



# Heartland News ©

Newsletter of Heart of America Game Breeders' Association  
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## Ring Teal

by LaDonna Lickteig

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Although LaDonna no longer raises waterfowl, back in the day when she did, she always ran a two or three pairs through the club auction. The following article is reprinted from the May-June, 2013 NL.

I started raising Ring Teal in the early 1990's. When I first saw them at an auction, I knew right away I had to have them. To this day, Ring Teal are one of my favorite Teal.

I keep Ring Teal in a mixed collection of ducks. They are very mellow and at no time have I ever seen them be aggressive toward other waterfowl. They prefer a nest high off the ground. Because our Ring Teal are not pinioned, they have nested at least four to five feet off the ground in boxes attached to poles. Our pens are completely covered with netting.

I let the ducks set on their eggs until the ducklings start hatching. I collect all the hatching eggs and place them in a small Styrofoam incubator until they hatch. Then they are moved to a brooder which I made. I always try to have a two to three-day old Silkie chick to put in the brooder with the ducklings. The chick teaches them to eat and drink and helps keep the ducklings calmer and content. This method seems to really work with Mandarin and Wood Duck ducklings as well.

The adult Ring Teal are kept in unheated sheltered pens just like I keep all my waterfowl. It is a must to have open water for them not only in the summer, but also in the winter.

In my opinion, Ring Teal is a great duck for anyone just started in breeding waterfowl. Their color pattern is very striking and when they fly, their wings make a whistling sound. They are a MUST-HAVE duck.

The following information and field marks is from p. 72 Wildfowl of the World by Malcom Ogilvie and Steve Young. "Ring Teal are small ducks of South American forests, distinct from other wildfowl within range. **Identification: Male breeding and non-breeding.** Head and neck buff, with a few fine grey streaks. Black stripe on crown and down back of neck and then forward, forming a half-ring at base. Breast buff-pink with small black spots becoming buff and unspotted in front of grey flanks, which are finely vermiculated with black; belly white, vent and under tail coverts black but with a large white patch on lower sides of rump. Mantle light olive-brown, more chestnut to the side and on scapulars; lower back rump, uppertail coverts, and tail black. Primaries and their coverts black; underwing all dark. Bill blue-grey; Legs and feet pink. Soft "whee-oo" call. Wings whistle in flight. **Female:** Dark brown forehead, lores, crown and back of neck. Whitish supercilium and white cheeks and throat, with large "finger-print" like smudge behind and below the eyes. Underparts dull brown, mottled darker on breast and barred pale buff-grey on belly and flanks; vent and undertail coverts whitish with small black bar on sides. Upperparts olive-brown, tail dark brown. Upper wings and under wings same as males. Bill grey; legs and feet pink. **Juvenile male:** Overall coloring as adult female, but head pattern resembles dull adult male. **Juvenile female:** Closely resembles adult female.

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**Distribution and status:** Known to breed only in north-west Argentina and Paraguay but also occurs, presumed as a non-breeder, in eastern Bolivia, southern Brazil, and Uruguay; extent of movements unclear, though some northward post breeding. Inhabits wet areas with tropical forests and wooded lowlands, including marshes, pools, and streams. Populations unknown, but widespread and apparently common leading to estimates of 25,000 to 100,000 ducks

## Ring Teal Trivia

compiled by Terry Smith

- Ring Teal are one of the smallest duck species at about 14-15 inches long, wingspan of about 28 inches. They generally weigh about 11-12 ounces.
- Males and females are dimorphic, having different colored feathers.
- Roughly translated, the Latin name of the Ringed Teal, *Callonetta leucophrys*, means "the beautiful duck with the white wing patches."
- In the field, their small size, perching tendencies, and distinctive green and white speculum should serve to identify Ring Teal.
- In the wild, Ring Teal feed predominantly on water plants and seeds, with some insects. In captivity, they will eat various grains and greens.
- Ring Teal are classified as dabblers, referring to their feeding habits; they primarily feed on the surface of the water, unlike the diving ducks. Dabblers like these often upend themselves with their tail in the air to graze on submerged pondweed.
- Lamellae, the plates along the bill-edge of ducks at the edges of the beak, act like teeth to help cut through tough vegetation.
- Their webbed feet have long toes and sharp claws to help them perch.
- In this species, only the hen quacks; the drake produces a long soft whistle instead.
- As part of his courtship display, the male will flash his iridescent wing patches toward a female to attract her attention. Breeding usually takes place on the water.
- The hen lays 6-12 white eggs, which are incubated for around 26 to 28 days according to Paul Johnsgaard in Ducks, Geese, and Swans of the World.
- The ducklings are precocial (they are well developed when they are hatched) and follow their parents from the nest within a few hours of hatching, sometimes leaping many feet down from the nest. The chicks rub

