



AEA EMUupdate

The Official Newsletter of the American Emu Association

President's Message

Volume 30 Issue 8— Nov-Dec 2020

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AEA BOD, Regional Map & 6
Emu Processing Plants

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American Emu Association
510 W Madison St.
Ottawa IL 61350

susan.wright@aea-emu.org

AEA Annual Meeting

video now available at
www.aea-emu.org in the
"AEA Members Area"

Greetings From Iowa

Hello Everyone. As your new board president, I want to introduce myself to those who do not know me. My name is Dennis Anderson. I live on a small farm in Central Iowa. I have been in the emu industry for over 25 years. Even though I no longer raise birds, I am still very interested in promoting the emus and all they have to offer. I feel strongly about helping new members and young farmers to succeed in the emu industry.

I hope everyone has a chance to view the Annual Meeting Video which will be found on the AEA website in the AEA Members Area. We regret not being able to have the annual meeting in person this year, and sincerely hope that next year we will have the COVID Pandemic behind us.

I am new in this role and would appreciate any help I can get, and hope that together we can make the industry thrive. I would value any feed back and ask that you feel free to contact me at any time with suggestions or concerns.
Dennis Anderson

Dennis Anderson
AEA President
oaksaveemuranch@heartofiowa.net
home: 641-475-3498
cell: 641-751-4527

AEA Board Member Resigns

On Oct 8th, 2020, due to personal time constraints, Andy Martin resigned his position as Region 1 & 2 Director. We thank Andy for his service during the past 3 years, as a member of the AEA Board of Directors and wish him well.

Region 1&2 Director Appointed



Kymara Lonergan, Ulster Park, New York, has been appointed to fill the position of AEA Region 1&2 Director.

The board welcomes Kymara and looks forward to working with her.



**WISHING YOU A BLESSED THANKSGIVING
AND A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS !**

BREEDERS LIST

The Breeders List will once again be offered to members at no cost for 2020. If you sell emu chicks yearlings or breeder pairs, add your farm to this FREE listing. This is the first place people look for emus on the AEA website.

Discount for Veterans - The AEA is offering a 10% annual membership discount to veterans and current military personnel with verification required. New & renewing members will be eligible for this discount. For more information contact info@aea-emu.org

From the Vice-president - Amy E. Hall

Hello from Arkansas

I have been busy building new pens and installing water lines. All summer my 9 birds were cohabitating in one mob pen. Well, maturing birds, competition, and an injured young female compelled me to get to work. Before I could complete the work, it was necessary to separate the young female and she is still recovering in her own safe place. I am amazed how resilient these birds can be.



Once I built the new pens, I put up a temporary connector alleyway between the old mob pen and the new digs. I simply opened up all the gates and let them sort themselves out into their little clicks. Then I just closed the gates.

I purchased incubators that don't fit where I planned to put them. It took me 2 months to get a plumber to install some water lines to the new location. I ended up putting in the electric outlets myself. The whole shop is still in a disarray because of this relocation.

No eggs yet, but I am hopeful and I'm still looking for a freezer.

If you are not on the AEA Facebook network, give me a shout and I will make sure to send you an invite.

The Zoom meetings are still going. I usually send out an email invite a few days before and also post the link on Facebook. I live in the sticks as well and so I know the data challenges.

Last chat we talked about sex. Yep... emu sex. I have young birds and I mentioned that they might need a sex manual. At other sessions we have discussed nutrition, fencing, and internet solutions.

I hope everyone is doing well and staying safe. Amy

Hatching Hints by Joylene Reavis

Identifying Your Eggs

When collecting your eggs, carry a white china marker to mark the egg in order to identify the pair or the pen where it was collected and the date it was laid. Once back inside, keep track of the egg and number it on a chart for future reference. Then refrigerate at 40* - 50* temperature, turning occasionally. The night before you are ready to place the egg in the incubator take the eggs out and let them warm overnight to room temperature. Before they go into the incubator place a 1" piece of masking tape on the egg in the air cell area (fold the bottom edge over for easy removal later). On this tape you should write, 1.) the parent's ID, 2.) The date set in the incubator, 3.) the due date and 4.) the weight of the egg that day. Mark all of this on a chart, too. —————>



(continued) Hatching Hints

Preheating Your Incubator

At the beginning of the season when you preheat your incubator, let it run for at least 24 hours to make sure everything is working properly. This process will work best if you place several 16 oz. plastic pop bottles filled with water inside. If you have rollers, set those pop bottles right on the rollers and they will roll just like an egg. Once the water is heated it will make it easier (and quicker) for your incubator to level off at the proper temperature and humidity. An empty incubator tends to have a hard time keeping a steady temperature. This trick will save running back to the incubator several times because the alarms have gone off. This also helps if you are placing only a few eggs in the incubator.

