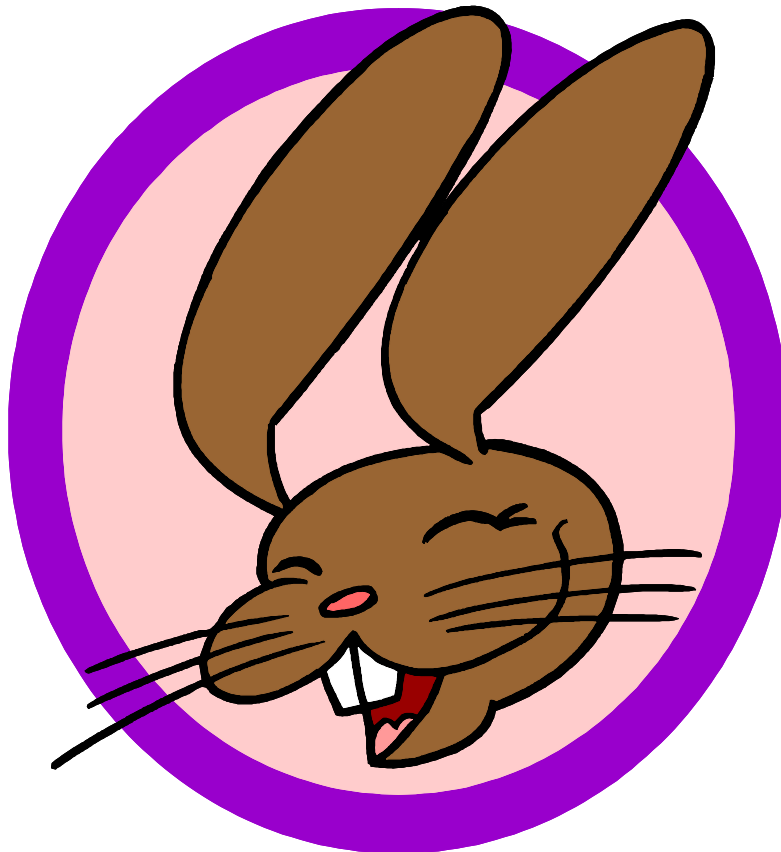


***LOUISIANA RABBIT BREEDERS ASSN., INC.***

***NOVEMBER, 2009***



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## From the Desk of the President

### From the desk of the LRBA President

As I am writing this article our 2009-2010 show season is just getting started. Tri-Parish Dutch Club teamed up with the new Louisiana Mini Rex Club to hold the first show of the season. The turnout was not as big as we had hoped but I believe everyone had a very nice time. Central Louisiana Rabbit Breeders Association has held the first all breed show of the season. There were lots of new exhibitors showing rabbits at this show as well as a good number of long time members. This is encouraging and I hope we will continue to see a large number of exhibitors throughout the season.

A few of our club members made the trip out to San Diego, California to the 86<sup>th</sup> ARBA Annual Convention and Show. I sure wish I had been able to join them. Congratulations to all who exhibited and to those who placed. To all who have never attended one of the ARBA Convention Shows I would highly recommend it. Do not be scared to compete at this level. If your rabbits are good enough to win at the LRBA shows, they will not embarrass you at an ARBA convention show.

Please take the time to read the profiles of the members nominated for LRBA awards and to cast your vote for the ones you feel deserve these awards. Remember that your ballot must be postmarked by December 31st for your votes to be counted.

I would like to take a moment to encourage each club to send in an article to our newsletter editor for each newsletter. In this article they should tell the rest of us what their club is doing. By promoting your activities you will boost membership numbers and attendance at your clubs' events. This is not a new idea. A few years ago all of the local clubs sent in articles to be published in the newsletter. I think this was a good practice that we need to start following again.

May God bless you all.

Lynn Hebert  
LRBA President

## From the Secretary:

Hope everyone had a successful start to the show season. LRBA membership now stands at 192 (123 open and 69 youth members). Find below lists of membership renewals, new members and returning members. Congratulations to our newest lifetime member, John Mulkey. Hope to see everyone at the next show.

