

AMERAUCANA ALLIANCE
By Gina Neta

Spring Has Sprung! Happy Spring to all poultry fanciers, friends, family, and acquaintances. Hatching season is well under way and in fact is coming to an end on my chicken ranch. Overall I have had a good hatching season and am currently enjoying watching the chicks mature and change into what they will eventually become. Our Northeast Wisconsin weather has been a little finicky and just when I think it might be safe to put a group of young birds in the barn (with no heat) the weather turns again and I decide they need to stay in the heated brooder room just a little longer. At this time of year it's getting pretty crowded in there. I'm thinking of breaking up breeding pens to start conditioning a few birds for show.

I'm also taking a good hard look at the 2017 calendar to get some Poultry Shows at least penciled in for the year. Of course on this list is our Ameraucana National Meet at the Annual Fowl Fest in Birch Run, MI on October 7th and 8th. The venue is spacious, the show is well run, and the town is fun. Please make every effort to attend this event. The Board of Directors have been tossing some ideas around to make sure everyone enjoys their stay and has a chance to participate in events during our time together in Birch Run.

Remember to enjoy the chicks. They go through many stages, including unbearably cute, goofy and gangly, awkward teenager, clunky juvenile, and finally full grown and (hopefully) beautiful adult. Each stage is unique and is gone quickly. I hope to see you and your birds at a poultry event this year.