Egg Placement For Roller incubators

Placing two eggs together with the air cells at opposite end will keep those two eggs together "kissing each other" and prevent them from crawling to the end of the roller or into the glass thermometer. You should be able to easily place two pair of eggs in each row. If you have a fifth egg in that row, just place it opposite the egg next to it.

GQF Incubators

Even if you have a rocker table to tilt your eggs, remember that the eggs will still need to be turned completely over each day or every other day to prevent pressure from the embryo against the shell from killing the veins at the very bottom where the egg sets.

Moving To A Hatcher

If you have a roller incubator, you will want to move your egg to a hatcher (an incubator with compartments for each egg to hatch), as soon as it internally pips. To tell when the chick has internally pipped, place the egg on a flat surface. It will lay flat instead of higher at the air cell end like it has been. This is also the time when you may be able to hear the chick peep inside the shell. Be sure to set the egg with its air cell (taped area) on the top side in the hatcher. At this time remove the tape and stick it to the front of the hatcher compartment for identification after the chick hatches and the shell has been removed.

Keeping Track Of Eggs In The Hatcher

A dry erase sheet, such as a plasticized calendar, works very well. With a ruler and a permanent marker draw your shelves and compartments. When an egg is placed in a compartment, that egg number can be written on the sheet with a "dry erase" marker. When that chick is dry and goes to the brooder, his number can be wiped off and the number of the next egg written on the chart.

Brooder Boxes

Just about anything can be used as a brooder box. We were fortunate to be able to get several wooden machinery parts boxes from a local manufacturer. They were 18"-24" wide, 4'-5' long and 18" high with an open top. We always kept two heat lamps lit in case one burned out during the night. The floor was lined with solid shelf and drawer liner and that was covered with non-slip, waffle type, tool drawer pads (a little heavier than shelf pads). Both of these liners could be easily removed, cleaned and soaked if needed, before the next batch of chicks arrived.

WEB INQUIRY REPORT

The **Live Bird Requests** are sent out to the members by these two electronic venues—**Facebook** and the **YahooGroups Email List**.

If you are not signed up, you will NOT receive these contact opportunities along with many shared educational and business information ideas between members.



If you cannot find your invitation by email in your junk mail/spam folder for the **Yahoo Groups AEA Members List**, contact Amy Hall, gofarm2020@outlook.com.

For the **Facebook AEA Members Only Network** page, contact Brian Smith, snakeman52006@hotmail.com.

WANTED

6-30 emu chicks 3 months to a year. Less than 5 coming 2s. Less than 5 breeder pairs.

Amy Hall, Paris AR (479) 847-0352
Gofarm2020@outlook.com

Less than 5 fertile eggs, emu chicks up to 3 months old. Amanda Williams, Scio, OR
(541) 497-0753 amanda.williams13@gmail.com

6-30 fertile emu eggs. 6-30 just hatched emu chicks, 3 month olds, yearlings, coming 2s or breeder pairs. Dan James, Gepp, AR
(518) 260-7856 bsgarofalo99@gmail.com

FOR SALE

Complete Emu Egg Candling System (Camera w/ stand, lighted egg holder and monitor) **\$150.00 plus shipping.** Joylene Reavis, Monroe, WI
(608) 897-8224 emujoy@SugarmapleEmu.com

AEA Emu Primer



Are you looking for information on raising emus, hatching (including charts and forms for hatching season), emu pens and housing along with other emu relate information? The AEA Emu Primer will have a lot of these answers for you.

Copies can be purchased from the AEA for \$20.00 + shipping. Contact Brian Smith, snakeman52006@hotmail.com, or phone 931-980-7503

AEA Members

To improve your marketing, use these phrases on product labels, in ads, all written copy and on your websites.



"The American Emu Farmer Believes in Fair Trade and Sustainable Agriculture."

"Grown and Processed in the USA"

Did you know

Emu Today & Tomorrow is the emu industry's premier magazine? Published four times a year, ET&T provides insight to current emu market trends and how-to guides for emu farming. Partnering with the AEA, ET&T also offers on its website EmuToday.com a wealth of resources and tools for raising emus.