### Members up for renewal

James & Liane Baird (F)	Sep-09
Frank & Agnes Still (F)	Oct-09
Kevin & Kathy Humphries (F)	Oct-09
Anthony & Judy Duthu	Oct-09
Cameron Davis (Y)	Oct-09
Sterling & Shirley Charpentier	Oct-09
Taylor Cooksey (Y)	Nov-09
Claire Hebert (Y)	Nov-09
Jerry & Virginia Norris	Nov-09
Josh Evans	Nov-09
Cheryl Guerin	Nov-09
Delaney Shuff (Y)	Nov-09
Kaycie Luneau (Y)	Nov-09
Christine & Vivian Katz (Y)	Nov-09
Mark & Mary Beth Bearden (F)	Nov-09
Ronnie & Mary Ellen Hopson	Dec-09
Charles Gibson	Jan-10
Josh Humphries	Jan-10
Charles Pruitt	Jan-10
(F) Family	(Y) Youth

### New Members

Caleb Arnould (Y)  
Shelby Jeane (Y)  
Ethan Dupree (Y)  
Cameron Wedgeworth (Y)  
Kevin & Tiffany Buteaux  
Kevin Buteaux (Y)  
Breigh Buteaux (Y)  
Alena Foster (Y)  
Audrey Foster (Y)  
Gary Tullos  
Tori Carriere (Y)  
Stacy & Billy Taylor  
Dayton Taylor (Y)  
Austin Taylor (Y)  
Shepard Taylor (Y)

### Returning Members

Danny & Raelena Luquette  
Kathy Elliott  
Jesse Elliott (Y)  
Daniel Caleb Elliott (Y)  
John Mulkey

Kevin LeBlanc  
LRBA Secretary

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## From The Vice-President

Hope everyone is enjoying the break from the summer heat. I know I am. By the time you sit down to read this you should have received your LRBA award ballots. Please refer to the biographies in this newsletter issue to make your selections. Please return completed ballots to Al & Peggy Boudreaux by December 31 in the included envelope. Ballots go to LRBA members over the age of 10. If there is an issue and you did not get the right number of ballots, did not get a ballot at all, or got ballots you shouldn't have, please contact me at lgen0290@yahoo.com. I would like to congratulate the winners from CLRBA. I had another commitment and could not make the show, but I've heard I missed a good show. I hope numbers continue to be as strong as they were in Alexandria for the remainder of the show season. Although we are just starting show season, don't forget that there is still work to be done at home. You should still be breeding your does for another month to 6 weeks. Do not make the mistake of stopping too early and not having any juniors for the late shows such as Southern, Memorial Weekend and the LRBA annual meeting show. It'd be a good idea to rest them from about January 1 through April 1., as we do not generally have shows in July, August and September. Now is also a good time to make arrangements so you can attend the spring shows. Mark off at work, find someone to take care of your animals and make hotel reservations if staying overnight. The LRBA Memorial weekend show will be May 28-29, 2010. You will need to make hotel reservations in advance if attending. There will be a large concert in Tiger Stadium that same weekend, so I expect that hotels will fill up quick.

Lance

## Hall Of Fame

### Sonia and Lee Roy Lirette

Lee Roy and Sonia began their life together 30 years ago After dating for two years and being married on December 10, 1977. At this time they both raised horses and rode in horse shows and rodeos in the surrounding area. Sonia loved chickens and also had chickens to pass the time along with the horses. Lee Roy had cows to go along with his horses. Then after a year, Sonia stated that she needed something else to pass her time so Lee Roy and Sonia began to raise kids. Louis the oldest child came to be and was born on May 14, 1979. Then after Louis was three years old we decided he needed company and that's when Lorielle came in to our lives. The family was complete and the four Lirettes began their lives together along with their animals. The kids were raised with animals just as their parents were raised. Louis & Lorielle rode ponies but soon lost interest in horses. Work and children in school left no time for any extra activities with the animals. The last horse was given to an old friend. When Louis was in seventh grade he came home from school one day and stated that his FFA teacher advised him that he could have a project. Louis wanted a pig. The Lirettes began raising livestock again. Between the time of

