



# Spitz-N-Spangle

Fall Quarter 2013  
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**Appenzeller Spitzhauben Club  
Of America**

191 Tate Lane

Round Rock, TX 78665

Check us out on Facebook:

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**Appenzeller Spitzhauben Club**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/139043868362/>

E-Mail:

[asca2013@hotmail.com](mailto:asca2013@hotmail.com)

Web Site:

<http://appenzellerspitzhauben.com/appspitzclubusa/index.html>

## ***A Note from the President:***

*Hello Everyone,*

*The wheels started turning for the start of this club when one evening I received a phone call from Dick Dickerson wanting to know about my birds. We had a long discussion that night about his experiences with them when he was a young man in Switzerland. During this conversation, I also learned that he was one of the founding members of the Marans Club and was part of getting the Marans onto the road of APA recognition. This is what I wanted to do with the Appenzeller Spitzhauben breed, but being fairly new to chickens, I didn't really know where to begin or even how to start the process. Dick too was interested in seeing this rare breed recognized by the APA.*

*This is where our club officially began forming and becoming a solid structure. The first step was to determine if there was enough interest in current breeders to gather a founding board. There was a lot of interest among existing breeders so the process started with the nomination of the founding board members (these board members are shown at the end of this article). The next step included putting together the constitution and the by-laws for the newly formed club. During the first board meeting all nominations for board members was agreed upon and passed. Additionally, the board passed the constitution and by-laws, established dues, filled regional director positions and decided to incorporate the club in the state of Texas as a nonprofit organization.*

*Since incorporation on Feb 20, 2013, it has been a whirlwind of progress down the road of having the Appenzeller Spitzhauben breed recognized. The ASCA has joined the APA with a club membership. Several breeders submitted ads for the 2013 APA yearbook, which allowed the club to have a club page in the book. Christopher Ferber, our VP of Genetics', has worked very hard to design and launch our website and worked with the design of our new full color logo that you see showcased on the top of our newsletter.*

*Part of getting the breed recognized is an increased awareness of this breed in the community of poultry breeders across the U.S. Several of our breeders have been featured in different publications. Our own Carla Allen of Texas was featured in All Around Hays, March 2012, in an article called "It's always 'fowl weather in some people's backyards". Christopher Ferber was featured in Hobby Farms, March / April 2013 edition, in an article "Raise Chicken Breeds for your Region". Dick Dickerson has a repeating column in The Poultry Press. You can see from the above number of articles that knowledge of this breed is spreading as our members look for opportunities to showcase this breed.*



Silver Spangled Appenzeller Spitzhauben chicks (picture courtesy of Sebrina Goldinger)



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## ***A Note from the President (cont):***

*Accomplishments like these could not be achieved without the help of all the Spitzhauben lovers out there, who are so willing to help. Recently our VP of Public Relations, Debbi Brown, has formed a committee to help her in the planning of our very first calendar to raise funds for the club. This is only one of the many ideas that we have for the future.*

*Along with the increased breed awareness through multimedia, many of our members have been actively showing their birds in poultry shows from New York to California. The numbers of members showing is increasing every day. While at these shows, a few of the members have been able to set up club tables and created a display for breed education. Club tables seem to generate a lot of interest from people that might have heard of the breed, but have never seen one. If any member would like to set up a table in your area at a show, they can contact me at [sweetpeepschicks@hotmail.com](mailto:sweetpeepschicks@hotmail.com). I can provide club forms and flyers to display on your table.*

*We are also really happy to announce that on Dec 14, 2013 we will have our 1st Annual National Meet, In Shawnee, OK Oklahoma State Poultry Federation. We are really hoping we can have a great turn out at this show so the APA can see we are serious about wanting to get the Appenzeller Spitzhauben APA recognized.*

*I hope that everyone has had a great start to 2013 as the club has had, and best wishes for the conclusion of 2013. I hope that we can all work together in this well loved pastime to move this wonderful breed forward to APA recognition. AS the Show season approaches in full swing, I cannot wait to see many of you at upcoming shows, as well as meet many new people.*

