

Spring 2022

plymouthrockfanciersclub.com

Plymouth Rock Quarterly

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings from Iowa!

Spring is well underway and as is usual the weather has been all over the place! Snowfall, rain, and high winds have kept March and April less than desirable but we are closer to warm days ahead. I have been hatching for a few months and getting some chicks on the ground.

I hope everyone is having good hatches. This has proven a challenging year with bird flu striking in many states March 2nd. Making its arrival in Iowa, shows and sales have been canceled and the ban was just lifted in June. I believe some 13 million birds were disposed of in Iowa alone. Warm temps in late May and June have helped halt the spread of the virus. County fair shows are on as of now and we are hopeful for a great fall show season ahead!

I am looking forward to the 2022 Rock National in Bloomington, Illinois on November 5th. I have no doubt it will be a good turnout with some very good birds competing! I look forward to seeing everyone and their birds at shows this fall.

Don't hesitate to contact me with any concerns or ideas for the club. Currently we need a few District Directors if you or anyone you know is interested get in touch with us to get up to speed!

Until next time,
Grant Tenley

SAVE THE DATE!

Plymouth Rock Fancier's Club of
America National Meet

November 5, 2022

Bloomington, Illinois

Hosted by the [Central Illinois Poultry Club](#)

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings fellow Rock breeders!

So many things have happened since our last newsletter. As many of you already know our good friend and mentor to many, Danny Feathers passed away this April on Easter Sunday. To say the poultry community was shocked would be an understatement. Danny was an accomplished breeder, a mentor and a

friend to so many. He will always be missed.

A few more member updates: I would like to send well wishes to Kraig Shafer and Don Sheets. We can't wait to see you both back at the shows winning with your Rocks!

Lastly, I would like to congratulate Greg Westman and

Continued on following page

his wife Nikki Westman on the birth of their first child, Ellis Gregory Westman! We know you'll have him raising Rocks as soon as he starts walking!

In other news Avian Influenza put a real damper on the spring shows. In our state (Missouri), all shows were canceled. My family took this time to focus on hatching, which seemed a little delayed this year. Maybe due to the unpredictable weather but it took a little longer for the girls to come back into full production. Nonetheless

we've got plenty of chicks on the ground now and we're just waiting for everyone to molt. Let's hope they can get through molt before the shows start.

I hope to see you all at the fall shows this year and remember start planning for the Ohio National 2023, it's going to be BIG!

Without breeders we won't have the breed.
Katrina Sallee

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Greetings from Upstate New York,

First off, I'd like to offer my sincere apologies for the delay in printing the Winter newsletter. I know many of you look forward to receiving Club news, so thank you for reaching out and know we are working on getting the newsletter back on schedule! To that end, we are looking for club members who might be interested in helping out as Points Chairperson, Webmaster, or Newsletter Editor. Just send us an email at plymouthrockfanciersclub@gmail.com. While we're on the topic, the club also has vacant Director positions in Districts 3, 6, & 8. If you live in those districts and can help out setting club meets, let us know!

There were a lot of show cancellations this Spring due to Avian Influenza shut downs. Between AI and Covid the past few years have been especially tough on show

clubs. Please continue to show them your support.

The Hall of Fame Committee is still working through the selection process. We hope to share the winners in the next issue.

Looking ahead to 2023, the APA will be celebrating it's 150th anniversary with some big shows, including thier Annual event at the Ohio National. 2023 will also be the 50th anniversary of the Plymouth Rock Club and with our National Meet also scheduled for the Ohio National we are looking to make it a memorable event with special awards and prizes. We welcome your suggestions and donations, and hope for a tremendous turnout of Rocks at this show. Let's make it the biggest Rock class ever with all varieties represented!