seventh grade and high school, the Lirettes' animals began to grow in numbers. Louis and Lorielle had almost 100 head of breeding stock and show pigs. They added registered breeding cattle and steers. The Lirettes became well known for their pigs and cattle in the livestock show ring. Louis went on to LSU working on the farm and is now working as a county agent and raising his family. Lorielle went on to school for nursing and is raising her son. When the children finished showing, Sonia and Lee Roy felt like there was a void in their lives with only "Butch" the rat terrier to tend to. That's when our daughter-in-law got us started with the rabbit habit over five years ago. We began with the Rex breed and after meeting Lori Neagle and visiting her farm the Rex were gone and the Mini Rex were in the barn. Then after some time we met Al & Peggy Boudreaux and began with Florida White and Havana. We were invited to attend a meeting of the Bonne Terre Rabbit Assn. at which time we joined the club and have been active members and officers to date. We also joined other clubs such as LRBA, ARBA, National Mini Rex Club and the Silver Marten Club. The next club will be the National New Zealand Rabbit Club. The best part of the clubs and shows is that you make many friends with whom you get to visit and help at the shows.

The rabbit habit only grows as we do in life. We started out with a small area in our children's show barn with a few cages. To date we have 150 plus holes and some have at least two rabbits per cage in the show cages. The breeding stock has increased and we have added two more breeds – Silver Marten and New Zealand. We attend shows from Fort Worth, TX to Mississippi and all over the state of Louisiana as much as possible with the work schedule. One of the things that we both enjoy is helping set up prior to the show and the experience and knowledge we get from working behind the tables at the shows. We also attend and set up 4-H and youth shows in the parish we live in and assist surrounding parishes with their youth shows. This past year was our six-year-old grandson's first year to show and he had his own rabbits to show. For those who don't know that would be Lane Lirette. Don't look now but here comes Luke Lirette and little brother Eli Lirette who this year will have their own rabbits also. So I guess the saying around the shows will be 'here come the Lirettes!' This is what Sonia and Lee Roy are about for the past 30 years; the only thing that will be different now is it's not our kids it's our grandkids but its still quality family time. That's what it is all about.

Thanks for the opportunity and see you at the shows

### Eric Himel

Hi my name is Eric Himel. I am 24 years old. I have been an A.R.B.A. member for almost ten years now. I would like to say that it's an honor to be nominated for L.R.B.A. hall of fame. I have raised and exhibited many breeds of rabbits over my ten years of showing. I have also won 3 best in shows over the years. I have also helped get many people started in rabbits over the years. I am dedicated in helping the youth exhibitors better

their rabbits anyway possible. I have given many youth exhibitors rabbits that were just starting out. I am also a licensed A.R.B.A. registrar. I am also hoping one day to become a judge. I also help out at the shows anyway possible. I have also judged 4-H shows all over the state. In closing I want to say that I would really appreciate your vote.

### **Mollie Gardner**

I am Mollie Gardner. I live in North Louisiana near Junction City, Arkansas. I raise about twelve different breeds of rabbits including three or four breeds that are on the endangered list. My barn is a 40 ft. x 40 ft. shed that has eight rows of cages.

I started raising rabbits in Louisiana in '97. One of our foster children wanted a rabbit project for 4-H. We purchased a Mini Rex doe and a Mini Lop doe from Liane. From that we got some meat rabbits and some bucks to go with the does.

I love the rabbits. They are so nice to work with and talk to. They don't talk back. I guess a big part of it is the wonderful people we meet and become friends with. There is nothing like the fellowship with fellow rabbit friends.

I appreciate being nominated for the Hall of Fame.

I am a member of ARBA, LRBA, ALTRC, and hope to be a member of the new Mini Rex club soon.

I am the rabbit person for our parish 4-H. I love working with the children and having some nice rabbits to the show and enjoy.