Emu & Tomorrow

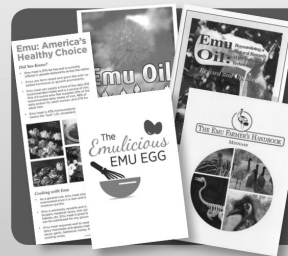


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2020/2021 Committees

The committee chair and members are listed.
Consider volunteering for one of these committees

• **Ag/Legislative** – [Jay Winslow](#) / [Kymara Loneragan](#) / [Ngon Nguyen](#)

Ag/Legislative - Keeps members aware of old, new & developing ag or legislative information through the EMUupdate, e-mail list or personal contact.

• **Awards** – [Dennis Anderson](#) / [Amy Hall](#) / _____

Awards – Determines annual award winners and arranges for plaques. Also recommends to board potential honorary members

• **Financial/Budget** – [Brian Smith](#) / [Susan Wright](#) / [Ngon Nguyen](#) / [Trevor Peterson](#) / [Amy Hall](#) / [Terry Turner](#)

Financial/Budget – Works with treasurer on financial and budget issues.

• **By-Laws/Parliamentarian** – [Kymara Loneragan](#) / [Jay Winslow](#) / [Tony Cithryn](#) / [Janean Parker](#)

By-Law/Parliamentarian - Interprets By-Laws.

• **Emu Oil Certification & Batch Numbers** – [Amy Hall](#) / [Susan Wright](#) / [Cyril Klein](#) / [JoAnna Stinar](#)

Emu Oil Certification & Batch Numbers – Handles validation of oil batches and maintains batch records.

• **AEA Certified Emu Oil Program & Trade Rule Committee** – [Amy Hall](#) / [Susan Wright](#) / [Carolyn Palo](#) / [Paul Binford](#) / [Terry Turner](#)

AEA Certified Emu Oil Program & Trade Rule Committee – Approves all applications for labels, advertisements, and website use of the AEA trademarks. They review and screen Bottler and Refinery Applications and then submit them to the Board for approval. Monitor advertising, Ebay, websites, and labels for the improper and illegal use of the trademarks owned by the AEA. Will follow up on any and all complaints of seal or trademark abuse. Oversees CBM Program. CBM Liaison MUST NOT be a CBM member. Oversees the development, growth, and integrity of the emu oil industry.

• **Research & Grants** – [Dennis Anderson](#) / [Cyril Klein](#) / [Caleb Binford](#) / [Amy Hall](#)

Research & Grants - Recommends and oversees any emu industry research. Writes & procures grants.

• **Internet & Technology (I.T.)** – [Jay Winslow](#) / [Susan Wright](#) / [JoAnna Stinar](#) / [Ngon Nguyen](#) / [Amy Hall](#) / [Janean Parker](#)

Internet & Technology (I.T.) - Oversee & suggest updates and improvements for the AEA website.

• **Convention** – [Joylene Reavis](#) / [Daryl Connite](#) / [Brian Smith](#) / [Amy Hall](#) / [Carolyn Palo](#) / [Susan Wright](#) / [Terry Turner](#)

continued (Committees)



Convention - Oversees securing and maintaining sites for the annual AEA convention. Plans and organizes the annual convention with the convention committee.

• **Meat** – [Amy Hall](#) / [Ngon Nguyen](#) / [Tony Cithryn](#) / [Jay Winslow](#)

Meat - Oversees the development and growth of the emu meat industry from farming, processing and delivery to consumer.

• **Membership** – [Brian Smith](#) / [Susan Wright](#) / [Amy Hall](#) / [Gary Smith](#) / [Jody Pierce](#) – consultant

Membership - Builds membership. Treasurer oversees master membership list. Adds new members, updates renewals and oversees sending membership packets.

• **Newsletter** – [Joylene Reavis](#) / [Amy Hall](#) / [JoAnna Stinar](#) / [Brian Smith](#) / [Carolyn Palo](#) & [Kathy Goldstone](#)

Newsletter – Oversees the writing and distribution of the newsletter (EMUupdate). An article for the AEA newsletter is asked from each committee liaison (6 newsletters per year). Reports, i.e.,: ag related - husbandry - regional info - state info - local events - fairs & festivals - industry items - government programs. AEA newsletter article deadline dates: October 20 - December 20 - February 20 - April 20 - June 20 - August 20.

• **Nominations** – [Amy Hall](#) / [Jim Glick](#) / [Carolyn Palo](#) / [Deitra McCleery](#)

Nominations - Secure qualified nominees from AEA membership and board of directors.

• **Phone for AEA** – [Amy Hall](#)

Phone for AEA – Check phone messages and respond to them or passes them to the appropriate person for response.