Jill Burks

TREASURER'S REPORT Q4 2021

	INCOME	EXPENSES	BALANCE
Beginning Balance (1/1/2022)			\$2,952.73
Memberships	\$993.54		
Winter 2021 Newsletter		\$188.69	
Dues Reminder Postcard		\$41.72	
Online Classifieds	\$18.81		
Donation for 50th Anni Show 2023	\$100.00		
Ending Balance (3/31/2022)			\$3,834.67
Life Membership Fund			\$6,903.01
TOTAL			\$10,737.68

DISTRICT 1 REPORT

Hello from the New England,

Here we are in March hoping to put Winter behind us. Sugaring season is off to a slow start with winds and slow rising temperatures. I thought this year I might get an earlier start, but have no pens set up yet.

Jill Burks tells me she has a few hatched, but for most who are trying are having poor fertility. Cold weather sure doesn't help.

I have talked to a few show secretaries and they are planning Spring shows. Hopefully the Influenza passes by. I have only heard of a few cases and no big numbers.

I hope to get to a couple of shows this Spring. You all take care. Wishing you the best.

kindest Regards,
Dean Clark

UPCOMING EVENTS // DISTRICT 1

DATE	HOST	MEET TYPE
June 12	Connecticut Poultry Breeders Society	State
July 27-31	Union Fair (ME)	Special
August 28	Windsor Fair (ME)	Special
Sept. 29-Oct. 2	Deerfield Fair (NH)	Special
October 2-9	Fryeburg Fair (ME)	Special
October 2	Central Maine Bird Fanciers	Special
October 9	New Hampshire Poultry Fanciers	State
October 16	Little Rhody Poultry Fanciers (RI)	Special

DISTRICT 2 REPORT

Hello from District 2,

The weather has been warming up nice and the breeders have been laying very good. I have also had very good fertility this year and I will be done hatching by first of June. It has been a long time since that has happened as last year it was early October before I was done. I should have plenty of adult birds to pick from to show this fall. It will be nice not to have heat bulbs running all Winter long. A lot of East Coast shows have been canceled due to the AI outbreak including our show in Delaware and our Fair. We are considering having another Winter show but haven't decided yet. We did get to a show in North Carolina early on and a couple in Ohio. Another

obstacle is fuel prices, there is usually a group of us that travel together that helps a lot. On a sad note it was hard to hear about the loss of a good friend Danny Feathers, I had just talked to him a few days before so glad I did. My prayers are with his family and friends. He will be sorely missed and will be a big loss in the poultry world, he had so much knowledge.

I have listed below the meets that have been placed so far, please give me a call if other shows in the District would like to host a rock meet that I may have missed.

God Bless,
Greg English

UPCOMING EVENTS // DISTRICT 2

DATE	HOST	MEET TYPE
June 5	Finger Lakes Feather Club (NY)	Canceled/AI
September 10-11	Twin Tier Poultry Club (NY)	State Meet
October 2	Rochester Poultry Association (NY)	Special Meet
October 8	Lebanon Valley Poultry Club (PA)	State Meet
October 15-16	Uniontown Poultry Association (PA)	Eastern Regional
October 16	Yankee Fall Classic (NY)	Special Meet

DISTRICT 4 REPORT

Hello from East Central Ohio.

Most every one should be hatching now. We hatched some Bantams early and shut it down, now just putting ducks in.

Not much to report, had one show. Ohio State meet was at Southeastern Poultry Breeders in Marietta, Ohio. I didn't go down for personal reasons so don't have much to report there. My wife did drive down

and took some pictures, I'll make sure she sends them to Jill. White River Show in Spencer, Indiana will be April 11th. and we plan on going. In the next couple of months there will be several show coming up as long as this AI problem don't shut them down. Hoping all have no problems with their flocks and this thing will get over with.

Hope to see ya at the shows,
Bert Jarvis

UPCOMING EVENTS // DISTRICT 4

DATE	HOST	MEET TYPE
June 4	Coulee Region (WI)	Special
June 11	Buckeye Fancy Feather Club (OH)	Special
September 3	Northwoods Poultry Fanciers	Special
September 3	White River Poultry Club (IN)	Special
September 10	IL-MO Poultry Club	Special
September 17-18	Moon City Poultry Club (Double) (OH)	Special/Special
September 18	Green River Poultry Club (KY)	Special
September 24-25	Wisconsin International	District
October 1	West Central Wisconsin Pigeon & Poultry Club	Special
October 1-2	Dayton Fancy Feather Club (Double) (OH)	Special/Special
October 8	Beaver Pigeon & Bantam Club (WI)	State
October 8-9	Michigan Poultry Fanciers	Special
October 15-16	Central Indiana Poultry Show	Special

DISTRICT 5 REPORT

Greetings from Texas.

