

LRBA NEWSLETTER



NOVEMBER 2013



**LOUISIANA RABBIT BREEDERS
ASSOCIATION, INC.**

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NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

January 31, 2014

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<http://www.louisianarba.net>

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LRBA Members Only Please

LRBA Email List

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Netherland Dwarf Club

Angelle Kraemer – Bayou Regional Rabbit
Club

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Breeders Association

Lynn Hebert – member



Calendar of Events

November 9, 2013 – LRBA Youth Scholarship show – C.M. Zito Multi-Purpose Center, 61755 Bayou Road, Plaquemine, La

Show Secretary- Beth Roark
roarkbeth@yahoo.com

Judges: Lee Engel & Frank Farrow

November 23, 2013- AARC Show – Breaux Bridge, St. Martin Parish Livestock Barn at 1099 Tiger Lane, Breaux Bridge, LA.

Show Secretary- Amy Lukaszewski and Yvonne Hebert. evonabear@aol.com

Judges: Tony Bell, Frank Farrow, Mary Jo Terry, David Hauser and Wade Burkhalter.

January 25, 2014 - South Mississippi RBA Double Open/Youth, Poplarville, Mississippi

Show Secretary- Marge Drake
showingrabbits@yahoo.com

Judges: Mary Jo Terry and Cheryl Blackmon

January 25, 2014 - BTRC Double Open/Double Youth Show, 203 West Third Street, Deridder, La.

Show Secretary- Ariana St. Pierre
aarabbitry@gmail.com

Judges: Maddie Pratt, Bill Bramble, Drew Bliss, Johnny Haussener

February 8, 2014 – MSRBA Show, Collins, Mississippi

Show Secretary - Marge Drake
showingrabbits@yahoo.com

Judges: Josh Humphries, Rusty Westhoff, Tom Green, Tanner Biggs

March 1, 2014 – LRBA State Show - North Louisiana Exhibition Center, Ruston –

Show Secretary- Collette Waters
collettewaters@hotmail.com

Judges: Tony Bell, Allen Mesick, Scott Rodriguez & Eric Stewart

March ??, 2014 - Acadiana Area RC Iowa Rabbit Festival Show Double open/ youth –

Show Secretary – Jerry Castille

Judges: Cheryl Blackman Michael Franke, Donald Mersiovsky Mary Jo Terry

May 23 & 24, 2014 – LRBA Memorial Day Weekend Show – Evergreen Cajun Center, Houma

Show Secretary - Collette Waters –
collettewaters@hotmail.com

Judges: Randy Shumaker, Allen Mesick, Michael Franke, Ken McCracken, Nate Burgidge, Cheryl Blackman, Rosa Fields, Leann McKinney, Wade Burkhalter, Todd Naragon

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Greetings all!

I hope everyone is getting back into the swing of show season and getting their breeding programs going. Here at the Hyatt house, we actually have 10 does kindling right now, thanks to my wife and her insatiable desire to breed ALL her rabbits ALL the time.

We have started the year with some great shows. Brave souls bore the heat in Opelousas for a great show hosted by SLRBA, and then cooled off in the Rapides Parish Coliseum for CLRBA's October 12 show. Congratulations to this season's winners.

Your LRBA officers are quite busy. We are working on some CBL suggestions, getting information on some new show tables, and looking into some table space at ARBA's 2014 convention in Texas. I am really glad that convention is in the South next year. This will be my first convention ever. Since convention is close to Louisiana, I imagine that lots of our members will get to attend who never have before. Because of that, the officers believe it is a good idea to get some table and booth space, so our members can have a place to congregate.

I enjoy hearing suggestions and ideas to make our club better. Keep them coming. Our next show is the upcoming Youth Scholarship show on November 9 in Plaquemine, LA. This show really does need and deserve our support. A big thank you goes out to Blair Guerin and Beth Roark for all their hard work on trying to make this show as profitable as possible for our scholarship fund. I also extend my sincere appreciation to Mr. John Mulkey for making and donating the beautiful cypress swing for our youth fundraiser. If you haven't gotten a raffle ticket yet for this swing, see a youth or Beth Roark or Blair Guerin. Finally, thank you to all of those LRBA members who

support the youth show by entering, donating sanctions and raffle table items, and helping out with assembling judging classes. I am so grateful for the donation of time by Dr. Lee Engel. Mr. Frank Farrow has also graciously consented to judge also.

I look forward to spending time with Dr. Lee Engel and Mr. Frank Farrow at this show. Please don't forget that each LRBA affiliated club needs to donate something for the raffle table at the Youth show. Please get those items to me, Blair, or Beth.

See you all at the shows!

Steven Hyatt, LRBA President 2013-14

FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT:

Random Thoughts from the Vice-President

The Show Season is finally underway!

Poor Zeke was suffering from withdrawal even with attending two summer shows in Texas.

