

Louisiana Rabbit Breeders Association



July - August - September

2015

NEWSLETTER

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:

Carl LaBiche

Iowa, La

337-884-0290

carllabiche@yahoo.com

VICE-PRESIDENT:

Doug Girard

Breaux Bridge, La

337-781-2244

cajunrabbits@yahoo.com

SECRETARY/

TREASURER:

Sheila Spillers

Ruston, La

318-224-5191

bsfarms@ymail.com

LRBA YOUTH OFFICERS

President:

Dakota Manning

Vice President:

Russel Lisitsa

Secretary

Morgan Wainwright

Treasurer:

Jacob Austin

SWEEPSTAKES:

OPEN & YOUTH

Lisa Wainwright

857 Post Oak Road,

Lake Charles, La 70611

337-499-6102

lisa.wainwright@cpsb.org

**Newsletter
Deadline:
Oct 1st 2015**

Executive Board

Chairperson

Sheila Spillers

Ruston, LA

318-224-5191

bsfarms@ymail.com

Members:

Ronnie Duhon – AARC

Yvonne Hebert – AARC

Julie Young – BTRC

Cheryl Moyers – BTRC

Collette Waters – CLRBA

Karen Guillory – CLRBA

Bet Loe – MSRBA

Tommy Kemp – SLRBA

Bruce Spillers – SLRBA

Kathy Elliott – TTRC

Tammy Lloid – TTRC

Heike Cooley – LJWB

Sherry Burns – LJWB

Blair Guerin – LMRRC

Ariana St. Pierre -LMRRC

Yvonne Hebert – TPDC

Lisa Wainwright – SSNDC

Allen Wainwright –SSNDC

Celesta Orgeron – RRFU

Jessica LaBiche - RRFU

Budget Planning

Committee:

Chair – Carl LaBiche

Members:

Shelia Spillers

Julie Young

Gayle Zimmerman

Internal Audit

Committee:

Chair – Doug Girard

Members:

Bruce Spillers

Julie Young

Terry Herman

Newsletter Committee:

Carl LaBiche

Julie Young

Sheila Spillers

Webspinner:

Jessica LaBiche

Youth Advisory Board

Chairperson

Celeste Orgeron

Secretary/Treasurer

Shelia Spillers

Ruston, La

Members:

Dana Duhon – AARC

Julie Young– BTRC

Tammy Lloid – CLRBA

Tracey Freeman –MSRBA

Lisa Wainwright–SLRBA

Megan Moyers – TTRC

Heike Cooley – LJWB

Robert Leblanc – LMRRC

Cheryl Moyers – TPDC

Bryan Manning – SSNDC

Jessica LaBiche - RRFU

AFFILIATED CLUBS

Acadiana Area RC -

Lafayette

Bonne Terre RA - Houma

Central Louisiana RBA –

Alexandria

Magnolia State RBA –

Collins, MS

South Louisiana RBA -

Opelousas

Tiny Town RC – DeRidder

Redneck Rabbit Fancier

Unlimited - Ruston

Specialty Clubs:

