

# 2017 Herdsman Open Winners

## Debra Sandoval and Nicole Brockreide

### Brock's Fallen Ear's Rabbitry



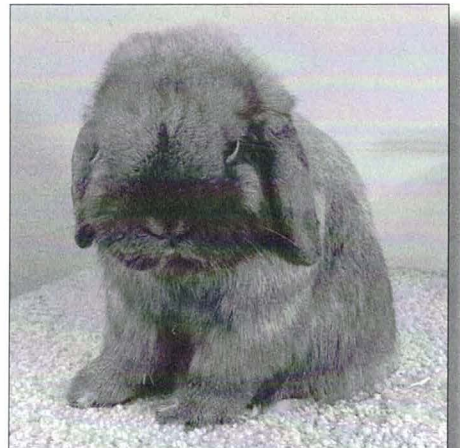
*Brock's Fallen Ear's Charity*



*Brock's Fallen Ear's Sawyer*



*Brock's Fallen Ear's DJ*



*Brock's Fallen Ear's Stanley*



*Brock's Fallen Ear's Maribel*



*Brock's Fallen Ear's Valentino*

This spring Debra and I made a huge decision to build a barn on her eight acres and move my half of the herd up to Fresno, which is about seven hours away from my home in San Diego. There are several advantages to this. The most obvious advantage is having all our Hollands in one place, which will facilitate culling, breeding, and evaluating juniors. Secondly, my neighbors were getting testy and I could only expect them to tolerate my rabbits living in the garage for so long.

Of course this means weekly commutes, as I now live in two places. The train has been a godsend as a means to travel through Los Angeles without me sitting in traffic. There have been a few adjustments as we figure out how to mesh two totally different record keeping systems. We are adjusting and it's been a positive move. Currently, all my Hollands are moved except about twenty does with litters. It was just too hot to move them. I am still dreading my first encounter with a rattlesnake in the new rabbitry. Deb found one last week, and I envision me running screaming into the house if I come upon one!

We were shocked and saddened at the sudden loss of our dear friend Diane Giordani. It just reminds me of how tenuous life can be and I hope reminds us to be loving and generous to our fellow breeders.

Nicole and Debra



# 2017 Top Lop Open Winners

## 1 ~ Smith's Dreamboat - YU

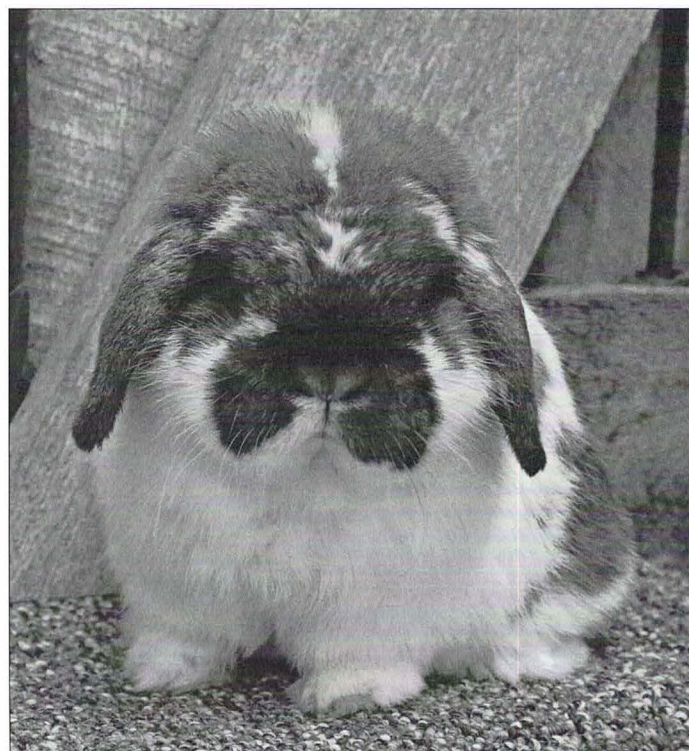
Bred and owned by Gary & Susan Smith, NC

We really are proud of our #1 Top Lop of 2017. We enjoy the competition and camaraderie of raising and showing Hollands (and Dwarfs). We set long-term goals for ourselves and our Hollands to remain engaged in this hobby. By winning Top Lop in 2017, we have achieved one of those goals. Dreamboat is homegrown Holland. His pedigree is almost completely Smith Hollands

He showed his great type and temperament as young Holland. When Derek Poole called him a Dreamboat, the name stuck! He is, clearly, the friendliest rabbit in our barn. He is also a vigorous breeder, and we have lots of young bunnies from him to carry on his tradition.