Speaking of shows the only way we can all enjoy them is if everyone pitches in and helps out. There are many jobs both big and small that must be done for a show to run smoothly. People are needed to help set up the tables and coops before the show and then take them down after the show. This is a great job for some of the younger (stronger) folks. Helping out at the registration table by making changes allows the show to start on time. Volunteering to run folders, write, ramrod, and call rabbits keeps the show running smoothly. Judges need to be picked up from airports and hotels and then returned to the hotel or airport. Helping someone new to the show scene get his or her rabbits on the table in a timely fashion is an important task. Even for an experienced exhibitor a large show can get confusing especially if one is showing more than one breed. Not to mention stepping up to be show superintendent,

secretary, raffle chairperson for your local or state club. SO GO VOLUNTEER!

Donation of rabbits to the raffle table is always appreciated but when you donate a rabbit please be sure that it is free of DQs or that you have clearly marked it as pet only. I have been reading on the internet stories of people bidding or taking chances on rabbits only to find that on close inspection their "win" wasn't much of a win. Remember children are usually the ones buying the tickets for those raffle rabbits.

I desperately need informational articles for the website. People are viewing our site trying to get information about rabbits, what to feed them, how to care for them, how to show them, how to house them, where to get them, what to look for, and personal information about breeds. I need pictures, articles and information for the website. Please send stuff you would like posted to collettewaters@hotmail.com. I prefer WORD or PDF files.

Show secretaries don't forget to send me your show reports to be posted. Please list all BOB /BOS winners. Also I need information on upcoming shows.

The ballots for the LRBA Awards go out the first part of December. When you receive your ballot be sure to return it BEFORE the December 31 deadline. The awards will be presented at the State Show in March.

May your nest boxes be filled with fat happy kits.

Collette Water, LRBA Vice-President

FROM THE SECRETARY:

Hello from North Louisiana!

Our fall show season is off to a great start. I would like to thank everyone who has supported our local shows. It was very refreshing to have volunteers at our SLRBA show for writing without having to ask. It

was very much appreciated and we got through with our show in record time! Bruce and I were thrilled to have won Best in Show and 1st Runner Up with a mini satin. After dog attacks, break ins and heartbreakingly losing most of our herd, we started over and finally feel we are back on track with our breeding program. It just goes to show that hard work and perseverance can give you positive results.

I was watching the results of the presentations at the ARBA convention. It was wonderful to see that the majority of the presentations passed this time. Every one of the varieties presented for Mini Satins passed, along with chinchilla Dutch, lilac Polish, and BEW Britannia Petites, some of which are only their 1st or 2nd pass, but mighty accomplishments for those working on these varieties. Lionheads are now a recognized breed with ARBA and will be eligible to show for legs on February 1, 2014. Varieties included are REW and Tort! The Argent Brun has also passed its first showing and is on its way to being a newly recognized breed. This breed can now be shown as of February 1, 2014, but cannot compete for BIS until it passes the third presentation. Congratulations to all those who have worked so hard and long on these accomplishments.

The ARBA Convention for 2014 will be held in Fort Worth, Texas! LRBA has submitted our request for a booth at this convention for our members to have a gathering/resting place during the show. We have plans to set up a raffle with Louisiana items to help with the cost, so if you have anything you would like to donate, please contact me. We will also be looking for Mardi Gras beads to give out to visitors to the booth.

Everyone should have received their copy of the revised CBL's. If for any reason you did not receive it, please download it from our website or contact me for a copy. Also note that your membership expiration was on the

bottom corner of the envelope as a reminder. Please take the time to read over these and let us know if you have any questions.

Club affiliation renewals are due by January 1, 2014 and will be considered late after March 1, 2014. The application can be found on the website under forms. Make sure all your officers and members listed for the LRBA Eboard and committees are current ARBA and LRBA members.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the shows! Good luck to everyone at the tables.

Sheila Spillers, LRBA Secretary



Expiring October 2013

Harold Bairrington
Garrett Hendry
Celeste Orgeron
Zachary Belton
Brelyn Savage
Gary Tullos
Carolyn Walden
Shana, Aiden & Brennen Nielsen

Expiring November 2013

Mark, Mary Beth & Destiny Bearden
Warren, Tammy & Alice Himel
Steven & Stacy Hyatt

Emily Stidd
Susan, Don & Katy Williams
Cheryl Guerin
Shelby & Carly Jeane

Expiring December 2013

Cierra Bennett
Roger & Jo Ellen Carr
Shona & Brandon Comeaux
Allyson Falcon
Riley Delaughter
Pamela Franklin
Sadie Freeman
Babette Loe
Dusty Mills
Victor & Patricia Malley and family
Charles Pruitt
Jamie St. Germaine
Blair & Judy Guerin and family

Expiring January 2014

Breanna Dunaway
Anthony Amorello
Edie & Danny Killian & family
Mary, Todd & Tommy Perez
Abby Pruitt
Kalli Soley

Expiring February 2014

Kathy Elliott and family
Tracey & Tyrone Freeman
Joe Wayne & Kay Gersch
Vikkie & William Lafollette
Tammy & Alyssa Lloid
Bridgett Stokes & family
Samuel Babineaux
Joey & Petty Gardemal & family

Expiring March 2014

Al & Peggy Boudreaux
Michael Ellerbe & family
Cherri Foster
Ashley Hawkes
Chase Herman
Hanna Rashall
Monica & Larindy Guidry
Ovey Viator, Jr.

