

AMERICAN PIGEON JOURNAL



***AMERICAN
SHOW
RACER***

**1990
National
Champion**

Bred And Shown By

**Bill Schlieper,
Castro Valley, Calif.**

AU 90 ASR 109
Blue Check Cock

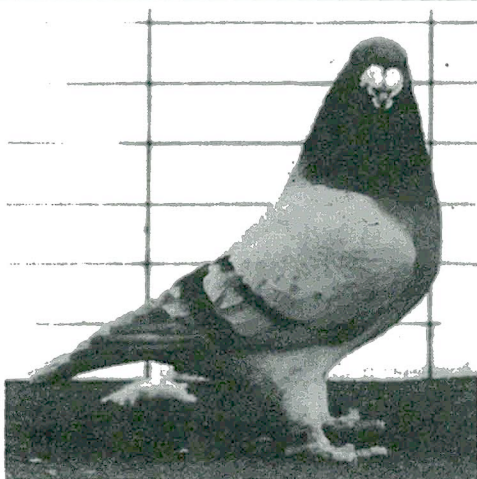
This Issue Devoted Especially To The American Show Racer

September 1991 Worldwide Circulation - \$3 Per Copy \$16 Per Year

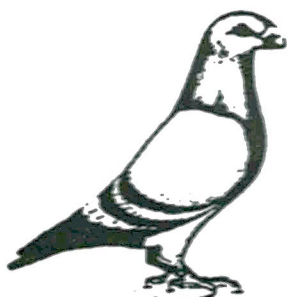
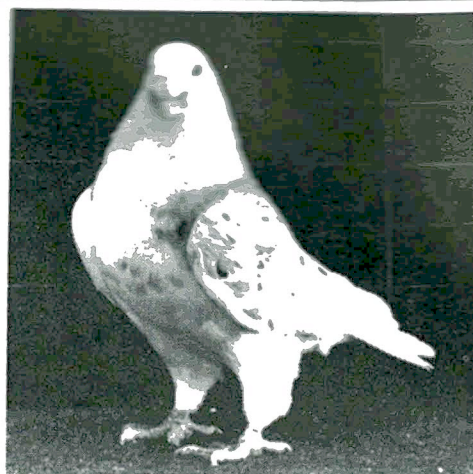
Devoted to the Breeding and Promoting of Pigeons for Pleasure and Profit

Published Monthly at Warrenton, Missouri 63383 U.S.A.

(ISSN 0003-0511)



Indigo Bar Cock #2748-88



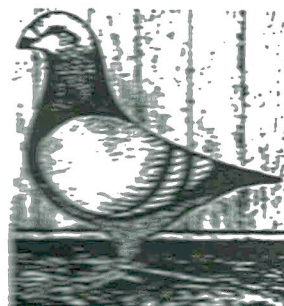
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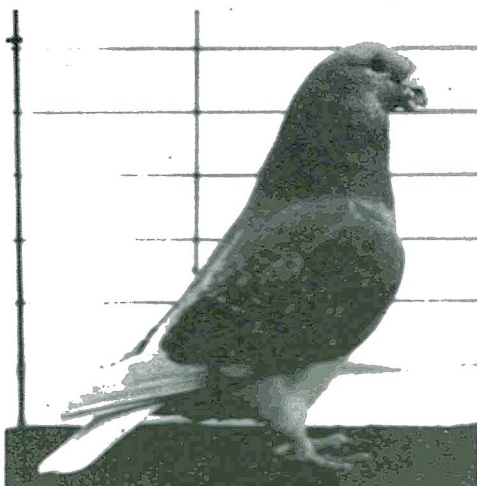
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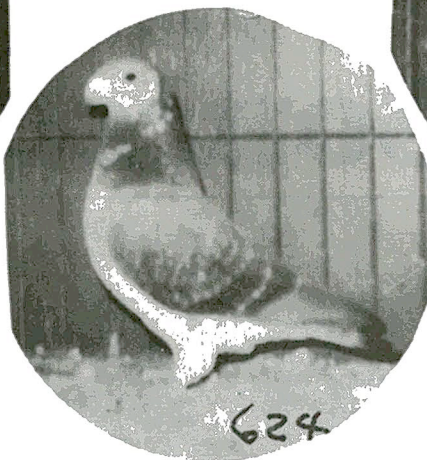
**A LINE BRED
FAMILY**



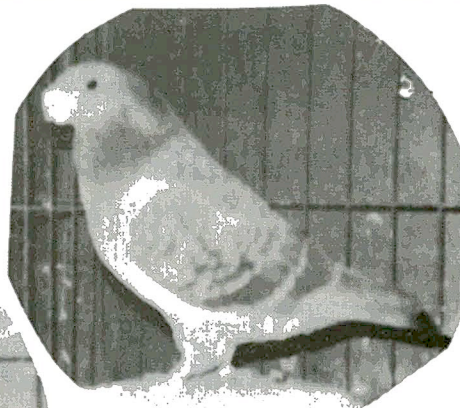
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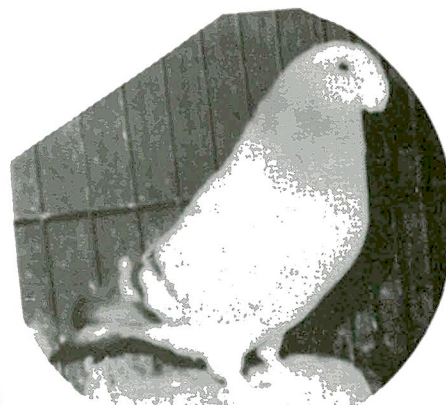
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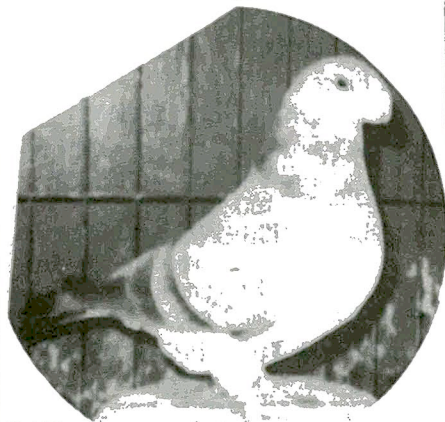


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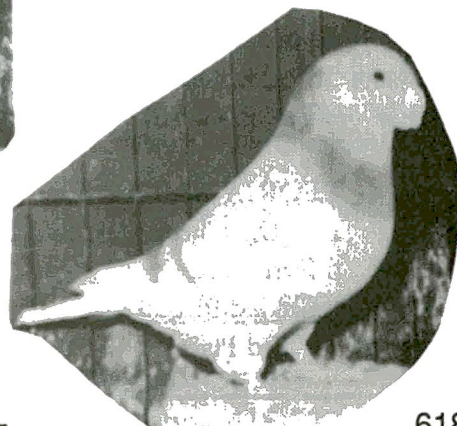


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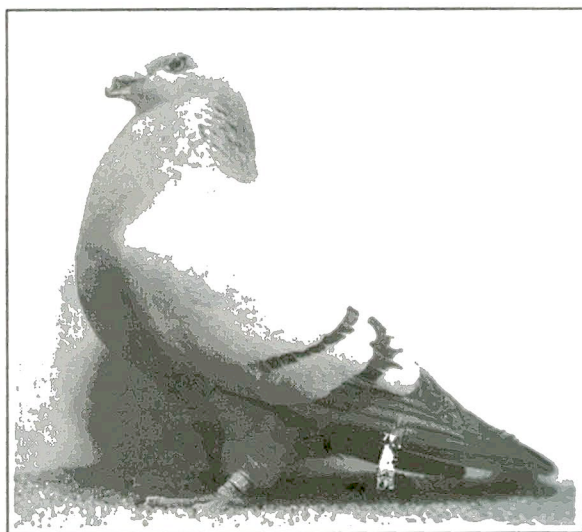
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See Article



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6 Second Place,
3 Third Place

POMONA NATIONAL:

3 First Place, 2 Second Place,
2 Third Place, 2 Fourth Place

PORTLAND NATIONAL:

Best Old Cock, Best Grizzle,
2 First Place, 2 Second Place, 5 Third Place

SALT LAKE NATIONAL:

3 First Place, 6 Second Place, 1 Third Place

-A FAMILY OF QUALITY-

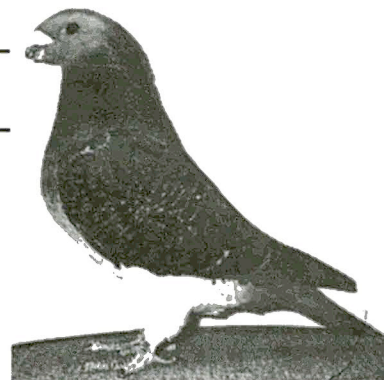
MANY THANKS TO JACK HAMILTON & RICHARD BROOKS FOR
THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THIS FAMILY

FATHER



86-NPA-904 BLUE CHECK
ON LOAN FROM
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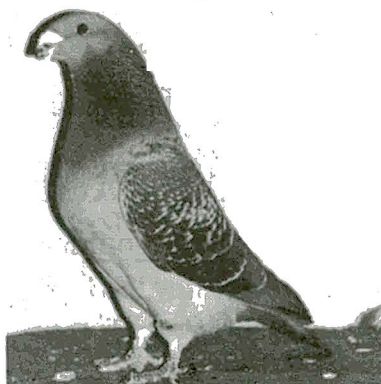
MOTHER



86-ASR-1714 BLACK CHECK
THREE RESERVE CHAMPIONSHIP
INCLUDING 4TH DISTRICT
TEN FIRST PLACE WINS IN 3 YEARS.
DAUGHTER OF #272 FROM
RICHARD BROOKS

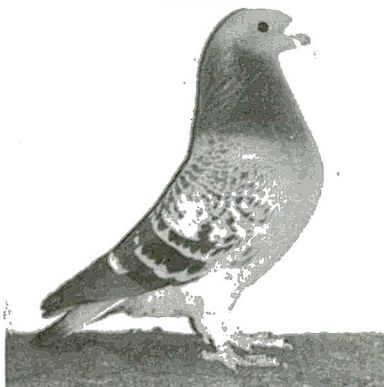
"NIT PAIR"

SON



89-ASR-2064 BLACK CHECK
THREE FIRST PLACE WINS
THREE CHAMPIONSHIPS
1989 PAGEANT CHAMPION
STOCKED

SON



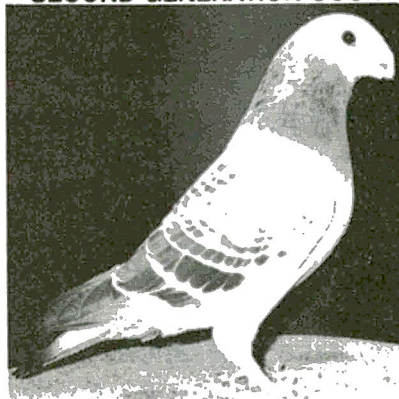
89-ASR-2109 BLUE CHECK
THREE FIRST PLACE WINS
ONE SECOND PLACE
1990 PAGEANT CHAMPION
STOCKED

DAUGHTER



89-ASR-2080 MISMARK
NEVER SHOWN
STOCKED

SECOND GENERATION COCK



90-ASR-109 BLUE CHECK
FOUR FIRST PLACE WINS
ONE SECOND PLACE WIN
GREAT WESTERN CHAMPION
1990 NATIONAL CHAMPION

1990 SHOW RECORD

- Third District Champion, Tulsa, Okla.
- Woodland Champion & Reserve, Woodland, Calif.
- Great Western Champion & Reserve, Watsonville, Calif.
- Pageant Champion & Reserve, Pomona, Calif.
- National Champion, Pomona, Calif.

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- Greater Sacramento Champion, Roseville, Calif.

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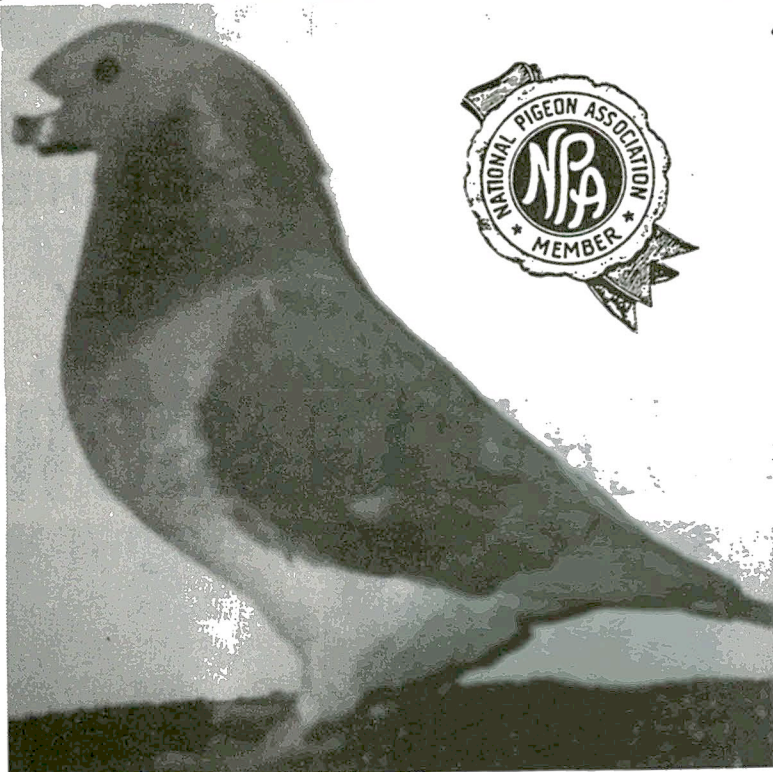
Black Velvet Mismark
Salt Lake Classic
1990

Judge - Bill Schlieper

41 Alpine Loft
Show-Racers placed at
Salt Lake Classic - 1990

ALPINE'S NITE TRAIN

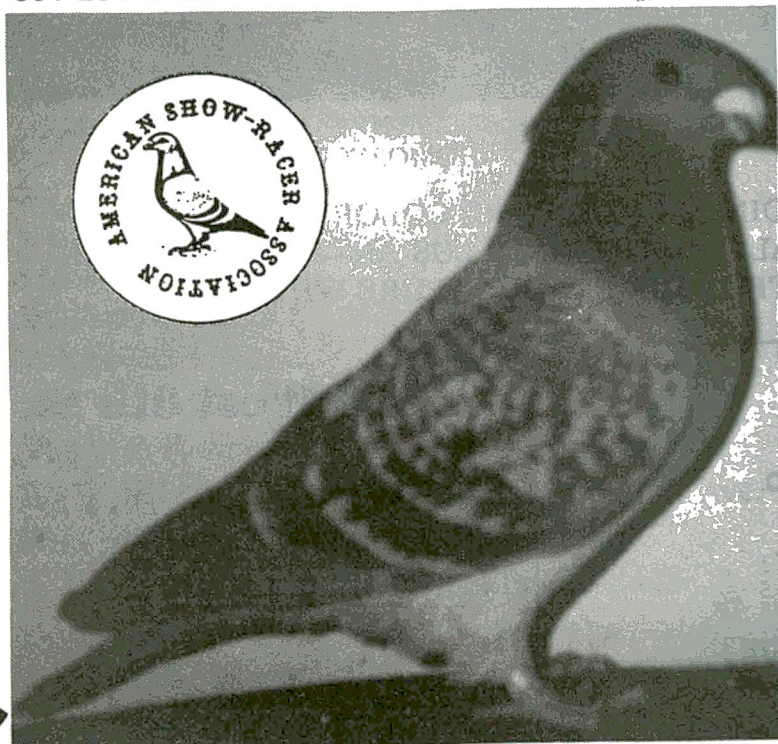
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Best Blue Check

Salt Lake Classic 1990

36 Alpine Loft
Show-Racers placed at
Salt Lake National - 1990

ALPINE'S SALTY MISS

NPA '89 ASR 27

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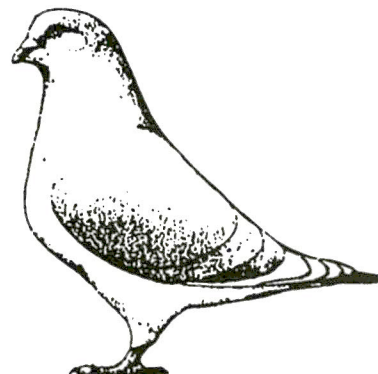
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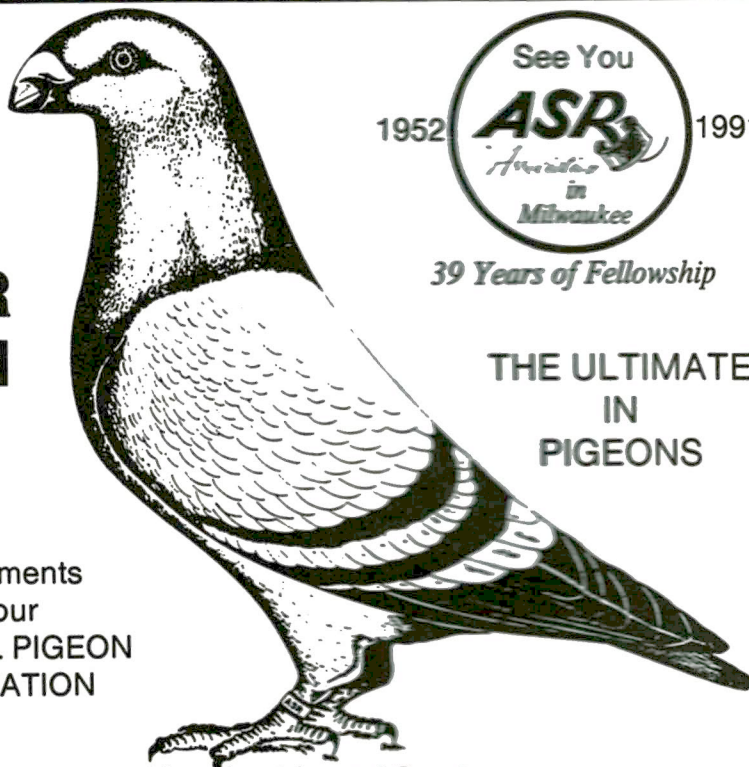
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SHOW-RACER
ASSOCIATION**

on a great
APJ Special Issue



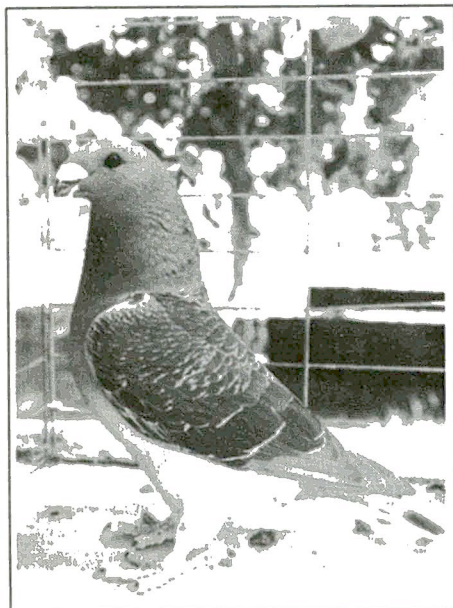
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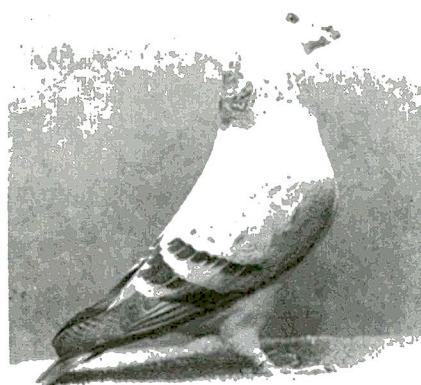
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SEE YOU
AT THE SHOWS

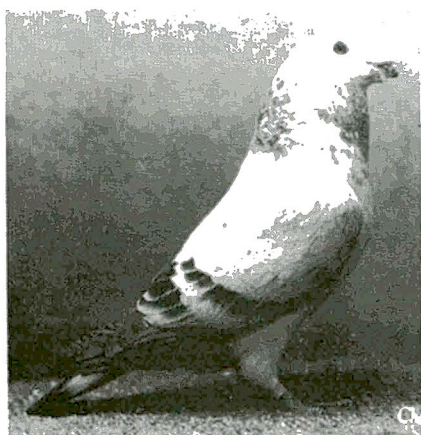
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Grizzle Cock #2831

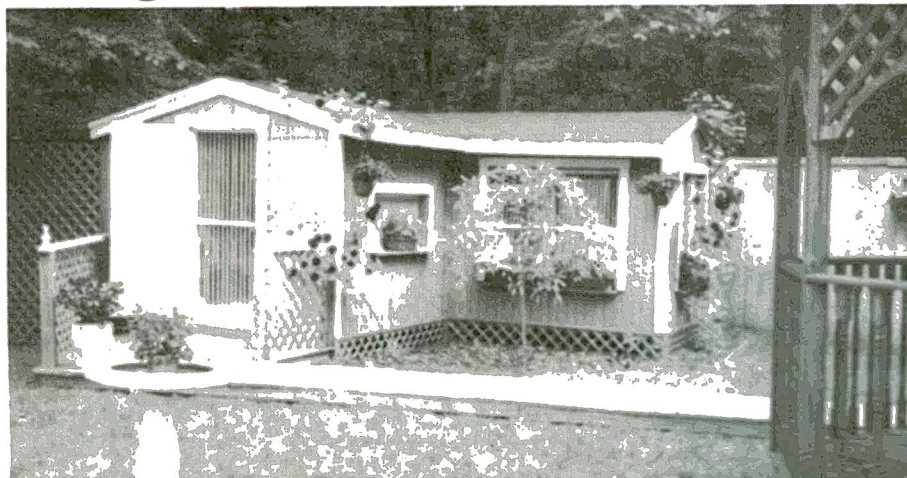


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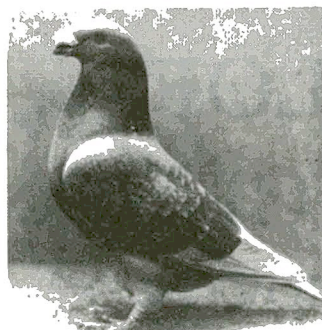
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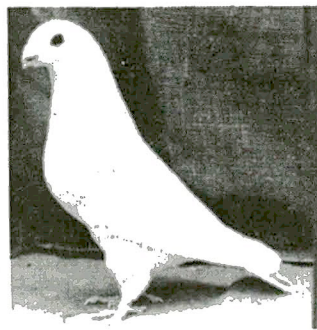
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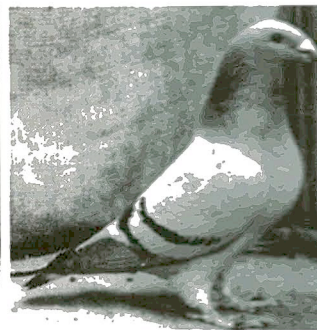
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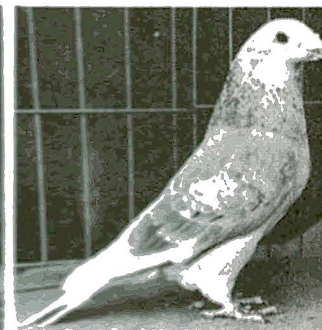
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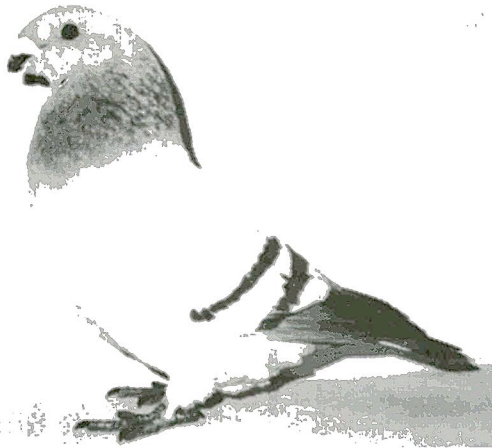
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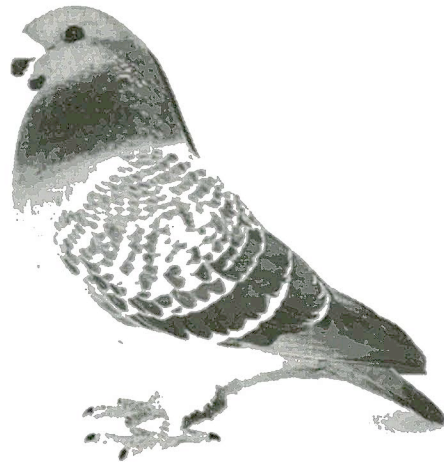
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Sunridge Lofts

BREEDING AND PROMOTING SHOW RACERS



BLUE BAR
YOUNG
HEN
1990
ASR #2866



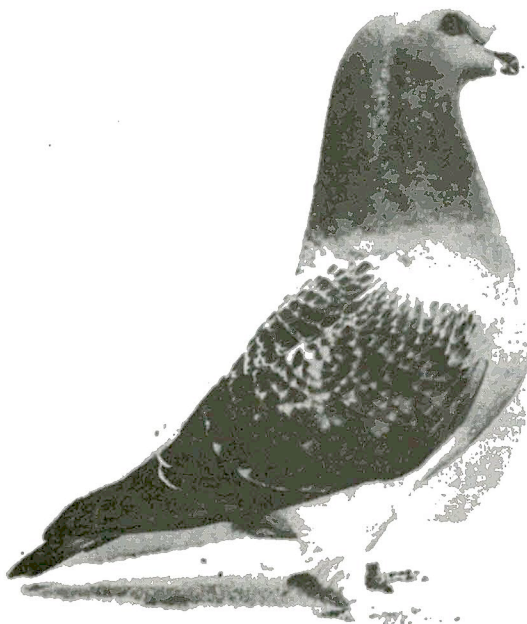
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1989
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*Best Wishes
To All Breeders
Of The
American
Show Racer
And For Years
To Come.*

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Congratulations

To The American Show Racer Assn.

The Bird Of Imperial Bearing

THE AMERICAN SHOW RACER

Joe Pellettieri

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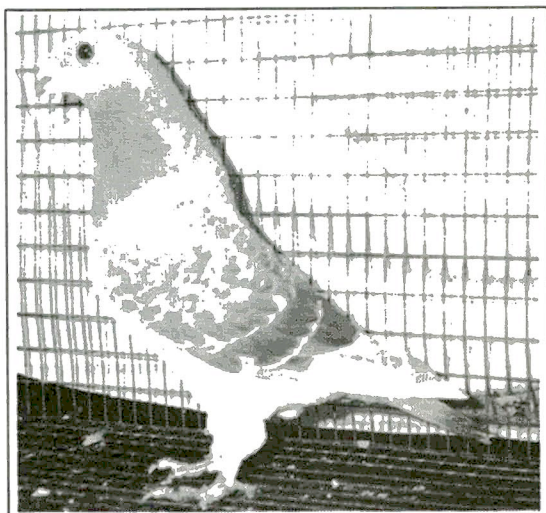
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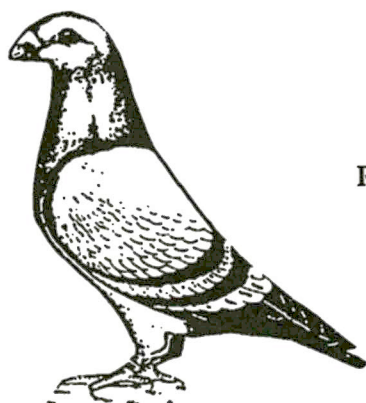


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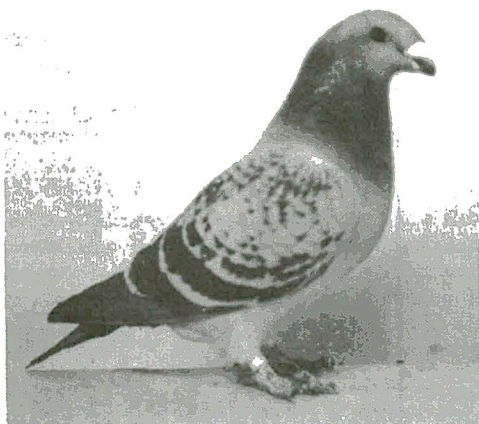
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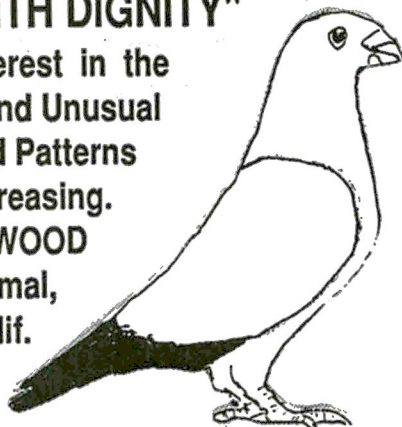
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Our Show Racer Special

We would like to present the American Show Racer Special. Congratulations are in order to all American Show Racer breeders for their generous support through articles, photographs and advertising. Thanks goes to everyone who took part in making this special a success. A special thank you to the two coordinators who organized this effort, namely Richard Brooks and John Johanessen.

Pageant Of Pigeons Moves

As mentioned last month, the Pageant of Pigeons has moved to a new location, namely the Citrus Building, at the National Orange Show Fairgrounds, San Bernardino, Calif. The Pageant also has new dates—Dec. 11-14.

In this month's issue on page 93 is the entry blank for the show. Also, in this issue, Frank Barrachina, Pageant show secretary, has written an article giving details on the new show site as well as other pertinent information. See page 69.

Pigeons Outlawed

Catchy headline? Take note, today more laws are being passed against keeping pigeons and doves. Our hobby is on the decline, without the help of lawmakers making decisions to further the situation.

On page 71 of this issue is a story that should be of interest to everyone. The plight of these men is becoming more commonplace throughout the country. If you can be of any help, it would be appreciated.

Avian Assistance Council

In conjunction with the above item, the Avian Assistance Council is available to help pigeon fanciers with similar problems. The goals of this group are: 1. Procure promulgation of statutes and ordinances conducive to the enjoyment of breeding, showing and flying of pigeons and all other avian species; 2. Aid in the defense of non-justifiable infringement of the rights of affected avian participants.

If you need information or assistance contact: Eastern Area Coordinator, Stanley Harr, 100 Mallard Lane, East Peoria, Ill. 61611, 309-822-8422 or Western Area Coordinator, Ken Nickel, 7133 Wild Valley, Dallas, Texas 75225, 214-340-8619.

The Avian Assistance Council is sponsored by the American Racing Pigeon Union.

The Passenger Pigeon

The Passenger Pigeon story is the most exciting of bird histories. Its flocks darkened the skies in the colonial period of our history. In less than a man's life, 1850-1899, the estimated three to five billion birds were reduced to a lonely female named Martha at the Cincinnati Zoological Gardens. Martha died September 1, 1914.

Joe Quinn's search for the voice of this long lost pigeon should interest the boy's (and girl's) of all ages who truly love pigeons.

"The Passenger Pigeon: A Boy's Story" is now available from the American Pigeon Journal. It is xerox printed and spiral bound. The cost is \$12.95 plus postage. (See book ad for postage amount.)

Thanks To Everyone For Another Outstanding Special

No Special is ever better than the combined efforts and talents of those club members contributing to it. That being true, I believe we have here an outstanding Show Racer Special. Our heartfelt thanks to the many who wrote articles and sent in pictures. When we started assembling this material two years ago we had several goals in mind. I believe all have been realized. Here are those goals. First, that this special would be of interest to every pigeon fancier, regardless of the breed he/she raises. With this in mind there are several articles of general information regarding polygamous breeding, winter breeding using lights and heat, hard to find feed and others. Second, we wanted this all new. The only previously used materials are updated lists of master breeders and of National winners. Third, we wanted it geographically representative. There are articles from all sections of the country plus articles from Canada, Australia and South Africa. Fourth, we wanted information from the master breeder and novice, from young and old, from serious showmen and from those who seldom if ever leave their own home country. We believe we have achieved all these goals and hope this special will be a valuable source of information and assistance to each of you for many years to come.

Richard Brooks & John Johanessen, Co-Editors
American Show Racer Special

Visitors At The Office

Gary Fillmore, Paris, Ky., and Dr. W.F. Hollander, Ames, Iowa, were recent visitors to the APJ office. We would like to thank them for stopping by and hoped they enjoyed it.

Too Late To Classify

A new feature is being added to our classified ad section starting with this issue. The new addition, "Too Late To Classify" will have ads that have come into our office after we have set up the classified ads, but when there is still time to include them at the end of the section. If the ad is to run more than one month, it will appear under the proper heading the following month.

Moments With "Mike"

Louis E. Wickell, Chickasaw, Ala.: "Please find enclosed my renewal for two years to your journal. I always look forward to its arrival. I raise Domestic Flights, Lahores and Old Dutch Capuchines. I would like to see more articles on Old Dutch Capuchines and Lahores. I want to congratulate you on your super magazine. Keep up the good work."

Due to an oversight, Lyle Wells' classified ad under Old Dutch Capuchines should have been cancelled several months ago. We are sorry for any inconvenience.

Analyzing The American Show Racer Standard

by AMOS E. HODSON,
Los Alamitos, Calif.

The Show Racer, which originated from the Racing Homer, should have a strong, athletic build, good feathering and bright, expressive eyes. The bird should be at attention, look alert, and be aware of what is going on at all times. We want all the above in a bird that is easy to handle and possesses a calm disposition. I believe you will agree this is quite a package.

Looking back to the first requirement, the athletic build, has caused me to do a lot of thinking. Having had the Giant Homer as my first breed, I developed the ability to appreciate and recognize a good body early on. Of course the body characteristics of the two breeds vary considerably, and in several ways. The key word is "recognize." There are Show Racer breeders; yes, and judges, who just do not recognize a good body. Obviously, without recognition, there can be no real appreciation.

It is not my purpose, in this article, to explain how to test, by hands, for body quality. Perhaps a future article might attempt this. However, it is easier to learn by watching and sharing first hand with someone who can recognize a good body, rather than just reading about it. The purpose of this article is to determine how important it is to know how to recognize a quality body, as well as certain other features of the bird, by hand and finger feel.

Accompanying this article is a table entitled "American Show Racer Standard Points Distribution." We will be referring to this table as we proceed. In this table the individual features of the Show Racer have been placed into one of the four groupings each of which is valued at 25 points as is indicated in our Standard. Recognizing that some features are evaluated by sight, and others by feel, a determination as to how to assign appropriate points to each feature had to be made. I took what seems to me to be the most simple and obvious route in order to accomplish this. If there were five features within a group (one of the four 25 point groups) I simply divided five into 25 and arrived at an evaluation of five points per feature. If there were six features in the next group, then each feature would rate four and one sixth points.

Some may argue that the judge, or breeder, can assign the 25 points within a group in any way he desires. Thus, he could evaluate the features according to what he believes to be most important. My argument against such an approach is that, in order to do this we would have to have a Standard in which verbage allowed such flexibility. Our Standard does not. Should the Standard contain such flexibility, it would contribute to more inconsistency than we now have, and we have plenty. Our Standard does say "a judge

AMERICAN SHOW RACER - STANDARD POINTS DISTRIBUTION			
Features	Total Points	Sight	Feel
Head	4.16		
Beak	4.16		
Wattle	4.16		
Eye	4.16		
Eye Cere	4.16		
Neck	4.16		
Total 25 Points		25.000	
Body Size	3.57	1.785	1.785
Weight	3.57		3.570
Body Condition	3.57		3.570
Vents	3.57		3.570
Back	3.57	1.785	1.785
Chest	3.57	1.785	1.785
Keel	3.57		3.570
Total 25 Points			
Wings	4.16	2.080	2.080
Back Cover	4.16	4.160	
Tail	4.16	2.080	2.080
Feather Condition	4.16	2.080	2.080
Color	4.16	4.160	
Marking	4.16	4.160	
Total 25 Points			
Station	5.00		
Legs	5.00		
Feet	5.00		
Balance	5.00		
Behavior	5.00		
Total 25 Points		25.000	
Totals	100.00	74.075	25.875
Percentages	100%	74%	26%

has no right to set his own standard." Should judges be given the right to distribute the 25 points within the groupings as they see fit; they would, in effect, be setting their own standards: one might assign ten points to eye color while the next might assign only two, etc.

Referring back to the previously mentioned table, what do we observe? Following my logic, 74 points are sight determined and 26 are feel determined. If the judge (or breeder) does not understand the feel points, he might be throwing 26 points, or over one fourth of the entire evaluation of the bird, out

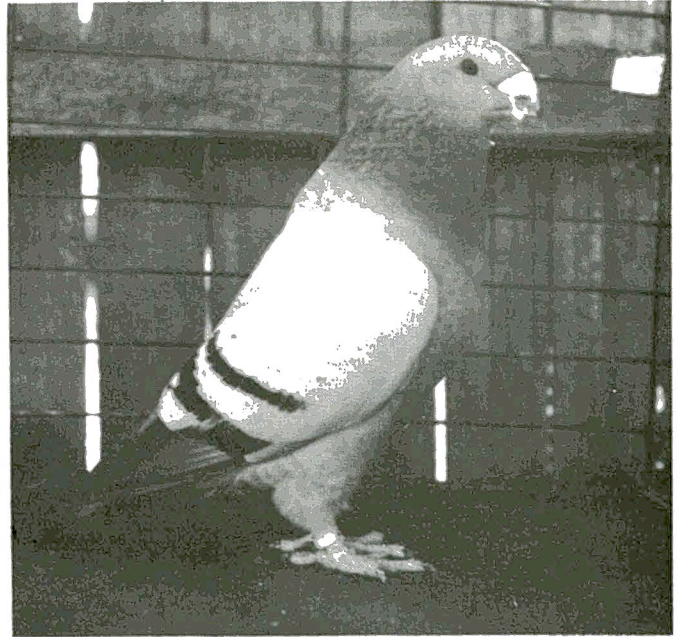
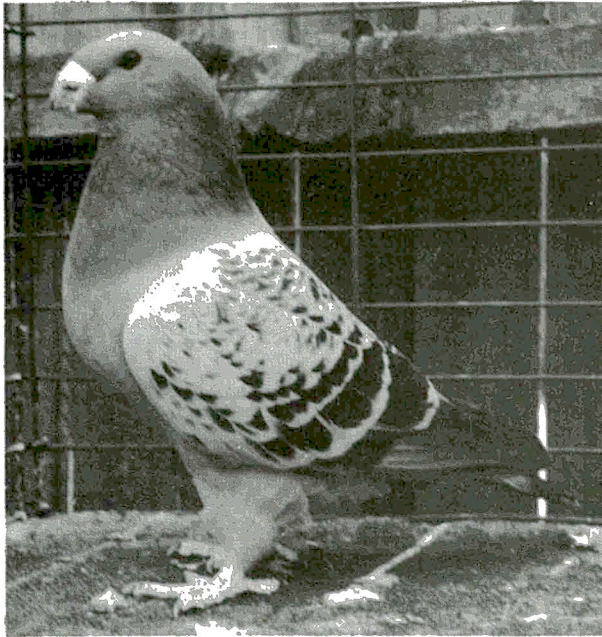
the window. The first and fourth groups of our Standard are sight determined. The second and third groups are a combination of sight and feel. Examples of the combinations would be feather condition and body size. There are others. The second group is the only one mostly determined by feel. There is no group in which evaluation is determined by feel alone.

An interesting observation is that the more features there are within a single 25 point grouping, the lower will be the point value for each feature within that group. Applying this rationale, the head would have a four and

one sixth point value, while the feet would receive five points. Did you realize that feet carry that much weight? (No pun intended)

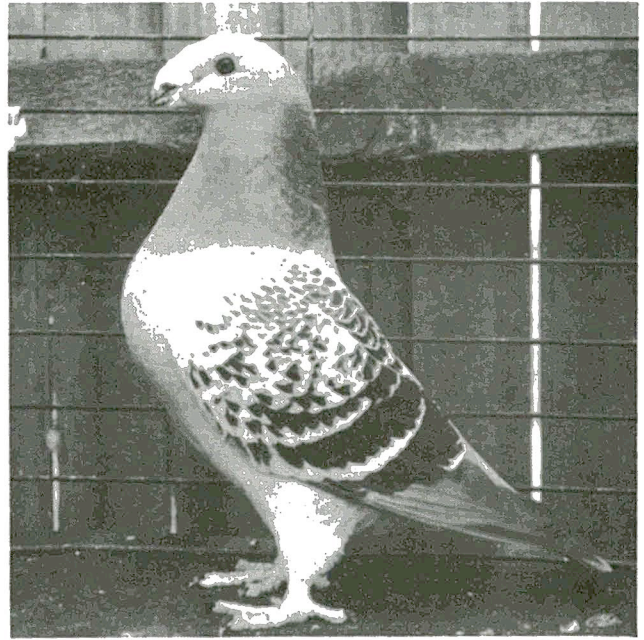
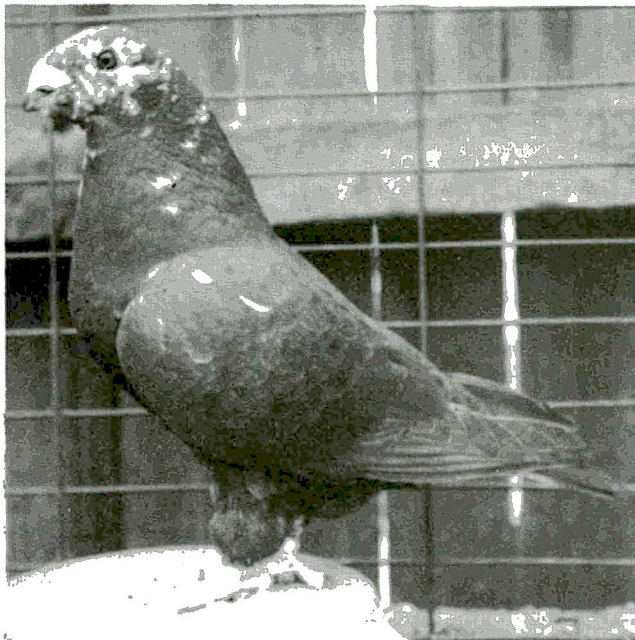
My conclusion is that the standard does require some re-working, and perhaps reorganizing. Personally, I have never seen the need for point assignment to individual features as an aid in judging. By point use, as thus presented, a judge would need a computer if he would effectively utilize feature points in judging the pigeons. Of course he could point evaluate each pigeon against the

(Continued On Next Page)



AMERICAN SHOW RACERS

On the left is Blue Check Cock #88-808. On the right is Blue Bar cock #89-5. Both birds bred by Amos Hodson. – Photos by Hodson.



AMERICAN SHOW RACERS

On the left is Spread Black Grizzle Hen #88-860. On the right is Blue Check Hen #89-19. Both birds bred by Amos Hodson. – Photos by Hodson.

standard and give champion to the one with the most points. Unfortunately, this process is very slow and seldom arrives at the best example of the breed being crowned champion. It just does not take into account overall "balance." Perhaps the most important feature of all, balance, in this table, is assigned only five points.

Normally, pigeons are judged by comparison and contrast, to see which is closer to the Standard. Certainly, there is a most definite need for feature point evaluation, espe-

cially to emphasize the importance of the features and to encourage improvement of those features lacking in quality or beginning to deteriorate. A good example for our day could be the predominance of poor eye color.

I have enjoyed writing this article, and my eyes have been opened in some respects. I hope this study causes all of us to think more concerning the issues raised. It becomes apparent that, in judging the American Show Racer, the hands must be trained to

detect and appreciate the features that are feel related. I have seen judges squeeze a bird with both hands and exclaim "What a body!", only to return that bird to the judging coop and give the best looking bird first place. Squeezing alone will not determine the value of feel related features. On the other hand, it is possible to assign too much importance to the feel of the pigeon (or to any other single feature). It is the ability to properly assess the feel and sight features in balance that results in good judging and any inability to do this makes competent judging of our breed very difficult, if not impossible.

There is presently a suggested program under way within our club to train and instruct Show Racer breeders who aspire to be judges. Hopefully this suggested program will be; in effect by the time this article is printed.

Starting A Family

by JOHN T. JOHANESSEN, No. Stonington, Conn.

When you decide to get started into a breed or become a serious breeder, you just can't go out and buy birds from all over. This hit and miss method requires too many years and can only be undertaken by the very young or foolish.

Breeding a family is a little bit like cooking. Too many ingredients spoils the broth. Stay with just a few ingredients, keep it under control. Add them together, stew it, stir it, allow it to simmer, either extract or cover over the waste products and bring forth a new compound. Your strain, and yours alone. Add additional flavoring every now and then but don't overwhelm the broth with too many additional ingredients at once. But in particular, cast out the items immediately, that spoil the broth, get back to a manageable broth.

One should ONLY buy birds from established breeders. DIFFERENT breeders, at least two, but no more than three. Two cocks and two hens are more than enough to start with. As you've heard many times buy the best that you can afford to. That means those with the fewest faults. Try to get birds that compliment each other. In other words, what one lacks the other has. Buying birds from only one breeder means that you can never beat that breeder. Not unless he made a mistake in culling you can't. Older breeders are more secure and will part with better birds, in particular, if they would like to see some of their line around. Established breeder will part with real good birds, but not until they've gone slightly beyond that level. The only way to beat an established breeder with his own stock, is with a poor judge. But getting a key bird or two from an established breeder first, then finding a mate that will compliment or improve an area or two, then you have a chance to beat that breeder. Buying birds from many breeders requires time to get rid of those extra genes that you can't use.

Buy the best that you can afford, and hope that the bought birds have many of the characteristics of winners within your chosen breed. Buy only a FEW birds, not many, and look at them recombined with all, or most all, the features of the present winners. Study the standard carefully, watch what type birds are

winning. Most times certain features within breeds are considered more important to have than other features, regardless of the standard, try to get these. In particular, sit up and take notice when a winning breeder or established judge says, "without this we just don't have _____," or "this just isn't this breed without," or "we like our breed to have," or, "I don't think we can have enough of."

