

What's Inside:

- Double Angora Specialty March 4
- How to Take Good Bunny Pictures
- Care of Orphan Rabbits
- Ideas On Pricing Your spinning Jobs



Density Tidbits

Mid-South Is Back And Going Strong!

The Mid-South Angora Rabbit Society held it's charter meeting in January 1995. Even though we are a new club all our members have at least one common interest, the ANGORA RABBIT.

The club was established with the commitment to bring to you a quality angora specialty club with all the benefits imaginable.

Our newsletter is informative as well as fun to read. The newsletter contains local show information and results of winnings. There is a classified section in which breeders can list anything they have available for sale, (rabbits and supplies), and a section especially for readers to share their personnel knowledge with other breeders. This includes a section for questions and answers. Each newsletter includes a health question directed and answered by a veterinarian and brief, easy

to understand articles concerning the good health of our angoras.

The purpose of this club is to promote, encourage and improve the development of the Angora Rabbit industry in all of its phases. We provide membership to persons interested in breeding, marketing and showing Angora Rabbits as well as pet and fiber producers with support for all products thereof. The club has a regular scheduled meetings and an annual specialty show.

Mid-South has been slow the past year but we have found a new life! Please join us in making 2007 the greatest year yet.

Advertise in The Mid-South Newsletter

Please send you're advertising information to:
Kim Gay, Newsletter Editor
PO Box 44
Milner, Ga. 30257
770-584-6356

catnip36@yahoo.com

Deadlines for issues

- Winter - January 1 • Spring - April 1
- Summer - July 1 • Fall - September 1

Publication dates are approximately 2 weeks after deadline.

The following prices include internet advertising in price.

Display Advertising For Four Issues

Full Page	\$50.00
Half Page	\$30.00
Quarter Page	\$20.00
Business Card	\$12.00

Classified Ad Section For Four Issues

24 words \$5.00
Additional words are .25 cents per word

Photo Gallery

\$5.00 per Best In Show photo (one issue)
Your caption limited to- rabbits name, color, jr. / sr., show, date, owner and breeder
(Photos will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed return envelope.)

Breeder's Directory

\$10.00 for four issues - List your - Name, Address, Phone Number, Email Address
Angora Breed, Colors

Internet advertising will be available soon. Please email catnip36@yahoo.com for info.

Mid-South Meeting Held December 17

Meeting 2:00 pm., December 17, 2006 Minutes

Members present were as follows:

Jacque Dumas, Beverly Devone, Billy Hopkins, Gerald Buck, and Susan Reid.

We all enjoyed the refreshments and Officers and Directors were voted on and stated as follow:

President - Beverly Devone
Vice-President - Gerald Buck
Secretary - Treasurer - Jacque Dumas
Directors - Kim Gay, Billy Hopkins, Sally Campbell
Newsletter Editor - Kim Gay
Web Mistress - Kim Gay
Group List Moderator / Owner - Jacque Dumas

Plans were discussed for the upcoming double angora specialty show on March 4, 2007 in Dalton, Georgia. Flyers have been prepared and everyone is urged to advertise as much as possible. This will be on the following day of the triple show in Dalton, Georgia so it will be 5 shows for all angoras.

A discussion followed concerning possible plans for a Wool-A-Rama on October 27, 2007 in Murfreesboro, Tn. Gerald Buck stated the facility would be free. All we need is to get possibly the local / regional Fuzzy Lop and Jersey Wooley Clubs to host a double, same as us. Billy Hopkins and Gerald Buck will check into these clubs joining in.

We would like to have a raffle table and buy a carrying cage to include in the raffle as a draw for the raffle table. Also, a bag of feed donated would be appreciated.

Meeting adjourned to eat.



Mid-South Proudly Announces

Double Angora Specialties

Sunday - March 4, 2007

Shows start promptly at 8:00 am.

ENTRY FEES: \$3.00

**Entry deadline - Thursday,
February 28, 2007 12 noon**

Day of the show entry is \$5.00

Show Superintendent :
Jacque Dumas
jdumastn@bellsouth.net
931-622-0243

Show Secretary - Kim Gay
Send Show Entries to :

catnip36@yahoo.com

Phone : 770-584-6356

Conformation of email entries will be sent.
Make sure you receive one.