REMEMBER: In order to keep your sweepstakes points active, you must renew within thirty (30) days of expiration, i.e. October expiration needs to be paid no later than November 30th. Not paying within thirty (30) days will result in loss of all points accumulated to that point. A membership application can be found at the end of this publication.

FROM THE YOUTH CHAIRPERSON:

Hello everyone! Blair Guerin, Youth Officers, and myself are very excited about the upcoming youth show! We have had a tremendous response with people wanting to help and that is what it is all about. We are short about \$80.00 on covering all of our expenses, if anyone would like to donate anything it would be greatly appreciated. Nancy Walker, Lisa Wainwright, Chase Herman, and the Bayou Regional Rabbit Club have made monetary donations to help cover the judges' expense. Our goal is to have all expenses covered going into the show, so our entry fees can go straight to the Scholarship Fund.

Please remember our raffle table. All Louisiana clubs are responsible for having an item on the table. Any individual can also donate an item, just have a sheet of paper with the club's name or the individual's name where we can place it by the item. The nicer items, or if any rabbits are donated, will be considered for a silent auction so please let Blair, Austin, or myself know what we have coming.

The 90th ARBA Convention is going on as I am writing this. We have some Louisiana Youth that have competed in the contest and also placed with their animals. Congrats go out to Bradley Babin, Dakota, Gabriel and Morgan St. Pierre and Emily LaMarca. Hopefully they can fill us in on their experiences.

I would just like to thank everyone with your help and remember the Youth Scholarship Show on November 9, 2014 in Plaquemine, Louisiana. Please remember to have fun with your buns!

Thanks!

Beth Roark, Youth Chairperson

FROM THE YOUTH PRESIDENT:

Hello! The Youth Show 2013 is going to be held on November 9, 2013. The show committee, including myself, has been working very hard to ensure that this show will be successful. The entries are due Wednesday, November 6, 2013. We are holding the following contests: Breed ID, Judging, Showmanship, and a Costume Contest. I would like to thank Monica & Larindy Guidry, Shelia Spillers, Celeste Orgeron & Zach Belton, and Chase Domingue for heading up these contests. This show is shaping up to be great show, so please come and support the youth.

At this show, I will be asking Youth if they are attending the 2014 ARBA Convention, and if they are attending if they would like to compete as a team. I am trying to organize the LRBA Youth Competition Team. I would like to have a workshop, some practice meets, and study sessions. I know there is knowledge in our state, so let's show it!

Austin Roark, LRBA Youth President

FROM THE YOUTH VICE-PRESIDENT:

Hi! Once again, I am honored to be the youth Vice-President. I look forward to a great show season with all of you. The Youth Show is fast approaching and I know we are all excited. It will have a wonderful turn out as it has in the past. I am very eager to learn the ropes of what it actually takes to run a show as I know it is no easy task. There will be many activities for Youth to participate in such as Breed ID,

Showmanship, a T-shirt contest, Judging, and a Bunny Costume contest. Also, remember to sell your tickets for the Cyprus swing donated by John Mulkey. The drawing will be held at the Youth Show on November 9, 2014. We also have two great judges lined up to judge for us, Lee Engle and Frank Farrow. These judges are some of our favorites because of how well they work with the Youth and help them to learn. So come out and join us November 9th in Plaquemine for the Youth Show! Austin, Destiny, Russel, and I are very excited to help run this show. You can email us for any questions you may have about the Youth Show.

Chase Domingue, Youth Vice-President

FROM THE YOUTH SECRETARY:

Hi! I'm pleased to be your Youth Secretary.

Here's a little bit about me: I live in Farmerville, LA. Never heard of it? That's okay, most people haven't :) I raise one breed, which is Polish. We made a big downsize for summer, so we only have about 45 holes for now. I am homeschooled and I love to draw, go outside, and do nature photography.

I would like to thank Ms. Beth Roark for being so involved with the youth, the youth officers for doing so much, and Mr. John Mulkey for donating a homemade cypress swing for us to sell raffle tickets for the Youth Scholarship fund and Convention t-shirts. I would also like to thank Dr. Lee Engel and Mr. Frank Farrow for judging our Youth Scholarship show, and everyone working to make this show the best it can be!

The ARBA Convention will be in Fort Worth, TX in 2014! It will be my first convention and needless to say I can't wait! There are many contests for youth at the ARBA conventions. Some of these competitions

do not require you to be present to compete in them. Make sure to look at the list of competitions on the ARBA website on the youth contests page so you can decide if you want to participate in some of them.

If you have any questions, feel free to ask me – I honestly don't mind.

