

2011 TOP LOP- Open

1 – Washburn's Bo - WW331 - 4180 pts - 19 shows
Bred and owned by Nancy & Larry Washburn

We are so proud of our broken senior buck, Washburn's Bo. He is the result of twenty years of breeding Hollands. We have been line breeding our own stock for many years without bringing in any new blood lines. Bo has many grand champions and Top Lops in his pedigree, but he is definitely the superstar of our small rabbitry. Bo's biggest win to date was winning Best of Breed at 2011 Nationals. He also won Best of Breed the day after Nationals. He went on to win six Best in Shows in 2011. Three of which were in one weekend at a quad all breed show. Bo is also fathering some beautiful offspring. He is still young and hopefully will continue to help move our breeding program forward. I can't wait to see one or more of his offspring grow up to be better than he is. It will be a tall mountain to climb, but that is the fun part of breeding rabbits. You always want to improve and move forward. I wish we had a better picture of Bo. I suck at taking pictures of our Hollands. Bo looks better in person than any picture I have ever taken of him.

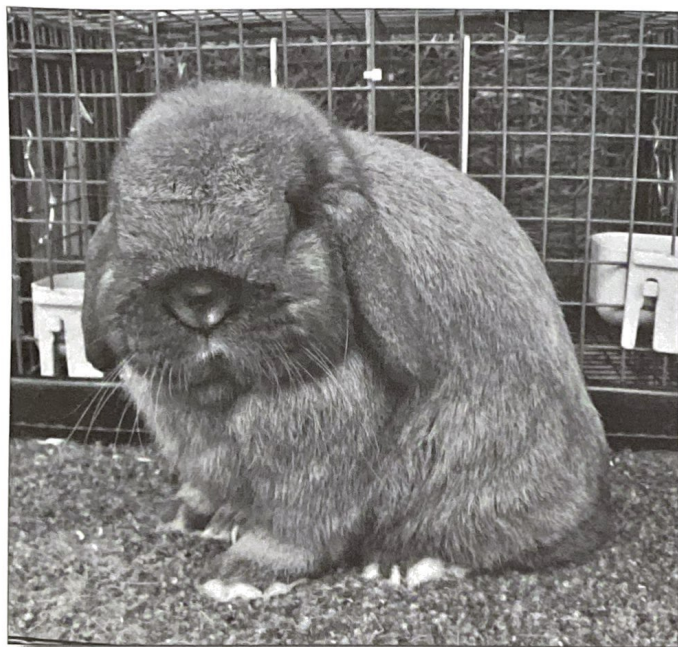


2 – Hope's Echo - HTH - 1995 pts - 2 shows
Bred and owned by Hope and Randy Blackburn

Hope's Echo was sired by Hope's Happy, the first place SSB at ARBA Convention 2010. Echo received his name because even as a junior he looked exactly like his father. As a youngster, Echo tested our patience. He often became nervous on the show table and would hold his ears horizontal. We decided to wait to see if he would overcome this habit. Once he dropped his ears he had great success on the show table.

Echo won Best of Breed at the 2011 ARBA Convention in Indiana along with many Best in Shows throughout the year. It was especially exciting to have a father and son win the solid senior buck class back to back. Echo was extremely well behaved and sat posed in his holding coop the entire time the solid senior buck class was judged.

While Echo has many wins, his greatest achievement is as a sire. He has produced many offspring that we look forward to showing this year at convention.



3 – Washburn's Happy - LMAO - 1570 pts - 10 shows

Bred and owned by Nancy & Larry Washburn

We are blessed to have bred such a wonderful Holland. Happy was the #2 Top Lop in 2010. This past year he finished at #3. He is what I call a push button poser. All you have to do is put him on the show table and he automatically poses himself. His father was Washburn's Scooby. Scooby was the # 5 Top Lop in 2008. Happy wasn't tattooed with our normal WW (Washburn's Wabbits) sequence. We decide at a young age that he was special and thought he was better than his Dad. We decided to name him Happy but wanted something different for his tattoo, so we came up with LMAO (Laughing My A** Off). His super sweet personality and look at me attitude have allowed him to excel on the show tables.

This year we took him to very few shows. He continued his winning way, and went on to win a Best of Breed or two. We have decided to leave him home from most shows now. He is more important in our breeding program and has nothing more to prove on the tables. I imagine we will bring him out a few more times to bigger shows. For now, he is living the good life staying home and making babies.

