

# *Louisiana Rabbit Breeders Association*



*October - November - December*

*2015*

*NEWSLETTER*

## **OFFICERS**

### **PRESIDENT:**

**Carl LaBiche**

Iowa, La

337-884-0290

[carllabiche@yahoo.com](mailto:carllabiche@yahoo.com)

### **VICE-PRESIDENT:**

**Doug Girard**

Breaux Bridge, La

337-781-2244

[cajunrabbits@yahoo.com](mailto:cajunrabbits@yahoo.com)

### **SECRETARY/**

### **TREASURER:**

**Sheila Spillers**

749 Hwy 146, Ruston, La

71270 318-224-5191

[bsfarms@ymail.com](mailto:bsfarms@ymail.com)

## **LRBA YOUTH OFFICERS**

### **President:**

Dakota Manning

### **Vice President:**

Russel Lisitsa

### **Secretary**

Morgan Wainwright

### **Treasurer:**

Jacob Austin

### **SWEEPSTAKES:**

### **OPEN & YOUTH**

**Sheila Spillers**

749 Hwy 146, Ruston, La

71270 318-224-5191

[bsfarms@ymail.com](mailto:bsfarms@ymail.com)

**Newsletter  
Deadline:  
January 5<sup>th</sup>,  
2016**

## **Executive Board**

### **Chairperson**

**Sheila Spillers**

Ruston, LA

318-224-5191

[bsfarms@ymail.com](mailto:bsfarms@ymail.com)

### **Members:**

Ronnie Duhon – AARC

Lynn 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:**

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!**

November 28, 2015 <b>AARC Double Open/Youth All Breed Show, Breaux Bridge, La.</b> Show Secretary: Ronnie Duhoin/Jerry Castille 337-298-1995 <a href="mailto:netherlanddwarf39@yahoo.com">netherlanddwarf39@yahoo.com</a>
<b><u>Deadline for Youth Scholarship applications are postmarked no later than December 31<sup>st</sup>!</u></b>
Deadline for returning Annual Awards ballots (to be mailed soon) is Postmarked no later than <b>December 31<sup>st</sup>.</b>
Deadline for submitting proposed changes to the CBL's is postmarked no later than <b>January 5<sup>th</sup>!</b>
January 23, 2016 – <b>BTRA Double Open/Youth All Breed, Alexandria, LA</b> Show Secretary: Sheila Spillers <a href="mailto:bsfarms@ymail.com">bsfarms@ymail.com</a> 318-224-5191
January 23, 2016 – <b>SSNDRC Open/Youth Netherland Dwarf Specialty - Alexandria, LA</b> Show Secretary: Lisa Wainwright <a href="mailto:dwarfspec@gmail.com">dwarfspec@gmail.com</a> 337-499-6102
February 27, 2016 – <b>SMRBA Double Open/Youth All Breed, Columbia, MS</b> Contact Tracey Freeman for more information: 985-732-5060 <a href="mailto:tntscountrycritters@hotmail.com">tntscountrycritters@hotmail.com</a>
March 4, 2016 – <b>Tiny Town RC - Single Open/Youth All Breed, DeRidder, LA</b> Contact Cheryl Moyers for more information. 337-463-6891 <a href="mailto:dandcmoyers@hughes.net">dandcmoyers@hughes.net</a>
March 5, 2016 – <b>LRBA Meeting with Single Open/Youth All Breed, DeRidder, LA</b> Show Secretary: Julie Young <a href="mailto:juliey1981123@yahoo.com">juliey1981123@yahoo.com</a> 318-880-2503
March 5, 2016 <b>SSNDRC Open/Youth Netherland Dwarf Specialty - DeRidder, LA</b> Show Secretary: Lisa Wainwright <a href="mailto:dwarfspec@gmail.com">dwarfspec@gmail.com</a> 337-499-6102

March 5, 2016 **TPDC Open/Youth Dutch Specialty - DeRidder, LA** Show Secretary: Cheryl Moyers 337-463-6891 [dandcmoyers@hughes.net](mailto:dandcmoyers@hughes.net)