against their parents' plumage to acquire the water-proofing oil to cover their feathers to keep them dry in the water. They follow their parents closely, copy their behaviors, and eventually fledge at around 50 days.

## Advice for Those Interested in Raising Waterfowl

John bought an interesting book at the Fond du Lac, Wisconsin one year. Raising Wild Ducks in Captivity was edited by Dayton P. Hyde and sponsored by the International Wild Waterfowl Association in 1974. The following ideas are from the chapter entitled "110 Do's and Don'ts for Duck Keepers" which was written by Michael Lubbock and Winston Guest:

- Do not keep waterfowl until you have good facilities and sound advice.
- Do build vermin-proof fence. An electric wire on the perimeter fence will discourage climbing predators while buried netting (wire) placed 2 feet under the soil at a 45-degree angle will prevent predators from digging into the pens.
- Do use wire galvanized after weaving for fencing. Use 1-inch mesh or smaller to exclude vermine and to prevent ducks from inserting their heads in the mesh and injuring themselves
- Do not start by keeping delicate species. Suggestions for the amateur collector - decorative, Mandarins and Wood Ducks; dabbling ducks, mallards and Pintails; small ducks, Laysan Teal and Bahama Pintails; Shelducks, European; geese, Barnacle.
- Do not buy so-called "proven breeders'.
- Do double-check your birds before release, to make sure they are properly pinioned and of the correct sex.
- Do not place an aggressive species with those unable to compete.
- Do not put more than one pair of a species in a small area.
- Do not keep close related species, such as Red-billed Pintail and Bahama Pintail together or they may hybridize.
- Do provide more than one nest box for those species that require a choice, such as Barrow's Golden-eye and Chestnut-Breasted Teal.
- Do give waterfowl time to reach sexual maturity - ducks from one to 2 years; geese, 2 to 3 years; swans, 3 to 4 years.
- Do provide various types of nest boxes, such as tree

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boxes, tunnel boxes, and ground boxes, for various species, furnishing two boxes for each pair of birds.

- Do provide Teal boxes with 4-inch diameter nesting holes to prevent larger ducks from entering the nesting box and disturbing the eggs.
- Do use air compressors to keep ponds ice free in winter.
- Do provide windbreaks during cold seasons and adequate shade in summer.
- Do put delicate species in heated indoor quarters in winter.
- Do provide ample straw where birds congregate on ice or snow.
- Do remove all ice and snow from feeding areas.
- Do increase protein in diet one month before breeding season.
- Do not cut down on protein during the molting season.
- Do not feed white or stale bread.
- Do not neglect feeding grit or oyster shell, especially during the laying season.
- In humid climates, do not store bagged foods for more than a month.
- Do remove all stale and wasted feed from the feeding area.
- Do provide waterproof feed shelters in areas where food remains for any length of time.

### Red-Legged Partridge

Information for this article was obtained from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, MacFarlane Pheasants Web Site Gamebird & Waterfowl Pages, and Modern Partridge Farming by Chris Hodgson.