La. Jersey Wooly

Breeders

La. Mini Rex Rabbit Club

Tri Parish Dutch Club

Southern States NDC

Calendar of Events

**For complete details on the shows
please contact the show secretary!**

September 5, 2015 – CLRBA Single Open/Youth All Breed, Sulpher, LA Show Secretary: Ariana St. Pierre aarabbitry@gmail.com	January 23, 2016 – BTRA Double Open/Youth All Breed, Alexandria, LA Show Secretary: Sheila Spillers bsfarms@ymail.com 318-224-5191
September 6, 2015 – CLRBA Single Open, All Breed concentrating on Rare Breeds, Sulpher, LA Show Secretary: Ariana St. Pierre aarabbitry@gmail.com	January 23, 2016 – SSNDRC Open/Youth Netherland Dwarf Specialty - Alexandria, LA Show Secretary: Lisa Wainwright dwarfspec@gmail.com 337-499-6102
October 2, 2015 – LRBA Single Open/Youth All Breed, Opelousas, LA Show Secretary: Julie Young juliey1981123@yahoo.com 318-880-2503	February 27, 2016 – SMRBA Double Open/Youth All Breed, Columbia, MS Contact Tracey Freeman for more information: 985-732-5060 tntscountrycritters@hotmail.com
October 3, 2015 – SLRBA Double Open/Youth All Breed with Mini Lop & Californian Specialties ; LRBA Mini Lop & Californian Specialties - Opelousas, LA Show Secretary: Sheila Spillers bsfarms@ymail.com 318-224-5191	March 4, 2016 – Tiny Town RC - Single Open/Youth All Breed, DeRidder, LA Contact Cheryl Moyers for more information. 337-463-6891 dandcmoyers@hughes.net
October 3, 2015 – SSNDRC Open/Youth Netherland Dwarf Specialty - Opelousas, LA Show Secretary: Lisa Wainwright dwarfspec@gmail.com 337-499-6102	March 5, 2016 – LRBA Meeting with Single Open/Youth All Breed, DeRidder, LA Show Secretary: Julie Young juliey1981123@yahoo.com 318-880-2503
October 17, 2015 – CLRBA Double Open/Youth Alexandria, La. Show Secretary: Monna Berryhill mamaminirex@centurytel.net 337-468-2199	March 5, 2016 SSNDRC Open/Youth Netherland Dwarf Specialty - DeRidder, LA Show Secretary: Lisa Wainwright dwarfspec@gmail.com 337-499-6102
October 24, 2015 – LRBA Youth Scholarship Show Alexandria, La. Show Secretary: Julie Young juliey1981123@yahoo.com 318-880-2503 All sanctions are by donation only! Contact Julie if you wish to donate a sanction by September 18, 2015	March 5, 2016 TPDC Open/Youth Dutch Specialty - DeRidder, LA Show Secretary: Cheryl Moyers 337-463-6891 dandcmoyers@hughes.net
November 28, 2015 AARC Double Open/Youth All Breed Show, Breaux Bridge, La. Show Secretary: Jerry Castille JERRYCASTI@COX.NET 337-739-9010	May 27-28, 2016 LRBA Memorial Weekend Show – Cajun Classic, Triple Open/Youth All Breed Show, Alexandria, LA Show Secretary: Show Secretary: Sheila Spillers bsfarms@ymail.com 318-224-5191
	NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES Business card ad ~ \$4.00 per year ¼ page ad ~ \$4.00 per issue ½ page ad ~ \$6.00 per issue Full page ad~ \$10.00 per issue Ad copy & payment should be mailed by published deadline to: LRBA Secretary – Sheila Spillers

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:



The past few months have found members of the LRBA very busy preparing for shows, The Cajun Classic especially for me. Months of planning and working together as group came together for Memorial Day Weekend in Alexandria, La at the beautiful Evac Center. Again, I want to thank all who worked so diligently to make it the success that it was, and all who attended.

I got into this role as President of the LRBA to stop the loss of LRBA funds. The previous State and MDW shows had lost almost \$7000. I'm proud to say that the 2015 State show and meeting held in March, the 2015 MDW show, and the 2014 June State Meeting and Show held in Winnfield all made a profit.

Factions have been at work tearing the LRBA in two. With the passing of the 2 simultaneous shows held on Memorial Weekend this year, the LRBA is stronger than ever. I want to say that whichever show you attended, I hope you had fun, and if you attended the Houma Show the LRBA welcomes you to attend its coming shows this year and next.

Summer is upon us so keep dem bunnies cool and I will see around the show tables.

Carl LaBiche, LRBA President

FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT:



Welcome to another edition of our fine newsletter. I am certain most of you are ready for fall to begin to start off another good show season. I Hope the summer heat and rain has not put a damper on anyone. As you may know, LRBA hosted another successful Memorial Day Weekend show. Thanks to all those who pitched in to put such a wonderful show on. Congrats to all the winners at that show.

