

2018 Top Lop Open Winners

1 ~ Murphy's Spanky - SPANKY

Bred & owned by Dyan Murphy, PA

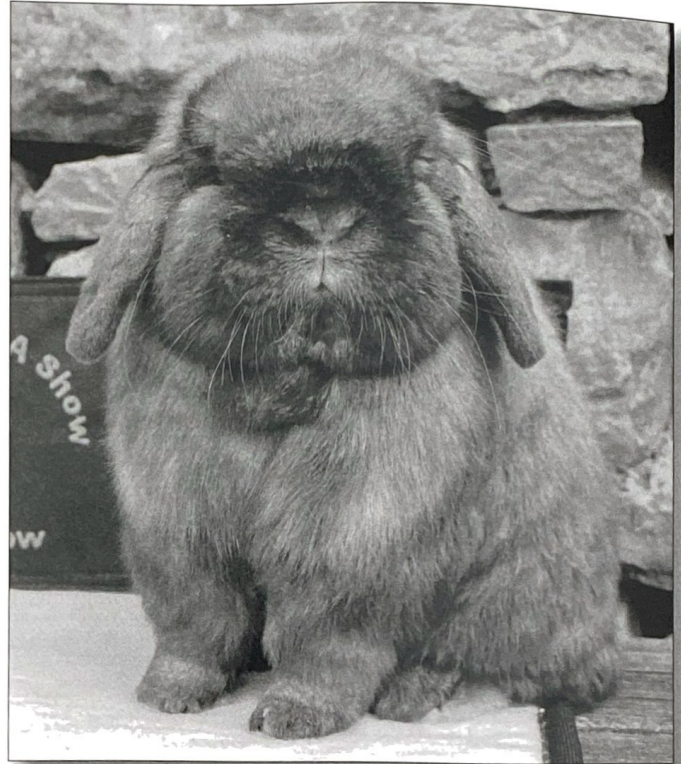
I personally fell in love with Spanky as a three month old. I pulled him out of his cage before PaSRBA, and decided he may have been young, but I thought he could compete with the older juniors. He did just that winning second place against tough older competition, even with ears that stood out horizontally.

Spanky got his name, not because I thought he was going to "spank some butt" on the show tables, but because his mom was named Spunky Brewster and his dad was named Tank. Spanky just didn't have the same ring to it that Spanky did.

Spanky has gone on to win over 50 GC legs so far. Three of those were Best Reserve in Show wins, and ten were Best in Show wins. Most of his wins have been Best of Breed or Best Opposite of Breed. Judges have learned who he is, not only for his fat head and wide body, but also for his big personality. I overheard one judge commenting to his understudy, "I know this rabbit. He either behaves and sits well, or he wants to run the table. He's spoiled." Spanky went on to win a Best in Show that day.

Admittedly, Spanky is pretty spoiled. He follows me around the barn, will hop into my lap or put his head on my leg if I sit down, and he loves to tell me tales through his buzzing. He has a stubborn side, for sure, but you can't help but love him. He's also my best producer. He and his sons are producing consistent winners for me.

Although I've had other Hollands make it to the Top Lop list, Spanky is my first to reach #1. I was not expecting he had the points to make it to the top of the list as he also missed some big shows while he was out of coat and condition. I'm thrilled that my special little man has been recognized with such a great honor.