Mollie

## **Open Breeder of the Year**

### **Kevin Leblanc**

Hello, I'm Kevin LeBlanc, and it's an honor to be nominated as Breeder of the Year. What started as a simple 4-H project in 2002 with a trio of Mini Rex for my youngest daughter, Megan, has blossomed into a 92-hole barn that seems to burst by the end of each summer. Dutch were added as a second breed in about a year and soon gave way to Netherland Dwarfs. My eldest daughter Katie had started showing and took over the Mini Rex. The Netherland Dwarfs were then for Megan who was having problems handling the Mini Rex. So as my daughters got involved in other activities, I started showing the bunnies in 2006. Havana was added as a third breed in the summer of 2008.

I'm a volunteer leader for 4-H, and served as a Regional Representative for the Louisiana State 4-H Volunteer Leaders Association for 2005 and 2006. In my home parish of West Baton Rouge, I have served as president of the WBR 4-H Foundation Board for the past five years and serving as vice president for a year and half prior. I'm also a member of the WBR Fair Board and have served as Assistant Manager from 2005 to 2008. At this time I serve as the Fair Board Vice President. I have volunteered to help with numerous 4-H rabbit activities including; working shows, clinics or workshops,

judging and just being there to answer questions and help many local breeders. I have also helped with WBR Jr. Leadership Club for the past 9 years. I have trained 4-H members for 4-H University in the following competitions, Ag Demonstration, Wildlife Management, Plant Science and Electrical Energy Management. In 2005 I received the 4-H Attorney General Award for Livestock Leadership.

I'm a member of the following rabbit clubs, ARBA, LRBA, NMRRRC, ANDRC, HRBA, LMRRC and Bonne Terre Rabbit Club. In LRBA I have served as Youth Advisory Chairman in 2007/2008. I currently serve as LRBA Secretary and Sweepstakes Chairman. Over the years I have held to one objective for every show that I attend; that is to learn something new at every show. It can be about one of our breeds, or more recently about other breeds.

In closing, I'd like to thank Bonne Terre Rabbit Club for the nomination. Hope everyone has nest boxes full of kits and I'll see you at the shows.

Thanks,  
Kevin LeBlanc

### **Lance Gendron**

My name is Lance Gendron and I live in LaPlace, LA, about 25 minutes outside of New Orleans. I started raising rabbits in 1993 with New Zealands from a family friend who raised commercial meat rabbits. I raised them for a few years before moving on to other breeds. I initially joined ARBA in 1994 for one year, and then joined again in 2000 and have been a member ever since. I

joined LRBA in 2003. I currently raise Mini Rex in white, Himalayan and broken, Florida Whites and Himalayans in black and blue. I guess you can say I like white rabbits. I started with Florida Whites in 2001 and raised them up until a few years ago when there was no one else showing them. I bought a trio from the Raab's/Ormsby's in Indiana this past summer. I am partial to the pointed white variety and was after something different, so I got a trio of Himalayans from Jacinta Taulbee in Ohio this past summer and have enjoyed working with them. They are very docile and have a very nice coat. I raised Mini Rex for in the 1990's, but got rid of them. They came back into the barn in 2007 with a quad from Mrs. Sandi Lowery in MS. I bought stock from the Lirettes shortly after and those animals, along with a pair of whites from Mrs. Nancy Walker and several more rabbits from Mrs. Sandi are the backbone of my breeding program. I started showing my Mini Rex in 2007 and haven't looked back. I placed first in LRBA sweepstakes for the 2008-2009 show season. I will be taking this season off for the most part, as I am working on my ARBA Judges license and need to work with judges, so will not be able to show. Thanks for considering me for Open Breeder of the Year.

### **Lynn & Yvonne Hebert**

We have been happily married for 35 years. We have 4 children, ranging in age from 26 to 34. We have been members of the LRBA and ARBA since 1997. Lynn is presently the President of the LRBA. This is his third term as President of the LRBA. He has also served as vice-president for one term. We were members of the Louisiana Dutch Rabbit Club for 2 years

and members of the Bonne Terre Rabbit Breeders Association for 3 years. Yvonne is still a member of that club. We are currently members of the American Dutch Rabbit Club and the Tri-Parish Dutch Club. Lynn is currently the president of the Tri-Parish Dutch Club and he is the president of the Acadiana Area Rabbit Club, which we have been members of since it was founded 6 years ago. Lynn has coordinated and judged the youth showmanship contest at a number of LRBA shows.