*Sincerely*

*Catherine M. Poeschl*

### **Founding Board Members:**

President - Catherine Poeschl

1<sup>st</sup> VP – Dick Dickerson

VP of Genetics' - Christopher William Ferber

VP of Poultry Shows - Dick Dickerson

VP of Breed Education - Carla Allen

VP of Public relations - Debbi Brown

Secretary - Sebrina Goldinger

Treasurer - Michael Poeschl

### **Regional Directors:**

Reg 1&2 Molly Markey

Reg 9 & 10 Chris Ferber & Jan Welshans

Reg 7 Dick Dickerson

Reg 4 Michael Poeschl



(picture courtesy of DeAnna Haase )



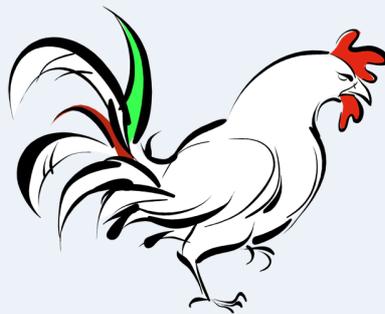
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## Breeder Spotlight:

During the upcoming issues of Spitz and Spangle, we will showcase breeders and share what they have overcome and learned as they have raised this beautiful breed of birds. We will be looking for new people during upcoming issues and look forward to hearing from each and everyone one of you.

This issues  
Breeder  
Spotlight is  
Carla Allen.  
Carla resides in  
Austin, TX. She  
has provided a  
great article in  
regards to her  
years raising  
Appenzellers.



## Carla Allen:

*I started raising chickens in 2003 after seeing a gardening magazine which featured a lush garden with a chicken coop integrated into it. Since I was "into" gardening, chickens seemed like a fun step to add to my retirement.*



*My coop and garden will never make it into a magazine, but I am still working on it*

## My Personal Breed History

*My first birds were 8 cuckoo Marans chicks. I wanted those dark dark eggs. I couldn't decide between all the other beautiful breeds, so I ordered two each of several different kinds of chickens. The addiction had started!!!!*

*As I was browsing through Feathersite to decide what next to order, I came upon the Spitzhauben page. It was love at first sight. I HAD to have some of those beautiful magnificent chickens. I found a local breeder in Texas, and met her to receive my chicks. It was no going back after that. Within my first year of raising chickens, I found my passion!*

*Spitzhaubens were not very well known at the time, but I found two more breeders. I obtained eggs from Debra Pennington and Channing Grisham. Both got their chicks directly from Dr. Albert McGraw, as did the breeder in Texas. Although the Spitz were all kissing cousins, I shifted my pens so that no rooster bred his direct siblings. I followed this plan up until 2013 when I added the first outside Spitzhauben to my flock in 10 years. Thank you, DeAnna Haas. New blood was needed in my flock because I was seeing some undesirable traits showing up, mainly eye and leg color.*



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## Carla Allen Breeder Spotlight (cont)

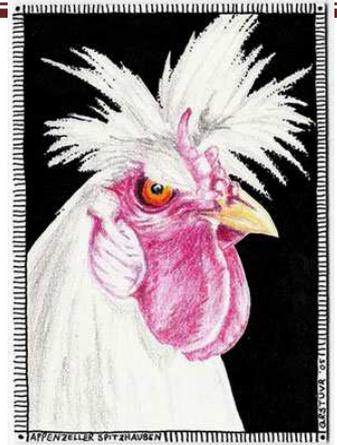
*My males' legs were getting lighter and lighter, and all eye color was changing from dark brown to amber. The new rooster, Nod, is putting some eye color back, but it may take a while longer to darken the legs.*

*I followed what information I could find over the years to try to breed to the standard, which at the time was the UK. I culled a lot to get to where I am today. I never kept a bird with a backward crest nor an overly bushy Polish crest. Unfortunately, I did keep a few fluffy headed girls as pets, and the roosters got to them. I am still trying to weed out that fiasco.*



*Butch was my first foundation rooster and probably my favorite. I really loved that bird. His crest was kinda wild, but it was the first year. He had such a personality.*

*An artist saw Butch's picture on BackYardChickens.com, and made an art trading card of him.*



*Next came Dick*



*Gil is the last of my Allen boys*

Nod, the latest rooster to join the Allen breeding pens, is already passing down his beautiful eye and leg color to his daughters. The combs on his sons are also improving. Forgive me DeAnna for chopping off Nod's crest. I didn't want anything to get in the way of his watching the skies for hawks. The yellow coloring in his hackle feathers is from being outside a lot.





