



Canadian Heritage Breeds

Winter ~ 2012



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Year End Wrap-Up

Hi and Welcome everyone! Hopefully you are enjoying our newsletter. Season Greetings to all.

The CHB club has completed its second year of operation. The club has certainly gone through some trying times during these two years. Many of the Board of Directors changed through resignation or election. We always need time for the new members to gear up and get familiar with the club. The club has met many of its goals that were set and hopefully we can set new ones and meet those also. Our club show piece is our fall show and again we did a very good job in putting on the show. Thanks to all the volunteers and everyone else who helped.

The second annual CHB show in November, as mentioned, was successful with hopes of getting bigger and better in the future. The Poultry side of the show keeps growing with new exhibitors and members and more interest. The Pigeon side needs some help which hopefully will come with bringing the Western and National meets to our show. It was great to see many more Heritage Breeds on display at the show. Great to have the EARS club as part of the show as well.

Financially the club is still finding it very hard to support itself. Peavey Mart has become the main sponsor for CHB. Without the commitment from Peavey Mart the club would probably not be able to keep putting on the show. Thank you very much Peavey Mart.

In the spring we are planning to have a spring sale along with demos and seminars and we will also be doing the Peavey Mart display commitment at the different store locations.

We are always open to comments and suggestion to how we, CHB, can improve and help you. Email members of the board.

Thanks,

Rico Sebastianelli
CHB President

We are always looking for a few good men, women and children to lend their hands to upcoming CHB events! Remember, if you have an event coming up, let us know in plenty of time to get it in the newsletter!




So just what is CHB all about?

We are all about the preservation of genetic diversity, heritage breeds, networking, social gathering, education, breed conservation and fun. CHB offers a number of events and resources, including a spring sale, a fall show and seminars, bred displays, social gatherings, smaller events throughout the year. Our membership includes every level of enthusiast from the Master breeder to first time urban coop owner. CHB also encourages youth involvement with a developing Jr's program. Although CHB is based in Central Alberta we aim to create a resource for not just Alberta, but for all of Western Canada and beyond! CHB publishes an online quarterly newsletter announcing upcoming events, articles by and about our members, breed introductions, health/genetics/husbandry/nutrition information and more.

We Have a New Website!

We are continuing to go forward with our website changes and updates – any suggestions please get in touch!

Don't forget to 'LIKE' us on our  page!



Vendors wares at the November show



'Tis the Season' – The CHB Christmas Tree in the venue entrance

The CHB Alberta Provincial Show 2012 Wrap Up

2012's show dates were changed as many had said last year's date was too close to Christmas and people had too many things to do besides show birds. This year's date ran in conjunction with the Festival of Trees put on by the City of Red Deer and that also caused some problems for us but perhaps brought a few extra people through the door. When all was settled, the Canadian Heritage Breeds Association, known as CHB held their second show in Red Deer on November 23, 24 & 25th. Once again the Westener Ag Building East was the host for this fine event. The show continues to try and bring in different vendors and displays that we hope will attract visitors and shoppers. This year again we had good representation from the western provinces with thanks to those who travelled to participate. Included in the show hall were many commercial vendors, a sales area, the silent auction area, the CHB information booth, the famous "Chicken John's Petting Zoo", the Prairie Ornamental Avicultural pheasant display, caged birds and some heritage breeds including pigs and sheep. A nice display of Longhorn cattle also brought lots of attention. A straw maze was also set up for the children's entertainment. There was something for everyone!

This year the show was given a new name, the Peavey Mart Urban Farm Show, to help identify our major sponsor and promote interest in the community. The show is still officially known as the CHB Show for all official documents for the different associations. The show was a sanctioned APA and ABA provincial meet for the poultry. The pigeons had a Fancy Pigeon meet along with a Homer meet. The local rabbit club also had an ARBBA meet.

The pigeon show brought in a couple of the best judges known in the Fancy pigeon world. Judging the Fancy Pigeon show was John Heppner and John DeCarlo, both from California. Judging the Homer classes was Gary Braden from Washington.