Destiny Bearden, LRBA Youth Secretary

NEWS FROM BAYOU REGIONAL RABBIT CLUB:

Hello Everyone! Just a note from your local Bayou Regional Rabbit Club. I hope this correspondence finds everyone's nest boxes full of fall babies. This is an exciting time of the year, the summer heat is gone and we have not had any cold weather to speak of. We had our second Lopapalooza on October 11, 2013 in conjunction with the CLRBA show. It was a great success! We had some awesome judges: Ken McCracken and Tex Thomas. The Open winners were Austin Roark, Best in Show with a Holland lop; Bet Loe, Reserve in Show with a French lop; and 2nd Reserve in Show was Richard Smith with a mini lop. The Youth winners were: Zachary Belton, Best in Show with a mini lop; Farrah Chalue, Reserve in Show with a Holland lop; and 2nd Reserve in Show was Jacob Austin with a French lop. The highlight of my evening was when Zachary Belton won Best in Show with his mini lop. He was so excited, he hugged his bunny before he received his trophy. This type of display from a youth makes me so happy to be involved in this hobby!

Our next Lopapalooza will be at the Memorial Day Show in May 2014, "The Cajun Classic". Look forward to seeing everyone!

Beth Roark, Secretary
Bayou Regional Rabbit Club

NEWS FROM SLRBA:

SLRBA would like to thank all who came out to support the show on October 5, 2013 in Opelousas. A big thanks to those who wrote and helped with other duties and also those who braved the weather and made the long trip over from the eastern side of us. We had a good scare but in the end I believe it worked out for the best for all of us. We didn't hear any horror stories of bad weather in the travels and that is a good thing. We would like to say congrats to all the winners. You all did a wonderful job and had some nice rabbits. Big Applause goes to Pam Rowlette (silver), Chase Herman (Holland lop), Bruce and Sheila Spillers (mini satin), and Morgan Wainwright (Netherland dwarf) for the BIS wins. Y'all's' hard work really paid off.

In conclusion, the show season is now kicked off and in full swing. Without the time and dedication from the exhibitors, these shows can't roll on. Let's all be mindful of this and do our part to help keep this a hobby rolling. Good luck to the youth who are showing here shortly in November. Remember this show is for you guys: Make the best of it! The best of luck to all and thanks again!

Doug Girard
SLRBA

I would like to thank all of those that participated and donated to our "Fun DQ Dwarf Show" held at the Opelousas show. We raised \$55.00 that was donated to St. Jude's Children's Cancer Research Hospital.

Thank you!
Morgan & Larindy Guidry
SLRBA

SLNDRC News

The SLNDRC held a specialty show in conjunction with the South Louisiana Rabbit Breeders Club all breed show in Opelousas, La on October 5, 2013. In the specialty show, 71 rabbits were shown in Open and 51 in youth. Best of Breed in open went to Mr. Lynn Langley and Best Opposite to Mrs. Dana Duhon. Best of Breed and Best Opposite in youth went to Morgan Wainwright. Congratulations to everyone and thank you to everyone who participated. On October 12, 2013 SLNDC members meet to elect officers and e-board members for the upcoming 2 year term. Ronnie Duhon will serve as president; Lisa Wainwright will serve as Vice President, Dana Duhon as secretary and treasurer; Eileene Mast will serve as youth director in conjunction with Jessica Mast. Jessica Mast, Monica Guidry and Lisa Wainwright will serve as e-board members for the upcoming two years. Ronnie Duhon continues to serve as webmaster and will have the website updated as soon as his work schedule allows.

SLNDRC is hoping to see many of its members at Dwarf Nationals being held in Perry, Georgia on April 5, 2014. Expected turnout is said to be around 900 Netherland dwarfs in open and about 300-400 in youth. Information will soon be available on the ANDRC website, including entry deadline and what time Friday, April 4th all entered rabbits will need to be cooped in. Rabbits will be released about 9 on Sunday morning.

The next SLNDC specialty show will be held on March 2, 2014 at the State Show in Ruston, La. We look forward to seeing everyone there and may all your nest boxes be filled with show hopefuls.



Reasons Veterinary Care Is Important For Rabbits

This is another installment of Tammy's efforts to encourage rabbit breeders to consider the importance of veterinarians in caring for our rabbits!

Providing good care for our rabbits is important. Whether you breed for show, meat, or pets, healthy rabbits are a must. Sometimes it is difficult to justify spending hard earned money at the vet's office on a small animal, but the benefits are huge. There isn't a lot of documentation for rabbit illnesses because a lot of people don't take their rabbits to the vet when they're sick.

A knowledgeable vet is worth their weight in gold! We are lucky that our veterinarian, Dr. Christina Elster, cares for rabbits as well as exotics, cats, and dogs. We know something is up when she comes down the hall with her laptop and volumes of reference books!

