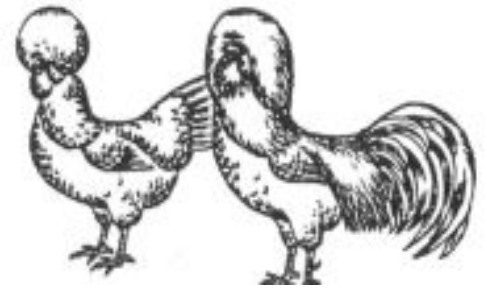


# Great Lakes Crested Club

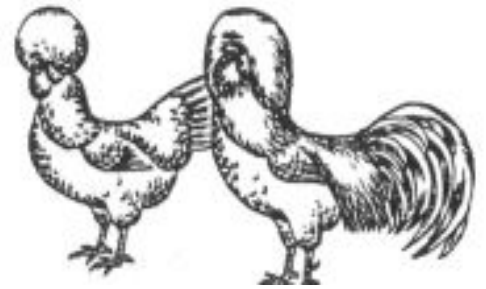
Volume: 1 Issue: 1



I would like to welcome you all to the Great Lakes Crested Club. This regional club has been a work in progress for some time now. We are still working on many things but we wanted to get the club up and running. We have had tons of interest and lots of questions so I hope I am able to answer many of them today. This club will be ran by a committee so there is no one above another member. That means there will be 3-5 members that will work as one so there isn't just one person running the club. I've seen several clubs be destroyed by personal agendas and bully mentality. We also are in no means in competition with any other club. We just want a group of likeminded breeders who can come together and show their birds. Matt Creed and myself asked each other what would make this club appealing for a potential members? We really wanted potential members to give us a try. So we came up with your first year will be absolutely free. We're not here for your money. After your first year, if you want to stay with us 100% of membership money will be rolled into awards for the National shows. You read that correctly, 100%. Cost for joining will be \$10 after the first free year. Newsletters will be by email only. That keeps our overhead to near nothing. Printed newsletters will bump fees to \$15 a year.

I remember that before the internet it was hard to find breeders in your area. Newsletters were a way to find the ins and outs to our fancy. Now, you're just a few clicks away from finding out everything you need to know. So we will do our best to give you some new information in each newsletter. We also have no intention of building a bank account when it's your money. All the monies will be rolled back to members in the way of awards.

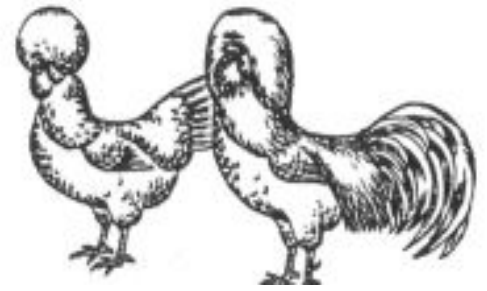
# Great Lakes Crested Club



Huge bank accounts in clubs make to sense to me at all. They eventually become a big problem. I was asked to start a club back in 2000. The old club had just faded away along with around \$700 in the bank. I was able to get a hold of the old secretary and was able to get back a few items but no one was able to account for the money. I knew a Langshan club had over a thousand dollars come up missing when they had new leadership. So the long and short is, we are not in this for the money, rather you the member. I would love to figure out how to keep the club for free but we would definitely need ideas to come up with award money. If you have thoughts on this, please get in touch with me and I will pass it along to the other committee members.

Again, we are a regional club in the Great Lakes Area that is here to help cater to those that raise the Crested Breeds. We will focus on Houdans, Sultans, Crevecouers, Brabanters, Spitzhaubens and Polish. I am hoping to get some dedicated breeders to write about the Brabanters and Spitzhaudens as I have yet to personally raise them but hope to in the near future. The following states will be under our umbrella: Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Wisconsin, and Illinois. Anyone can join and they have so far with Texas giving us a member, but we will only place meets in the Great Lake states at this time. We also will not tolerate any rudeness or drama. We will accept you whether you've been a breeder for 40 years or a novice working on other colors. I've seen the internet trolls rip apart members working on "new" colors. This isn't fair as the great Al Westling made new colors like the White Crested Chocolates, White Crested Khaki, White Laced Reds, and Black Tailed Reds.

# Great Lakes Crested Club



Two of these colors are now recognized in the standards. Who are we to say what is next to get into the standard and start winning some awards of their own.