Not much to say about our current situation except its Hot and Dry.

All my Barred Rocks are free ranging now and sticking to the shade. Heat tolerance is one of the main reasons i chose large fowl rocks to breed and exhibit. They get along well with my large fowl OE and are great foragers. Egg quality is much better

than the OE as well. The English and Asiatic breeds just have a tougher time down here. I dont have the time or facilities to babysit heavy feathered breeds.

Show season is fast approaching. If anyone in my district would like to request a meet just reach out to me as t jstrickler1@kleinisd.net or 281-467-8285. Currently Kansas, New Mexico, and Nebraska have nothing on the books.
James Strickler

UPCOMING EVENTS // DISTRICT 5

DATE	HOST	MEET TYPE
August 5-6	Ozark Empire Fair (MO)	Special
October 2	Tulsa State Fair (OK)	Special
October 10	Newcastle (OK)	Special
October 22	Missouri State Poultry Association	Special

DISTRICT 6 REPORT

UPCOMING EVENTS // DISTRICT 6

DATE	HOST	MEET TYPE
July 22-30	North Dakota State Fair	State
August 11-21	Iowa State Fair	State
September 1-5	South Dakota State Fair	State
September 9-11	New Ulm Fall Classic (MN)	Special
September 17-19	7220 Poultry Show (WY)	State
September 24	Rocky Mountain Poultry Association Big Sky Poultry Exposition (MT)	State
October 1	Eastern Iowa Poultry Association Show	District
October 22-23	Minnesota State Poultry Association Show	State
November 12	North Star Classic Show and Sale (MN)	Special
November 19-20	The Masters Cup (IA)	Special

IN MEMORIAM

DANNY RAY FEATHERS

July 29, 1960 ~ April 17, 2022

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our good friend, and mentor Danny Feathers. Danny was a long-time breeder of large fowl White Plymouth Rocks as well as bantam White and Barred Plymouth Rocks.

Danny was a major contributor to the Plymouth Rock breed by not only breeding outstanding fowl but sharing his knowledge, and educating others to ensure the breed continues for future generations.



It is best to remember our friend and mentor by continuing his work through education and helping our new breeders.

Remember, if we don't have breeders, we won't have the breed.



CLUB VACANCIES:

Help your Club! The Plymouth Rock Fancier's Club is in need of volunteers for the following positions help keep our club running:

District 3 Director

(AR, LA, NC, SC, GA, FL, AL, MS, TN)

District 6 Director

(MT, ND, SD, WY, MN, IA)

District 8 Director

(AK & Canada)

Points Chairman

Webmaster

Newsletter Editor

If you are interested in learning more about a position, please contact us at plymouthrockfanciersclub@gmail.com.

HELPING IN THE HEAT

By Alyssa Walsh, [Poultry Keepers 360 Facebook Group](#)

With high temperatures and high humidity all over the country (hello, summer!), I think it's time to talk about the things we can do to mitigate heat stress in poultry. We can't control the weather, but there are a few things that we can do as managers to help our birds. It's important to be observant of your poultry, pay attention to the weather, and be prepared for possible heat stress during the summers.