He has a massive head and crown, and legs like tree trunks. As you can see from his pictures, he sticks out in a crowd. He was first place broken senior buck at the ARBA Convention in 2017. He was also Best Opposite of Breed at the Holland Nationals in 2018. In the last couple of years he has earned eight Best in Shows, 26 Best of Breeds, and 53 ARBA legs. One judge recently described him as the perfect 100-point rabbit. No matter how good the competition, he almost always comes out on top!

Congratulations to all the other top ten winners in open and youth. It takes real motivation and effort to win in this category.



*Smith's Dreamboat - YU*

## 2 ~ Camelot's Florentine - 881C

Bred and owned by Jenny Poprawski, IL

Florentine has had a short but amazing show career. She was my most promising junior for Reno Nationals but went off feed the week before the big show. I am grateful my animal sitter took amazing care of her and pulled her through while I was at Nationals. Due to giving her special care (hay, parsley, and bananas), she pulled through. I showed her a few times in the fall leading up to ARBA Convention, and she won Best Opposite of Breed. I have always really liked her but she only shows it off if she wants too. She is very sassy and runs when I go near her cage. She acts the total opposite if Paul goes to pet her; she acts like a "meet and greet" from Wal-Mart at her cage door. She did an amazing job showing her self at convention and won not only her class, but also Best Broken and Best of Breed. I was in total amazement. Then the next day at Best in Show, she won Best Group 3. I was speechless.

I am amazed that with her handful of shows, she reached second place Top Lop. She retired to my breeding program after Convention and raised her first litter, and has had a few more since Convention.

I want to thank Linda Jinings for sharing her sire with me at the ARBA Convention in San Diego, L & R Trinni. That is what this hobby is all about is sharing and helping others. Keep breeding for the next star!



*Camelot's Florentine - 881C*



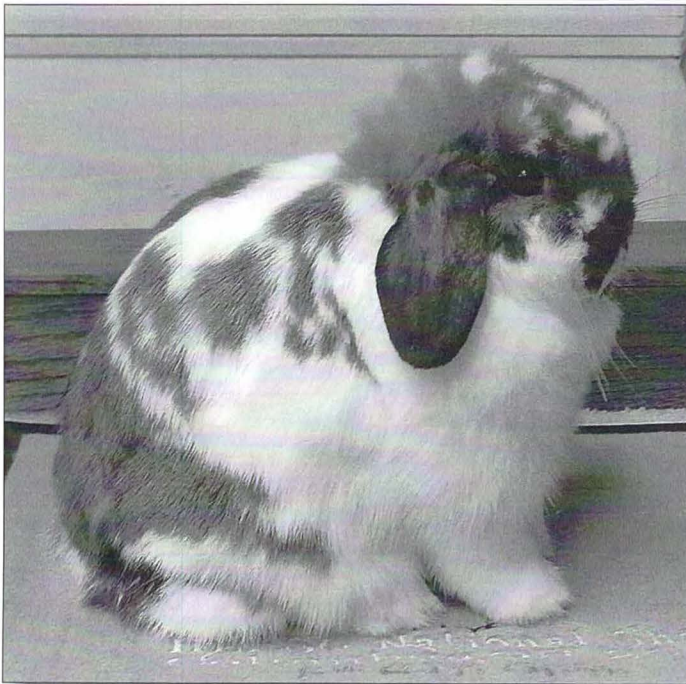
### 3 ~ Hope's Damn Right - ZP

Bred and owned by Randy & Hope  
Blackburn, UT

Hope's Damn Right was a favorite in the nest box. At four months he won Best of Breed at the 2016 HLRSC Nationals held in Reno. Aside from his national win, he won four additional Best in Shows, before being retired to be used strictly for breeding. He is the product of line breeding our kindest-eyed beauties. He has sired many babies that we look forward to showing this fall.