Speaking of awards, we have started talking about what awards we will be giving out. We are still in discussion of several and they will be announced in the next newsletter. We will be giving out the following at our fall national shows:

Al Westling award- Most points in the calendar year

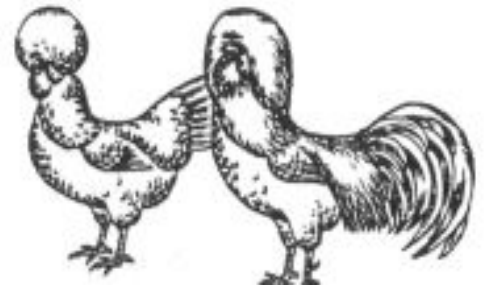
Luuk Hans award- Best Black Crested

Glen Cryar award- Best Laced

As you can see, we want to honor and never forget those that did great things in our fancy. Al Westling was a giant in the pigeon industry before he ever thought about poultry. We had many star wins with his White Crested Blacks and Silver Laced bantams. He created many other colors and was a champion of the breed. I miss my friend as he would call me once a week just to see how my birds were doing. He was never one to not speak his mind and always nudged fanciers to show their birds. In all my years showing against him, I only beat him once with a White Crested Chocolate pullet that had no business beating his. With that being said, I did occasionally bring up my win to him just to hear the same speech about the judge that must have never seen a Polish before. Classic Al. Classy guy.

Luuk Hans isn't well known at all in this country but he is well known overseas. He wrote one of the most extensive books on Polish several years that I have ever read before. His main variety was the Black Crested Whites. I was able to visit him in Holland in 2003 and he had the most perfect bantams I've ever seen.

# Great Lakes Crested Club



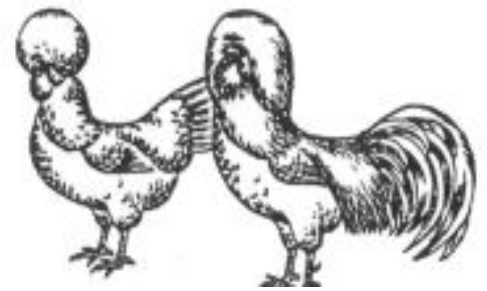
Black heads with perfectly white bodies! He was also the person that got the Chocolates and Khaki's over to Europe. Back in the late 90's I shipped him 6 eggs. Four of these eggs hatched. He ended up with two pairs of each color. The rest is history. He also was the man that started the I.N.P.C. The INPC stood for the International Network of Poland Clubs. I loved being a part of this in my 14 years of being an officer of the Polish Breeders Club. We had 6-7 countries that would exchange newsletters and knowledge. I loved seeing how other countries bred their birds and the colors and awards that were given. In honor of him I will start the INPC again as a featured section in our newsletters. I hope you enjoy hearing from abroad.

Last is Glen Cryar. I met Glen in 2000 at a show and I admired how he spoke his mind. He loved his birds and loved his laced varieties. The Best Golden Laced bird I've ever saw was his at a show. It won Reserve of breed but should have won it all. Sadly, Glenn is no longer with us but I will add a few of his writings in the newsletters in the future. My last correspondence with him was only a few weeks before his death as I was picking his brain on some laced questions. He knew how to do things and would always answer my questions when I asked them.

Well, that's a lot of information in a short time. I'm positive I'm rambled on long enough for this edition. Please feel free to contact me with your thoughts and questions. Thanks goes to God for guidance, my wife, and you the member. I appreciate all you do for our fancy. Until next time, this eggs been laid.

Jimmy Parker, [parker.718@osu.edu](mailto:parker.718@osu.edu), 419-303-3009

# Great Lakes Crested Club



**Al Westling**



**Luuk Hans**



**Glen Cryar**



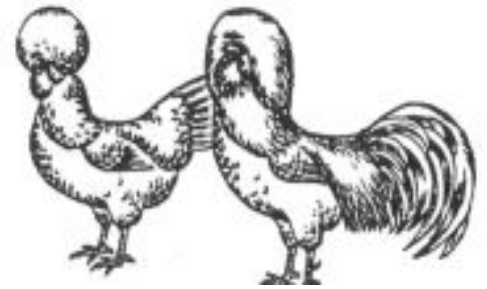
## **Judge's Isle**

This newsletter's judging tips comes from Matt Lhamon.

Jimmy Parker asked me to write an article for this newsletter about Polish weight and size. Thinking about this, I remembered what I tell all my apprenticeship judges working with me, "you cannot determine a bird's proper weight and relative size till you handle it." Birds are very deceiving from the aisle and outside the cage and one reason I give little attention to opinions from outside the cage.