I spent two years finding the correct birds to compliment each other. Even then, I wasn't totally happy, but they were the best that I could find that were available. I also had two other years of crosses before this that I totally destroyed as too far to go. After attending the Nationals I came to realize that while my first group was beginning to win locally when they went against the big boys nationally, I had a ways to go. If one is a serious breeder you can't tolerate that nonsense. The Nationals is where it's at, being kingfish at the local fair or state show is another whole ball game.

Winning breeders ALWAYS have pedigrees. When you look at these pedigrees you will notice certain numbers repeating themselves over a number of years. These were the leap forward birds. You will also notice that the birds way back are owner bred, not from all different breeders. Once in a while you will notice a new bird introduced from another breeder. This was for either a new color or certain trait, but the line comes right back to the family once that trait is added. Upon careful inspection, you will find only one trait at a time crossed in, because to add any more than one is to make the gene pool too wide and random. This means too much extra junk to get rid of along with the trait you want. One has to help luck, or random assortment along to be successful. Good, bad or indifferent, it's your family, keep improving it, but DON'T just keep adding all sorts of birds and widening the gene pool to where you are back to the hit and miss method of breeding.

Be like a sculptor. View your finished product, get the parts necessary, combine and recombine until you hit the correct combination. Then stay with that combination and start a family.

Formation Of The ASRA As I Recall It

by ART W. KEHL,
Watertown, Wisc.

Without a doubt the Watertown Pigeon Club played a leading role in bringing about the formation of the club that is today known as the ASRA. Let's look at some recorded facts. In the premium books of the Watertown Club in the year 1950 the leading class was referred to as "Racing Homers." In 1951 it was called "Show Racers" and in 1952 "Show Pen Racers." This change of names came about because of a meeting held at the home of Clayton (Bus) Lutes in Chicago Heights, Illinois. Present from the Illinois-Indiana area were: Don Lutes, Harry Relinski, Gus Bereolis, Gil Opeerman, and Arlene and Bus Lutes. Present from Watertown were: Tom Nack, Harold Hoeft, Walter Schwenkner, Art Kohls, and Rose and Art Kehl.

Basically the problem this group wished to overcome was that, while there were usually a good number of Homers shown at the National Show, there was no written or adopted standard for the breed which had been approved by any group. The only written standard was published prior to that time in Twombly's book. Accompanying that standard were pictures of winning birds, but no ideal drawing. Whitney's drawing showed a bird with a head heavier than any we had to show at that time.

Arlene and Bus Lutes, and Rose and myself busied ourselves in the dining room counting the ballots of the NPA election. Bus was elected commissioner. Meanwhile the others met in the family rec room to discuss the formation of a club to sponsor Racing Homers at the National Show. I didn't personally know what had happened at that meeting until we were driving back home and the fellows riding with me brought me up to date as to their decisions. Don Lutes had been elected president, and Art Kohls secre-

tary-treasurer of the new club. The recently published drawing by Eli Whitney of a Show Racer was adopted as the standard of our breed. The annual meet would move to the site of the NPA annual meet and the new club would continue to show at Watertown. They had struggled with a name for the organization, as they wanted to be sure to have it all inclusive: they finally decided to call it the National Show Pen Racer Association of America.

The 1951 Premium Book of the Watertown Club was already at the printer and so it contained the name "Show Racer" as it had appeared on Whitney's drawing. The 1952 edition carried the new name and the organization was a going club.

Let us look at who exhibited "Show Racers" at Watertown in 1951. The list includes John Sandin and Fred Peel from Des Moines; Harry Robinson from Lincoln, Nebraska; Martin Frank, Fred Fuchs and Walter Behling

from Milwaukee; Harold Hoeft, Tom Nack, Art Kohls and myself from Watertown. All of these fanciers became members of the newly organized club and all showed at the first National meet in Des Moines.

Another key to our history and insight comes from one of the Watertown Club's most prestigious awards – the Koehler Trophy. Its inscription reads: "The Watertown Pigeon Club, in Honor of Robert Koehler, an ardent fancier and showman of Racing Homers, who was killed in action in New Guinea, Nov. 20, 1942, presents this award for one year to the Champion Racing Homer at its annual show." During the first ten years of that award the winners were: Jacob S. Barnard, Medford, Mass.; Dr. Earl C. Aldritt, Wichita, Kansas; Walter Pieper, Milwaukee, Wisc.; Walter Behling, Milwaukee, Wisc.; Tom Nack, Watertown, Wisc.; David Jansky, Watertown, Wisc. Pieper actually repeated three times and Barnard won again

in 1953 at the meet of the Show Racer Pen Racer Club.

As Don Lutes wrote in his article in the May 1982 APJ Show Racer Special, the first official show held with the NPA was held in Des Moines, Iowa in 1952. I do not recall attending a meeting there, but apparently one was held at which time Harry Robinson of Lincoln, Nebraska was elected Vice President. Neither do I recall any meeting of fanciers at the following National, also held at Des Moines. However, I clearly recall the big point of discussion at the Indianapolis National in 1954. In order to get a head the size shown on our standard drawing, most of our birds had become much heavier than the standard weights permitted. As a result, most lofts had two distinct types of birds. The larger, with the heavy head and neck we wanted, were much over weight while the other, smaller type bird also had a smaller

(Continued On Next Page)



Art W. Kehl as he appeared on Canadian television judging birds at the Winnipeg show. Art was one of the founders of the ASRA and still is an active member, breeder and exhibitor.

head and neck and were what we had been showing prior to Whitney's drawing. A certain group wanted the organization to recognize both types as breeds sponsored. We were to call the larger birds "Show Racers" and the smaller ones "Likeliest Flyers." At that point in time Denby Williamson of Casper, Wyoming, was a member of the club, and in attendance. It was he who helped lead the opposition to trying to sponsor two types of birds.

During this period I was personally wound up in the detail work of being Secretary-Treasurer of the NPA and just assumed things were going well with the Show Pen Club. However, a club meeting held at the Stockton, California, National in 1958 strongly indicated that some problems existed. The organization was extremely fortunate in that about that time Earl Schultz of Brookfield, Wisc., became president of the club and really took control of the situation. He not only wrote a complete standard, but the club constitution and by-laws as well. In accomplishing this, Earl would write what he considered to be best and send it around for critique to Archie Adams of Wichita, Kansas, Wendell Levi of Sumter, S.C., and myself. We made comments and returned it to Earl. He didn't stop working on this project until he had a finished product that stood for a good many years. It was during this period that the name was changed to the ASRA.

Since that time we have had some ups and downs, but by and large, the organization is headed in the right direction and the breed attracts quite a few new fanciers each and every year. Hopefully, NPA will get back to some system of rotation which will help with a balanced national membership.

Forty Years With Show Racers

by JACK HAMILTON, Bellflower, Calif.

Some have expressed an interest in knowing more about my family of Show Racers. I have always liked pigeons and had Racing Homers as a boy. As a young man I flew in the races in Southern California, first in Long Beach, then Pasadena and later in Bellflower to where I moved in 1954. In the 1950's, I had formed a partnership with a friend, Ted Burch. We called our loft Burch and Hamilton. We liked the idea of showing our birds. In 1950 the Queen Beach Racing Pigeon Show was held in Long Beach. Ted and I entered birds, and were soundly defeated by Bob Trane, now of Show Racer fame. Ted and I decided right then and there we had to have some Show Racers, and good ones. We talked to Bob and learned that he had purchased two blue bar hens from George Twombly of Massachusetts. One of these hens was Champion at the A.U. Convention Show. A few years later a local fancier, Curtis Blockley, paid Trane \$100 for that hen, an unheard of price at that time. After mulling over what to do for quite a time, in 1954, Ted and I purchased a pair of birds from Trane, the hen being a sister of the hen Blockley had purchased.

Meanwhile, some of the best Show Racers then on the West Coast were owned by Jack Costello. When Jack died, Gordon Hays obtained some of his birds. In 1957, Ted and I joined with Al Williamson in purchasing some of the best of these Costello birds. These were the best we had found available up until that time, but we wanted better. In 1961, Joe Frazier loaned me a real nice red

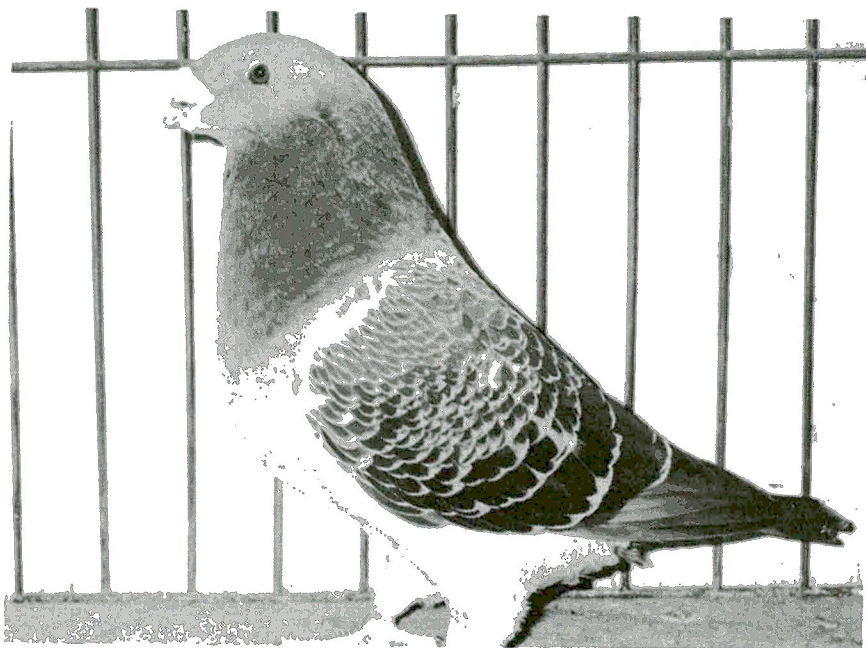
check hen.

During this period Ted decided to get married and so I had the birds to myself. I became rather frustrated with my situation, working long hours and trying to give proper care to the Racing Homers and the Show Racers. In 1964 I offered all my Show Racers for sale and Joe Frazier bought the entire stud. However, when he came to pick up the birds he stated that he did not like splashes and left in the loft two old splashed mealy cocks. A year or so before I sold out to Frazier, I started Larry Martin in Show Racers. I gave him four birds, one of which was an outstanding black check cock. His daughter had been champion at the Pageant in 1963. At that Pageant someone really roughed up my birds and that was part of the reason I had decided to sell out in 1964.

In 1964 I paid very little attention to the two old splashed cocks Frazier had left in the loft except to feed and water them. In 1965 I mated them to some of my good Stassart racing hens. I also obtained a blue bar hen, #766 from Richard Brooks. The above few birds were useful in my new start. I added a few during the next few years, mostly from Rex Thompson's cull pen. Rex was going to kill them so I took them. Most didn't work out, but a few did. In 1971, I obtained some birds from Norm McClister. These were a cross of Amos Hodson bloodlines and my own Norm had purchased from Joe Frazier of the bloodlines Frazier had purchased from me. One of these McClister birds was an old pearl eyed blue bar cock, then 12 years of age. I had bred this old cock and he had been a foundation bird in my pre-sale family. Also among these McClister birds was a blue bar son of the old pearl eyed cock crossed over a Hodson hen which had won consistently for McClister. I also obtained birds from Clint Childers about this time and they helped.

From 1972 until 1978 Norm and I swapped birds each year. In 1972, I obtained a blue bar hen and a red bar cock from Hodson, both of which were real help. In 1973, I obtained four birds from a fancier in Orange County. Of these two pairs, one was Bill Rice and the other from Amos Hodson. Of these four birds I only keep one - a beautiful red check cock #72 ASR 314. That cock was to become the grandsire of McClister's Dayton National Champion. He is in all my present day birds.

In 1977, a tree fell across my hen loft and killed all my good hens. I had recently culled the birds and had 12 culled hens in another loft. As I couldn't find any good hens for sale, I had to use these culls. After his breeding season, Norm McClister let me have two or three of his hens which were heavy in my own bloodlines. In December 1978, Norm McClister died suddenly. In January 1979, I



AMERICAN SHOW RACER

One of Jack Hamilton's greatest breeding cocks, #NPA 84 ED 772 DCC. He is a son of #78 EJ 221 BB Spl. C.

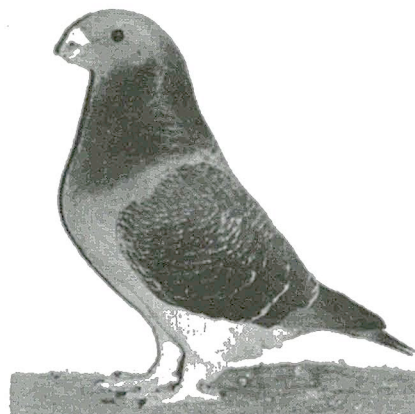
purchased six hens from Mrs. McClister. These were all closely related to my own family of birds. Most of the rest of Norm's birds went to Glenn Motzkus of Salt Lake City and to Lauren Porsch of Tacoma, Washington (this is the present Ralph Whitson loft). Others purchased the remaining birds. Norm's Dayton Champion went to Porsch.

During this period one of the great and pleasant surprises of my years with Show Racers happened. From a Hamilton-Hodson cross blue check hen and a Hamilton-Hodson cross blue bar cock, I bred eight recessive opals, the first I had ever bred or seen. That same hen was mated later to a dark check cock of Rice bloodlines and also bred recessive opals with him. One of these, #71 EC 356, opal bar cock, became the foundation bird to all my birds bred from 1972 to the present time. When this cock was quite old I loaned him to Richard Brooks and all his recessive opals are down from him also. In 1971, I had obtained a blue check hen from Norm McClister. She was from a pair of birds I had sold Frazier in 1963. I mated her to the very outstanding cock of the opal lines. From this I bred a truly outstanding blue check hen, #72-EB 257. I mated her to the red check cock #314 (previously mentioned) and bred two outstanding red check cocks (among other good ones). One of these was the father of Norm McClister's Dayton Champion. His number was 74-EA 916.

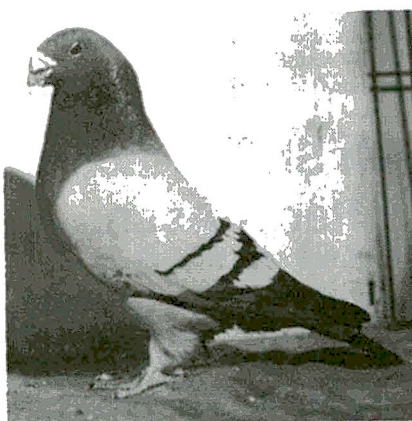
In 1980, I didn't mate my birds at all. I had been very close to Norm McClister and his death left its mark on me. Prior to that, however, in 1978, I had bred two outstanding cocks which were, after 1980, to become the fountainheads of my present family. They were nestmates, numbers 221 and 220. Their great, great grandfather on both sides was the old opal cock #356. One of these cocks was a smoky blue bar tic and the other was a red bar. Their father was a 1977 hatch cock #184 and a 1975 hatch hen #2187 was their dam (she being sired by 74 EA 916 red check cock). From 221 and a grizzle hen, daughter of 220, I bred one of the best pigeons I ever raised #79 ASR 2610 blue bar cock. From this cock's offspring for several generations have come some of those exceptional cocks I own and show today, including the cock #908 that Bill Schlieper has used with such great success. #908, mated to a daughter of Brooks #272, make up Bill's "Nit" pair which have raised a dozen outstanding birds each year for the past two years and are now being linebred. This cock is straight Hamilton lines, being down from 2610 on both sides. The sire of the "Nit" hen is 1108, a Brooks-Trane cross.

In summary, I have developed a family from the few superior birds I could buy, borrow or breed. I'd say my cocks are very strong, especially in the head. I do not consider my hens as strong as my cocks. In fact,

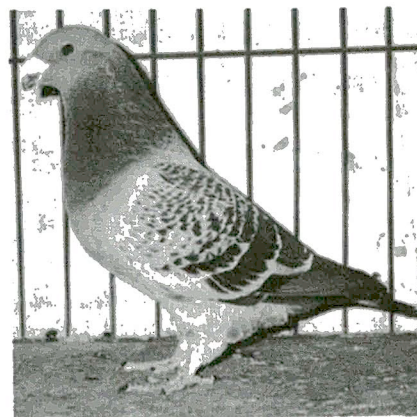
within the past few years I have acquired birds from Jack Fix in an effort to strengthen the hen line. I am also exchanging birds with Bill Schlieper through our process of using certain key cock birds from me on his key hens. Although I am now 65 years of age, and retired, I still get as much thrill and excitement in breeding a good one as I did 40 years ago. I have enjoyed breeding and seeing them in the loft most of all. I make a few of the West Coast shows, and win my share in very strong competition, but still enjoy just walking among them in the loft, selecting matings, and banding those babies. All my breeding is done in individual compartments so I know exactly what each baby is from. I hope this lets you know the Hamilton birds a bit better.



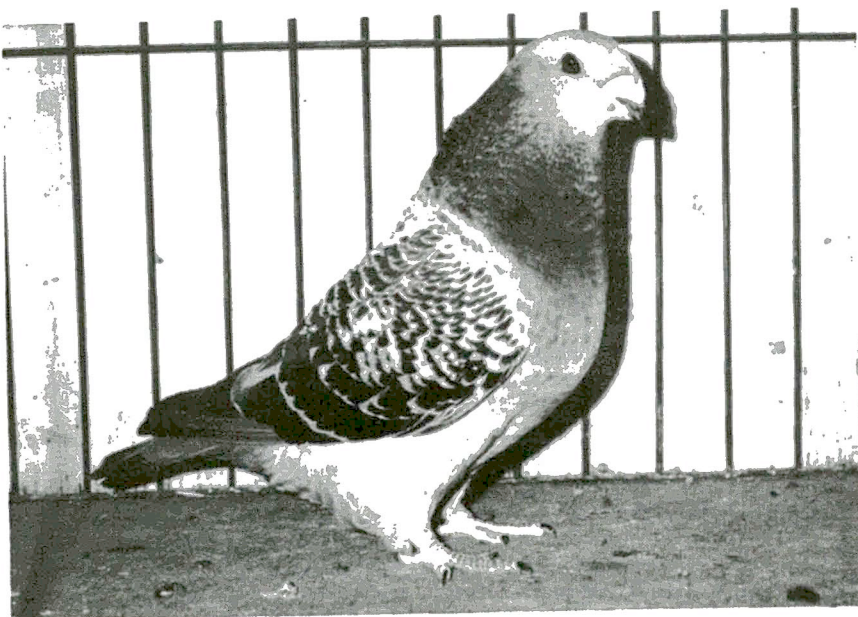
AMERICAN SHOW RACER
#NPA 88 EF 408, DCC, is a son of #84 ED 772, DDC. No. 408 bred among some of Jack Hamilton's best youngsters in 1990.



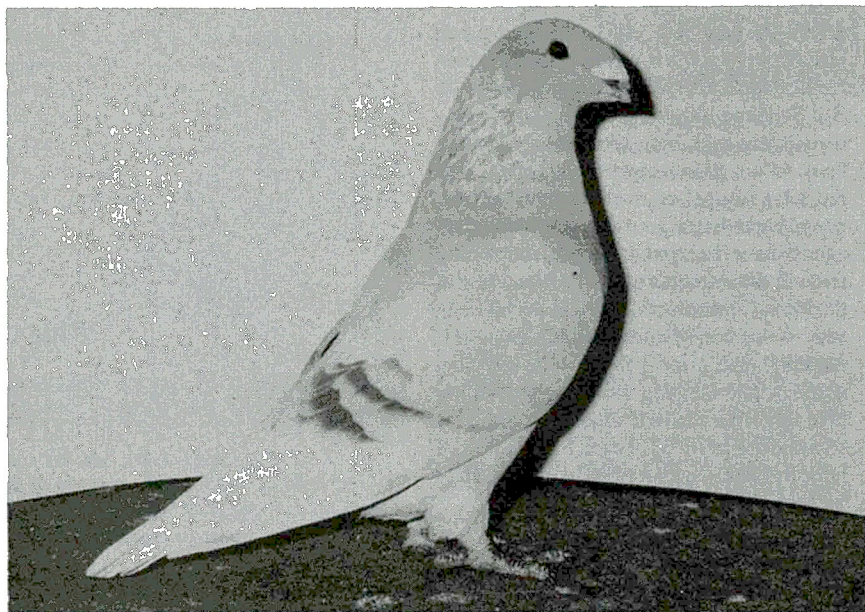
FOUNDATION COCK
#NPA 78 EJ 22, BB Spl. C., a six year old, is the foundation cock of Jack Hamilton's current birds.



AMERICAN SHOW RACER
#85-ASR-890 is a great stock cock for Jack Hamilton, Bellflower, Calif.



AMERICAN SHOW RACER
One of Jack Hamilton's greatest breeding hens, #NPA 87 EB 382 DCH. She is a daughter of #84 ED 772 DCC.



AMERICAN SHOW RACER

#NPA 90 ASR 351 Red Bar Young Hen, a real dandy, bred by Randall Rapetti, Laguna Niguel, Calif.

Getting Started With Show Racers American Show Racer Assn.

by JOE BONNER & RANDY RAPETTI

Getting Started With Show Racers

If you are a newcomer to pigeons and you decide to start with the American Show Racer, you have made a good choice. The Show Racers' ancestry is the hardy, durable, and prolific Racing Homer whose strengths carry through into the show birds. However, today's Show Racer is rarely flown and is bred strictly as a show specimen. This has many advantages: Showing pigeons is not as competitive or time consuming as racing, and it is possible to be reasonably successful with only a few pair of birds. There are several successful Show Racer breeders who keep as few as six to ten pair.

You will most likely do better with your birds if you join the American Show Racer Association. You will receive our standard, constitution, by laws, and the bi-monthly bulletin. You will also enjoy the friendship of some of the most helpful and masterful breeders the pigeon hobby has ever known. We suggest that you align yourself with at least one or two of these experienced breeders. You will have a regular source of information in the bi-monthly bulletin and a constant source of help from your mentors. A membership application is included in this issue.

Building A Loft For Your Show Racers

The first thing to remember in building a loft is to construct it so that intruders, including small birds, rodents, and snakes cannot get in. It should be exposed to morning or afternoon sun but face the opposite direction from stormy weather. Build the loft as far

away from neighbors as possible and keep it clean at all times. Neighbor complaints are one of the major threats to the pigeon hobby.

If possible, your loft should be built off the ground. Plywood, 2x2s or 2x4s and wire mesh are the construction materials normally used. There should be enough solid wall construction to provide protection from drafts and enough wire mesh to allow for sunlight and ventilation. Many lofts are solid on three sides and open wire mesh in the front. If enclosed on three sides, some wire vents near the roof will provide needed ventilation. These may need to be covered during extreme cold. The roof should keep out all snow and rain and the ceiling should be high enough for you to stand up, but not so high that catching birds would be difficult. It is a good idea to divide the loft into at least two sections so that cocks and hens can be separated in the months when you don't want to raise youngsters.

Nesting compartments can be attached to the back or sides of the loft and should be at least 12" by 12" by 12" with two compartments available for each breeding pair. Box perches can be built with 1x4 or 1x6 boards and attached a few inches from the wall. The loft should be large enough to allow about 20 cubic feet of space per bird. It is an excellent idea to visit other pigeon lofts before you build yours to help with your own plans.

Getting Good Show Racers

It can be difficult to obtain good birds from many breeders at first. Often breeders will want to know that you are serious about

breeding Show Racers before they will let really good birds go to an unknown breeder. As you get going and know more and more you will want to keep getting new and better stock.

Get to know some of the more successful breeders at shows and then determine with whom you are most comfortable. Arrange to visit their lofts and ask to handle some birds. Let the breeder explain the standard and show you how to identify a good show bird. August and September are usually the best months to visit a loft and go home with quality proven stock birds or with promising youngsters. As you "play the pigeon game" you will learn new ways to obtain better and better birds. This is part of the fun!

Caring For Your Show Racers

You will need a crock, bowl or possibly a cut out plastic one gallon milk bottle for water and it is important that the birds have fresh water daily. The water should be covered to keep birds and/or droppings out. You can buy wire tops for crocks that allow the birds only to stick their heads in to drink. Automatic water fountains are nice but not essential. Regular chlorinated or non-chlorinated tap water is fine. During cold weather you should consider that the water may freeze.

A small feeder that will keep the feed dry and clean is also essential. As with the water the feeder should be covered. Feed the birds what they will eat once or twice a day and clean out the feeder daily.

Pigeon grains are available at feed stores and some breeders recommend pigeon pellets. On the average you will spend \$5 per month to feed two pair of birds assuming you raise about 12 young and cut back down to two pair by years end.

Pigeon grit is essential to aid digestion. It is available at many feed stores. You can put it in a bowl or crock and as with the water and feed it should have a cover that allows the birds to only stick their heads in to eat. The grit should be changed regularly. Your birds will also enjoy lettuce, swiss chard or other thin leafed greens.

It is not unusual for pigeons to have feather lice. Malathion will kill them. You can buy lice control liquids at feed stores and many contain malathion. Use caution and follow the directions when using malathion. Don't be surprised if the lice come back, you can pick them up at shows, from sparrows, etc.

Except in extremely cold weather you birds will love a weekly bath. An oil drip pan about 16" in diameter and 4" deep or a plastic cat litter box filled with water is ideal. You might try adding a couple tablespoons of 20 Mule Team Borax to the water. It helps control feather mites. Be careful where you discard the water in that the Borax will harm plants.

Remember to clean your loft regularly and above all keep it dry. Moisture in the loft increases the probability of disease.

Breeding Your Show Racers

Mate your adult pigeons by placing them in cages next to each other for 1-2 days and then in a cage together for another day. Watch that they don't fight. Make sure no other pigeons are around or they may not pair up the way you desire. When the pair is put into the breeding loft make sure they have plenty of material to build their nests. Wood shavings or fine sand make a good cushion in the bottom of the nest box and pine needles are a good material for building a nest.

The hens should lay their first egg within 8 to 12 days after mating and the second within 48 hours of the first one. It takes about 18 days from the laying of the second egg for both eggs to hatch. Let the eggs hatch on their own and don't help them as this may be harmful. The parents will feed the newborn squabs until weaning time at about five weeks of age.

At 7 days old the squabs should have a seamless ASRA band placed on their right leg. Place the band over the 3 front toes and slide it back up the leg, pulling the rear toe out as the band nears the end of the rear toe. You can purchase these bands from the ASRA Band Director. The next set of eggs will be laid when the previous youngsters are about 3-4 weeks old. Keep records of which youngsters have come from which pair.

Showing Your Show Racers

Review your show standard and the color classes and check show dates published in the ASRA bulletin. Contact your district

director if you don't get entry forms for the shows or if you have questions. When you plan for a show, plan on bringing a few of your best birds and compare them to what others have. Spend time "learning the ropes." Ask to help the secretary. This will teach you the show order and help the process in turn. Talk to experienced breeders and ask questions. Remember to groom your birds for the show. Ask a breeder to show you how to trim

beaks and prepare birds for show. Give the birds a bath a few days before the show. Straighten the feathers as you take the bird to the judging area. Be sure to learn the color classes and to place your birds in the correct classes. Work with and handle your youngsters from weaning age to get them tame and willing to respond to your coaching.

Good Luck! We hope you will enjoy your Show Racers.

Congratulations!

to the ASRA on this Special Issue
from

ART W. KEHL

W2750 East Gate Dr. • Watertown, Wisc. 53094

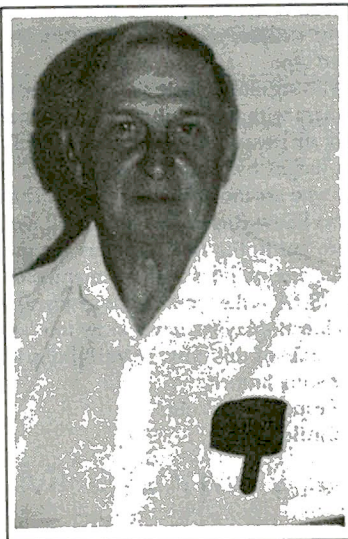
*A Pigeon Fancier For 68 Years &
A Charter Member Of The ASRA*

**Hope To See All Of You At The
Milwaukee Grand National Jan. 16-18, 1992**

In Fond Memory Of **FRANK FRISCH**

Always The First To Help Out And The Last To Leave

**President:
New England
Show Racer
Association**



**1st District
Director:
American Show
Racer Association**

Secretary/Treasurer: Little Rhody Pigeon Fanciers

Show Racer Beak Trimming

by BRAD CHILD, Riverton, Utah

Properly trimming Show Racer beaks for the show room entails more than snipping off the overhang and a quick file over the end to even up the mandibles. Yes, this is all most of us have ever done in this regard and consider it sufficient and even more finished than some exhibitors who still leave them obviously untouched. However if proper beak care and trimming is not carried out on a continual bases something happens that can adversely effect an otherwise excellent show specimen.

Observe our birds beaks as compared to the standard drawing - the straight set mandibles of equal substance can be maintained if proper beak care is practiced. Many young birds with proper beak settings are already beyond help by the end of their first show season. As the upper mandible grows out and over the lower mandible creating that little hook that we trim off, this upper mandible is

actually exerting pressure and effecting the shape of the lower mandible. Sooner than you can imagine that straight set beak you bred for and the youngster did have, now is parrot shaped (see illustrations). Some correction can be made to make it appear straighter. But if too much correction is made you will create a gap between the upper and lower mandible.

To help maintain a proper setting the beak needs to be trimmed on the sides as well as the tip, don't be afraid to trim close and if a little blood is let don't worry. Clip the upper mandible back, tip and sides and file under upper mandible holding beak open, keep the upper mandible straight set so that it doesn't retard the shape, size and straight set of the lower mandible. A properly bred straight set powerful beak setting can be maintained with some effort.



#1 - Tracing of standard drawing showing proper beak shape and substance.



#2 - Unattended growth showing how upper mandible has reshaped and deformed lower mandible.



Two old time masters of the breed, Alpine Castle Child and the late Ted Klein, past president and work horse of the ASRA. These two fanciers loved the Show Racer and the people who played the game. They helped lay the foundation of the association and the breed we enjoy today.



ALPINE'S BLUE ON BLUE

NPA 90 ASR 856, Blue Bar Hen. First Place Blue Bar Young Hen, Salt Lake Classic 1990; judge Bill Schleiper. Best Blue Bar, NPA Grand National, Pomona, Calif. 1991; Richard Brooks, judge.

Change In The Standard

by CASTLE CHILD, Midvale, Utah

Being a member of the ASRA since 1958, I fully realize we have to have opposition. Sometimes we can get a little upset at members new in the breed, or those we find may not really appreciate the origin of the Show-Racer. Maybe we should emphasize that last name "racer." The opposition is good because it makes us have to prove ourselves and our philosophy of the bird. It makes you work harder in order to get the opposition to finally appreciate the bird for what it is and the characteristics which make the Show-Racer unique, that which constitutes true breed type.

Having the deepest consideration for those fanciers with many years of experience and who are respected as breeders, exhibitors and judges by their fellow fanciers. Those few who are looked upon as "the architects" of the Show-Racer. Yes, this is all well and good, but in the final analysis the greatest responsibility rests with the membership of the ASRA as the "protector and guardian" of this breed. May we never stray too far from the origin of this most beautiful of pigeons, the racing homer.

Respectfully Yours,
Castle Child



#3 - Correction of already effected lower mandible, showing gap crested when beak setting is made straight again.

Establishing A Family

by JOHN T. JOHANESSEN, No. Stonington, Conn.

Winners at shows sometimes strike it lucky by breeding two birds together that they bought from established breeders. It's possible to repeat that win by keeping that pair together for yet another year and hopefully hit that combination again. If it was a lucky hit, this person will make their first big mistake by breeding father to daughter and mother to son. This begets young that will dig back and look like the family in which you bought the birds from. This also means that unless the breeder that sold, or gave you that bird made a mistake, you should not be able to breed as good as he has. If you bought birds from a real good breeder, you should not be able to overtake him because the birds he lets go should not be as advanced as the ones he kept. Close, but not as good.

Something I've done over the years with great success is swapping a winning stock bird. This can be done only with breeders. What you see is what you get, not a grouping of all sorts of new genes. True breeders have refined gene pools. If you are the breeder of a family and you wish to increase vigor by an outcross, and for arguments sake, say your type is a little better but his color is a little better, then this would make a perfect swap. Another thing I've done with great success, is either my giving or getting a great stock bird. This I would cross with my best stock bird that compliments it. Steal eggs and place them under pumps so that I can get a range of young in one season. Put all young at the end of the season in show cages, the two owners get together and flip a coin. The winner gets first pick, the loser gets picks two and three, then the winner gets four, the loser gets five and so forth. Many times the loser is the winner, because he gets two and three. If the cross was a great cross, then leave them together for another year and reverse the order of picking. They would have to be great youngsters to go a second year, because if you believe as I do, the cross should only have been made with great quality birds and taking a bird like that out of your rotation for two years can only be done if great quality is coming back.

Consistent winners, and in particular, winners in many different color classes, do so because they have a family. A family consists of closely related birds, birds that tend to look alike in type, regardless of color. This requires record keeping going back many generations. In particular comments about outstanding characteristics or faults that you perceive. This requires pouring over breeding charts during long winter months, "paper mating." Ever wonder what breeders were talking about when they said that they had their pairs down on paper. This is prior to looking at them in a cage, if my records are correct then the pair should match up. This means going forward with cousins, neph-

ews, nieces, grandparents, parents, back and forth each year eliminating slight faults, improving various colors, all without probing too deeply into the gene pool. To probe deeply is to dig up ancestral traits that other breeders before you have eliminated.

By now, I'm sure that you are aware of the fact that I am a strong believer of mating cousins, half brother to sister, uncle to niece, aunt to nephew, great grandfather to recent daughter, great grandmothers to recent son, etc. And these last two I'm not a big fan of unless the ancestor had great qualities. I'm not a big fan of father or daughter or mother to son, brother to sister, etc. This type of breeding is called inbreeding, and it's just that, probing the gene pool. This may or may not be a good idea, only you can make that decision, if it's there, you will find it. One

might inbreed to fix a trait, but in the process you are sure to uncover many other faults. For instance, how does peak caps, frills, grouse legs, race homer style heads and bodies, or the reverse, giant size homer bodies, turn you on. If you probe, these will turn up. I've also gotten long beak length, up to two inches, and much shorter powerful beak substance, like one inch. I've gotten some where the cock just runs around in circles instead of mounting the hen and where the hen runs around while the cock is trying to mount. In short, just plain stupid, with a total loss in fertility, wondering why. Like most of today's breeds, ours is made up by the artists in the past and the artists right now. Our birds are in the hands of the beholder. We can make them any way we desire, come up with a drawing, a consensus of opinion and off we can go, developing it. I'm doing no more nor no less than any of the past successful breeders, I'm line breeding. This is the first group

(Continued On Next Page)

SHOWPEN HOMERS

ROY W. GURDLER

68 Calala Drive
Strathpine, Qld., 4500

Australia

Phone (07) 2052349



Breeder, Exhibitor, Judge Of Quality Showpen Homers

Member: Showpen Homer Specialist Club

This family constantly winning at major shows.

Always willing to help other fanciers with good stock birds.

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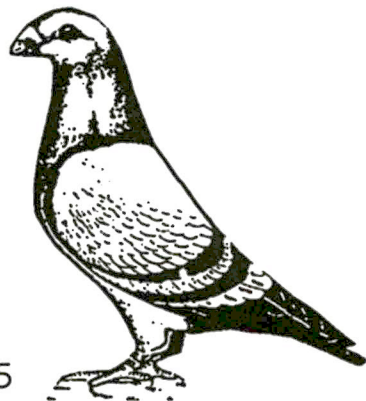
American Show Racers

Breeder
Exhibitor

Mike Conway

17 Julio Dr.

Shrewsbury, Mass. 01545



of crosses in this paragraph all without probing too deeply.

Always maintain the most rigorous selection by weeding out any youngsters below standard. Along with the original pairing of birds to compliment each other, this is the second most important function of the breeder. If you can't breed them then there's nothing to sort out. I feel that this is the hardest function. The breeder sees these items that took so long to develop and stamp into his line that parting with those characteristics is difficult. It is an absolute must to cull rigidly, because if you don't, overcrowding starts, which brings disease and poor condition. The grim reaper selects randomly, so it says in the technical data, but the best always seem to be selected first while the crosses just go on and on. Remember, no matter how pure a strain is, none breed absolutely true. I destroy those way below standard but I loan out specimens that come close but not quite up to my standards. I loan these birds to all sorts of people, and in the process make and maintain many friends along with much competition at shows in my area. I have always felt that if you have a dead area, upon inspection you will find a person that doesn't part with good stock.

Sometimes, I even give away or loan out first place birds. I never allow a judges' opinion to determine my program. I always take a judges' opinion into consideration, in particular if this is A WINNING JUDGE. But, only I know my line and how it breeds. Only I can determine if a winner is too fine to breed winners. Only I know what my goal is and have a game plan to achieve it. Therefore the final determination is mine and mine alone. Sometimes I give birds to a non appreciating member (turkey), but they will never get another one from me. And it's been my experience that the loudest complainer is the poorest breeder. If the guy is a worker and supporter of my breed he could get the shirt off my back. When I find this type person, I know that if he strikes anything that breaks forth into new territory I'll get one back to put into my line. It's also been my experience that the vast majority of Show Racer people are nice people to be around and I've enjoyed going to shows with them. It's also been my experience that the better the show, the fewer the jerks, meaning that the Nationals are a great place to go.

After possible paired selections are down on paper the next step is to place the birds in viewing cages next to each other. Will the combination of the traits of these two birds give me a possible jump forward? Remember you only need one to jump forward and start the process all over again. If they are related, I've already eliminated all sorts of random extra characteristics. Do these two carry the same fault, no matter how small or slight. If they do, their young will have it and I will have to deal with this trait yet another year. Of course, it's possible that the perceived fault is slight and I don't have a bird

with what I consider the correct characteristic. In this case, until I latch on to the correct trait I have to mate up and go forward as best I can. Just because I have a cock and a hen with what I perceive to be the correct combination of genes doesn't mean that I am going to hit that combination. Random assortment comes into play and some people just seem to hit that correct assortment sooner than others. Luck does play a small part here, but if the pair have everything you want, sooner or later you should get the correct combination. More than once I've waited more than one breeding season. Keep in mind, you will also get those that look like the father and those that look like the mother. If these are not a jump forward, then these are your culls. These could be your gifts to fellow friends, but only if they are worthy birds. The dogs should be eliminated.

In my experience I have found the hen to be a key bird. When culling, I will always release a cock before a hen. I try to keep my coop "hen rich." Good hens seem to breed good cocks, even if the mate is so so. Good cocks, in order to breed good hens, seem to require good hens as mates. I know that this is an easy statement to jump on, but I have had winning liens in Tumblers, Modenas, Race Homers and American Show Racers. All went the same way. Reread this section, I feel it's very important. Winning birds are occasionally bred from inferior parents, in particular if they come from breeders with winning lines. But, if you don't breed them correctly and go to the next generation, class will tell: Occasional winners are flukes, constant winners year after year means this breeder has a family. Similar faults are never bred together. To mate a great cock with a so so hen is to lower your average quality. Better to let an extra bird sit idle or loan it to a friend.

Once in a while a breeder will leap forward with a great new show specimen. If the person knows what to do with that bird, in a few years this new specimen should now be the standard of the loft. Keep in mind if you followed the above information, a leap forward cock is much much tougher than a hen. Everything should move forward to the new standard bird; older style that were good just a few years ago should now be sold or given away. Don't breed back to the older birds, for this will give more young like the older parents not the new standard bearer. Mate the new specimen to half brothers or sisters, to cousins, not to uncles, aunts or parents. This was a new combination, a new assortment, don't go back to what you had. Don't breed out of an extra pair just because they are an extra pair. Concentrate on the key birds, know your goals and direction. When crossing in a new trait, wait until the end of the season and cross with one of your best birds. What good is a poor specimen carrying the trait you wish to place in your line. If you are serious enough about starting another color or altering your standard line

slightly, then only cross to your best. What good is a youngster the color you now want with all sorts of faults that you weeded out years ago. When crossing in a new color, cross it only to your best hen or cock. Do it at the end of the breeding season because the youngsters will not be showable, at least not up to your standard. If the color being crossed in is dominant, then no problem, sex wise, or the color that you cross to. Usually, some youngsters will be the color you want, and if you've crossed to a very dominant color from your own coop, you will also get some cocks carrying the new color hidden. Crossing over dominant colors is a snap, which is one of the reasons why the request keeps surfacing about rare classes being split into two groups, dominant rare and recessive rare.

Usually, the color being added is a light colored recessive or just the dilute factor of your existing colors. In this case, the best cross to attain is a cock, because when mated to your best hen, at least one out of four youngsters will be the new color you want, closer to your family type, 50% your own bloodline, but will always be a hen youngster. That's why, at shows, the recessive rare colors are usually always hens, when cocks appear, this is an indication that this person is beginning to establish this color. Of these youngsters, break my rules, and cross brother to sister. Look for the crossovers, your original type with the new color. Once you get one of these, you're on your way. Now add this bird with the new color and your bloodline to your regular breeding program. I'm not going to go any deeper than this, at this time, unless someone else doesn't pick up the ball concerning crosses. There is a whole additional article on, if my cross is a hen instead of a cock, what color do I cross it to and why? Should I use a checker or a bar and why? What happens if I cross it to another rare color, either cock or hen, or split factored rare? Some of this can get quite exotic, but given some time, I believe this can all be laid out or put in chart form for the everyday breeder that doesn't want a course in genetics.

Suppose you're not lucky and don't get that crossover right away. After all, at the end of the season you can usually only catch about two rounds. Hang in there, it will come. If not this year then maybe next, but it will come. Settling for less than you want at this stage is not worth it. Random assortment of genes is just that, random assortment. Some coops are lucky and seem to hit these crossovers right away. I wish I were one of them.



Deciding Which Show Racers To Keep For Next Year

by RICHARD BROOKS, Eureka Springs, Ark.

I firmly believe one of the major differences between the pigeon breeder who is consistently at or near the top on show day, and the fellow who places a bit down the line is the ability to pick out good breeders. Some suggest this is a God given gift. There may be some truth in that but I would make two points concerning the theory. Inspiration is ninety-nine percent perspiration and many fanciers of common gifts have developed into master breeders because they have given the time and energy necessary to learn and apply a few simple rules. It is of these rules I would write. The points made will not be elaborated upon very much because they should be obvious and because there isn't space for such elaboration.

Only birds in the best of health should go into the breeding loft and I don't care how good the father or mother were. Sick pigeons don't breed show winners. Secondly, some strong points are harder to come by than others, and some faults are harder to eliminate than others. Keep birds with those strong points and cull birds with those hard to get rid of faults. Thirdly, study each youngster bred during the year from the time it is banded until it leaves the loft, by whatever method. I don't know that the order in which I name strong points would find general agreement among you readers, but this is my method. First strong point is profile. Does the bird stand in the show coop as it should, especially as I take a side view. There I see station, length, height, legs, side of head, neck, wing. Next, take the bird in hand frequently. Are the mandibles what a Show Racer should have; especially study that lower mandible. Is it as large as the upper? Is the wattle smooth, bright and not overly large or small? Is it split? Are eye ceres very fine and well feathered so as not to be showing? Is the eye the color and quality I want? Is it large enough? Are all feathers smooth, tight, of good quality and acceptable color for the color class. If barred, are the front bars wide enough and dark enough?

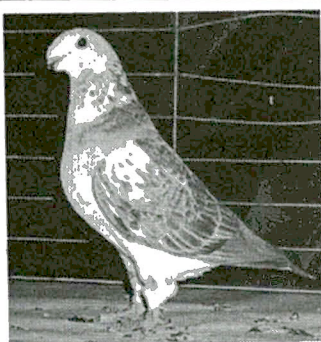
Holding the bird in hand, chest and head toward your body, feel chest, keel and back for shape. Apply pressure for strength. My preference for body shape is an elongated heart shape for chest and keel. The keel must be long, not too deep, straight and smooth of bone. I do not insist that keel run all the way to the vent, but don't want it over an inch short of that. I've flown and won my share of 500 and 600 mile pigeon races and know both keels mentioned win, and equally so. Vent bones must be thick and strong. Back should be very strong and ungiving. With fingers on chest and thumbs on back, press down. If tail comes up much you have a

problem. Absolutely no fat in vent area of any bird under about four years old. I say this because some very old hens tend to put it on back there even if they have earlier been good show birds and breeders. I don't cull such. Are the bones of the legs, feet and head thick enough to present a pleasing picture of power as shown in our breed standing? When the bird is standing in profile, study these points. Also be SURE there is a good angled hock showing beneath the body feathers. This "no hock" showing is a bad fault. So far as I have experienced, you will not change any of the above features by training, handling or feeding in any special way. If the individual does not have these points at least well above average, it is not likely to produce winners for you.

The weaknesses not to be tolerated have perhaps been indicated already. Let us run through them. If you handle your birds daily and a bird is still wild at three months of age, dispose of it. If it is sickly, dispose of it. If it will not station and hold it with some stick training by the time it is four months old, dispose of it. If it has no hocks showing, a very short keel, a very deep keel, weak vent bones, is way oversize (weigh it), kill it. Exception to size would be a pigeon over three years old that keeps growing, especially cocks. Even then, if his young push past that weight barrier called for in the standard, dispose of it. Large pigeons don't win under good judging. Remember your genetics; generally speaking large is dominant to small, long is dominant to short, tall

is dominant to not so tall, thinner bone is dominant to heavy bone (all reversions back toward wild type). If you doubt this select top specimens of any two dissimilar breeds and mate them together. Watch the commies emerge. Cull out all birds lacking at least that inch and a half frontal from the eye. Cull all with narrow heads or pinch in the crown from eye to beak. Heavy creases in neck feathers must go. Occasionally I keep an otherwise outstanding bird with a very slight crease, especially in the jaw area (I believe heavy jaw bone, lower especially, may cause this) until I determine quality of its young and presence of same fault. My best old stock hen has such. Unacceptable eye color at four months is never going to improve - cull it.