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](mailto: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 show season has finally arrived. I hope it finds everyone and their rabbits well. We have gotten a few shows under our belts already and it has been great getting to see all our rabbit friends again. The LRBA hosted a Friday night show in conjunction with SLRBA's annual show. It was a fun filled night with good friends and great judges. While writing this article we are in preparation for the LRBA's Youth Annual Scholarship Show. I look forward to seeing all the youth and their rabbits at this show as well. It's always a joy to see the youth showing off all their hard work and participating in the

contests that are also held on this day. I hope to see everyone at all of the upcoming shows throughout the rest of the show year. Happy showing!  
Carl LaBiche, LRBA President

**FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT:**



Doug Girard

**FROM THE SECRETARY/TREASURER:**



Show season is well underway! I hope everyone's rabbits are doing well on the tables and you are having a great time at the shows. We want to say thank you to those who came out and supported our show in conjunction with the SLRBA show and also our youth scholarship show. I want to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a Very Merry Christmas!

**Welcome to New Members:**

Michelle, Michael & Joshua Babineaux  
Jinnifer Bradford  
Lindsey Bonnette  
Landan Woodward  
Adrianna Alvarado  
Skylar Ryder  
Katy Rene Thompson

**Reminders to Expiring Members:**

**October 2015**

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

**November 2015**

Destiny Bearden  
Emily LaMarca  
Michael, Dale & Amber Latham  
Chasey Matherne  
Gayle & Caroline Zimmerman

**December 2015**

Roger & JoEllen Carr  
Quinnie Conway  
Babette Loe  
Brittney & Dustin Martin (family)

**January 2016**

Blair, Julie, Ryan Guerin  
Albert & Elaine Langley  
Robert & Dani Jo Leblanc (family)  
Mary & Todd Perez (family)  
Shane Theall (family)  
Terri & Dennis Wilson (family)

**Sheila Spillers, LRBA  
Secretary/Treasurer**



**NOTICE:**

Proposed changes to the CBL's have to be submitted no later than January 5<sup>th</sup> in order to be published and considered at the Annual Meeting to be held on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

***Annual Awards Nominees***

**Hall of Fame**

**Carl LaBiche**

I am very honored to have been nominated to the LRBA Hall of Fame. I've been raising and showing rabbits since the mid 80's. During that time my family opened a processing house for rabbits, which brought to rise the Iowa Rabbit Festival. I was co-founder and the first President of the Festival. Because of health, which caused my oldest brother's life, the processing house had to close. But the festival lives on today. It wasn't long after this that the job I had and the hours it demanded from me along with a young family caused me to get out of rabbits, this went against fiber of my being, and I made a promise that I would someday enjoy my passion of raising and showing rabbits. In 2006 my desire to return to the rabbit world was full filled with the raising of my main barn and the first trio of Californians were brought in. All of this was done with the help and encouragement of my brother Teddy. Ted had raised and sold meat and rabbits for years

also, although never fully enjoying the same passion of showing that I have. He was my inspiration and guiding force for many years. He would show up at local shows and even ventured to Tenn. with me for a show. I say all this because my whole family loved rabbits and every aspect of them. But sadly in Feb. of last year God called my brother home, I was devastated at his sudden lost. But everywhere I look around my rabbitries I still see him. For he was always there, whether it was construction, culling, breeding, cleaning, are showing. The rabbit world has done great things for me. The most important being my sweet wife Jessica. We met at a rabbit show and as things would go. Our enthusiasm for the hobby drew us closer and closer together and May of last year we were married. I've met and made many wonderful and endearing friends over the years and my love of rabbits is only preceded by my love of the LRBA. I look at it this way. The LRBA has been here for me and everyone else since I showed my first rabbit at the Cal Cam fair in 85 till present day. I stepped up to plate in June of this year, when the loss of over half her funds put her in jeopardy, and ran for LRBA President. Through diligence and staying the course we are once again putting funds back into the LRBA banking account.