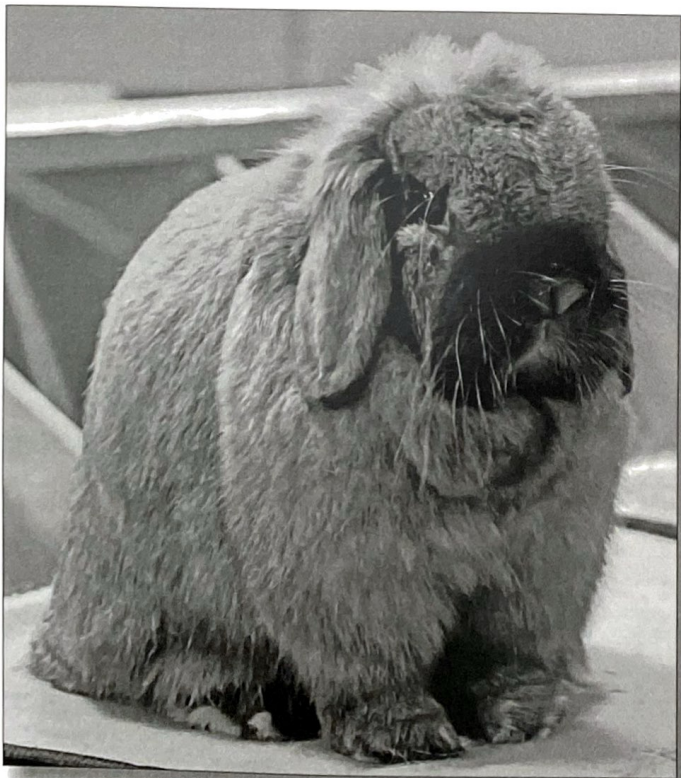
2 ~ Dream Bunnies Caddyshack - DK7

Bred & owned by Sue Eyler, WI

Dream Bunnies Caddyshack wasn't a WOW doe as a junior. She usually placed top 5 but could never get that junior leg. I had intended to sell her at the 2017 Convention, but Teri Antonioni wouldn't let me, because she told me I needed to be patient and let her develop.

In November of 2017, she won her first leg as a young senior, with a BOS, and never looked back. Caddyshack was shown 32 times as a senior and won 31 legs over her career - 26 Best of Breeds, 5 Best Opposites, 3 Best in Shows, and one Best 4-Class. She also was 2018 & 2019 Holland Lop Nationals Best of Breed. In 2018, Caddy only came out of the barn 10 times and was shown 23 times. In 2018 & 2019 she was undefeated winning either BOB or BOS in every show. She had developed that WOW factor and always had a huge presence on the show table. She had so much mass, a tremendous front end and topline, beautiful curvature to that skull with a well-placed defined crown, and great short bone.

In between showing, she survived a terrible feed issue, and she raised a litter of oranges. In that litter, two have already granded, so she is proving herself as a producer. She's now retired, and loves her new job as a full-time mom. I'm grateful to all of the judges who honored her, to all of her supporters who have backed her during her show career, to the breeders who are behind her pedigree, and to Teri for convincing me to keep her. I'm most grateful to Dream Bunnies Caddyshack for being my dream bunny and taking me on the ride of a lifetime.



3 ~ Cammack's Gambler - PV708

Bred & owned by Pat and Val Cammack, ME

It is such an honor for us to have a Top Lop, as there are not a lot of shows to attend in our area.

Gambler was a favorite of ours right out of the nest box. In his junior days, he was a busy boy and you could only catch a glimpse of how special he would become. The judges liked him, but he was just too busy to pose.

At convention time in Springfield, Massachusetts, he was almost two years old and had finally matured and settled down. Gambler loved the excitement and activity at convention. He was always eager to eat, get head scratches, and loved being on the show table. On judging day he decided to soak up the limelight and pose like a king! He decided that it was going to be his day, and he won Best of Breed! Gambler fulfilled our hopeful goal of winning Best of Breed at Convention! It is really rewarding when the judges appreciate what we really love! Gambler is now busy producing beautiful babies for us! We are so proud of him.