A few more observations I believe to be true: Never breed from a small cock (very small, say under 19 ounces as a yearling) and more especially never breed from a small headed pigeon (one which has a head too small for its body size, regardless of body size). I have never bred an outstanding cock from a very small hen. Beware of a hen under four years old that regularly only lays one egg at a time, is late laying, lays soft shells, mis-shaped, etc. Older hens may do this, although calcium glutonate will help. Younger hens are just plain constitutionally weak. Don't build around pigeons that are poor feeders or flighty around nest. You may say, "boy, this just about culls them all" and so it does. For about the past 20 years I have bred an average of 100 young from the best breeders I could select. Without fail I have killed at least 60 of these because they violated some of the above statements. I have averaged selecting from six to ten replacements from the remaining 40. The rest, if good enough, have been sold. If not, disposed of later.



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Four of the six nests in the breeding loft (8x10) of Bob Trane, Fresno, Calif.

Over Forty Years With American Show Racers

by BOB TRANE, Fresno, Calif.

My infatuation with pigeons began in 1933 when, as a boy of 13 years, I acquired some racing homers. I lived in Long Beach then and immediately began to race and show my birds. I won my first blue ribbon showing in 1937 at the Los Angeles County Fair. My first "Best in Show" came in 1940 at our racing club. In 1948, I had two champion racing homers; one in the Long Beach Racing Club and the other at the Whittier Club. That same year I obtained my first Show Racers, some from Al Jacobson and some from Clarence (Babe) Twombly, both in the Los Angeles area. I was hooked. That same year I disposed of all my racing birds and have been 100 percent American Show Racers ever since. In 1949, I purchased two pairs from Jack Costello of Merced, California. He had the best Show Racers on the West Coast at that time. I paid \$130 for the four birds. That was a LOT of money at that time, but they put me in business. That Fall I won champion at the Orange Belt Association Show. In 1950, the American Racing Pigeon Union had their 40th convention and show in Los Angeles and I had best young Show Racers there.

During the period 1951-1955, I sold out all my birds twice, once to Bill Rice and once to Amos Hodson. These were Hodson's first Show Racers. Within a few months of this sell-out, I was able to get back into Show Racers and obtained birds from Amos Hodson, Bill Rice, Rex Thompson and Tony Anthony. Some of these birds were the same blood I had sold earlier.

I have never kept large numbers of birds — usually from five to seven pair. In recent years, I have upped that to nine pair. Mostly I have kept blue bars and blue checks with an

occasional red bar and red check. Within the past few years I have added dominant opal and introduced the dilution factor. For several years I kept a fairly inbred family. However, a few years back I began to see a weakness in the hens. They would become egg bound and die before they reached the age of four years. Infertility became a problem also. I have recently added birds from good friends Bill Schlieper, Joe Bronner, Troy Porterfield, Jack Sudbury, Murry Charles and Cas Child. I am well along in developing this new family.

I try to breed toward our existing standard as I find it attractive and a real challenge to produce. Too many of our present birds are too large. I especially like the beak, eye, head and neck of our standard, and I like them even a bit thicker. It's difficult to describe the body of a Show Racer. Just say I don't like

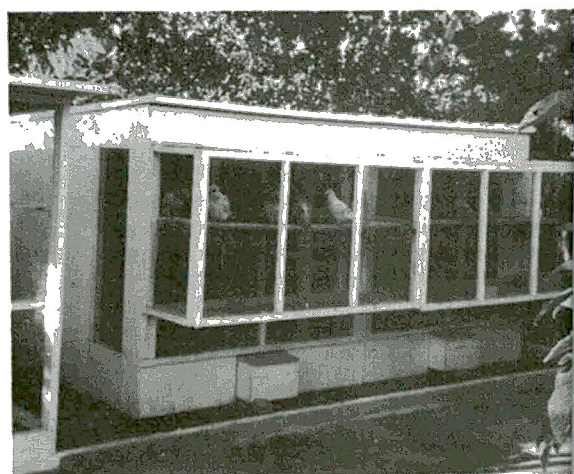
deep keels. How about a shallow keel that gradually tucks up toward the vent, is good and straight, and attached to good firm flesh; something like the bottom of a row boat, and not like a sail boat. I like the legs shown on the standard and the head and neck position of the standard. I'm a fanatic on station; no station — no bird. A Show Racer that is always on station, and breeds the same, is worth its weight in gold. A few of my present birds approach the standard, but in each there is room for improvement.

Many fanciers of today have a few birds in their lofts which close approach the standard. However, I know of no one who has a loft full of such quality. Breeding the head size and quality of the standard, and keeping that body down to size and up to quality is a real challenge.

Through the years I've (hopefully) helped a number of fanciers obtain or improve their Show Racers. Among these are: Bill Rice, Amos Hodson, Joe Frazier, Richard Brooks, Castle Child, Bill Schlieper, Joe Bronner, Jack Sudbury, Troy Porterfield, Ron Bell, LeRoy Bennett and Murry Charles. In turn most of these have helped me when I needed a good bird or two. I keep fairly good records and, in checking back, discovered I had given, traded, or sold birds to over 80 fanciers throughout the United States and in Canada and Hawaii. This sounds like lots of birds until you realize that for over 40 years this is less than two persons per year.

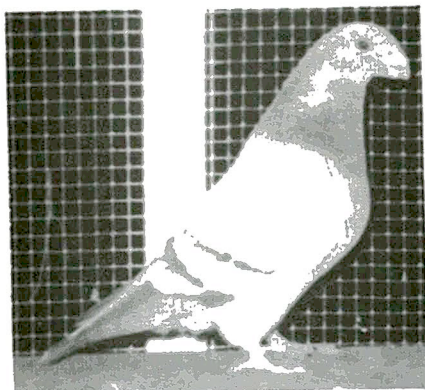
Most of my showing has been done in Central and Southern California. There I have done quite well. I am listing below some champions. In the interest of space I list the show and the year: 1960 Pleasanton, 1961 Stockton, 1963 Fresno, 1964 Fresno, 1965 Fresno, 1967 Fresno, 1971 Fresno, 1973 Fresno, 1971 National White Plains, N.Y. (I bred bird), 1978 Fresno, 1979 Fresno, 1985 Fresno. In addition I have had several best opposite sex and had B.O.S. Long Beach National 1962, Best Old Cock White Plains 1976, Reserve Champ Sacramento 1978 and

Bob Trane's young bird loft is on the left with breeders at the right. Each loft is 6 ft. wide, 8 ft. deep plus 2 ft. for aviary.



any number of class winners. The numbers of birds at the above shows ran from 100 to 250 with a general average of from 175 to 200. The number of persons exhibiting ran from 10 to 20. Most of these shows exhibited birds from the best fanciers in Southern and Central California and sometimes from other parts of the fourth district.

It has been my good fortune to have served one term as President of the American Show Racer Association, and a term as publicity director. I am proud and grateful to have received the ASRA Master Breeder award and I served on the committee that developed the present standard. I am most grateful for all the above, for the many years of pleasure with the birds, and most of all for the many good friends I have made through the years, and whose friendship I cherish. For this, I credit my favorite pigeon, the bird with dignity, The American Show Racer.



**CHAMPION
AMERICAN SHOW RACER**

This bird was Champion at the Fourth District Meet, Fresno, Calif., 1973. - Bred by Bob Trane, Fresno, Calif.



#88-3400 Opal Cock has received several first places. - Bred by Bob Trane, Fresno, Calif.

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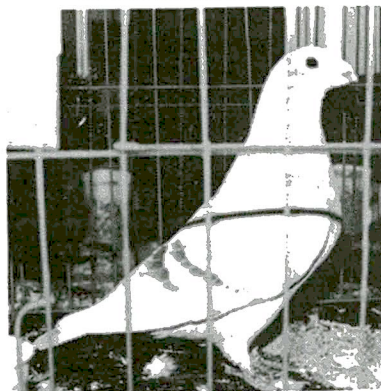
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Common Faults In The American Show Racer

by AMOS HODSON, Los Alamitos, Calif.

Once, after he had finished placing a class, I asked a judge why a certain bird was eliminated so quickly. He responded, quickly and accurately, naming three rather minor faults. I asked him why birds with major faults were allowed to stay in and be placed. His answer was that all birds have faults. Of course he was correct. However, some faults are extremely difficult to eliminate through breeding, while others can be bred out rather easily. It is necessary for the breeder to identify serious faults if he is to improve his stud. It is also necessary for the judge to determine accurately the seriousness of faults seen in the birds as he places them in the class. Allowing birds with serious faults to win in a show misdirects the breeders, especially the inexperienced. In some cases it gives these faulty birds opportunity to perpetuate their serious faults down to future generations. This, of course, serves to impede progress and cause frustration.

With all of the above in mind, it seems like a good idea to go through the features indicated in our standard and, as we do that, to list the faults in ascending order (the higher the number before the fault, the more serious the fault to eliminate). This task turned out to be considerably more difficult than I had at first anticipated. For example, broken or faulty feathers will disqualify the

bird, according to our standard, but these faults are easily corrected through good loft management. Less than 12 tail feathers showing full grown and present is a serious fault in the show, but only a few weeks time will correct this in the loft by growing full length or replacing missing ones.

Accompanying this article is a list of faults, by features, entitled, "Evaluation of Faults." As previously mentioned, those faults with such numbers as 1, 2, etc., are less serious than are those with higher numbers. I am sure none of you will agree exactly with me in these evaluations. In that case disagreement is healthful, because this will cause each of us to think about the problem, and that is the whole purpose of this article.

Now, let us take a look at the list. Under the heading of BEAK it should be mentioned that the breeders have made improvement in strengthening the beak and coming much closer to producing mandibles of equal strength. Ten years ago this would have had a much higher number than today and certainly we want good strong mandibles of equal power. In some cases all of the faults HEAD appear in one bird or another. I have noticed quite a few down headed (or downfaced) birds at our shows. Some birds have heads just TOO small for their body size. This is a fault in our standard picture.

Unfortunately, all too often coarseness and size of wattle seem to go with head power. This is a real problem, especially in older cocks. Eye color has slipped tremendously in recent years. Perhaps here a point boost for eye color could help. In general eye cere is no longer a large problem in the better show birds. There are, however, TOO many long, thin necks. Even our standard picture needs a thicker neck.

Too many birds stand taller than our standard picture indicates. Personally, I'm death on rangy pigeons. We have been trying to get the birds down in the coop for years. However, a word of warning - short, thick legs still need to show good hocks. There are too few wedge shaped birds being shown and keels too short are very much in evidence. Unless the bird has a flat back and is broad across shoulders and chest it cannot be wedge shaped. At least 25 percent of today's birds are round shouldered, and some of these are winning. This is a VERY bad fault and very difficult to correct. Other birds are much too shallow in chest, showing no depth of wing shield and no breast below the wing line. Fortunately deep keels have mostly been eliminated. Now let us get those keels longer and stronger.

Tails are a subject unto themselves. The greatest problem with them is TOO MUCH



American Show Racer fanciers in attendance at the Salt Lake City Grand National, January 1990.

LENGTH. We have been working on this for decades, yet some still tolerate it in their lofts. This is an EXTREMELY SERIOUS fault. There are far too FEW show racers with ideal feather. Here is an area that should get the attention of every one of us, and NOW. Be constantly vigilant concerning good complete back cover. Poor cover is extremely difficult to correct and ruins the appearance of an otherwise nice bird. We all count the number of flights our birds have, yet our standard fails to mention that ten are required. Most of the problems under WINGS have been improved, but let us stay vigilant.

Much progress has been made in station. The crouchers have all but been eliminated. If we see one in the show coop today, it is almost always otherwise an outstanding pigeon. Get those long legged birds out of the family. Yet some of them still win. A word of caution is needed here. You can get those legs too short. When that happens, hock angle is lost and the hock is covered with feathers - both serious faults.

Now we come to the most important feature of our standard, that one called balance. Balance is the most important because it brings all the features together to make the most pleasing presentation. When we judge balance we are no longer comparing individual features. We are rather determining how these features flow together in that particular pigeon. A very common mistake is to let a larger pigeon win just because compared, head to head, to a smaller pigeon, the larger one has the larger head. The smaller bird's head may be as large as, or larger, compared to his overall size, as is that of the larger bird.

In the EVALUATION OF FAULTS list I have listed 73 faults. I am certain there are more. Although I attempted to list the faults in order of seriousness, we must consider the degree of the fault also. For example, under HEAD we show pinched behind the wattle as a more serious fault than flat at front, or lacking muzzle. If, my comparison, one bird is but slightly pinched while the other is very straight in the muzzle, the order of seriousness would then be reversed. As we examine all the possible faults as listed we might say, "what a monumental task it is to consider all of them." In actual practice, the trained and experienced eye can detect the 57 sight related faults in a matter of seconds. Experienced hands can do the same concerning the 16 feel faults.

In conclusion, as we judge, we should reward quality features that are difficult to achieve, and penalize quite severely those faults that are hard to correct.

Evaluation Of Faults In The American Show Racer

by AMOS HODSON

BEAK

1. Slightly hooked, but trimable.
2. Mandibles not same thickness.
3. Mandibles do not fit together.
4. Weak beak.
5. Crossed beak.

HEAD

1. Lacks top skull.
2. Lacks back skull.
3. Flat at front, lacks muzzle.
4. Down headed.
5. Short faced, lacks reach.
6. Pinched behind wattle.
7. Head too small for size of bird.
8. Dipped at wattle, interrupted sweep.
9. Down faced.

WATTLE

1. Too large.
2. Coarse.
3. Jewing under beak.
4. Split.

EYE

1. Weak in color.
2. Broken or odd.

EYE CERE

1. Light in color on dark birds.
2. Too large or coarse. Not laced.

NECK

1. Thick or thin at throat.
2. Long.
3. Pipe stem, not tapered correctly.
4. Creased.
5. Gullet.

BODY SIZE

1. Too large, towers over ideal drawing.
2. Too small.

WEIGHT

1. See standard remarks. Not to be below 17 or above 22 ounces.

BODY CONDITION

1. Not sound and firm.
2. Not wedge shaped.

VENT

1. Not sound and firm.
2. Not close to end of keel. Room for more than one finger between bones.

BACK

1. Too long or too short.
2. Flat or weak at rump.
3. Not flat and broad at shoulders.
4. Round shoulders.

CHEST

This feature included under neck in our picture standard.

1. Hollow. Gap between wing butts.
2. Narrow chested.
3. Shallow chest does not show under

wing shield.

KEEL

1. Dented or crooked, depending on degree.
2. Too shallow.
3. Short.
4. Too deep.

TAIL

1. Less than 12 feathers.
2. Wide, not whipped.
3. Too long.

Note: broken, faulty, infected and pinholes under disqualifications.

FEATHER CONDITION

1. Rough, not tight.

WINGS

1. Flights missing, less than ten (not mentioned in standard).
2. Long, narrow flights.
3. Butts covered, not prominent.
4. Short coverts, do not cover over back.
5. Wings dropped.

Note: See disqualifications.

COLOR AND MARKINGS

1. Refer to handbook.

STATION

1. Angle from eye to tail more or less than 45 degrees.
2. Tail touching ground.
3. Tail too far off ground.
4. Crouching.

LEGS

1. Hocks covered, not showing.
2. Straight. No correct angle.
3. Too short.
4. Too long.
5. Too close together.
6. Cow hocked. Knock knees.
7. Feathered. One or two feathers a minor fault.

FEET

1. Dirty.
2. Toenails not all same color.
3. Toe defects, broken, incorrect number.
4. Feathered. One or two feathers a minor fault.

BALANCE

1. (Perhaps the most important feature is hardly mentioned in our standard. The parts or features of the American Show Racer should flow together in aesthetic harmony). Lack of balance is a bad fault.

BEHAVIOR

1. Panting.
2. Nervousness.
3. Wildness.
4. Flying, climbing, pacing.

**Congratulations On
The American Show Racer Special**



AT LONG ISLAND SHOW HOMER ASSN. SHOW 1990

On left is (l.-r.) John Johanessen, Phil Raposa and Frank Frisch. The right hand photo shows part of the gallery at the show.

Early Days In New York

by LEROY BENNETT, Trenton, N.J.

Here is some history on the Show Racers at the National Show, (NSR) at White Plains, N.Y.

The National Show, New York, was organized in 1931 in John Blade's Pet Shop, South Ozone Park, L.I., N.Y. It took in the area of New York and northern New Jersey. There were a number of Show Racer fanciers which included John Heidig. The Show at this time had Show Racers and Racing Homers. Later on the unflown birds arrived and then exhibitors participated from many states. John Heidig was one of the main organizers of the show until he passed on. John Heidig was an excellent judge of Show Racers bar none. He won many shows before he started to judge birds.

I met John Heidig in 1950. Although I was racing pigeons at the time, I did have a small loft of Show Racers I had purchased from Twombly. This seemed to bring John and me very close. Our friendship grew very strong and he would school me on the Show Racer breed.

Later on I had success in racing and decided to join the National Show known as

NSR and started to show pigeons. We went through the years to 1982 and my career in showing Show Racers was very rewarding. During this period with the NSR, I joined the ASRA, American Show Racer Association. I was able to combine many of the NSR exhibitors with the ASR.

We were only in the ASR Organization a short time before we had a membership in the ASR. This was during the 1940's. I enjoyed it and always held some office from Director of First District to President. I enjoyed some of my best years in showing with the friendly exhibitors of the ASR and NSR. Cas Child would confer with me on a weekly basis and me with him:

The National Show (NSR) had a fine group of judges. Many of them had Show Racers and had excellent knowledge as to judging the Show Racers. John Heidig was always the head supervisor of judges. John would go to the various shows and watch and question the judges and if he thought that would be an asset to the NSR, he would try to get them to judge at the NSR Show. It was by this method he was able to get some of the

best judges here in the east.

The Show Racer entry at the NSR in the early days would be 400-500 birds and at times much higher. The judges were professional and there was little question as to their ability because they were respected.

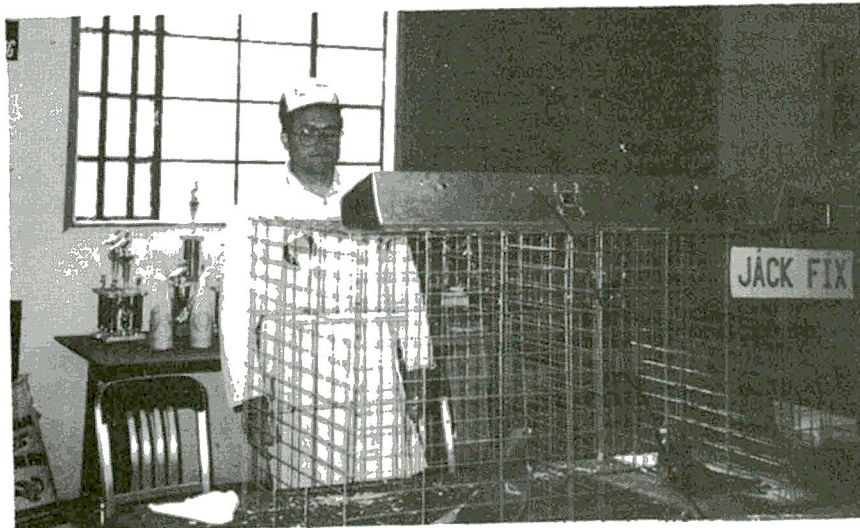
I have gone through the files and collected a few pictures of birds, exhibitors and judges which may be of interest.

Thanks From An Immigrant

by NELSON GUIMARAES, East Providence, R.I.

I have been raising pigeons since the age of ten years old. It all started in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. There, as a boy, I caught "bunkers" in the city and took them home with me. I kept them in the chicken coop with my father's chickens. At the age of 16 years, I moved from Rio to Pawtucket, R.I. There I started raising Homers, Modenas and Fantails. It was not until four years ago, however, that I discovered there is much more to breeding pigeons than just putting them in a coop and feeding them. I joined the Little Rhody Pigeon Fanciers Association and started raising American Show Racers. I soon joined the New England American Show Racer Association and the American Show Racer Association and there met up with a great group of men.

The main reason I am writing this article is to say "thank you" to guys like Frank Frisch, Phil Raposa, Herb Santos, John Johanessen and Mike Conway, to name but a few. From these men and many others, I gained knowledge and a great start concerning how to breed and care for good show pigeons. Had it not been for these fellows, I'd probably still be feeding those "bunkers" (common pigeons) in my loft. Only now do I realize what a rewarding hobby the breeding and showing of good show birds can be. Thanks again, guys.



Jack Fix judging at the Long Island Show Homer Assn. Show 1990.

The Show Racer In Western Canada

by GARY KEITH, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

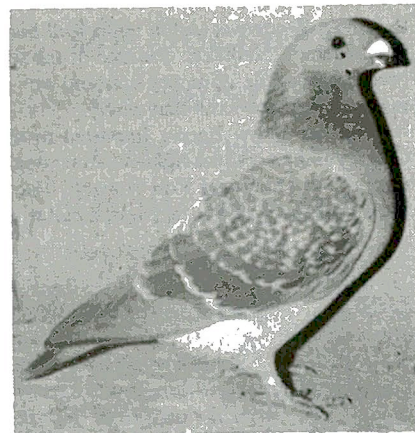
Though there is no documented history of the Show Racer in western Canada, I will put forth what I know on this subject. In the early days of the fifties and early sixties, I don't believe there were many "Show Racers" in western Canada as they were known in the U.S.A. The bird being bred here at that time was the show type homer or racer. One of the western Canada's present show racer breeders, Don Davy, recalled that at that time he and others were breeding the show type homer. The birds that he was breeding then were Gurney and Bastin imports from the mid-eastern U.S.A. The show type homer is still a popular breed with a strong following in western Canada today.

The first Show Racers as we know them, in Canada, were to be found in eastern Canada. Some of these birds gradually made their way west as in the case of Don Davy, who received his first Show Racers when he purchased Robert Stephen's stud from Ontario, in about 1970. Don mentioned that these birds were quite large in size compared to the Show Racer we are breeding today. These birds went back to imports from various U.S. fanciers, most notably, Amos Hodson of California. Over the next decade Don imported birds from several top breeders such as Earl Treber, Norm McClister, Amos Hodson, Castle Child and Clare Tepfer. In the early and mid seventies there were still only a few fanciers breeding Show Racers in western Canada. One of Don's good friends and toughest competitors at that time was a young man by the name of Dave Foster. Dave was an avid Show Racer enthusiast with a real knack for breeding and conditioning his birds. Dave lived in Kamloops, British Columbia, which has one of the best climate conditions for breeding pigeons in Canada and this was surely a great help to him. Don stated that he always had some terrific Show Racers that were shown in exceptional condition. Dave's Show Racers were founded around stock from several western American breeders, namely Ted Klien, Bob Trane, Earl Treber and Castle and Brad Child. These two gentlemen and their birds had a great deal to do with Show Racer development and promotion in western Canada at that time.

During the late seventies and early eighties there was greater interest shown for the Show Racer in Canada. At this time the Canadian Show Pen Racer Club was thriving, particularly in the densely populated area of southern Ontario. While there were more fanciers taking up the Show Racer hobby in the west, they were spread out across the vast expanse of the four western provinces. For some varied reasons the Canadian Show Pen Racer Club attracted only a few club members from western Canada. I suspect that the great distance between the

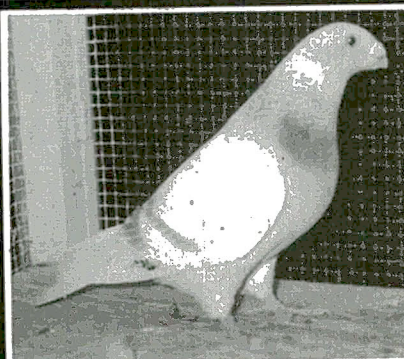
major east and west population areas (two to three thousand miles) made western breeders feel isolated and unable to regularly attend or have input in the functions of the C.S.P.R.C. However the Show Racer continued to make strides in western Canada without a representative club to focus its breeders.

In the early and mid eighties the city of Calgary was becoming a minor hot bed for Show Racer enthusiasts. Some breeders of that period were John Witte, Don Davy, Ron Hornby, Bill Oakly, Don Daines, Herb Veckensted, Victor Wong and Gary Keith, all from the Calgary area. Along with these fanciers came increased entries at the shows and a greater recognition for the Show Racer from the fancy as a whole. Winnipeg, Manitoba, was another western city in which



1989 Dark Blue Check Hen, CPF A 89 #100, futurity bird. Bred by Gary Keith, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

(Continued On Next Page)



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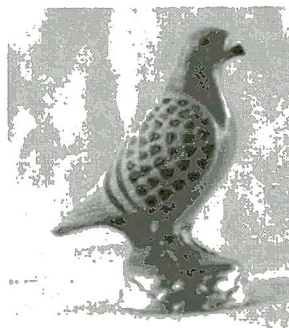
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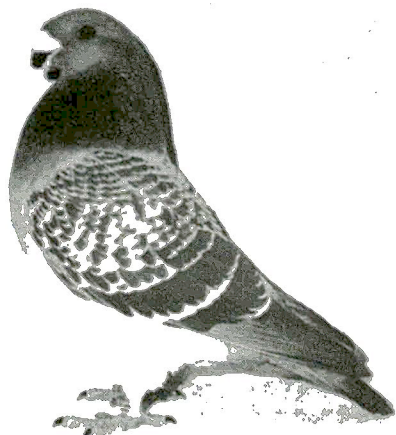
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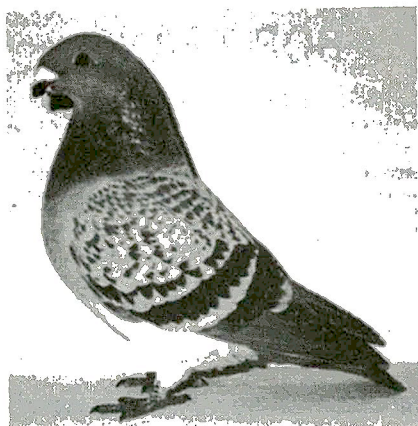
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the Show Racer was doing quite well back then. Frank Krauthaker was one of the top breeders from the Winnipeg area and won at many of the shows out that way.

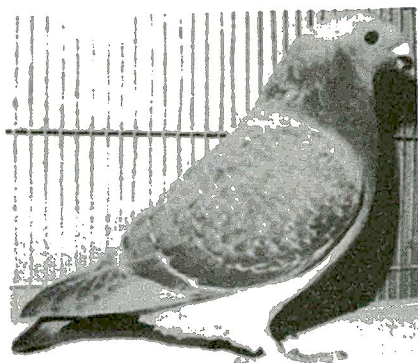
The last Show Racers imported to the Calgary area prior to the eighties were brought up by Don Davy and Ron Hornby. These birds came up from Amos Hodson and were



1989 Blue Check Cock #ASR 89 2021.
Bred by Gary Keith, Calgary, Alberta,
Canada.



1990 Light Blue Check Hen, #ASR 89
2850. Bred by Gary L. Keith, Calgary,
Alberta, Canada.



1987 Dark Check Bronzed Hen, #ASR 87
1037. Bred by Gary L. Keith, Calgary,
Alberta, Canada.

the class of the field at the time. These birds contributed considerably to the fancy here as their progeny were acquired and bred into most of the studs at that time. I still remember an outstanding dark check cock #513 that came up from Hod. He was a real power house and a prolific breeder. Don raised many good youngsters from this cock, notably a #588 dark check cock and a dark check hen #102, who went on to breed many good young for me.

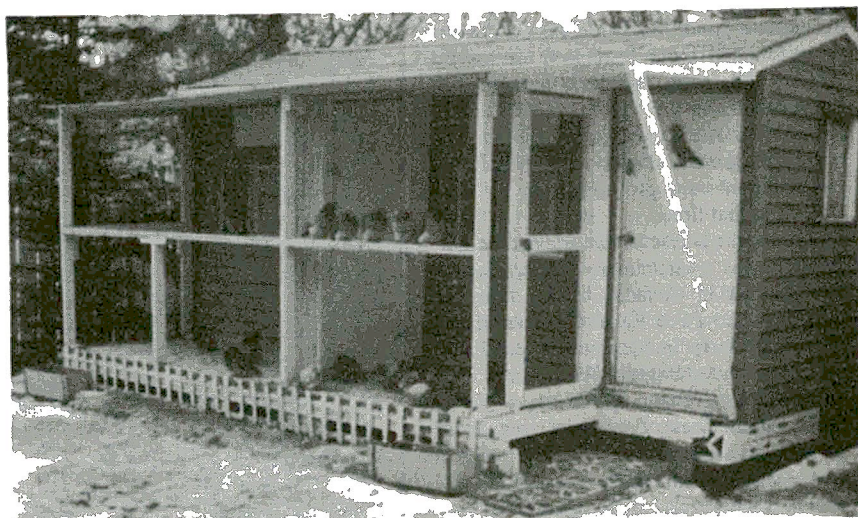
As the competition was becoming quite stiff here and with the changes to the standard, some of us were looking to gain an edge. At that time Porsch and Whitson Lofts were definitely coming on strong at the shows south of the border and we were duly impressed by the birds pictured in the May 1982 APJ Show Racer Special. Fortunately, Don Davy knew Lauren and Ralph personally and arranged for me to meet them at the

North West International Show in Snohomish, Washington. At that time (1983) their birds were in great demand and we were very fortunate to be able to obtain some of these fine birds. Lauren and Ralph were very receptive to me and took the time to describe their thoughts on the breed and how their breeding program worked. Their enthusiasm and intensity for the Show Racer was obvious and had a profound affect on how I would approach breeding Show Racers from that point. I must again, thank Myron Berger of Spokane, Washington, for arranging the papers which enabled me to bring these birds home. The Show Racer was never to be quite the same in western Canada as this was only the first of many shipments that would come up here from Ralph Whitson. (Lauren Porsch left the fancy in 1984). These birds and their progeny have been made available to everyone up here and have had a major impact on



CANADIAN WEST SHOW RACER CLUB MEMBERS

Pictured left to right are Gary Keith, Willie Halpern, Ralph Whitson and Don Davy at the 1988 Western Canadian National Show.



SUNRIDGE LOFT

The loft of Gary Keith, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.



CANADIAN SHOW RACER FANCIERS

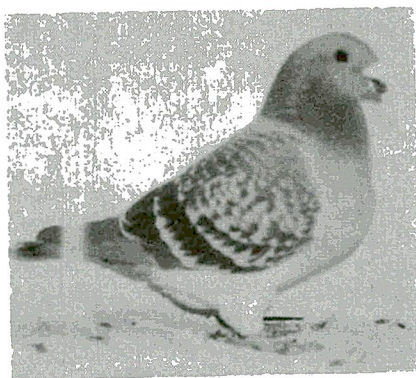
Some Canadian West Show Racer Club members at the Western Canadian National Show, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, 1989: (l.-r.) Willie Halpern, Judge John Heppner, Mickey Compton, Gary Keith, John Thomas.

the birds being bred and exhibited. Some of these birds have also made their way to lofts in eastern Canada as well.

In recent years there have been other bloodlines brought into western Canada from our fellow American breeders. Don Davy and I received Show Racers from Castle Child, which have helped to improve our studs. Mickey Compton of Victoria received birds from Orrie Moore and George Van Vleit received birds from Bill Schlieper. This concludes the basic run done on importations of Show Racers to western Canada and I apologize to anyone who might have been missed. There is no doubt that the Hodson imports of the seventies greatly improved our show racers at that time, much as the Whitson imports have considerably influenced the western Canadian birds of the eighties. I would sincerely like to thank all our American friends who have helped us acquire good breeding stock or taken time out to judge our meets. Without your assistance we would surely not be where we are today.

With the increased interest for Show Racers in western Canada through the early eighties, the subject of forming a specialty club was bantered about on several occasions. Nothing really came from these discussions until the spring of 1985. The Show Racer breeders here in Calgary gathered together to see what we could come up with, and from this the Canada West Show Racer Club was formed. It was our intention to promote the Show Racer in western Canada and the fellowship that is found amongst its fanciers. It was also our intention to stay a loose knit group, enjoying the fellowship and avoiding the red tape hassles that sometimes plague other clubs. This has been achieved and maintained while we have grown and developed our club format. We adopted most of the A.S.R.A. constitution and its entire standard as our own. The club

presently holds; an annual young bird meet and annual all age meet, with the latter being held in conjunction with the Western Canadian National Pigeon Show. We have several perpetual trophies which are awarded at these meets. We also hold a futurity meet each year, which sees the proceeds from band sales awarded to the winners along with a trophy. The C.W.S.R.C. also has a club bulletin which is produced regularly on a quarterly basis. While some members come and go, much as in any club, we have had a consistent membership of 15 fanciers or more. If we can maintain this level of interest, I think we will have achieved our goals and will keep the future bright for the Show Racer in western Canada. As the secretary of the C.W.S.R.C., I would like to invite any interested fanciers from near or far, to join our club, you're always welcome!



CHAMPION SHOW RACER

#105-89 OH was Best Young and Champion Futurity at the Western Canadian National, 1989, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Judge, John Heppner. Bred by Willie Halpern, Kamloops, B.C., Canada.

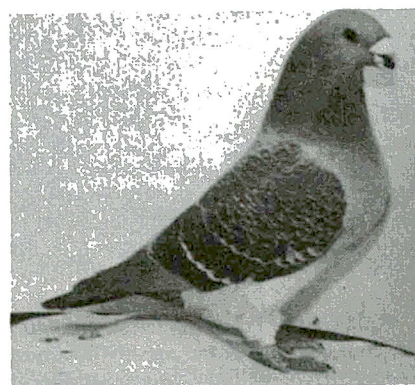
My Success In Raising Champion Show Racers

**by WILLIE HALPERN,
Kamloops, B.C., Canada**

Only four years ago I was attracted to the beautiful bird with "dignity" through my good friend Gary Keith from Calgary. He started me out with some excellent stock birds. Up until then I had been raising and showing the show-type racing homer, and was fortunate to raise several champion birds.

My first encounter with pigeons was some 45 years ago when my father brought home my first pair of pigeons. I soon became interested in pigeon racing and kept a pretty good stud of racing homers, in Holland, where I was born and raised. I have always been very keen on the strong body structure of the racing homer and feel that this has greatly attributed to my successes in my breeding the show-type racing homer and subsequently the American Show Racer.

(Continued On Next Page)



RESERVE FUTURITY CHAMPION

#4 Dark Blue Check YC was Reserve Futurity Champion at 1990 at the Western Canadian National, judge Ralph Whitson. He is half brother to #3.



AMERICAN SHOW RACER

#256 '90 YC, son of #40. - Bred by Willie Halpern, Kamloops, B.C., Canada.

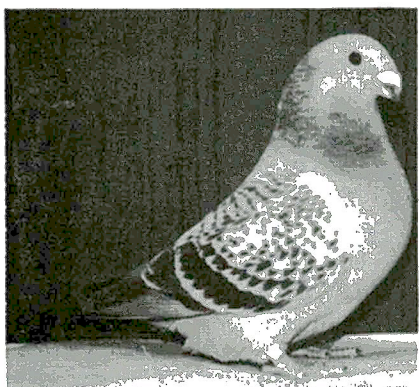
Three years ago at our Western Canadian National Show in Vancouver, B.C., we were privileged to have Ralph Whitson do the honors of judging the Show Racers, at which time I was fortunate to win Champion, with a young grizzle hen #40. Amongst several other birds which I exhibited was a red check young cock, which did not place first in his class. When I asked Ralph, after the judging, what he thought of this bird, he stated that he really liked the pigeon but that it had a bad fault. He pointed out that it had a short keel which did not flow through to the vent bones causing it to feel like a dip and weak in the body. I had to wholeheartedly agree with him, especially since he was aware that I used to raise racing homers, that should not have this fault. The grizzle hen who won champion did have the strength, and I have seriously concentrated on weeding out the short keels on the average size birds. Thanks to Ralph for the comment as it did put me back on my toes.

In 1989 I had the good fortune of again winning Champion and Reserve Champion at our Western Canadian National, which



BEST OPPOSITE SEX

#256 Grizzle YC (son of Champion #40.) was Best Opposite Sex at the 1990 Western Canadian National Show, Vancouver. Judge: Ralph Whitson. - Bred by Willie Halpern, Kamloops, B.C., Canada.



FUTURITY CHAMPION

#3 Light Blue Check YH was Futurity Champion at the Western Canadian National Show, Vancouver, Canada, 1990. Judge: Ralph Whitson. - Bred by Willie Halpern, Kamloops, B.C., Canada.

was held this time in Edmonton, Alberta. Judging our Show Racers this time was John Heppner, whom I am sure we all know for his all breed pigeon expertise. He picked my birds, which incidentally were nest mates - young hens, one blue bar and one blue check. His comments on the two birds were that they were in excellent condition, amongst other good qualities. He noted that the birds had excellent station in the show cage at all times and were very balanced, short and cobby.

I would like to share some of my "no-secret" ways for my accomplishments with all novice Show Racers/fanciers, as I still consider myself to be a novice. None of my views and opinions are anything new but are a definite contributor if you want to raise potential champions.

1. Start out with the best stock birds that you are able to acquire. Try and obtain the pedigrees so you know the background of the birds. If possible work with birds that are from a proven family.

2. Pair up your birds so that cock and hen compliment each other in order to decrease faults and enhance the good points. Don't throw your birds together when pairing them up. Study their background and pedigrees and through some in-breeding and line-breeding draw out their very best qualities.

I have read Amos Hodson's articles in the past with great interest - he states stock hens with "power heads" are worth their weight in gold, and when bred to powerful headed cocks, you increase your chances of improving the heads of the offspring.

3. Study the young birds carefully and cull out the ones with the obvious faults, eg., needle beaks, poor type and station, long cast bodies, poor neck power and stilt legs, etc.

4. Disposition - I find that if a pigeon is wild and flighty in the loft and show cage it is often hereditary and cannot be corrected.

The Impact Bird

by JACK HAMILTON, Bellflower, Calif.

In each species of life, there comes along occasionally an individual which has the genetic capability to greatly influence that species, either for good or bad. Those with the good capability are much more scarce than the others. In Show Racers we can call this great improver the "Impact Bird." What is an impact bird? It is a bird that will have an immediate effect when introduced into your breeding program. This impact bird can be either a cock or a hen: it will in either case be truly prepotent.

In most cases such a bird will be a structure bird: i.e., a pigeon which is overly enhanced with the specific traits you want to introduce into your stud. Obviously the best individual to use is one with the maximum of good physical characteristics for its breed. It should be from a closely inbred family as this usually magnifies that impact within the first and subsequent crosses.

You will notice the symptoms from the time they are nestlings to when they leave the nest. They are usually hard to catch and handle and they often have the nervousness in the head movements. They are cage climbers and loft disturbers. My personal opinion is to cull them regardless of their good qualities. They will spoil your enjoyment of being with the birds in the loft and are a poor show bird.

5. Always look for good station. I feel that station is bred into the bird. You can have the odd bird that will temporarily station in a show cage but will inevitably go back to the "boat" stance.

Then you have the bird that will always station at a 45° angle. This is the bird that has proper leg length and setting and is balanced in the body. This is the bird that you should concentrate on in your breeding program. You then put a powerful head with good flow and reach on a good type bird, and you're on your way to having a good show pigeon. Of course, don't forget good eye setting and colour, good feathering, and condition that must go with it.

There are many more factors to consider in successful breeding, eg., loft hygiene, proper feeding and most of all taking the best possible care of your birds at all times - which I feel has attributed to my success.

I'm sure that there are many more factors that I have not mentioned, which I am sure have been brought out previously, in other articles. Most importantly, however, is that you enjoy your hobby and the fellowship that goes with it. I hope that some of my comments will help some fanciers and I look forward to receiving some information and advice from other fanciers that will help me in improving the quality of our beautiful Show Racer.

In most families of pigeons it will be noted that certain families tend to produce superior cocks as compared to the hens, or to produce superior hens as compared to the cocks of the same family. In selecting your future impact bird to bring into your loft, you need to know which propensity the family behind that bird carries. If it comes from a superior cock producing family, then obtain a cock, etc. Also, what is your need? If your goal is to upgrade your hens, then get a prepotent bird from a prepotent hen family.

While it is true that there are impact birds which have the universal ability to produce excellent specimens in both sexes, such birds are very hard to come by and you would be most fortunate to find one available. Be sure, once you obtain that impact bird, that you mate it to the strongest bird in your loft concerning the trait you seek to improve, but without physical incompatibility.

Foundation

by KENT WRIGHT, Salt Lake City, Utah

I have never given 81-ASR-0 a name, but the perfect one would be FOUNDATION! I always felt he was a special pigeon. I know he has been an excellent show pigeon over the years. Since 1981, it seemed like he was always going head to head against the Richard Brooks' Grizzles (especially #1400). I have always considered the Brooks' Grizzles the best, and the hardest to beat. If you stop and think about it, #0 is a descendent of those same Brooks' Grizzles. His ancestry goes back on the Grizzle line to Motzkus and Hodson, then to Brooks in the early 1970's.

I especially enjoy the Grizzle competition in every District or National Meet which Richard and I are able to attend. I knew that "0" and my other Grizzles had to be at their best to compete with Richard's Grizzles, and I was never disappointed. It was always nice when my Grizzles came out on top, because we had competed against the best. When Richard's birds came out on top, I knew we had been beaten by the best.

In the long history of the Salt Lake Show Racer Classic (formally known as Intermountain West Show Racer Classic), only two Show Racers have won Champion twice. Alpine Loft's #1413 Black Check old cock and #0 Grizzle old cock. Not only have both been good show birds, but they have proven to be excellent stock cocks as well.

In the last year or so I have been studying my pedigrees, with the help of a computer program. I've been very surprised at the number of good Show Racers that have their ancestry traced back to "0". I knew there were some very good birds, but I never would have guessed how many of my present Show Racers are descended from Foundation. (Only one of my current stock pigeons is not related to "0"). Not only are "0's" descendants in my loft, but in the McCalmon, Motzkus, Summers, Huntsman, Williams and Alpine Lofts here in Salt Lake. His bloodline goes as far east as the Johanessen Loft in Connecticut. Who knows where his bloodline could be in other lofts around the country.

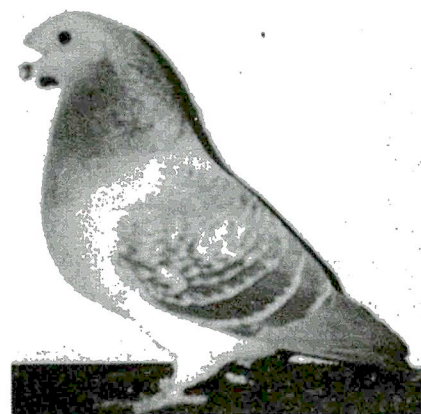
I didn't set out to establish a loft full of pigeons descended from "0". I did want to establish a strain of Show Racers that I could call my own. Carefully choosing the best of my young birds, and always willing to pick up a bird from anyone, if it would improve my loft. Just lately I started looking back to see if there was a pattern. Sure enough, almost all the young birds I liked the best were down line from #0. At the end of the 1990 breeding season, every young bird I like is a descendent of Foundation.

At the Downington National "0's" grandson was the best young cock, red check #61.

At the Peoria National "0's" son was best old cock and best opposite sex Show Racer. Two years ago the ASR started a stock cock class. This class was set up to show new breeders old cocks we always leave home and never show. I have entered "0" in that class twice and he has won both times. Once he went on to be 3rd best OC, after winning the stock cock class. Even in his old age he is an impressive looking bird.

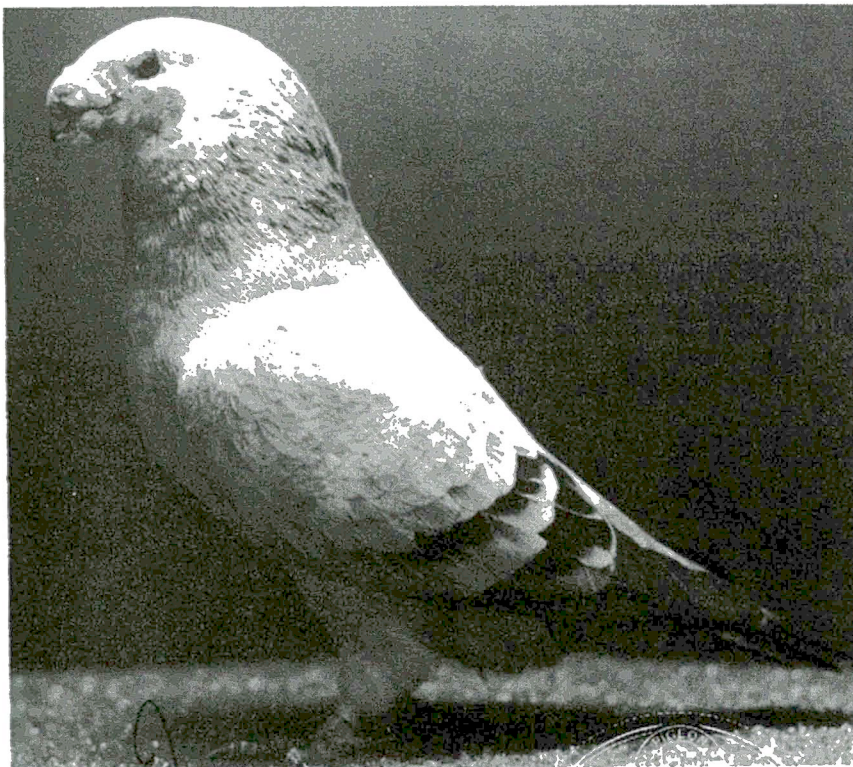
This old, foundation bird will be 10 years old in 1991. He is now retired as a show bird, but I still get a few good babies out of him each breeding season. This year he was mated to an Alpine Lofts blue bar hen and threw two beautiful Grizzles, one is a powerful young cock and the other is a nice young hen.

With this article you will find a picture of Foundation (#0). This photo was taken at the Salt Lake National. It's probably the best picture ever taken of him. In my mind it shows the power in the head and neck that I would like to see in all of my Show Racer cocks. By far, he is my favorite!