As we continue to move forward, SLRBA and LRBA will be joining together to start the fall season off with a triple show on October 2nd and 3rd followed by Central and the Youth show right after. I would encourage all exhibitors to pitch in a little to make all the shows as wonderful as can be. Also, please be mindful of the new exhibitors that are starting to show. Let's try to make a less stressful environment and show our new comers what a great club LRBA has.

On another note, if anyone has any issues they would like to discuss, please feel free to contact me anytime so that we can get it addressed appropriately. Hope everyone has nest boxes full of bunnies and we will see you in the fall.

Thanks, Doug Girard

FROM THE SECRETARY/TREASURER:



First of all I want to say how very much I appreciate all the hard work from everyone to make our Memorial Day Weekend Cajun Classic a success! Everyone had a wonderful time and compliments were plentiful about the venue, food, judges and how smoothly the show went! It was a perfect example of what can be done when everyone works together for the good of the club!

We are now planning a new show to be held in conjunction with SLRBA on October 2nd and 3rd in Opelousas. This is a fundraising show so any and all donations to sanctions, raffle, etc. are much appreciated. Feel free to contact Julie or I with any questions!

The fall shows are fast approaching so I wish you all Good Luck on the tables!

Welcome to New Members:

Melissa, Elizabeth & Isabella Mathews
Ric Rosonet
Emmi Davis
Karen Domingue

Reminders to Expiring Members:

May 2015

Christy Moss (family)
Ken McCracken
Greg Straughter
Nancy Walker
Susan Weaver

June 2015

Seth Babin
Cheryl Guerin

Karen Guillory
Jerry Norris
Lee & Brandi Percle (family)
Carol Petitjean
Beth Roark
Godfred Schexnayder
Shannon Tassin (family)
Blake & Hannah Cormier (family)
Tate Price
Billy Smith
Dire Thetford

July 2015

Amy & Kenneth Lukaszkeski (family)
Leo Mallet (family)
Kristen Petitjean
Edgar & Laura May Venable

August 2015

Chase Domingue
Steven Durand
Ronnie & Jessica Perrin (family)
Annette Womack

October 2015

Caleb & Collin Arnould
Emma Dupree
Krystal & Spencer Hebert (family)
Kevin & Kathy Humphries (family)

***Sheila Spillers, LRBA
Secretary/Treasurer***





Rest in Peace

Michael (Mr. Busch) Ellerbe

Michael Lee "Busch" Ellerbe was born September 13, 1956, and passed from this life on June 10, 2015.

Busch was a past member of Dan Gilbert #405 and a present member of Winnsboro #246 Masonic Lodge. He was a current member of LRBA and was often seen showing along with his grandchildren. He was always quick to help where youth were involved.

Our prayers go out to his wife Pat, his family and friends.

From the Youth President:

. The Memorial Day Weekend show has come and gone, and I am happy to say it was a huge success. Now it's time to focus on the LRBA Youth Scholarship show I'd like to make this the largest youth show we can and have everyone participating in the

events including Breed ID, Judging, Showmanship, and possibly more.

Dakota Manning - President

From the Youth Secretary:

Hi. My name is Morgan Wainwright, and I'm excited to be your youth Secretary this year. First I would like to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to be your LRBA Youth Secretary. So far I've had an enjoyable experience working with all of my fellow officers doing everything from brainstorming fundraising ideas to sweeping the floors after the shows. I just love working with each and everyone of them and having fun while we do it.

The LRBA youth scholarship show is coming up soon. I would like to remind you that donations for the auction and raffle are needed and greatly appreciated. I would also like to encourage all youth to take part in any and all activities and or contest we have planned for you at the youth show. Mrs. Celeste, the other officers, and I are working hard to make this years show even more fun and enjoyable than ever.