Last year we had a rescue rabbit with weird growths around his eyes. We took him to Dr. Elster as soon as we could and the chase was on. She took samples and examined them under the microscope. She emailed photos of the slides to the pathologists at the LSU School of Veterinary Science and things got murky. After much discussion, it turned out that the rabbit had histoplasmosis and had to be put down. Histoplasmosis is an infection that is commonly seen in cats and dogs. It can be

transmitted to and from humans so it is called a "zoonotic disease." The origins of the rabbit's infection are not known, but could have been environmental or transmitted from a cat. The LSU Vet School wrote a three page necropsy report on him. It was interesting and kind of gross. Only a few cases of histoplasmosis in rabbits are documented in veterinary references. Stanley's case is being published in a veterinary journal this fall.

Most of our vet visits with rabbits have been for birthing problems, but recently we had a rabbit with a mass on his stomach. We thought he had cancer and figured he would have to be put down, but Dr. Elster loves a good puzzle. The tissue samples suggested cancerous cells. We opted for surgery and she sent the tumor to the pathologists at LSU for examination. She said we should have results in a couple of days, but it was over a week before she received the pathology report. It turned out he had a mass of collagen (a type of fat) under his skin. They reported it could have been caused by an injury to his skin, but they weren't sure. The LSU Vet School pathologists wrote a one page report about that. It's not a hereditary problem. After surgery Rocky is just fine and has returned to his herd buck duties.

Whether our rabbits are show, companion, or livestock animals it is important that they receive appropriate care during their life. We are lucky to have a state Veterinary School that is as interested in rabbits as we are. If you have a rabbit that has a mass, unusual injury or growth or other health issue, consider getting care from a veterinarian that is familiar with treating rabbits. Dr. Christy Elster at Kees Park Animal Clinic in Pineville and Dr. Beth Riley at Alexandria Animal Hospital are Central Louisiana veterinarians with experience caring for rabbits. Dr. Elster had a pet rabbit while in vet school. Both are competent in exotics and pocket pets also. If you know of another rabbit savvy vet, pass it along.

Better informed rabbit owners/breeders
improve the hobby!

Respectfully submitted.
Tammy Lloid

Lionhead Rabbit Breed

Now Recognized By ARBA

The American Rabbit Breeders Association recognized the Lionhead breed during its 90th annual convention this week.

Marylou Zarbock

Posted: October 25, 2013,

The Lionhead rabbit breed is now recognized in two varieties by the American Rabbit Breeders Association. Recognition took place at the annual ARBA convention held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, October 19 to 23, 2013.

The Lionhead is now the 48th rabbit breed recognized by ARBA.

The date of the recognition occurred on October 22, and the varieties recognized are the ruby-eyed white and tortoise. These varieties will be eligible to compete for ARBA Grand Champions and Best In Show awards beginning on February 1, 2014.

This recognition was a day that was more than a decade in the making, and the news brought cheers and applause from those watching the presentation at the convention.

Theresa Mueller and Cheryl Rafoth of Washington are the two rabbit breeders who have been working together for the past four years to get Lionheads recognized. Mueller said she's learned to expect the unexpected while going through the long process of gaining ARBA recognition for a breed.

"I cannot say it was expected, but I can say we could not have been more prepared than we were," Mueller said. "We arrived in

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, from Seattle, Washington with 36 rabbits from which to put up 12 that would be inspected by the ARBA Standards Committee — an entire year of hard work to prove to the committee that Lionheads were ready to be recognized!"

And when the announcement came of success?

"There are truly no words to describe that feeling," Mueller said. "This has been a very long road, and it was paved by two breeders before me that put just as much blood, sweat and tears into it. Knowing the hopes of the entire community of Lionhead breeders depended on whether we were successful at our own personal breeding program over the past four years is truly a heavy load! Knowing they all had faith we would get it done was even more pressure. So the fact we were able to deliver on that faith is truly beyond words."

Mueller said that she and Rafoth could not have achieved this success without their friendship. "When one of us was feeling too overwhelmed by the process or disappointed in what we were producing, the other was there to keep the process going," Mueller said. "This was a testament to what the power of friendship can do!"

Mueller foresees a bright future for the Lionhead.

"I believe their popularity will skyrocket with recognition of the breed by the American Rabbit Breeders Association," she said. "I get goose bumps thinking about a Lionhead actually being able to compete for Best In Show awards at the ARBA Convention in Texas in 2014. I look forward to the first time a Lionhead wins Best In Show!"

According to the North American Lionhead Rabbit Club, which was formed in September 2001, the breed first arrived in the United States in the early 2000s when

rabbit breeder JoAnne Statler of Minnesota imported five from Europe. Various rabbit breeders across the country have worked on developing the Lionhead, and ARBA has granted several Certificates of Development.

Arden Wetzel and Gail Gibbons were the first breeders to present Lionheads at the ARBA convention for recognition, but they did not have success. It takes three successful presentations in five years for ARBA to recognize a breed. Mueller is the official sponsor for the Lionhead and previously presented the breed at the 2010, 2011 and 2012 conventions with mixed success. Mueller is also the current president of the North American Lionhead Rabbit Club. Rafoth is the vice president.