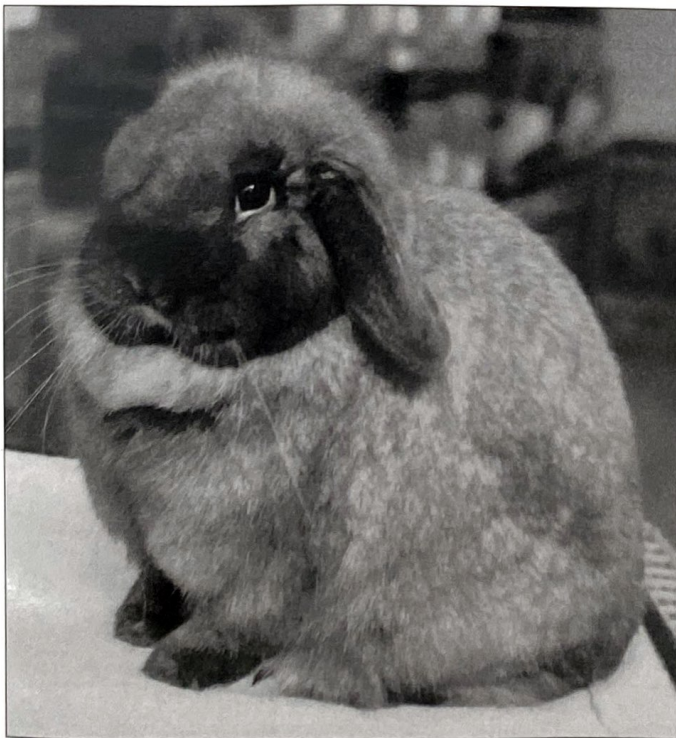
4 ~ Murphy's Bodacious - BODIE

Bred & owned by Dyan Murphy, PA

Bodie had an interesting start to her show career. At her first show, I put her up as a junior buck. I had placed her in my grow out stacker for bucks (likely because I ran out of room on the doe side). I then must have forgotten she was a doe, so I gave her the surfer dude name of Bodie and took her to her first show. She did quite well in Show A. However, in Show B I saw judge Eric Stewart checking and rechecking her gender. I thought, "Oh no, it's a split penis buck." Nope, Eric said, "Congratulations, it's a doe. A very nice doe, but she's not going to place today in the buck class."

I actually decided I liked her better as a doe and changed her official name to Bodacious. She went on to be quite that. She has been Best Opposite Breed to Spanky several times throughout the year and placed in the top five at Convention. She has since gone on to experience motherhood. It was a shaky start, where I swear she still thought she was a buck. After three tries she decided to put the babies in a nest and actually feed them. Bodie presently has a nice looking litter she is raising. She still talks like a buck and is super outgoing like a buck. Hopefully she'll produce babies with the superb width and wonderful personality that their mother has.

I was very surprised to find Bodie made it onto the Top Lop list this year being that she's a doe and has had limited showing time. I'm honored that this sweet doe was able to make it this high up on the list and hope she can produce show winners to her same caliber.



5 ~ Rohrbaugh's Wilbur

Bred & owned by Bob and Marlene
Rohrbaugh, PA

Wilbur is a excellent show and herd buck. He is solid in all categories. We especially like his head, bone, and personality. He has many Best of Breed and Best in Show wins to his credit. He has several grand champion offspring, mostly does, as he is stingy in passing on the Y chromosome.



6 ~ NGF Mr. T - NGT

Bred & owned by Brenda and Paige
Smith, NC

Paige and I are honored to have a rabbit in the running for Top Lop. NGF Mr. T was one of those young rabbits you keep in a back cage in the barn. He was not very impressive as a junior. The main reason we held onto him was due to the fact he was the first offspring out of NGF Ashes to Ashes, who was a very successful show doe. NGF Mr. T was sired by a buck from Becky & Allan Ormond/Loretta Odabashian. When he was finally shown as a young senior we were pleasantly surprised with how well he did. He has been consistently successful all over the east coast. He was as been our most successful buck since Paige moved up from youth and we starting showing together in open.

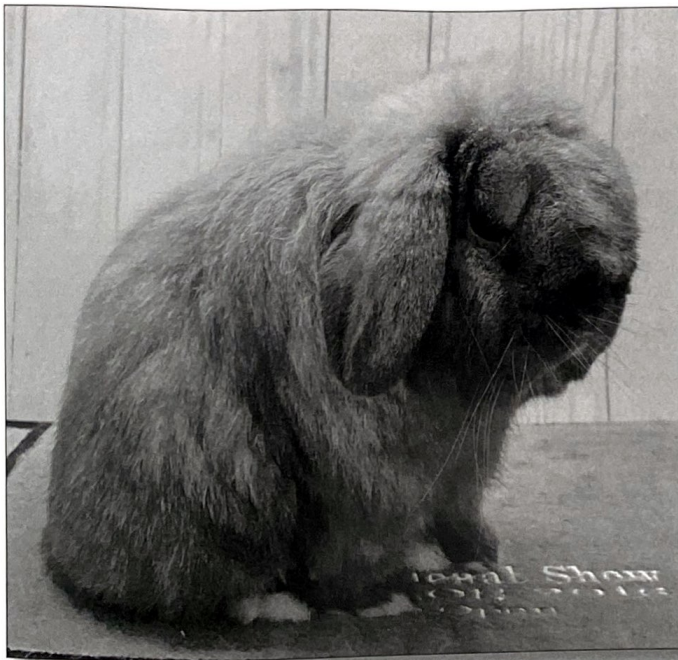
As a herd sire he is producing some incredible babies. Eighty percent of our current show string are his offspring. In many ways he reminds us of Paige's late NGF Oscar, who won BOB at an ARBA convention. Oscar is found in the background of NGF Mr. T's pedigree.

