



# "E Newsletter"

Serving: Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Manitoba and Ontario

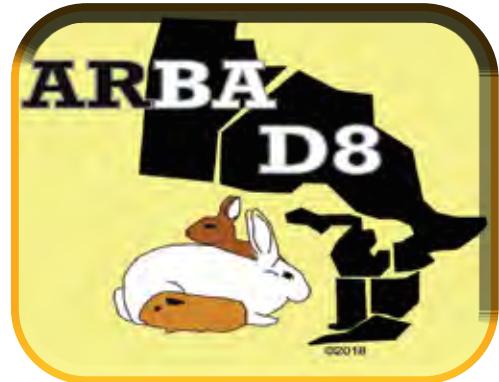
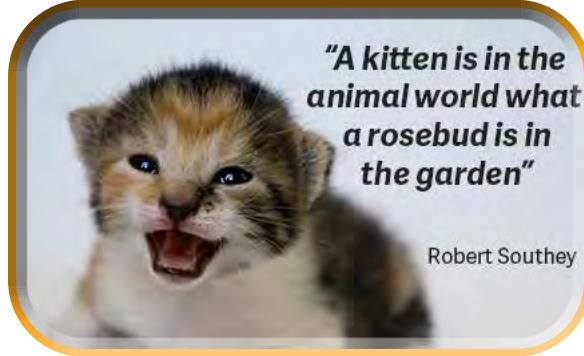


Volume 2 : Issue 3 March/April 2020



***"No matter how chaotic it is,  
wildflowers will still spring up in  
the middle of nowhere."***

Sheryl Crow



Director's Message .....

**03**

"Friends, eventually ours shows will return."

Editor's Message .....

**05**

"As Terry mentioned in his message...."

Barn Therapy .....

**05**

"Where your rabbits can become you personal therapists"

OCC/ARBA Cavy Standard Differences .....

**07**

"Rare Varieties - For Standards Committee approved "

On The Road .....

**08**

"My story begins with the 2018 Royal Winter Fair."

Indiana State Convention .....

**10**

Youth Club Awards and Royalty

Michigan State RBA Convention .....

**13**

Youth Awards and Royalty

D8 Youth Workshops .....

**16**

Coronado, MI - Wapakenota, OH

Somewhere In Time .....

**18**

D8 Shows Listing .....

**20**

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# Director's Message

**H**owdy D8 Friends!

I pray this newsletter issue finds everyone and their families safe. These are definitely some strange and trying times we're living in.

A large portion of the show schedule in both D8 and across the ARBA has canceled for April with many into May and June with possibly more to come. While we certainly miss the shows, we must remember that there will be more of them in the future. We just need to keep ourselves and our families safe and healthy now.

I've been asking clubs to email me at [havanaman@earthlink.net](mailto:havanaman@earthlink.net) when they cancel their shows so that I can help get the word out. This involves keeping the D8 Website current. We've been sending periodic emails to those registered for the D8 E-Newsletter. And we've been making posts on both the D8 and my personal Facebook pages. I had my article completed for the March issue of our newsletter when everything broke loose. Instead of sending the newsletter then, I decided to go with multiple emails regarding show cancellations. In addition, clubs are also asked to email [sanctions@arba.net](mailto:sanctions@arba.net) so that these cancellations and reschedulings can be handled on the system.

Yes, the ARBA office has been closed temporarily due to the current health situation. However, business does continue. Various ARBA email addresses are being monitored. The Executive Director continues to deal with officials in various states regarding the RHD situation and then updating the Board and our membership. Please check back often to the ARBA website and Facebook pages for these updates. Many of these are also shared on the D8 Facebook page. The Board continues to transact business online as normal.

A full schedule of D8 Youth Workshops were planned for this spring. However, with the shows canceling, the workshops also must be canceled.

I've begun working on the fall schedule of workshops and hope to have some finalized soon. Hopefully that will give us something positive to look forward to! In the meantime, please remember to check out the D8 Youtube channel

named ARBA D8 Website. Here you will find a variety of videos filmed at many of last fall's workshops. These will hopefully keep our youth... and adults...interested and excited for when our shows do resume. And they will resume!

In addition to the fall schedule of workshops mentioned above, I'm working to schedule a variety of virtual workshops as well. It's still early, but stay tuned for more details soon. Like the live workshops at shows, these are intended primarily for our D8 youth. However, youth from all across the ARBA...and adults, too...are welcome!

There is much concern today over the RHD situation. Our Executive Director is keeping in contact with many state officials on this. Updates are being given to the Board and membership as previously stated. No matter what policy is taken, there will never be 100% satisfaction from the members. That's just reality. However, I do want to assure everyone that this subject is taken very seriously, and much discussion is being done on it. Please be sure to check back regularly to the ARBA and D8 pages for updates.

Within the week I will be asking the D8 Youth Advisory Council members and D8 adult youth leaders to review the policy on how D8 district teams are formed. This will be in preparation for the ARBA Convention this fall. This review is done each year in case any tweaks are needed to the policy.