The Red-legged Partridge is very similar to the Chukar. Although common in captivity, it is not bred on the large, commercial scale as its close cousin. When disturbed, it prefers to run rather than fly, but if necessary it flies a short distance. This is a seed-eating species, but the young in particular take insects as an essential protein supply. They have a harsh call, "chukka-chukka" or "chik-chik-chikar", and sometimes "shack-shack-shack-shack-shack-shack". The Red-legged Partridge, *Alectoris rufa*, is a game bird in the pheasant family Phasianidae of the order Galliformes, gallinaceous birds. It is sometimes known as French Partridge, to distinguish it from the Grey or English Partridge. There are four subspecies in the wild. The French Red-leg (*A. r. rufa*) of France and Italy, is the subspecies most often seen in captivity. (It the bird pictured on the color insert. The Spanish Red-leg (*A. r. hispanica*), is found in northern and western Spain is also a subspecies. There is another subspecies that is native to eastern and southern Spain, the Southern Spanish Red-leg

(*A. r. intercedens*); the last subspecies is native to Corsica, the Corsican Red-leg (*A. r. corsa*). There is only slight differences in the subspecies, and the Corsican is almost indistinguishable from the French. This species has been introduced into many places worldwide, including the Canary Islands, the Azores, England and some parts of North America.

This partridge breeds naturally in southwestern Europe, in France and on the Iberian peninsula. It has become naturalized in flat areas of England and Wales, where it was introduced as a game species, and has been seen breeding as far north as Lancashire and Eastern Yorkshire. It is replaced in south eastern Europe by the very similar Rock Partridge, *Alectoris graeca*. It is a non-migratory terrestrial species, which forms flocks outside the breeding season. This species breeds on dry lowlands, such as farmland and open stony areas, laying its eggs in a ground nest.

The colors of both sexes are similar to other members of the genus, but a French Red-Leg has a white forehead and a broken black line on the neck and throat pattern which distinguishes them from the other species. Adult Red-legged Partridges are sandy-brown above, pinkish-buff on the belly, and pale grey on the breast, with a prominent throat marking of black streaking, bold rufous and black flank-bars, a cream throat, pink legs, and a red bill and eye ring. The crown and upper nape of adult Red-legged Partridge are a warm pinkish-brown; the fore crown and lateral edges of the crown are pale blue-grey, and the bird has a narrow off-white supercilium running from above the lores to the sides of the lower nape. The lores have a solid bar of black feathering above a patch of pinkish-red skin. This black coloration continues behind the eye, where it broadens, and then extends down around the throat-patch to meet the upper edge of the throat marking. There is a patch of pale buff-brown feathering on the ear-coverts, adjoining the black. The eye is surrounded by a bright red eye-ring. The chin and upper throat are creamy-white, and are bordered behind and below by a solid black marking. The black color continues down onto the lower throat as a patch of broad triangular black streaks on a pale sandy-grey background. Similar, but narrower, black streaks are present on a pale blue-grey background on the upper sides of the neck, while the lower neck-sides are warm pinkish-brown. The breast is pale blue-grey, and the belly pinkish-buff. The flanks are marked with bold bright rufous-brown bars, typically between eight and ten. Each bar has a narrow black leading edge, the background color is off-white in front of each bar, and pale grey behind. The upper parts are plain, unmarked dark sandy-grey. The upper tail-coverts are similar in color, and contrast with the pinkish-rufous tail-feathers. The bill is bright red, the iris is medium brown, and the legs are pinkish-red. The males have small spurs

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and are slightly larger than the females. Body weight ranges from 19 to 26 ounces and body size is 13 to 15 inches in length.

In captivity the breeding season begins in late April and early May. They do not lay large numbers of eggs like Chukar hens; clutches are only about 10 to 12 per bird. Egg color varies from ashy cream to buffy brown. Sometimes the eggs are speckled with brown spots or splotches. The amount of speckling varies from hen to hen. Like the chukar, Red-legs are unlikely to set and hatch their own eggs. Incubation lasts about 23 days. We incubate in a 1502 Sportsman Incubator set at 99.5° F. The eggs are easy to hatch and do not seem to require any special care. Humidity is the most important part of incubation. We try to maintain 45% to 50% relative humidity. Two days before the eggs are due to hatch, John puts them in the hatching tray. Eggs are misted with warm water to up the humidity. The young should be treated in the same matter as a Chukar chick. I do not brood French Red-Leg chicks with any other partridge species as I have found them to be a bit more aggressive than the other partridge chicks. They also tend to be a bit wilder or flighty in the small brooder boxes I use. Chicks are fed pheasant starter for four weeks. Then we switch them to pheasant grower for two weeks before some finely ground corn or milo is introduced into their diet. I put GQF Vitamins-Plus in the chicks' water for 5 to 7 days after they are hatched and for two days whenever the birds are to be moved to a new pen.

