

# 2015 Herdsman Youth Winner

## Gabrielle Hibbert

### LapLop Rabbitry



*LapLop's Arizona*



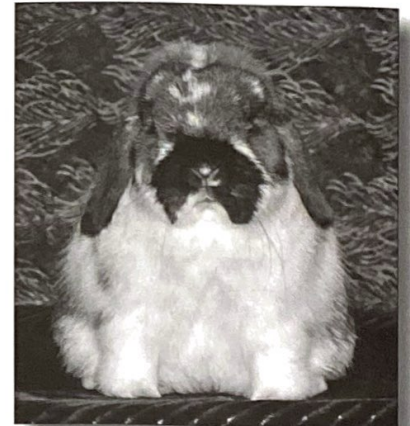
*LapLop's Hollywood*



*LapLop's Panda*



*LapLop's Thor*



*LapLop's Trojan*



*LapLop's Prince*

Being named "Herdsman of the Year" has always been a goal for me. I have admired those that have previously achieved this goal, and I am very happy to have done so well this past year.

When I received my first Hollanders, I was flipping through the pages and noticed all of the different sweepstake categories that were offered. Among the list were Sweepstakes, Top Lop and Quality Points, and Herdsman. The Herdsman category caught my attention. It got me thinking about how many rabbits a person must raise to achieve such an award. From that point forward it has been my goal to place highly in the Herdsman category. I set down to think about how I might go about achieving that goal and with the help of many friends, family and the knowledge I obtained by showing, I am happy to say that this year I was able to make that dream become a reality.

2015 was a year I will always remember, starting off with my first Best In Show with a homebred Holland Lop, LapLop's Tinkerbelle. Followed by taking Best of Breed and Best Opposite of Breed at the 2015 Holland Lop Nationals with Grand Champion LapLop's Panda and Grand Champion LapLop's Adelia. I was fortunate to also accumulate several Best of Breeds and Best Opposite of Breeds with other LapLop bunnies. I finished the year strong with a first place at convention and with fourteen others placing in the top ten. To me, that makes for a very memorable year.

Every year has its ups and downs though and I can say that we did lose a number of other rabbits that I wish we hadn't, Woodland's Aslan being one of them. He was my first main herd buck and is behind almost every rabbit that I own today. I have Bill and Laureen Wark to thank for such an amazing buck to start my herd with.

Along with my wins, I have had the joy of meeting many new friends. It is always fun to go to the shows and get to spend all day visiting with friends and learning as much as I can. I want to thank all of you for your amazing friendship and support.