RESERVE CHAMPION

NPA 85 ASR 612, Dark Blue Check Hen. First Place Blue Check Hen, Salt Lake Classic 1985; Bill Schleiper, judge. Reserve Champion and Best Opposite Sex, Salt Lake Classic, 1986; Ralph Whitson, judge. Best stock hen ever at Alpine Loft. Mother to #27 and #843.



"FOUNDATION"

#81-ASR-0 is the basis of Kent Wright's strain of American Show Racers. "Foundation" is 10 years old this year and has retired from the show circuit. - Bred and owned by Kent Wright, Salt Lake City, Utah.

More On Handfeeding

by GLENN T. MOTZKUS, Salt Lake City, Utah

From time to time, I have written articles on various aspects of handfeeding my young pigeons. I have told about some of my observations and methods of handfeeding your pigeons from egg to maturity. After thinking about it and considering the questions asked by several people, I realize that there is another area of handfeeding that I call "supplementary handfeeding." Supplementary handfeeding is handfeeding young squabs in the nest that are still being fed by the parent birds.

The main rule to remember is – don't interfere with parent birds who are already doing a good job of feeding their young. Occasionally, however, you'll have parent birds who are very attentive, faithfully sitting, protecting, and trying to feed their young and show no signs of deserting them, but (1) end up spilling the food down the front of themselves and their young, or (2) one or perhaps both young in the nest are never filled up and get 1/4 of the food they could or should be getting. In these cases, I wouldn't take them out of the nest, I would leave them with the parent birds but incorporate "supplementary handfeeding."

I feed my breeder birds once a day, cafeteria style, around 4:00-5:00 p.m. Experience has shown me that the time to use the supplemental handfeeding method is when the parent birds are finished feeding their young for the night, then and only then do I attempt giving extra food to the young. If you feed the young any earlier or between meals, the squabs will not be as hungry, energetic and begging for food from the parent birds. The parent bird will then adjust to this and simply feed the squab less and less. Therefore, you are defeating your purpose and will have a full time handfeeding job. I might point out that it is the energetic squeaking that stimulates the parent to feed its

young, so if you feed before the parent birds are finished for the night, the young will not squeak for food and the parent birds will slow its feeding of the young. But if you supplement in the evening after you are sure the parent birds are finished with all the feeding they intend to do, by morning the young are hungry again, squeaking and urging the parents for breakfast, and the parents are none the wiser.

For feed, I have found that Game Bird Chow Mash is the best and quickest food to use. Pigeon pellets are good, but you have to wait for them to dissolve before you can use

them. Game Bird Mash is higher in protein and can be used from seven days after hatching to weaning. I use Gerbers 35% High Protein Baby Cereal for birds younger than seven days.

I use two ketchup or mustard squeeze bottles with the tip snipped off to about a 3/16 inch hole. I fill one with 1/2 mash and 1/2 warm water, shake it, and it is ready to use. The other bottle is filled with just warm water. The reason for a bottle with just warm water is for use when you see a youngster in the nest that just doesn't seem to be as fat or growing as he should. Yet, when you pick him up he always has grain in his crop. In this case, the parents have done a good job of feeding grain but have neglected to give the young enough water or it could be an extra



You can start handfeeding at this age, but best to wait until pin feathers begin to show. Best to use Gerber's High Protein 35% Baby Cereal for three or four more days. – Photo by Glenn T. Motzkus, Salt Lake City, Utah.



Supplies used in handfeeding. – Photo by Glenn T. Motzkus, Salt Lake City, Utah.



Best age which to start handfeeding. – Photo by Glenn Motzkus.

hot day when they need more water than usual. A squirt of water and a gentle massage with your fingers to unpack the grain in the crop could be all that is needed to bring this young bird back to a fat healthy squab.

Of course, the other bottle with mash gruel is for other squabs in the nest that have not been fed as full as they should. A small squirt is all they need. As a general reminder, be careful when putting the nozzle of the squeeze bottle down the young bird's throat as not to scratch or bruise the throat. This could cause canker. Also, if you fill the crop too full, the young can strangle and drown. If this happens quickly pick the bird up, turn it upside down and gently squeeze out some of the food, then put the bird on the ground to catch his breath.

Another little trick I have found helpful at feeding time is to sprinkle a few grains in the nesting compartment. When the parent birds come to feed the young, they will usually see the grain and eat it. The young watch this and in a few days try pecking at a few grains right along with the parents. When it comes time for them to leave the nest, many times, they can eat with the parents out of the main feeding trough on the floor.

Another way to encourage the young to learn to eat by themselves is if you have a large enough nesting compartment, you can individually feed the breeders in their own compartments. The advantage to feeding in the nest compartment is for taming and control in catching your birds. When breeders get used to being fed only in the nesting

compartment, they will make a beeline for their nest whenever they see you coming to feed. This gives you a chance to talk to them and handle them without having to chase them around the loft. These little tricks may not seem like much, but they certainly can add to the enjoyment of the hobby.

Another question that arises is when to put the youngsters you are handfeeding full time back into the loft with the other birds? I have found that when the young are around three weeks of age, I place them in the young bird loft with young birds just a little older than themselves. I never put full time hand fed youngsters in with adult breeders, since the old birds will peck or scalp the young birds, especially when the young can't fly away. I now hand feed them once a day, in the evening, about an hour or more after I feed the entire flock. The younger birds will be ready and willing to eat and will try to follow the older young's example of pecking at grain. Within two or three days, even though they are unable to fly, they will be squeaking and running around the floor eating grain along with the other birds. A person now will have the tendency to over feed (by handfeeding) than to under feed. Each day the amount hand fed should be less and less until they are completely on their own.

At least once a day their beaks should be dipped into the loft's drinking fountain so that they will learn where to find water. Some will gulp the water to the point that you think they are drowning. From this time on, they are practically on their own.

I have almost left out the most important part. Aside from the joy of watching them grown and learning to trust you, the young birds will be very tame. Their antics of having them run up to you, nuzzle your fingers with their beaks, tapping your hand with their wings, and squeaking loudly as if to say, feed me, more, more, are truly rewarding. My older young will fly to my shoulder and nuzzle my ear whenever I walk into the young bird loft.

Some people may not enjoy this, but to me, this is what it is all about: sitting in my loft, watching my birds, planning my next year's breeding season and selecting my birds for the shows.

Yes, hand feeding does take a little practice and patience but the dividends and enjoyment are worth it.



Young birds become almost too tame when you hand feed them. Open the beak with both hands, hold it open with one and squeeze the bottle with the other.



When Glenn Motzkus is away, his wife Darla feeds the young squabs.

Join The

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Thirty-Eight Years With Show Racers

by BILL SCHLIEPER, Castro Valley, Calif.

I was introduced to American Show Racers in 1953. Prior to that I raced pigeons. I was not a barn burner in the racing club but was always interested in showing and had served as chairman of 11 shows before I saw a Show Racer. While chairman of the California State Racing Pigeon Association show, I was introduced to Bill Rice who had entered several birds in the color classes (incidentally he took all the honors). I was immediately interested in his birds and marveled at their beauty and condition. At the banquet dinner that evening a friend brought Bill over to our table and introduced us. He asked me if I was interested in Show Racers. I told him I had seen some fine birds entered by Charles Trethowan and Al Hodge and was thinking of purchasing a pair or two. While I was racing and showing the racing homers, Show Racers just seemed to be the way to go as I didn't want to give up pigeons and the time and money spent in racing was a drain financially on a young man raising a family. Besides, I was taken with the beauty and disposition of the Show Racers.

My first quality Show Racers came from Bill Rice and Charles Trethowan. Bill sent me a pair of wonderful blue bars. I mated them together, along with the two pairs from Trethowan. From these three pair I raised six showable birds for that Fall's shows. I did pretty well, taking several classes, but not the championship. The next year I mated the old Rice cock to his daughter and raised a young blue hen of outstanding quality. She won her class in four shows and was champion at three. I bred her the following year, and gain the next year, but nothing she bred was even close to her. This just goes to show you that top show birds are not necessarily top producers.

After competing at the shows a year or so I met Bob Trane. We became friends and he was very instrumental in the improvement of my birds from that time on. First, he gave me two birds and then later we traded several. Each year Bob would let me have an outstanding bird or two and I built my family around them. From then on I was on my way. After a few years I felt I wanted to introduce an outcross. At Fresno I obtained a red bar cock from Richard Brooks. From that bird, mated to one of my hens, I bred a blue bar cock that was National Champion at San Jose. A few years later, wanting another cross, I saw a black check hen, #272, being shown by Richard Brooks, and liked her. I swapped for her. This was the best deal I ever made in pigeons as her bloodline runs in all my birds today. She is not only a show bird, but a good producer with several cocks and one of her daughters is my number one stock hen today.

About this time my Bill Rice bloodline had just about run out, there being only one hen left from the original pair Bill sent me. She was about done, having only had one fertile egg that year. I knew it was time to replace her. As I was wanting to develop my own family, I looked my young hens over and selected a daughter of #272 (mentioned above) as my best prospect. This hen, #1714, turned out to be a very lucky choice. She was an outstanding show bird and has turned out to be a great producer.

Year by year I have always been looking for an outcross I considered better quality than I already had. Several years back I visited Jack Hamilton's loft and was most impressed with his birds. Thinking to obtain a quality bird or two from him, I asked him if he ever sold birds. I was most disappointed



#86-ASR-1714 Black Check Hen is the foundation of Bill Schlieper's American Show Racer strain.

when he said he never did. I felt like a kid who had just had his ice cream cone taken away. I visited Jack from time to time and two years later was able to obtain two cocks. These turned out to be just what I needed to improve my family, especially in heads. Still, I believed some of the birds I saw in Jack's loft would help me even more. I was still looking for that special one. Unfortunately my top picks were untouchable (understandably so). About then I bred a tremendous hen. She was from my champion red bar hen I had bred from a hen borrowed from Richard Brooks. Unfortunately this terrific young hen had a frill and I decided not to keep her. While talking to Jack by phone one day I mentioned this hen to him and he suggested I bring her to the Pageant of Pigeons and if he liked her he would take her. When he saw the hen he really liked her and said she was just what he was looking for to cross into his family. The youngsters Jack has raised from his hen, and others I traded to him have really helped him.

In 1986 I visited Jack's loft again. While there I saw a blue check cock that really "turned me on." I asked Jack if I might handle him. Once in my hands he confirmed what I had expected - a truly outstanding body to go with the rest. I asked Jack if he was available (for sale, trade, loan, you name it). He replied that this was one of his top stock cocks and he had definite plans for him in his breeding program. I really was disappointed at not being able to take this cock home. He was EXACTLY what I wanted. During that visit I asked Jack to share with me the breeding on this beautiful cock bird. He told me the cock was down from the red bar frill hen he had obtained from me (see above). That really surprised me and I was more determined than ever to use him, if only for one season. I asked Jack if he would consider letting me use the cock the following year and we would split the youngsters. His first question was "What hen will you put him with?" I replied that I would use #272 (above). He agreed then that I could take the



Young at this age are about to be weaned from the bottle. (see story on previous page) - Photo by Glenn T. Motzkus, Salt Lake City, Utah.

cock. I was in seventh heaven and felt I had a truly foundation pair. I raised seven youngsters from this pair #904 cock and #272 hen. What a disappointment! Not one of the youngsters came anywhere near to being as good as the parents. I took the seven for Jack to see and he felt the same way. We gave the seven away. I suggested that we put 904 to the good daughter of 272, #1714. Jack agreed. Boy, did we hit pay dirt. The first year I bred 12 young from the pair and all were keepers. Every bird shown from that pair that year won its class and one cock was champion at three of the four shows entered. Jack and I were both so happy with the results of this mating we decided to leave them together another year. At this writing they are mated together for 1990 and the youngsters look great so far. We recognize that the quality may go down as the birds grow older, but we are going to take the chance for as long as it works.

As of the present time my family of birds is a combination of bloodlines from Bob Trane, Richard Brooks and Jack Hamilton, with about equal amounts and dominance among the three families. This year I will be using six of the youngsters off 904 and 1714 in my breeding program. Considering all the help I received from some of the best breeders of Show Racers, I hope to be able to help others, especially newcomers, in sharing a quality bird or two so that they may make progress in their program. In closing I want to thank all those who have helped make my family of Show Racers as competitive as they are. Thanks to Bill Rice, Charles Trethowan, Bob Trane, Richard Brooks and Jack Hamilton for all your help, not only with top quality birds, but in sharing your knowledge and experience. It really has meant a lot to me.

Polygamous Breeding The Stud Cock

by RICHARD BROOKS, Eureka Springs, Ark.

Now and then we breed that outstanding bird, either as a show bird or a breeder. How we wish everything in the loft was like him or her. If that bird is a cock, perhaps this article will help you accomplish that wish. At least it has often worked well for me. On one occasion, I bred 19 young from one cock during one breeding season.

The loft setup is important. I use a 6 by 6 foot square section, seven feet high. There are four roomy nest boxes on one wall. Mine are three feet wide and I'd prefer them to be two feet deep and at least 16 inches high. Below these four boxes is a larger box, six feet wide and the same depth with a bit more height than the other four. The four boxes each have a center dowel divider which can be easily inserted or removed. One sliding in a channel both top and bottom is perhaps best. One can use what I mention here and then transfer eggs to feeders at any time but I find this below described way the best. I place four Show Racer cocks in the loft with their nest box partitions removed and both doors of their box open. No other perches in loft. Soon they will each select a nest box. When all are thus settled place your pride and joy stud cock in the larger, lower box. Never let him out when the other four are out so as to prevent fighting. As he is a late comer they will all resent him. Then, with all cocks locked in, place your four selected mates for the stud cock in the loft. Which box or mate they choose is immaterial. Just be sure the cocks are locked in, partitions in place, and the opposite side of their nest box has its door open. As all nest boxes are well above floor level, and there are no perches, soon the hens will choose a perch in one of the nest box compartments with nothing between her and the cock locked in that box except the dowel

partition. Of course the stud cock has no such extra compartment or partition. When the hens have selected a perch (nest box) they have also, obviously, selected by sight as mate the cock across the partition from them. Let them bill and coo through the partitions for four days. If you are right there even let them together in the nest box but NEVER, NEVER, NEVER, let them tread. Don't answer the telephone, your wife's call, your child's cry, your dog's bark, until that partition is back in place between the two birds. Have feed and water cups in each nest box so all eating and drinking is done within the box. On the fifth day the fun begins. Assuming you work five days per week, try to start so the fifth day is Saturday, or even Friday of a three day weekend. If you can't do that, set aside an hour after you get home from work. We are talking about from 8 to 10 days in a row. Let us say you can only be there from 5 to 6 p.m., and must feed and water with no outside help. Feed and water those four pair and stud cock at 5. Then feed and water the rest of your loft by 5:15. If it is dark in your area, get a good bright electric globe. At 5:15, let the first hen out into the main compartment. Then let the stud cock out and you get out of the compartment, looking in through window, etc., but not so close as to be a distraction. Most likely after a bit of strutting and spinning, the pair will tread. With one treading immediately lock the hen in her compartment and the cock in his. At 5:30 let another hen out, then the stud cock, and repeat the above described. Soon all four hens will have been treaded once. Also all birds will then be back in nest boxes. Repeat this daily until the day after the hen lays her

(Continued On Next Page)



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first egg. If she lays on Saturday afternoon, repeat the above schedule Saturday and Sunday. Monday morning let the sight mated cock of that hen out through his door and her through hers. Let them tread on the floor of the main compartment, safe away from the eggs, all they want to. While they are thus occupied, remove the partition and remove the second nest bowl which has been on the cock's side of the partition from day one. He has used this to call and excite her and now its job is finished until next time. Both birds will soon return to the nest box and the hen will resume sitting. Late morning the cock will then take over the brooding. As all four cocks and hens have claimed their own nest box, there should be no fighting. Incidentally, all through the time already mentioned above the four cocks are free to roam the loft and return to their side of the partition in which the hen is locked through the day. Keep the stud cock working with each remaining hen on originally described procedure until each hen has laid her first egg plus the next evening, then let her with her mate the morning she is to lay her second egg. During incubation and until babies are ten to eleven days old the stud cock may be removed to a sunny aviary or left in his pen though sunny aviary is better. Of course he must not be permitted access to other hens or cocks. When babies are ten days old insert partition between hen and mate, leaving babies on hen's side during night and on cock's side during day. If you are trying this in a cold climate during the winter see article on winter breeding in this magazine, and follow ventilation and heat as indicated. If you do not have a suitable sun deck for this compartment where the four pair can bathe while together, and cocks at least weekly while separated from their hens, then dip them weekly at least. A handful of 20 mule team borax (not boraxo) is very good. Put this in about two gallons of water. With feed and water in the nest boxes your young will begin to eat with their parents at about 24 to 25 days of age. As soon as they are eating and drinking, separate them into young bird section.

This system can be used for four rounds (probably from early December through early June). Then I would let the stud cock mate with an entirely different hen and raise one youngster so he will moult properly. If you let him thus mate with one of the four hens you may have trouble next season with him choosing her. Always use four hens none of which he has been singularly mated to prior to your polygamous breeding effort. Not every cock will work this schedule, nor will every hen. But with patience you can make it pay off. I have birds in my loft now bred from four different hens and one cock in the same season. I dare say if one wanted to get ahead in a hurry there would be no better way than to select his three or four best cocks and get all his youngsters from them and his good hens of a variety of colors and patterns.

National Grand Champion Show Racers

This article is a listing of the owners of NPA National Champion Show Racers through the years beginning in 1952. Where known, the judge is named.

- 1952 Des Moines, Iowa - Don Lutes.
- 1953 Des Moines, Iowa - Mike Yaco.
- 1954 Indianapolis, Ind. - Lutes and Relinski.
- 1955 Atlantic City, N.J. - Art Kehl.
- 1957 Atlantic City, N.J. - Palmetto Pigeon Plant.
- 1958 Stockton, Calif. - Archie Adams, BB Yng. Cock 303, Judge John Sandin. 163 birds.
- 1959 Milwaukee, Wisc. - Archie Adams, Blk. Ch. OC 645, Judge J.J. Keifer. 169 birds.
- 1960 Atlantic City, N.J. - Clyde Galloway, BC YC 584, Judge Jerry Moen. 126 birds.
- 1961 Lafayette, La. - Archie Adams, BC YC 358, Judge H.J. (Tony) Anthony. 101 birds.
- 1962 Long Beach, Calif. - Joe Frazier, BB YC 912, Judge H.J. (Tony) Anthony. 240 birds.
- 1963 St. Louis, MO. - Ken Winters, BC YC 3157, Judge W. Schwister. 86 birds.
- 1964 Asbury Park, N.J. - Thomas Oswald, BB OH 461, Judge Vincent Boschi. 151 birds.
- 1965 Dallas, Texas - Castle Child, BC YH 824, Judge H.J. (Tony) Anthony. 96 birds.
- 1966 Costa Mesa, Calif. - Wm. F. Rice, BB OC 178, Judge Jack Hamilton. 329 birds.
- 1967 Milwaukee, Wisc. - Earl Schultz, BC OC 5124, Judge W. Schwister. 180 birds.
- 1968 Atlantic City, N.J. - John Heidig, Sil. Br. YH 2930, Judge Wm. F. Rice. 85 birds.
- 1969 Fort Worth, Texas - Amos Hodson, BC YC 499, Judge Joe Frazier. 136 birds.
- 1970 St. Paul, Minn. - Amos Hodson, BC OC 499, Judge Art W. Kehl. 113 birds.
- 1971 Seattle, Wash. - Castle Child, Blk. Ch. OC 310, Judges Joe Frazier and John Fordon. 191 birds.
- 1972 Atlantic City, N.J. - Wm. F. Rice, BB YH 909, Judge Art Kehl. 136 birds.
- 1973 Houston, Texas - Wm. F. Rice, BB OH 909, Judge Joe Frazier. 125 birds.
- 1974 St. Paul, Minn. - Amos Hodson, BB OC 319, Judge Art Kehl. 76 birds.
- 1975 Atlantic City, N.J. - LeRoy Bennett, MSMK OC 838, Judge John Heidig. 254 birds.
- 1976 Fresno, Calif. - Amos Hodson, Griz. OC 796, Judge Earl Treber. 291 birds.
- 1977 Dayton, Ohio - Norm McClister, RC YC 1733, Judge Art Kehl. 154 birds.
- 1978 San Diego, Calif. - Amos Hodson, BC OH 1602, Judge Ron Bell. 245 birds.
- 1979 Houston, Texas - Amos Hodson, BC OH 1602, Judge Joe Frazier.
- 1980 Hershey, Pa. - Amos Hodson, BC

YH 504, Judges Eslinger and Galloway. 275 birds.

1981 San Jose, Calif. - Bill Schlieper, BB OC 1465, Judges Brooks and Hodson. 253 birds.

1982 Albuquerque, N.M. - Amos Hodson, BC OH 504, Judges Langridge and McKenzie. 166 birds.

1983 Lincoln, Nebraska - P & W Lofts, BB YC 1007, Judge Art Kehl. 200 birds.

1984 El Paso, Texas - Amos Hodson, BC YH 162, Judge Joe Frazier. 86 birds.

1985 Portland, Oregon - Ralph Whitson, BC OC 874, Judge Orrie Moore. 201 birds.

1986 Houston, Texas - Amos Hodson, BC YH 531, Judge Earl Deal. 261 birds.

1987 Downingtown, Pa. - Richard Brooks, GR YH 624, Judge Amos Hodson. 206 birds.

1988 Portland, Oregon - Amos Hodson, BC YH 18, Judge Richard Brooks. 273 birds.

1989 Peoria, Illinois - Ralph Whitson, Mismarked YH 628, Judge Castle Child. 235 birds.

1990 Salt Lake City, Utah - Ralph Whitson, Blk C OC 2245, Judge Joe Bronner. 508 birds.

1991 Pomona, Calif. - Bill Schlieper, BC YC 109, Judges Brooks and Hodson. 520 birds.

NPA Master

Breeder Certificates

The following have received the NPA Master Breeder Certificates for Show Racers:

- 1959 Archie Adams (d)
- 1970 Amos Hodson
- 1974 Bill Rice (d)
- 1978 Joe Frazier
- 1980 Castle Child
- 1986 Richard Brooks
- 1990 Bill Schlieper
- 1990 Kent Wright
- 1990 Ralph Whitson
- 1991 Glenn Motzkus
- 1991 Brad Child

ASRA

Master Breeders

The following have been awarded the American Show Racer Master Breeder Certificate:

- Earl Schultz
- Bob Trane
- Chas. Trethowan
- Leroy Bennett
- Norm McClister
- Ted Klein
- Clyde Galloway
- Gary Noeska
- Jim McKenzie
- Jack Hamilton
- Earl Deal
- Bill Kaemmer

Show Racer Slang Glossary For The Beginner

by RANDALL RAPETTI, Laguna Niguel, Calif.

I bought my first show racers from Bill Schlieper at the 1987 Pageant of Pigeons. Seeing show racers for the first time was exhilarating and fun, but I was lost in conversations filled with terms and clichés known only to the experienced breeders. I can vividly remember Bill handling the opal grizzle hen saying, "She has pretty good reach but she lacks a little in mandible substance." I nodded affirmatively and said, "Oh yeah, definitely good reach, uh huh." I thought he must be talking about the length of her neck!

Since that time I have enjoyed picking up some of the show racer "lingo" and thought it might be a fun idea to share it with some of our newcomers. The following list is not exhaustive by any means, but should give the beginner a foundation from which to work.

1. **BUG EYED** - Applies to a bird with eyes that protrude beyond acceptable limits from their sockets.

2. **BUSHY ASSED** - Loose feathers on the underside of the rump.

3. **CONDITION** - Condition may refer to several aspects of the pigeon from feather quality and cleanliness, to fleshiness surrounding the keel/breast.

4. **COW HOCKED** - Refers to the pigeon appearing "knock-kneed."

5. **CREASE** - A fold in the otherwise smooth feather surface on the head, neck, or breast of the show racer.

6. **CREST** - A loosely used term among show racer fanciers to indicate any small tuft of feathers crowning the head.

7. **CROSS BEAKED** - Applies to a bird with beak mandibles which do not align.

8. **FRILL** - A term used loosely by show racer breeders to indicate any tuft of feathers on the front of the neck or chest of the bird.

9. **FLAT ASSED** - A bird which is soft, flat, and wide at the rump.

10. **FLUTING** - Indicates small, quill sized plects in the wing shield area of the pigeon.

11. **FRONTAL** - Usually refers to the area of the head from the center of the eye to the top of the beak. Sometimes used only in relation to the skull substance between the eye and the beak.

12. **GULLET** - Indicates the underside of the neck at the point where it joins the head.

13. **HINGE ASSED** - A bird which seems to "hinge" between the body and rump/tail area.

14. **HOCK ANGLE** - Refers to the angle of bend at what would be the bend of the knee.

15. **HOKED BEAK** - The upper mandible of the beak, which grows too long, forming a hook over the lower mandible.

16. **IMPACT BIRD** - A phrase coined by Jack Hamilton which refers to a stock bird that will breed quality pigeons regardless of

its mate. Sometimes called a "prepotent" bird.

17. **KEEL, SHORT/DEEP** - The keel is the bone which runs through the center of the breast of the pigeon. This bone will feel sharp if the bird is "deep" or feel like it ends in mush if it is short.

18. **LONG CAST** - A show racer that appears longer than the standard picture.

19. **MANDIBLES** - Generally refers to the upper and lower "jaws" but is frequently used to specify only the bone-like substance of the beak.

20. **NEEDLE BEAK** - Refers to a bird with thin, narrow beak substance.

21. **PIN HOLES** - Tiny holes in the wing feathers usually caused by lice.

22. **PANTS** - Specifies heavy feathering on the upper legs that gives the bird the appearance of wearing trousers.

23. **POLLY HEADED/FACED** - Specifies a bird which appears round headed, lacking sufficient distance between the center of the eye and the tip of the beak. See also **SHORT FACE**.

24. **POWER** - Usually refers to the "size" and "substance" of the show racer head, beak, and neck but can also be used to describe the bird in general.

25. **REACH** - Pertains to the distance from the center of the eye to the tip of the beak. The appearance of reach is heavily influenced by the shape of the head and depth of the seven-cut.

The Untold Mister Pigeon

by ROBERT MAKSYM,
Roseville, Mich.

Art W. Kehl is by far the oldest and hardest working member in the Second District. His name runs synonymous with the many great breeders and sportsmen of the past and present. People like Bill Rice, Archie Adams, J.J. Keffier, Amos Hodson, Aplin Child and more. He was one of the foundation stones of a club we call the American Show Racer Assn., today. He was there in the early days when the breeders were breeding in as many directions as there were breeders, but they all had the same thing in mind, and that was to develop the perfect show type racing homer. Many of the breeders of the day put their heads together in the early 30's and that is when the National Show Pen Racer Assn., of America made its debut. For his devotion not just to the show racer, but the pigeon hobby as a whole. His lifetime of achievements and recognitions should be noted.

"Art" I salute you.

26. **SAILS/SIDEBARDS** - Flight feathers which form vertical "walls" on either side of the rump and tail. This is a fault in show racers.

27. **SEVEN-CUT** - Describes the appropriate angle of break in the gullet of the show racer.

28. **SHORT FACE** - Specifies a head which appears short and stubby but not necessarily round as in **POLLY HEADED**.

29. **SIDEBURNS** - Small feathers that protrude horizontally from around the ear area of the bird.

30. **SMUT COLORED** - A slang term used to describe several genetic color faults such as smokey, sooty, or dirty.

31. **STATION** - Describes the bold, erect stance of the show racer. A bird may under-station (appearing flat), or over-station (appearing to lean back).

32. **STOVE PIPED** - Describes a long thin neck.

33. **SUNKEN CHEST** - A condition where wing butts extend beyond the chest when the bird stations.

34. **SWEEP** - Describes the smooth contoured upper outline of the head and beak.

35. **WATTLE, SPLIT** - The white substance covering the nostrils. When feathers grow between the wattles it appears split. This is a fault.

36. **WEDGE** - Describes the narrowing from the shoulders to the tail.

37. **WHIP TAIL** - A tail which appropriately appears as one feather when looking down upon it from above.

38. **WING BUTTS** - The front part of the wing which arcs perpendicular to the breast.

Now you are familiar with show racer lingo. Next time that old pro asks you what you think of his champion bird tell him it looks like a polly faced, needle beaked, split wattled, stove piped, over station and flat assed bird, but you surely do admire that whip tail. He will be impressed!



AMERICAN SHOW RACER
Yellow Check Cock #257-85. - Bred by
Bob Maksym, Roseville, Mich.

The American Show Racer – A South African Perspective

by KOOS MARAIS, Cape Town, South Africa

Introduction

The purpose of this article is to convey the views of a few S.A. Show Racer fanciers (and in particular my own) of the present American Show Racer standard and the quality of your birds. These views do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the S.A. Homer Club or many other Show Racer breeders in this country who favour the English Show Racer standard and strongly disapprove of the powerful head, neck and body of the American standard which they consider to be a serious departure from the racing homer standard or image.

The American Show Racer Standard

I have studied the current American Show Racer Standard, the 1971 and 1982 APJ Specials as well as various articles written by Douglas McLeary on the American, English and Australian standards and birds. I also had the tremendous privilege of getting to know Richard Brooks (a real gentleman and a fine student of our favourite breed) and acquiring 12 American Show Racers from him towards the end of 1990. Having had the above exposure to Show Racers I wish to offer the following comments.

General Overview

I have the highest praise for the American breeders (both current Show Racer pioneers and champions as well as their forerunners) for what they have achieved over the years. I believe they achieved this by pursuing a scientific approach to breeding, setting clearly defined objectives and pursuing these objectives through "ruthless" selection, dedication and perseverance.

The American Show Racer of today has reached a standard of near perfection. Out-

standing features are the powerful head and beak, short and strong neck, depth and width of body, wedge shaped back and "pin-tail" and correct hock angle. Most important is the overall conformation and type of today's Show Racer. You have managed to bring all the above outstanding features together. This you achieved by blending these qualities in such an artistic way as to create a beautiful continuous flow from beak to tail and a type of bird that oozes power, pride and gallantry, perhaps only equalled by a thoroughbred stallion. The final touches were achieved by the quality and "shortness" of feather. While the American Show Racer of today is unsurpassed in the world, I have one major criticism of the head of both the standard and your birds. My ideal Show Racer will also have a few minor "improvements" on the standard.

The Head

I like the size and power of the head created by the added substance of the beak (both mandibles), the frontal area and the back skull. The standard prescribes a length of 1-1/2 inches (38mm) from point of beak to centre of eye. The picture of the current standard complies with this, (see sketch 1) while the old standard measures only 34mm (see sketch 2). When the old standard of head is superimposed on the new, one finds that the reach and frontal of head as well as the back skull have been strengthened and increased substantially. The beak and wattle areas were also increased in substance.

However, while the above head properties were given added dimension, the actual depth of the head or top skull was virtually

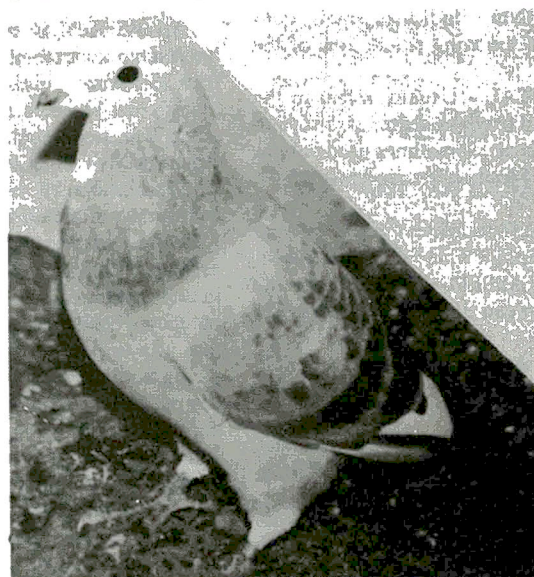
left unchanged. This created the "long face" appearance which in my opinion detracts from the outstanding overall improvements to the head and body of today's Show Racer. I decided to alter the official drawing of the present standard to provide for more top skull. However, this was not necessary! Richard Brooks once sent me a picture of a Castle Child bird which I really fancied. I enlarged this picture to life size (see sketch 3) and found that when superimposed on the current standard, it was almost identical to the dimensions of the standard in terms of beak, frontal, reach, back skull and length from beak to centre of eye (38mm). However, the one area where the Castle Child bird's head differed, was in the added substance of head above the eye, i.e. top skull. This confirmed my theory. The added top skull removes the unappealing "long face" of the current standard and in my opinion constitutes a significant improvement on the standard. Further refinement of the wattle, with no sign of wattle on lower mandible, should also be pursued.

Neck and Body

I believe you have developed the neck, in terms of substance and smoothness, to near perfection. Perhaps one could strive towards a slightly shorter neck.

Your birds have outstanding bodies. The width of body and cobbyness are amazing, considering the "size" of the birds in terms of "substance." Another outstanding feature is shortness of feather, especially the primary and tail feathers while the body feathers provides a beautiful shining skin-like appearance.

The bodies are wedge shaped, which are accentuated by the strong and sturdy, but narrow rump and close fitting "pin-tail."



Two South African birds. Notice lack of reach and frontal. Also, lack of substance in beak of the opal check.

What I would like to see is some improvement in body depth and further improvement towards an even more compact and shorter body (if this is possible!!). Also, one should work towards strong and close fitting vent bones with space for no more ("rather less") than one finger between keel and vent bones.

Type

The American Show Racer of today has a most beautiful and appealing appearance which is achieved by perfect station, fully body, conformation and quality and smoothness of feather. The final touch required, lies in adding top skull.

Conclusion

The American breeders responsible for

the development of what culminated in today's American Show Racer deserve the highest commendation. My strong wish as a Show Racer fancier is to visit America and spend time in the company and pigeon lofts of master breeders such as Amos Hodson, Richard Brooks, Castle and Brad Child, Joe Frazier, Ralph Whitson, Bill Schlieper, Kent Wright, Bob Trane, Bob English, Gary Noeska, Lauren Porsch, Glenn Motzkus and other greats! My second strongest wish - to own a pair of "power blue" true silver check (or "ice") American Show Racers. (Richard Brooks already let me have a beautiful true silver bar hen as well as a blue check cock, carrying the dilute factor).



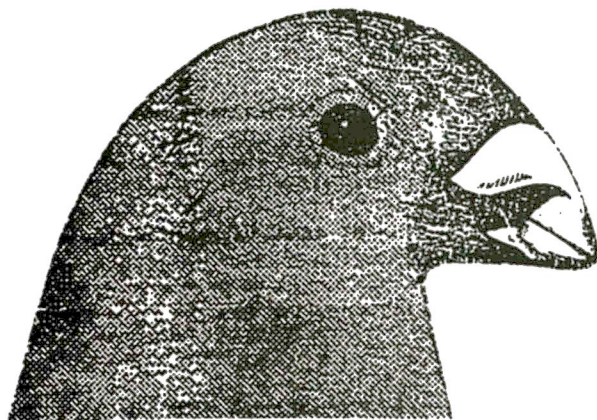
American Show Racer, #90 ASR 1486
White Hen. - Bred and owned by Joseph
Ognibene, Brooklyn, N.Y.



SKETCH 1
The present standard (life
size).



SKETCH 2
The old standard (life
size).



SKETCH 3
My preferred
standard based on the
Castle Child bird (life
size).

Experiences In Breeding And Showing The Bird With Dignity

by JOSEPH OGNIBENE,
Brooklyn, N.Y.

My own experiences bear out what I have heard from other fanciers: The most difficult aspect of breeding American Show Racers is producing powerful heads with good reach, wide rounded top skull, and mandibles of equal and very strong substance. Granted, our breed is not judged on head alone. However, a bird without the above described features will not win. A bird lacking reach, without head width, thin top skull and/or thin mandibles will not, and should not be placed as a class winner, or a champion, unless all the birds in the show are of that type, and THAT IS NOT LIKELY. True, winning the show isn't everything, but that is the purpose of entering our birds. Yes, we are in it for the sport, the fellowship, and the pure pleasure and certainly the whole bird should be evaluated (not head alone, not body alone, not condition alone, not station alone) but by balance. Never should a judge select a winner based on one outstanding feature, or because the bird is a black check, a yellow, or a red bar (for examples).

In selecting judges, it is my opinion that only those persons who are presently showing our breed and have respectable show winning records should even be considered. Nor is having this ability just in his own backyard enough. Go for the judge who takes on all comers and holds his own all across the country. I do not believe racing homers, flying rollers or showing Modenas

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(examples) qualifies even the best in those fields to judge show racers. Our standard has improved and our birds are so much better now than they were 10 or 20 years ago. I would say that even the master breeder of that long ago time is no longer qualified to judge the type we have today.

Those of you who have been around me much know that sooner or later I "always" talk about head power on our birds. Some of you may consider me a "head hunter." I am not a head hunter. However here in the New York area head weakness is our greatest problem with our breed. My desire is to point our local breeders in the right direction. Get some power headed birds into the breeding program.

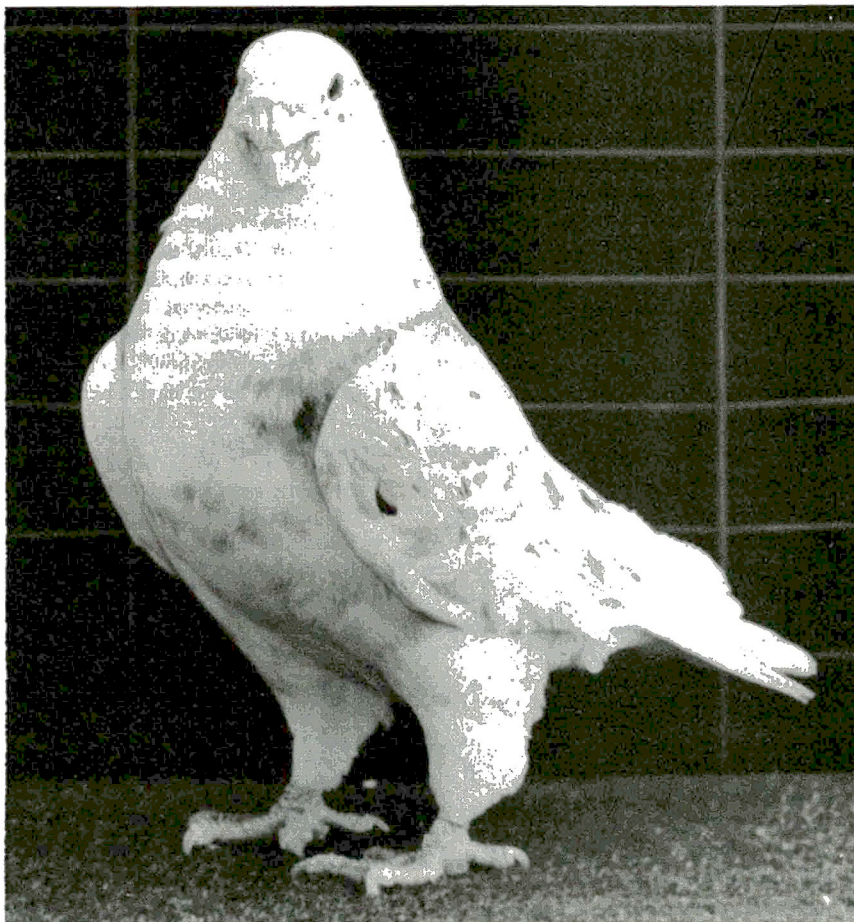
Personally I'd like to see more judges talk about the birds as they handle them: Point out the good and bad points of each bird. After the class, let us ask questions. This would help us all, and the novice especially, to understand what to look for in a good well balanced show racer. A good judge can be most helpful here; a judge who doesn't know the standard can steer us in the wrong direction and lead us to perpetuate that error. To all, and especially to the novice, this can be devastating.

Some fanciers say they don't like those very powerful headed hens that, to them, resemble cocks. They see them as too powerful and masculine looking, and don't like to use them in their breeding programs. It's my feeling that the fancier who feels this way simply has never had such a hen in his/her breeding program, and is a bit stunned when one is seen. I haven't yet seen that many such hens around and seldom more than one or two in the average good loft. If you have such, consider yourself lucky. From them come the power youngsters that develop into outstanding show birds.

Of course all the above is only my opinion, and I certainly don't claim to know everything about American Show Racers. Certainly I did not write this to offend anyone. I just wanted to voice my opinion and challenge you to think about your aims and goals in breeding a better bird.



Pete Haden and Jack Fix (right) at the Long Island Show Homer Assn. Show 1990.



AMERICAN SHOW RACER

Almond Pied Cuck #10-86. Bred by Bob Maksym, Roseville, Mich.

ASRA Second District Report

by ROBERT MAKSYM, Roseville, Mich.

We have all been working hard to get ready for this year's show season. It will begin with the Louisville Young Bird Show on Oct. 26, 1991. Paul Bertalan will be the member in charge. The judge will be Richard Brooks, M.D. of Eureka Springs, AK. His apprentice judge will be Jeff Wozniak of Bay City, MI.

We will also have two sanctioned shows in the Second District this year. Namely, the Watertown Pigeon Club on Thanksgiving weekend, Nov. 29, 30, 1991. In Watertown, WI, Art Kehl is the member in charge and Gary Noeska of Winona, MN, will be the judge. The Michigan Show Racer Club will also hold a meet with the Port Huron Pigeon Club on Dec. 8, 1991. Larry Schulz will be the member in charge and Charles Cole will do the honor of judging this one. The apprentices are still to be selected for these two sanctioned meets.

Our judges for the N.P.A. Grand National in Milwaukee are Bill Schlieper and Joe Pellettieri. These are two top breeders from

California. They will be working together. Pellettieri will be making the first cut and Schlieper will have the final say. Their apprentices will be Mike Carson of Scarsborough, Ontario, Canada and Larry Schulz of Gross Point Park, MI.

I would like to take this time and thank the following A.S.R.A. members for this suggestions and commitment to help make the road to success a little closer: Jack Anderson, Bob English, Richard Brooks, John Johanessen, Joe Bronner, V.H. Halpern, Joe Pellettieri and my very good friend Art W. Kehl.

For the pigeon breeders that are interested in getting a good start in American Show Racers or building their stock and you need that good cock or hen, we will have silent auctions at the Louisville, Watertown and Michigan Shows. More information will be forth coming.

If you have any questions, please call or write to Bob Maksym, 19386 Delaware, Roseville, MI 48066, (313) 771-2731.

Beginning A Family Of White American Show Racers

by RANDALL RAPETTI, Laguna Niguel, Calif.

My introduction to show racers began in 1965 when, at the age of eleven years, I received a gift dark check cock from an experienced pigeon man, Joe Miroth. I mated this cock to my blue bar racing homer hen. The offspring of this pair were good flyers (for me) and had fairly good head power. More than that, I loved them. In 1974, when I entered college, I had to give up my birds.

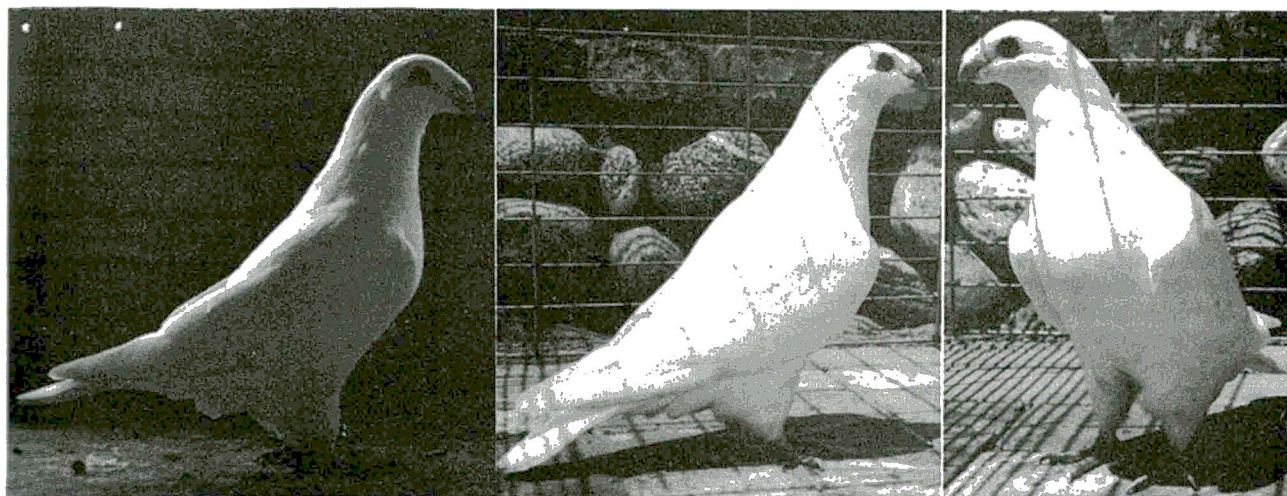
My re-entry into the hobby had a rather unusual beginning. As I was leaving church one Sunday, I noticed a pure white racing homer hen pecking in the church flower bed. I slowly reached down and picked her up. She seemed to be in good condition. From the club band she wore, I contacted the owner who presented her to me. I built a small pen and immediately began looking for a white cock for her. Mel Carpenter of

LaHabra Heights, California, furnished me one. Still I was thinking back to my childhood and I wanted a white show racer cock. I tried to follow up every lead I could find, either by phone or letter. I finally located a pure white, bull eyed cock, owned by Dick Bonkoske of Wisconsin. At that point I had no intention of becoming seriously involved with pigeons. I simply wanted to reproduce the type pigeons I had owned as a boy. Dick shipped the white cock to me by air. Shortly thereafter I mated him to the stray white racer and to an opal grizzle show racer hen I had obtained from Bill Schlieper. I bred two white cocks from the homer hen and two cocks and one hen, each almost totally white, from the show racer opal hen. The white racers I have today descend from all of these original pigeons. The three pure show racers

were entered in the 1988 Pageant of Pigeons at Pomona. They did very poorly. I had no idea what a good show racer was supposed to look like, and no knowledge of genetics but I was hooked!