I'd like to encourage our clubs during this down time to please submit a Club Spotlight Article. Many clubs out there can use new, active members. Help promote yourself to these prospective members by making them aware of your club. The article doesn't have to be long. You may wish to include things like club history, meeting locations, membership fees, club officers, contact information, youth activities, and future show dates. Things may be slow now, but they will pick up. Simply submit your article to [arbad8website@gmail.com](mailto:arbad8website@gmail.com).

In recent issues we've been including a series of articles highlighting Ontario. In this issue, I'd like to thank Glenn Johnston for his article. I want to also thank Liz Voigt for submitting her cavy article. It's important to stress the importance of our Ontario and Manitoba members to our district and organization.

I'm not sure when I'll be able to schedule another judge exam, but I request that any registrar who is eligible and interested to please contact me. Even if we've discussed this in the past, please contact me again. I just want to have an idea of "who" and "how many" so when things return to normal.

Indiana and Michigan were able to hold their state conventions before things turned bad. I'm happy that folks from those areas sent us a variety of the youth contest results that we have printed elsewhere in this issue. I was in attendance at the Indiana event, and was really pleased with the show in general...well run, awesome banquet, great youth meeting and awards presentation, and the large number of volunteers who stayed over to assist with tear down. Up in Michigan congratulations to Pam Jones on being awarded the 2020 MSRBA Master Breeder Award... basically the MSRBA Hall of Fame!

Yes, the Ohio Mini Convention was canceled... so that means the judges conference is canceled as well.

Friends, eventually our shows will return. When they do, the clubs will need your help. Please support them with entries. Support their kitchens, raffles, and vendors. Help is always welcome, so please volunteer to help write, take entries, or in

some other capacity if they need it. The main thing now is to stay healthy...and be ready when normalcy returns! Keep grooming those animals and breeding those animals. Keep in contact with your hobby friends through social media, emails, texts, and phone calls.

My friends, I'm not able to see you face-to-face right now as I normally would. However, I'm still here and hope to hear from you. I may be reached by phone at 937-364-2133 or by email at [havanaman@earthlink.net](mailto:havanaman@earthlink.net). Please encourage any of your friends not currently registered for this newsletter to please do so. All they need to do is visit the D8 Website and subscribe there.

Stay safe, my friends!

Terry Fender  
ARBA D8 Director



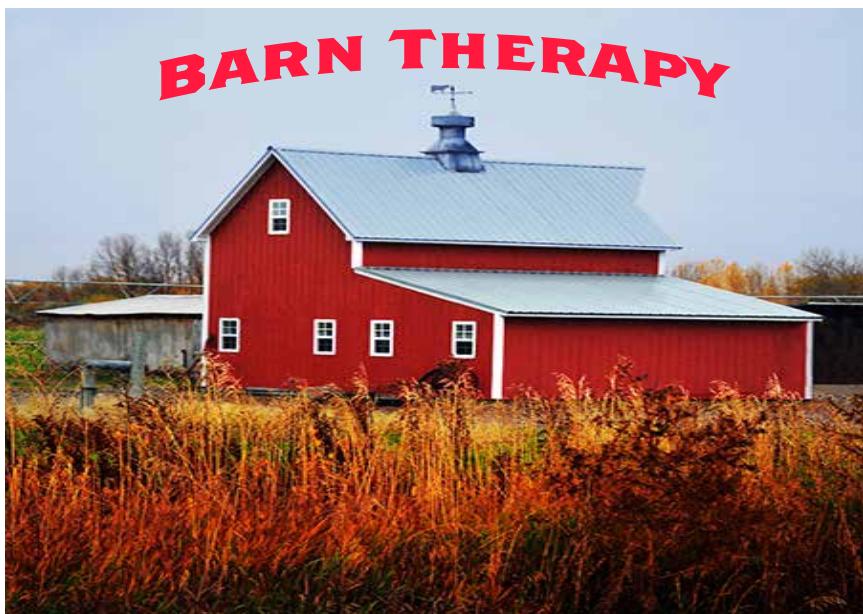
Pam Jones - 2020      Jane Burt - 1998

## Editor/Web Message

*G*reetings from cyberspace!

Included in this issue are flyers for the two D8 Youth Workshops that are tentatively still a go. We include the Workshop flyer on the D8 website attached to the show where it is scheduled. Unfortunately, with the current issue we face, the number of shows this spring is dwindling.

*Continued on page 9*



**A**s a social worker/psychotherapist, I have been seeing a lot of individuals who are trying to deal with anxiety lately. For some, it is something that they have been dealing with their whole life and it has just recently ramped up due to COVID-19.

Carol Vasko,  
MSW, LSW, LCDCIII

## Anxiety - Help From Your Rabbit's

### **Most of the time anxiety revolves around our "what ifs".**

For others, the series of symptoms that make up anxiety are totally new and confusing to both the individual and their family members. So, what is anxiety, what does it feel like, and what does it look like to others?