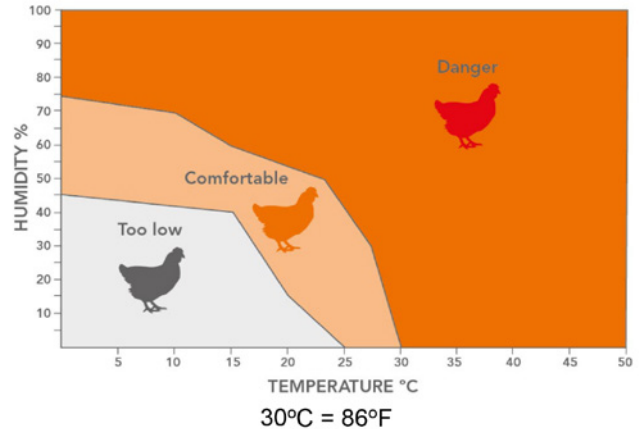
Heat stress is the range of temperatures that a chicken can maintain its body temperature. This is usually between 60-75oF. Within 60-75oF heat production is lowest and birds are the most comfortable. At temperatures closer to +85o F, you'll start to notice a change in your birds' behavior as they try to reduce heat production. Temperatures of 100oF or higher can be deadly for poultry, so we need to do our best to help! Now, the temperatures mentioned before do not include humidity. Humidity plays a large factor as well. Growing up in North Carolina, I can testify to how high humidity makes hot days feel even hotter! KEPRO has a great graphic to show where poultry are comfortable in relation to temperature and humidity.

Some signs of heat stress are:

1. Panting, which leads to more loss of hydration.
2. Drinking more water.
3. Spreading their wings to cool down.
4. Less energetic.
5. Decrease feed intake. You could see as much as a 20% decrease in feed consumption.
6. Lower egg production or smaller egg sizes. This is from not getting enough nutrition to support egg production and egg sizes.

When you start to notice signs of heat stress, there are a few things you can do as a manager to help with heat stress in your poultry.

1. This may sound simple, but providing cool, fresh drinking water. Ensuring your chickens have plenty of cool water is so important in these hot temperatures. Depending on your watering sources, this could be difficult.
2. Provide shade and keep water in the shade.
3. Offer electrolytes. Apple Cider Vinegar is a great, natural electrolyte source. You can add 1 oz of Apple Cider Vinegar per gallon of water. I like to think of it as



<https://www.kepro.nl/news/how-to-prevent-and-reduce-heat-stress-in-poultry/>

- healthy Gatorade. Birds will be breathing heavily and losing a lot of fluids so offering electrolytes help with hydration. Apple cider vinegar also helps digestion, so it'll help the birds digest and utilize the feed they are eating.
4. Increase air flow and ventilation. A fan can help move air to improve ventilation.
 5. Additional vitamins in the water. This can help with heat stress and mortality in broilers. For breeding birds, vitamin C can help moderate decreases in production, egg quality, and sperm production in breeders during warm temperatures.
 6. Adjusting feeding times to feed during the cooler parts of the day can encourage feed intake during hot days.
 7. Feed Probiotics. Prolonged heat stress can cause damage to cells in the intestine, which can make birds more susceptible to salmonella and other diseases and reduce digestive efficiency.
 8. Offer frozen treats. Add fruit to a plastic container with fruit like oranges (a great vitamin C source) watermelon or mango, add water and freeze overnight. This will give a cool treat and will provide extra sugars for energy.

In conclusion, heat stress will have a big impact on your bird's comfort and productivity. There's nothing we can do about the weather, but there are some things we can do as managers to help our birds comfort. Some of those things are listed above. It's important to be prepared and pay attention to the weather during the summers. Having supplies on hand before high temperatures hit helps you react quickly! If you're expecting high temperatures in a few days, start with electrolytes and higher vitamin levels a few days early to help prepare for possible heat stress.

Stay hydrated, poultry keepers!

PROTECT YOUR POULTRY FROM PREDATORS

by Norman Coulter

My granddaughter and I both raise bantams. We share valuable resources (books, journals, articles, etc) and discuss readings and the information we have gained. During my reading I came upon this valuable key for detecting predators. The Predator Detective Key" was in Gail Damerow's book *Storey's*

Guide to Raising Chickens.

Ou poultry is much to valuable to be destroyed by predators. All of our planning, breedings, and years of work can be wiped out too easily. I hope that you find this information helpful. I wish you and your flock a safe, healthy, and productive season.