Adult Red-legged Partridge do best when raised on wire. They are prone to a number of diseases transmitted by wet soil including Blackhead and Coccidiosis. There is no effective treatment for Blackhead since Emtryl was taken off the market about 10 years ago. Worming the birds on a regular basis will help eliminate cecal and earthworms. Coccidiosis can be treated with a number of medications including Corid, Sull-metd, and Amprol 128. I treat gut problems which can sometimes crop up with BMD.

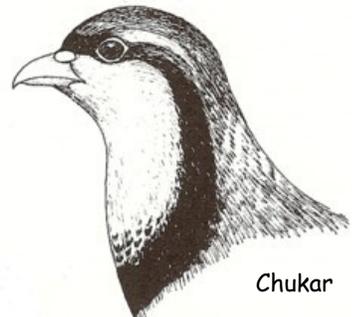
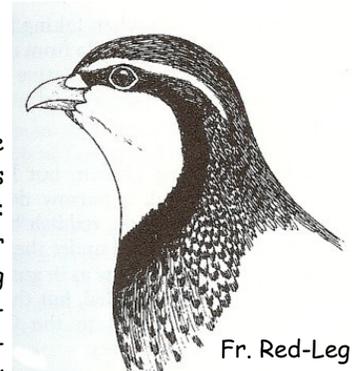
This species is hardy and can withstand the extremes of temperature, and they are easy to keep in captivity. Some feel they are a better game bird than the chukar, since they prefer a more grass-like habitat consisting of small grains or a bushy terrain. Bred for centuries on game bird farms in France and Italy, the Red-leg has not been bred on a commercial scale in the United States as chukars have been. Some game bird preserves have crossed Red-Legs with Chukars.

For three years, MacFarlane Pheasants, Inc. has been importing pure Red-leg eggs directly from L'envol de Retz, a large successful game bird propagator located in France. According to an article I found on the internet, the game farm is impressed with the fertility and hatchability of the eggs. The uniformity of the birds surpasses nearly any commercial game bird they have seen.

According to Troy Cisewski, MacFarlane Pheasants, Inc., many American hunters travel to the U.K. to participate in driven shoots at high end estates. Most of the U.K. shoots feature not only pheasants of but the French Red-leg Partridge (Chukars and Chukar Red-leg Cross partridges are literally illegal in U.K.). Hunters that have experienced the Red-legs on U.K. shoots have been amazed at the flight speed and wildness of the Red-legs. They hold well in cover and get up and go when flushed. They use their deep chest to propel themselves uphill and flush downhill often giving hunters numerous chances. Red-legs can scurry across the ground at quick speeds to avoid predators, thus this bird is a treasured catch for hunters looking to add speed to their hunts. The main difference in how Red-legs act versus Chukars is that Red-legs are as wild or perhaps wilder than even Hungarian Partridge. The main knock on Chukars is that Chukars tend to be the most domestic of the commercially raised game birds.

### The Genus *Alectoris* by Terry Smith

Seven species are included in the genus *Alectoris*. They include: Barbary Partridge (four sub-species) - Red Leg Partridge (three sub-species), Arabian (one sub-species), Przhevalski's Rock Partridge, Philby's Rock Partridge, Rock Partridge (three sub-species), and Chukar Partridge (14 sub-species). Study the drawings of the heads of the French-Red Leg, Chukar, and Barbary partridges shown right to aid in identifying these three members of the genus *Alectoris*. All birds are varying shades of gray and light brown and have barred sides and flanks, orange to red eye rings, red bills, red legs and a distinctive dark band that begins at the bill and runs backward through the eye before curving downward along the side of the neck (Continued on page 5)



to the throat. Barbary and French Red Leg partridge both have very wide collars. The collar of the French Red Leg curves upward through the eyes and ends at the bill. Short, bold, dark streaks begin at the edge of the collar and extend along the side of the head. A distinct white streak begins at the bill and extends backward above the eyes. White spots mark the dark band of the Barbary Partridge, and the white eye streak is not separated from the white throat area because the dark band ends on the side of the head below the eyes.