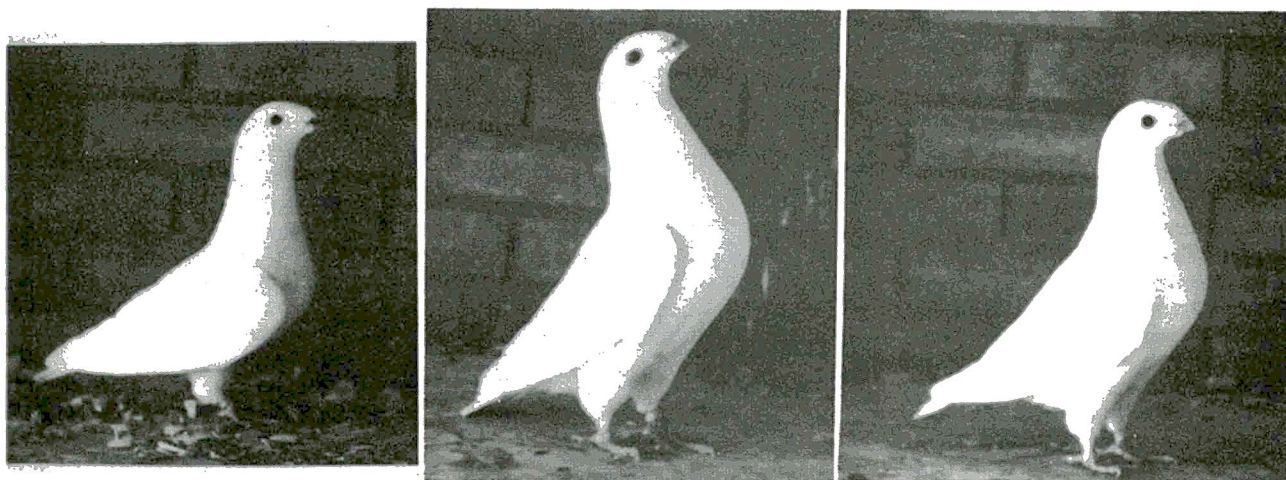
At that Pageant I met several show racer breeders who became very helpful during my 1989 breeding season. Jim Bruning of Arizona sold me a splash cock that could put a good head on a roller. I put him with a very poor headed hen and every youngster he produced showed dramatic improvement in head power. The dark eyes from the piebald factor looked very attractive on a white pigeon. Another fancier, Arnie Valencia, helped me to recognize good show racer type. Troy Porterfield has been an encourager and has

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WHITE AMERICAN SHOW RACER

#NPA-90-ASR-367 YC was four months old at the time these photos were taken. - Bred by Randall Rapetti, Laguna Niguel, Calif.



RANDY RAPETTI'S SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WHITES

The first photo shows a near white mismark young hen, #NPA-89-ASR-656. She was Best Mismark YH, 1989 Pageant of Pigeons, Pomona, Calif. The second photo is a white, bulleyed young hen, #NPA-89-ASR-668. She was Best Rare Young Hen, 1989 Central California Pigeon Club Annual Meet, Fresno, Calif. The third photo is a pure white, bulleyed hen, #NPA-89-ASR-661. She was 2nd Rare Young Hen, 1989 Central California Pigeon Club Annual Meet, Fresno, Calif.

sold me some very nice ash red barred birds. Jack Hamilton has been like a father to me. He has spent countless hours going through birds, pictures, and genetics lessons. I feel extremely fortunate to be able to learn from such a masterful breeder.

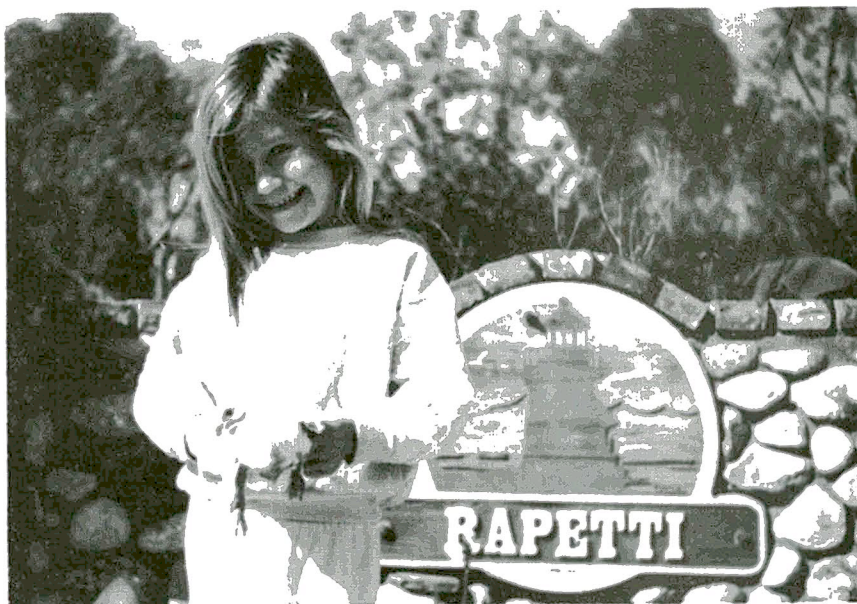
In my experiences of reading, breeding and talking to knowledgeable fanciers during the past two years, I have discovered that there are several ways by which white show racers may be obtained. The most obvious is to purchase them from a reliable breeder. Unfortunately quality birds do not seem to be that available in whites. I doubt there are even a dozen true whites in the Western part of the country today. I have been told there are more on the East Coast, but I have not located them. If white show racers may not be obtained from others, then one is left with the incredibly interesting task of building ones' own white family.

Developing white pigeons is tricky. There are many possibilities both to succeed and to fail. Genetics may be confusing or misunderstood. White, when genetically derived, is epistatic. In other words, it "masks" the actual color of the bird. It is an overcoat. As a result, using a white bird whose genetic background is unknown is playing quite a game of chance. You just don't know what lies under those pretty, innocent looking white feathers. When working with white, expect surprises and be prepared for some failures. Develop patience.

The most common way to obtain white in show racers is to mate together two ash red Grizzles. This produces some homozygous ash reds. The gene for grizzle, when doubled up lightens the bird until some are almost pure white, having only a few colored feathers sprinkled here and there. Successive matings of these homozygous ash red Grizzles further purifies the coloration, or rather lack of it, as the case may be. At this point the breeder may want to mate the bird to another show racer carrying the red gene and carrying spread. This theoretically should take the white and eradicate any leftover red feathers. Some breeders have told me that this use of spread is a hoax. However, I keep popping out an occasional black or dun in my birds, so there is spread in there somewhere.

The advantage of going the grizzle/spread route is that white can be achieved relatively easily and quickly (within two or three generations). However, there are some disadvantages. First of all, grizzled whites usually have colored eyes, and many people find this undesirable. I have been told by several breeders that a colored eye white is a grizzle, not a white. This seems to be in accordance with the literature I have read. A second difficulty in using grizzle to achieve white is the frequent appearance of foul feathers in neck and rump areas. These can show up in increasing numbers following each moult.

Another means of achieving white in show racers is via the piebald factor. Accord-



Jana Rapetti, age six, holding a two week old pure white American Show Racer.

ing to Hollander this is the true white self (Z wh) "Pigeon Science and Genetics Newsletter," #1, pages 12-13, 1976. The bull eyed white self is regarded as an extreme pied.

The attainment of white through the breeding of peds can be somewhat more difficult. First of all, there are very few peds (splashes) available to show racer breeders. Since birds with white feathers are limited to the mismark class, and in breeding tend to reproduce in kind, most birds showing white are culled very early. Secondly, the eradication of colored feathers in peds is not very predictable. As a result, it can take many generations to develop the white self.

Although piebald may not always be the easiest route to white, I believe the time is worth the effort. First of all, pied whites generally develop dark bull eyes which seem to be more desirable. Secondly, pied when under a bright light, appears brighter and cleaner than the white achieved from Grizzles. I have white from both in my loft and this seems to be true in my case.

I have found that both of the above routes to white are enhanced when dilution is used. Dilution simply further lightens the basic coloration of the pigeon and "speeds up" the process.

Another way to develop the white show racer is by outcrossing to the giant homer. The white giant homer is quite common and similar enough in type to the show racer that it can be used successfully. However, it will still take at least a generation or two, or even more, to establish good show racer size and type.

Almond factored birds are another route to white in show racers, but very difficult to produce. At the 1989 Pageant, Rex Thompson walked away with a decent almond he had purchased from Dave Harrett. He looked at me with bird in hand and said, "See ya next

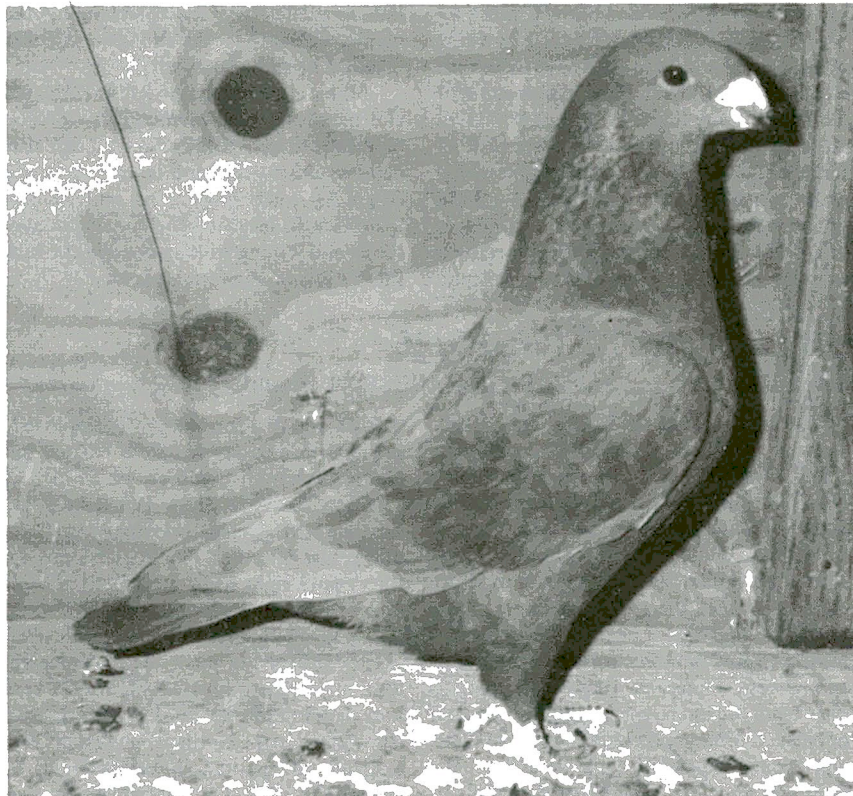
year, boy!" I suppose Rex is planning to beat the pants off me with the almond whites.

Once the white show racer is established, it will be found that there are certain problems in showing them. Whites tend to have slightly longer feathers than do standard colors. It's difficult to have a white appear as streamlined and smooth of feather as might be the case with a good blue bar, or dark check. Additionally, birds bred from ash reds tend to develop red eye ceres. I find this unattractive in show racers, and try to avoid it. I have been told that birds which are genotypically blue have less tendency to develop this trait.

Another difficulty in showing whites concerns keeping them clean before and during the show. Next year I am going to build some white mesh raised floors for the show coops so the droppings will fall through. Simply put, white pigeons require more care than the standard colors.

Although there are special problems in breeding and showing white show racers, I feel something special when I see this most dignified of pigeons all dressed up in her fine white clothes. Perhaps it reflects something spiritual for me. Once in a while I become a bit discouraged . . . but then I think perhaps, just perhaps . . . some day a white will go all the way. Meantime, I'll just keep on dreaming and trying.





BEST RARE

This Black Spread Cock, #ASR-NPA-88-3316, has many wins to his name: 1988 Little Rhody Annual Show, Best Young Cock and Best Rare; 1988 Atlantic Coast Young Bird Show, Best Rare; 1988 White Plains Show, Best AOC; 1988 Long Island Show Homer Assn. Annual Show, Best AOC; 1989 Little Rhody Annual Show, Best Rare. — Bred and owned by Joseph Ognibene, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Getting Started With Rare Colors

by JOSEPH OGNIBENE, Brooklyn, N.Y.

When I first became interested in breeding and showing American Show Racers, I could only find local birds in standard colors. There just did not seem to be any rare colored birds of quality in the New York area; at least so far as I could find them. As my main interest was in rare colored birds, I began to search them out. I read through several older issues of the APJ and other pigeon magazines. Then I called to mind an article in the May 1982 Show Racer Special. It was written by Jack Fix of California and was specifically about rare colors. I wrote Jack, asking what colors he had and what he might have for sale. Although I did not know him, and had never been in touch with him before, Jack sent me pictures of birds of the various colors, and asked me to pick out the ones in which I was interested. I could see by the pictures that these were the best rares I had ever seen. I decided to order some of them.

From the pictures, I assumed the birds I ordered would be good Show Racers. To my delight they were far better than they had appeared in the photos. They had reach, powerful heads, nice wide top skulls, thick necks, stout beaks with equal mandibles, short bodies and short, stout legs. And they were rares. These were real quality birds;

near the standard. Raising, showing and sharing these quality rares with other breeders has brought me much pleasure. I'd been told that the rares were so far behind the standard colors I would have difficulty catching up. Not so. Believe me there are quality rares out there and around. THANKS AGAIN JACK.



Joe Pellettieri will be one of the judges of American Show Racers this year's Grand National, Milwaukee, Wisc.

Essential Four Points — A Prerequisite

by JOE PELLETTIERI,
Oakland, Calif.

The American Show Racer is a bird of imperial bearing, and worthy of the admiration of the entire fancy. His creation and development came about after many years, by many devoted breeders. The American Show Racer is the creation of their imagination. We, the breeders of today, owe to them the duty of preserving and refining all the qualities that make up the American Show Racer.

I believe that there are four essential points that most distinguishes the American Show Racer. I'll call these sight points, because obviously you can see them, and without them we don't have an American Show Racer.

First and foremost to be sure is head conformation. In most cases the head denotes the breed. This is why it is so important to have the correct shaped head. The head of the American Show Racer must be of great substance that carries over the top and out front, full right down to the tip of the beak and of good width. There should be enough backskull to balance out what we have out front. When viewing the head from the top, skull width should carry on down, slightly tapering on into the wattle. Viewing from the profile, the head should be an oval as opposed to rounded. This oval is what gives us the one and one half inch distance from the center of the eye to the tip of the beak. Of course the beak must be straight set and stout, and of equal substance. The wattle should be smooth and blend in, so as no to break the arc of the profile.

Eye location in most cases is no problem, although once in a while it may be a little high. The eye should be bright and fiery and exude good health. Eye cere should be small and dark on plum color.

Secondly is the seven cut. It is the shape of the gullet when viewed from the profile. It starts with the lower mandible running into the throat parallel with the ground and at the point of intersection with the throat, drops down perpendicular to this line. The cut must be sharp, for a full rounded gullet only takes away from this indispensable feature. A protruding chest will also take away from this vital aspect. Be very careful when pairing your birds.

My third point zeros in on prominent wing butts. These are a noticeable and overlooked characteristic of the American Show Racer. Birds that have strong wing butts are generally broad chested and have shoulders, which are so important to having a nice flat back. Wing butts are a must when considering a bird in your breeding program. Promi-

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nent wing butts are also very important when viewing a bird on station.

Lastly, but by no means the least is station. Station is as important as all other qualities and much more. Standing at station at a 45 degree angle, legs bent at the hocks, tail about a half inch off the floor, with correct head, proper seven cut and prominent wing butts, eye just at or in front of the toes, with the sovereignty of an emperor, how can he not attract your attention. All anyone can

say is this is an American Show Racer.

The American Show Racer is truly a bird of imperial bearing and must have these four essential points in my opinion, to make it to the finals. Many times a bird that possesses these qualities may loose out because of some minor fault, but don't discard this bird as he can be invaluable in your breeding program. A Champion American Show Racer is not ubiquitous, but many fine specimen exist throughout the United States. Take the

time to attend a few shows and you will see many, you may be lucky enough to be able to take one home.

All members of the ASRA have the official picture of the American Show Racer, that is the Standard of Perfection, and also a detailed description and color class breakdown. All others reading this article and are interested in breeding the American Show Racer and joining with us, can see our ad for further information in this issue.

New England History

by the late FRANK FRISCH, First Dist. Director, and JOHN JOHANESSEN, President ASRA

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Frank Frisch, First District Director, gathered much of the material for this article. Just two days before his passing, while he wasn't able to rise anymore, Frank told me that he was still working on this article. He said that should he not be able to complete this task, all the material that he did have would be next to his bed. While some mention is made of other areas of the country, it is only in the overall sequence of events and not meant to be historical of any other area that New England.

There will appear much of what I know and have on record from my collection of pigeon magazines dating back to 1895. For this I apologize, but at the time of Frank's passing, he had pages of notes, notations of pictures to use, but not drawn together. So, not all the material presented will be Frank's.

Anytime we try to reach back and recount history, errors occur and names do not appear that should have. I'm sure that people presently alive will read this and say "they forgot so and so," and have the proof of what they are saying. Please take the time to write it up. After a period of time all this material can be drawn together from our various specials. I'm always open to further enlightenment, as was Frank, and sincerely hope you will provide it.

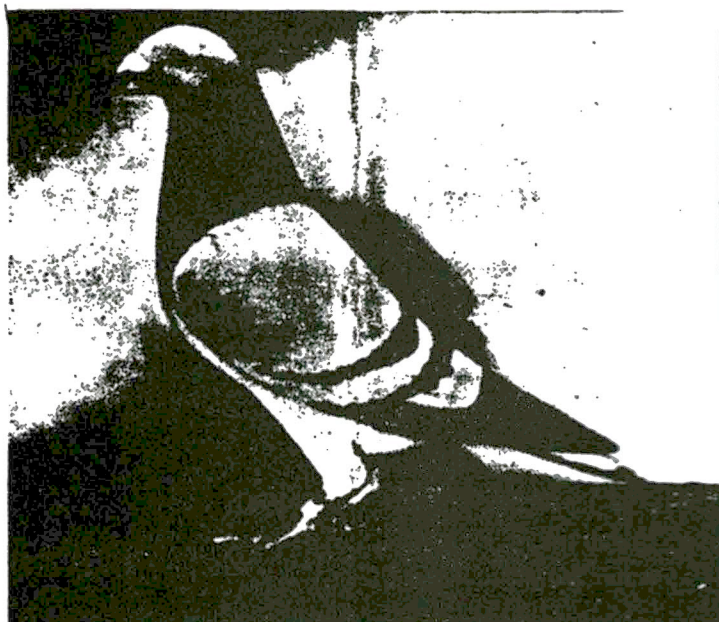
John Johanesen, President, American Show Racer Association

The American Show Racer is strictly an American-made breed. It has evolved from members that raced Homers and during the non-flying season decided to gather together and show them. Flying was a little less complicated; first one in was first. Showing was a whole new game. The Racing Homer is made up of many types of families, all having slightly different shapes. On any given day, one family would out perform another. Who's to say what determines a good example of a particular family, or worse yet, in competition between families, this one is better than the others. Nevertheless our early records in New England have the results listed of anywhere from 600 to 800 Racing Homers being shown. No comments whatsoever as to a standard, no comments whatsoever as to why this bird won. Pictures we do have, along with the results in The Pigeon

News, dating back to 1895. A very important show at this time was the Boston Poultry Show. At the time, it appears to be an annual National of Pigeons with trophies and cash awards. Pictures depict members and judges in business suits, members traveling clear across the United States by train in order to attend and even the Queen of England attending at one time. Local politicians and a mayor or governor was common place. Pigeons were important. They were brought over from the old country district. Families of birds were examples of particular regions, and groups of people took pride in their family of birds. An example of their roots if you will. A good example of this was the Twombly family that imported many birds in 1895, and was important in starting the first shows. C.E. Twombly started The Pigeon News, which was the only early source of any information available, and co-wrote the first books on the subject of pigeons in the United States. It was a Book of Standards. This book was re-written and re-published ten times in about 60 years and was the breed authority on known pigeons. Then

C.E. passed all this on like an heirloom to his son and this power structure existed until George Twombly died Feb. 17, 1975.

Show Racer to Show Pen Racers, as a separate bird appears to have begun to evolve in the last 60 years. The name Show Pen Racer goes right back to almost the beginning of showing Racing Homers. As we will see by the pictures in this article, this evolution is still taking place. The membership ultimately determines which way a breed will develop but the leading breeders and show men are the cutting edge that put forth examples of the breed, slightly different, that are either accepted or rejected by the membership. What is taking place is lost forever if it were not for the pen. To this and our members that have taken the time over a period of years to write, we all owe a debt of gratitude. Some of these members are still writing and showing after 40 years or more. People such as Cas Childs, Amos Hodson, Bob Trane, Clyde Galloway, Leroy Bennett, Art Kehl, Earl Schultz, Joe Frazier, Richard Brooks, Bob English, Glenn Motzkus are recent examples of historians. Past members



1961 Standard for the Show Racing Homer as recommended by the committee or judges of the National Show Racing Pigeon Association, Inc.

were C.E. Twombly, Hal Campbell, George Twombly, Bill Deissler, David Tobisch, George Hefele, Bill Rice, Craddock Loft and Jake Barnard.

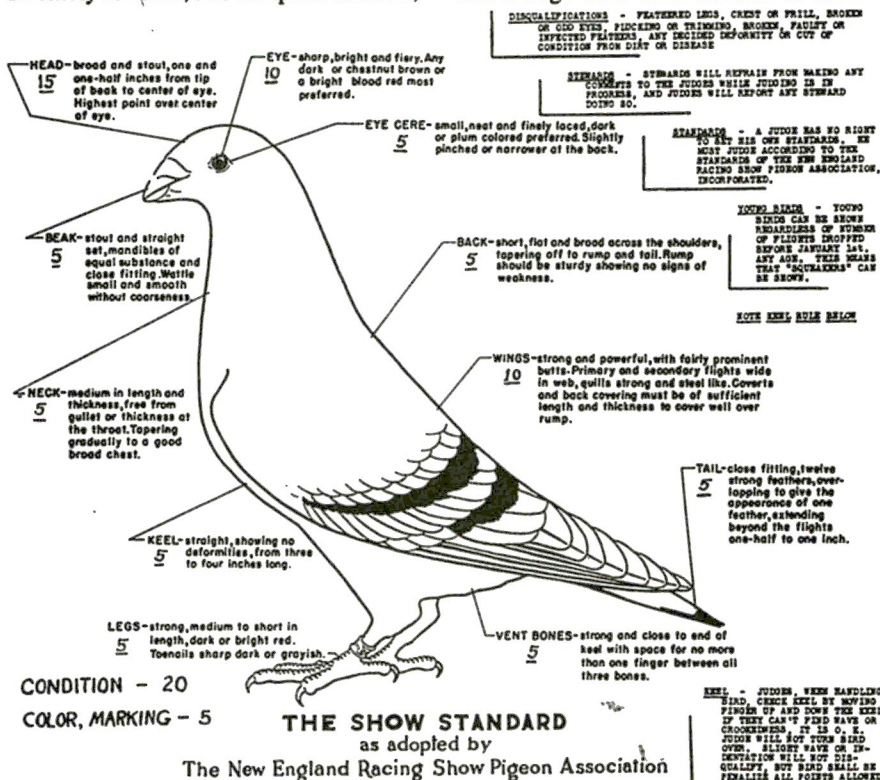
Early important show men were C.E. Twombly of Mass., Hal Campbell of Mass.,

Lewis Curtis of Mass., Prescott Bigelow of Mass., Craddock Loft of Mass., and Lee Ford of Mont. They had Hansennes, Sion, Bastins, Logans, Havineth, and Gurnays, breeds which tended to be more solid of body with a large skull case. Records of these

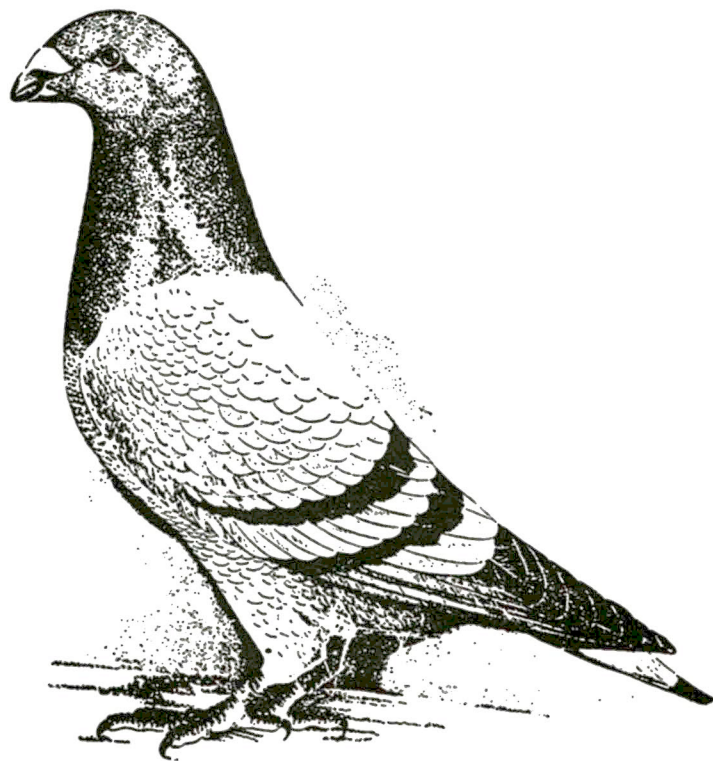
happenings and shows appeared in Mr. Twombly's "The Pigeon News." In some instances, for some people, showing became more interesting than racing. Probably because racing takes much more time and money. Those with this interest tended to separate themselves by breeding first and foremost for the show room. As the years have passed this trend is still continuing with the now show type homer being very different from the now racing type homer.

The first mention of a Standard, so-called, appeared around the early 1900's in the BOOK OF STANDARDS. As you can see by the picture, many of the early show homers were racing type birds with good records and firm hard bodies and flowing lines. Winning at show seem to prove, yes, this is a real good racing type homer. An advertisement in the 1937 issue of The Pigeon News which ran month after month for years is very informative of the times. Remember, I said 1937, 54 years ago, and he mentions 40 years before this, making a total of 94 years. It said: "Show Pen Racers, Homing Pigeons that can bring home the bacon on race day and win Blue Ribbons on Show Day. Craddock Loft Homers have won more blue ribbons in the show pen during the last 30 years than any other two lofts in America and I challenge anyone to disprove this statement. Craddock Loft Show Pen Racers have a reputation that was not gained in one season, by two or three birds, and this statement will bear investigation. Don't be deceived by false claims of prizes won at selected shows and the larger shows not mentioned. Craddock Lofts has not relied on three birds to do all its winning, but has bred and owned the largest stud of Show Racers ever owned by any one breeder for practically 40 years. This year 1937, we are breeding from the best we ever had, many with race records and wonderful show qualities. Our price is \$10.00 per pair for selected youngsters that can win on the road or in the pen. What more can you buy at any price? 40 years experience behind them. Craddock Loft, 329 Fellsway, Medford, Mass."

The price for youngsters from this type bird would also go up, as would the bragging rights. Show records indicate up to 800 birds shown, year after year, and being called Show Pen Racers. Unproven youngsters would regularly cost \$25.00 which in that time frame was almost two full weeks of work. Normal pay was \$15.00 per week. Imported winners and stock birds could cost \$500.00, a real princely sum way beyond the backyard fancier. Some real basic principles were laid down at this time which still persist today. However, the meaning of the words has changed. For instance, a firm hard body, firm feathering, flowing lines, alert stance, quiet demeanor, not coarse in wattle and eye cere, short legs, well set beak on the bird, medium size, blunt beak, and a deep rich red



1948 Show Standard as adopted by the New England Racing Show Pigeon Assn.



1948 Ideal of the Show Racing Pigeon Assn.

(Continued On Next Page)

eye, which one article described as a #2 eye. This refers to the ancient art of eye sign which at this time was a treasured family deep secret. Even today, the difference between good and so so fliers is the secret of eye sign. The eye we most prefer today is the deep red brilliant eye and the intense deepness comes from the black lines of magnetic force. Our best Show Racers carry eye sign. I also have a very lengthy article by J. Cooke, from Pigeon World dated 1934 on Skulls and Impressions. He relates the progress over the years towards larger skulls (brain?) cases being very important to the serious breeder. For many months after, there were articles lauding this article. He also penned the fact that we only see profile drawings and pictures, where in his opinion the width of the skull and width of the bird are critical. He felt that both couldn't be wide enough. Shades of 1934??

The next time a standard appears specifically for Show Racers and uses the term Show Pen Racers is in 1948 by the New England Show Racer Association and the Show Racing Pigeon Association. Both pictures appear the same but the words are different. The National group clearly wants a wedge body with plenty of front while New England doesn't even mention this. The eyes are also a big difference with the National group allowing many colors and New England being primarily just two. The New England Standard was more rigid both in type of bird and points allowed. The National group, as might be expected, had to appeal to a wide variety of breeders therefore

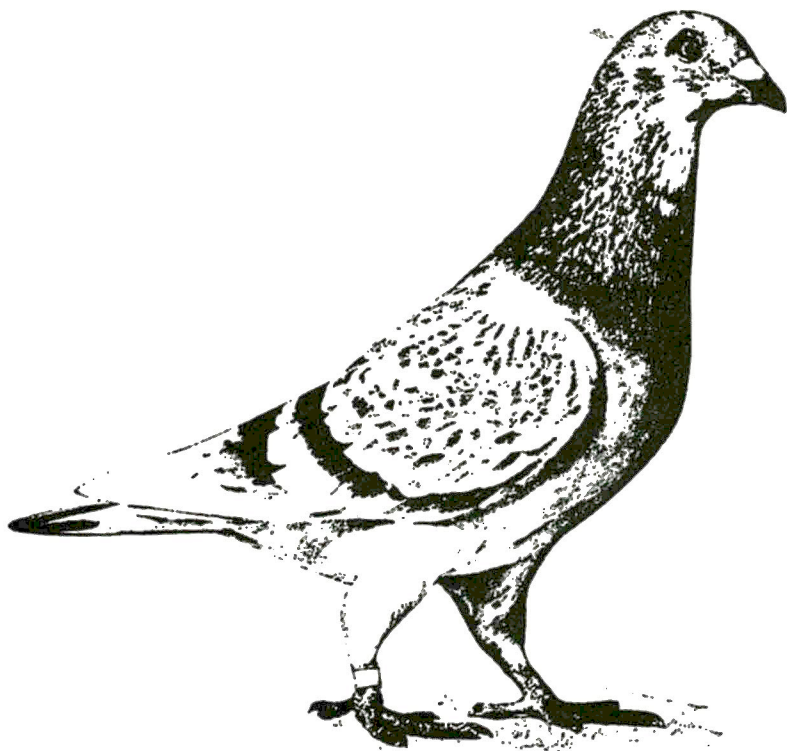
they were less rigid in their demands. I have the word of Amos Hodson and Cas Child that in the early and mid-1950's, they and others had to travel to the northeast in order to get powerful heads and beaks. I have some material that seems to suggest, that in and about the early 1940's, in the New England area, we started to get less Racing Homers shown and a few more so-called Show Racers. Also the English Show Homer is now being shown, along with Antwerp Smerles and Dragoons. While I can't come up with a written acceptable standard, agreed to by the people involved, nevertheless, show results suggest this. The show people seemed to go to a bigger, bolder head and along with this came a bigger bird. This of course didn't fly as well but was shown more at local fairs and clubs. Wherever there was a hotbed of Racing Clubs, the birds shown were Racing Homers, which is understandable. But the term Show Racer keeps popping up and the names of winners are not in the lists of Racing Homer winners.

We also had at this time a very large contingent of show men in and around the New York area. They formed the National Show Racer Pigeon Association and also adopted a standard. While the pictures appeared almost the same, some of the wording was different. In particular was the shape of the head and description. The earliest record I have is 1961 and I'm not aware of one earlier. The New York group stayed more towards the non flown wedge shaped head and the New England group tended to the more blunt broad head. Birds that went to the west coast and mid west at this time were the

New England type. Along with that wedge body, the National group came up with a more show type, less race type. Another difference was the length of neck, being definitely medium in length. When the neck became shorter the length overall became shorter, and a thicker broader neck area appeared.

The next standard appears in 1956 by the New England Show Racer Association. This change called for even more power in the head and body type. Our membership at this time was getting older, in fact probably the elder statesmen of Show Racers. As usually happens over periods of time, members started to pass on without enough young blood to keep things going. Other members still had birds but didn't travel, and probably more important, didn't keep up National membership. Doesn't take too long for a small stud to inbreed and wear out. Seed birds that were sent to the west coast and mid west started to flourish, along with clubs and members. These members were a new type person interested in showing only and not flying. Their birds tended to be more bold headed, more show type in stance and body, more wedge shaped and definitely more beak power. This group also tended to be more National group orientated rather than local or regional. They were also strong supporters of the National Pigeon Association and through this affiliation eventually became the one voice for the Show Racer in the U.S.

And now, we come to the reformation of the New England Show Racer Association. These birds came from the mid west and west coast, returning once again. These breeders were older members of many years experience in pigeons, but had different breeds, were also members of the National Pigeon Association; so it was just natural to form with the National Show Racer Association which was an N.P.A. affiliate. They adopted the Standard of the last Show Racer Special of May 1982 and proceeded to discard all the 1971 Show Racer Special type birds. They were led in this effort by the authors above, and strongly supported by members Phil Raposa, Joe Ognibene, Mike Conway, Joe Bottella, Les Heisserman, John Hutchinson, Tim Gleason, Nelson Guimaries, Paul Sousa, Herb Santos, and Gino Simonelli. Of prime importance to the development of the Northeast again was an agreement between the then, Eastern Vice President of the A.S.R.A. John Johannesssen, and Secretary of the A.S.R.A. Richard Brooks. Mr. Brooks came in to judge their first big show, but also agreed to bring in 20 excellent birds for auction. The proceeds were split 50-50 in order to get the District going, and has been used as a model to get other areas going. Since that time, other key breeders have come into the Northeast under the same terms. They were Bill Schlieper, Jack Fix two times, Amos Hodson, Glenn Motzkus and Richard Brooks again.



"Five Stars" MED 508-34, Best Color Cock A.U., Detroit 1935 show, bred and flown by George F. Twombly, Medford, Mass., shows the type for the 1900's and up.

Show Racers In Australia

by **FREDDIE DOWLING**, President, Australian Show Racer Union,
Ardmona, Victoria, Australia

At present there are three Show Racer clubs in Australia. They are: The Queensland Show Racer Association, The West Australian Show Racer Club and the Australian Show Racer Union.

These three clubs are all affiliated with each other on an honorary basis. They are all individually affiliated with the Australian National Pigeon Association.

The combined membership of these three clubs amount to over 100 Show Racer fanciers. All these members have voted in favour of the American standard which they feel is "perfection personified" and it would be impossible to alter the pictured bird without taking away the beautiful balance and streamline effect, yet at the same time having breathtaking power to go with it. The standard really depicts a pigeon that is perfect in every way and "hats off" to the creators of such a masterpiece.

In Australia, we have most of the colours that are being bred in U.S.A. with the exception of "opal." We do have this colour in the Racing pigeons, but I have yet to see it in a Show Racer.

The biggest offset for the three clubs is the great distance apart. So, it is almost an impossibility for the three clubs to get together for a big show. And, we only have our correspondence to keep us informed on what is going on in the club, for we are a two day trip apart by car.

Another draw back for us is that the National Club in Australia does not have any classes for Show Racers and refuse to accept Show Racers. Therefore, the Show Racer breeders cannot exhibit at the National Show which would be a good chance for all breeders to get together.

The National body expects the Show Racer breeders to exhibit their birds as "Showpen Homers" which, incidentally, has a different standard. And, our birds are Show Racers, not Showpen Homers. So, we are kept out of the competition at National Shows. We have been fighting for recognition with all clubs, sending letters, etc., but so far, no results.

However, we can still compete at most other shows for they do have classes for Show Racers and we will not give up the battle. One thing that we are all against is that some people are going to import Show Racers from America and then call them Showpen Homers when they get here. We are of the opinion that they should be called Show Racers and be judged to the American standard. To do this would be the honest and right

thing to do. Anyway, that's our problem and we do not want to go on and on about it in this article, which is written to publicize the involvement of Show Racers and their dedicated breeders in Australia.

We have a good line up of Show Racers at our club shows. At an A.S.R.U. Show, there is usually in the vicinity of 300 Show Racers penned. The birds are judged to the American style. The only difference is that the birds are handled by their owners - not stewards. That way if any feathers get ruffled or any other accidents happen, then the owner can only blame themselves. And, some owners only want the judge and themselves to handle their birds, which is quite understandable.

During the penning of the classes, the judge cannot see who is penning which bird for the judge is screened off. The judges are quite happy with this for they do not want to know anyway.

Out of the classes, the Champion Young Hen, Young Cock, Old Hen, Old Cock are chosen. Then the outright Champion, the Reserve, the Best Opposite Sex and the Best Young are picked. The Champion of each colour class is also chosen.

The A.S.R.U. have polished wood shields for the Champion, Young Champion, Best Opposite Sex and Champion Junior.

These shields have 15 spaces. When the spaces are all filled, the exhibitor with the most wins keeps the shield. He then donates the next one in the form of a challenge. The new shield bears the previous winners' name with challenge under it.

Example . . .

"Champion Young Show Racer"

Boomerang Lofts Challenge.

This gives the other exhibitors an incentive to knock him off next season. And, also makes Boomerang Lofts try to make sure that the other exhibitors don't "knock him off."

Each space is engraved with the winner's name, show location, bird's sex, color and ring number. So, even if the winner of one space or more does not get the majority of the 15 spaces and get to keep the shield, at least their win is recorded on the shield for all who see that shield in the future!!

Most Show Racer breeders here have been with this breed for quite a long time. Some are ex-racing fanciers and some have been with the breed all the time since we started with good looking racing pigeons.

When I was a youngster, we started with Racing strains such as Gurnay, S.P. Griffiths,

Hannesene, Gitz, Jurion.

I remember the Gurnay were very stocky, broad chested, extremely heavily feathered and strong in bone structure. The Hannesene were very sleek with lovely satin like feathering, stood at good station and lovely to handle. The S.P. Griffiths were very solid to handle with muscular bodies and good bone structure. Most of the thickness in our birds beaks could be attributed to use of the S.P. Griffiths strain. The Gitz were also heavily feathered with good head shape but a lot that I saw were a bit gullety and stocking legged. This problem still crops up now and again in our birds but because of the good head shape they were still often used in those days to get strength in the head. The Jurions were very much like the Hannesene in type. The best of these were the Red Chequers that I saw. Another strain that we used was Dr. Rigg. These were mostly Blue Chequers. Very heavily feathered they were and strong headed. The main fault with them was neck creases, another problem which crops up now and again to this day. All these strains were famous for their racing ability also.

Some of the dedicated show men blended these strains together with amazing results and paved the way for our modern day Show Racers.

I am now 54 years old and started with Show Racers when I was 14. That's 40 years and I have seen our Show Racers come from good looking racing pigeons to the magnificent specimens that we now see. And, I am proud to have been a part of it. Some of our members are much older than I am and have been Show Racer fanciers since boyhood and to all these dedicated breeders I say, "Thank You Mates."

The A.S.R.U. are members of the American Show Racer Association and are very keen to receive the bulletins and news from that club and it is quite exciting to compare American birds with ours. We know that photographs rarely do justice to the actual bird but going by photographs, our very best birds would be on a par with the American birds - but only our very best. In the last ten years our Show Racers have improved enormously.

In closing, I would like to say on behalf of all the Show Racer breeders in Australia, Thank You to your great book "The American Pigeon Journal" and all concerned with the publication of it. It really keeps the pigeon fancy alive. No matter what breed a fancier keeps, that fancier will also find plenty of interesting reading in the A.P.J.

And, a big cheerio to all Show Racer breeders worldwide, we love you!!

Freddie Dowling, on behalf of the dedicated Show Racer breeders throughout Australia.

For Beginners

by JOHN VAN DEN HOORN, Logan City, Australia

When starting a strain of birds, select the best cocks and hens available. The cock needs to be a good example of the breed. The hen must have a good wide body, be good solid type, have good stance and health, as the hen does much of the hard work laying eggs.

If you are lucky enough to belong to a club you will find expert advice, so ask. When all are saying the same thing to you, listen, and heed. Members of a club are usually responsible and organized. They talk freely and without haste as they were once like you, just starting out.

When you have the best pair or pairs that you can possibly get install them in their loft. Ideally, this should be on legs to keep the floor above the ground. The floor should always be kept as absolutely dry. Sand is most often used in Australia as a floor base, with sawdust running a long way behind second.

The loft must have a large overhang of roof area which should be able to provide protection from the rain, allow for plenty of shade in the summer, and let the sunlight in during the winter months. In the southern hemisphere we try and face our lofts to the north or north/east.

Perching is by individual preference, and some breeds need special consideration if they are large or have feathered feet. Showpen Homer breeders in Australia commonly use the box perch, though occasionally you see individual perches attached to walls.

Pigeons are fairly easy to keep clean as long as they are dipped in a lice treatment solution before the breeding season starts, as well as near the end of the season which is always the moult time for healthy birds, and around Christmas time for us in the southern hemisphere. I dip on a warm sunny day using a commercial preparation.

Food is important for good health. Never feed newly harvested grain to your birds. Ensure that hard grain is fed, and store this in a dry, cool container, such as a metal garbage bin. I have found these useful to keep moisture, heat and vermin out.

Clean, cool, water, fresh daily is ideal. I sterilize my drink containers on the weekend with bleach and water, and rinse them in a weak vinegar solution to ensure no bacteria buildup. I have successfully used two litre plastic milk containers and the only fault I have found with these is their extreme lightness. I have overcome this by adding some

aquarium gravel to the containers. Generally, no vitamins, tonics, medicines, etc., should be left in the drinking water for extended periods as these can raise the bacteria level very quickly. To my bath water, on the other hand, I add salt to make a weak solution, which is an old method of keeping the lice down. I don't like poisons in the bath water as when the bird preens itself this can be ingested through the mouth.

I use a mineral mixture containing granite, sand, charcoal, roasted eggshell, old bricks, powdered mineral supplements, and small pieces of flint, rock, etc. This mixture also aids in keeping the beak trimmed so that it doesn't interfere with eating, etc.

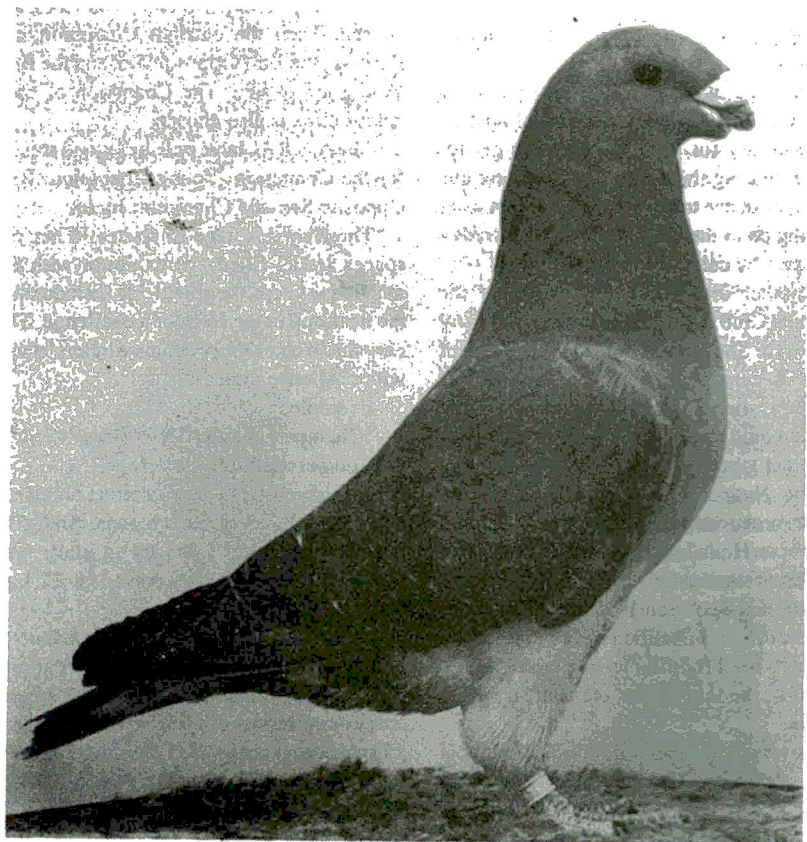
Overcrowding is stressful and can lead to sickness, so I always keep a few extra perches in the loft, especially when there are young birds about. Wet floors, wet perches and bad grain also contribute to stress, and to sickness and death. Carelessness or anger will also harm your birds, and will make them

flighty. So remember, go softly, softly in your loft and handle your birds as often as you can so that they become used to you.

Having a sick bay can be helpful to allow you to quarantine birds which are off colour. This can be as simple as a cardboard box with a wire floor (totally disposable) or it can be a permanent fixture away from your main loft. Birds coming into your loft should also be quarantined so that they don't introduce new surprises for you.

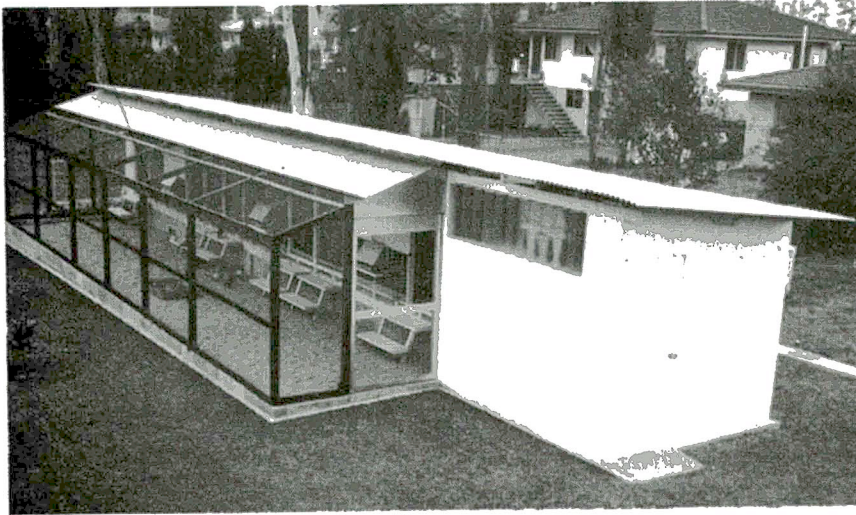
When I mate up I let the cocks into the breeding pen first so that they settle down and establish their nest and territory. Don't be in a hurry for this. Then I install the hen, and put in a nest bowl and nesting materials. At this time it is desirable that the birds have been fed and watered so that their minds are solely on mating.