PREDATOR DETECTIVE KEY		
Clues	Likely Time	Predator
ONE BIRD MISSING		
Ranged bird missing, feathers scattered or no clues	dusk or dawn	fox
A few scattered feathers or no clues	dusk or dawn	hawk
Fence or building torn into, feathers scattered	anytime	dog
Ranged bird missing, feathers scattered or no clues	dusk or dawn	cougar* (rare)
A few scattered feathers or no clues	night	owl
Small bird missing, lingering musky odor	night	mink
Ranged bird missing, no clues	night	bobcat (rare)
SEVERAL BIRDS MISSING		
No clues	anytime	human
Ranged birds missing, feathers scattered or no clues	dusk or dawn	fox
Ranged birds missing, no clues	early morning	coyote
Ranged birds missing, no clues	day	hawk
Chicks missing, no clues	day	snake
Small birds missing, bits of coarse fur at shelter openings	night	raccoon
Chicks or young birds missing	night	rat, cat
EGGS MISSING FROM NEST		
No clues	day	snake
Empty shells in and around nests	anytime	dog
Empty shells in nest or near housing	day	jay, crow
No clues	night	rat
No clues or empty shells in and around nests, maybe faint lingering odor	night	skunk
Empty shells in and around nests	night	raccoon, mink
Empty shells in and around nests	nightly	opossum
EGGS MISSING UNDER BROODY HEN		
No clues or faint lingering odor	night	skunk

PREDATOR DETECTIVE KEY		
Clues	Likely Time	Predator
ONE OR TWO BIRDS KILLED		
Entire chicken eaten on site	dusk or dawn	hawk
Bites in breast or thigh, abdomen eaten; entire bird eaten on site	night	opossum
Deep marks on head and neck, or head and neck eaten, maybe feathers around fence post	night	owl
Entire chicken eaten or missing, maybe scattered feathers	early morning	coyote
One bird gone, maybe scattered feathers	dusk or dawn	fox
Chicks sometimes pulled into fence, wings and feet not eaten	nightly	domestic cat
Chicks killed, abdomen eaten (but not muscles and skin), maybe lingering smell	night	skunk
Head bitten off, claw marks on neck, back, and sides; body partially covered with litter	night	bobcat (rare)
Bruises and bites on legs; partially eaten chick with head down tunnel	night	rat
Backs bitten, heads missing, necks and breasts torn, breasts and entrails eaten; bird pulled into fence and partially eaten; body found away from housing, maybe scattered feathers	every 5-7 nights	raccoon
SEVERAL BIRDS KILLED		
Birds mauled but not eaten; fence or building torn into; feet pulled through cage bottom and bitten off	anytime	dog
Bodies neatly piled, killed by small bites on neck and body, back of head and neck eaten	night	mink
Birds killed by small bites on neck and body, bruises on head and under wings, back of head and neck eaten, bodies neatly piled; faint skunklike odor	night	weasel
Rear end bitten, intestines pulled out	night	fisher, marten
Chicks dead, maybe faint lingering odor	night	skunk
Heads and crops eaten	every 5-7 nights	raccoon

FUN FACTS:

According to the Guinness Book of Records, the largest chicken ever recorded, named "Weirdo" and hatched in Calaveras County, California in 1975 weighed more than 22 pounds.

The largest chicken egg on record was nearly 12 ounces, measuring 12 inches around.

PHOTO GALLERY

NORTHEASTERN POULTRY CONGRESS

January 15-16, 2022, Eastern States Exposition Center, West Springfield, MA



Great group of Rock Club members enjoying the show!



BB and Champion American was a White cockerel by Jill Burks.



RB Large Fowl was a Barred cock by Gregory Westman.



BB and Champion Bantam was a White pullet by John Miles/Swamprun's Poultry.



RB Bantam was a Barred pullet by John Miles/Swamprun's Poultry.

Continued on following page

PHOTO GALLERY

Congress, continued



Junior BB and Best SCCL Columbian hen by Austin Hay.



Junior RB Columbian pullet by Austin Hay.