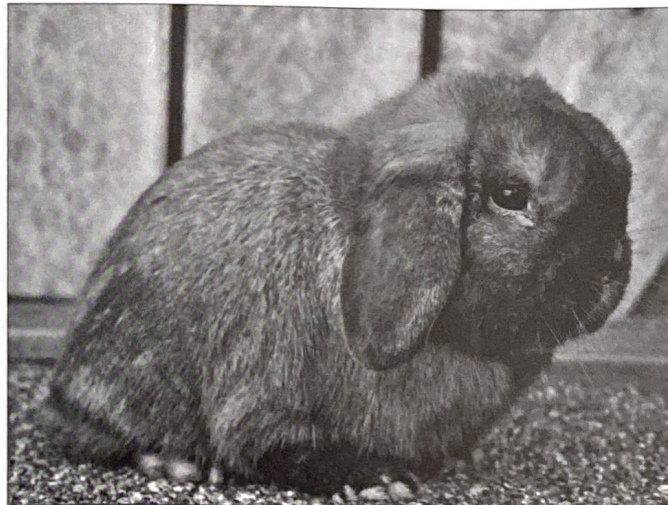
4 – Smith's GIP - GIP - 1510 pts - 22 shows

Bred and owned by Susan & Gary Smith

GIP is an outstanding example of what we have accomplished with our own bloodlines. Over several years, we have finished in the top ten in quality points and have placed high on some yearly lists for Herdsman, but we have never had one of our Hollands finish in the Holland Top Ten. Although we are at or near the top in Netherland Dwarf wins in the last few years, we decided we would focus equal time on producing show-winning Hollands. GIP and several of his siblings have gotten us a lot closer to our goals.

GIP was third place senior buck at the 2011 Holland National in Columbus, Ohio. The next day, he finished first in a class of 75. His younger brother, GC, was first place junior buck in a large class of juniors on Sunday. GIP is now one of our herd bucks, and GC is carrying on his winning ways (a picture of GC, with two of his Best in Shows wins is posted elsewhere in this issue). Both of these "boys" are now producing some outstanding juniors.

As you can see from his photo, GIP is a massive rabbit in every way, but he is not overweight. He just looks that way! He has outstanding bone, great head, ears and crown, and a short, massive body. If we could improve one thing about him,



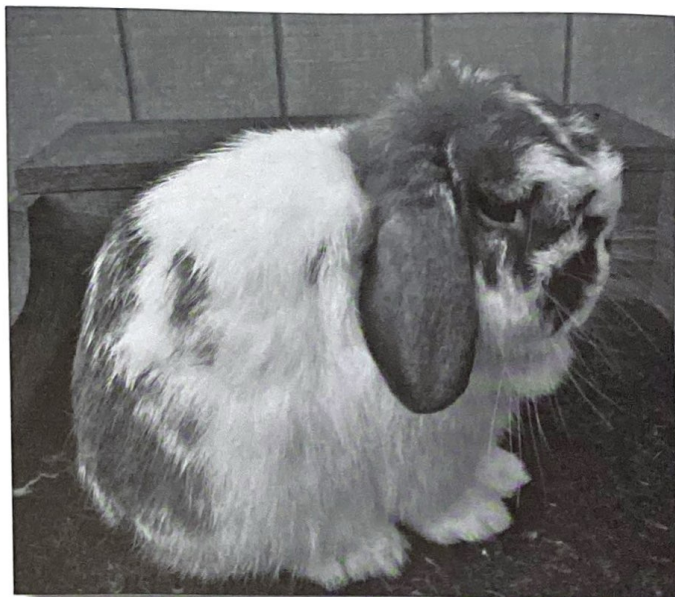
it would be his fur. Like many Holland bucks, he is affectionate and craves attention.

Congratulations to all of the other Top Lops and their breeders and exhibitors.

5 – Zenk’s Josh - Z247 - 1412 pts - 19 shows
Bred and owned by Andrea & Dale Zenk

Zenk’s Josh, ear number Z247, is the fifth place Top Lop for 2011. Josh was bred and is owned by Dale and Andrea Zenk of Minnesota. His show career continues to impress his owners as this is his third year of being on the show table. He has also been important in our breeding program as most of the rabbits in our barn have him in their pedigree someplace. He won his first Best of Breed when he was only four months old and now has accumulated two Best in Shows, three Best Reserve in Shows, one Best Four Class, forty-two Best of Breeds and numerous Best Opposite Sex, Best and Best Opposite of Variety wins. He has a total of fifty-seven legs.

Thank you for the opportunity to “brag” him up.