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## *Putting On The Spitz :*

*Celebrating the successes of our members and their birds at shows across the United States*

### **Chattahoochee Valley Poultry Show**

Newnan, GA

Feb 16th, 17th 2013

The Newnan, GA show had over 2400 entries and people from as far away as California. We took this opportunity to enter our Silver & Gold Spangled Spitzhauben as well as Our Self blue, buff & white Silkies. This show was special because it was the official kick off to our membership drive for the newly formed ASCA Appenzeller Spitzhauben Club of America. We were fortunate enough to share table space with the lovely Mrs. Pat Horstman the APA secretary/treasurer. She was kind enough to provide me with all of the information we needed to start the process of getting the Spitzhauben APA recognized as well as great company & conversation for the weekend. We also talked about the possibility of the club or members placing ads in the 2013 APA yearbook. Dick Dickerson & I spent the day talking with people interested in this captivating breed. All in all this show was a great opportunity to share with the poultry community the forming of our club.

The Standings for the Birds that we took to the show were as follows

Catherine M. Poeschl silver spangled Cockerel

Catherine M. Poeschl (Carla Allen bred) 2nd place

Silver Spangled Cockerel

Catherine M. Poeschl 1st place Gold Spangled Pullet

Catherine M. Poeschl 2nd place Gold Spangled Pullet

Catherine M. Poeschl Gold Spangled Pullet Reserve of Breed

Catherine M. Poeschl Self Blue Silkie Hen Best of Variety

Catherine M. Poeschl Self Blue Silkie hen Reserve of Variety

Catherine M. Poeschl Buff Silkie Hen 3rd place

Kaitlynne M. Smith White Silkie Cock Bird 3rd Place



(picture courtesy of Catherine Poeschl )



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## Putting On The Spitz :

*Celebrating the successes of our members  
and their birds at shows across the United  
States*

### South Central Texas Classic

March 2, 2013

Fayette County fairgrounds

Show Results

2 Exhibitors

Best of Breed/BV Silver Spangled Hen Owned by Debbie Brown & Anne Hohen

Reserve of Breed/RV Silver Spangled Owned by Debbi Brown & Anne Hohen

Best of Variety Gold Spangled Pullet Owned by Catherine & Michael Poeschl

Reserve of Variety Gold Spangled Pullet Owned by Catherine & Michael Poeschl

### South Texas State fair

2013

Beaumont, Texas

Best of Breed/BV Silver Spangled Pullet Owned by Catherine Poeschl

Reserve of breed/RV Silver Spangled Cockerel owned by Catherine & Michael Poeschl



Carla Allen Silver Spangle –  
Fayette County Fair



Fayette County Fair – Table Top



(picture courtesy of Catherine Poeschl

### Fayette County Fair

Aug 31, 2013

Best of Breed/BV Silver spangled pullet owned by Carla & Henry Allen

Reserve of Breed/RV Silver Spangled Pullet owned by Carla & Henry Allen

Best of Variety Chamois Cockerel Owned by Catherine & Michael Poeschl

Reserve of Variety Chamois Cockerel owned by Catherine & Michael Poeschl

Best of Variety Gold Spangled Cockerel Owned by Catherine & Michael Poeschl

Best of variety Black Hen Owned by Catherine & Michael Poeschl

Reserve of Variety Black Hen Owned By Catherine & Michael Poeschl

We were lucky enough despite the blazing heat, to have a club table thanks to Danny Hughes. We also had a showing of 26 birds! More than any other breed show!



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## ***Breeder Spotlight:***

### ***Catherine & Michael Poeschl***

#### ***President & Treasurer***



Ohh how we started the madness called chicken's, well my husband Michael Poeschl & I decided after we moved to the great state of Texas it would be nice to have eggs of our own. So we started looking at the cute chicks at the feed stores and Craigslist. We brought home our first 4 little chicks in Aug of 2011 and that's when the madness began.

We soon decided we wanted more and decided to get some pullets that were ready to lay, so we found our now friend April Howington where we acquired 12 pullets to get us set on our way. It has been a learning process the whole way, of what works and what does not. I spent a lot of my time in the Yard with my girls, & reading on the internet. Listening to the Famous Chicken Whisperer, & reading along on BYC with my new found chicken friends.

Later that winter our friend April told us to come out to a show in College Station to see her birds. So then the hobby really takes off, I did not know that there were so many different breeds of chickens, I totally fell in love with the Silkies and had to bring some home with me.