After producing a good crop of youngsters pick out the best only to go on with. If you mate daughters back to an original cock, and sons back to an original hen this will give you the start of two lines. When you have to outcross you should be able to do this from one line to the other.



CHAMPION AMERICAN SHOW RACER

#NPA-84-ASR-1413. Black Velvet Cock. Best Young Bird, Salt Lake Classic 1984; Brent Summers, judge. Champion, Salt Lake Classic, 1985; Bill Schleiper, judge. Champion, Salt Lake Classic, 1986; Ralph Whitson, judge. Best Opposite Sex, Salt Lake Classic 1987; Kent Wright, judge. A golden champion, also sire and grand sire to many winners. — Bred by Alpine Lofts, Castle and LaRae Child and Brad and Karen Child.



Loft of Roy Gurdler, Brisbane, Australia.

What To Look For When Judging

by ROY W. GURDLER, Brisbane, Australia

In this article I don't confess to being a expert on judging. I consider that no one can be an expert, only knowledgeable enough to give a consistent opinion on the day of a show. Maybe a machine could be capable of perfection. Who knows.

I find when judging, the first rule is you forget all the little idiosyncrasies you don't tolerate in your own breed pen. Far too many judges put a relatively good bird down for a small fault. Judge the birds by comparing one against the other, looking for all the good points, then the faults.

Go for a bird with good all round features, with no major faults. Once you've gone through the class, compare one against the other. Look for the top three or four birds, depending on size of class or quality. Some place getters will fall into the right order, others will keep you thinking.

When you are undecided, I find the use of the round walking pen a major advantage. This enables you to have the individual bird or a couple of birds in the same pen to compare them side by side. The birds can be viewed from all angles for type, confirmation and behaviour. If they are fairly equal in the small pens, then the walking pen soon separates them.

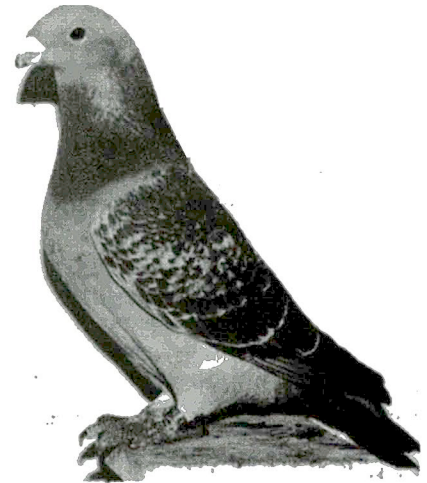
One trap you must not fall into is putting down birds in the class for minor problems and being left with nothing to put up. Remember no matter how bad or good the birds are, you're there to find the best birds in the show. So always keep in mind the best few birds you have judged to date and again compare these class winners as you are going along, so by the end of the day, two or three birds stick in your mind for the champion.

I don't want to get involved in the finer points of the standard such as: what a good head should or should not look like, what size the birds should be, etc. I will mention though a few incidences I have seen where

judges have put down good birds for a fault they personally don't like.

One was where a good quality red hen was being shown in a fairly average class. This bird did not even get a card, let alone win. My opinion was this hen was so far ahead in all features but lost because the judge felt she was a bit short in keel. In another case, a very good bird was beaten because of a small dent in the keel. These points are faults, but compare the whole bird against the competition before putting down a bird for one fault.

Visible features are your first impression and of high importance. Presentation is also very high on my list for obtaining a winner.



AUSTRALIAN SHOW RACER
This Black Checker Old Cock bred by Roy Gurdler, Brisbane, Australia.

Nice tight feathers especially on the neck, no creases or roughness. Clean and neat feather, no broken or badly damaged feathers.

You can tell if the birds are well looked after or whether they are just good birds poorly presented. It's these birds I find very hard to place in the show. One thing I have been hoping for in past years that fanciers refrain from exhibiting birds with badly damaged feathers. It would make judging so much easier.

I would just like to finish by wishing everyone a successful show season with a satisfying forthcoming breeding season. Remember you only get out of this sport what you put in.

Show Racers Or Show Homers

by TIMOTHY JOHNSON, Gastonia, N. Car.

If the pigeon world had a Cooperstown, surely enshrined would be Glenn Motzkus of Utah, Jim Isslehardt of Illinois, Richard Brooks of Arkansas, Edna Scifres of South Carolina and the legend from Anderson, South Carolina, Jim Henson.

All of the above individuals are superstars in the world of pigeons. They all have at one time or another dominated in the show ring. And all of them have been good ambassadors for the pigeon world by assisting beginners in every possible fashion.

And if one was new to the scene, one would be led to believe that they all breed Show Racers, and in a broad play on the terminology they do. However, there are major differences in the type of birds they raise. And these differences not only confuse beginners but experts alike.

American Show Racers, which are featured in this issue of the APJ, are a distinct breed represented by the American Show

Racer Association and are bred to a standard of perfection.

Glenn Motzkus and Richard Brooks breed American Show Racers. They are members of the American Show Racer Association.

The names non flowns, un flowns, show homers, show type racing homers, color class homers and show racers are all names for racing homers that have been bred for show. These birds bare little resemblance to flying racing homers.

Organizations exist in almost every region of the country for the non flowns. There is no single national organization but master breeders like Jim Isslehardt, Edna Scifres and Jim Henson are all affiliated with first class organizations that support their breed.

So if you think raising American Show Racers look like the way to go, join the American Show Racer Association and contact members on the membership list about obtaining breeding stock.

Notes From Australia

by PETER CREED, Brisbane, Australia

The bird which Americans call the Show Racer is known as the Showpen Homer in Australia. This is near universally the case, though there are some breeders over here who want to persevere with the older name of Show Pen Racer, and there are a few who wish the breed to now be called the Show Racer, as it is in America. To most Australian fanciers though, it is known as the Showpen Homer.

A recent survey of show reports printed in the newsletter of the Australian National Pigeon Association showed that all clubs which reported show results over the past five years used this term. The Australian National Pigeon Association recognizes the name Showpen Homer, and at the time of writing this article there were five Showpen Homer specialty clubs in Australia representing specialist breeders from all over the country.

The name in Australia, like in the United States, has not emerged as the result of a grand strategy from any group. It has grown to the point of acceptance because of a general usage and recognition by breeders and exhibitors around this country, as the breed developed here.

The first specialty club in Australia was the Showpen Homer Club of Australia (based in Victoria), and this was followed later by other specialty clubs in almost every Australian state. There are more specialist clubs for the Showpen Homer than any other fancy breed and Showpen Homers would be nearly the most widely shown breed of pigeon here. The other very popular breed of pigeon in Australia is the Modena.

Representatives from all states and existing specialty clubs came together in 1988 and drafted an Australian Showpen Homer standard and drawing. There is widespread agreement that this is an excellent standard. It is one which can be used with the American standard by Australian and American

fanciers, as well as those from other countries, to provide guidance on the breed.

There was some logic for a simple adoption of the US standard in 1988, but there was much more of an argument for fanciers from all over Australia to come together and draft a truly Australian version. This Australian standard, which has been endorsed and ratified by the Australian National Pigeon Association, describes the same breed as the

Importation Of Pigeons Into Australia

by PETER CREED, Brisbane, Australia

March 1990, saw the first shipment of imported pigeons released to fanciers in Australia. This shipment was of Racing pigeons, but further shipments of pigeons and other bird species will arrive in Australia during 1990. Hopefully, the importation process will run smoothly, and this will be the start of a regular flow of new genetic material into Australia.

This first shipment represents the end of a 40 year ban on the importation of any birds or bird material, such as semen or eggs into Australia. As might be expected, pigeon breeders, along with other bird breeders in Australia, are very excited about this.

The importation of pigeons and other birds into Australia has been restricted largely in an attempt to prevent the introduction of exotic diseases, for example Newcastle Disease, into this country. This would decimate Australia's commercial poultry industry and hobbyists, as well as play havoc with Australia's native bird populations.

This country's poultry industry is still not convinced that this project is in its best interest and is still arguing for a discontinuation.

American standard.

It is not identical to the American standard, and adds some very useful information for fanciers and breeders to use. However it is very close to the American standard, as it must be if it is to provide guidelines for the same breed of pigeon. This is a situation which is not unique, as every breed of pigeon which boasts an American standard and a British standard is in the same boat as this. In Australia though, it is the Australian Showpen Homer standard and drawing which provides the definitive statement.

However, over recent years there has been plenty of evidence of attempts being made to bring birds illegally into this country. Reports frequently appear in the newspaper of couriers being caught with live birds strapped to their legs, or secreted in tape recorders or brief cases. One assumes that some of these efforts to bring illegal material into Australia has succeeded. Pigeons are commonly the birds that are caught being smuggled in, which has led to pigeons having a high priority on the legal importation program.

It is the Australian government's belief that only when there is some legitimate avenue for birds to arrive will these illegal attempts with their high risks of disease introduction, come to an end. Hence the construction of the importation station which boasts the latest technology in the world.

The government has made it clear that the importation program is being run on a "user pays" principle, and will not be subsidizing the station. This has meant that while it is now possible to import birds into Australia it is not an inexpensive activity. Birds have to be bought in an overseas country, incur quarantine costs in that country, be flown to Australia, enter the quarantine station here, and then find their way to the fancier's loft. The live bird quarantine station will accommodate one species only at a time, so many of Australia's fanciers have banded together to bring batches of birds in.

Initially, pigeons can only be imported from "safe" countries, that is, those countries which have a low disease infection status. This has reduced the options for many importers. But, if all goes well with the program early on it is hoped that number of countries from which birds can be imported will be widened. Canada is considered a "safe" country, and by the time you read this in the American Show Racer Special (assuming all has gone well), there will have been an importation of fancy pigeons from that country into Australia. This importation should also contain Show Racers from the North American continent to boost the genetic pool of Showpen Homer breeders in Australia.



AUSTRALIAN SHOW RACER
Spread Black Old Hen bred by Peter Creed, Brisbane, Australia.



AUSTRALIAN SHOW RACER
A young indigo check cock, 1988, bred by Peter Creed, Brisbane, Australia.

The Future Of The Breed, An Extract From "The Showpen Homer"

by PETER CREED, Brisbane, Australia

This book ("The Showpen Homer") has looked at the development of the modern Showpen Homer. The focus has primarily been on the development of the breed in Australia, but it has not been possible to do this while ignoring the significant influences from overseas, notably from the United States of America. Much of the impetus for the direction of development has come from here, particularly from the west coast, though not all, and in some aspects this influence has flowed in the other direction. Some other countries, notably Canada, have followed a similar course, and not surprisingly, given the influence from America and the ease of communication now, all have tended to end up at about the same point. This is not to say that birds from all these countries are on a par as far as quality goes. This seems far from the case with the lead here also coming from the North American continent. What has happened, however, is that there is general agreement as to what is required in a desirable specimen of this breed.

This has not happened as far as the name is concerned. In Australia it is known predominantly as the Showpen Homer, in the USA as the American Show Racer, and in Canada as the Show Pen Racer. But as far as the standard requirements are concerned there is very little difference of significance between the aims of breeders in this country and those of others. The dilemma of the different names for the breed internationally may well be resolved in the future, as it has been done with other breeds. This should not be seen to be a dire necessity though, for it is merely an idiosyncrasy that can easily be lived with.

This should not detract from the development of the breed in this country and the strides it has made in the last decade or so, nor should it detract from the obvious internationality of the breed now. Different areas will still tend to throw up local variations of the bird, and this will continue to happen between countries. These variations, however, are likely to now remain as just that, local variations, and not a new direction leading to another homer sub-species. The Showpen Homer has become part of a well recognized breed and it seems unlikely that the Australian Showpen Homer would now head off on its own direction by ignoring developments in other countries.

The development of a national Australian Showpen Homer standard was a significant event for fanciers in this country. It was a long time coming, and has not been achieved without some heartache. What it has done has allowed the breed in this country to catch up with the developments in North America. That the American Show Racer standard

(along with the name of Show Racer) was not adopted, without change, as the Australian standard, is disappointing to some in this country. There was some logic for this course of events, but there was also logic in fanciers from all of the Australian states coming together to draft an Australian version and attach it to the name that is by far the most popular.

What has emerged is a very good standard. It is not a North American standard, but it is a standard that has been heavily influenced by the developments on that continent. It is a standard that Australian fanciers can use with confidence knowing that the guidelines contained will lead them in the same direction as the other modern standards from overseas. Breeders and judges in this country will continue to refer to the overseas standards for extra clarity, and rightly so. It is desirable that fanciers take advice and information from all quarters when learning about the features of any stud animal. But the reverse is now also likely to happen. Overseas fanciers can, and will with confidence, use the Australian standard in conjunction with their own as an aid to increased understanding.

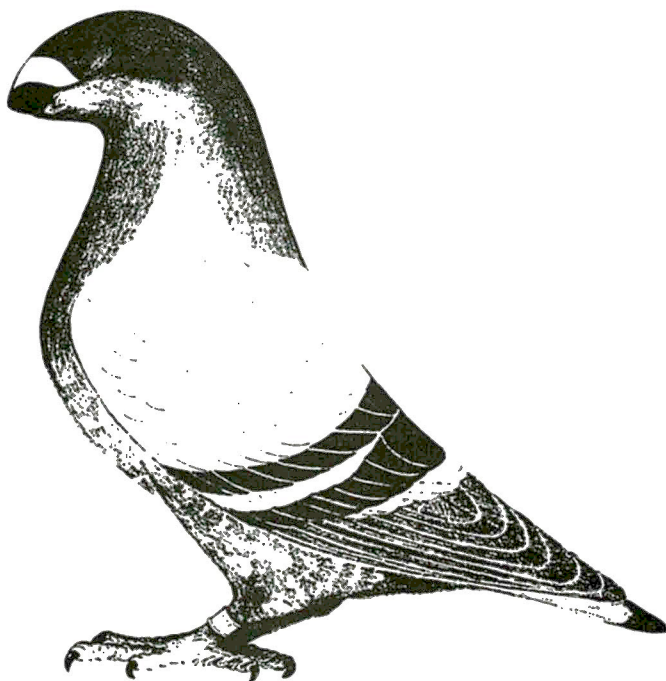
Given the past development of the Showpen Homer a number of things are likely to happen in the future. The Showpen Homer has the racing pigeon as part of its ancestry, yet modern quality birds are far removed from the sleek birds that are bred purely for flying. It can be said that the Showpen Homer has come a long way. Of course, this development is not likely to stop now, and the breed, along with the standards and ideal drawings will continue to change. This is not likely to please everyone, but the present Showpen Homer standard will not be the standard being used in 50 years time, and it may well be superseded in as few as ten years! Some previous standards have not lasted this long. Not because they were no good, but because the changes and developments brought about by breeders were such that new guidelines were needed to cover them.

In Australia, the Showpen Homer is likely to continue to approach the American Show Racer in quality, and when importations into this country eventually become a reality, the United States birds which are brought in will act to hasten this process. As it is now there are only a few breeders in this country who are pushing the limits as far as size and power of the head are concerned; and, again, much of the impetus for this emanated from their exposure to west coast American birds.

Future influences on the breed generally are likely to continue to come from the United States, though as the breed spreads, contributions from elsewhere can be expected. The power and strength of the head of the Showpen Homer has contributed significantly in recent years to its popularity and the growth in size and power of this aspect seems certain to be a part of the future for it. This trend can be seen in the "artist's conception" drawing which appeared on the 1982 cover of the American Pigeon Journal Show Racer special. This drawing is one of the latest for the breed and provides some insight into at least some breeders' images of where this bird might be headed.

The powerful lower jaw and strong bottom mandible in this drawing create the impression of a head which is more elongated, or even egg shaped, than round in appearance. Significantly, this profile change has been achieved without disrupting the near universal standard wording that there be an even sweep from the tip of the beak to the back of the head. This drawing also sets up an expectation about the width of the head. The impression here is that the width at the top of the head extends down over the frontal of the bird, and that there is a roll over from the top of this frontal to the beak line. This beak line, the imaginary line that runs from the gape through the centre of the eye, carries a channel or depression, which separates the large powerful frontal with its roll over, from the also large jaw or cheek area which extends under and backwards of the eye. All of this is in contrast to both the present US standard with all the emphasis above the beak line, and the somewhat petite and feminine current Australian one. This 1982 "conception" is a much more masculine image, but even so it has already been superseded by some of the better headed birds which are being bred today.

This emphasis on the head should not detract from other possible future directions for the rest of the bird. Here, for example, we might see calls for shorter tails, or shorter birds in general, squarer shoulders, heavier boned legs, or bigger chests. However, it is the head which has caught the imagination, and this trend is likely to continue. One hiccup here has been the loss to this area of standard points in the US standard, and the emulation of this in Australia. While all parts of the bird should be considered in the show pen and breeders' lofts, it is the now distinctive head which sets this breed apart from others. Future standards will need to reward this unique feature more appropriately, while at the same time still provide sufficient incentive for the maintenance and development of those other essentials which go to make up the Showpen Homer.



The latest drawing of Roy Gurdler, Brisbane, Australia.

Let's Look Ahead

by ROY W. GURDLER, Brisbane, Australia

For those who are not aware, fanciers in Australia are now able to import birds from overseas, not since 1949 has this been possible. Our birds were bred down from the last importation of racing pigeons from England, so it has been quite difficult to progress to the modern standard.

LOOKING AHEAD. If the importation is a success, fanciers in this country will be able to breed towards the same style of birds.

This is why I believe the new USA standard should be of a high quality and as accurate as possible, with as much detail as

can be achieved.

Let's aim for a universal standard.

The drawing of the new standard should exaggerate the features we all seek in the birds, strong heads, stylist in the way the birds stand, broad in width, short in stature. Generally a compact bird.

By exaggerating these features we can obtain these strengths more quickly. Hence the standard should not become out of date in a few short years.

In Australia a committee of fanciers spent a few years putting together a new standard, which has now been adopted by the Australian National Pigeon Association.

I felt that a number of fanciers here could not foresee what a future drawing for the standard could look like, even though the drawing we are not using is a major step forward. Here's hoping your standard committee and other fanciers involved have some more foresight.

I've enclosed my latest drawing. It's not perfect but it's another idea. If anyone has an idea to improve or modify this drawing I'll be more than happy to attempt a drawing on your suggestions.



AUSTRALIAN SHOW RACER
This Grizzle Young Cock, 1988, was bred by Peter Creed, Brisbane, Australia.

The Piano Player

by JOHN VAN DEN HOORN,
Logan City, Australia

Take the time to thank the Piano Player when the show is over. Thank the tireless workers who made the time to prepare, plan, clean, coordinate, publicize and protect the end result of your breeding season. While you were sleeping the Piano Player was wiping the cobwebs from the exhibition pens, his spouse was buttering bread, and his children were feeding and watering birds from out of town that had been picked up on the way to the pavilion earlier in the morning.

As you grumpily forced your way out of bed and hurriedly threw your pride and joy into your carrying baskets, the Piano Player's birds are preening themselves and settling in for the long day. While you and your birds are on the way to the show, the Piano Player is setting up the trophy display and trying to find the raffle tickets. As you rush into the pavilion a full hour before the show gets underway, you will ask the Piano Player where to pen your birds, and a patient explanation is sure to follow.

Comparing pen numbers to entry form (which you sent in three days after closing date) you find that the chalk numbers on your carry basket don't match up, one bird is stained, another has lost a feather, probably from that morning when you made a sleepy grab at it and missed. Hurriedly trying last minute cleaning and grooming your frightened birds stand tall inside their cages, all looking champions. Your chest fills with pride. Through the judging, the rising excitement and noise, the champion emerges. Yours, or the Piano Player's? Whichever way, don't forget to thank the Piano Player. His contribution has given your birds the chance to be Champion of the Show.



AUSTRALIAN SHOW RACER
A Grizzle young hen bred by Roy Gurdler, Brisbane, Australia.

Long Island Show Racers

by BRIAN M. MAGEE, Bayport, N.Y.

I bought my first American Show Racers from Ted E. Grill back in 1976. Ted had an excellent knowledge of the breed and if not for the family business Ted would have had a tremendous family of A.S.R. At the same time George "Pete" Haden was raising A.S.R. and trading up with Ted.

The Long Island Show Homer Assn.'s first show was on August 7, 1977. There were 18 A.S.R. shown by myself and Pete Haden. Frank Orski was the first judge we had. There were no color classes just y.c. or y.h. Pete won champion with a beautiful red bar cock and I won b.y.h. with a good yellow check. That was the only time a rare won high honors (1990 a opal check won the o.b. show) and she was an excellent type bird. Pete's family of red bars was very strong and that year Pete had 5 y.c. that looked the same, all powerful with great station.

The L.I.S.H.A. o.b. show was on Jan. 8, 1978. The reason for being so late was as a new club all the prime dates were taken by the established clubs. I do not have the amount of birds shown but Pete won with a red bar and I won b.y.h. with a Barney Barnum dark

checker. Barney was a real gentleman but he would get so mad when birds that he thought were winners would not even place or birds that won at Louisville would not win at White Plains. I would tell him that birds change when they are young and you cannot go by what happened a month ago, you must go by that day or even hour.

In 1979 we had 115 A.S.R. at the y.b. show. Champion was John Grasso with a red velvet y.c. that was bred from birds I gave John the breeding season before. The o.b. show was won by Pete Haden with a red bar y.c. 90 A.S.R. were shown. The club was off and flying. At White Plains that year Gus Ramm won B.I.S. out of 258 A.S.R. Gus Ramm was a very tough competitor. Every one of his birds were in top condition and feathering. The birds' colors were excellent and everything about the birds were show ready. At the 79 o.b. show President Art Hoffmann won with a red check. There were 119 A.S.R. shown.

Below is a list of shows that most of the Long Island showmen went to. Many more shows were attended but I do not have records

for those shows, enjoy.

This is a small sampling of the shows Long Island fanciers attended. Not included because I do not have all the information is the N.S.R.P.A. and Cairo wins by Hoffmann and Losee. The Maryland shows and the Nassau - Suffolk shows were attended by many L.I. members as well.

Many people stand out as leaders in working with the A.S.R. in the Long Island area. Top of the list is Leroy Bennett, former President of the A.S.R.A. and M.S.R. Leroy won over 12 B.I.S. at the N.S.R.P.A. and many other shows were dominated by Leroy. The success of the Mt. Holly shows were because Leroy did the books and coordinated everything. You cannot say enough about this A.S.R.A. man. Art Hoffmann started the ball rolling as President of the LISHA. Larry Losee took that ball and ran with it. Larry started the auctions that helped distribute good birds and the club made money and everyone was happy. While Larry as the President, the focus was put on giving the showmen more for their money. This included top judges, awards and the opportunity for everyone to get top quality birds at a fair price. Later Larry was the driving force behind creating the Atlantic Coast Show Homer Assn. with John Rao.

Next to people, you think of families of A.S.R. The red check family of Art Hoffmann stands out. The beautiful red and blue bar families of Jerry Frank. Gus Ramm's black velvet family. Pete Haden's red bar family. One family that I had the opportunity to watch from the beginning was Gail and Larry Losee's family. Larry purchased birds from a few fanciers and worked them and developed a family of his own. Larry knew the standard and worked to get the reach and power and became quite successful. As Larry became more successful his generosity became greater. Larry gave away top quality birds to anyone who needed them.

How much further along would the hobby be if Bob Heinz, Jerry Frank, Charlie Nausea and Manny Rigby were still alive. These men were dedicated and knowledgeable. Their loss hindered the development of the A.S.R.A. on the east coast. Their families of birds disappeared which hurt the competition and exchange of good birds dropped off greatly.

The future looks bright on Long Island for American Show Racers if everyone pitches in and thinks about the bird of dignity instead of their wallet or ego. With the "youth" movement led by Joe Ognibene and Harold Jones mixing with the steadiness of Tom Zarek and Pete Haden the Long Island club should only get better.

In closing I would like to thank the biggest supporter of Long Island and that is the "American Pigeon Journal" who has taken our birds and put them on the cover and let many articles be seen between the covers, thank you.

SHOW	YEAR	FANCIER	COLOR	#BIRDS
LISHA YB	1980	Haden	Red Bar	97
Mt. Holly YB	1980	Magee	Black Velvet	90
LISHA OB	1980	Hoffmann	Red Check	139
NSRPA	1980	Frank	Red Velvet	249
LISHA YB	1981	Haden	Grizzle	89
LISHA OB	1981	Ramm	Lt. Blue Ch.	204
LISHA YB	1982	McCaffrey	Dark Check	117
Mt. Holly	1982	Magee	Blue Check	138
LISHA OB	1982	Magee	B. Ch. Splash	166
NSRPA	1982	Frank	Lt. Bl. Check	?
LISHA Yearling	1983	Magee	B. Ch. Splash	28
LISHA YB	1983	Hoffmann	Red Check	80
LISHA OB	1983	Magee	Blue Check	115
LISHA Yearling	1984	Losee	Grizzle	47
LISHA YB	1984	Haden	Grizzle	75
Cairo OB	1984	Hoffmann	Red Check	59
LISHA OB	1984	Hoffmann	Red Check	127
LISHA OB	1985	Magee	Blue Check	128
LISHA YB	1986	Schmidt	Dk. Bl. Ch.	85
LISHA OB	1987	Hoffmann	Red Bar	129
ACSHA OB	1988	Losee	Silver	79
NSRPA	1988	Magee	Blue Check	147
LISHA YB #1	1989	Ognibene	Blue Bar	?
LISHA YB #2	1989	Schmidt	Blue Check	98
ACSHA OB	1989	Magee	Blue Bar	150
NSRPA	1989	Magee	Blue Check	139
LISHA OB	1989	Magee	Blue Check	146
LISHA YB	1990	Ognibene	Blue Check	85
NSRPA	1990	Stamer	AOC	80
LISHA OB	1990	Conway	Opal Check	210

Individual Breeding Pens

by BILL SCHLIEPER, Castro Valley, Calif.

Three years ago I decided to build a set of individual breeding pens for my Show Racers. I was concentrating on developing a family of birds from one pair and their best offspring, and knew the only way I could be absolutely certain of which young were from each pair was to have them in individual pens. Under the loft arrangement I was using I would have had four pair in each pen. I saw "fence jumping" taking place and knew I didn't want this to happen to my hit pair and their offspring.

My new individual pen set up contains six individual pens (see picture). Each is 32" wide, 5' deep and 6' high. Each pen contains a nesting shelf. Each automatic waterer serves each pen and each pen has a compartment for feed and another for grit (reach through type). The birds must fly to the floor for food and up high for the water. This provides exercise and cleaner water. Nest boxes are ten inches square and four inches deep with attached bottoms. Pine needles over an inch and a half of shavings make the nest. This makes for a warmer nest early in the season.

In these pens I can catch the birds easily. The breeders are tamer and so are the young. This makes them easier to train for the shows.

One of my pet peeves is to read an article on some innovative loft feature only to discover the details are missing. Here are mine. The floor from back wall out three feet is 3/4" plywood (exterior). From there forward to front wall I used standard 1x4 lumber with 1/4" space between them to allow for drip away of any rain blowing in through the front wire. The wire is all one half inch poultry wire. The roof is aluminum corrugated over strips and extends for three feet over front of

loft. As the climate here in the San Francisco Bay area is very mild, I use no insulation. The loft faces south and seldom does the rain blow past the slatted floor area. Sunlight enters the loft all morning and part of the afternoon during the breeding season. There is no electricity or heat in loft. All walls except front are plywood. Front is half inch mesh wire.

From the experience I have had with individual pens of this size, I am sold on them. I have had phenomenal success with them. As the youngsters reach weaning age

When You Can't Find The Feed You Want

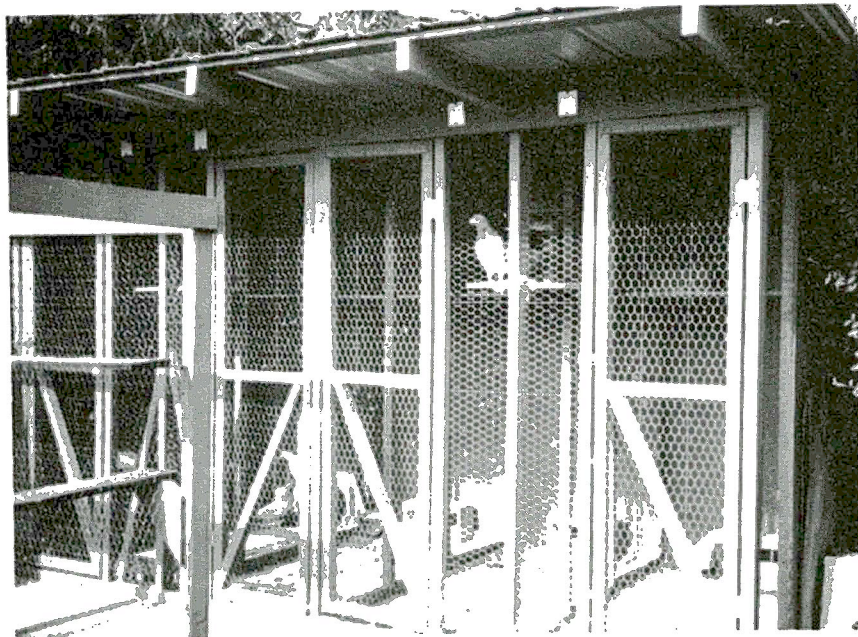
by RICHARD BROOKS, Eureka Springs, Ark.

Some of you may have made a move into a different section of the country only to discover that pigeon feed was not nearly available there as it had been near your previous location. This happened to me when I retired in June, 1985. Although my new home was within an easy day's drive of such major cities as Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Wichita, Little Rock, Dallas, Memphis, Nashville, to name but a few; there was no nearby source of good pigeon feed. I went looking. There was a dealer about 100 miles away in Springfield, but they only re-ordered when they could justify a load. They would not take pre-orders, even if pre-paid, and would not hold orders. Twice I phoned to be told they had what I wanted, only to drive the hundred miles and be told they had sold it since I called and before I arrived. After two such 200 mile round trips I gave up and set about doing something else.

I now mix my own feed. Living here in the mid- West, obtaining cereal grains is easy. Corn, wheat and milo are grown locally. While not always air cleaned, they are good quality and not too expensive. Then the problem becomes getting good peas and barley. Some barley is grown locally and one has to be on the constant alert. We found 250 pounds last month, and bought it all. Another merchant had 600 pounds of untreated seed peas (Canadian) and I bought all those. It means storing in the garage, but it gets one through the breeding season. I add a small quantity of safflower and millet, available at some stores catering to parrots and love birds. Pellets have been a problem. The birds do not like those available for pigeons. Turkey pellets are too medicated for long range use. Pig and sow pellets (18 to 20% protein) seem to work best. I use a few so that, if I cannot get peas, they have an available source of protein, especially during breeding or moulting times.

Storing the grains on a pallet in a dry garage free of mice, etc., I mix about a week's supply at a time. Without going into a lot of scientific jargon, I try to mix about one third high protein grain (peas) and/or pellets, and about two thirds cereal grains (corn, wheat, milo). Never over 10 percent barley in the mix except for hens in winter when, after the flight moult, I use 50% barley, a lesson learned in flying homers. Hens thus fed will not get fat during the winter and will seldom, if ever, lay, assuming they are separated out of sight of the cocks. The small seeds never make up over 5% of the total. During seasons other than breeding and moult I cut peas (or high protein pellets) to about one fourth the mix. Except during the breeding season, if birds waste any grain, they're getting too much.

If you're influenced by protein, etc., on tags, remember that protein and digestible protein are two different evaluations. Remember, dent corn #2, which is what we usually get at best, is 9.4% protein, but only



Individual breeding pens of Bill Schlieper, Castro Valley, Calif.

7.1% digestible protein. Most wheat tests at about 13.5% protein, but only 11.6% digestible protein. Milo is 11.2% and 8.7% respectively. General run of field peas average 23.8% protein and 20.2% digestible protein. Peanuts, brown rice, other varieties of peas can be substituted. Especially do pigeons like peanuts and Indian corn (that blue, red, orange variegated you buy on the cob for Thanksgiving decorations). The love hemp but as that is marijuana, most states have outlawed it and even those that allow it

require heating it (sterilization) until it seems to lose much of its appeal to the birds.

The whole point of this article is that you can make and mix your own formula for a good pigeon feed if you find yourself without a reliable supply of a quality ready-mix. Most fanciers in Southwest Missouri and Northwest Arkansas are doing just that. I hear from a good many fanciers across the country who are doing the same. Wendell Levi suggested the same years ago.

Most Of A Lifetime With Pigeons

by ART W. KEHL, Watertown, Wisc.

When Richard Brooks, coordinator of this issue, asked me to write this article he said it should cover my experiences with pigeons! If I even tried to outline that subject it would fill quite a book as it would cover a period of 67 years crammed with lots of activity. While chickens and pigeons were a part of the Kehl family before my memory started recording facts, I acquired my own pigeons when an older brother found young ladies more interesting and turned his flock of racers over to me in 1925. When I reached that stage of my life, a former Watertown resident, then of Indianapolis, by the name of Fred Henke won the Chattanooga Race from the top of Lookout Mountain. He phoned and wanted to know if I would like a pair of youngsters off that winner. That proved to be the point at which I became hooked for life. Girls I dated had to accompany me on training tosses or no more dates. My wife Rose says she had to make believe she enjoyed it!

Entering the work force made training more difficult and when I became a salesman selling paper products to business firms, I called on Herman Kramp of Sally Ann Bake Shop, here in Watertown. Herman had acquired quite a collection of various breeds and so whenever I visited his shop the talk turned to birds. This led to calling a meeting of the pigeon fanciers in our town and resulted in the formation of the Watertown Pigeon Club. This brought me in contact with such notables as Shorty Merrifield, John Pfeiffer and Walter Schwister. That first meeting was 56 years ago. All this while the breed I had was Racing Homers inherited from a brother and added to with birds from Fred Henke and fellow Watertown fancier Tom Nack. I served as president of the club from its beginning until called into service in 1943.

Thinking of that brings up an interesting story. The first weekend in December of 1941 the Watertown Club was holding its annual show. Because the National was to be held in Long Beach, California, the American Carneau Assn., voted to hold their annual meet with us. Among those present were F.J. Beaucond of Indiana, Dr. Peter Treleven of Michigan and of course, John Pfeiffer of Milwaukee. Jake Keiffer did the judging. Beau, Doc and I were seated watch-

ing Jake judge about 4 o'clock on the afternoon of December 7th. Doc made the statement, "Art since I've been in your town all I've done is eat, sleep and look at pigeons. I haven't read a paper, heard a radio news report and for all I know we could be at war!" Just then several youngsters entered the show room with news of the Japs bombing of Pearl Harbor.

My contacts with the NPA started back in 1937 when Herman Kramp, Tom Nack and I drove to Peoria, Illinois, to attend the National Show. We drove down on a Saturday morning arriving about 9 o'clock. Most of the cages were empty but we did meet Dr. Treleven and George Hoerr who would become good friends later on in life. I first showed at the National by shipping birds to Lansing, Michigan, in 1941 to Lynchburg, Va., in 1947, Belleville, Ill., in 1948 and Camden, N.J. in 1950. While these shows were being held I was doing my job by attending some other convention in some other city selling some product made by my employer, the G.B. Lewis Co. At the Camden show I was awarded the Levi Service award for the work I had been doing the past couple of years as publicity man for the NPA.

I better back up a little and tell about how I got started with another breed of pigeons. While in service, Butch Kressin, owner of the Watertown Squab Co., took over as president of the Watertown Club and also kept a nucleus of six pair of Racers for me. When I returned from duty three years later, eleven birds were still alive and they, Rose, Art Jr. and myself were soon settled back at 1400 N. 2nd St. A couple of weeks after we had been settled, a couple of local fanciers led by Al Tiews stopped by to announce that they had put some mated pairs of Baldhead Rollers in the loft as they felt I needed some variety.

By 1951, I had reached a point with the Lewis Company whereby I could plan some of my travels. So I did schedule western Minnesota and Western Iowa just before the 1951 Des Moines National. I had arranged to have some Racing Homers and Baldhead Rollers sent to the show. My Racers did real well but Bill Pensom took one look at the baldheads and said a bull eyed bird could not roll. (How wrong he was. They rolled then and still do). Before this time, I had visited

with Frank H. Hollmann in Warrenton, MO, hoping to make some sort of deal with employment with the APJ. Frank offered the Rabbit Journal which was not my interest. But attending the National for its duration was a dream come true and I wanted somehow to make future attendance possible. I actively sought the job of Secretary. D.C. Warner had indicated he was serving temporarily. In April of 1952, I became NPA secretary and for the next 15 years showed birds at every National Show.

At that time Clyde Kleinborst of Springfield, Ill., did a lot of research on who showed birds at the Nationals through the years. At one point in time only one other individual had shown at more Nationals than I and that was H. Eric Buri of N.J.

In showing Show Racers which began as Show Pen Racers in 1952 and later changed to American Show Racers, I won one National Champion, several Best Opposite Sex and numerous color classes, but winning, while a joy, has never been the driving force in my life. Most of the time when I have won or had a bird someone wanted I would give them the bird if they would join some pigeon club I felt needed their help. There are quite a few fanciers who can attest to that fact.

As I sit back and think about what is the driving force in my life, it comes out as building an organization. In pigeons there are several clubs that I have helped and currently I have two major projects I am pursuing. One is the success of the 1992 Grand National Show to be held in Milwaukee and the other to revitalize pigeon showing at the Wisconsin State Fair. When I started showing their in 1936, about 3000 were shown. They stayed for the duration of the fair or a period of 10 days with no ill effects. Today the show is down to about 300 birds broken into two shows of five days each. This year 88 of those will be mine and they will be in 13 different breeds. Adding my daughter's, we will provide about half the show with 14 breeds. There is no place in the state where our hobby can get better exposure to more people. It is just what our hobby needs. Lots of public attention.

Family wise, as soon as Art Jr. became old enough to take over, he selected the Rollers and Dad went back to just Racers. When Nancy became interested we started with Ice Pigeons and Norwich Croppers. But now she too has settled down with just Rollers and the other breeds have found their way out to Dad's loft along with numerous others.

Re-reading what I have written I realize that I haven't even touched on all the enjoyment I experienced through the many judging assignments I fulfilled. That could be the basis of another article perhaps. Just let me say I have judged in most every section of the country, in Canada and in Bermuda. Enjoyed it all and made friends wherever I've been.

Pigeons are a wonderful hobby!

Ron Whitson's Conditioning Loft

by RON WHITSON

The big advantage with these is the roominess and the ventilation provided by the screening. There is no worry about feather dust accumulating and bothering the fancier.

The biggest problems that fanciers have are usually brought on by crowded conditions and poor ventilation. Crowding is caused by the fancier keeping too many birds in a given area, which leads to stress and disease.

I believe most outbreaks of disease are brought on by bringing new birds into the

flock or by stress brought on by poor management. It is the fancier's responsibility to be carefully introducing new birds, preventing overcrowding, providing good feed, clean water, and plenty of fresh air.

This will keep the birds AND THE FANCIER healthier.

In an attempt to find a more practical conditioning loft I have constructed a new design that I feel may be helpful to other breeders.

The two section loft floor is made of 3 each 4"x4"x16" timbers with 2"x4" end caps. Each 4x4 is notched every 2 foot for the rebar. Each of the loft floors is 1 by 1 inch welded wire by 6 foot wide. I have 3/4 inch rebar every 2 feet under it to help keep the wire from sagging under the bird's weight over a period of time.

The center wall has 2x4 inch welded wire on both sides so that the birds can't reach each other. I have wire on the front wall and 10' of the side walls. The rest of the loft is covered with 1/2 inch plywood. Each section has a door on the wide. I am going to use 3/4 inch by 2 foot by 6 foot as a drop floor (piece of plywood) which I can lift up and secure as I leave the loft.

It's really not as complicated as it seems, other than nailing the wire. The rest of the loft goes up very easily. I think the hardest part is the roof on the back portion of the loft. I used 1/2 inch plywood. Over the main flypen area I am using fiberglass roofing (yellow). The color I'm using keeps the brightness down.

I have put a 6 foot x 6 foot swinging door to enclose the birds into the rear 6 x 6 end. Door actual size is 65 1/2 x 63 inches. I used 1" chicken wire on the ceiling to keep the birds from getting into the rafters.

The building can be made in any size you like. I made each section 6' wide by 16' long, with water at one end and feed at the other. This forces the birds to fly the length of the loft and get exercise.

The building can be made portable by using bolts to hold each section together. Using 7/16" size you need: 4 each 5" bolts, 4 each 3" screws, 8 each 3 1/2" bolts.

MATERIAL LIST

- 13 - 2" x 4" BY 68 3/8" studs
- 6 - 2" x 4" BY 70 1/4" studs
- 21 - 2" x 4" by 69" studs
- 3 - 2" x 4" by 16' rafters
- 5 - 2" x 4" by 12' sills & caps
- 6 - 2" x 4" by 10' headers
- 3 - 4" x 4" by 16' joists
- 9 sheets 1/2" plywood
- 1 sheet 3/4" plywood (drop floors, 2' wide)
- 9 prefabricated trusses
- 7 pieces 3/4" x 12' rebar
- 32' 3" - 1"x1"x72" welded wire
- 48' - 1"x2"x72" welded wire
- 20' - 2"x4"x72" welded wire
- nails and hardware for construction
- 8 pc. each of 10' x 12' fiberglass

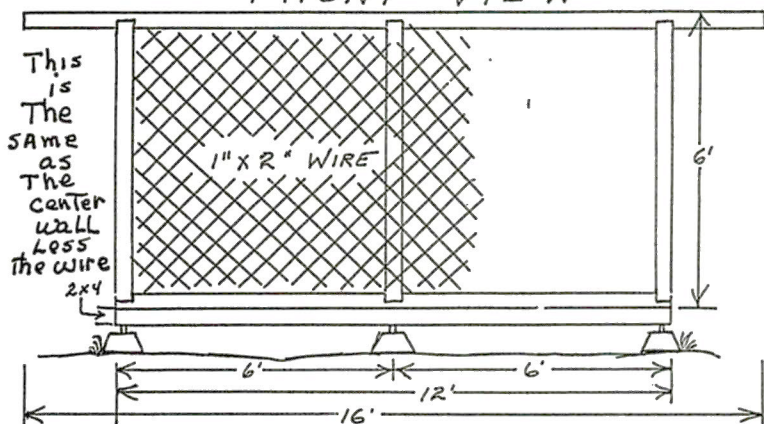
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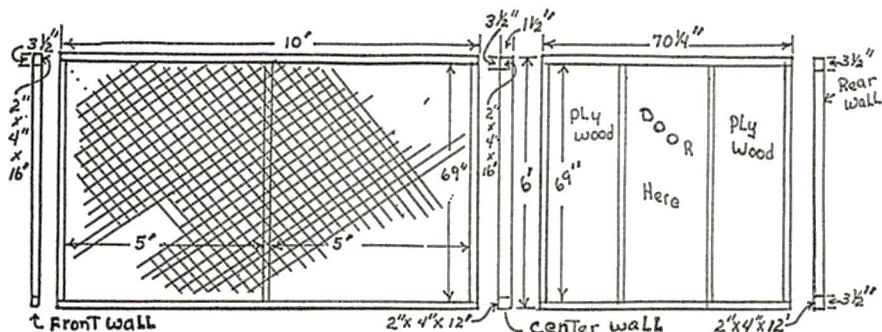
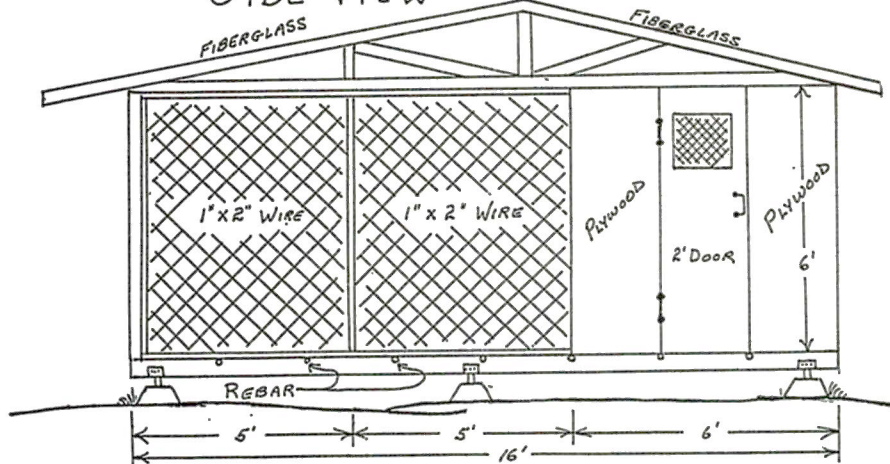
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American Pigeon Journal

FRONT VIEW



SIDE VIEW



Establishing My Bloodline

by KENT WRIGHT, Salt Lake City, Utah

I would not have thought about writing this article if Richard Brooks hadn't asked me to. I hope there will be something of value written here. Richard asked me to write about how I developed my bloodline. Some feel I have been successful breeding Show Racers. I am proud of the fact that my Show Racer bloodlines are doing well in some of the most successful lofts in the country. Many of the birds I've sold have been good breeders and that pleases me immensely. Since 1968 I have kept accurate and detailed records, which will allow me to write this article with accuracy.

I returned from service in the U.S. Navy in July 1965 and was married shortly after. We lived in an apartment for the first year, so I was not able to consider pigeons. Yet! We later moved to an area where pigeons were possible, and I started thinking about my birds. I sprung the idea on my wife, Selma, and she said, "Pigeons? Why?" And she's still saying, "Why?" So, in 1966, I started construction on a loft. We made a visit to Frank Myers and ended up taking several pair of English Trumpeters home with us. I was back into pigeons! We had a number of different breeds before we settled on Pigmy Pouters in 1968 and Bokhara Trumpeters until the mid-1970's.