### **And Another Thing I Didn't Know...**

By David C. Blashill  
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In the fall of 2018 I acquired a pair of juvenile Nene Geese to add to my aviary. I put them in a 40 x 50-foot netted pen that has a 10 x 20-foot concrete pond. On one of the 10-foot sides there is a 5 x 5-foot extension. I have two 10 x 10-foot dog kennels positioned on that end to each have a 2 ½ x 5-foot corner of the extension accessible from inside them. The Nene would share this area with 2 pair of Call Ducks. During the breeding season I use the two kennels to separate the Gray Call pair from the Blue-bibbed Call pair while still allowing them access to the pond water. Each pair is let out into the larger landscaped enclosure and onto the whole pond on alternating days. The remainder of the year they hang out together as the kennel doors are left open. The Nene had free range of the entire pen. So back to my continuing education.

When I first got the Nene, they seemed very sociable, almost overly so and were always underfoot as I carried out the day-to-day operation of closing up or releasing the separate pairs of Call Ducks, checking food and water, etc. I nicknamed them "the moaning geese" because their vocalizations seemed to sound like they were unhappy and complaining all the time. Their habit of picking the high ground to hang out on added to my workload as they immediately fell in love with the filtration system and its plumbing and left their calling cards piled on top of it. However, they were not interested in the pond itself and actually went out of their way to stay out of it which helped keep the water clean longer. They also seemed to get along with the Call Ducks, not being too bossy or belligerent. The following year everything changed.

I first noticed a problem when I went out to check on everything in the morning. As I was opening up the pen, I noticed a large number of feathers in piles around the pond. I immediately thought "RACOONS!" and as soon as I entered the pen I started a head count. Once I established everyone was present and accounted for, I started

checking the overhead netting for tears where the predators must have entered. The entire time the Nene pair were extremely nervous and running back and forth. I noticed one of them tried to fly over the pond to keep dry and upon reaching the far side dropped a dozen wing feathers in a pile. I have never seen a bird molt such a large number of feathers so quickly. Relieved that I was not a victim of a predator attack, I opened up one of the kennels to release the Call Duck pair of the day. I did notice the Nene quickly ran into the open kennel as I was leaving to my next enclosure. I thought I had learned something new about the geese, but they still had more to teach me.

Over the course of the next few weeks the Nene developed the habit of going into the nesting area of whichever kennel was open. This resulted in the female Call being chased off her nest and disrupting their laying and subsequent setting. It appeared the Nene had become territorial and were belligerently claiming the nests for themselves. I finally gave up on chasing the geese out of the kennels and just left the Call Duck pairs unhappily locked up. Not being a long-term solution, I returned the geese to the original owner.

Prior to getting the Nene geese I had done a lot of research to make sure they were compatible with my set up, comfortable in a mixed collection, etc. However, nothing I read or heard ever alluded to bulk molting or possessiveness when they were not rearing young. About six months after I re-homed them, I was picking up some eggs from a fellow waterfowl collector, and he mentioned his Nene were all on the far edge of his field hiding in the hedgerow because they were molting and freaked out. The light bulb finally came on; this is why they were trying to get into the Call Duck nesting areas. It was the only cover available as the aviary plantings had not leafed out or become overgrown as later in the season it does. My geese being younger skipped the breeding season and went right into molt. I should have made a temporary hiding place for the remainder of their molt and I could have solved a lot of problems. Despite all my groundwork I never asked or was told of this quirk of the species.

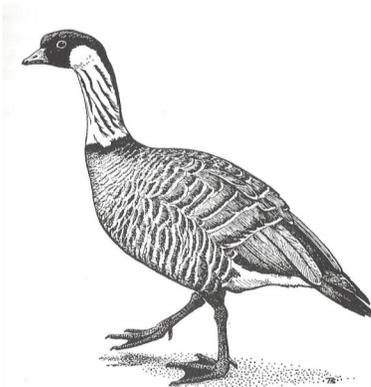
I do not regret no longer having them. It could be frustrating when they got underfoot. I do not normally hand feed my birds and prefer if they keep their distance without over reacting when I am around them. I respect their personal space and they stay out of my way. The Nene were too friendly for my preference, but they are beautiful birds and excellent guards taking the high ground and standing watch. I may try Nene again someday when I am better prepared to care for them and their unique personalities.

