Junior Grand
Champion
was a Barred
Bantam
pullet shown
by Jasmine
Gates.



Linda Sparlin's BV Silver
Pencilled Bantam.



Henry Kestner's BV Buff
Bantam.



Gerry Snapp's BV Partridge
Bantam.

Continued on following page



District 5 Director Henry Kestner hard at work.



Bert Jarvis and Katrina Sallee enjoying the show.



Bert Jarvis & Kraig Shafer



Linda and Allen Sparlin enjoying the judging with good friend Fred Farthing. Allen was banned from the Rock club for raising Orp's.

APA NATIONAL

This year the APA National was held at the Ohio National Poultry Show in Columbus.

It was a fantastic show with 8600 birds shown and I think there were that many people viewing the judging! Congratulations to the winners and especially the youngsters. Over 100 kids in showmanship.

It was great to meet so many Rock Breeders. Great job by Bruce Sherman with a White Cockerel Bantam for Best of Breed. I enjoyed meeting Bruce and look forward to getting to sit down and talk Rocks one of these days. I also got to meet Rock breeders Ed

and Steve Stanish who I have followed in the *Poultry Press* for years. I enjoyed meeting Matt Martin, who I've talked to on the phone, but here I got to shake his hand. A real gentleman is Matt! My friend Henry Kestner was enjoying the show as well. John Miles had some beautiful Barreds and did quite well in the judging. John Beauchamp, Tim Gladhill, Mike Wasylowski and Todd Sensenig from the East Coast are always great guys to talk chickens. Allen and Linda Sparlin, Brian and Jasmine Gates, Dianne Weer, Dick and Pat Horstman, Larry Lawrence, Ben Porter, Joe and Michelle Oakley and Tom Crabtree were all there enjoying the show. Our Editor Jill Burks was here and hauled home some Rocks and turkeys!

Continued on following page

APA National, continued

From all over the USA and Canada, the Rock Breeders were attending and enjoying each others company. That's what this is all about.

We'll get a report of all the placings ready for the next issue.

Thanks to all those that support our fine breed!
Kraig Shafer



John Beauchamp with his favorite White Rock this season, so far.. He has placed at the top, or very close, in every show they've attended.



Tim Gladhill and Dianne Weer.



Kraig Shafer with his BB White cockerel.



Bert Jarvis, Jill Burks, and Kraig Shafer.



Kraig Shafer and Mike Sayre.

PREPARING FOR WINTER

by Ron Kean, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Winter can be a difficult time for a small flock of chickens. There are several things you can do for them that will make it a little less of a struggle for both you and the chickens.

Water is the most important concern for chickens. They will generally drink about 2 pounds of water (about a quart) for every pound of feed they eat. Water is important for healthy digestion, temperature regulation, and also for egg production, since an egg is more than 70% water. Unfortunately, as will be discussed later, chickens will also excrete a great deal of water in their droppings, which can be a problem.

Chickens need to have fresh water at least daily. Heated bases for waterers are available. Other methods have been used to keep water thawed, as well. Heat lamps are often hung over the waterer. Highly insulated water containers are available that will keep warm water unfrozen for several hours. If none of these is available, fresh water should be provided twice daily for the chickens. Rubber pans can be helpful, so ice can be removed easily without damaging the pan. Another option often used is to have two waterers, so they can be alternated and the other one brought inside to thaw.

Chickens will need a considerable amount of **feed**, especially to keep warm in cold conditions. High energy feeds, such as grains and oilseeds (corn, scratch grains, sunflower seed, etc.) can be supplemented to provide extra energy. One should be somewhat cautious not to overdo this, however, since nutrient imbalances could occur. Excess energy can increase the risk of feather-pecking. If this starts, it is best to stop the supplementation and rely on a balanced complete feed. Many people also like to provide some plant material to their chickens over winter. This may help keep the chickens active throughout the day. Leafy hay, root vegetables, squash, pumpkins, etc. can be used for this.

Ventilation is very important for chickens year-round. As mentioned previously, chickens drink a lot of water, and excrete moist droppings. This moisture can be a problem if ventilation is not sufficient. Wet litter will produce ammonia that can be harmful to the chickens, and to you. Even fairly low levels of ammonia can be irritating to chickens and to the chicken owner. Damp conditions can also increase the incidence of

respiratory diseases.

The challenge for a flock-owner is to balance the need for ventilation with the desire to keep some warmth in the coop. There is ongoing debate about the need for heat in a chicken coop. Whether heat is provided or not, ventilation is still important. At the very least, there must be some open area to allow fresh air in and stale, moist air out.