• **Public Relations** – [Joylene Reavis](#) / [Clover Quinn](#) / [Carolyn Palo](#) / [Sherri Lewis](#) – consultant

Public Relations - Writes and edits for approval by board, all articles, news items and press releases.

Public Relations Sub Committees -

a.) **Promotions & Advertising** – [Joylene Reavis](#) / [Paul Pluss](#) / [JoAnna Stinar](#) / [Ron Reagan](#) / [Jay Winslow](#)

Promotions & Advertising - committee will be used for a press release and promotion campaign, "if", favorable results are found with the human research that is now being done.

b.) **National Emu Week (N.E.W.)** – ---

National Emu Week (N.E.W.) – Promote the emu industry for 10 days in May, starting the first Saturday.

• **Standards** – --- / ---

Standards – Works to establish and maintain standards for emu industry. Only active when needed

* **President Assistant** – [Terry Turner](#)

President Assistant – Attends meetings and assists the president in his duties.

Ice, Birds & Animals

Most of you already know this but, for those who don't here is my advice for when your pens become covered in packed snow and ice.

Ice can be treacherous for both people and animals but, especially for "hooved" animals and those with two legs. Emus tend to slip and slide on ice. They can easily fall and break a leg.

We have always used **bagged Barn Lime**, a powdery, crushed white limestone on ice. It must be powdered or the emus will peck at it and may ingest too much calcium from it. We would spread the barn lime thinly on all ice covered surfaces to prevent injury. Just a wisp of the powder can create instant traction. On the farm I kept a bucket of Barn Lime just inside the door to my home, so that I could get to my garage in case there was a coating of ice.

Barn Lime can be purchased at any farm supply store for under \$3.00 for a 50# bag.

Ashes from a wood stove works well, but be sure to remove any "klinkers" (large unburned pieces).

Sand can be used if you have nothing else, but, it allows a little more sliding around than the others until the sun melts it into the ice.

Salt will melt ice and increase traction but, since it is very drying, it can injure dog and cat paws along with chicken, turkey, duck, goose and emu feet.

When we were raising emus, we found that they were very "flighty" at times and could fall easily on ice or packed snow. We kept several bags of Barn Lime in the barn next to the pens at all times throughout the winter. At the first sign of ice, we would spread the powder in their pens. It immediately took care of the problem.

It works good on "human" paths, too.

More information on **Winterizing Your Farm** can be found in the AEA Member Area on the AEA website, <http://www.aea-emu.org>



Website Help Needed

Even though we now have a company to fix our website problems, we still need a volunteer to help keep the website current.



The upgraded AEA website, www.aea-emu.org, needs volunteers to help keep it up to date by posting new items (no repair work).

If you are experienced with WORD PRESS, the AEA could use your help. For more information, or to volunteer, contact, info@aea-emu.org. Check out the AEA website at - <http://www.aea-emu.org>

Emu Egg Christmas Ornament



If you have a few extra emu eggs with a rough texture, you might want to consider turning them into Christmas ornaments.

Once the eggs are blown, sanitized, and allowed to drain until they are thoroughly dry (a month or more), they can be spray painted. An ornament cap can be glued to the top using Tacky Glue. Suspend from a string and spray. Use automotive chrome or gold spray paint found at hardware, big box and automotive stores. Add a thin gold, silver or red ribbon to complete your ornament.

COVID RELIEF

CFAP-2 Funds Now Available To Emu Farmers

<https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>

USDA is implementing **Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2** for agricultural producers who continue to face market disruptions and associated costs because of COVID-19. Producers will need to reference their sales, inventory, and other records from last year. CFAP 2 is a grant, NOT a loan program (though the USDA does have loans available) and there is no cost to apply. You have **until December 11, 2020** to apply.

CFAP-2 Now Includes Emus. Emus were NOT included in CFAP-1 that concluded in September.

<https://www.farmers.gov/cfap/commodities>

Specialty Livestock Raised For Sale: Animals commercially raised for food, fur, fiber, or feathers, and includes alpacas, bison, buffalo, beefalo, deer, ducks, elk, "emus", geese, goats, guinea pigs, llamas, mink (including pelts), mohair, ostrich, pheasants, quail, rabbits, reindeer, and turkey. *Breeding stock are not eligible for CFAP 2.*

Frequently Asked Questions

<https://www.farmers.gov/cfap/faq>

It is recommended that you **contact your local USDA office** for help in filling out these forms.