Judging the poultry and waterfowl entries was Brian Decker of Washington who drove to the show in his reliable little VW wagon. Brian started judging on Friday and was kept busy until Banquet time.

The entry numbers were a bit surprisingly low for the pigeons considering who the judges were this year. We had 500 pigeons, 700 poultry and 200 rabbits plus the Urban Hen show with about 20 birds. The awards were given out at the banquet on Saturday evening which was held to the room adjacent to the show hall.

Once again the CHB is very thankful to all the volunteer hours that members and non-members provide to make the show the success that it is!



Reserve Champion Pigeon: a Bruner "C" shown by Double "V" Lofts, Casey and Jerry Vandermeer



Champion Fancy Pigeon: an Oriental Frill Shown by Jim Jesse



Best Young Fancy Pigeon: a Helmut "YC" shown by Pat Tully

RESULTS OF THE PEAVEY CHB APA SHOW November 23-25, 2012



Show Champion, Champion Bantam & Modern Game: Brown Red Cockerel shown by Heather Hayes



Reserve Champion Bantam & Champion OEG: Black Cockerel shown by C-R Ducks



Reserve Show Champion, Champion Large & Champion American: Chantecler Pullet shown by Adolf Heier



Reserve Champion Large Chicken & Champion Continental: Salmon Faverolle Pullet by Clayton Botkin



Champion SCCL: White Plymouth Rock Hen shown by Heather Hayes



Champion Featherlegged: White Cochon Hen shown by Joe Mazur



Champion RCCL: Belgium d'Anver Quail Pullet shown by Silver Ridge Aviaries



Champion AOCCL: Dark Cornish Hen shown by James Cuvelier



Champion Asiatic: Light Brahma Hen shown by C-R Ducks



Champion English: White Orpington Pullet shown by Adolf Heier



Champion Mediterranean: Sicilian Buttercup Pullet shown by Steven Vincent



Champion AOCCL: Sumatra Hen shown by Silver Ridge Aviaries



Champion Guinea Fowl: Pearl Cockerel shown by Steven Vincent



Champion Heavy Duck: Black Muscovy Cockerel shown by Steven Vincent



Champion Medium Duck: White Crested Cockerel shown by Kelly Briault



Champion Light Duck: Harlequin Cock shown by Allan Lakusta



Champion Waterfowl, Champion Bantam Duck & Champion Duck: Black East Indie Pullet by Terry and Shauna Willoughby



Reserve Champion Duck: Grey Call Hen shown by J&J Call Ducks



Champion Goose and Reserve Champion Waterfowl: Gray Saddleback Pomeranian Old Gander shown by Allan Lakusta



Champion Light Goose: Brown Chinese Old Hen shown by Allan Lakusta



Grand Champion bird by a Junior: Fawn Silver Duckwing Pullet shown by Kristen Stevenson



Judge Brian Decker with James Cuvelier, scribing.
Photo Credit Steven Vincent

Note: **Champion Heavy Goose:** Brown African Old Gander shown by Allan Lakusta.
Champion Turkey : Slate Pullet shown by John Posthuma. Sorry no pictures.

