

"CMA AWARD'S"

Written by Wm Murkley Jr.

Until our new publicity director gets his feet back on the ground from building a new house this past summer, I was asked to submit something for our bulletins etc. The issue at hand was of course our most recent ABRC-MRC-URC YB National held on October 31,1998 at Louisville Kentucky.

As I sit reminiscing here about the events of that show, something came to mind. Some of us out there are country music followers and some are not. As you may have noticed the title of this article stands for Country Music Association! Now what would a YB National have in common with that? Here goes.

Over the years I have taken time to watch such an event on national TV several times. The MC normally calls off all the nominees for each category and then the letter is opened. Something like the end of the show when all the winners of each class are called off. Following this like the entertainer of the year, the winner of the national is called off.

As I was called up to receive such a prestigious award and I couldn't help but feel, oh what an honor! All of us breeders strive year in and out to improve our line - to be the winner of that award. We go to that show every year to see how successful our efforts have proven, hoping in the end it is our name called off to step forward and receive OUR national award.

Like the music award recipients in receiving that award, a special thank you is given and following that a sincere thank you to all those who made it possible. I would like to do just that. First of all, I want to thank God for giving me the interest in animal husbandry that it takes to even think of being here, to my parents for putting up with my continual desire to have a

place for some birds. For all the sleepless nights they had imagining me climbing from rafter to rafter, and hand over hand on the hay fork, just to retrieve that beautiful commie, (if you will) with the white on it at our home farm. To my lovely wife who has put up with my late for supper nights, feeding my birds while I was away, leaving her alone while I have traveled to the weekend shows and being there to support me in my hobby I enjoy so much. To my mentor Mr. Ted Nieman who had birds for 65 years with more knowledge about our feathered friends than most of us will ever acquire, bless his soul.

To our fine Secretary getting all those fine bulletins out to all of us so we can stay in touch. To our Treasurer who makes sure everything runs smoothly with the monies involved. To our President who keeps a close eye on all the things that make a club run. And last and most of all to all of you out there who take the time, efforts and monies to get to the show so we have other birds to compete against and see how we stack up to one another's expectations. Without you this award could never have been possible.

I thank all of you from the bottom of my heart. Yes, the Country Music Association has done well over the years. Likewise the ABRC is a growing organization with a lot of built in camaraderie and on the move. There are several fanciers out there willing to help in many ways whenever called upon. The ABRC has continued to pull together for issues which needed addressing in its growth.

From its inception in central Wisconsin with only one member in 1979 to its now national recognition with nearly 100 members, we are on the rise. Make sure all of you continue to support your clubs interest. If anyone out there is looking for a new breed, you don't have far to look for a growing club and a beautiful bird which could cover the CMA Slogan! C-colored,

**M-marked, A-adorable!! That would certainly be fitting for our beautiful
"BALDHEAD ROLLER." Thanks once again to ALL of you and I hope
and pray that your day of stepping up front and receiving YOUR CMA
award will come soon!**