The Lionhead is being developed in 13 other varieties, and rabbit breeders will have to go through the same presentation process to gain recognition for each variety.

According to its standard, the Lionhead has a maximum weight of 3 ³/₄ pounds as an adult and a short, compact, well-rounded body. The most visible characteristic is the mane of wooly fur around the neck. The standard calls for the mane to be at least 2 inches in length and form a full circle around the head. The complete standard can be read at the NALRC website.

The last time ARBA recognized any new rabbit breeds was in 2006, when the Mini Satin and Thrianta were recognized.

Hi! My name is Alyssa Jane Lloid and I'm honored to have been nominated for LRBA Youth Breeder of the Year! I am honored to have been voted LRBA Youth Breeder of the Year twice. I read in the LRBA Awards criteria that three time winners of Breeder of the Year would be eligible for the LRBA Hall of Fame - that would be awesome!

I got started in rabbits through the 4-H Rabbit Project. Mr. Richard Smith worked with my Mom and he introduced me to Dutch and Mini Lop show rabbits. At one of my first LRBA show I met Lance Gendron. Lance took me under his wing and even showed covies with me! I have tried to follow his example and help new kids when they come to rabbit shows. Mr. and Mrs. Buster Charpentier have really helped me with my Mini Lop rabbits. Every time I have juniors to show I have to ask their opinion and see what they think of my newest rabbits. Other people that helped me were Mr. Lynn Hebert and Mr. Kevin LeBlanc. I used to hate doing showmanship and every time there was a showmanship competition at an LRBA show they would come and find me and make me do showmanship! I couldn't hide from them! Then Ms. Molly Gardner came to the CLRBA rabbit clinics and got me hooked on showmanship. I'm not sure what changed my mind about it, but it's really fun. I coach other kids in showmanship so they will love it as much as I do.

I started with a few rabbits on my back porch and now I have a BUNCH of rabbits! I started out with Mini Lops and Dutch, then I added a few Satins and Californians. Soon I decided that Satins and Cals are REALLY HEAVY! I showed Netherland Dwarfs for a while, but didn't have very good luck breeding them. I started raising and showing Polish a couple of years ago. Ms. Jamie Campbell helped me get started in Polish. I also have Polish from Ms. Karen Guillory. Mini Lops and Polish are my favorites right now.

I am a member of American Rabbit Breeders Association, Louisiana Rabbit Breeders Association, Central Louisiana Rabbit Breeders Association, Tri Parish Dutch Club, American Dutch Rabbit Club, Mini Lop Rabbit Club of America, American Mini Lop Rabbit Club, American Polish Rabbit Club, Louisiana Polish Rabbit Club,

Tiny Town Rabbit Club, Bayou Regional Rabbit Club, Texas Rabbit Breeders Association, and Texas Mini Lop Rabbit Breeders Club. I've been a youth director in the Central Louisiana Rabbit Breeders Association and Tiny Town Rabbit Club.

My Mini Lop rabbits have won LRBA Youth Sweepstakes and Youth Quality point competitions for several years. They were second place in Texas last year! My Polish rabbits are in second place for LRBA Youth Sweepstakes and Youth Quality points this year.

2013 has been an exciting year for me. In April I went to Mini Lop Rabbit Club of America Nationals, Polish Nationals and the Kentucky Cup with my friend Megan. We had a lot of fun. Three of my homegrown Ruby Eyed White (REW) Polish rabbits won Best of Variety and Best Opposite Sex of Variety at Polish Nationals and the 2013 Kentucky Cup. They were just juniors! Paprika, a homegrown Mini Lop, won 9th place Solid Senior Doe at MLRCA Nationals in Kentucky this year. Her award is a plaque shaped like the state of Kentucky! My next adventure is going to 4-H National Congress in Atlanta, GA because I won the trip with my Rabbit Project. I can't wait! In school I've picked up another instrument in band, adding baritone saxophone to bassoon, contrabassoon, and clarinet. I'm clarinet section leader and was on the Pineville High School Homecoming Court. I've always wanted to be in a pageant so I competed for Rapides Parish Fair Queen in October. I didn't win, but I had a lot of fun and made new friends.

I love my rabbits and have learned a lot from them. Rabbit shows are also a great way to meet new people. I show in Texas several times a year. My favorite Texas show is the Texas Mini Lop Rabbit Club double show at Mr. and Mrs. Farrow's house. I had to miss it this year because I was at Girl Scout Camp. I'll be there next year, though! I love

showing my rabbits to see how they will place against the other rabbits at a show. Sometimes I win and sometimes I don't, but that is all part of showing rabbits.

Thanks for giving me the opportunity to tell a little about myself. And thank you for honoring me with the nomination for Youth Breeder of the Year 2013!

Alyssa Lloid

Hello, First of all, I would like to thank you for nominating me for the 2013 Youth Breeder of the Year.