*Hope's Damn Right - ZP*



*Sibling's Chelsea - P7*

### 4 ~ Sibling's Chelsea - P7

Bred and owned by Kathy Loomis &  
Bonnie Norton, MI

We are thrilled that Sibling's Chelsea is fourth place Top Lop for 2017. She was special right from the start and at 1-1/2 years of age she has 25 legs including five Best in Show and one Best Reserve in Show wins. One of the great things about Chelsea is that, in addition to being a beautiful show doe, she is also a good mom and has no trouble kindling and raising a litter. In fact her current litter was born just six weeks after her last Best in Show. We hope to have her back on the show table again this year, but if not, she will always have a place here in my barn. We would like to thank Pat and Bob Noteboom for selling us her sire, Rivertown Clint Eastwood. He produced a fantastic doe for us.



## 5 ~ Blue Iris Jaxton - JAX

Bred and owned by Tracie & Taylor Deling  
and Sherry LaGessee, WI

To say least, I am ecstatic to have the fifth Top Lop for 2017! It was an amazing year. I am blessed to have Jaxton as my main herd buck. I am proud for what he has accomplished. He was your average junior that blossomed into a beautiful senior, a once in a lifetime Holland in my barn. Jaxton was BOB on Sunday at the 2017 Ohio Mini Convention, second at the Portland, OR, ARBA Convention, second at the San Diego, CA, ARBA Convention, then seventh at the Indianapolis, IN, ARBA Convention. He now has 60 grand champion legs, with most of those being BOB or BOS and one Best Reserve in Show.

Jaxton is probably about the smoothest-bodied rabbit I have ever felt, and he is relaying that to his offspring. I am looking forward to more babies in the barn from him. He will be four years old in January, so I am thinking next year he will be staying at home producing. He loved being on the show table and was one of those rare Hollands that sat still for the judges.

Jaxton is very special to me and will live out his time with me. Congrats to all the other Top Lop breeders in this wonderful rabbit hobby.

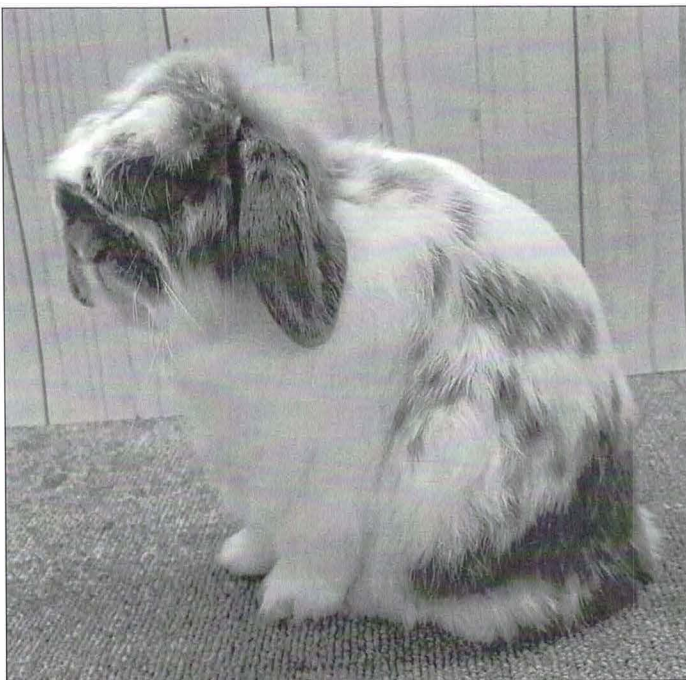


*Blue Iris Jaxton - JAX*

## 6 ~ Rohrbaugh's Stanley - STANLEY

Bred and owned by Bob & Marlene  
Rohrbaugh, PA

Stanley (a blue tort) was one of those babies that caught your eye right out of the nest box. He was one of the few that never went through that ugly stage. As a junior, he won Best of Breed many times. He is a small buck (3.4 lbs.), so we didn't show him much as a young senior. His biggest wins were two Best of Breeds at the NY Grand Finals shows (147 & 187 Hollands shown) and Best of Breed at PaSRBA as a junior (117 shown). Beside being a good show rabbit, Stanley is a barn favorite. He loves his head scratches and is an important part of our breeding program.



*Rohrbaugh's Stanley - STANLEY*



## 7 ~ BFE Sawyer - SW

Bred and owned by Nicole Brockriede &  
Debra Sandoval, CA

We were so excited to finally get a rabbit in the top ten of the Top Lop contest. Even better, that it was with Sawyer, who is one of our favorites, and who is the sire and grandsire of many of our young rabbits. He finished off his show career last year by taking second place in the solid senior buck class at the ARBA Convention, in Indianapolis. Now he is enjoying staying at home and breeding.