I guess I have been blessed to have seen, handled or judged some of the legendary breeders and exhibitors of Polish Fowl and learned a few tips along the way to help me out. Some I remember are L. Russel Smith, Les and Verly Elmendorf, Harry Halbach, Wilber Stauffer, George Priest, Earl Jones and Dick Ross, Dick Gruebel, Rick Porr, Al Westling, Glen Cryar, Lynn Brennenman, Kathy Troxell, Joel Henning, Jan Brett and many others whose name slips me at this time. I personally raised WC Black Large Fowl in my younger days and later on Buff Laced Polish Bantams in smooth and frizzle. I can appreciate what it takes to get and keep a Polish in condition! I judged a show in NC this spring where I was honored to judge a WC Black LF Male that I believe was the best one I have ever seen, correct type and

# Great Lakes Crested Club



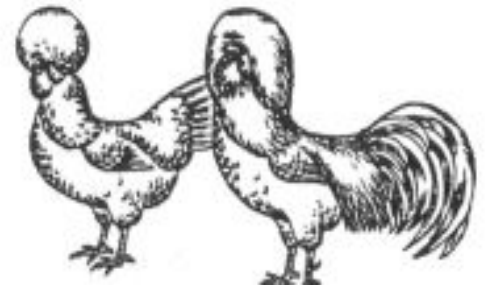
superb condition, and he was exhibited by master breeder of many breeds, Tom Roebuck!

My initial reaction was that Large Fowl Polish are too small and Bantam Polish are too big. After thinking some on that statement, I do not think that is a fair assessment of the breed as a whole. I will correct that into saying there is definitely variation in size between varieties and strains in both Bantams and Large Fowl.

I will start with Bantams first. I believe that a Bantam Polish should fit in a Bantam cage. If it is so long or big that it needs cooped in a larger cage like a Leghorn, Rosecomb or Sumatra Bantam male, it is too big! I often hear other judge's comment that a Bantam Polish is too big but I have the advantage of lifting 25, 30, 40 and 50 oz. bottles of soap every day and feel I am a pretty good judge of weight. I also realize we do not officially weight birds in shows but as a breeder and exhibitor it is your responsibility to know the weight range of your breed. +/- 20% is the range for Bantam Polish! The Bantam Standard calls for 30oz for a cock, 26oz for a hen, and 26oz for a cockerel and, 24oz for a pullet. +/- 20% would give you a range of 24-36oz for a cock, 20.8-31.2oz for hens and cockerels and 19.2-28.8oz for a pullet. That being said I believe if we weighed most Polish Bantams, they would fall in the lower end of the range. Buy a good digital scale and know how much your bird's weighs! Weight is only one measure and we also need correct breed type and balance to complete the bird. Do not obsess over weight at the expense of breed type and overall balance in your birds.

Large Fowl in the more popular varieties are pretty much spot on at 6lbs for a cock, 4.5lbs for a hen, 5 lbs for a cockerel and, 4lbs for a pullet. The APA Standard cuts for weight are different and without knowing the exact weight of the bird, they are hard to administer in the showroom.

# Great Lakes Crested Club



Again, I recommend buying a good digital scale and weighing your birds to verify where you are in comparison of the Standard weight for the class you are exhibiting in. Again, I repeat, weight is only one measure and we also need correct breed type and balance to complete the bird. Do not obsess over weight at the expense of breed type and overall balance in your birds.

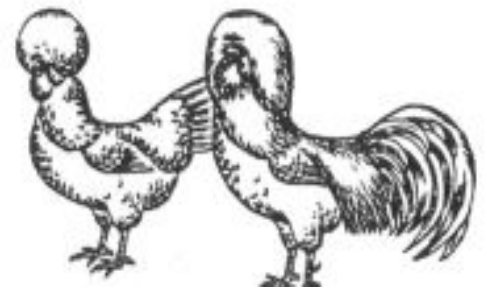
I will finally pass on a bit of advice from a wise old breeder, whom I greatly respected, told me once and I never forgot it. For those of you who knew George Shreffler, you know he loved to tell a good story and he always had time to talk to both young and old, both newbie and experienced breeder. George told me once when I was showing rarer colors of Cochin and Wyandotte bantams that I needed to show enough of them to make the judges actually judge them and not just mark the tags! This is golden advice and I challenge all that breed the rarer varieties of Polish in both Large Fowl and Bantam to do just that. To make me and my fellow judges actually judge them. When a judge has more than a couple in a class, he needs to be able to rate each bird in the class via the scale of points and be able to articulate that to the exhibitor if needed. Furthermore, the late great Large Fowl Cochin breeder, judge and past APA President Ed Miller always said a true breeder should always put down a display. That is 7 birds, with at least one in each of the classes, c,h,k,p and either an old or young trio. Some shows do not do trios so you need 7 birds spread over all of those 4 classes. What does this do for the breeder, you might wonder? It should show you have consistency in your breeding line and not vary in type and color. It also makes me and my fellow judges look them over and evaluate them to find the best ones in the class!