Again, I am excited to be your Youth Secretary and look forward to seeing you all at future shows. ~

Morgan Wainwright

From the Youth Treasurer:

Hi my name is Jacob Austin. I am so excited that I was given the opportunity to serve as a youth officer this year. We are working on our upcoming Youth Scholarship Show on Oct 24, 2015. We have all been brainstorming and planning for this event so that everyone can have a blast but also remember who and why this show was

done for. A lot of our newer member may not know but there is a story in honor of a fellow youth member. It's called The Cup! Please remember that if anyone wishes for a breed to be sanctioned with a national club that it is by donation only. Please get with Julie Young and she will be more than willing to get you any information you may need. Also all clubs that are affiliated with LRBA, please remember that you need to donate something from your club to either the raffle table or silent auction. Hope everyone is keeping their buns cool during all this heat. I can't wait for our show season to start back up

Youth Scholarship Announcement!

The Youth Advisory Board have met and approved the following:

The top amount that can be awarded by the Board for scholarships has been changed from \$1200 to \$1600.

Along with the other required documents, a complete disciplinary record will be required for all High Schools attended.

From the Co-op

Buying Animals on the Internet

It is said a picture is worth a thousand words. But in the case of buying animals over the internet I beg to differ. I say only (2) two..... BUYERS BEWARE ! The sad part is if you're reading this, you are more than likely educated well enough to already know better. Hopefully by me writing, maybe it will fall into the hands of a newcomer or youth and help them not encounter what many have already.

Photos can be so deceiving from both sides of the spectrum. I personally can't take a photo of a BIS rabbit with a \$4,500 Nikon Camera and make it presentable. But I have seen photos taken of rabbits with an iPhone

that look like the photographer for Sports Illustrated took them. To many times newcomers are sucked into phrases like "*Show Quality*" and how many legs the parents or grandparents have. I saved some photos some time back of a rabbit a breeder was selling as "*Show Quality*" that was F3 or 75% of the actual breed, and in the same panorama photo, F4 baby at (3) three weeks "will be show quality."

Then there is the "*Bait and Switch*". Where someone has taken photos of quality animals or even stolen photos of other animals off of the internet, sent these photos to a perspective buyer and then sent a different animal in its place. Sending you a photo doesn't mean they have that rabbit. It's possible it's just a picture of that rabbit.

I know if you live in South Alabama like me, you're more than likely not going to fly to California or Connecticut just to pick up a rabbit, it is just cost prohibitive. There are a lot of things that you can do to circumvent what may be a huge disappointment if you decide purchase an animal sight unseen.

- Know the breeder. By this I mean do your homework...research. Talk to people that have purchased from the breeder, if need be ask for references. Is the breeder true to their word?
- If at all possible, put your hands on the rabbit to make sure this is the animal you thought you were getting from the photo. Remember it is impossible to ascertain how a rabbit feels, and its conditioning from a photo. If possible, have the breeder hold the rabbit if there is an upcoming show you both will be attending. Check ear number and have the pedigree in hand before you leave.

- If the rabbit has to be transported, know your transporter. Have them send photos, check for obvious faults and poor conditioning and use due diligence, not just pick up your rabbit. At this point they are the only thing keeping you from making a bad purchase, if they're not willing to do this, find someone else.
- If the rabbit has to be flown in, is that really a viable option at the time or should you seek new time frame to purchase the rabbit. Airline transport can be quite expensive and coordinating optimal shipping conditions can be difficult at times depending on the point of origin to the point of destination.
- Don't make a knee jerk purchase. A lot of times around convention and nationals the internet is flooded with photos of amazing rabbits. In my opinion, you should have talked to a breeder long before the photos are being posted and a hasty decision has to be made. While many people go to Convention or Nationals to purchase rabbits, be mindful that many breeders have already presold their top stock prior to the show. In general, if you want to see the difference in presold rabbits versus rabbits for sale at Convention and Nationals, just volunteer to be a runner.....you will be amazed.
- Know that the cost of a rabbit does not make it a better rabbit. I have seen rabbits sold for \$250 by one breeder,

only to be resold by another breeder a year later for \$450. Just like the quality in the photo is not always indicative of the quality of the animal being presented.