Anxiety disorders are a group of mental health issues characterized by significant feelings of worry. When we talk about anxiety, we are talking about how a person is thinking about the future. Most of the time anxiety revolves around our "what ifs". The uncertainty we feel about the coronavirus right now can cause us to look towards the future and ask questions that can't easily be answered. Am I going to be safe, how about my family and friends, when will I go back to work, and will I get to show my rabbits this year, are all examples of things that many of us have asked ourselves over the past several weeks? These unanswered questions about the future create worry and also other uncomfortable symptoms that make up anxiety.

How do you know if you have anxiety and does it really matter? We all worry about things on and off in our lives and most of the time we get through whatever is happening and are able to move on. We may even look back on the event and think to ourselves that we were silly

to worry so much, but when the worry hangs on or the event seems to go on without a solid end date in sight, symptoms can creep in and start interfering with our lives.

Before I list the symptoms, let me throw this out there, and I'm not trying to make anyone worry even more, but some of the symptoms of anxiety can also be medically related, meaning that rapid heartbeat, increased sweating, weakness, and others, can be signs of heart, thyroid, or other medical issues that need to be checked out by a physician.

Here are some of the symptoms that you might be having related to anxiety:

- \*nervousness, restlessness, or being tense
- \*feelings of danger, panic, or dread
- \*rapid heart rate and or rapid breathing
- \*increased or heavy sweating
- \*trembling or muscle twitching
- \*weakness and lethargy
- \*difficulty focusing or thinking clearly about anything other than the thing you're worried about
- \*insomnia
- \*digestive or gastrointestinal problems, constipation, or diarrhea

Feeling restless occasionally or sometimes having insomnia will not necessarily cause us any problems in our life, but when we start having a series of symptoms, they can end up filling our days, causing us to feel sick, fearful, and out of touch with the things we enjoy, like our rabbits. Are you noticing you are more irritable to the people closest to you? Are you losing your temper more, crying more, blaming others for your bad mood? The unknown can create fear and fear can create anger. I don't mean, you're kicking your dog around the house, but a consistently bad mood when you tend to be a fairly happy person is worth looking into.

Okay, so let's say you've determined that you have mild to moderate anxiety and you want to improve things, what can you do? Well, here's where your rabbits can become your own personal mini therapists. By practicing a technique from Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, or DBT, called mindfulness, you can learn to stay more focused in the present and help calm those fears about the future. Using one of your rabbits to help you with this process will be enjoyable for both you and your bunny.

You need to choose one of your rabbits who tends to be calm and who will sit quietly in your lap or up on your chest for a period of time. As a side note, cut your rabbit's toenails before you begin the exercise, it's hard to enjoy the process if you have sharp bunny nails digging into your skin. Choose a quiet spot in your house or barn and find a comfortable chair. In the barn this might be more challenging, but some type of lawn chair, with a pillow or blanket to sit on will work.

To begin you should sit up squarely in your chair with both feet flat on the floor and your rabbit sitting comfortably across your lap. The area where you are sitting should be as quiet as possible, no radios or TV's should be playing. Your barn is great for this because the soft sounds of your rabbits moving around can really be comforting. Look down at the bunny in your lap, while holding it loosely, and observe how cute it is. How would you describe it to someone who has never seen a dutch? Inhale slowly through your nose for a count of 5 and exhale through your mouth for another count

of 5. Do this three times while looking at your bunny.

If your rabbit is okay with this, gently grasp one of its ears between your thumb and index finger of either hand, and rub the ear in a circular motion. Focus all your attention on how the ear feels between your fingers, the texture of the fur and the thickness and substance of the ear. Do this while gently breathing in through your nose and exhaling out through your mouth. If your bunny is agreeable, you'll want to work up to 60-90 seconds at a time per ear. You should be thinking about nothing else besides how the ear feels between your fingers, block everything else out. You'll probably find that the first time you try this you will only be able to concentrate 15 to 30 seconds, don't be concerned, it's not uncommon. Remember, anxiety can cause significant restlessness, so even being able to sit for a very short period of time and do this, is an accomplishment.

You can also repeat a similar form of this exercise by placing your rabbit up on your chest with its head nuzzled under your chin. Gently stroke your rabbit's fur while quietly breathing in and out for counts of 5. Concentrate only on how the fur feels under your fingers. Build up to 60-90 seconds, repeating 2 or 3 times. Try to practice these techniques at least 3 times a week. I know that life is busy, but the more times you can do this in a week, the more benefit you will gain from it.

These mindfulness techniques differ from just cuddling and petting your rabbit because when done correctly, they slow your breathing, clear your mind from the concerns of the future, and keep yourself centered in the present. This is important because when we are present in our lives, we are not rushing ahead in our minds to the worries that can cause the anxiety. You will find that your concentration will improve and your ability to calm yourself, even when you do not have your bunny in your lap, is easier after a few weeks.