6 – Camelot’s Miska - C356 - 1267 pts - 6 shows
Bred and Owned by Jennifer Poprawski & Paul (Bunny Whisper) Jurgalonis

Miska was a substitution for my original entry at the ARBA convention, but she had other ideas why she was there. Miska, to my surprise, won BOS at ARBA convention 2011 and has 1 BIS, 3 BOBs and 3 BOSs. Miska had just lost a litter and I had re-bred her just before convention. Although Miska was bred, she still showed her stuff.

Miska is out of Larkspur, a smoke pearl breeding doe, that my mother gave me on my visit home. Larkspur is a collaborative effort between my mother and I, who goes back to “Bilbo”, named for a character in my mom’s book.

I want to thank my mother for putting up with and supporting my hobbies. She supported me with wire brush scraping, hair burning, power washing, and manure moving, waking up early for shows, and financing my hobby. Thanks mom for giving me a bunny for Christmas when I was very young (I think I was 5). Look what happened; I am now an ARBA judge.

Miska’s sire is Camelot’s Mini Mack and Mini Mack has produced my last four Top Lops, including Maru Ru, who won 7th place Top Lop two years in a row (2010 & 2011), Cabbette, who won 6th place (2010), and Miska who won 7th place (2011). Camelot’s Mini Mack also produced several other grand champions and national winners. He is now living a pampered life in Thailand sharing his genetics with other breeding programs.

Camelot’s Miska is now living a pampered life in Japan sharing her genetics with other breeding programs. My husband, Paul (professional ‘Bunny Whisperer’), believes she was destined for an international lifestyle.

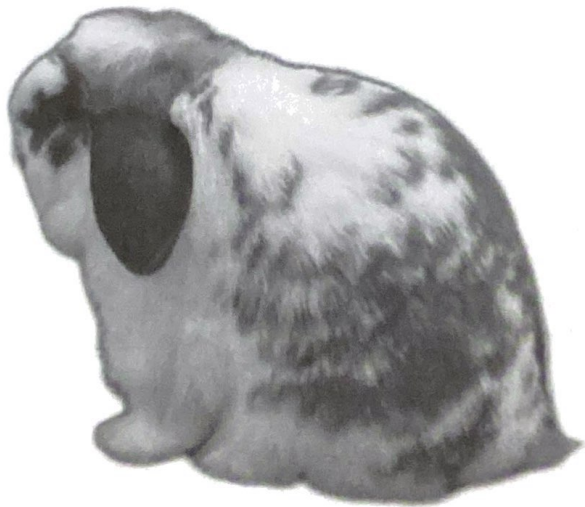
For all you Seinfeld fans here is Paul’s ‘Bunny Whisperer’



story on Miska’s journey to Convention 2011:

Well you made a long journey from Milan to Minsk, Miksa Miska.
You never stopped hoping now you’re in the Augusta, West Virginia,
Miska Miksa.
When the naysayers nay, you picked up your pace.
You said nothing’s going to stop me, so get out of my face.
I’m having adventures all over the place, Miska MIKSA!

Miska was a flirt with the boys and could not wait for the next show to show her stuff for the next Judge. Her favorite judge was Judge Scott Williamson who loved her big hindquarter and of course her cutesy Holland look.



7 – Camelot's MaruRu - MARU - 1159 pts - 7 shows

Bred and Owned by Jennifer Poprawski & Paul (Bunny Whisper) Jurgalonis

Camelot's MaruRu has won 7th place Top Lop for 2 years in a row, 2010 & 2011. Camelot's MaruRu is another bunny that I was debating on selling, that Paul decided to name MaruRu, which means 'Thank You' in Tahitian. It seems once Paul gives them an odd, thoughtful name, they tend to win big! She won Best Opposite Sex of Breed at Holland Lop Nationals 2011. She won Nationals after losing a litter and was able to come back to show.

She had placed 5th Place Broken Senior Doe at ARBA Convention 2010. She has 24 ARBA legs and is now retired, and just had a very cute broken orange doe. MaruRu is not happy about retiring and has fits every time she sees my car pull up with carrier cages for loading to a show. She paces and looks out the window, and stomps when I am loading for the shows. She still poses in her cage to make sure you are paying attention to her. She still has her show presence even if it is only for me and Paul.