Lynn's love for raising rabbits began long ago. Just a few years after we got married, we decided to build a rabbit hutch and get a trio of rabbits. We raised New Zealand/California cross meat rabbits for many years, until our oldest child was old enough to join the 4-H program and needed a project. We bought him a trio of Netherland Dwarfs, but at that time we did not know of the LRBA or the rabbit show circuit so our son soon lost interest in this project.

When our two youngest daughters joined 4-H, we heard about the LRBA and the many rabbit shows held around the state. Our daughter, Amy, bought a pair of Mini Rex and our daughter, April, bought Mini Lops. Though our girls always fed and groomed their show bunnies themselves, Lynn always helped out by tending the breeding stock. Our daughter, April added Holland Lops, American Fuzzy Lops, Jersey Woolies, Netherland Dwarfs, French Lops, and English Lops to our herd. April raised rabbits for 8 years, until she graduated from high school and got a job with work hours that kept her away from the rabbit shows.

After our youngest graduated from high school and her job kept her away from the show table and away from the rabbits, we had decided to get rid of all the rabbits. We had sold all the rabbits, except for a few Holland Lops. We went to the Southern University Annual Rabbit Show with the intention of trying to sell the rest of them. Judy Duthu had a few young Dutch bunnies for sale and Yvonne begged Lynn to buy her two of them. So much for getting out of raising rabbits! With a couple of young Gray Dutch does from Beth Babin and a young Tortoise Dutch doe from Sherry Patton, we became Dutch rabbit breeders. We have since sold all our other rabbits and we are raising only Dutch. We have won several Best of Breed awards with our Dutch and earlier this year we won Best in Show at the LRBA Annual State Show.

In 2006 we drove up to the American Dutch National Show in Washington, Pennsylvania where our Gray Senior buck placed 5<sup>th</sup>. It was a grand experience and we knew we would be going back! We have since exhibited at three other national shows. We exhibited our Dutch at the 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual ARBA Convention and Show in Fort Worth, Texas where our Gray Senior bucks placed 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. And our Gray Senior does placed 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. At the 2008 American Dutch National Show in Bloomington, Illinois our Dutch Tortoise Senior Buck placed 2<sup>nd</sup>. This year at the 85<sup>th</sup> Annual ARBA Convention and Show in Louisville, Kentucky our Dutch Gray Junior Buck placed 1<sup>st</sup> in his class. We have had so much fun showing our rabbits and traveling to the rabbit shows.

We won first place in sweepstakes points and Quality points last show season and placed in the top ten in both our varieties on the national level. This year in the American Dutch Rabbit Club sweepstakes, we are currently in second place for the Grays and third place for the Torts. We're also in second place in the newest category which is herdsman of the year. The object of this category is to have as many different champions as possible in your herd. We presently stand in the top ten in overall sweepstakes also.

We would like to thank the folks who nominated us for this award and the executive board for voting to confirm the nomination. It is indeed an honor to be thought of in this way. Though we have always enjoyed showing rabbits, it is the friendships we have made along the way that makes this hobby an extra special part of our life.

Thank you all and may God bless.

Lynn & Yvonne Hebert

### **Tracy & Tyrone Freeman**

I appreciate being nominated for LRBA "Breeder of the Year". To give a little background, I live in Bogalusa, LA. and have been raising rabbits for the last 7 years. I raise Jersey Woolies and recently have purchased a pair of New Zealands. I have raised Holland Lops and Netherland Dwarfs in the past, but my Woolies won out. I'm the one at the show that has wool from my head to my toes. My rabbitry is not very big, but I do have about 50+ holes that keep me busy.

I am an ARBA Registrar and plan on taking the ARBA Judge's test by the first of the new year. Currently, I am a member of the National Jersey Wooly Rabbit Breeder's Club and secretary of the South Mississippi Rabbit Breeder's Association. Along with being a member of LRBA, I have served as LRBA's vice president in the past.