- **IMO if done right, buying off the internet is not a bad thing, but go into the buying process with an open mind when buying sight unseen. Faults can be hidden easily in photos or worse yet, rabbits can be swapped.....so BUYERS BEWARE.**

Ignorance, poverty and greed must disappear, so the light can prevail in all places.

-Helen Keller

*Southern Gems Co * Op*

a joint venture between

Magnolia Place Farms

@ Carrot Top Rabbitery



Executive Board Notes 2015

June 1 – The board approved putting LMRRC on probation for a period of one year for violating affiliation rules.

June 13 – The board approved adding a show on October 2nd along with SLRBA to try and recoup losses created by booking errors on flights by Monna Berryhill while she served as treasurer.

June 16 – The board approved giving Monna and Ken Berryhill a pro-rated refund on their membership payment.

June 26 – The board approved the second quarter Treasurer's Report for publication.

LRBA Treasurer's Report - Second Quarter 2015			
General Fund Savings		Scholarship Accounts	
Balance 3-30-15	\$512.88	Balance 3-30-15	\$12,948.38
Interest	\$0.06	Interest April-June	\$1.56
Transfer to checking (closed acct)	(\$512.94)	Youth Raffle Deposit	\$400.00
4/27/2015		MDW 50/50	\$60.50
Balance 4-27-15	\$0.00	Balance 6-24-15	\$13,410.44
General Fund Checking		Balance CD - Scholarship Fund	\$10,317.23
Balance 3-30-15	\$5,642.77		
Incoming:		Youth Operational Account	
Memberships April:	\$356.00	Balance 3-30-15	\$623.12
Affiliations April:	\$20.00	Service fees April-May	(\$20.00)
Sanctions April:	\$248.20	Balance 6-24-15	\$603.12
Transf from savings	\$512.94		
Donation to club	\$50.00		
MDW Proceeds	\$5,926.00		
Sanction Donations, etc	\$101.00		
Outgoing:		Total Youth Accounts	
Supplies	(\$81.55)		
Secretary of State - renewal	(\$15.00)		
Yearly Breeder, etc awards	(\$127.20)		
ARBA Sanctions	(\$120.00)		
Postage	(\$42.85)		
MDW Show Expenses	(\$1,879.21)		
MDW Specialty sanctions	(\$734.00)		
2015 Liability Ins Premium	(\$925.28)		
Sweeps Awards	(\$411.76)		
Balance 6-24-15	\$8,520.06	GRAND TOTAL ALL ACCOUNTS:	
		\$32,850.85	
Total General Fund Accounts	\$8,520.06		

LRBA Members – Judges and Registrars

Frank Farrow - Judge

12868 FM58; Lufkin, TX 75901
936-829-5040

Tracey Freeman – Registrar

126 TNT's Place, Bogalusa, LA 70427
985-732-5060 – tntscountrycritters@hotmail.com

Doug Girard – Registrar

109 Satinwood Dr., Carencro, LA 70520
cajunrabbits@yahoo.com

Tom Green – Judge

638 PHIN CROFT RD; Marion KY 42064
270-969-0481 HarleTom@aol.com

Gwen Himel – Registrar

1710 North Union #16; Roswell, NM 88201
225-588-8293 gwenhimel@yahoo.com

John Mulkey – Registrar

25701 Adams Lane – Port Hudson, LA 70748
225-654-6460

Bruce Spillers – Registrar

749 Hwy 146, Ruston, LA 71270
318-224-5191 bsfarms@ymail.com

Ariana St. Pierre – Registrar

Pollock, LA
985-677-1298 – aarabbitry@gmail.com

Louisiana Rabbit Breeders Assoc., Inc. Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: Home: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Membership Fees: (Circle One)			
<u>Youth:</u> 1 year \$10.00	3 year \$25.00	<u>Individual:</u> 1 year \$15.00	3 year \$40.00
<u>Combo (2 adults same address):</u> 1 year \$25.00		3 year \$70.00	
<u>Family:</u> 1 year \$20.00 plus \$5.00 per youth		3 year \$50.00 plus \$12.00 per youth	
Rabbitry Name: \$5.00 <u>per year</u> in addition to membership fees			

Name of Youth Members:

Date of Birth:

Newletters are provided via email to most members. Beginning 3-7-15 all new members requesting their newsletter via regular mail are required to pay an additional \$10.00 per year.