SCENES FROM THE SHOW





Dutch Bantam Row with vendors in the background

Photo Credits M.Allan



Petting Zoo



White Polish Hen

Photo Credits Steven Vincent





Frizzle Pigeon



Blue Slate Turkey Tom



Buff Silkie

Photo Credits Kendra Gale



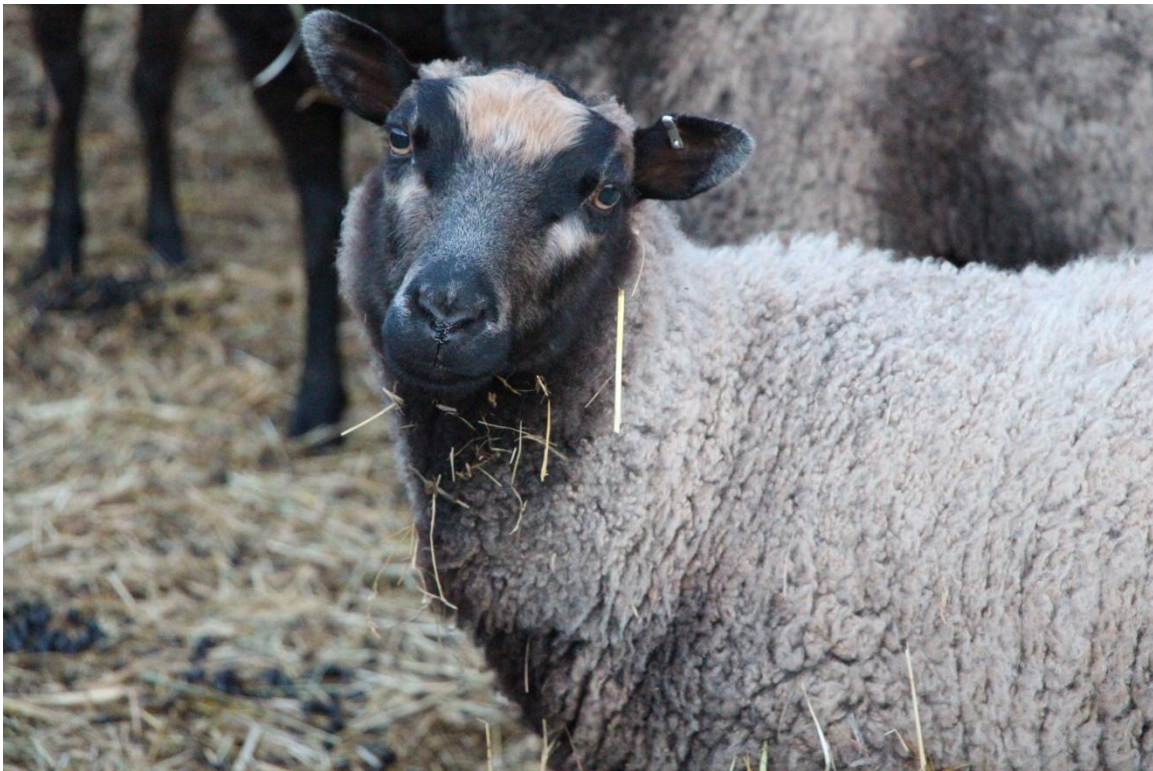
Ram

Photo Credits M.Allan

An Introduction to Shetland Sheep

Shetland sheep are a small primitive breed that is ideally suited to the hobby farmer and can be part of a very productive commercial operation as well. Shetland sheep originate from, you guessed it, the Shetland Islands off the northern coast of Scotland. The latitude of these islands is about the same as Iqaluit so that gives you an idea of how hardy this breed of sheep is. They are also very personable as far as sheep go which makes them ideal for the hobbyist.

The Shetlands are a landrace breed, which means that they developed by means of natural selection thus producing very hardy and genetically diverse animals. They belong to the Northern Short-tail group of sheep. Other breeds in this group include Finn, Romanov, Gotland, Soay and Icelandic among others. This means that the Shetlands have a naturally short, wool free tail, thus making tail docking unnecessary. The ewes are polled and the rams carry an impressive set of spiralled horns, but wethers typically only grow scurs or do not develop any horn at all. The breed has very good strong feet and instances of foot rot and other hoof problems are very rare. Shetlands do well on poor feed and can make the most of marginal and brushy pasture, as they tend to browse more than other breeds of sheep. They can be raised without the use of any concentrate feed and will still be productive. As one of the smallest pure breeds, Shetlands do not require elaborate facilities and they are perfectly suited to the first time shepherd. In terms of shelter all that is needed is a windbreak and if lambing in the spring or summer they can do so out on pasture. Fencing them is no more difficult than your average sheep although the small lambs sometimes go on little “adventures” through the wire.