Following the Triple Show held by
Decatur R&C Club on
March 3, 2007
Judges to be announced

Cash Prizes - BIS \$25.00*
BOB \$15.00*
BOS \$10.00*

(* Must Be 10 or More In Breed *)

ATTENTION !!

**THIS WILL BE A FIVE SHOW
WEEKEND FOR ALL ANGORAS
!!**

**Both shows will be sanctioned by
ARBA and NARBC**

**For Show Directions Please Visit
Our Website at -**

<http://www.geocities.com/midsouthangora/>

Contact Karin Humfleet, nwgcr@yahoo.com for a Dalton
Triple Show catalog.

How To Show Your Favorite Bunny In A Favorable Light Taking Photos Of Your Bunny



By : Ursula Glauser
Thunstetten, Switzerland

[http://homepage.sunrise.ch/
homepage/pglaus/](http://homepage.sunrise.ch/homepage/pglaus/)

Good pictures depend on several factors: camera, position of the camera, background, light and, of course, the bunny.

Camera:

There are two systems: digital cameras and the old fashioned analog cameras with film that has to be developed. The little tricks for good pictures are the same for both systems.

- Know Your Camera
- Set The Scene
- Watch The Light

Digital photographing is fast, cheap (as you do not have any costs for films and developing) and it allows you to see the resulting picture immediately. We have a rather old Leica digital camera with a resolution of not more than 1.3 megapixels. But the lens system of this old lady is so good that sharpness of its pictures are better than the quality of the newest gigapixel cameras. If you buy a camera, do not have just eyes for a high pixel resolution but be aware of a good quality of the optical lens system!

Setting the bunny in scene:

The camera sees things more or less the same way as you do with your eyes. But your eyes focus onto the things you are interested in. Your camera sees everything even if it has nothing to do with your subject. So,

choose your background carefully!

It should not dominate the bunny. You should not see anything that doesn't belong with your picture composition, when you are looking through your camera.

For preparing your scene you can take a double for your bunny, e.i. a soft toy. Look through the camera and imagine how your photo will be. Do you have the right angle? There is a great difference if you are standing while you take the picture or if you lay down on the floor and take the picture face to face with your bunny. The proportions of the rabbit look different! Take photos in several positions (angles) and watch the difference. Go as close as possible to your bunny. Bring the Bunny's eyes into the focus!

Light:

It is the most important thing in photographing! Light has different color qualities: the morning and evening light is warm and reddish. The light at noon is hard, cold and bluish.

From which direction does it light up your bunny? If it comes from the side, you will have no problems. If the light is behind the photographer, be aware that his shadow doesn't fall on your bunny. If the light is behind the bunny and shining towards the camera, you will get a shiny halo around the bunny. Very striking especially for satin angoras! Perhaps you have to use a slight flash to brighten the bunny's face.

Taking Photos

(Cont.)

Dukat

This picture is made beneath a roof, it was rather dark, but the evening sun (with its reddish color!) just lighted up the beautiful red satin buck Dukat. The light comes from the right side (from the back of the buck).



Density Tidbits

Pictures By:

Ursula Glauser,
Thunstetten, Switzerland

<http://homepage.sunrise.ch/homepage/pglaus/>

Habibi: This is a backlit photo.



Snapshot:

How to photograph a bunny in full action? Well, there are the same rules as above, but you have to be much quicker. Take as many pictures as you can and hope that there is a good snapshot among them. In snapshots it is important to lay down to the bunny's level. And it is much better to choose a tame bunny if you want to take pictures in the wild.

Snapshot: 3

Here you see a little disadvantage of automatic focusing cameras: the grass is in focus not the rabbit. This would not happen if you would focus manually. Though you risk to be to slow by focusing



manually. Though you risk to be to slow by focusing manually. Perhaps the bunny would have been in focus if it was still in the picture.

Links: Here you find a very interesting tutorial and lots of superb photos:

<http://www.danheller.com/techfaq.html>

Care of Orphan Rabbits

Susan Brown, D.V.M.