Then in 1975, I got my first pair of Show Racers. I had been watching Show Racers for some time and loved the birds, but the deciding factor for starting with this classy breed of pigeons was the people involved. I had been observing the activities of the Show Racer group for some time here in Utah, and admired what they were doing with their birds and shows. Two of these men were Castle Child and Glenn Motzkus. Later we became associated with Jerry McCalmon, Brad Child, Pete Huntsman, Mike Spencer and others here in Salt Lake. Since then these men and their wives have become our best friends. And that's not even mentioning our friends outside the state of Utah. That's what this hobby is all about. FRIENDS AND FRIENDLY COMPETITION!

Most of my early breeders came from the loft of Glenn Motzkus. Those early bloodlines were a blend of Trane, Hodson, Motzkus and Child. It's interesting to see where the good birds came from as you look at the pedigrees years later. My grizzle line goes back to an A.C. Child black check cock #623, a grizzle cock #476 from Motzkus bred from a grizzle hen #315 (Hodson), which was out of the Brooks' grizzles. Also in that line is a blue bar cock #2167, he was the Pageant Champion in 1977 bred by Norm McClister. This bird came into my loft after the untimely death of our friend Norm.

I then brought in a red check cock #921 and a red bar cock #937 from Richard Brooks. Both of these birds bred well and produced

some nice birds for me. A nice red check cock #2402 from Jay Lisonbee bred a nice dark check hen #4444, she was an important bird later on in my breeding program. Then came a black check cock #54 from P/W Lofts (Lauren Porsch/Ralph Whitson) which produced two nice blue check hens #45 and #33, from different hens in 1982 and 1983. Then in 1982, I traded the P/W Lofts for blue check hen #1036, she turned out to be a key pigeon in my breeding program. Mated to #0 grizzle cock, she is the mother to some of my best stock birds even today.

Without doubt 1984 was the single best breeding season I have had. I traded #127 grizzle cock to P&W Lofts for #74 blue check cock for one breeding season. I heated a small section of my loft and started breeding him in December of 1983, kept him going through October 1984. I ended up raising 15 babies out of four hens and six of those were very nice birds. I was also able to raise seven very nice babies out of #0 grizzle (foundation) and #1036 blue check hen. Four of those birds stayed in my loft for six years and three are still here.

In 1984, I bought #3447 red check marmalade cock from Brent Summers, this pigeon was all head and beak. He also threw strong beaks in his babies. That year I raised two Marmalade cocks, #1014 black velvet and #1018 red velvet. I sold the black to Bill Schlieper and the red to James Bruning, both cocks were key breeders to these men, especially the red for Jim.

I didn't pick up very many birds after that 1984 breeding season, just one here or there that I thought would improve what I had. I got an opal grizzle #1128 from Schlieper, a black check hen #492 from Brooks and a red velvet hen #506 from Bruning. Bill Schlieper let me breed with #1014 black velvet cock for one year, and I got his grandson (a red velvet cock #2077) from Joe Bronner. All helped my breeding program.

The last few years I was able to add several good birds to my loft through split mating. Matching one of my birds with one of theirs. These splits were with Cass Child, Jerry McCalmon and Glenn Motzkus. These splits were of great benefit to me, and I sure hope they were to them as well.

At the end of the 1990 breeding season, every young Show Racer I have traces back to #0 grizzle cock. All these other birds added something I needed to what I had already. If the birds I brought in improved my birds, then I worked more with it, if they didn't help I moved them out.

Some breeders are sure that you need to establish your bloodline and stay with it, not bringing in any new birds. If they bring in new birds, they want them to be related somehow and bring in very few. Other breeders bring in any bird they think will help and

then cross it in no matter where it comes from. Norm McClister did that with much success.

If you talk to ten different breeders, you will hear ten different ways or variations to establish your bloodline of pigeons. You have to find out what works for you and go with it.

Is A Small Stud Better?

by GLENN T. MOTZKUS, Salt Lake City, Utah

There are as many types of pigeon fanciers as there are types of pigeons to fancy. This is what makes raising pigeons interesting. Each fancier has his or her special "tricks" and ideas as to what it takes to win at the shows. For those who are new in the sport, may I heartily recommend keeping only a few pair of choice specimens. You don't have to keep a barnful of pigeons to produce winners. This is in no way meant to discredit the fancier who has the facilities, the money and mainly the time to properly care for a large flock of birds. In a sense, his pleasures are multiplied because he has more birds to enjoy. By the same token so are his problems. This is why I prefer a small stud of pigeons.

If you're just starting in the pigeon game and have your heart set on competing in the shows, you are better off to start with two or three pair of the best birds you can buy rather than numerous pairs because they are less expensive. A house is no better than the foundation it is built upon, and this is true in developing a winning family of pigeons. Raising pigeons today that you can successfully compete and win with at the shows takes a good bit of time, planning and work. It just stands to reason it is easier to give the proper attention to a smaller group of birds than a larger one.

I often hear fanciers say that if you want to build a good family of birds, you need to acquire 15, 20, 30 or more pair to be successful in the shows. For me, I have found the opposite to be true. For the inexperienced breeder, I guess they are relying on the law of averages to produce their winners. I am sure that breeding from 30 or 40 pair you couldn't help but raise a few great birds. But, again the expense, time and problems are also greatly multiplied. If time and expense are not a problem then "go for it." A person can raise 25 to 35 young a breeding season out of just six pair of breeders. I feel a person should be able to pick a good show team out of 25 or 30 young. If not, he is working with the wrong breeders. The only reason I can see the need for a large number of pairs is if one is involved in a genetic project.

To the person who can truly enjoy a small flock, there are certain definite advantages.

(Continued On Next Page)

To start with, you do not need as much loft space. If you have built a loft in recent years, regardless of size, you know this can be quite costly. Naturally there is less cleaning involved and a smaller amount of feed to be purchased. Any sickness that might develop can be detected much sooner and brought under control quicker. Proper bathing facilities are easily provided for a small group and it is important that each bird receive his share of the bath pan once a week (weather permitting). A small handful of 20 Mule Team Borax (not Boraxo) in the bath pan will completely eliminate any lice or mites that account for the pinholes that appear in the flight and tail feathers. It also greatly adds to that certain sheen seen on a winning pigeon.

The most important point, however, with a small stud is that you can give proper attention to the birds as individuals. You have the time to train the youngsters in the show coop as they develop. Promising ones should have lots of show coop time so they are at home in such surroundings and will perform their best. There is nothing a judge dislikes more than wild birds that try to climb through the coop or fly in his face during judging.

One of the most important but difficult features of the small stud is the fact that this forces you to cull rigidly and in doing so, you are keeping only the best. This naturally brings about a continual upgrading process. As the years go by, this becomes more diffi-

cult as you are breeding better birds and the temptation to add another section or two of loft is very strong. If, however you stick with your plan, it continues to become more rewarding. Your loft facilities will force you to get rid of some of your good older birds that you find difficult to part with. In doing this, you are keeping some of the better younger descendants. This only strengthens and fortifies the ancestral background of your current breeders. The end result will be you can rely more on your matings to produce the type you desire as each new born squaker is a combination of many genes inherited from numerous ancestors. If you know for sure the background birds have been good ones, your results will prove gratifying.

There are certain pitfalls to beware of with the small stud, as you will soon be involved in quite a program of inbreeding.

Properly handled, this is the best way to develop a strain or family of birds, but it is also a two edged sword and should be handled as such. When you become involved in a program of inbreeding, you will intensify whatever characteristics are present in your foundation birds be they good or bad. Good points will be made better but bad points will also be magnified. It becomes more important to eliminate birds with bad features from further breeding as these points will be set deeply and appear readily in the offspring.

Don't hesitate to occasionally add on outstanding bird to your stud, providing the bird is strong in features your strain may be weak in. Keep it only if it improves these features. Try and keep in mind quality, not quantity. No one ever said raising pigeons was easy. It is a constant challenge. But, I find it a very rewarding one.

As I See It: Changes

by GARY NOESKA

Time certainly flies by. It's been nine years since our last special. 31 years have gone by since I got my first Show Racers from Erv Buchart. He used to throw his birds out the door after the Watertown Show came to the end. They would fly a couple of miles to home. I don't know of anyone who flies their birds anymore.

We all have our little gripes. We seem to have lost the good hard rock bodies we once had because of the years of head hunter judges. We must remember: the judges help do the culling indirectly. They are the captain of the ship. So choose only good judges to guide our future. Don't let a poor judge lead you down the path of failure.

AUSTRALIAN SHOWPEN HOMER SHOW STANDARD

• HEAD

Broad, stout, and in profile to present an even sweep. The crown to be broad, and convex from eye to eye. The highest point to be directly above the centre of eye, with 40 mm from tip of beak to centre of eye. Overall, there is to be no suspicion of flatness, pinching, angularity or thinness.

• WATTLE

Neat, white, smooth in texture, heart shaped when viewed from top, tapering to the gape, and to follow the contour of the head. Each half to be of equal size with no gap line through the centre or intrusion of feather.

• EYE

Blood red in colour, bright and fiery in appearance, and to be centrally balanced in head profile. Colour in whites and shield plects to be bull.

• EYE CERE

To be neat and finely laced, with the less visible the better.

• BEAK

Stout, and set in line with head shape. Mandibles to be of equal substance and close fitting. Joint between mandibles to be in line with centre of eye.

• NECK

Medium in length, free from looseness, gullet and crease, and to taper evenly to the shoulders.

• BODY

To be wedge shaped with a good width of chest. Keel neither too deep nor too shallow so as to fit nicely into the hand. The back to be short, flat, broad across the shoulders, and tapering off to the rump and tail. The rump should be sturdy and showing no signs of weakness.

• WINGS

Strong and powerful with fairly prominent butts. Each to have 10 primary and 10 secondary flights, wide in web and strong in quill, which will form a symmetrical edge when spread. Back cover must be of sufficient length and width to cover well over rump. Tip of flights to just touch on top of tail.

• TAIL

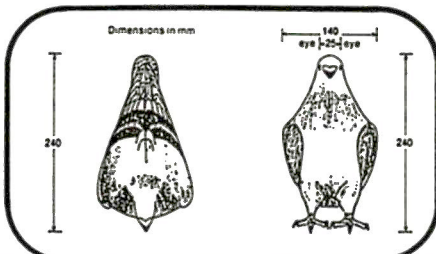
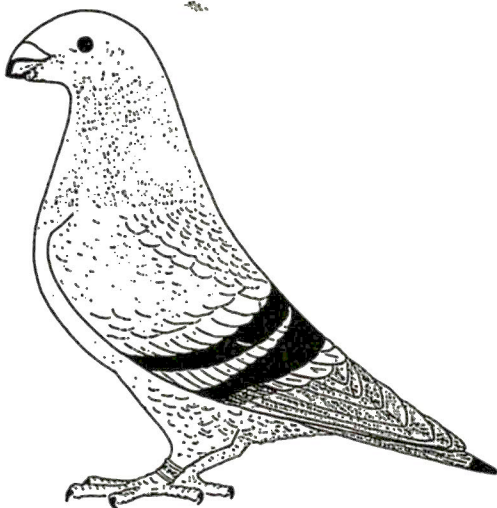
To have twelve strong feathers, be close fitting, overlap, and taper to give the appearance of one feather. To extend 20 mm beyond the flights.

• VENT BONES

To be strong, close together, and as close as possible to the end of the keel.

• KEEL

Approximately 90 mm in length, of good structure, straight, and to show no deformities. To run in a gentle curve and finish as close as possible to, and in line with, the vent bones.



BODY CONDITION

Bird to be sound, firm, and neither under nor overweight.

FEATHER CONDITION

To be tight fitting, neat, smooth, and to carry a healthy sheen.

MARKINGS — COLOUR

Refer to Colour Standard for descriptions.

TYPE

Is the shape produced by the bird's outline. It claims strength of beak, smooth sweep of head, strong neck, broad shoulders, full chest, even balance, standing well in front of legs, cutting away short behind legs, short tail, and wedge shaped body.

SIZE

To be medium, between 550 g and 630 g when in show condition, and fit into a 240 mm square.

STATION

Erect and bold, line from centre of eye to tip of tail to be a 45 degree angle. Tail to be just off the ground when at attention. The entire picture should be one of alertness and of a proud and showy appearance, showing well balanced conformation. Legs to be medium in length, strong and muscular, and red in colour. They should be bent at the hocks, set well back and apart, and be free from feather below the lower shank. Feet to be clean and free from loose scale. Toenails to be of one colour.

BEHAVIOUR

To stand quietly, but alert. To be generally unperturbed and without undue nervousness, wildness, panting, flying, climbing or excessive pacing in the judging pen.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Birds which carry crest, frill, excessively feathered feet, or deformed feathers. Birds which are infected, diseased, sick or have any major malformation. Birds with excessive plucking or trimming.

POINTS ALLOCATED

- 25 Points for the successful combination of the Head, Beak, Wattle, Eye, Eye Cere, and Neck.
- 25 Points for the successful combination of the Body, Wings, Tail, Keel and Vent Bones.
- 25 Points for the successful combination of Body Condition, Feather Condition, Show Preparation, Markings and Colour.
- 25 Points for General Appearance which is the successful combination of all the above features together with Type, Station, Size and Behaviour.

Approved as the official Australian standard by the Australian National Pigeon Association in July, 1988.

This standard is supplied with the compliments of the Showpen Homer Specialists Club of Queensland, 48 Timothy Street, Moorooka, Brisbane 4105



CITRUS BUILDING

Home of the 1991 Pageant of Pigeons. The Citrus building is located at the National Orange Show Fairgrounds, San Bernardino, Calif.

The Pageant Moves To A New Location

by **FRANK BARRACHINA**, Yucaipa, Calif.

After a long stay at the Pomona Fairgrounds, the Pageant of Pigeons has been moved to a new location, the National Orange Show Fairgrounds in San Bernardino, Calif. Due to the ever increasing cost of having a show in Pomona, the board of directors of the Los Angeles Pigeon Club voted unanimously to find a new affordable location for the show.

The new location, the National Orange Show Fairgrounds in San Bernardino, is easy to find as it is right off the 215 Freeway. The exit is Orange Show Rd. At the top of the exit head east. Go through the light and follow until the road veers to the left at Arrowhead St. Go up until you see the sign for gate 8 and you are there.

One of the things that has had to happen is increasing the entry fee to \$3.50 per bird. It is becoming a sad part of life that increasing commercial rent on exhibition halls and the show expenses mandate a higher entry fee. This isn't a Southern California phenomenon, it is a fact of life throughout the U.S.A.

Another big change is the show date. This year the show is going to be held Dec. 11 through Dec. 14. To go along with the changes in show dates, a later deadline date has been set for entries - Nov. 12. This new date should help everyone and the later date of the show will make for a lot of birds in super feather condition.

This year the club will hold its banquet at the Fairgrounds on Friday evening at the restaurant facility just two hundred yards from the show hall.

Another change in the show are the birds for sale section. This is going to be held in some separate rooms away from the actual show. Entry for the for sale section is \$5.00 per hole with a limit of two pigeons per hole at one time. This entry must accompany your show entry. Incidentally, no one will be allowed to set up cages outside the show to

sell birds, this as per Orange Show Rules.

I should also mention our show hall, the Citrus Building. It is a very nice facility and is large enough to accommodate a large show. The lighting is very good inside too.

The show facility is close to some excellent motels and restaurants within a mile driving distance.

Another big plus for everyone is the fact that they won't have to park their vehicles a mile from the show hall. With the exception of parking next to the building or in established and marked fire lanes, everyone can park in the lot just 50 feet from the building. We will be issuing parking passes to all exhibitors, without them they'll have to pay \$3.00 per day parking.

The rules are the same for this show as for all the past Pageants. If you use the entry blank in this issue, we'll send you the rules and all pertinent show information, motels, restaurants, and the parking pass good for the duration of the show.

I should mention the hours that this show will be open: Wednesday from 12 noon on until 10:30 at night; Thursday from 8 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.; Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at which time everyone **MUST TAKE OUT** their birds.

The L.A.P.C. is going to decorate the show in a Christmas theme. It's going to be a wonderful show that everyone will enjoy. Hope you can make it!

A Review Of The Royal-Pageant Lofts

by **JOHN HEPPNER**,
Vista, Calif.

The first thing I have decided this year is to have a monthly ad in the APJ to give fancier an idea of the birds being bred in my loft. I am going to give a summary of several of the breeds I am trying to improve for my own pleasure at home and for the show room.

English Trumpeters

Most of you may know I have bred English Trumpeters more seriously and longer than any other breed. Trumpeters were a boyhood fascination for me and when I discovered the English Trumpeter Club of America and the Western American Trumpeter Club, I found organizations that provided substantial bulletins and plenty of competition with properly qualified judges. It became my dream to win the Pageant and my first young bird champion. These occurred in 1970. Little did I realize I would pretty much continue to dominate that fabulous show up to the present date spanning some 20 years.

My intensity in English Trumpeter breeding has slacked off the past three years. It was not a conscious decision but often I noted I was preferring to place a Helmet, Komorner, English Carrier or Domestic Flight egg under feeders. As this continued to happen, English Trumpeter production fell off and soon I realized I was giving the English Trumpeters about a 65% effort. Actually I almost sold the entire stud of English Trump in Jan. 1990, had the deal made but could not follow through with the deal.

I have said before "The journey is the reward" and being just another breeder striving to reach the top in Helmets, Komorners, Carriers, etc., holds a tremendous fascination. There is no pressure being number two, three or four. Expectations are lower and if you succeed, you are truly congratulated. Winning year after year has its down sides too numerous to mention. To be honest, on occasion, I have felt badly in a show which I have swept.

Now in 1991 I have made the mental decision to work harder on English Trumpet-

(Continued On Next Page)

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ers again. Following through may be another matter.

English Carriers

English Carriers have held a special fascination for me for many years. Several times I have sold my entire stud only to miss them so much I would start over again. Now I feel I will keep them for life. Dr. Counsilman of Fresno was the driving force before my time. Harry Granger of Annville, Pa., carried the ball for Carriers for many years. Harry was honored this year at our annual Carrier meet in Des Moines, Iowa. He was our man of the year. Can you imagine - 234 Carriers shown? That's what we had at Des Moines, 1990. Clair Wright, also of Pa., has been producing excellent Carriers the past few years and has been the man to beat. He is our first National English Carrier Club Master Breeder having won it after the NYBS.

My points for Master Breeder were completed with the Des Moines show. Terry Fick has severed as our capable Secretary-Treasurer of the Carrier Club and the club developed into a National organization under him. Now, Dr. Robin Neal of Great Falls, Montana, is carrying the leadership role for Carriers. He is a "dyed in the wool" Carrier man and breeds only Carriers. He purchased a Carrier from Dr. Counsilman for \$75 as a kid. Robin researched some of the early U.S. history on Carriers and has a wide perspective on the Carrier World.

I keep my Carrier stud young. You should have two types of Carriers in regards to wattle. A strain that wattles up quickly is good for young bird shows. But this pigeon will become too heavily wattled in two or three years. The slower developing wattles will not show so much wattle early but will last much longer for both breeding and showing. Some fanciers cut and trim the wattle but I have not had much experience with that.

Helmets

The Helmet club is one of the best Specialty Clubs. They have great organization, good people, can solve differences amicably and have their annual show with the NPA every year.

I breed mainly reds and blacks but am working on yellow and blue as well.

The best Helmets now have good crests with great style and type. I fear the feather will get too loose in the great desire for big crests but the better breeders will watch for that and mate tight feather in to maintain the firm crest and mane along with the rosettes.

The auction held at the annual show has spawned a great deal of interest in Helmets. This annual auction has made quality Helmets available to many fanciers.

To date Helmets have remained small in size while some other breeds that should be small have not remained so. This will be a quality to watch for in the future.

Bokhara Trumpeters

What a great pigeon but the followers remain few. The breed suffered when Clair Hetland sold out. Clair had super Bokharas.

Darrell Ferguson has had some of the best in recent years. Some of my winners were bred by Darrell.

Bokharas are hardy babies once they are hatched. Bokharas will feed very well after the squab is a few days old. The main problem is dragging newly hatched babies out of the nest. The size of the adult Bokhara and the long feathers makes for poor parents of very young babies.

Bobby Loewen, a second generation Bokhara breeder in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, has maintained a consistent loft of winners. Their shows rival the numbers at the Pageant or National.

Frank Soto, member of LAPC, has brought in some new colors from Germany and has done well in keeping Bokhara interest alive. His efforts have kept Bokharas sponsored as a Specialty Club through the Pacific Bokhara Club. Now Frank Barrachina, Frank Soto and I are reviving the International Bokhara Club.

Komorners

Komorners are great little spunky pigeons. Why they do not have a stronger following I cannot understand. Perhaps they lack the single individual which a club must have to keep putting out a bulletin regardless of what members contribute. Tom Evans needs to be commended for his continuous efforts at promoting the Komorner. He is the man to beat.

The Komorner Special was a real shot in the arm for this breed.

Domestic Flights

Everyone must be aware of how popular this breed is becoming. Organization is a key with the New York Combine providing dynamic leadership. Domestic Show Flights are fabulous little pigeons. They have power and such style and type. On the west coast our affiliated club has a meeting and show every other month. This activity is attracting more and more members.

Most of all our western members are having problems raising show birds because the Domestic has rigorous standards to qualify as a show bird. Mismarked Domestics can be shown in the stock class but do not qualify for Championship of the show. I guess it's like taking a girl to the dance but someone stealing her after the first dance.

I know stock birds are important but soon one must graduate from that level. A little more experience will also enable us to use the stock birds more efficiently.

We on the west coast are looking forward to a real treat this fall. The New York Combine has invited our fledgling club to attend the Annual Show in New York. All we have to do is get there and then meals and accommodations are paid for by the parent club, the New York Combine. What a deal! If you like Domestics you better join our Western Domestic Show Flight Association so you can go to the extravaganza in New York. Contact Tom Malone, 689 Wichita Ave., El Cajon, Ca. 92019, phone 619-588-4647.

National Pigeon Assn. Announces Grand National Junior Competition

by MIKE LERP,
NPA Pub. Chm.

As part of the NPA Youth Program, juniors will have the opportunity compete for Special Awards at the Milwaukee Grand National. Rules for the National Junior Competition are as follows:

1. Birds competing in the National Junior Competition must be properly entered in the show in regular competition, in the junior fancier's name. The bird must be bred and owned by the Junior fancier.

2. Entry fee is the same as regularly charged for the particular breed. NO ADDITIONAL fee is charged for the Junior Competition.

3. Each Junior fancier will be allowed to enter two birds. Juniors may enter as many birds as they want in the regular competition, but ONLY TWO birds may be designated for the Junior Competition.

4. Pre-Registration Is A Must. The birds selected for entry in the Junior Competition must so be designated in the appropriate spaces on the entry form.

5. Substitutions are allowed, but must be made before the general show judging begins and must be made in accordance with the general show rules, or as approved by the Junior Competition Committee Chairman.

6. Entries will be divided into four categories: Fancy, Sporting, Utility and Rare. A Champion and four Reserve Champions will be selected in each category. The four category Champions will then compete for the Junior Competition Grand Champion.

7. Every effort will be made to secure knowledgeable and experienced all breed judges. If possible, a panel of at least three judges will be used, especially for the selecting of the Grand Champion. The decision of the judges is final.

8. Entry Deadline for the Milwaukee Grand National for both the Junior Grand National Competition and the Grand National itself is midnight, December 30. Entry blanks and Convention information is being made available by Jerry McCalmon, P.O. Box 29, Bingham Canyon, Utah 84006-0029.*

The first Junior Grand Champion Competition took place at 1990 Pomona Grand National. A blue Barred Pied Pomeranian Pouter exhibited by Bethany Nelson took the top honor at Pomona. Winning this special competition must certainly be the highlight of Bethany's involvement in our hobby.

The National Pigeon Association's major goals in its Youth Program is to attract

youngsters to our hobby and provide the encouragement needed so that they'll remain in the hobby. We also feel that we must give these Junior Fancier's special acknowledgement for not only their successes in the showroom but for their contributions to our hobby as well.

Our Youth Committee encourages all of our Senior members to play a part in the NPA's involvement with these youngsters. Helping them to get started off with good breeding stock, allowing them to draw upon your knowledge and experience, providing them transportation to and from shows and meetings and giving them needed encouragement, are but a few things that we can do to assist these Junior fanciers. And perhaps more importantly we can and we should treat them as equals in our hobby.

*You need not be a member of the NPA to enter, but you're asked to consider becoming a member in order to support the NPA in its efforts to serve the entire pigeon fancy. Dues are \$10.00 for Seniors and \$5.00 for Juniors.

Great Western Set For October

by FRANK DORRITIE,
San Francisco, Calif.

Long regarded as one of the premier events in the pigeon fancy, the Great Western Pigeon Show will once again be held at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds in Watsonville, Calif. Several specialty clubs will participate, along with all breeds clubs and individual fanciers from throughout the Western States region. According to the records of the sponsoring Santa Clara Valley Pigeon Club, the 1990 Great Western featured 53 breeds and a total of 1379 birds exhibited. It is expected that this year's show will exceed those numbers.

Among the attractions of the 1991 Great Western will be the grand raffle featuring prizes relating to the pigeon fancy, in addition to high quality birds. Comradery and friendly competition are traditional hallmarks of the event, as is the annual banquet held on Saturday night.

The Great Western truly provides a rewarding experience for everyone - exhibitors (senior and junior), rare breeds fanciers, performance enthusiasts, and anyone with an interest in birds, animals, genetics, and the inherent beauty therein.

Set aside the weekend of October 25-27 and pay a visit to a unique show. Watsonville is minutes from the Boardwalk in Santa Cruz and the Coast Highway. If you're a fancier, bring your friends and your best birds. You are guaranteed a welcome and a great time.

For further information and entry forms, contact SCVPC Secretary Sharon Neill at (408) 637-6625 or John DeCarlo at (408) 683-4406.

Pigeons Outlawed In Oregon

by KEITH CAYWOOD, Hillsboro, Ore.

Yes folks, ignorance is still alive and well. It reared its ugly head on April 2, 1991, in Hillsboro, Oregon. Despite public opposition the city council hastily passed a nuisance ordinance which totally bans the keeping of pigeons and doves. It was enforceable after 30 days, with no Grandfather clause and no exceptions.

Thirty days later, on May 3, 1991, a policeman came to the home of Dave Holloway and cited him for the crime of keeping pigeons - and gave him seven days to clear out his birds.

Dave is one of the finest show breeders in the area and judges shows around the country. He's had his birds here for 11 years and is on good terms with his neighbors. Now he's under a lot of stress, spent thousands in attorney fees, and still thinks he's gonna wake up from a bad dream. But it's not a dream. It's real!

On Sept. 12, 1991, Dave appeared before a city judge who ruled against him and found no violation of his Constitutional rights. What have we become?

My nightmare began on Aug. 26, 1991, when the same policeman visited me. I have since stopped flying my rollers to avoid expenses and further heat from the city ge-

stapo. I'm still hoping I'll wake up too.

We're doing all we can, but we need your help. We need you to help us save our pigeons, our dignity and our way of life, for us and our children. We need you to help us fight this tyranny and blatant abuse of our rights as free men and women. We need you to remind our "public servants" that justice is our desire. That they have overstepped the bounds of decency and should return to their senses.

Please! Clip out the post card, affix a stamp, and include a brief, polite message with your return address. Then drop it in the mail box!

Let them know they have awakened a "sleeping giant" and the pigeon fanciers of America are behind us. Who knows? If we don't stop it in Hillsboro, Oregon - the nightmare could be showing in your town soon.

And what has all this taught me? Not to take our freedoms for granted. And to stay involved - for fear of losing those freedoms to the very ones we elect to uphold them.

Thanks for your help.

Sincerely, Keith Caywood, 2570 NE Timothy Ln., Hillsboro, OR 97124.

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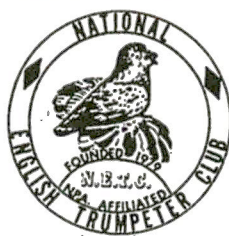
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National English Trumpeter Club News

by GALEN GOSHORN,
Chambersburg, Pa.

Hello fellow E.T. Fanciers,

Summer is nearly over and fall is fast approaching. With that comes my favorite time of the year—the upcoming show season.

But first, bits of news from the fading 1991 breeding season. Bill Baker, after a very slow start, has said he has about 30 banded, mainly Reds and Yellows. (As of 8/28/91).

Roger Leclair from Rhode Island started out the season really hot, but the birds have dropped off considerably in August, mainly because of the moult. I myself ended up banding 35 youngsters. I've split up all my breeders Labor Day weekend.

As I get more familiar with this club position, and, start hearing from or receiving some other information from other E.T. breeders across the country, I will be sure to pass it on here in the pages of the A.P.J.

Some show news as of this date: Bill Baker has asked me to remind everyone about the N.E.T.C. meet at Muncie, Ind., on November 30, 1991. Make your plans early, to be there.

Also, there will be an N.E.T.C. meet at Reading Pigeon Club. I'll pass on the date in my next writing.

As everyone knows, who breeds pigeons of any breed, Louisville is right around the corner. This is the premiere show for young birds. This year, Bill Baker will be doing the judging. Steve Combs will be member in charge at the N.E.T.C. meet. The date is October 26, 1991.

Other show dates coming up this fall are an E.T.C.A. meet November 30, 1991, in Carlsbad, New Mexico, with Cloyde Markham doing the judging.

Also the Shawnee Show, in conjunction

with the Oklahoma Pigeon Association in Okla., will be held on December 14, 1991. Doing the honor of judging will be Virgil Hinesley.

Well, that is about all for this time. Keep those fingers crossed during the moult, that the ugly ones turn for the better and that champ before, looks even better after the moult.

Please support any or all of the above shows, support your club and promote Trumps to beginners and junior members.

Anyone wishing to join the National English Trumpeter Club, send your dues to Royce Perry, 2101 A Gary Lane, Hobbs, New Mexico 88240.

Pacific Tumbler Club News

by DICK KRUEGER,
Orange, Calif.

The breeding season is winding down and the Young Bird Shows are now upon us. Our first P.T.C. baby show was June 9. Best Young Tumbler was won by Fred Drumm with a nice Black Self C.L. Our second Young Bird Show was held Aug. 4. Best Young Tumbler was won by Jim Bush. This too was another good Black Self C.L.

So much for the local news

Plans for the upcoming National Championship Tumbler Show are beginning to get into high gear. Dates again will be December 12, 13, 14 at the San Bernardino Fairgrounds and the hotel headquarters will be at the San Bernardino Travel Lodge. We have reserved a block of 20 rooms for starters; therefore getting a better rate, \$36 for singles and \$45 for doubles. You can make reservations by calling a toll free number: 1-800-255-3050. You MUST tell them when calling that you are showing with the Pacific Tumbler Club! Cash specials are now at about \$2500. Open to the world. There will be classes for Young Birds, Yearling (1990 banded birds only) and of course, Old Birds.

Les Williams and Mike Knaggs from England and Scott Sharp and Colin Glendenning of Dundee, Scotland will be attending also.

Anyone who has not received their Premium book and entry blank by November 1, should contact Frank Barrachina, 12376 Bryant St., Yucaipa, CA 92399.

CUT AND SEND!

We the pigeon fanciers of America urge you to remove your ban on pigeons and doves.... and restore your citizens' right to engage in their hobby and pursue their happiness as they see fit.

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Performing Roller Assn. News

by DAN OUELLETTE,
Publicity Director,

1008 Reddy Ave., Medford, Ore. 97504

It's time to start verifying your top Rollers for the 6th Annual PRA Fly and Display Convention. This year's PRA Verified Display judge will be one of the Southern California's most experienced Roller men, Jerry Lynn of El Cajon, CA. Jerry has been flying good sound kits of Rollers for many years. We are all looking forward in displaying our top Rollers for him.

This year's convention will be held in conjunction with the Debut PRA WEST COAST FLY. Joe Testa, Pres./Co-Founder of MAPR, will be fly judge under PRA rules. The entry donation will be \$20 a kit.

These two articles written by the late Bill Pensom many years ago are relevant to today's situation concerning kit competition. The first article was written in 1945 and it gives the warning that if competitive flying is based upon "turns" in great number, the quality of the Roller pigeon will very surely deteriorate and the Roller will become nothing more than a common Tumbler. The second article he wrote over 20 years later with a little different attitude towards competition flying. He encourages and promotes the sport of competition flying with rules. The PRA rules are set up to give the judge the freedom and flexibility to select the kit he feels is the best without having to nit-pick. For instance, how many times have you heard that Joe Blow had the best kit but they came down a minute too early or Joe had the best kit but one bird was out, or Joe had the best kit but one of his birds accidentally bumped coming out, or Joe had the best kit with top quality, I wish I could have given him more points. The PRA gives credit to the kit of good birds. Personally I am more interested in how the judge feels about the quality of my kit than how many turn points I get.

The 70th NPA Grand National Show convention will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, January 16-19, 1992. We encourage all PRA Area Directors to start verifying the top air tested Rollers in your area and display them at the NPA 70th Grand National. We have close to 50 entries already planned to be displayed from the West. There will be a group of us from the West Coast attending and we are hoping the rest of the nation will support the Flying Performing Roller Pigeon. David Kowalski will be the PRA Display judge. Dave is well versed on all feats concerning flying Rollers. Dave is also the author of True Spinning Rollers. Hope to see you there. All flying Rollers on display will

be PRA/NBRC/IRA verified.

Below are some excerpts from an article written by William Pensom in the August 1964 APJ that I thought were relative to what Joe Houghton was saying in his article, "So Long Sport" (Bulletin #59, November-December 1984). It seems there are many in the Roller hobby who feel intimidated when Pensom's name enters into the conversation. They say they get tired of hearing quotes by Pensom, and "Pensom is dead so let's move on." Well, I for one, am thankful Pensom was such a fine, articulate writer. In my opinion, he had incredible insight into the nature of things. He was extremely perceptive of the Roller hobby and its influences. Almost everything he wrote is relative even in today's situations.

Pensom wrote something I think is very important: "Nobody ever became successful by discrediting someone else. Experience gained in a restricted area is not enough to qualify authority. A country of such vast dimensions as ours denies most of us the privilege of contacting all who breed and keep Rollers. In, consequence, learning about pigeons and Rollers, is quite limited. It does not always follow that confined areas contain the expert. Such limitations can only produce standards according to the local interpretation of the existing quality in such areas. The successful achievement of an ideal kit of 25 true-spinning Birmingham Rollers is yet to be made.

In the same article, "The Facts of Flying a Kit of Rollers," he went on to say: "It is no great effort to successfully fly a kit of any number of tumbling pigeons, providing the fancier has had some experience with them. It is nothing more than the collecting of a flock of birds, feeding them regularly after their flight, keeping them in a small darkened pen or loft, and disposing of all birds which do not fly with the flock. Selection of sound, frequent performers of all kinds, when flown properly, will provide all the performance most fanciers require. It is true that many reputations have been made from these displays. This is really a disregard for individual quality and a form of low art. This condition is typical of ninety percent of the fancy and will always be, due mainly, to a lack of teachers in the art of cultivating the true Birmingham

Roller. This then, is what we would call a good kit of birds where in we would find no two performers alike. Then we have the kit of

good birds, which is made up of high class spinning Rollers, each bird being identical in performance to one another. The difference between these two forms is, the kit of good birds displays more violent velocity during a "turn" than the others. In consequence it gives an unequalled display of performing excellence which is never forgotten. This is the ultimatum; in Birmingham Roller culture and which takes many years of the right kind of experience. Experience is the greatest teacher, coming in many different ways. Whether or not we benefit by it, depends upon how we pursue this experience and how we apply it to our advantage."

Pensom finished this article by saying, "Pigeons, like everything else, are only as good as the fancier who breeds them. Experience is the greatest teacher. Some fanciers are more fortunate in this direction, and the fancy is dependent upon them, so before ignoring the experience of others make sure your experience can command respect by being able to prove, in your own backyard, that which you preach."

Bill Pensom formulated these thoughts 20 years ago. They are still significant and should, I believe, be observed. History repeats itself and by looking back we can learn what influences have molded the present and understand what to expect in the future.

P.R.A. FLY RULES: 1. A kit shall consist of 15-20 birds.

2. Duration of competition shall be a maximum of 30 minutes (no minimum minutes).

3. A competitor shall be given two minutes from the time of release to call time in. After two minutes, time is automatically in.

4. It is the intent of the rules to govern the competition in the spirit of competition, and it is the desire for all the competitors to fly the best they have available. The competition is for Rollers not Tumblers.

The judge or judges shall vote on the kit that they would prefer to have if they had their choice of the lot, based on its flying form as to change of directions, number of high quality spinners, kit formation, length of time in the air, and height at which birds fly so as to be seen in action to best advantage. We are not interested in any hard and fast disqualification rules imported to this country as someone is going to have the kit that all of us are going to have to admit wins the marbles.

The tentative schedule for the Debut PRA West Coast Fly is (Fly Judge: Joe Testa, Co-Founder MAPR):

Nov. 10, 1991 - Modesto, CA.; Nov. 11, 1991 - Reno, Nevada.; Nov. 12, 1991 - S.F., CA.; Nov. 13, 1991 - Sac., CA.; Nov. 14, 1991 - Fresno, CA.; Nov. 15, 1991 - Santa Cruz, Monterey, CA.

Nov. 16, 1991 - SCV (PRA), CA.

Presentation of the PRA West Coast Fly plaque will be awarded at the 6th Annual Fly and Display convention.

Iowa State Pigeon Assn. News

by JOHN R. HAWXBY, Pub. Dir., Lanesboro, Iowa

I would first like to thank the Iowa State Pigeon Association for allowing me the chance to uphold the office of Publicity Director. I will do my best to make my fellow members of the ISPA proud.

1991 will mark the 66th annual All Breed and All Age Show put on by the ISPA. It will take place December 6, 7 and 8 in Des Moines, Iowa, at Veterans Memorial Auditorium. Vets is an excellent hall and has plenty of space for a show of this size. Vets is located in the downtown area of Des Moines and is connected to the skywalk system, so you can shop, eat or get a room, all in climate controlled comfort.

In 1990, the ISPA had over 235 exhibitors from 23 states and Canada, with 2568 pigeons shown. In 1989, we had 3286 birds shown. So you can see this is one of the larger shows in the U.S.

As of this writing, we have 14 specialty clubs participating in this years show. They are: The American Dragon Club, Central

States section meet; The American King Club, sponsored by Minnesota King Club; Des Moines Invitational Racing Homer Club, annual meet; English Trumpeter Club of America, annual meet; Giant Runt Club of America, Second District meet; The Iowa Flying Roller Club, annual meet; Iowa Roller Club (Show type) annual meet; National Chinese Owl Club, 4th District Meet; National Modena Club, 4th District Meet sponsored by Northland Modena Club; Upper Midwest Tumbler Club, annual meet; Western Pouter and Cropper Club, Midwest District meet; American Helmet Association, 3rd District Meet; and Rare Breeds Club, North Central District Meet.

From all outlooks, this should prove to be a record breaking show for the Iowa State Pigeon Association.

If anyone is interested in more information on this outstanding show, please contact Howard Hart, P.O. Box 38, Lanesboro, Iowa 51451.

White Rose Will Bloom Again!

by J.D. HOUSEMAN, Pub. Chm., Altoona, Pa.

The White Rose Pigeon Association, based in York, Pennsylvania, will hold its annual Winter show on Saturday, November 2, 1991. This show will be located at the York Fairgrounds as in the past several years. The Fairgrounds are located in the city of York and easily accessible from all directions. Please note our ad in the August issue of the American Pigeon Journal.

This show is one of the largest pigeon shows held in the state of Pennsylvania. Last year there were over 1,000 birds entered with over 23 breeds being represented. Oh yes - there were nearly 100 fanciers who participated and several more hundred guests and onlookers. Spoke to our president prior to writing this article and he advises these have been many specialty clubs signing up for this occasion. For more information contact our show secretary, Darla Stover, RD #2, Felton, Pennsylvania. Phone number is 717-927-9139.

Food and beverages will be available at this show. There is also a restaurant adjacent to the grounds which serves full course meals at reasonable prices. For those desiring overnight accommodations, there are numerous motels in and around the city. Yes - the entry fee is only \$1.50 per bird however several of the specialty clubs are asking 50¢ additional so they might help build up their treasuries. This 50¢ increase goes directly to the Specialty Club involved. For Sale cages will be available to all exhibitors at \$3.00 per cage - limit four birds at any one time. This is a good way to sell your surplus and in the past has seen much activity during the entire show. Last year several hundred birds were put on sale for adoption. There will be pigeon sup-

plies on hand for those who are interested. Circle "K" will have their usual truck loaded with "goodies" for the birds right beside the building.

One aspect of this show I have yet to mention. This club has been in existence for 41 years - yes, it was organized in 1950. For this occasion we will be passing out 40 year anniversary patches to each exhibitor entering 12 or more birds. So we hope pigeon fanciers not only from Pennsylvania but nearby states as well will seriously consider sharing this day with us and enjoy a fine day of fellowship and reminiscing with old and new friends alike. We, as serious pigeon lovers, need these opportunities to exhibit our birds and if we don't give our "All Breeds Clubs" such consideration, we are eventually going to be without a place to show. These clubs are willing to do the work to put on a show for the benefit of all of us. Will be looking forward to seeing you November 2. Thank You.

NPPC Celebrating One Year Anniversary

The Northern Plains Pigeon Club is an all breeds club celebrating a one-year anniversary. Formed September 1990 and based in Moorhead, MN, this fast growing club has over 30 members and serves the Red River Valley in the states of North Dakota, Minnesota and South Dakota. This network of breeders sponsors four newsletters a year as well as a large fall show. This year's Fall Harvest Show was held October 26, 1991, in Moorhead, MN, in combination with the North Dakota Pigeon Association.

The purpose of this club is to promote all

varieties of pigeons through an exchange of information and ideas and an annually updated Breeders List. We are affiliated with the North Dakota Pigeon Association; Red River Valley Flyers; Sioux Empire Pigeon Club, Sioux Falls, SD; Lake City Racing Pigeon Association, Watertown, SD; and Northern South Dakota Pigeon Association, Aberdeen, SD. Dues for the club are \$7.50. If you are interested or would like to become a member, please call or write: Northern Plains Pigeon Club, 508 South 5th Street, Moorhead, MN 56560. (218) 236-8493.

Central Shortface Tumbler Club

by L.T. BROWN,
Indianapolis, Ind.

As you read this, the National Young Bird Show may already be over. If that is the case, begin planning for next year.

If it is yet to be, plan on being there. Where else can shortbeak breeders see so many shortbeaks, outside perhaps of the East Coast, to which some of us are hesitant to visit? The NYBS is an ideal place to place birds side by side to note similarities and differences. And the camaraderie among shortbeak breeders can't be beat.

Gulf Victory

The telephone lines and mail routes have been hot with fanciers in the Persian Gulf trying to buy shortbeaks, particularly Viennas and Budapests. One assumes this is either a direct result of the Gulf War or a mass coming to their senses by a lot of pigeon fanciers who saw the light and are switching to shortbeak breeds.

Member Notes

Willy Hubbard of Princeton, W. Va., writes that he's "getting off to a fairly good start with my Hamburg SFs. For this year I have three breeding pairs. Maybe I'll raise a few to show in Louisville. I really like the Colored Tails and the Elsters (Magpies). These are the patterns that I'm working towards. The Black Colored Tails are striking with the all white bodies."

Bob Harper of Scottsville, KY, writes that as of mid-June he had 40 Shortface (Viennas, Budapests and Reinaugens) and will breed through July and August. Bob does a yeoman's job every year putting together the shortbeak show at the NYBS.

Your humble scribe is struggling through a rather nasty year in the Vienna and English Short Face departments, but my son's African Owls are going great guns. My biggest problem is weaning the Viennas. Meantime, this fall will be spent remodeling the feeder loft section from milk crates to a wooden Eggleston nest system (see page 62 in John Izzo's "The African Owl" or section 1041 in Levi's "The Pigeon").

See you at the shows!



It is with a heavy heart that I take pen in hand and sit down to write the most difficult article I have ever written.

On Thursday morning, September 26, 1991, our dear and beloved friend Lenny Mintz passed away. This news came as a total shock as Lenny was not ill or ailing. Our deepest sympathies go out to Phyllis and her two children on their tragic loss. Lenny was a very special friend. He was also a very special pigeon fancier. Not only was he Vice President of the Combine, he was a master judge, a member of the Board of Directors and a breeder of Champion Domestic Flights.

His love for our bird was unmatched, a true die-hard Domestic Flight lover, he contributed greatly to our success and was always there when we needed him.

I met Lenny in the mid 60's at one of our local Flight shows and from that moment until today we remained the closest friends.

Anyone who knew or met Lenny would immediately take to him. His unassuming shy gentlemanly way captured everyone's heart. Lenny's love for the Domestic Flight was unmatched. He would travel hundreds of miles, pay untold amounts of money, spend hours upon hours talking pigeons.

Every Tuesday night he would show up at Sam's Pet Shop in the Bronx where a bunch of us would get together and wind up at the Baychester Diner until 1:00 a.m. talking pigeons.

In 1976 Lenny was President of the old West Side High Flyers and was instrumental along with myself, Lou Brenner and Vinnie Montanino (presidents of the other NY Flight Clubs) in coming together to form what is now the most powerful and successful Flight club in history - The New York Combine. As one of the founding fathers Lenny became a V.P. and member of the Board of Directors. It doesn't stop there, Lenny was a connoisseur on Domestic Flights, a prominent and Master Judge, a member of the panel to teach new judges, a member on the panel who revised the Domestic Flight Standard in 1988, a breeder of Champion Domestic. In fact Lenny won best in show with a Champion dark teager cap hen at the Combine's very first show. Lenny always stood tall and marched in the front line leading the way to the future always participating and contributing in every way possible for the continued success of the Combine. He never missed an event whether it be a show, affair, dinner or special meeting.