Thanks again for asking for my thoughts. I feel we don't take enough time anymore to write these things down for folks to use and reference like we did in the old days. That is one of the things I do not like about the instant information age. Best wishes to all in the breeding season and hope to see a lot of nice Polish this fall!

Matt Lhamon

Breeder, Exhibitor and Judge of Exhibition Poultry and Pigeons

# Great Lakes Crested Club



## THE INTERNATIONAL POLAND CLUB

The INPC was the brain child of Mr Luuk Hans the then secretary of the Dutch Poland Club, the main idea and intention was to bring clubs from all over the world together with a common aim of the conservation and breeding of the Polands.

There had been very good response from many countries including Germany, Switzerland, England, Australia and Mexico many other countries were showing an interest but some do not have a club totally dedicated to Polands.

So we are bringing it back! Through email there will be constant contact so fanciers, breeders and people who keep these wonderful birds for pleasure have the chance to get advice and help from a wide range of contacts, friendships will be developed through mutual interest. Enjoy from hearing about two of our INPC members.

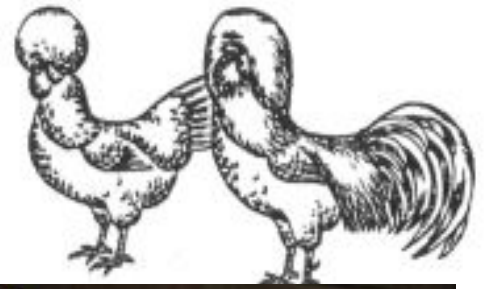
First up, Wim Diepenbroek from the Netherlands

In 1967 I began breeding and maintaining one of our beautiful, one of the oldest Dutch chicken breeds, the Crested and Bearded Crested Fowl in large and bantam fowl. These used to be known under the name Hollandse Witkuiven. The Bearded Crested were then called Paduas.

Varieties: The colors I breed are generally those that are least seen, and are therefore threatened with extinction. Only one or two breeders of many colors are known in the Netherlands. This breed is also very rare in Germany. Especially for different colors. Black crested bantams are most common in the Netherlands and also in Germany.



# Great Lakes Crested Club



New colors: In addition to breeding recognized color varieties, I am involved in trying out new color crossings. These are the most beautiful, because you do not always know in advance what the result will be. And after years of trying it out, you find out that it is not what you had in mind. Then it is time to stop and start again.

German Crested breeders: I maintain a lot of contact with the German Crested and Bearded Crested chicken breeders. I am also faithfully represented at the German Crested and Bearded Crested Fowl Clubs to keep our breeds and colors at a high level, by regularly exchanging animals. Until next time, Wim

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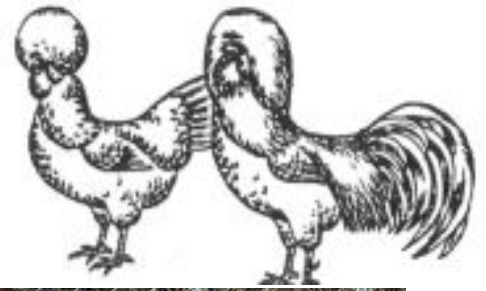
Our next member of the **INPC** is Dr. Andrea Pozzato from Italy.

Greetings from Italy, I am Dr. Andrea Pozzato, an agronomist and a fan of crested hens since childhood. Now I breed hundreds of crested chickens divided by color of Pouter hen of 8 pure colors and crested Polish. I invite you to visit my website [www.gallinapadovana.net](http://www.gallinapadovana.net) where you can find a lot of info for your breeding. I had the good fortune to win the national and European Championship many times with my birds and to have participated in various TV shows and videos of which are on my site.

Finally I obtained the title of knight of the Italian Republic for merits in the poultry sector. Thanks Andrea  
[info@gallinapadovana.net](mailto:info@gallinapadovana.net)



# Great Lakes Crested Club



Birds on the page belong to Dr. Andrea Pozzata

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