Editor's note: Thanks David for sharing your photos and  
(Continued on page 6)

experience with us. It is through the efforts of breeders and the Wildfowl Trust in England, that Nene or Hawaiian Geese are as plentiful as they are today. According to Wildfowl of the World by Eric Soothill and Peter Whitehead, Nene, have developed, over a long period of isolation on the Hawaiian islands, some unusual characteristics. Their adaptation to dry volcanic regions with little standing water resulted in their having strong legs set well forward for walking without waddling. Their feet are only partially webbed and are well-padded for protection from sharp volcanic rock.

In 1950, there were less than fifty Nene. There were a number of reasons for this decline: their tameness made them an easy target, the open season for hunting coincided with their breeding season and the raising of young Nene, loss of habitat due to grazing of goats and sheep, feral dogs and cats, and the introduction of the mongoose to control rats on the islands. In order to save the species, the Wildfowl Trust and the Hawaiian Board of Agriculture's game farm at Pohakuloa started raising captive birds, and since 1960 captive-raised Nene have been released on the large island of Hawaii and the island of Maui. For a full account of the raising of Nene in captivity, try to find a copy of The Hawaiian Goose written by Janet Kear and A. J. Berger.

The Nene was first listed as endangered in 1967, 10 years after it was named the state bird of Hawaii. Thanks to recovery efforts - including native captive breeding, rigorous habitat restoration and active management strategies - population numbers rose from 30 in 1960 to about 2,800 today, according to the Arizona-based Center for Biological Diversity. On December 8, 2019, in a ceremony at Honouliuli National Historic Site on Oahu, state officials and U.S. Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt announced that the official state bird of Hawaii was now considered a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act - an improvement from its endangered designation. In order to add Nene to your aviary, a breeder must obtain federal and state permits. A breeder can sell Nene as long as it's not across state lines. Sending a bird across state lines must be done on a breeder loan or by giving the bird to the breeder. Absolutely no money can change hands.]



## Buy, Sell, Trade

Ad Policy for HOAGBA members: **The first 50 words are free.** Additional words are 10¢ each. Payment is due at the time the ad is placed. E-mail ads to smithkct@centurylink.net or fax them to 913-533-2497. Consider others. Change or cancel the ad when items in the ad sell. Neither the club nor its officers guarantee the integrity of advertisers nor will they get involved in any transactions or misunderstandings between a buyer and a seller. Ads & other information for the Jan.-Feb newsletter is due by Jan. 10. That newsletter will be mailed between 1/26 & 2/1.

**FOR SALE** 2020 hatch Black Old English pullets - \$50.00 each. Buyer pays for box and shipping. Ph. 913-558-2661. (KS) (1-2/21)

**FOR SALE** Lady Amherst, Edwards', Grey Junglefowl, Yellow Golden, Greater Curassow, Marble Teal, and Mandarin Ducks. AL Novosad, Texas, ph. 979-836-8991. (1-2/21)

**WANTED** Silver-laced Orpington rooster, Jubilee Orpington rooster, Blue-Red-laced Wyandotte rooster, Silver-laced Cochin hen, and Silver-laced Brahma hen. William Lamb, ph. 785-927-0326 email bill.lamb.wl@gmail.com (KS) (1-2/21)

**FOR SALE** 2020 hatch Alaskan Snow Ringneck - \$40.00 pr. Cheer - \$150.00 pr, Extra hens; Golden - \$50.00 pr; DT Golden - \$50.00 Pr; Elliot's - \$120.00 pr, Blue Eared - \$135.00 pr; Edwards' hens - \$80.00 ea. 2018 Peach Golden - \$175.00; 2019 Erckel Francolin cocks - \$45.00 ea. White Chukars - \$45.00 pr; Blue or White Silkies - \$40.00 pr. John Smith, 913-879-2587. (KS) (3-4/21)

**FOR SALE** Mountain Quail - 2020 pairs \$125.00 plus box and shipping. Contract Brett Prevedel, ph. 435-823-0500; email bprevedel@gmail.com. (UT) 11-12/20