There have been many issues to deal with since my election and many of them very disconcerting. Making me rethink my decision to be President, but it always come

back to this, I was willing to step up and try to make a positive difference. And my love of the LRBA and its members, and our having a place to enjoy our hobby, tell me I made the right decision. I'm especially convinced of that decision when I see our youth enjoying all the benefits the LRBA has to offer them. Without our youth the LRBA and the hobby itself would die. I will say this without trying to brag, I've not only given my time to the youth, but my funds and rabbits. Nothing is too much to give to our youth. In my opinion. In closing I would like to say that no matter what happens at the elections in March. I will continue to love and cherish the LRBA and her members. I wish you all full nest boxes and showroom champions.  
Carl LaBiche

#### **Bruce & Sheila Spillers**

Thank you to SLRBA for the nomination for Hall of Fame!

Bruce and I have been married for 22 years and have been raising rabbits for most of that time. We have between us 6 children, 3 of which have shown rabbits and have been involved with LRBA. Between us we have held top offices in LRBA for 10 various terms. Some of our greatest enjoyment has come from the many friends we have had through the years.

Also our work with the 4-H programs in North Louisiana and our long standing association with the annual State Fair each year in Shreveport. We wish to thank everyone for the

opportunity to serve LRBA and the enjoyment we've gained from working with the youth in Louisiana.

Thanks again for the nomination and for your consideration!

#### **Collette & Zeke Waters**

Zeke and I are excited and honored to be nominated for LRBA Hall of Fame. What started as a simple hobby and a remember childhood past time has become part of our day to day life. Rabbits are something Zeke and I do together and I firmly believe has made us a stronger couple.

We also appreciate the opportunity to give back to the community by working with the youth through the activities put on by our local club, CLRBA.

We have been active in showing rabbits for almost 15 years and look forward to at least that many more active years.

#### **Breeder of the Year**

##### **Tammy Lloid**

Thank you for nominating me as a competitor for LRBA Open Breeder of the Year.

The only person more surprised at this nomination than me was Alyssa! I don't generally think of myself as a breeder although I've been breeding rabbits in Alyssa's Mini Lop and Polish herds for several years and

have long discussed/planned breeding Mini Lops for years with Richard Smith.

Let's see...I'm married to Greg for almost 35 years, Alyssa is my pride and joy, and I'm not yet retired. I volunteer with the Alexandria Zoo and 4H. Alyssa and Richard Smith are the reasons for getting into the "rabbit habit" and I share that with Maleta Walls and her marvelous Dutch. Always on the hunt for the perfect bunny, we try to improve the rabbits produced in our barn and enjoy traveling to shows. Rabbit folks are the best and I have to brag on Central Louisiana Rabbit Breeders Association for being the best local club! (Okay, Tiny Town is up there too!)

Volunteering with 4H led to working with youth involved in the 4H rabbit project. Seeing the kids learn and grow is very rewarding.

Thank you for considering me for LRBA Breeder of the Year and best wishes for a great show season!

### Rookie of the Year

**Jessica LaBiche**

WOW! A nomination for open rookie of the year. Not something I was expecting. I love my rabbits and showing. I have shown other species of animals in the past (sheep, pigs, and cattle), but rabbits are by far my favorite. When I started out with mini lops I got just a few to breed and a few to show while I waited on babies to be born so that

I would have my own "homegrown" to begin showing. Producing my own was a major goal for me personally. I take pride in that everything I have been showing since last spring and that I am now showing is what I have personally produced and raised myself. Another goal I had was to be able to help youth. I really enjoy helping youth get started in showing and strive to help them find the best rabbit for them even if sometimes it means giving up one of my favorites to make their day with their new rabbit. Thank you for the nomination. Jessica LaBiche

### Youth Breeder of the Year

**Bradley Babin**

My name is Bradley Babin. I am currently a junior at Grant High School and have been raising rabbits for almost 8 years now. I am honored for the nomination.