Remember, when we think too much about the "what ifs" of the future, we can be overwhelmed by anxiety, but when we give ourselves the ability to remain in the present, it truly is a gift.

Take care, I hope this helps, we'll get through this.

# OCC/ARBA Standard Differences

Liz Volgt



## 1. BReEDS - \* Denotes a breed not recognized in the ARBA standard.

Abyssinian, Satin Abyssinian, Boucle (Alpaca)\*, Coronet, Crested, Satin Crested\*, Merino\*, Peruvian, Satin Peruvian, Silkie, Satin Silkie, Skinny Pig\*, Smooth (American), Satin Smooth (American Satin), Teddy, Satin Teddy, Texel. (all Breeds with a crest are accepted in both White Crested & Self Crested - they are separate varieties though so that a white crested red and a self crested red would be two different varieties).

## 2. COLOUR VARIETIES - \* Denotes a variety not recognized in the ARBA standard.

Beige, Black, Buff\*, Chocolate, Cream, Lilac, Orange, Red, Slate Blue\*, White, Dilute Agouti, Golden Agouti, Silver Agouti, Solid Dilute, Solid Golden, Solid Silver, Dalmatian, Dutch, Himalayan, Parti (Broken Colour), Tortoiseshell, Tortoiseshell and White, Brindle, Roan, Tan & Marten.

**Differences** - (a) Brindle is accepted in any 2 self colours except white (which would be a roan). (b) Buff (hot or brassy cream) is an accepted colour. This is a more "yellow colour than the ARBA gold colour. (c) Orange is accepted in both red & dark eyed. (d) TSW & Parti (B/C) - all colours on the cavy must have at least one patch of 2" in diameter. Colours on a parti colour do not need to be recognized colours.

**3. RARE VARIETIES** - for Standards Committee approved nonstandard breeds & colours. Breeds - Satin Coronet, Satin Texel, Satin Merino, Satin Boucle, Ridgeback, Satin Ridgeback, Crested Ridgeback, Lunkarya, Satin Crested Ridgeback, Crested Teddy, Satin Crested Teddy, Swiss & Baldwin. Colours - Seal, Chocolate Himalayan, Otter, Rainbow (banded parti colour with lilac, orange and white), Dapple, California, Sable. Rare Varieties do not compete for Best In Show but there is an award for Best Rare Variety. Exhibitor has to submit their working standard to the OCC standards chairperson before the show (if it is not on this list) before showing a Rare Variety breed or colour variety. All working standards have to comply to OCC format.

**4. OTHER CLASSES - OCC** is unique in that it offers progeny and breeding type classes.

(a) **Sow & Litter** - Shown in four classes - Short (Smooth Coat, Satin Smooth Coat, Crested, Satin Crested plus any Rare Varieties with short coats), Rough (Abyssinian, Satin Abyssinian), Teddy, Satin Teddy, Skinny Pig plus any Rare Varieties with Rough Coats), Curly (Boucle, Merino, Texel plus any Rare Varieties with curly coats) or Long Classes(Coronet,

Peruvian, Satin Peruvian, Silkie, Satin Silkie plus any Rare Varieties with Long Coats). Litter is to be 1 to 4 week old with more than 1 baby in the litter. The sow may have colour disqualifications or colour eliminations but no other disqualifications or eliminations. All babies in the litter must not have disqualifications or eliminations of any kind. All babies are to be from the same coat class as the sow. If one in the entry is deemed to be disqualified or eliminated, the entire entry is disqualified or eliminated. Cleanliness, uniformity and improvement over the sow are most important.

(b) **Boar & Son** - Shown in four classes - Short, Rough, Curly or Long Classes. 4 to 12 week old son & his father. The boar and son are both to be from the same coat class. Neither may have disqualifications or eliminations. If either in the entry is deemed to be disqualified or eliminated, the entire entry is disqualified or eliminated. Improvement of the son over the father is of utmost importance.

(c) **Breeders' Pen** - class to consist of one boar and one or two sows. Shown in four classes. They are to be from the same group i.e. Short, Long, Curly, Rough except that Teddies & Abys cannot be in a pair or trio. They do not need to be of breeding age as it is the potential that is being assessed. They will be judged on their own merit as well as the potential to produce quality offspring.

NOTE: Sow & Litter, Boar & Son and Breeders' Pen do not compete for Best In Show.

**5. AGE & SEX CLASSES** - There are 6 classes for every colour variety in every breed as follows: (a) Senior Boar & Senior Sow - over 6 months & over 32 oz. (b) Intermediate Boar & Intermediate Sow - 4 to 6 months & 22 to 32 oz. (c) Junior Boar & Junior Sow - under 4 months - 12 to 22 oz. This is the same as ARBA.

**6. EAR TAGS** - Unlike ARBA, cavies are not required to be ear tagged. Exhibitors will be given a list of coop numbers at check-in. That number is written on a piece of adhesive tape or sticker and adhered to one ear (either is fine)

**7. RESERVE VS OPPOSITE** - While ARBA selects Best Opposite Sex of Variety and Breed, OCC selects Reserve of Variety and Breed. Hence two cavies from the same class could win Best of Breed and Reserve of Breed.