SOUTHEAST OHIO POULTRY BREEDERS ASSOCIATION SHOW

March 26, 2022, Washington Co. Fairgrounds, Marietta, Ohio



BB and Champion American Large Fowl Barred cockerel by Roger Knauff.



RB Large Fowl Barred cockerel by Roger Knauff.

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 us at plymouthrockfanciersclub@gmail.com. Thank you!

PHOTO GALLERY

WHITE RIVER POULTRY CLUB SHOW

April 9, 2022, 4-H Fairground, Spencer, Indiana



BB Large Fowl White hen by Bert Jarvis.



RB Large Fowl Barred hen by Bert Jarvis.

LIVESTOCK CONSERVANCY MICROGRANTS

Awards can be used for a wide array of projects that support rare breed conservation within the U.S. and are intended to support individuals and organizations already doing good work with rare breeds on the Conservation Priority List. Each grant may be used for expenditures including, but not limited to, producer training programs, fencing, facilities, supplies, specialized equipment, meat and egg production, Agri-tourism, or product marketing.

Breed Association Grants: NEW! These grants will help associations and clubs, based in the U.S. working with CPL breeds, improve services for their membership and conservation of their breeds. Applicant organizations must be in existence for a minimum of three years, must meet their state's requirements for operating as a business or corporation, must be incorporated (no Sole Proprietors or Partnerships), and must have board approval to pursue the project. Suitable expenditures of Breed Association grants may include, but are not limited to, marketing materials, website improvements, educational events, developing a strategic plan, or DNA studies.

National Grants: These are open to adults and organizations working with CPL breeds that would like to improve husbandry or infrastructure, bring in new genetics, produce educational opportunities, or take their business to the next level.

Youth Grants: This program provides funding for youth projects for individuals 8-18 years of age and may be used similarly as the National grants.

Premier 1 Supplies Grant: Support will be provided for fencing and other products available through Premier 1 Supplies at cost, along with other needs as outlined above.

Deadline to apply is August 19, 2022. All Microgrant awards typically range from \$500 - \$2,000 and will be awarded at the discretion of The Livestock Conservancy. Please email questions about microgrants to info@livestockconservancy.org.

More info at: <https://livestockconservancy.org/resources/micro-grant-program/>

IN THE KITCHEN

SLOW COOKER CHICKEN BURRITO BOWLS

*Courtesy of Lori Yates of Foxes Love Lemons
Submitted by Pam Watson*

Ingredients:

- One jar (16 ounces) chunky salsa
- One-pound boneless skinless chicken thighs (cull birds are fine!)
- 2 1/2 cups low sodium chicken broth
- 2 teaspoons chili powder
- One can (15 1/2 oz.) black beans rinsed and drained
- 2 cups instant brown rice
- One cup corn kernels fresh or frozen

Fresh for garnish:

- Chopped avocado
- Chopped cilantro
- Chopped red onion
- Chopped tomatoes
- Lime wedges
- Sour cream or plain Greek yogurt
- Shredded Colby Jack cheese

Directions:

In slow cooker stir together salsa, chicken broth, and chili powder. Cook 3 1/2 hours on high or 7 1/2 hours on low.

Transfer chicken to cutting board and coarsely shred; return to slow cooker. Stir in beans, rice, and corn. Cook 30 minutes on high or until rice is cooked through.

Serve garnished with avocado, cilantro, onion, tomatoes, limes, sour cream, and cheese.



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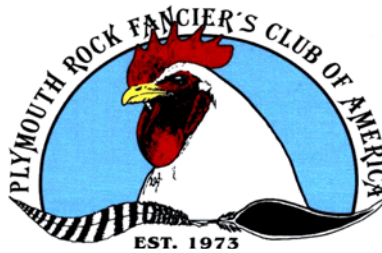
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VACANT

DISTRICT 8 (AK & Canada)
VACANT



Membership Information

Adult: \$20.00 per year
Junior: \$10.00 per year

Join online at: plymouthrockfanciersclub.com/join

Or mail membership info and payment to Secretary-Treasurer:
Jill Burks, 978 Chestnut Hill Rd., Cambridge, NY 12816