I WOULD LIKE MY NEWLSETTER VIA REGULAR MAIL AND HAVE INCLUDED THE NECESSARY FEES: Signed: _____

Current Breeds Raised:
Local Louisiana Club: (must fill in if out of state member competing for state sweepstakes points.)

Referred by: _____

Mail to: Sheila Spillers, 749 Hwy 146, Ruston, LA 71270 bsfarms@ymail.com



**South Louisiana RBA & Louisiana RBA
Southern States Netherland Dwarf Club**

October 2nd & 3rd 2015

**Show Site: 1939 W Landry St., Opelousas La
Ag Arena in the rear of the Yambilee Building**

ARBA and LRBA Sanctioned

Friday Night

Single Open/ Single Youth All Breed Show hosted by LRBA

**Show Superintendent – Carl Labiche
Phone: 337-884-0290**

**Show Secretary – Julie Young
PO Box 105, Pitkin, LA 70650
Phone: 318-880-2503 Email: juliey1981123@yahoo.com**

Saturday

**Double Open / Double Youth All Breed Show hosted by SLRBA
Double Californian Open & Youth Specialty
Double Mini Lop Open & Youth Specialty
Hosted by SLRBA & LRBA**

**Show Superintendent – Doug Girard
Sanctioned Show Secretary – Sheila Spillers
749 Hwy 146, Ruston, La 71270
Phone: 318-224-5191 Email: bsfarms@ymail.com**

**Netherland Dwarf Open & Youth Specialty hosted by Southern States
Netherland Dwarf Club**

Show Superintendent – Terry Herman
Sanctioned Show Secretary – Lisa Wainwright
Phone: 337-499-6102 Email: dwarfspec@gmail.com
Judge: Justin Lowe

ENTRY INFORMATION

LRBA Entry Fees – Friday night and Saturday Specialties

Entry Fee: \$4.00 per Rabbit per show

Late Entry Fees: \$5.00 per Rabbit per show

SLRBA Entry Fees – Saturday Double all breed and Specialties

Entry Fee: \$3.50 per Rabbit per show

Late Entry Fees: \$4.50 per Rabbit per show

Netherland Dwarf Specialty - \$3.50 early - \$4.50 late

Send all entries to the Show Secretaries at the above address.

**Mail-in entries should be postmarked no later than September 25th,
Call-in and E-mail entries or changes to previous entries must be received by Wednesday 10:00 PM
cst. September 30th. Anything received after this will be subject to late entry fees. Any changes after
September 30th will have to be Ear # only and be done before the show. Please try your hardest to
have everything in place in order to keep the check in running smoothly.**

Judges are

Friday – David Moll (OH), Penny Jezuit (MI), Maddie Pratt (MI)

***Saturday - David Moll (OH), Penny Jezuit (MI), Maddie Pratt (MI) Bill Fulkes (TX) Tom Green (KY) Justin
Lowe & Danielle Lowe (OH)***

**The showroom will be open Friday at 2:00 PM. Registration will take place between 5:00 PM and 6:30
PM. All substitutions must be made before 6:30 PM. Judging to begin at 7:00 PM**

**The showroom will be open Saturday for registration at 6:00 AM. All substitutions must be made
before 7:30 AM. Judging to begin at 8:00 AM**

Sanctioned Breeds

The following breed sanctions will be applied for with their national specialty clubs in all shows.

**Belgian Hare (O/Y), Californian (O/Y), Champagne D'Argent (O), Dutch (O), English Spot (O), Havana
(O), Mini Lop (O/Y), Mini Rex (O/Y), Netherland Dwarf (O), New Zealand (O)
Please contact the Sheila Spillers if you would like to donate any sanctions.**