**"No one calls me to the table of yesterday because all is absence and adios."**  
Catulo Castillo

Betty Fletcher presented an interesting article in the last issue of the District 8 newsletter. An overview of the Ontario show circuit including both Ontario Council -ARBA shows and Dominion Rabbit & Cavy Breeders' shows.

My article reflects my own on the road experiences in the last year and a bit.

My story begins with the 2018 Royal Winter Fair. The highlight for me was the single fryer class. A small class in numbers compared to others across the continent but terrific quality in the top few placings. Bill Gardhouse would place first and second with two outstanding white New Zealands. I stood back and enjoyed the depth of these two rabbits. Ann Moffat would place third and fifth with two satins. In subsequent discussions about the show, I seemed to be the only one that took notice of the class. I was left to wonder about the future of the double shot power of the Gardsmere Rabbitry.

Next up was the Dominion spring show in Barrie. For whatever reason, the Havana breed has seen increased interest in Ontario. Brian Dart, Al Campoli and Ed White were showing the breed. I am sure there were a couple of others in the race as well. At the end of the day, Al Campoli won Best in Show with a Black. Al celebrated his success by building a new home. (presumably he needed a more suitable trophy room).

I judged the New Zealands at the Schomberg spring fair and shared the judging of Best in Show with Doris Brady. One of the fryers from the Royal would win best of breed and best in show. I also learned that Don Havileck had selected the same rabbit at the Sorba show earlier in May.

Millbrook would round out the spring show season for me. It is the newest of the arba shows. James Goodrich was on hand and it was interesting to watch alternate classes of rabbits and cavies.

Peterborough kicked off the end of summer, fall season for me. A small show and I ended up with a Havana, Thiantra, Lionhead, American Sable and Flemish Giant as the top animals. Reserve in show was the Lionhead while the American Sable would

## ON THE ROAD - MARCH 2020

**GLENN JOHNSON**

win the best on overall type.

The mother and daughter team of CJ Smith and Jamie Henry are at the top of their game at the moment. Prior

to my comments on the selection for best in show, I spoke briefly about the Canadian National Exhibition rabbit and Cavy Show in Toronto. It used to be a terrific show and I remember rabbit judging starting at nine in the morning and wrapping up at eight in the evening. Almost 300 cavies one year and a time when there were only three breeds. Seventeen senior Black Smooth coat boars in one of the largest cavy classes that I can remember. Ed White would describe it as a time for Happy Jack to shine. In 1979, forty years ago, the format changed to the Canadian Classic for Rabbits and Cavies when the CNE bowed out of agriculture. For eleven years the Canadian Classic for Rabbits and Cavies reigned supreme.

Bracebridge Fair was next on the agenda. Old style presentation with rabbits and cavies cooped. They sure looked good. More photos are taken of the rabbits today than ever before. Watch people walking down the aisles with their phones and click, click taking a photo. Chairman Kim Mandley was presented with a cake to celebrate her thirtieth year of involvement. The fair offers prize money for the rabbits and cavies. Judge Liz Voigt selected an elegant White New Zealand doe as best in show. It would subsequently place fourth in a class of 32 in Reno Nevada.

Spencerville is a show that I have not attended for close to ten years when I travelled with Einar Helf. I had mentioned to Bill Gardhouse that I was thinking about attending. He mentioned that I better have some good ones as the Quebec breeders would be in attendance. His first question upon speaking to him upon my return was "How badly were you beaten". A busy day for Beth Collins. Longtime chairman Denis Drouin was away and missed at the show.

By all accounts, visitors to the ARBA convention were impressed with the facility and layout of the show. My particular highlight was the Mary Lou Eisel travelogue. "Today we reached Iowa City. All stock fed and watered. The English Spot buck is a little picky." The daily updates were terrific.

One of the peculiarities of the Royal Winter Fair is the Northey trophy for best rabbit or cavy. Won in

2019 by Jimmy Stewart of Beaverton.

The shows can be broken down to a prior, the actual show date and afterward.

The shows need more promotion. District 8 Director, Terry Fender has encouraged the postings of show flyers for the upcoming shows. Yet, a great number of show committees do not.

Excitement is the key word. Tim Ferriss got it right. It is what we should strive for. What will excite people? Our promotional material should be exciting. The events we hold we should strive for excitement. If people are excited they will come back. They will want to be part of it. I have written about this before but it needs repeating.

Most of my article has covered happenings on show dates .Afterward we usually do a less than adequate job of reporting on the shows. For the number of people that attend the show, there are probably more at home that would enjoy reading a timely article about an event than attended the event.