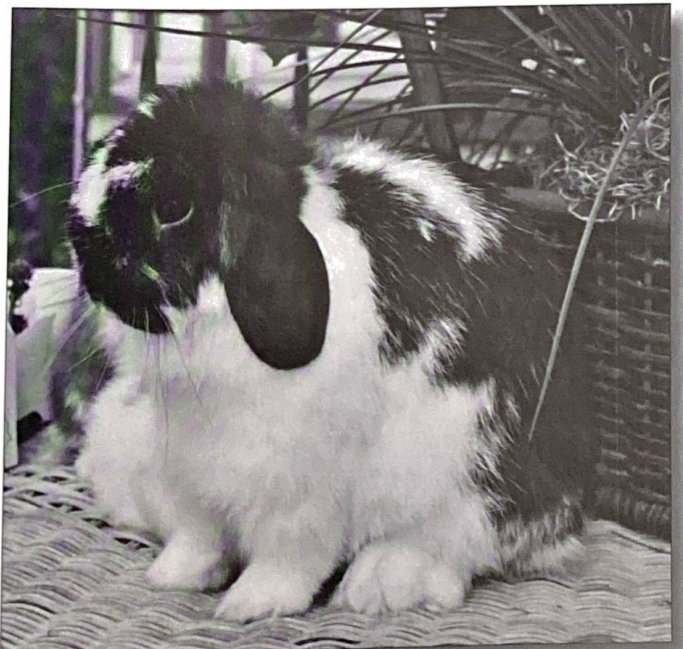
She is out of Camelot' Tabu who was 7th Place Top Lop last year and 1st place Solid Junior Doe at ARBA Convention 2009. Her sire is Camelot's Mini Mack. MaruRu is one of my favorite does. She has a very nice defined crown and crown placement. She also has a very nice top line to compliment her nicely placed crown. Once again Mini Mack has made a nice impact on my heads and crowns, and made another beautiful daughter.

8 – Marshall Hill's Beauty ~ BT - 942 pts - 5 shows
Bred by Jennifer Harris
Owned by Teri Antonioni

Marshall Hill's Beauty doe was bred by Jennifer last year. She is out of Antonioni's Pilgrim x Antonioni's Aurora.

It is a great friendship that has grown between Jennifer and I over the years. At the Minnesota ARBA convention, we swapped does and at that time, we each bred our does to our bucks before they went home with their new owners. We were lucky as both of our does took. Jennifer received Antonioni's Aurora, who was bred to Antonioni's Jax (20+ legs). She produced a buck named Pilgrim, and she bred him back to his mom, Aurora.

Beauty has over 12 legs now, and has just recently hit the show tables as a senior, with her first shows giving her some additional legs. She is a great mom, and her first babies are looking awesome. I'm so happy to have a show doe, and a great mom rolled into one. Thank you Jennifer for sending her home to me.



9 – Schwandt's Simon - S240 - 879 pts - 7 shows
Bred and owned by Tiffeny & Mark Herioux and Andy



GC Schwandt's Simon was out of GC Schwandt's Carmello, a tort, and Schwandt's Hersha, a chocolate doe. Simon was in a litter of four solid tort bucks. One of his brothers became a Easter picture bunny. His other brothers, Alvin and Theoadore lived in the rabbitry until they were five months old, when Theoadore went to live with a 4-Her. Alvin and Simon were the junior bucks that went first and second whenever they were shown. Alvin eventually moved down to Florida to help other breeders working on chocolate Hollands. Simon's litter showed me that as a breeder sometimes you can get a litter that is all show animals and you've got to hold onto them to see who is the keeper. Simon was the keeper, and became one of my chocolate carrier herd bucks but he only liked to produce showy does. He never wanted to replace himself in the herd. He was a non-replaceable boy. I remember shortly before this last convention, we were going through the show rabbits and our son, Andy, 13 months old at that time, was playing with the rabbits. I turned around and here is Andy in Simon's cage trying to pick him up. Simon was in the bottom cage of a three-hole stack cage. The cage itself was only 24"x24"x14", but they both fit and Simon didn't care that Andy picked him as his playmate for the day. We lost Simon shortly after 2011 ARBA Convention. He died with over 50 legs, many of them Best of Breed and Best Opposite Sex Breed, as well as national placements. RIP little man. You may be gone, but will never be forgotten.

10 – Hope's Paisley - P10 - 878 pts - 6 shows
Bred by Hope and Randy Blackburn
Owned by Chris and Matt Zemny

Hope's Paisley is a very special rabbit because she is from my good friend Hope and Randy Blackburn. Hope sold me Paisley at the 2010 ARBA Convention. She was a junior when we got her, and we showed her for a few shows before putting her into our breeding program. She won two Best in Shows, five Best of Breeds and one Best Opposite during her short show career.

She is a great mom and has produced several nice show winners. Paisley is also a very sweet doe, needing pets every night as you pass her cage to feed.

A special thank you goes out to Hope and Randy Blackburn for selling her to us.