One day when we were on one of our Adventures of looking for chickens. We happened upon a farm where we went to look at an incubator. The older gentleman there had 1 pair of chickens left, his favorite ones. We had no idea what they were just that they were pretty & took them home with us. Only later to find out they were Gold Appenzeller Spitzhauben. The original breeder was out of Wisconsin and she had imported the eggs from Canada to her home where she hatched them, raised a flock, and sold hatching eggs. Eventually though her beautiful flock was wiped out buy a predator attack. So the only people who remained with her birds were those who had bought eggs and hatched. Even though the numbers were many, being a rare breed plus adding the fact that they were shipped the eggs proved hard to hatch with not the best viability rate.





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We worked very hard to improve our hatch rate working with our Pair for some time. They were named Romeo & Juliet; unfortunately Romeo had a freak accident where he scratched the inside of his mouth near his jaw. This led to an unfortunate infection which could not be controlled & it invaded the jaw bone. We went thru weeks with our vet, medications, tube feeding etc but he passed away. So that left our breeding program at a standstill. Since I could not just go out and get another Gold Spitzhauben rooster we had to work from a different angle, and with help and advice from our good friend Chris Ferber. This in the end helped to strengthen our line considerably, increasing the hatch & viability rate tremendously. So we worked for about 2 years to hatch grow out and pick birds to use to build our gold flock. We are happy to say now we are on our 2<sup>nd</sup> generation of babies now, & it is so good to be able to see the differences in your work from the beginning to the end. Earlier this year we were able to obtain some of the chicks from the imported line of Spitzhauben that Green Fire Farms has been selling. We are working to improve both lines so that we can strengthen the genetics' available here in the US by increasing the gene pool.

We are now working with Silver Spangled, Gold Spangled, Chamois, Black, Blue, White, & champagne Appenzeller Spitzhauben. We also breed other rare breeds such as Appenzeller Barthunters Partridge & Black, Pavlovskya, Brabanters, and Silkies. The fun continues everyday here at our place, we learn every day, & discovers new Birds that we like.





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## Recognition of the Breed by the APA:

Requirements for getting the Appenzeller Spitzhauben breed recognized by the APA

Initially the request will be for the Silver Spangled variety of Appenzeller Spitzhauben

Birds must be shown around the country and fulfill the 2-2-2-2 Rule which includes the following:

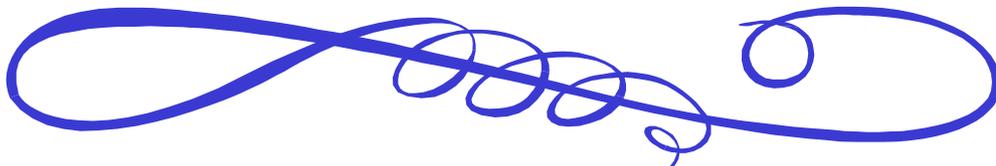
During one calendar year the birds must be shown in two consecutive shows and must have 2 cockerals, 2 pullets, 2 cocks and 2 hens be shown in each show

Five different individual breeders must have bred the birds for at least 5 years and sign a certification statement

Must have a breed specific APA show that has a minimum of 50 different birds participating

Must pay a fee of \$250 to have the standards of the bird documented by an APA artist

Next step will be to approve another variety of the bird but additional colors of birds will need to be introduced to additional breeders. Currently the club is reviewing to have the potential to have Gold Appenzeller Spitzhauben breed approved.



## **Notes from the Editor:**

*Welcome to our inaugural edition of "Spitz-N- Spangle". I hope that you are as excited as I am with our newsletter and all of the advances that we are making with the Appenzeller Spitzhauben breed. This newsletter will be an important part of our communicating upcoming events, showcasing this beautiful breed and its wonderful breeders, sharing upcoming showing opportunities, celebrating the successes of birds during previous show, and providing support to fellow breeders. Hopefully, we will be able to provide individuals new to the breed a resource and network of people that have been raising these birds.*

*Welcome to everyone, we are glad that you have decided to join us in this endeavor.*

*Please if you have any questions; feel free to ask any of us in this group. And if you would like to contribute to our newsletter in either an article or pictures, please feel free to contact me at [agoldinger@msn.com](mailto:agoldinger@msn.com).*

*Thank you,*

*Sebrina Goldinger*