The literature, meetings and shows there is little description of WHY we do it. I have had the opportunity to read the book Start with Why by Simon Sinek. The author would suggest that" by WHY, what is your purpose, cause or belief? Why does your club exist? Why should anyone care"

I have been at the shows for a lifetime. Yet, I sometimes wonder why. There are a significant number of life members in the Dominion but there is a significant turnover of newer members for both the Dominion and the Ontario Council. Lots to be done in the rabbit and cavy clubs but the author Sinek would suggest that we need to start with WHY we need to do things as opposed to what needs to be done at a particular moment.

The popular TV show 60 minutes had a quote In the Arena from Theodore Roosevelt in one of the recent segments. Our hobby needs more people in the arena. Share the workload. Addressing the WHY, I believe would bring more members to the clubs and I believe more would step up to be a contributing part of the hobby.

Email: [arbad8website@gmail.com](mailto:arbad8website@gmail.com)

### *Editor's/Webmaster Message Continued:*

This will end and we will all be able to again spend a day, or two with our rabbit families.

Website reconstruction is going at a snails pace right now. It is not an easy process and sometimes when the coding doesn't work or you hit a road block, you scrap it and go a different route. I understand how important it is to have a website that is easy to navigate and loads quickly. Studies have shown that if a website does not load in 15 seconds, the visitor will leave. We certainly do not want visitors to the D8 site to leave, so I will continue the reconstruction process. Charles Spurgeon once said, "By perseverance the snail reached the ark". I snail onward.

As Terry mentioned, during this down time is a perfect time to pen an article about your club for the D8 Club Spotlight. or just pen a general article. Any topic that you believe might be of interest to the breeders here in D8. What is that saying about never too old to teach a dog new tricks...well whether you are a newbie or a seasoned breeder, there is always something new to learn.

Like many of you here in D8, my two breed national shows have been cancelled because of Covid-19. Am I disappointed? Absolutely, especially each time I look at the rabbit I was planning to enter at those shows or any other show. One of my breed clubs conducts a Royalty competition at our national which now would not happen. I and our Youth Committee chair decided to take the lemons that had been given to the kids who had already applied for the contest and give them lemonade. We brainstormed and researched for ways to make this contest still happen. We presented our idea to the applicants and a vast majority approved.... then our Board approved with several volunteering to assist with the different parts of the contest. We also received the support and encouragement from several ARBA judges who are also assisting with the contest. We are now half way through what is probably the first Virtual Royalty contest for a national breed club. The lemonade is very sweet when it is made by individuals across many states working together for the good of our youth.

**DON'T QUIT**

*Jane*

# Indiana State Convention



Indiana Youth Board

L-R: Sabine Whitmer, ISRBA Youth Contest Chair; Evyenia Lawley, Secretary; Mandy Girdler, President; Zoey Osborn, Director; Case Boxell, Director; Dylan Whitmer, Vice President; Bryce Kilander, Director; Seth Lawrenz, Director; Dakota Whitmer - ISRBA Youth Contest Chair



Indiana Youth Royalty

L-R: Left to Right: Lord: Aiden Shamo, Hamilton County; Princess: Emma Fey, Wells County; Duchess: Samantha Overbay, Putnam County; Duke: Duncan Baitz, Tippecanoe County Queen: Wyleigh Thomas, Putnam Count King: Dylan Whitmer, Parke County



Lord Participants - Their Largest Royalty Category

Lords: L-R Caleb Heidel, Aidan Shamo, Micah Lowe, Benjamin Lowe, Noah Carr, Owen Boxell, Carson Baitz, Spencer Bait



Seth Lawrenz of Greencastle IN  
Senior Division 1st place Poster

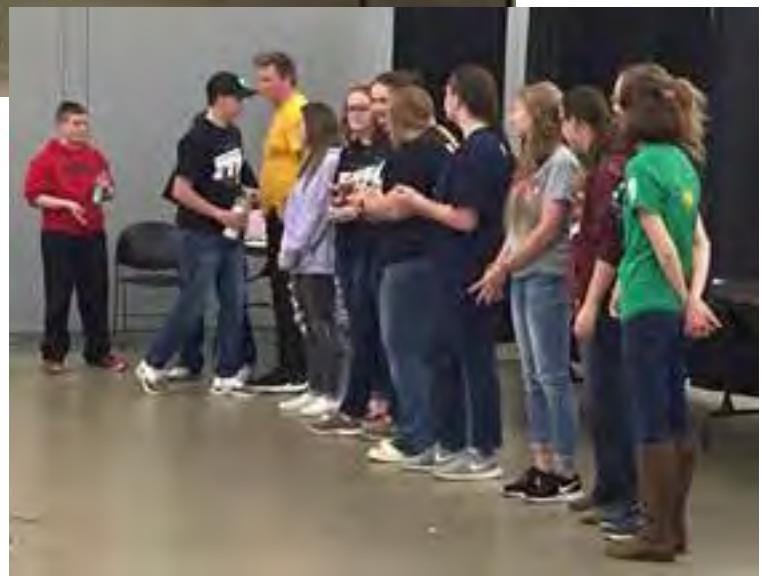


Noah Edington of Clinton Indiana  
First Place Poster in Intermediate Division.