Katmoget Ewe

Shetland sheep are very prolific and exhibit superb mothering ability. Though not as prolific as their cousins the Finns and Romanovs, twins are the norm and triplets are fairly common. The ewes can raise twins easily on pasture without supplemental feed and with more lambs often all that is needed is pasture with a higher proportion of legumes. Birthing problems are almost unheard of in Shetlands and the lambs are strong right from the start. A pure bred lamb takes about 14-16 months to finish on grass, but after this time produces a

very lean carcass with delicate flavor that appeals to many high end restaurants and butcher shops. The rams can be used on heavier breeds of ewe lambs to produce a fast growing crossbreed that causes fewer birthing issues and exhibits hybrid vigor. The ewes can also be incorporated in a three-stage commercial lamb operation commonly found in the UK. The ewes are crossed with a lowland breed, typically a Bluefaced Leicester. The resulting offspring known as mules are ideally suited to commercial lamb production as they have the maternal qualities and hardiness of the Shetland and the size and milk production of the Leicester. When the mules are crossed to a terminal sire such as a Suffolk, Texel, Charollais or Île de France a top quality butcher lamb is produced.

In addition to lamb, Shetland produce a valuable fleece that is prized by hand spinners and crafters. The breed comes in many different colours and patterns thus giving a wide range of natural shades and a challenge for the budding geneticist. Shetlands also are the perfect ornamental lawn mower for the acreage or small farm as they are so low maintenance and easy for the new shepherd to care for.

Here in western Canada we are fortunate to have a number of dedicated breeders working with this breed and giving many new comers the ability to start. Shetland sheep are an old breed that is holding its own in today's agricultural scene, as they have found their place in both the niche market and the commercial operation. Submitted by Callum McLeod

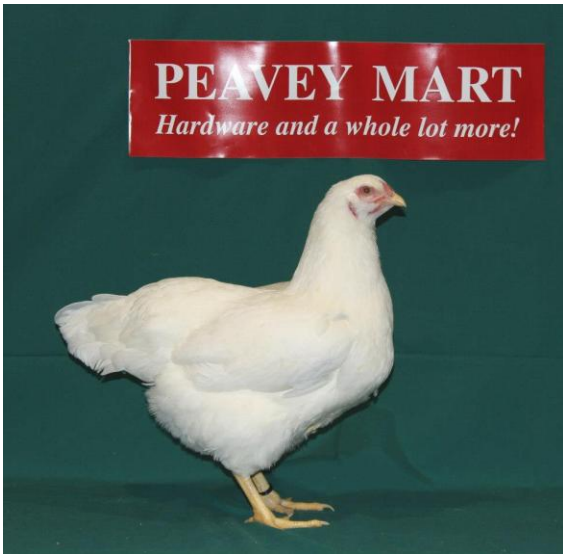


Moorit Ewe Lamb (now belonging to Susan Woodliffe)

A Huge THANK YOU to our Show sponsors

Peavey of course being our main show sponsor – many thanks and please continue to support them in return by exploring their wonderful agricultural supplies & products.





All feed was supplied by:



Bedding supplied by:



Petting Zoo sponsored by:



WorleyParsonsCord

resources & energy

Big Bend Market supplied the 'Meet and Greet' healthy snack platters Friday evening at the Urban Farm Show Nov 23-25 in the Red Deer Westerner UFA Agricentre!

Visit their facebook page as they have monthly newsletter with health tips and recipes!

Cooking with Heritage Poultry

For many of us, raising and breeding Standard poultry means having to deal with culls and far too many cockerels, drakes, toms, etc. Rather than waste the extra meat these birds could provide, you might ask why not eat them? But if we're not prepared for the difference in taste and texture from the supermarket counterpart, we can be sorely disappointed.

The extra time it takes to mature plus the larger amount of space to move around that most of us give our birds results in a muscle with far greater development and firmness than a conventional meat bird. This can lead to an eating experience that seems tough if cooked improperly. On the other hand, the older age of a more mature heritage poultry also allows the fat that surround the muscle to develop. It's the complex fats of older meat animals that give them the refined flavours that so many foodies rave about in heritage poultry. And if you are able to harness the flavour locked inside, you will be able to experience a culinary delight few know about anymore.