**FOR SALE OR TRADE** Tennessee Red or Bobwhite Quail \$7.00 each. Will Ship. Jim Morelli ph. 509-476-2831. (WA) (11-12/20)

**FOR SALE** Birds of all kinds: Finches, Softbills, and more. Over 30 species of finches, Quail, Exotic Doves, and a variety of parrots. Request a current list from ksfinchman@yahoo.com or call Mike Langerot at 620-429-1872. Shipping available. (KS) (12/20)

**Visit The Game Bird & Waterfowl Pages**, the online game bird and waterfowl since 1997. Located at [www.gbwf.org](http://www.gbwf.org) & the HOAGBA site at <http://www.gbwf.org/hoagba/index.html> (12/20)

GQF will have a 5 % price increase 1/1/21. Our current supply prices have been posted on our web site <https://poultrysupplies.com> We are no longer printing a catalog. A PDF version will be available in mid-January. (12/20)

## 2021 Coming Events

I have not seen many things scheduled for next year. The Covid 19 pandemic has left a lot of groups and individuals that sponsor events waiting until later to set the dates for these events. Please send me information for all bird related events so I can get them in the Jan-Feb. NL.

March 20 **HOAGBA AUCTION** 8:00 A. M. Fairgrounds, Gardner, KS. Main arena & equipment consignments taken 3/19: 7:00 A. M. to 7:00 P. M. Aviary birds & equipment: 3/19: 3:30 P. to 7:00 P. M. 3/20: 8:00 A. M. to 10:00 A. M. For inf., call John or Terry Smith @ 913-879-2587.

## This 'N' That

Compiled by Terry Smith

In the Sept-Oct. newsletter, there was information regarding USDA's proposed changes to the Animal Welfare Act. I received information from Dennis Rich, the editor of *The Hatcher*, the newsletter of the Georgia Game Breeders Association. A lot of breeders registered and voiced their opinions regarding the proposed changes. The dates of the three virtual listening sessions and the number of pages of written transcripts are as follows: September 29th - 55 pages; October 7th - 55 pages; and October 15th - 117 pages. Dennis sent an email requesting a link to the written transcripts to Rosemary B. Sifford, DVM Associate Deputy Administrator, USDA APHIS Animal Care. If you are interested in reading the transcripts, they are posted here:

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalwelfare/aw-news/bird-listening-sessions>

I will post this link on the club web site, so you can copy and paste it to your browser.

Jim Zimmerman, Berryton, Kansas, died October 7. He had been ill for several months prior to his death with a brain tumor. Condolences to his wife Patti. When the club sponsored the Overbrook Swap, Jim frequently set up. Jim and Patti, raised waterfowl, standard Black Cochins, and standard Buff Orpington for many years. They were recognized by the International Waterfowl Breeders Association as Master Breeders in 2003 for their work with White Call Ducks, Gray Call Ducks, White Runner Ducks, and Black East Indies. IN 2003, The IWBA also recognized them as Waterfowl Breeders of the Year. In 2003, the American Poultry Association named them to its hall of fame. They were also listed as APA Grand Master Exhibitors. They received ABA Master Breeder awards as well: White Call Ducks in 2005 and Grey Call Ducks in 2006. By the end of 2019, they had accumulated 3926 show wins. I saw Jim frequently at shows John and I attended. He and Patti would carry in many

totes with their birds. If he was showing their White Calls, White Runners, or Sebastopol Geese, he would fill totes with water and bluing and get the them ready to show.

The directory was mailed with this issue of the NL. If you returned the directory listing form, your listing is included. Please look over your listing. If I need to make a correction, please notify me and I will list those corrections in the January-February issue which will be mailed at the end of January. Coming events and ads need to reach me by January 10. I was pleasantly surprised when I opened up David Blashill's email and found an attached article with pictures. My wish for the new year is to find more pleasant surprises!! Write about something that works for you in your daily care of your birds. Have you come up with a better feeder, a way of storing eggs, etc. Do you have a species you really enjoy working with? Share your ideas with others.