# D8 "E" Newsletter

THE GREAT D8

## ISRBA Banquet



# Michigan State Convention



MSRBYA Princess

L-R: Casey Porterfield (2nd Runner Up), Natalie Keen (1st Runner Up) Kaitlyn Keen (Princess). Not pictured: Jadelyn Novakowski (3rd Runner Up)

Lady: Aubrey Block (Not Pictured)



MSRBYA Duchess &amp; MSRBA Master Breeder

Brooklyn Bracy, Pam Jones

Not Pictured: Kylie Westendorf (1st Runner Up)



MSRBYA Duke

L-R: Noland Eilar (2nd Runner Up),  
Noah Hecht (1st Runner Up).

Not pictured: Zander Novakowski (Duke)



MSRBYA Queen

L-R: Emilee Vis (2nd Runner Up), Jacelyn Royer (1st Runner Up). Madison Campbell (Queen)

# D8 "E" Newsletter

THE GREAT D8



MSRBYA Quality Points

L-R: Sam Krolkowski (3rd) Jacelyn Royer (1st).  
Not pictured: Anthony Vandermeere (2nd)



MSRBYA Top Breeds

Natalie Keen, Kayla Vis, Sam Krolkowski, Jacey Royer



MSRBYA Top Fur

L-R: Tommy & Stephanie Vickers  
(4th), Heidi Bitler (2nd). Ryker  
Garrett (1st), Emilee Vis (3rd)



MSRBYA Remaining Breeds

Thomas Tofoya, Marissa Huggler, Lorraine Martin,  
Natalie Vis



MSRBYA CAvy Awards  
Abigail Isabell



### All Breeds Combined

Isabelle Valentine, Noland  
Eilar, Sam Krolikowski, Allison  
Scheading, Kayla Vis,  
Jacey Royer



### MSRBYA

Youth to Youth Award,  
Jacey Royer



MSRBYA - Youth to Club Award  
Cal-Bra-Hill RC - Willis Plank President



Meat Pens  
Emilee Vis

# D8 YOUTH Workshop

June 6, 2020 - 8:15 AM  
Breast Cancer Benefit Show - Corunna, MI



**Steve Lussier - ARBA Judge**  
**ARBA Judge's Review Committee**



**Preparing  
Cavies  
To Show**

## D8 Youth Workshop



## ARBA Showmanship

► Tom Berger

ARBA Judge

Chairperson:  
ARBA Youth Committee



June 14, 2020  
Lima RBA - 8:15 AM  
Wapakoneta, OH



For More Information:  
[www.arbadistricts.net/district/8/](http://www.arbadistricts.net/district/8/)

# Somewhere in Time

The American Rabbit Breeders Assn., Inc.  
 The Leading Organization of Its Kind In the World  
 ITS HISTORY • ITS AIM • ITS ACHIEVEMENT

The Twentieth Century and Domestic Rabbits have one thing in common - they both arrived at about the same time as far as rabbits in America are concerned, namely 1900. At the beginning of this century the Belgian Hare Rabbit had found its way into the United States, being imported from England. Large rabbitries were built, especially in Southern California. The American Association of Belgian Hare Breeders was formed. Here began an era of what was known as the Belgian Hare boom; specimens changed hands at fabulous prices, running into thousands of dollars. Booms have a way of bursting and the Belgian Hare boom was no exception.

From the beginning of this century until about 1910, other breeds of rabbits in addition to the Belgian Hare found their way into America from European countries. This was the beginning of a new era for rabbits in America which we will call the Pet Stock Era. It was at this time that an Organization known as "The National Pet Stock Association" came into being and it has been established that this organization saw the light of day on January 10, 1910 at the home of the Gibson Brothers in Detroit, Michigan, Mr. Charles Gibson being elected Secretary. At this early day rabbits evidently were considered as pets. As the organization grew, some of its members felt that if rabbits were to make progress as meat producing animals, they should not be classed as Pets, and the name of "The National Breeders and Fanciers Association" was adopted. This was an era where the members felt proud to call themselves Breeders and Fanciers, constantly improving and showing their rabbits. Rabbit shows were being held in many parts of the United States. The Rabbit Industry was on its way. As it grew, another very interesting animal became popular. The Cavy, more commonly known as a Guinea Pig, had appeared in the showrooms along with rabbits for a number of years.

In 1924 another forward step was taken. Again the name was changed, this time the name adopted was "The American Rabbit & Cavy Breeders Association"

and incorporated in the state of Illinois as a non-profit organization. Now again began a new era - rabbit shows became bigger and better - they were held in connection with State Fairs, which included the New York State Fair at Syracuse, the Illinois State Fair at Springfield, the Florida State Fair at Tampa. Topping them all in point of numbers shown is the rabbit show held in connection with the Los Angeles County Fair, which for years has attracted more entries than any other show with the exception of shows held in connection with the annual convention.