All in all, we owe a lot to our little back cage wonder. His legacy is one we will cherish even as he retires into a very spoiled stud bunny. We look forward to his next generation of babies hitting the show tables, and following in their father's paw prints.

7 ~ CR&DB Adam - 453

Bred & owned by Diane Drier and
Diane Walter, MI

We are so excited to have 7th place Top Lop, CR&DB Adam, especially since he was only shown a few times last year capturing BOB's with large numbers being shown. CR&DB Adam has been our herd buck for several years now. I love his goofy personality and he is my barn favorite. He has produced many grand champions for us. He is retired now and will stick to breeding does and producing champions.



8 ~ Brocks Fallen Ear's Maribel - MCB

Bred & owned by Nicole Brockriede and
Debra Sandoval, CA

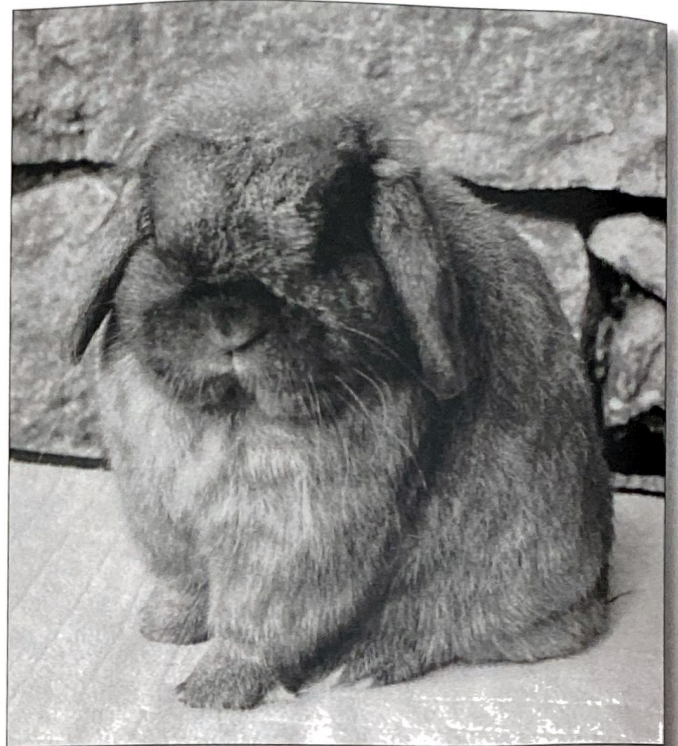
Maribel was one of those does that posed the first time you set her on a carpet. You could tell that she just knew she was pretty!

9 ~ Murphy's Joey - JOEY

Bred & owned by Dyan Murphy, PA

I'm thrilled to see Joey made the Top Lop list for 2018. He often is competing against some very tough competition at our area shows. He has held his own and amassed over thirty GC legs at two years of age. Most of his wins are BOB or BOSB, but he did win a Best Reserve In Show this year.

He has a very compact and solid body that really has to be felt to be appreciated. Joey also has a very easy-going demeanor. He will often just sit however a judge positions him and he allows you to move the position of a leg without losing his pose. Interestingly, he was also a winter junior buck that retained control of one ear for a very long time. Obviously, that is no longer the case, but he's proof that with some you have to have a bit of patience for that ear control to go away. He was definitely worth waiting for and I hope he continues to see success on the show tables as he matures even more.



10 ~ Rachel's Rabbitat Rebel - RR994

Bred & owned by Rachel Mastrangelo, CA

I am so proud of Rachel's Rabbitat Rebel. Breeding and showing a rabbit that judges appreciate enough to pick as Best of Breed and also deem worthy of a Best in Show award is one of the most fulfilling aspects of this hobby. RR Rebel is one of those Hollands that I got excited about as soon as his head started poking out of the nest! I showed him as a junior, but he was a late bloomer, who didn't do much winning as a junior. However, when he turned senior there has been no stopping him! So far RR Rebel has won 3 Best in Show and 2 Reserve in Show awards and has won 40 legs, he placed 3rd at the 2018 ARBA Convention and 6th at the 2019 Holland Lop Nationals. The very best thing about an award-winning buck that I love is when they produce amazing offspring, his children and grandchildren are now winning Best in Show awards and carrying on his lineage.