

HALL OF FAME

Donna Richards

The nominations submitted for Donna Richards collectively portray a woman whose dedication, generosity, and steady leadership have left a lasting mark on the Holland Lop community. For more than two decades, Donna has been a driving force behind the breed's success, a mentor to countless breeders, and a dependable presence at shows, clubs, and youth events across the country.

Donna's journey in rabbits began through supporting her daughter, but she quickly became an integral part of the hobby. She immersed herself in education, transported youth to activities, and ensured that every young person—regardless of resources—had access to opportunities in rabbits. Her work in 4-H has been especially influential; she has served as the Maryland State Fair Rabbit Superintendent for over a decade and helped shape strong county and state youth programs. Her encouragement, patience, and practical support have helped launch and sustain many young exhibitors' success.

Within the HLRSC and ARBA communities, Donna is known as one of the most reliable and selfless volunteers. She is a constant presence behind the tables at local, specialty, national, and convention shows—writing for judges, tabulating results, organizing paperwork, and doing whatever is necessary to keep events running smoothly. She has also played a critical role in the Chesapeake Holland Lop Club, serving on its board, acting as show secretary, and helping bring Holland Lop Nationals to York, Pennsylvania.

As a breeder, Donna has made significant contributions to the quality and advancement of Holland Lops, particularly in shaded varieties. Her herd has influenced breeding programs across the country, known for its depth, consistency, and distinctive type. Yet those who nominate her emphasize that her success is matched, if not surpassed, by her willingness to help others succeed—through mentorship, herd-building assistance, thoughtful guidance, and genuine friendship.

Perhaps the strongest testament to Donna's impact came after the devastating fire that destroyed her entire herd. The widespread and heartfelt support she received—from across the U.S. and beyond—reflected how deeply she has touched the community. Even in the midst of profound loss, Donna continued fulfilling her commitments, showing up to work at shows, supporting youth, and helping her fellow breeders without hesitation.

Across every nomination, the message is clear: Donna Richards exemplifies the highest values of the Holland Lop Rabbit Specialty Club. Her decades of service, her influence on the breed, her unwavering reliability, and her extraordinary kindness make her profoundly deserving of induction into the HLRSC Hall of Fame.



**Join the HLRSC in welcoming the newest
Hall of Fame Inductee - Donna Richards**