Rabbit mothers nurse their babies for approximately 5 minutes a day. They will be in the nest or nest box early in the morning and then again in the evening. The milk is very rich and the babies 'fill up' to capacity within minutes. Mother rabbits do not 'sit' on the babies to keep them warm as do some mammals and birds. They build a nest with fur and grasses which helps to keep the babies warm in between feedings. Do not force a mother rabbit to sit in the nest box. You can pick up the babies and see if they are feeding by checking the size of their stomachs (should not be sunken in), the pinkness of their skin and activity level (they should not be blue in color or sluggish in movement) and the amount of time that you hear them crying (baby bunnies should be quiet most of the day if they are crying constantly then they are not getting fed). If you come

across a nest of bunnies in the wild and the mother is no where to be seen, please **DO NOT** disturb them...this is normal. By removing them from the nest you are greatly reducing their chances of survival.

In the rare situation that you have an orphaned bunny, such as when a wild bunny's nest is disturbed by another animal or a lawn mower, or when a domestic rabbit refuses to care for her young, you may try feeding with Kitten Milk Replacer (KMR). Remember to feed **ONLY TWICE A DAY**. Overfeeding is a leading cause of death in these youngsters which results in fatal intestinal disease. Provide a soft nest area in a box with clean towels, and cover the babies so it is dark. Do not provide extra heat if the room temperature is at least 65 to 70 deg. F because excessive heat can be fatal. If the room is cooler, then you may place a heating pad on a low setting under no more than **HALF** of the nest so the bunny can move to a cooler area if it gets too warm. If this is a wild rabbit, handle it **ONLY** when during feedings as excessive handling can be extremely stressful and potentially fatal.

You can use KMR (Kitten Milk Replacer) available at most pet stores for the hand feeding formula. You can use cow or goats milk with a little Karo syrup added for a few feedings until you get the KMR which is a more complete formula. **DO NOT** add Karo syrup to the KMR.

The following is a guideline for the daily amount to feed a wild or domestic bunny that will be approximately 5 lbs as an adult. you can increase the amounts as needed for larger breeds: Take the **DAILY** amount listed and divide it into two feedings.



-
- Newborn - 5cc KMR
 - 1 week old - 10-15cc KMR
 - 2 week old - 26-30cc KMR
 - 3 weeks old until weaned - 30cc KMR

(wean at 4 weeks of age)

*** *Eyes open at about 10 days of age.*

*** *One can start introducing them to hay and greens after eyes are open.*

Care of Orphan Rabbits

Susan Brown, D.V.M. (cont.)

If you have a healthy adult rabbit at home and you can collect cecotropes (the soft green droppings that the rabbit usually eats) then these can be mixed with the KMR to give the baby bunny normal bacteria for its intestinal tract. Only one cecotrope per day for 4-5 days is needed. This is particularly important for rabbits under one week of age.

After each feeding it is important to make the bunny defecate and urinate to keep the intestinal tract and urinary system running smoothly. Use a cotton ball moistened with warm water and gently stroke the anal area until the bunny starts producing stool and urine and keep stroking until the bunny stops. You are reproducing the behavior of the mother rabbit who would lick her young to stimulate them to go to the bathroom and to keep the nest clean. The stool will be soft and may be varying shades of green and yellow.

As soon their eyes are open, you may introduce the bunnies to hay, such as alfalfa or timothy, and dark leafy veggies such as dandelion, kale, romaine, collards, Swiss chard, etc. If this is a wild rabbit, you do not need to introduce them to pellets. If this is a domestic rabbit baby, then you may introduce them to pellets at 4 to 6 weeks of age (please refer to the handout Care of Rabbits for more information on diet). Wild rabbits should be released as soon as they are eating hay and greens and are approximately 5 inches in body length. They will be small, but the longer you keep them, the more agitated and difficult to handle they will become and the less likely their chances for survival in the wild.

Small Mammals Series, Dr. Susan A. Brown



Season Greetings to All,

Today the weather outside is a balmy 72 degrees and it's almost December. But Winters icy grip will soon be upon us and winterizing our rabbits is a necessity in cold climates. It's important to remember a rabbit will not eat if it can not drink. Try to make it a point check your rabbits water supply at the bare minimum of twice a day during a cold snap. More if your using hanging water bottles because the sipper tube will freeze well before the water in the bottle does. To alleviate this freezing problem use crocks in the winter. Your rabbit will be able to lick ice if it's thirsty. Another winter related issue comes to mind about harvesting your rabbits wool. Don't be afraid of clipping your angora in the winter. Leave the clipped coat a little longer or put a jacket on your rabbit. I make little jackets for my bunnies by using the sleeve of an old sweat shirt. A short fuzzy coat is warmer than a long matted one.