2020 has been a year like no other with the pandemic, the political turmoil, and the public unrest in the large cities of our country. As we begin a new year, let's hope that the pandemic ends, that our economy improves, and that USDA does not pass their proposal to regulate our birds. Have a wonderful holiday season and stay safe!!

## Lessons from the Geese

As each goose flaps its wings, it creates an "uplift" for the bird following. By flying in "V" formation, the whole flock adds 71% more flying range than if each bird flew alone. **Lesson:** People who share a common direction can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of flying alone and quickly gets back into the formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the birds in front. **Lesson:** If we have the sense of a goose, we will join in formations with those who are headed where we want to go.

When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into formation and another goose flies the point position. **Lesson:** It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing leadership with people interdependent with one another.

The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed. **Lesson:** We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging - not something less helpful.

When a goose gets sick, wounded, or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow their fellow member down to provide protection. They stay with this member until he or she is able to fly again or dies. Then they continue the journey **Lesson:** If we have as much sense as the geese do, we will stand by one another like they do.

### Membership Renewal Notice

If the date on your mailing label is highlighted, it's time to renew your membership. Send a \$10.00 check made payable to HOAGBA by the 15th of the month so I can make changes on the mailer file. Because of postal regulations, I can no longer mail receipts with the newsletter. Check the date after your name. It will indicate whether or not I received your membership payment.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Your membership will expire with the \_\_\_\_\_ issue.

Your membership expired with the \_\_\_\_\_ issue.

This is your last issue.

Terry Smith, editor Heartland News  
14000 W. 215th S., Bucyrus, KS 66013

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### NEWSLETTER EXCHANGE

#### AMERICAN PHEASANT AND WATERFOWL SOCIETY

c/o E. T. Trader, APWS Treasurer  
7153 Piney Island Rd.,  
Chincoteague Island, VA 23336  
E-mail: apwsbirds@yahoo.com  
\$35.00 Annual Membership includes  
6 APWS Magazines  
Yearly breeders/membership guide

#### Utah Pheasant Society, Inc.

c/o Joyce Bouck, editor/membership  
947 W 10400 S, South Jordan, UT 84095  
Membership: \$20.00 - 10 publications,  
Yearly breeders/membership guide,  
Annual Show & Auction  
E-mail: sjaviaryut@aol.com  
<http://www.utahpheasantsociety.webs.com/>

#### Carolinas/Virginia Pheasant & Waterfowl Society

Christine Davenport  
PO Box 1118  
Winnsboro, SC 29189-1161  
Email: christinepatrice@centurylink.net  
Annual Dues: \$25.00 - Quarterly newsletter  
Web site: www.cvpws.com

#### Midwest Bird & Animal Breeders Assn.

Wayne Dell, Secretary  
104 Hoener Ave, Waterloo, IL 62298  
Ph. 618-304-4206  
Web site: www.mbaba.org  
Dues: \$10.00 - Newsletter & Swaps

#### Wisconsin Bird & Game Breeders Assn.

Ruth Gollnick, Membership  
N68w5762 Bridge Commons Ct.  
Cedarburg, WI 53012  
Dues: \$15 single/\$20 family - 6 Newsletters  
Web Site: www.wbagba.org

#### Minnesota Game Breeders Club

Mike Loss, Secretary/Treasurer  
5969 Barbeau Rd, Brainerd, MN 56377  
\$15.00 annual dues - 6 Newsletters

#### Georgia Game Bird Breeders Assn.

c/o Dennis Rich, Editor  
293 Reeves Rd., Barnesville, GA 30204  
Email: dennis\_rich@bellsouth.net  
Membership includes 4 color issues  
of the newsletter - The Hatcher &  
A membership directory.  
Dues: \$20/yr electronic or \$30/yr print

#### HOAGBA Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/Heart-of-America-Game-Breeders-Association-Hoagba-397835226955257/?ref=settings>

#### HOAGBA Auction Web Site

<https://hoagbagardnerauction.org/>

Articles published in Heartland News may be reprinted without the editor's permission provided a statement mentioning the author & the original source & date of the article are included with the reprinted article. Please submit your articles, pictures, hints, items for sale, and coming events to smithkct@centurylink.net by the 10 of the month.

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