

# A few words from Bob Wallace:

Greetings Checkered Giant promoters. The fall seasons always stimulate my interest in researching my breeding herd to make sure I've kept the right stock to continue my gentic plans.

I believe this is necessary to insure improvement in the breed. I still marvel at those who mix their herds as much as they can and then wonder why their young stock does not please them. I am firmly convinced that large gene pools cause many problems. We do well to establish a bloodline and stick to it over a period of time. It may be necessary to bring in some "fresh" blood once in a while but if we do that indiscriminately there are too many unwanted faults in our litters.

Although it is not probable that a lot of unrelated Checkered Giants exist in our country. It is true that breeding animals with the faults double the chances that we will imbed those unwanted characteristics so as to cause us many problems for too long.

The final "authority" and guide to our planning is the standard. It permits us to vary our herd somewhat, but not so much as to cause us problems.

There has always been differences in opinions as to how big or classy a Checkered Giant should be. I suggest to you that size is secondary to length of body, depth and length of limb. Thus; 12# and 13 pound rabbits are requal to 14# and 15 pound rabbits if they all have length and depth.

We continue to see rabbits faulted for marking faults that carry little point wise in our standard. An example is that clean back legs are awarded 2 points. I would like to have all my rabbits devoid of any marking on their back legs, but if some of them have color on the rear of their back legs, they can be faulted 2 points. Thats not enough to place an animal that is clean but poorly typed over one that has excellent type but has "dirty britches." There are other examples that could be cited

concerning ear bases, drags off spines and balance of loin and hip markings.

The final plan must include clean, proper markings but not at the expense of proper bodies and legs.

Bob Wallace



## A few words from Sue Gillespie

Keep Gene in your thoughts as he undergoes surgery in December.

Also, I have several other show reports that have been e-mailed to me, but I am unable to open them. I will do my best to have them in the next issue for all of you. I'm sorry for any problem that this may cause, but I will get the points corrected by the next news bulletin.