Until next time.....
Sally S. Campbell in Va.
District Director

Question Corner

Need answers.....Ask it here...

Our question for this issue is....
What do I charge for hand spinning yarn?

Karen H. In S.C. writes -

I charge \$4 per oz for fiber (cat, dog, sheep etc.) provided by the customer (I weight the finished product after it has been spun and washed). My hand spun yarns, most any blend, are \$9 per oz if under 4oz is purchased, over 4 oz I discount to \$7 per oz . 100% angora yarns are \$11 per oz if under 4 oz, and discounted to \$9 per oz if over 4oz. The customer is also charged for postage.

Sherri H. In Va. writes -

The only fiber I have done for other people is dog hair. I charge \$12 per finished ounce of yarn.

Julie writes -

I'm with Sherri, I haven't done any pure angora spinning for pay, just for myself. I do have a rate for wool spinning - it's \$5.00 per ounce, and \$.10 per yard of finished yarn. I did this to accommodate the extra labor in spinning fine yarns - for instance, a 100 yard skein of yarn that's 1 ounce in weight would be \$15.00.

Knowing how much additional work goes into angora spinning, I'd probably charge more for this. I'll also tell you I don't get a lot of yarn purchases, but this is what my time and labor are worth to me.



Spring is just around the corner. Remember our little feathered friends when you are grooming next time. When you clean out your slicker brush after grooming, toss it on the fence or bush nearby for the birds when they build their nests. It will keep the baby birds warm just like the bunnies!



Perfect Patterns

BOBBLE WASHCLOTH

I used Bernat Handicrafter worsted weight cotton yarn and size 8 needles. I slip the first stitch of every row purl wise and knit through the back loop of the last stitch of every row to make the garter stitch edging look nicer.

Cast on 40 stitches. Knit for 7 rows of garter stitch.

Bobble Pattern:

Row 1: (Right Side) K5, Purl until end, end K5.

Row 2: K5, *(K1, P1, K1) in next stitch, P3 tog*, repeat between 's. end K5.

Row 3: KS, P until end, end K5.

Row 4: K5. *P3 tog, (K1, P1, K1) in next stitch, * repeat between .'s, end K5.

Repeat these 4 rows for pattern. Continue until piece measures 9 inches from beginning or until desired length.

Endwith 7 rows of garter stitch. Bind off and weave in ends.

Nanette Blanchard
nanetteb@compuserve.com



Got a neat pattern you wouldn't mine shearing? We would love to include it in the newsletter. Please email it to catnip36@yahoo.com and include a photo if you like.



Classified Adds

Breeders Directory

New Babies -

New babies in the barn and some ready to go. Holland Lops, French Angoras, all born on December 25th. The ones available now are 9 weeks old and some a little older. Call for pricing ... I also will build to suite condo units, call for pricing on units. 615-890-8463 days and 931-728-6044 nights Ask for Cheryl



Need A Web Site -

Web sites designed at reasonable prices. Will build to suit your needs. References available. Contact Kim Gay 770-584-6356 or email at customsignsdesigns@gmail.com www.customsigns-designs.com

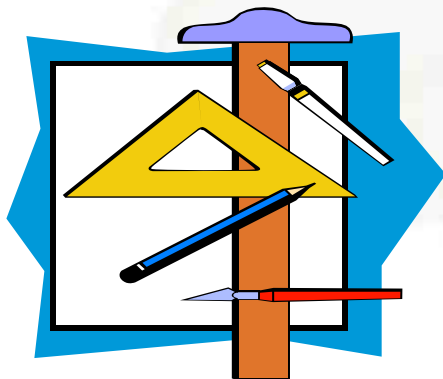
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Links To Look AT -

FiberFemmes - an on-line e-zine celebrating, encouraging, promoting and supporting women (and men) involved in the worldwide fiber arts and industry.



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