Lighting is another important factor for winter. Hens normally lay eggs when days are long (in the spring and early summer), and then molt and stop laying eggs when days start to get short in the fall. Though a lot of selective breeding has been done to improve overall egg production, short days will still decrease egg production greatly. If artificial lights are used to keep the day length at about 14 hours or more per day, hens will generally keep laying eggs through the winter. Artificial lights are traditionally started around September 1, and continued until spring when the natural day length reaches 14 hours. The light does not need to be overly bright, and excessively bright lights can increase the incidence of pecking. Light intensities of 1-3 foot-candles are normally suggested. An old rule of thumb is that the light just needs to be bright enough so you can read a newspaper.

If light bulbs are used as a heat source, it may be more important to keep them on 24 hours a day. While this is not optimal for peak egg production, it may be a necessary trade-off instead of having 14-15 hours of light, and 9-10 hours of extreme cold.

Flock safety should not be neglected in the winter. Many predators will be hungry and looking for a chicken dinner. Air inlets and outlets should be covered with sturdy wire or screen to keep predators, as well as pests, out. Raccoons and other predators can squeeze through fairly small holes, so care must be taken to close these well.

Rodents and wild birds may also be looking for a warm place to stay and an easy food source. Stored feed should be kept in rodent-proof containers, and feeders should not be accessible to rodents or wild birds. Preventing these pests is important for good biosecurity.

With a little pre-planning, keeping a flock of chickens through the winter can be done and the chickens should be able to handle it well.

HALL OF FAME OFFICIAL BALLOT

The Hall of Fame Committee has nominated Mr. Max Stacy of Findlay, Ohio, to the Plymouth Rock Hall of Fame. Max has raised and shown every variety of bantam Plymouth Rock for many years and shared birds with young and old alike. Known by everyone as a true gentleman, Max is a pleasure to talk with and a source of wisdom with every variety.

A majority vote by the membership is required.

_____ YES _____ NO

Please mail your completed ballot to: *Tim Gladhill, 3045 Hoopers Delight Rd., New Windsor, MD 21776*

****MUST BE POSTMARKED BY DECEMBER 15, 2019****

NATIONAL BIDS OFFICIAL BALLOT

We have four bids for the 2020 Plymouth Rock National Meet.
The winning location will be announced in the Winter newsletter.

Please circle **ONE** of the four options below and mail your ballot back to:
Tim Gladhill, 3045 Hoopers Delight Rd., New Windsor, MD 21776

****MUST BE POSTMARKED BY DECEMBER. 15, 2019****

BID #1

Dayton Fancy Feather Club Show

Location: Greenville, OH
Date: October 3 & 4, 2020
Offering: \$100 to be divided up as directed by the Rock Club; awards for Champ & Res. Large Fowl as well as Champ Bantam & Res. Bantam; pick of judge; meeting room for a meeting; all inclusive

BID #2

Ohio National Poultry Show

Location: Columbus, OH
Date: November 14 & 15, 2020
Offering: Four trophies; pick of judge; club table; meeting room

BID #3

Northeastern Poultry Congress

Location: West Springfield, MA
Date: January 2021 (for 2020 show year)
Offering: Trophies for Large Fowl & Bantam; Rosettes for BB & RB; monies raised by individuals for sponsorship - No Dollar amount committed to date (2014 raised \$1100.00)

FUN FACT:

Chickens can run up to 9 miles per hour!

www.thefactsite.com

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hello from chilly New York!

It was such a treat to meet Rock folks out in Ohio and getting to know some of our members and officers better. Special thanks to our president, Kraig Shafer, for introducing me around and for helping me acquire some new males for my flock (pictured). I also couldn't resist bidding on (and winning) the pair of Bronze turkeys in the APA silent auction. We had a full car heading home! At one of our rest stops, one guy saw them and asked me if I was a zookeeper. Sure feels that way some days! Got back just hours before our first snow of the year. I'm looking forward to attending the Northeastern Poultry Congress in MA



this coming January. If you're there be sure to say hi!

So happy Frank Reese offered to share his story in our "So We Might Know Them Better" column this issue. If you are interesting in participating, or if you have any items you'd like to share in the next newsletter, please feel free to contact me. We'd love to hear from our

Juniors as well! My email is jillburks@gmail.com.

As always, we hope you've enjoyed this issue of the *Plymouth Rock Quarterly*.

Wishing everyone and their flocks a happy Thanksgiving,
Jill Burks

EDITOR'S NOTE:

This is newsletter is the place for you to share your breed experiences, tips, show photos, questions, etc. If you have any items you'd like to see included in this newsletter, please feel free to contact me at jillburks@gmail.com. Thank you!

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New Windsor, MD 21776

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Vacant

DISTRICT 8 (AK & Canada)

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Membership Information

Adult: \$20.00 per year

Junior: \$5.00 per year

**Please mail to:
John Beauchamp
P. O. Box 387
Federalsburg, MD 21632**

**Please include: Name, address, telephone number,
breeds raised, and email address.**