*BFE Sawyer - SW*

## 8 ~ Murphy's Andy - ANDY

Bred and owned by Dyan Murphy, PA

I was greatly surprised that Andy placed in the Top Lop contest this year. He spent the better part of last year getting beat out by Spanky, but once he came into coat, he won some larger shows that gave him the numbers to pull himself onto the list.

Andy actually has one of the more interesting stories in my barn. He had the same mother as Bruno and he was from the last litter she ever gave me. There were two of them and I returned home to the barn one day to find that both were out of the nest box, cold and stiff. I wasn't able to save Andy's sibling, but I slowly warmed Andy up and gave him CPR and he was able to recover. When he was done with his junior career I made the choice to sell him and keep his father. I sent him off to a new breeder in Canada and he won a Best of Breed in his first show for her, as a very young senior.

Unfortunately, Andy's dad died and I regretted the decision to sell him. As luck would have it, his new owner had some life changes and had to sell her rabbits. My friend and fellow Holland breeder Brittany Johnston was kind enough to bring him back across the border to the states when she attended a show in Upstate, New York. He was a horrible molting mess when she delivered him and she apologized for the sad looking thing she was delivering. I, however, was overjoyed to be able to get him back and knew what he would look like after the molt. Sometimes we choose the wrong ones to sell. I greatly appreciate the breeder who allowed me to buy him back, after my poor decision to part with him. He's grown into a beautiful buck, who's once again a horrible molting mess. Hopefully he'll be just as beautiful when he comes out of it.



*Murphy's Andy - ANDY*



## 9 ~ Andrew's Honey - K4

Bred by T.L. Andrews, FL

Owned by Jackie Diamond, FL

Honey is a blue senior doe, sired by Imagine That's Kolby, a broken blue tort and out of Andrew's Flower, a chestnut doe. She made her first show at eight months of age in January, with great comments and receiving her first ARBA leg. Her first big win was in February at the Georgia State Convention, placing Best Opposite Breed to Gary and Susan Smiths two nice senior bucks (one being the #1 Holland this year). Honey went on to win one Best in Show, one Best Reserve in Show, one Second Reserve in Show, six Best of Breeds, 8 Best Opposites, 9 Best of Varieties, 8 Best Opposite Varieties, and 20 ARBA legs in 38 shows, under some great judges.

I'm honored to own her and given the opportunity to share her sire with Dr. Andrews, who wants to try and add my lines in to his. I was given second pick of three litters sired by Kolby, and I went with Honey. I am glad I did. She still comes out from time-to-time, when she is not bred and in coat to go to shows. She has her first offspring hitting the tables in a few months. I am pleased to say this breeding has been repeated, and has made wonderful offspring to add to both are herds.



*Andrew's Honey - K4*

## 10 ~ Quietcreek's Classic Empire - QC6126

Bred and owned by Brian & Cindy Hinton, TX

Ever had one of those rabbits that just snuck up on you? Well Classic Empire is one of those rabbits. He is one that had very limited table time as a junior. He was left home a couple of times because of molt, or just because I felt other juniors were in better coat or condition at show time. He just wasn't one of those stand outs, in my opinion. Oh yes, he was nice or he would not be in my barn. He even placed well when he showed, only leaving barn three times as a junior, and actually placed first every time except for once. He was pretty rambunctious, you know, the typical lil' junior boy.

When it came time to register for convention he just happened to be in coat. He was only ten months old, so I was pretty sure he was just going as a number. Well, somewhere between north Texas and Indianapolis he matured and developed table manners. I was totally floored when he won the solid senior buck class, so much so that I was shaking and crying. Knowing the breeders who also had bucks in the same class, these were breeders that had mentored us, breeders that I admire and respect, I just could not even imagine placing up there with them. I can only think that we must be good students, and they are good teachers.

Classic Empire went on to win Best Opposite Breed at convention and I was just "over the moon" proud of him. Trust me when I say again, somewhere between north Texas and Indianapolis he developed table manners because he sure didn't act like that at home!

Classic Empire is also blessing us with some beautiful show potential offspring, which is a huge bonus because anyone that raises Hollands knows it is a tossup if a good show rabbit produces quality for you.



*Quietcreek's Classic Empire - QC6126*