Kymara Lonergan has applied for this program. For questions call her at (207) 286-7399 or email - kymaralonergan@yahoo.com

President
Director Region 3
Dennis Anderson
 2960 Oaks Ave
 Haverhill, IA 50120
 641-751-4527
president@aea-emu.org

Vice President
Amy Hall
 2020 Red Bench Road
 Paris, AR 72855
 479-847-0352
gofarm2020@outlook.com

Treasurer
Brian Smith
 6913 Timberlake Dr
 Murfreesboro TN 37129
 931-980-7503
snakeman52006@hotmail.com

Secretary
Joylene Reavis
 700 8th Ave #731
 Monroe, WI 53566
 608-897-8224
secretary@aea-emu.org

Parliamentarian
Director Region 1 & 2
Kymara Lonergan
 50 Hardenburgh Rd.
 Ulster Park, NY 12487
 207-286-7399
kymaralonergan@yahoo.com

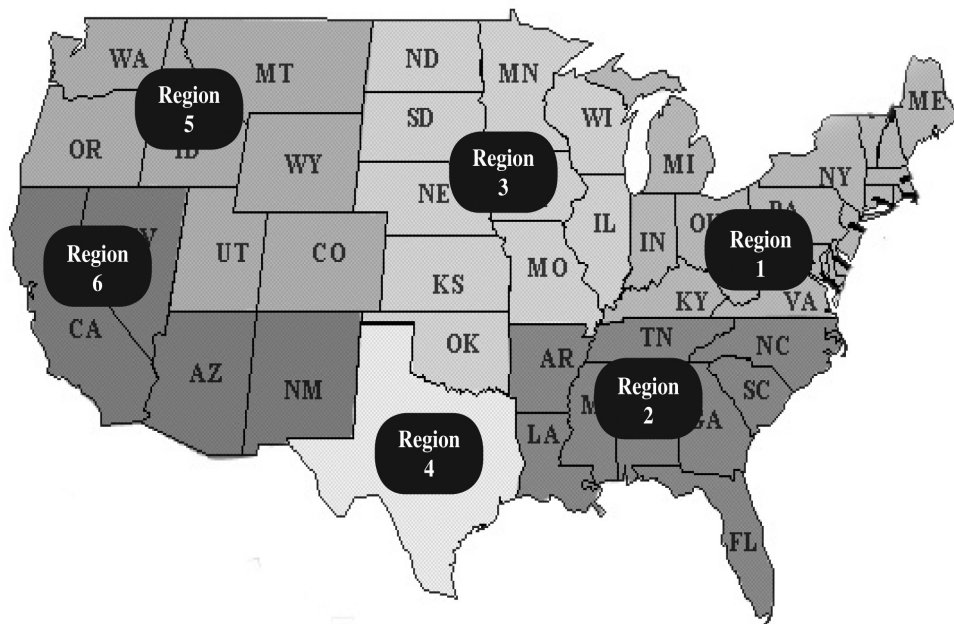
Director Region 4, 5, 6
Daryl Connite
 24552 Walker Valley Rd.
 Mt. Vernon, WA 98274
 360-422-7683
dconnite@hotmail.com

At-Large Director
Jay Winslow
 6323 Coble Church Road
 Liberty, NC 27298
jwinslow07@outlook.com

AEA Board of Directors Contact Information

2020/2021

AEA Regional Areas



Emu Processing Plants

Larue Meat Processing USDA
 1908 Water Level Rd
 Somerset, PA 15501
 811-445-7229

J&S Meat Processing
 180 Fm 833 E
 Fairfield, TX 75840
 903-389-6169

Lemay & Sons USDA
 116 Daniel Plummer Rd
 Goffstown, NH 03045
 603-622-0022

Value Added Emu Products

Uvalde Meats
 508 S wood Street
 Uvalde, TX 78801
 830-278-6247

Krehbiels Specialty Meats, Inc.
 USDA
 1636 Mohawk Rd
 McPherson, KS 67460
 620-241-0103 / 620-241-0106

Craig's Meats
 N9064 Hwy 162 No.
 Mindoro, WI 54644
 608-486-2212

Special "D" Meats USDA
 30637 Lake Street
 Macon, MO 63552
 660-385-2141

B and D Meats
 5370 Grange Rd
 Roseburg, OR 97471
 541-677-7283

Communication & Networking



"AEA Members Network"
Contact Amy—
gofarm2020@outlook.com
479-847-0352

YahooGroups Email List
Contact Brian—
snakeman52006@hotmail.com
931-980-7503