In 1952 the word "Cavy" was eliminated and this organization became a rabbit breeders association exclusively. It was in this year that the final era, the beginning of the Commercial Rabbit Industry, now began the building of the rabbit industry on a real foundation. Today, thousands of new producers of rabbits are needed to help supply the ever increasing demand for rabbit meat, its fur, its wool.

To conclude this brief history may we answer the statement we are likely to hear, that is that the ARBA is strictly a fanciers association. DON'T YOU BELIEVE THIS. This is an organization of ALL rabbit breeders - all are welcome to join our ranks. The importance of the commercial fryer producers is recognized and in their behalf a commercial department has been created for its promotion. NOTE, under "ITS AIMS" which follows, the development of the commercial aspect is mentioned in the first paragraph.

**ITS AIMS:** To advocate, and extend the Commercial use and development of domestic rabbits in the industries, arts and sciences, and for food, fur and textiles, to sponsor, protect and coordinate the interest of American Rabbit Breeders.

To inaugurate and assist in the conduct of campaigns for wider uses of American rabbits and their by-products, by means of public and private educational measures, slide and video series with commentary, cassette tapes, scientific research and legislative effort, and to cooperate with breeders, organizations and groups having similar objects and purposes.

## D8 "E" Newsletter

THE GREAT D8

To sponsor shows, exhibitions, meetings, lectures, and demonstrations pertaining to; and to publish and distribute pamphlets, books and other literature dealing with; and to exchange practical data with other organizations pertaining to rabbits for meat, fur, textiles, and economic uses.

To set up a basic framework within which Local, State and Specialty Clubs unite with the parent club to act as one in the promotion of the industry. To supply an updated yearbook, and bi-monthly news bulletin keeping the members and the public informed of the latest developments within the industry.

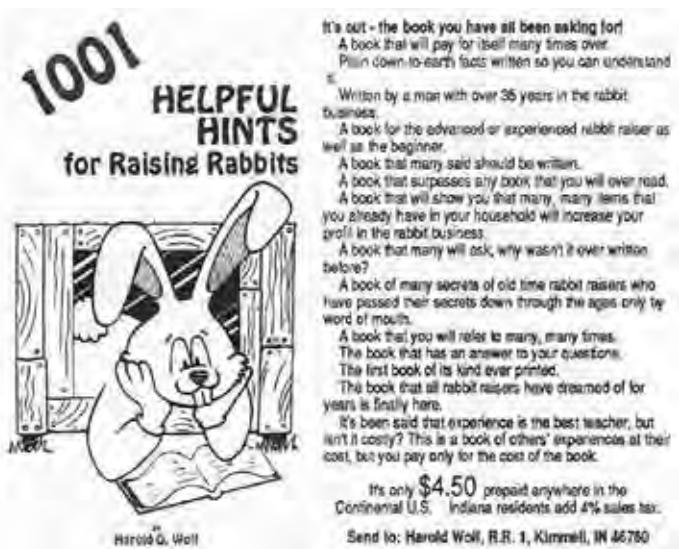
**ITS ACHIEVEMENT:** Created by experienced breeders and judges and maintained by this Association, there is a system of registration whereby rabbits as well as cavies are registered and a record kept of each animal indefinitely. This is a registration system far superior to any system now in use, because an animal to be registered must pass a rigid examination by a specially Licensed Registrar, of which there are many scattered throughout the country to handle this important work for the breeders.

There is also a staff of expert judges selected from the most experienced and best posted breeders in America. Each must pass a very rigid examination before a license to judge shows is granted. These judges are available to judge shows of all descriptions, from the small one day table or lawn show to the larger ones held throughout the year. All shows are judged in accordance to the standard of perfection of each breed.

A special committee, known as the Standard Committee, passes on all new standards for newly created breeds of rabbits, authorizes changes from time to time when such changes mean improvement of the breed, in order to guidebreeders of rabbits and cavies in producing thoroughbred stock.

The central body provides Charters to local clubs, adult and youth, of which there are more than 400, to National and State Specialty Clubs, sponsoring individual breeds, including a Cavy Breeders Club, and to State Associations, each and every one working towards a bigger and

better Rabbit Industry. In addition each state has specially appointed state representatives and local agents ready to advise and assist all who are interested in rabbit raising.



\* Excerpt from the 41st Edition of "*A Practical Beginning to Successful Rabbit Raising*". Reprinted with permission of the ARBA.



October 17-20, 2020

# IT'S SHOWTIME!

## ARBA Shows

\*\*\* Click on the link below each state name to go to the page on the D8 website for the shows for that state.

INDIANA

<https://www.arbadistricts.net/district/8/Indiana.html>

KENTUCKY

<https://www.arbadistricts.net/district/8/Kentucky.html>

MICHIGAN

<https://www.arbadistricts.net/district/8/Michigan.html>

OHIO

<https://www.arbadistricts.net/district/8/Ohio.html>

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