As for as those cute and fuzzy creatures, I really enjoy raising rabbits. I'm all smiles when I have a new litter in the nest box. It's non-thing for expecting does to be brought into our home during the winter to a nice warm bedroom. My husband, Tyrone, tolerates my passion and drives me to the bunny shows, which has taken us all over the country. Whenever given a chance, I like to share rabbit information with inquiring minds and promote the rabbit hobby.

In conclusion, I want to thank you for your support for "Breeder of the Year". If there's anything that I can help with, please drop me an email or give

me a call.

Sincerely,  
Tracey Freeman

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

#### **Melody Loupe**

I WOULD LIKE TO START OFF BY LETTING EVERYONE KNOW A LITTLE BIT ABOUT MYSELF! MY NAME IS MELODY LOUPE, I AM TURNING 18 NOVEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> 2009 AND I AM A SENIOR AT THIBODAUX HIGH SCHOOL. I WILL BE GRADUATING MAY 2010. I CURRENTLY GO TO LOUISIANA TECHNICAL COLLEGE AFTER I LEAVE MY HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES. I PLAN ON TAKING MORE CLASSES NEXT SEMESTER. OVER THE YEARS DURING MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL I'VE BEEN IN BAND, FFA, STUDENT COUNCIL AND 4-H. I'VE BEEN IN 4-H FOR 9 YEARS AND I WAS YOUTH EMBASSADOR DURING THAT TIME PERIOD AS WELL. MY OUTSIDE CLUBS INCLUDE THE ARBA AND THE LRBA. I AM CURRENTLY IN THE BONNE TERRE RABBIT CLUB. I CAN'T PUT INTO WORDS HOW I FEEL ABOUT WHAT MY RABBITS, THEY ARE MY BABIES. GOING TO SHOWS IS A LEARNING EXPERIENCE EACH AND EVERY TIME. THE BEST IS THAT I CAN PASS WHAT I HAVE LEARNED THROUGH EVERYONE TO OTHER PEOPLE. THE PEOPLE I HAVE MADE FRIENDS WITH ARE LIKE FAMILY TO ME. I HONOR AND CHERISH ALL THAT WAS GIVEN TO ME, ONE THING I WOULD LIKE TO SAY IS THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAVE NOMINATED ME FOR THIS. THIS IS TRULY AN HONOR FOR ME.

THANK YOU

MELODY LOUPE

#### **Kristen Petitjean**

My name is Kristen Petitjean and I am fifteen years old. I've grown up with rabbits and about 4 years ago I decided I wanted to show. With my mom's help I purchased 3 trios of Dutch: Black, Blue, and Tort. Once I really got into breeding and showing them I expanded my stock to Steel, Gray and finally Chocolate. Almost immediately I began showing and was motivated by my third and fourth place rabbit and became more selective in whom I bred, kept, and showed. While keeping my original trios, I began to look for specific rabbits to fit into my breeding program. It has taken me four years to reach the point I am now with my Dutch but I have certainly enjoyed it. The challenge of breeding for correct markings and good type is very rewarding when you get a best of breed. I added Mini Lops to

my herd about a year after Dutch. An excellent pair of Mini Lops got me started; Paco and Jade were the foundation for my entire line. Since Mini Lops take longer to develop I have been much more careful in my breeding program and it has been successful. When I got into rabbits four years ago I never expected to become this involved, yet I love the road trips across the state to see if my work has paid off. I am very honored to have been considered for Youth Breeder of the Year. This hobby has been very rewarding for me and I truly enjoy it.

### **Open Rookie of the Year**

#### **Amy & Kenneth Lukaszkeski**

Kenneth 'Luke' and I are still newlyweds. We have been married for only 2 years. We just had a beautiful baby girl, Aleah, on July 15, 2009. We have both been members of LRBA and ARBA for about 1 1/2 years. We are also both members of AARC, and I have just become an executive board member for AARC.