I have raised strictly mini rex over the years. I enjoy the friendly competition that is shared with the other youth I show with.

Some of the accomplishments I am most proud of are reaching the top 10 in quality points in the national breed sweeps. Each year since, I've climbed up in the numbers. I'm proud of that because I have only 30 holes for my breed in the barn. Breeding hard and culling harder is what has gotten me this far. At the 2014 Mini Rex nationals, I won overall best fur. I wish it was with a homegrown rabbit, but I am still happy to have

that doe producing for me. At the 2015 nationals I placed 3rd of about 40 in the broken senior buck class with my homegrown rabbit, AA'S SWAMP Thing. He retired from showing with 33 legs. His sons are now on the tables and doing well.

I am very involved with my local club, CLRBA. I help with set up and teardown at shows as well as help teach new youth at the clinics we put on. In the past, I have even judged showmanship for the vernon parish fair.

Your vote is appreciated. Thanks for taking the time to read about me.

### *Youth Rookie of the Year*

#### ***Jacob Austin***

Hi, my name is Jacob Austin. I was nominated for Rookie of the Year by Bonne Terre Rabbit Association. It is an honor to have received this nomination. I have been breeding and raising rabbits for a little over 7 years. At first it was just for 4-H then the affection got ahold of me. Over the years I have raised a variety of breeds. It wasn't until a few years back that I finally found the breed I love the most. French Lops changed

my direction and gave me a true focus. I have been able to help start quite a few youth out with their new start to my favorite breed. It is nice to see my breedings win regardless of who owns them. Our rabbitry won its first BIS with our own homegrown French Lop rabbit. This is something that had set the bar higher for me. Last year I started raising Mini Lops with my sister and we are both working on making our own lines. So it's a work in progress! A little more about myself is I am 17 years old in honors at school. I am an active member of 4-H which includes Woodsmen skills and FFA. I am proud to say that I have served as President and Vice President of our 4-H club. As always I am always willing to learn whatever someone is teaching when it comes to animals. Thanks for taking the time to consider me as a candidate for youth Rookie of the Year.

Jacob Austin

***Ballots for the Annual Awards will be mailed soon! They must be postmarked no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> to be counted! Good luck to all the nominees. Any questions concerning the Awards program can be directed to Doug Girard!***



# Southern Gems



*MagnoliaPlace* farms / CarrotTop Rabbitry  
Co\*Op

Home of the

2014 ARBA Netherland Dwarf BOB / Group 2 Winner: *Bond's 21*

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Sweepstakes will be updated and posted as soon as possible! Thank you to Lisa Wainwright for all your work in the past on the sweepstakes program. Due to a new job, Lisa no longer has time to devote to the program, so any sweepstakes should be turned in to Sheila Spillers along with the show reports. Show Secretaries please remember that reports and sanctions are due to LRBA within 30 days of your show! Thank you!

**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](mailto:tntscountrycritters@hotmail.com)

**Doug Girard – Registrar**

109 Satinwood Dr., Carencro, LA 70520  
[cajunrabbits@yahoo.com](mailto:cajunrabbits@yahoo.com)

**Tom Green – Judge**

638 PHIN CROFT RD; Marion KY 42064  
270-969-0481 [HarleTom@aol.com](mailto:HarleTom@aol.com)

**Gwen Himel – Registrar**

305 Green Briar, Condo 36, DeRidder, LA 70634  
225-588-8293 [gwenhimel@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:bsfarms@ymail.com)

**Ariana St. Pierre – Registrar**

Pollock, LA  
985-677-1298 – [aarabbitry@gmail.com](mailto:aarabbitry@gmail.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Membership Fees: (Circle One)</b>			
<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: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Current Breeds Raised:</b>
<b>Local Louisiana Club:</b> (must fill in if out of state member competing for state sweepstakes points.)
<b>Referred by:</b> _____

Mail to: Sheila Spillers, 749 Hwy 146, Ruston, LA 71270 [bsfarms@ymail.com](mailto:bsfarms@ymail.com)