As long as you cook them carefully (slower for longer) the birds should turn out moist and incredibly tender and flavourful. The way it should be! This is our personal favorite way of preparing a duck, chicken or turkey.

Use a heavy cast iron dutch oven (with the lid on- no vents). In a pinch you can use a roaster, if you don't have a lid, with aluminium foil placed over top and then tightly pinched all around. This ensures a moist and tender bird. Some people also prefer to use a slow cooker/crock-pot, also an excellent way to prepare heritage poultry.

Rub the chicken/duck all over with a bit of oil, salt, pepper and any seasoning you desire (garlic, paprika, sage, thyme, rosemary...) and then place it in the dutch oven, **breast side up**. It also helps to truss the bird, which just means tying the legs and wings over the breast helping keep the breast and legs both from cooking at different rates or drying out.

We often put brown rice in the bottom with the normal ratio of fluid (stock is best), and you can throw in chopped root veggies, whole onions and garlic too.

There is no exact science to the kinds of herbs and seasonings you should use on your bird. We believe in using what you enjoy and not being afraid to experiment with different combinations. A little bit of coarse wheat flour or bran mixed in with your seasoning and rubbed over the skin of the bird is also an excellent way to dry-roast the skin.

Place in pre-heated oven and cook **SLOW AND LOW** at about **275-300 F for 1 ½ +** hours depending on size (after 1 1/2 hours check every 15-20 minutes with a thermometer- when the internal temperature reads **160 F**, it's ready).

If desired, remove the lid and broil it for a few minutes to brown the skin on top. Everything comes out moist, tender and smelling wonderfully of herbs! Delicious!

What do with the leftovers?

Day 2:

Use remainder of the meat and flavourful broth/gravy to make enchiladas, shepherd's pie, soup, flavour some rice, really whatever you want.

Meanwhile, cover the carcass and other bone scraps with water, some onions and sea salt in a large stock pot. (You can also throw in scrap vegetables- celery etc.) Simmer for two to three hours and you have a beautiful, nutritious broth. Just strain it in a colander to de-bone.

Day 3: Either freeze the broth, or use right away to make soup, cook rice, etc.

Three delicious meals from one bird!

Upcoming Events

Feb 16 - 17, 2013: North Central Alberta Poultry, Pigeon & Waterfowl Show Wetaskiwin Drill Hall

April 12 – 13, 2013: Peavey Mart Customer Appreciation Days – Location TBA

Become Involved

CHB is a new club growing in leaps and bounds. Who ever thought that from parking lot sales just a couple of years ago, we would be filling the Westerner! As we grow more opportunities open for YOU to become more involved with seminars, breed displays, sales, shows, get-togethers, newsletters etc. We will definitely be needing volunteers to help run the November show. If you are interested in a specific part of the event, are available for general assistance, have ideas for advertising or interesting things we should have at the show, we would love to hear from you! Help with set up and tear down are the two biggest areas where we could use even just a couple of hours of help.

It is your club, let's do it right!



Become a Member!

For Only \$10.00 per year

- ✓ In-club Awards
- ✓ Discounts of Club Events
- ✓ Free Seminars (up to 6)
- ✓ Hotel Discounts
- ✓ Advertising Opportunities
- ✓ Quarterly Newsletter (distributed via email, unless otherwise requested)

On-Line Application (See Below)

Canadian Heritage Breeds is a Registered Non-Profit Society.

If you have moved or changed your contact information let us know!



Canadian Heritage Breeds Association

"To Encourage the preservation, growth and overall welfare of heritage breeds. CHB is the vehicle that allows the public, both rural and urban, to recognize the strengths, values and relevance that heritage breeds possess in today's marketplace. CHB will demonstrate the benefits of heritage breeds through public awareness campaigns, which are designed to educate as well as offer the opportunity to become proactive in the conservation of heritage breeds."