I have been raising rabbits since I joined 4-H in the 4th grade. I began showing rabbits at the Sugarcane Festival and the St. Martin Parish Livestock Show. In the very beginning, I only had one crossbred buck named Tippy to show. Soon after attending a few shows, I had my parents purchase me a broken opal Mini Rex doe from Jacie Neagle. From that moment I became fascinated with Mini Rex and began to build up a great stock. I showed Mini Rex and a few Netherland Dwarfs at several state shows, winning several Best of Breed Awards. I continued to show until graduating high school in 1999. In 1999, I sold my entire stock because I was going to college and I would no longer have the extra time to take care of them. I began judging the St. Martin Parish Rabbit Show in my junior year of high school and continued to judge the show almost every year, even through college.

After graduating college, I met Kenneth 'Luke'. He assisted me at a few of the shows I judged and also went with me and my parents, Lynn and Yvonne Hebert, to a few rabbit shows. Luke had many animals as a child, including a rabbit, which he believes was probably some New Zealand crossbreed, but he never showed or even knew about rabbit shows until we got together. However, he immediately found an attraction to them.

In 2008, Luke won a Netherland Dwarf and I won a Mini Rex at the Iowa Rabbit Festival. At that moment, we both decided it would be great to start showing rabbits. Luke converted our old pump house in the backyard into a rabbit barn and we got a few more Mini Rex and another Netherland Dwarf. Luke and I have now showed at several shows since then, winning several Best of Varieties for our Netherland Dwarfs and winning everything up to and including Best of Show for our Mini Rex. We hope to show for many years to come and one day have our daughter showing also.

Luke and I are very honored and would like to thank

everyone for nominating us. We would also like to thank everyone in the LRBA that showed us and taught us all they know about rabbits. We truly enjoy showing and helping out at the shows, but we especially like making new friends.

Thanks to everyone and God Bless,

Amy and Kenneth 'Luke' Lukaszski

## Youth Rookie of the Year

### Alyssa Lloid

Hi! I'm Alyssa Lloid. I'm 13 years old and an 8th grader at Pineville Junior High School in Pineville, LA. My parents are Greg and Tammy Lloid. I love my rabbits! I started showing rabbits in 4th grade in 4-H. Mr. Richard Smith is my rabbit helper for 4-H. He has taught me a lot about rabbits. Now I have lots of rabbits and show at 4-H and LRBA shows. I learn something new at every rabbit show and want to be a Registrar one day.

At my very first LRBA show Lance Gendron helped me figure out what was going on. The next year we showed guinea pigs against each other. That was a lot of fun. The judges had to consult the Standards of Perfection to judge the guinea pigs! Thanks for all your help, Lance!

Other people who have helped me with rabbits are Mr. Rodney Johnson (Rapides Parish 4-H agent), Mr. Joel Petrus, Ms. Maleta Walls, the Elliott family (Ms. Kathy, Jesse and Caleb), Mr. Lynn Hebert, Ms. Gwen Himel, and Mr. Kevin LeBlanc.

I'm a member of 4-H, Junior Beta Club and Girl Scouts. I'm also a member of the American Rabbit Breeders Association, Louisiana Rabbit Breeders Association, the Central Louisiana Rabbit Breeders Association, the Tri Parish Dutch Club, the American Dutch Rabbit Club, and Mini Lop Rabbit Club. I show and raise Dutch, Mini Lops, Satins and Californians. I also show one Jersey Wooly and a few Netherland Dwarfs.

Rabbits are a great way to make new friends. I enjoy visiting with my rabbit friends at rabbit shows and sharing my rabbits at the Treehouse Children's Museum and at my church.

My rabbits have even come in handy for school. For my 7th grade Science Fair project I didn't have enough rabbits of my own for research, so the Patton family sent me information about some of their rabbits so I could complete my project. Thanks, Patton's! "Tracking the Perfect Dutch Rabbit" won first place in Animal Science and Best Overall 7th Grade Science project at my school.

Thank you for the honor of being nominated for "Youth Rookie of the Year."

**Brent Vidrine**

Brent Vidrine has been a member of the LRBA and 4-H club since 2007. He loves traveling to the different rabbit shows across the state. At this time Brent raises and shows Black and Gray Dutch rabbits.