I am 15 years old, and live in Columbia, Louisiana. I attend Caldwell Parish High school, where I maintain a 3.8-4.0 grade point average.

Rabbits have played a huge role in my life. I have been raising rabbits for six (6) years. I am currently the President of the LRBA youth. I raise Holland Lops, and show in Open. This year alone, I have accomplished so many of my goals in my breeding program. I have placed at Nationals & won BIS, both times with home-grown! Also this year I passed my registrars test with an 88! I have worked under the judges Kenny McKraken and Michelle Uptagraft so far. I have two more assists until I am completed!

So, as you can see, rabbits play a huge role in my life. I take this hobby seriously. Rabbits have given me so much such as: quality family time, friends, road trips, and a hobby. I always try to give back to my hobby. This is why I always am helping at the shows, no matter if it is my club. I would like to close with thanking you for the honor to be nominated, and ask for your support.

Thank you,

Austin Roark

My name is Jade Morrison and I am fifteen years old. I love my rabbits! I have been raising and showing them for seven years. I remember walking into the show barn at the fair when I was little, begging my mom for a bunny; this is how it turned out!

My barn ranges from 75-150 rabbits and I have had many kinds of breeds. I started out with two Mini Lops, but ended up experimenting with Dutch, Netherland Dwarf, Dwarf Hotos, French Lops, Mini Rex, Jersey Woolies, English Angoras, Lion Heads, Holland Lops, Tans, and Champagnes. Mini Lops have always been my favorite. I currently only raise Mini Lops, Jersey Woolies, English Angoras, French Lops, Holland Lops, Tans, and I have a Belgian Hare! Sometimes, I hear people making remarks about how showing multiple breeds is a bad thing. My answer to them is that if the people that are doing it can handle it, and they have fun while doing it, then why does it matter?

I love to show! Winning is great, but it's even better to see a bunny from my line win! I also love to make friends! Rabbit friends seem like the best to me. They're always there for you! I have made so many awesome friends while showing rabbits. They probably don't realize how grateful I am for them.

Of course, with the good things that comes with raising rabbits, there are bad things. When I was about eight, a pitt-bull dog attacked my barn of about seven, at the time. I was terrified. At the end of that day, there were only four bunnies left. Some were injury, but the other three were dead. I hope I never have to encounter that ever again. I also hope that no kid has to go through, or even see that happen! Around a year ago, my dad passed away and I had to sell out of all my Frenchies to pay for him to be cremated. We were pretty upset of getting rid of them, my mom LOVED them, but we knew we could get more, and we did!

My goal in raising rabbits is to fill an entire pedigree with my winning bunnies. It'd be so awesome to see "J.W.'s ____" for each generation. My other goal in raising rabbits is to help other children and kids my age learn more about rabbits. There's way more to them then just fur and cuteness!

Aside from rabbits, I am in the Alexandria Youth Orchestra. We travel and compete all over the United States. So far we've travel around Louisiana, Nashville, Tennessee, New York, New York, New Orleans, and this year, on December 29, we will be leaving to go play in CARNEGIE HALL! We were accepted to play at the White House at the same time, but with all of the government issues, our schedules got messed up and we decided not to. But how many people can say that they were accepted to play for the White House and they'd love to have you back next year also? I am also a part of Alexandria Senior High's Flag Line. We perform at the football game's half time show with the marching band. This year, I was Co-Captain and next year, I'm striving for captain!

I am so thankful that I was nominated for Rookie Breeder of The Year again this year! I work really hard on my breeds and to learn what I do know. I want to learn to work behind the tables and write! I guess the reason I haven't yet is because I'm too shy!

Thank You,

Jade Morrison

Hi,

This is Courtney, Gavin Duhon & Ryan Hebert. I first want to say thank you so much for all who nominated us as the Youth breeder of the year. We do work really hard on our rabbits, if we find ourselves confused about , we look in our ANDRC or Andrc books to find something help along, but we seem to be getting our rabbits right where

we want them to be. I know we all students but on weekends we all got our attention on our rabbits because we know we keep it up we will someday be the youth breeder of the year, and that's what we always wanted because we work so hard to get where we are now.

At the Johnson County in 12/8/12, it was the best, we won BOB with a homegrown Black Otter Senior Doe. She continued on and won 1st Reserve in Show, and also 2nd runner up and BIS. This was my first "big" win with a homegrown.

I am responsible for our rabbits. We get help financially, but we do our plan my breedings, do my own culling, and groom my own rabbits for show.

Rabbits have taught me to do many things, not only in the rabbit world, but I have also gained knowledge that I can apply to my life. Rabbits have taught me such things as:

Responsibility of our own rabbits.

Through everything that we have learned there has been an obstacle that we've had to overcome to obtain that knowledge.

Once Again, we thankful for your nomination, and thank you, LRBA Members, for taking the time to read this.

Thank you for your time. Please vote for us.

Hello, Dana and I have been married for 9 years. We have 4 beautiful kids. We have 3 boys and 1 girl. We live south of Crowley. We have start out with 5-hole rabbitry and grew to about 250 hole rabbitry. Here is our story.