Brent has won many awards during his membership with LRBA and 4-H, including numerous best of breed ribbons and trophies for Dutch, Satin and Florida White. He received "Best In Show" for his Gray Dutch at the 2009 LRBA State Show. At the 2009 Iowa Rabbit Festival he received 1st runner up for "Best In Show". He received a Best opposite award at the 2009 Youth scholarship Show. At that show he also earned 1st place in the Intermediate division in the Breed I.D. contest. He placed 2nd in the Dutch Breed Quality Points Sweepstakes in 2008 and 2009. Awards he has received from Acadiana Rabbit Club include 4-H Best In Show, Best of Best Opposite Sex, and 2nd runner up for Best in Show. At the 2008 Youth Scholarship show Brent placed 3rd in the junior division for Showmanship. At the 2008 LRBA state show he won a Best of Breed award from the Tri-Parish Dutch Club. At the 2008 Calcasieu Parish Jr. Livestock Show Brent won 2nd Best In Show and earned a jacket by placing 1st in the JR division for Showmanship. He won 2nd runner up for Best In Show at the 2008 Cal-Cam Fair.

When Brent isn't showing his rabbits, he enjoys fishing, 4 wheeler riding, playing the saxophone, and hanging out with his friends. He is an active member of his Church. Brent is an 8th grade student at Leblanc Middle School in Sulphur, Louisiana.



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## Calendar of Events

November 21, 2009 - AARC Double Show -  
Breaux Bridge, LA - Shirley Rome, Secretary

January 9, 2010 - BTRA Double Show -



Raceland, LA - Al Boudreaux, Secretary

January 16, 2009 - 2010 Ag Expo Single Youth Show - Sheila Spillers, Secretary

January 23, 2010 - SMRBA Double Show - Poplarville, MS - Tracy Freeman, Secretary

February 13, 2010 - MSRBA Double Show - Collins, MS

March 13, 2010 - LRBA Annual State Show - Ruston, LA - Gwen Himel, Secretary

March 20, 2010 - Iowa Rabbit Festival Show - Iowa, LA - Lori Neagle, Secretary

April 10, 2010 - Southern Show - Baker, LA

May 2010 - Memorial Day Triple Show - Port Allen, LA



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### 2010 Ag Expo Livestock Show

January 16, 2009

Ike Hamilton Expo Center

501 Mane Street—West Monroe, LA

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Single Youth ARBA Rabbit Show

Secretary: Sheila Spillers [bsfarms@bayou.com](mailto:bsfarms@bayou.com) 318-251-2442 or 318-235-5672

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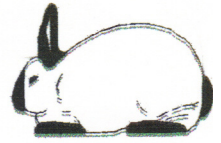
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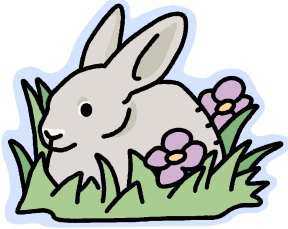
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I would like to encourage all secretaries of the local and specialty clubs in our state to please send reports of what's going on in y'all clubs so we can put them in the LBRA newsletter...it may encourage added members and it will keep us closer to each other through the upcoming season

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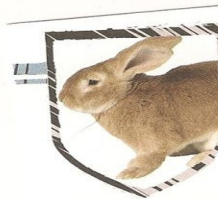


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The ALTRC is devoted to the interest of rabbits and families.

The objective of ALTRC is to encourage and promote rabbit Exhibitors and breeders in the Ark-La-Tex region.

The ALTRC support youth & 4-H rabbit programs.

The ALTRC holds ARBA sanctioned all breed open & youth shows in The Ark-La-Tex Region; and at least one annual get together & meeting per year.

We look forward to having you as a member.

ALTRC is a chartered club of ARBA & affiliated with LRBA.

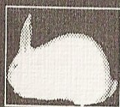
Membership Fees: Ind. - \$4.00 / Yr; Ind. Adult - \$5.00 / Yr, Husband/Wife - \$8.00 / Yr, Joint Membership is any adult membership (Individual or H/W), plus \$1 per youth / Yr, additional \$1.00 / Yr. for non ARBA members

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