It all starts in 2009 when we heard about Netherland Dwarf Rabbit from a work friend. We start out looking for some Netherland Dwarf rabbits. It seem like no one had them or had sold out of them until we made that call to Kevin Leblanc. He had a buck and doe he had for sell. Still new and didn't really know about showing. Start to breed the two

rabbits we got from Kevin Leblanc. We did some research on the computer about showing rabbits. At this point we didn't know if we want to show rabbits or not we bought some more rabbits from Carol Petit jean and Carrie LaBoyteaux. Carrie had invites us to the Iowa show. So, we went to the show and met up with her and her family. We also met up with Kevin Leblanc and bought our

first BEW pair of Netherland Dwarf Rabbits. We watch Frank Furrow judge the Netherland dwarf rabbits. He was explained to the youth about the rabbits and was asking question. We had learned a lot that day. From that day we were hook. It was like some kind of parasite had taken over our brain and wants to buy more rabbits. (We think we still have it and have passed it to other)

Our first show to show rabbit was Baker, LA 2009. We can still remember that day. We had an Sia. sable doe that took BOV and BOG. Poor doe was the only one in the class but we were so proud of her. We got a nice first place ribbon. Let me tell you about this doe. She had nice color but her ears was 2 1/2" long and it didn't balance with her head. We didn't learn until later that they need to be as short as they can be. The book of stander said they need to be no longer them 2 1/2" we was happy they was 2 1/2". We had shown other dwarf that day but didn't do that good. As we continue to breed rabbit we show our Jr. Or first year we show rabbit we took 1 BOB and 1 BOS with our home grown rabbits. We grand champion one of our home grown rabbits that year to. We were very happy about our wins but we knew that we had a long way to go to beat the top Louisiana breeder.

In 2010 we were lucky enough to buy some of the top Louisiana breeder Netherland Dwarf herd. They herd had help us so much but we knew we had to get other blood line in into our breeding program. Dana added some Holland to our breeding program. At this time she was into the Holland lops and Ronnie was into his Dwarf. It was funny because we were fight over cage space. We had expanded our barn to have more cages. Even though we had more cages we still fight over the cage space. To think about it now it's funny how we were fight over cage

space. At the end of 2010 we started to import rabbits from other top breeder in USA. At the end of 2010 and 2011 sweepstakes year we were doing a lot better than our first years. We had 4 BOB, 2 BOS and one 1 RIS with a home breed rabbit. At the end of 2011 we started a new spec club called SLNDRC to help promote Netherland Dwarf. Our number for dwarf had rose into the 100 for the open and youth shows.

In 2012 we add two new breed Tans and French Lops. Tans and French Lop is a side project. Our main breed is Netherland were lucky to get some nice tans. When we got them we didn't like them because they were so bony. Also they were hard to breed. After we learn a trick to breed them and had our first litter we start too really like them. Dana is messing with the French Lop, she is working really hard on them in 2012, Ronnie & I decided to get out of our French lops and tans to focus more on our Netherlands.. We will continue to improve our Netherland Dwarf Rabbit and one day able to compete at national show.

We have learned a lot in show rabbits and have met some wonderful people. We love helping youth to start at this wonderful hobby.

We are members of ARBA, LRBA, ANDRC, SLNDRC, AARC, SLRBA and we just join BTRA. We also started an club for Netherland Dwarfs Specialty.

We want to also thank you for open Breeder of the Year nomination.

Dana & Ronnie Duhon

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LOUISIANA RABBIT BREEDERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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YOUTH 3YRS \$20.00 () INDIVIDUAL 3YRS \$30.00() COMBO 3YRS \$50.00 ()

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AGE & NAME OF YOUTH MEMBERS

RABBITRY NAME (ADDTL \$1.00 PER YR)

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CURRENT BREEDS

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Sheila Spillers

771 Hwy 146

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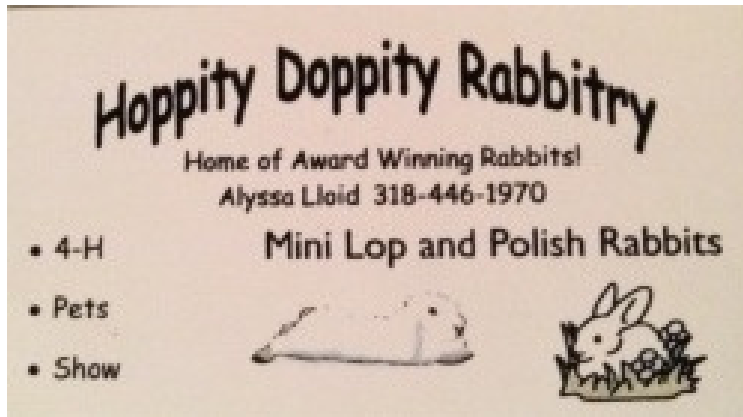
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Raising Lionheads, Mini Lops,

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