A rare and generous individual, Lenny must have given thousands, not hundreds,

but thousands of birds away in his lifetime, always there to lend a helping hand, always there to give his support whether it be monetary or otherwise. Lenny truly loved the Domestic Flight, the Combine and his friends. We all will sorely miss Lenny for a part of all of us is gone with him.

In honor of Lenny, the New York Combine will have a memorial young bird show in his honor, to be held Oct. 21, 1991, there will be trophies and plaques in his name.

We will never forget our friend and brother Lenny Mintz, a true gentleman, a true Flight man and a very rare and wonderful friend. He will live in our hearts as long as they beat.



Today is August 29 and many of you have already attended your first lawn show. These shows make a good place to get your youngsters use to being in show cages and around strangers. I find them very useful to getting my show birds ready for the Louisville Young Bird Show. The only lawn show that we will make this season is going to be the Pigeon Fanciers of Rochester Annual Young Bird Show. This has proven to be a good warm-up to Louisville in the past and we look forward to another nice show this year.

Most of the Muffed Tumbler Breeders are vaccinating their birds for Paratyphoid. Some of those vaccinating are blaming the vaccine for poor fertility in their birds. I have used the vaccine since it was introduced and over the years, I have found that the fertility has been well over 95%. The chicks hatch out stronger and are more aggressive, which means they get fed sooner. Very few of my young muffs die and most of those that do die, I blame myself for not having more time to check on them, not from disease. I wonder if those who have had a problem with fertility, might have been at the verge of a Paratyphoid breakout?

I have had a couple of nice letters from Dave Paddick Jr., from Indiana. Dave is doing his part to promote Muffed Tumblers and he hopes to have a new recruit for us to meet at the Young Bird show. Dave was glad to see the Western Tumbler Club drop its dues back to \$5.00. He said that he would be glad to hold an office in the W.T.C. "I have not had any experience but I'm sure that a few qualified people could show me the way." I don't know how qualified I am, but I sure am willing to help Dave. It is getting harder to find someone who can take the time to help their hobby.

Dave feels there is more that the clubs can

do to promote the hobby. He would like to see more clubs working together to put on shows. He is not suggesting the clubs merge, just work closer together to promote the hobby. He liked the show put on by the Central Tumbler Club and the Upper Midwest Tumbler Club last year in Iowa.

The following is an excerpt from one of Dave's letters that I really liked.

"Even the basics have become difficult for some people. Some cities have ordinances against pigeons. Some people's neighbors gripe. It is difficult for me to get health grit in my area. The price of feed continues to rise. Decent litter is out of this world. And let's face it - this is a rather time consuming hobby and most people's time is at a premium these days. I think that in a nutshell that is the reason why we are not attracting many younger (not junior) breeders. Pigeon breeding is for those people who have paid their dues, retired and now have as much time to spend with the birds as they want! Somehow, somehow we must do away with that mindset!! BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW! The same holds true for me. But because I love the birds I make time for them. Besides, some days they are sanity savers!!" AMEN, David.

How about it folks, I would like to hear others' thoughts and I do hope to hear some solutions to our problems. Friend Gary Pack once wrote and told me that he thought the hobby was dying. It has been good to me over the years. It helped keep me out of trouble as a teenager and it surely has been a "Sanity Saver" for me many times since.

The only other letter that I have received since writing my last column, was from Bobby Kirchner, who lives in Illinois. Bob wrote the first week in August and said that he had broken up the Muffs and only had two left under the feeders. He said he did not raise many young, but thought there were a couple that look fairly good. Bob plans to show some Muffs at Louisville, in Red and Yellow. Denise and I are looking forward to seeing everyone at the Young Bird Show.

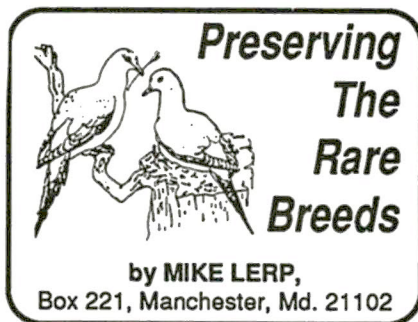
Well folks, that is it for this month. Don't forget, you don't have to breed Muffs to write to me with your comments and loft news. You can contact me at: Box 157, Memphis, NY 13112.

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Ever since the RBPC experienced a period of inactivity, we've strived to regain our position within the organized hobby. Our present Bulletin Editor, Terry Fick, has once again put out the same quality bulletin that he did before his resignation. A number of our members have also pitched in by helping us get some meets together and other members have asked us what they could do to help out. Matter of fact our membership is on the rise and it looks like we're doing as well as ever. If you're not a member of our organization I'd like to direct you to our club ad which can always be found somewhere within the covers of the Journal. Give us a try for a year, and if you're not happy, you're not obligated to rejoin. Many of us feel that the bulletins that Terry puts together are well worth the ten dollars.

The accompanying photos are of Scandaroon which John Heppner so kindly loaned me. They are both 1990 hatches and they are the result of John's bloodline and the imports that he brought over from Germany. Although I have not seen these two birds in person, I've had the pleasure of judging John's Scandaroon on a number of occasions. Every time I passed judgement on his birds I could see improvement being made as each year passed. I'm not saying that either one of the birds is perfect, but they could very possibly be among the better Scandaroon that have been produced in this country.

Although quite a number of pigeon fanciers have flatly stated that they feel this breed is downright ugly, the Scandaroon has been enjoying a remarkable rise in popularity. This rare breed is a challenge and I'm sure that even those fanciers who don't care for its looks will agree with that statement. Before going any further some of you might recall that I discussed the Scandaroon a few years ago, but due to a number of requests from rare breed fanciers I'm having another go at it. If you've never seen this member of the Bagdad (or Bagadet) family before, there are two features that you'll notice right away. First of all, the head and beak shape of the Scandaroon is unlike any other pigeon breed that you're likely to encounter. Secondly, is its height (unfortunately photos of this breed can't do this feature justice) and posture. While the head and beak shape are considered to be of prime importance, fanciers can't neglect the called for height of the birds and vice-versa. Failure to properly couple

these features will, under a knowledgeable judge, cause a specimen to be awarded a low Individual Merit System Grade. Attention must also be paid to the overall shape of the rest of the body, as this too reflects the overall quality of the breed. The Scandaroon fancier also can't overlook the proper design of the pied birds, nor can they be lax in breeding for deep and brilliant colors. Even though these latter two items are of a lesser importance than the proper head - beak shape, station and general appearance the judge must take everything into account when grading an individual bird.

Raising a Scandaroon that matches the features that are outlined in the standard of perfection is the eventual goal of the fanciers who choose to raise them. This goal isn't easy and in order to appreciate the challenge involved with breeding exceptional birds here's a brief insight into the important features that the Scandaroon fancier is seeking to produce and what the judge looks for in these features when he or she is grading a bird in the showroom. The standard calls for an ideal bird to be 16 to 17 inches in height. The posture (or station) must be elevated and when viewing a bird it should radiate an appearance of both power and a proud bearing. Its body must be firm and powerful, with a deep and muscular breast and belly. Looking at the angle of the body of the birds in the photograph you'll note that their backs run straight into the tail, with the tail forming an angle of about 45° with the ground. The head and beaks are of prime importance in this breed as I've already noted. Looking at the profile of the head it should be long and narrow and ideally it should form a pure half circle with the beak. The beak itself is curved with both mandibles being long (40 millimeters) and of the same thickness. The beak should be well closed and somewhat stumpy at the tip. Color wise the beak is a whitish rose color, although a light horn colored beak is permitted in the blue, blue checkered self varieties. The wattle, which is powdered white in color, should lie as level as possible on the beak, in shape it should be heart like and be parted in the center (lying equally on both sides of the beak). A correct wattle adds to the head and beak profile. The shape of the neck also enhances this profile. It must be long and bent and sharply carved at the gullet. The neck where it meets the head should be thin and becomes slightly wider at the point where it joins the shoulders and breast.

Besides the station and the head and beak profile the breeders and judges of the Scandaroon must also give their consideration to the other features noted in the standard. For example the eye coloration is important. In the whites and pied birds a fiery dark color is sought, in all other colors they should be yellow-orange. The cere is 12-15 millimeters in diameter and in color it should be bright red. As far as colors and markings are concerned, I'll quote from the standard.

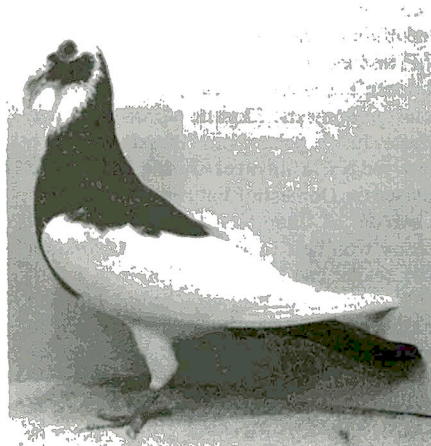
"Self colored in white, black, red, yellow, blue with bars and blue checkered. Pied: these bear the usual pied design with the exception of the head and the front of the neck, which are white, while from the base of the beak, below the eye runs a colored tiny spot which are called "tiny" whiskers, when larger in shape these are called "tiny" beards. These spots should be of equal shape and size on both sides. The neck design is sharp between the white and the color. The white should not proceed further than the middle of the breast." (Pieds exist in all colors) "Full colored: These are pides, whereby the wing covert is entirely colored, with the exception for the primary flights which are white and a narrow white edging along the lower side of the wing which extends itself to the primary flights. All colors must be deep and brilliant, right to the end of the tail."

A judge is of course watching for the faults that occur in this breed. A flat head on a Scandaroon, a head that submerges between the forehead and the beak, as well as a



SCANDAROON

Bred and owned by John Heppner, Vista, Calif.



SCANDAROON

Bred and owned by John Heppner, Vista, Calif.

head that is too wide between the eyes are all major faults. Beaks that are weak and small, beaks that aren't well closed, thin beaks as well as beaks of inferior color are also major faults. Other major faults include short legs and/or short necks that cause a bird to not have the proper height, and birds that are weak in build. Minor faults include: insufficient design, absence of one or both whiskers, a drooping upper mandible, odd eyes, a colored head, a striped beak among the pideds, and large wattles.

As you can see there's a lot involved with Scandaroons, and although you might still think of them as ugly pigeons, you might after reading this, also think of them as being a highly challenging breed to raise!

Next time we'll be taking a look at another Rare Breed - the Vienna Medium Face Tumbler. Introducing readers to this breed will be Willy Hubbard of Princeton, West Virginia.

King Trivia

by JUNE TRONE.

Meredosia. II1

This is the last day of August, it seems like this month has just flown by.

We do hope the Haudrich's (Bill and Flo) of Ill., had a great 60th wedding anniversary on August 11, a long time for anyone. On Aug. 16, Al and Denese Thompson, Wisc., had an anniversary.

On Aug. 13, Joe Abreu had a birthday, (CA), and Jim Torrao, also CA, had a birthday Aug. 15, Terri Patton, KS, on Aug. 23 and Harry Foley, Ill., Aug. 26, he was 96, our oldest MKC and AKC life member and then there is Bob Adams, PA, was 77 on Aug. 29. We hope you all had a great time on your special days.

We have been doing a little bit of everything this month. We spent a couple of weeks going to the hospital to visit our step father, Francis Trone as he had prostrate problems and is out and doing fine again. He was 84 on Aug. 28, and we had 46 for his picnic. We played bingo for over two hours, until all the prizes were won.

I was so pleased to get letters from two sisters from Wyoming, they raise King pigeons and each showed their birds at the Sweet Water County Fair, Sherry and Sally Leach each won ribbons and one got Reserve Champion, and their whole family loves the Kings. I'm always so glad to hear these good letters from the younger generation, that means there is still hope the pigeons and shows will continue for years to come. It's a good way to keep a nice family together and enjoy each other and their birds. Their Mother, Sharon Leech, had pigeons when she was a girl, so that helped a lot. Keep up the good work. girls!!

Thank you everyone for your condolences during the death of my son-in-law, Bruce Foresman, on July 11. He was killed in his new sports car on a rain slicked highway and traveling alone. My daughter Pat was on her way home from a job in Penn., as she is a computer analyst and her company sends her all over the U.S. She had called me the Sunday before and was telling me how she was going to take a little vacation with him as she has been working out of state a lot and their phone bills are high. Bruce was a computer salesman and just had his 33rd birthday on May 20. They were married almost five years and had no children. He has a brother, besides his parents at home. They lived in the D.C. area.

I have been in the process of trying to ship Kings to Canada. I was asked to several times through the years, but just didn't want to go through all the red tape, so this time the man has been very persistent, so I thought I would try to see how much trouble really is involved. So far, I took the birds to the vet three times, the last time they were vaccinated for New Castle and now I have to wait between 30 - 180 days to ship the birds. So far, the birds seem fine. I'm now waiting for the vet to get the papers back to see if they will accept them for the shipping. I took in my July APJ so the Vet could order the vaccine for the birds. All the office help gathered around for the shots and looking and petting of the birds. They were so amazed that the birds were so quiet. I told them they are nice and tame all the time.

We got a nice long letter from Jack and LuCinda Butler, CA, they are going on a fabulous trip again for her birthday on Sept. 6, the big 50, just think, 1/2 century, doesn't that sound older than 50!! I thought 1/4 century was old compared to 25 years. They will start off Sept. 1 to 9, and cruise the Bahamas plus Walt Disney World with the Royal Caribbean Cruise Line. It sounds like they will have a wonderful time and many more Happy Birthdays to you, too. They always seem to enjoy some wonderful trips. They should write a book on each of their travels, it would be very interesting reading.

Our birds are mostly moulting right now and look terrible and love to have their baths, I think it must itch a little.

One of our extra nice neighbors has a Torro Woodchipper and he brought it over one day and we ran a whole bunch of limbs through it on the fine blade and I got the best litter I ever had for the birds. He told me he would bring it over again when I get some cobs and will run them through for me. That will save me a lot of time as I always did use a dust pan to scoop the cob litter in and toss out the bigger cobs, so now I will just bring the whole thing home and have it done in a short time, lucky me!

We had an abundant fruit crop this year and I'm still working up the remains of the peaches. I'm making peach jam in the microwave, it's so much easier and cooler than

doing it on the stove and I like the color better too, it also tastes better to me, more like a fresh peach. My prune plums disappeared one day while we were gone and no money was left in the money box. This is the first time I had this problem.

I got an extra nice letter and good forms from Lenore Spais, they manage to keep busy all the time. They raised around 1000 canaries this year and she bands them all. Av hasn't raised many Kings this year, he works too much with the canaries besides his other outside jobs. He seems to love every minute of it too. They also travel when they get a little free time.

The Black King Club is holding a show-fellowship in conjunction with the Heart of Illinois Pigeon Club, Peoria, Ill., on Oct. 13 at Expo Gardens, Peoria.

In the 3rd District, Billy Cunningham, KY, has raised 15 Blacks. Cosby Burton has banded 15 blacks, and Charles Bacon, GA, has banded a number of Kings. Paul Miller, Tenn., has had a slow year but banded several nice ones. Sonny Caswell, Fla., is building a new home so he is too busy with his job to talk birds.

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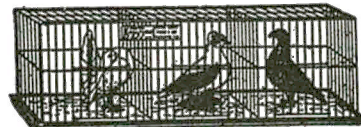
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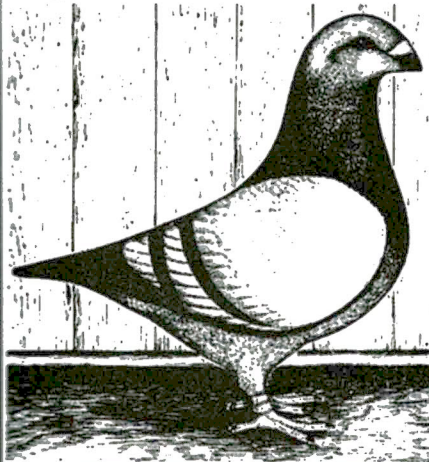
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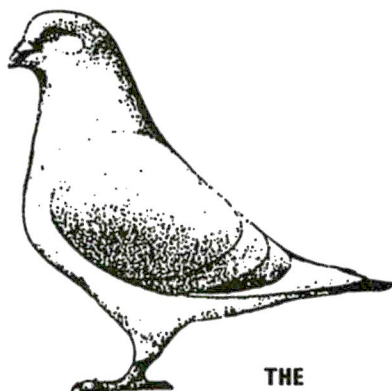
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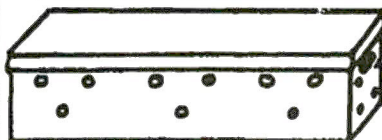
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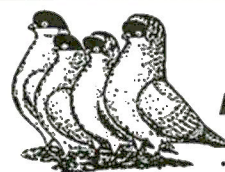
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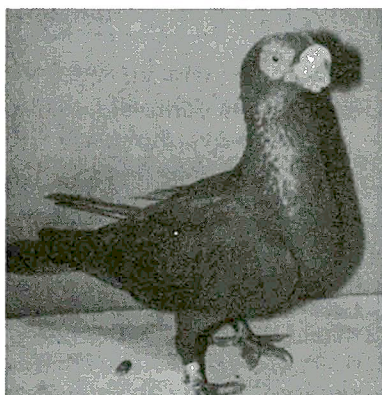
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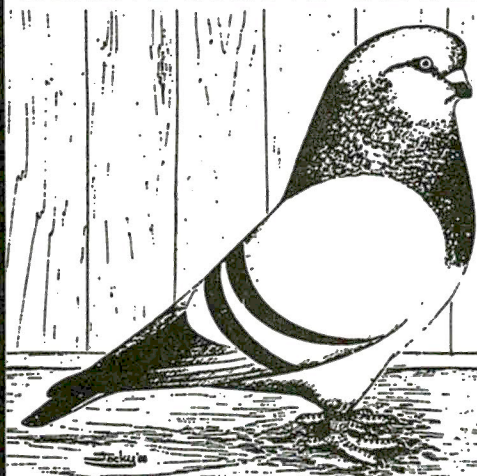
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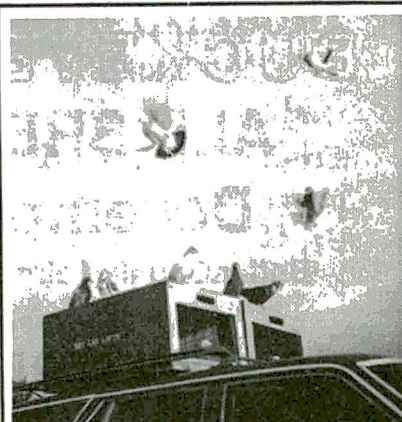
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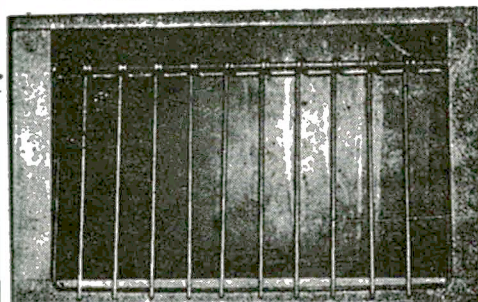
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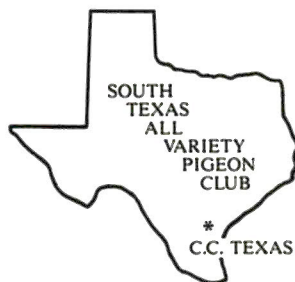
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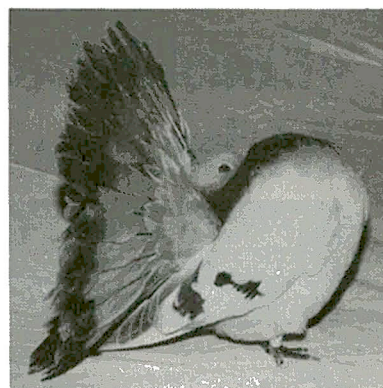
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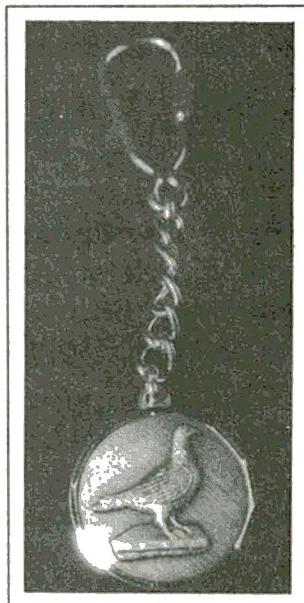
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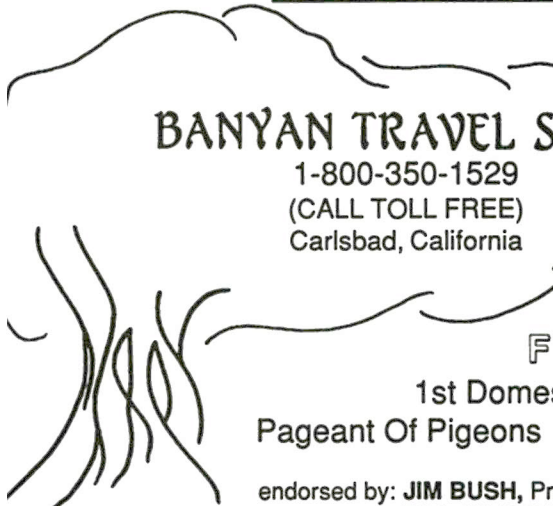
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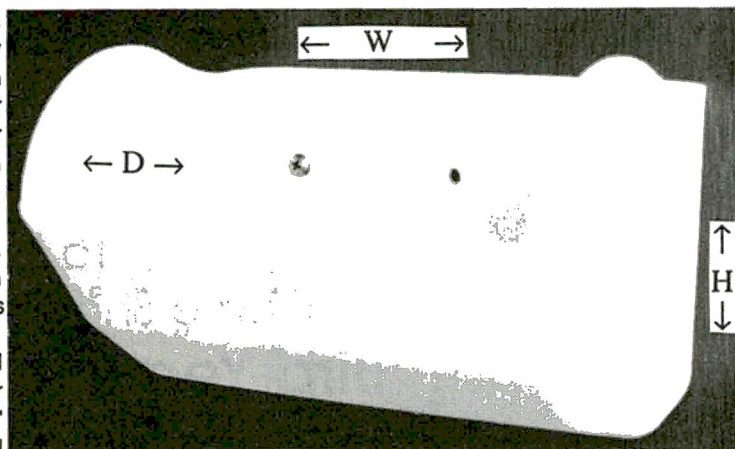
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FLYING WESTS - Almonds, Lavenders, Blacks, Red Mottles, Baldheads too! Will Ship. 914-876-4897. - Bill Jacox, 12 Ackert Hook Rd., Rhinebeck, N.Y. 12572. (991-1191)

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NATIONAL WEST OF ENGLAND TUMBLER CLUB - Supporting the NPA Grand National, National Young Bird Show and Pageant of Pigeons. Dues: Seniors \$10.00, Juniors \$3.00 (under 18). Members receive: By-Laws, Standard and Bi-monthly Bulletins. Contact: - James Krebaum Jr. (Treasurer), 11509 Leland, Whittier, Calif. 90605 or Bob Christman (Secretary), 715 Harold Date, Palmdale, Calif. 93550. (891-792)

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

FANTAILS - WHITE FANTAILS EXCLUSIVELY - Some exciting pairs and singles available now. - Tom Pritchett, Fairmont, Okla. 73736, (405) 358-2202. (991-1191)

DONEKS - PIGEON WHISTLES - Use on your high flying pigeons. \$5.00 each with instructions postpaid in the U.S.A. - Maurice de la Rambeille, 3305 Ferry Street, Eugene, Oregon 97405. 503-343-4771. (991)

ROLLERS - PLONA - PENSOM - SPINNERS - Flown 1991 Kit birds - 6 for \$75.00. Few stock prs. \$40.00. - 2 pr. Platz bred orange eyed whites \$100.00 shipped your MBC plus \$28.00 postage. - Jim Cassettari, 4272 Spring St., Coos Bay, Oregon 97420. 503-888-6046. (991-1191)

PIGEON SHOW CALENDAR

Oct. 25-27 - Short Grass Pigeon Show will be held in Rapid City, S.D., at the Fine Arts Building, Central States Fairgrounds. Contact: Jerry Goetz, 5320 Solitaire Dr., Rapid City, SD 57701. 605-393-1879 for information.

Oct. 26-27 - The Great Western Pigeon Show sponsored by the Santa Clara Valley Pigeon Club, Santa Cruz, Fairgrounds, Crosetti Hall, Watsonville, Calif. For information, Sharon Neill, 596 Foothill Rd., Hollister, Calif. 95023.

Oct. 26 - 27 - AKC 4th District Show, Adams Co. Fairgrounds, Denver, Colo. Show Sec. John Gerhardt, 9331 Apache Rd., Longmont, Colo. 80504.

Oct. 26 - Garden State Variety Pigeon Assn. Young Bird Show, American Legion Hall, 540 Shaler Blvd., Ridgefield, N.J. Contact: Bob Columbo, Show Sec., 6500 Durham Ave., N. Bergen, N.J. 07047.

Oct. 26 - National English Carrier Club Young Bird Show held in conjunction with NYBS, Louisville, KY. Contact: Rita Courtney, P.O. Box 21, Milton, KY. 40045.

Oct. 26 - Gene Bryant Memorial Chinese Owl Young Bird Show, held with the National Young Bird Show, Louisville, KY. Specials and annual auction. Rita Courtney, Show Sec., P.O. Box 21, Milton, KY 40045.

Oct. 26 - Central Shortface Tumbler Club hosting all breeds of Shortface Tumblers at the National Young Bird Show, Louisville. Judge: Rudy Ottenhoff, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Show Sec. Rita M. Courtney, P.O. Box 21, Milton, KY 40045.

Oct. 26 - The National Show Roller Assn., hosting the Nashville Classic. For information, call Jody Mullins, 615-374-3388.

Oct. 26 - Atlantic Coast Show Homer Assn. Annual Show.

Oct. 26 - National Young Bird Show, Show Sec. Rita M. Courtney, P.O. Box 21, Milton, KY 40045.

Oct. 26 - The Great Lakes Fantail Club hosting your young Fantails at the National Young Bird Show, in the Pavilion at the KY State Fair and Exposition Center, Louisville, KY. Judge: Harry Little. Show Sec. Rita M. Courtney, P.O. Box 21, Milton, KY 40045.

Oct. 27 - Empire Short Face Baby Show, Polish National Hall, 61-60 56th Road, Maspeth, N.Y. Show Sec., Dave Fhagen, 154 Oak St., Medford, N.Y. 11763. 516-289-5047. 11 a.m.

Nov. 1-3 - Southern Racing Pigeon Assn. Convention and Show, Holiday Inn at Tryon St., Charlotte, N.C. off int. 85. Biggest and best show in the

South. Call David Yarn, 704-563-1364.

Nov. 2 - The Albuquerque Pigeon Fanciers Annual Classic, Albuquerque, N.M. For more information, call Mel Dayringer, 505-877-1244 or George Mihailik, 505-281-1306. Judges: Shannon Hyatt, Mickey Jackson, Eddie Lujan.

Nov. 2 - Eastern Parlor Roller Club is holding a meet in conjunction with White Rose Annual Winter Show, York Fairgrounds, York, PA. Both young and old birds accepted. Contact: Darla Stover, Show Sec., R.D. 2, Felton, PA 17322.

Nov. 2 - Kansas Pigeon Assn. Annual Fall Show, Kansas State Fairgrounds, Hutchinson, Kansas. Show Sec. Ralph Janzen, RR 1, Buhler, Kans. 67522. 316-543-6702.

Nov. 2 - Minnesota State Pigeon Assn. Annual All Age, All Breed Show held at the Livestock Arena State Fairgrounds. For more information, contact Rick Burdine, 28 West Rd., Circle Pines, Minn. 55014, 612-786-0621.

Nov. 2 - Jacksonville Area Pigeon Club Show, Nichols Park Pavilion, Jacksonville, Ill. Show Sec. Eddie Kirkpatrick, 174 South Mechanic St., Winchester, Ill. 62694. 217-742-5741.

Nov. 2 - The White Rose Annual Winter Show, York Fairgrounds, York, Pa. Both old and young birds accepted. Entry fee \$1.50. Contact Show Sec., Darla Stover, RD 2, Felton, Pa. Specialty clubs invited.

Nov. 2 - Central New York Pigeon Club Buy, Sell and Swap Day, Polish American Citizens Club, Syracuse, N.Y. For information, Jim Bristol, Box 87, Littlefield Rd., Camden, New York 13316, 315-245-1149.

Nov. 2 - Chattahoochee Pigeon Club Annual All Age, All Breed Show at Fairgrounds, Poultry Building, Columbus, GA. Contact: Max Baxley, 1200 Lee Road 201, Salem, Ala. 36874. 205-291-1649.

Nov. 2 - Southeastern Rumbler Club in conjunction with the Chattahoochee Pigeon Club All Age, All Breed Show, Fairgrounds, Poultry Building, Columbus, GA. Contact: Marie Clegg, 17 Boots Drive, Seale, Ala. 36875. 205-855-3567.

Nov. 2-3 - Western Fantail Club Meet, CCPC Cavalcade of Pigeons Show, Fresno Fairgrounds, Fresno, Calif. For information, contact: Jim Krebaum Sr., 213-941-6672.

Nov. 2-3 - Central California Pigeon Club presents its 47th Annual Cavalcade of Pigeons, all breeds show, Fresno Fairgrounds. Contact Show Sec. Richard Verissimo, 2553 W. Alpine, Tulare, Calif. 93274.

Nov. 2-3 - Central Fantail Club Young Bird Show, St. Jacob, Ill. Contact persons: Bob Cook or Jim Ellebracht, Catalog or Ed or Mary Karnish, 3532 Vinton St., Omaha, Nebr. 68105.

Nov. 2-3 - Nassau-Suffolk Pigeon Fanciers Club 35th Annual Long Island Classic, Knights of Columbus Hall, Carleton Ave., Central Islip, New York. Entry blanks and information: Barbara Beer, 194 Lido Prom. West, Lidenhurst, N.Y. 11757, 516-226-3534 or Jim Price, 1358 Richland Ave., Bay Shore, N.Y. 11706, 516-MO6-8389.

Nov. 3 - The Maine Pigeon Assn. Annual All Breed Show to be held in Kennebunkport at the American Legion Hall. Contact: Bob Gagne, 30 Marcel Ave., Biddeford, Maine 04005.

Nov. 3 - Mid-Island Flight Club - Annual Open Show, Young and Old, Knights of Columbus Hall, Carleton Ave., Central Islip, NY. For info. - Fred Sommers, 4 Dual Drive, Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779, (516-588-4537) or Richie Bailin, 32 Snap-dragon Lane, Levittown, NY 11756, (516-731-0603).

Nov. 3 - Central New York Pigeon Club Fall Show for old and young birds, Polish American Citizens Club, Syracuse, New York. For information, Jim Bristol, Show Sec., Box 87, Littlefield Rd., Camden, New York 13316, 315-245-1149.

Nov. 3 - Milwaukee Metro Pigeon Club, Annual Fall Show, Kettle Moraine Bowl, one mile west of Hwy. 41 on southeast corner of Hwys. 60 and 175, Slinger, Wisc. Show Sec. Jay C. Dillon, S51 W30921 Old Village Rd., Mukwonago, Wisc. 53149.

Nov. 3 - Long Island Show Homer Assn. ASRA 1st District Show, Islip Terrace, Long Island N.Y. Show Racer Judge - Glenn Motzkus, Non Flown

Judge - J. Goldsmith. Contact: Joe Ognibene, 1735 W. 8th St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11223. 718-449-4210.

Nov. 8-9 - Second Annual Gurney Convention and Show, Panama City, Fla. For info, contact: Hal Conn, 6625 W. Seven Rivers Dr., Crystal River, Fla. 32629, 904-795-6257.

Nov. 8-10 - AKC 2nd District Show, Black King Club, Midwest King Club, host club, Sangamon Co. Fairgrounds, New Berlin, Ill. Show Sec. Ellie Murphy, Box 264, Henderson, Ill. 61439. 309-344-1926.

Nov. 9 - Western Michigan Pigeon Assn. Annual Fall Show, Borculo Community Center, on 96, north of Zeeland, Sec. Brad DeWys, A6164 145th Ave, Holland, Mich. 49423.

Nov. 9 - West Texas Pigeon Assn. Annual All Breed Pigeon and Dove Show. Contact: Becky Kroeger, 13500 Montana Ave., El Paso, Texas 79936. 915-855-0501.

Nov. 9 - National Chinese Owl Club 4th District Show, Grand Island, Nebr. Contact: Carlin Whisenhunt, 1030 Judson St., Lincoln, Nebr. 68521.

Nov. 9 - K.O.A.M. Pigeon Club Fall Show, Lincoln Center Building, 710 W. 9th, Pittsburg, Kansas. Mail entries to: Rick Duckett, Show Sec. 6459 W. 77th St., Tulsa, Okla. 74131. 918-224-5321. Entry \$1.00 per bird.

Nov. 9 - Northern South Dakota Pigeon Club All Breed Show, Brown Co. Fairgrounds, Aberdeen, S. Dak. Gene Eisenbeisz, Sec., 1133 - 18th Ave. NE, Aberdeen, S. Dak. 57401. 605-229-1586.

Nov. 9 - The Dixie Fantail Club All Age Show, Loudon Recreation Bldg on Hwy. 11 at the Loudon Co. High School, Loudon, Tenn. For information, write: Ron Willis, 950 Easter Drive, Loudon, Tenn. 37774.

Nov. 9 - NEOB&FA Annual Show, hosting the National Modena Club 3rd District Meet, Summit Co. Fairgrounds, Tallmadge, Ohio. Chris Spreitzer, Show Sec., 1214 Munroe Falls Ave., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221. 216-928-7349.

Nov. 9 - Willamette Valley Pigeon Fanciers Fall Show, Benton County Fairgrounds. For information contact: Jack Lawrence, 26675 Starr Rd., Monroe, Ore. 97456, 503-847-5641.

Nov. 9 - The Tennessee Pigeon and Dove Club Annual All Age-All Breed Pigeon and Dove Show, National Guard Armory, Columbia, Tenn. Contact: James Burns, Rt. 1, Box 181, Santa Fe, Tenn. 38482, 615-682-2905.

Nov. 9-10 - South Texas All Variety Pigeon Club All Age All Breed Fall Show. For information, contact: E.D. Tugwell, Box 7414, Ingleside, Texas 78632, 512-776-7145.

Nov. 10 - Philadelphia-South Jersey Pigeon Assn. All Age Annual Show, Burlington Masonic Lodge, Burlington, N.J. Contact: Les Heisserman, Show Sec., 211 Stokes Ave., Mt. Holly, N.J. 08060. 609-267-4604.

Nov. 10 - North Central Iowa Pigeon Assn.'s Annual All Age, All Breed Pigeon Show, Webster Co. 4-H Grounds, Ft. Dodge, Iowa. For more info, contact: Shannon Ely, 515-955-6447 evenings or write to: NCIPA Fall Show Entry, 2103 S. 13th St., Ft. Dodge, Iowa 50501-6614.

Nov. 10 - North Central Iowa Pigeon Assn. Annual Show held in conjunction with the Central Fantail Club 4th District Meet. Contact: Dan Young, 515-576-3900.

Nov. 10 - High Point Pigeon Club Annual All Age, All Breed Pigeon and Dove Show, Oak View Recreation Center, High Point, N. Car., 27260. Write: Toby Brady, 1129 W. Holly Hill Rd., Thomasville, N. Car. 27360, ph. 919-476-4111.

Nov. 16 - Lake of the Ozarks Pigeon Club All Variety Show, Versailles, Mo., Fairgrounds. Contact: Betty Daily, 816-763-5792, for additional information.

Nov. 16 - Mid-Indiana Swap Meet, north side of I-70, Cloverdale Exit. For more information, 317-795-6703.

Nov. 16-17 - 50th Annual Phoenix, Ariz., Pigeon Show. For information, Janis Paternoster, 2145 N. Doran, Mesa, Ariz. 85203.

Nov. 16-17 - Little Rhody Pigeon Fanciers 28th Annual Winter Classic, Rhode Island Racing Club

Hall, Kenyon Avenue and Julian St., Pawtucket, R.I. For information, contact: John Harrison, 410 Marion Rd., Middleboro, Mass. 02346.

Nov. 17 - American Helmet Assn. Dist. 12 Point Show hosted by Little Rhody Pigeon Fanciers, Pawtucket, R.I. John Harrison, 410 Marion Rd., Middleboro, Mass. 02346.

Nov. 17 - Florida State Pigeon Fanciers Assn. Winter Show, Knights of Columbus Hall, North Miami, Fla. Write: Show Sec. Ron Davis, B410, 17090 Collins Ave., Miami Beach, Fla. 33160. 305-947-1528.

Nov. 17 - Pigeon Fanciers Assn. of Rochester, N.Y., Annual Winter Show, Minnett Hall, Monroe Co. Fairgrounds, Henrietta, N.Y. Contact: Show Sec. Robert Burk, 3219 State Street 2, Caledonia, N.Y. 14423 for information and/or entries.

Nov. 17 - Master Breeders Pigeon Club 2nd Annual All Age, All Breed Pigeon Show, Parryville Firehouse, Parryville, Pa. For information or entries, write or call: Denny Keiser, P.O. Box 56, Parryville, Pa. 18244. 215-852-2364.

Nov. 17 - Palmetto State Pigeon Club All Breed Show, State Fairgrounds, Columbia, S. Car. Carroll Elmore, Sec., 129 Laverne St., Sumter, S. Car. 29153. 803-773-8181.

Nov. 17 - Bayshore Variety Pigeon Club Open Show (Any Age), Middlesex Co. Fairgrounds, East Brunswick, N.J. 10 a.m. Show Secretary: Michael Seiler, RD 9, Box 178P, Anderson Road, Jackson, N.J. 08527.

Nov. 23 - NCOC District 5 Show, Enid, Okla. Contact: Charleen Williams, RD 3, Box 165, Enid, Okla. 73703.

Nov. 23 - Hammond Pigeon Fanciers Assn. 28th Annual All Breed Show, Hammond National Guard Armory, 2530 173rd St., Hammond, Ind. Also hosting: Annual Meet, Midwest Roller Club; Annual Meet, Midwest French Mondain Club; Annual Meet, American Pouter and Cropper Club; Annual Meet, National German Trumpeter Club; District Meet, National Chinese Owl Club. Joseph Phillips, Sec., 1105 Garfield St., Hobart, Ind. 46342. 219-942-3904.

Nov. 23 - Northwest Oklahoma Pigeon Breeders Assn. All Breed, All Age Pigeon Show, Garfield Co. Fairgrounds, Enid, Okla. Show Sec. Eunice Coleman, 1316 E. Maple, Enid, Okla. 73701. Club Sec. Barbara Marshall, 1026 N. 14th, Enid Okla. 73701. 405-242-3418.

Nov. 23 - 5th District Meet, National Chinese Owl Club held with the Northwest Oklahoma Pigeon Breeders Assn. Show, Enid, Okla. 73701.

Nov. 23 - Saginaw Pigeon Assn. Annual Winter Show, James Township Hall, 6060 Swan Creek Rd., Saginaw, Mich. Show Sec. Jim Bedell, 3073 Boy Scout, Bay City, Mich. 48706. 517-684-6051.

Nov. 23-24 - Bermuda Bird Fanciers Society 1st NPA Sanctioned Show, held at the Botanical Gardens, Paget, Bermuda. Judge will be Guenter Wenzel. For information, contact: Arthur Perry, 809-297-0745.

Nov. 23-24 - Virginia Pigeon & Dove Assn. Show, Va. State Fairgrounds, Richmond, Va. in conjunction with the Va. Poultry Breeders. Show Sec. Jo Ryan, 3028 Bowling Green Dr., Virginia Beach, Va. 23452. 804-340-0162.

Nov. 24 - Long Island Domestic Flight Club "Open Show," Islip Homer Club, Richard St., Islip, New York. Show Sec. Angelo Cavallo, 68 Martin Rd. North, Bethpage, N.Y. 11714. 516-796-1378.

Nov. 29 & 30 - Watertown Pigeon Club 56th Annual Winter Show, Turner Hall, Watertown, Wisc. For details, Nancy Kehl, N570 County M, Watertown, Wisc. 53094. 414-261-1741.

Nov. 29-30 - The Greater Atlanta Pigeon and Dove Club presents the "Classic," All Age, All Breed Annual Show, Holiday Inn Conference Center, Downtown Decatur, GA. For info, contact: Gary Duncan, 4600 Suwanee Dam Rd., Suwanee, GA 30174. Phone 404-945-1533.

Nov. 30 - American Helmet Assn. District 12 Point Show hosted by The Fairfield County Pigeon Fanciers Assn. (Faircount 91), Ansonia, Conn. Joyce Cap, 36 Wendy Rd., Milford, Conn. 06460.

Nov. 30 - Sioux Empire Pigeon Club All Age, All

Breed Fall Show, Sioux Falls, S.D. For more information, contact: Mike Van Beek, 714 S. Blaine, Sioux Falls, S.D. 57103, 605-335-0305.

Nov. 30 - Central Fantail Club 2nd District Show with the Atlantic Classic, Holiday Inn Conference Plaza, Decatur, GA. \$100.00 prize for Champion Fantail. For more information, contact: Roy Winkles, 404-943-2706.

Nov. 30 - Central Iowa Pigeon Club All Age, All Breed Show, Central Iowa Fairgrounds, Marshalltown, Iowa. Trophies, plaques, rosettes, ribbons. Contact: Crystal Butler, RR, Box 139, Union, Iowa 50258.

Nov. 30 - National Chinese Owl Club 3rd District Show, Hammond, Indiana, held with the Hammond, Ind., All Breed Show.

Nov. 30 - National Chinese Owl Club 3rd District Show, Woodstock, Ontario, Canada.

Nov. 30 - Indiana Pigeon Club's 72nd Annual All Breed Winter Show, NPA State Meet, Memorial Building at Lions Delaware Co. Fairgrounds, Muncie, Indiana. Ray Hoover, Show Sec., 1539 S. Wilbur Wright Rd., New Castle, Ind. 47362. Ph. 317-332-2541.

Nov. 30 - Big Country Pigeon Fanciers Fall Show held in conjunction with the AHA District 4 point show at the Breeders Arena, Stephenville, Texas. For more information, contact: Joretta Haas, Rt. 3, 134 Bryant Rd., Clyde, Texas 79510. 915-893-5004.

Nov. 30 - Delmarva Pigeon Club Winter Show (NPA State Meet), Messick Community Bldg., Delaware Route 14 West, Harrington, Delaware. Show Sec.: Walt Stude, 1004 Dogwood Ave., Woodhaven, Milford, Delaware 19963. 302-422-9385.

Nov. 30 - Pecos Valley Pigeon Club All Breeds Show and National English Trumpeter Club Meet, Eddy Co. Sheriff's Posse Arena Bldg., Carlsbad, New Mexico on Carlsbad Hobbs Hwy. For more information, contact: Mickey Jackson, 413 Pike Dr., Carlsbad, NM 88220, 505-887-1824.

Nov. 30 - FAIRCOUNT 1991 - Big East Competition sponsored by the Fairfield Co. Pigeon Fanciers Assn. Specialty Clubs welcomed. Additional information can be obtained from club secretary, Joyce Cap, 36 Wendy Rd., Milford, Conn. 06460, or telephone 203-877-6600.

Dec. 1 - Empire Short Face Open Show, any age, Polish National Hall, 61-60 56th Road, Maspeth, N.Y. Show Sec. Dave Fhagen, 154 Oak St., Medford, N.Y. 11763. 516-289-5047, 11 a.m.

Dec. 5-6 - NGOC District 7 Show, Utah State Fairgrounds, Salt Lake City, Utah. Contact: Kendall Hood, 1775 Country Club Drive, Logan, Utah 84321.

Dec. 6-7 - Utah Pigeon Club Premier Show held at Utah State Fairgrounds. Birds released morning Dec. 8. All breeds show. Entry deadline Nov. 26. \$2 per bird entry fee. Contact: Mike Spencer, Show Director, 6668 So. Cody Lane, West Jordan, Utah 84084, 801-561-8507.

Dec. 7 - Mid-America Fantail Club Annual Meet, Veterans Auditorium, Des Moines, Iowa. Judges: Eugene Altpeter and Dwight Crowdon. Hosted by Iowa State Pigeon Assn. For entry info, contact: Howard Hart, P.O. Box 38, Lanesboro, Iowa 51451. 712-656-2253.

Dec. 7 - Indian Fantail District 2 100 Point Meet held in conjunction with the Iowa State Show, Veterans Memorial Auditorium, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Howard Hart, Box 38, Lanesboro, Iowa 51451.

Dec. 7 - Worcester Co. Pigeon Assn., Inc., 32nd Annual Winter Classic, All Breeds Show, NPA Sanctioned, Worcester Racing Homer Club Hall, Burghard St., Worcester, Mass. Contact: Tom Divozzi, 26B Danielson Pike, Foster, R.I. 02825, 401-647-5631.

Dec. 7 - National English Carrier Club Annual All Age Show held in conjunction with the Iowa State Pigeon Assn. Annual Show, Veterans Memorial Auditorium, Des Moines, Iowa. Show Sec. Howard Hart, P.O. Box 38, Lanesboro, Iowa 51451. 712-656-2253.

Dec. 7 - Iowa Roller Club Winter Show, Des Moines, Iowa, sponsored by the Iowa State Pigeon Assn. Contact: Howard Hart, Box 38, Lanesboro, Iowa 51451.

Dec. 7 - North East Arkansas Pigeon Club All Age, All Breed Show in conjunction with a 50 point sanction IFCA show at Pocahontas, Arkansas. All breeds encouraged. Contact: Mary Ann Edwards, Rt. 1, Box 360, Pocahontas, Arkansas 72455. 501-

892-4815 or 892-5913.

Dec. 7 - Iowa Flying Roller Club will host an Any Age Show with Certified Spinners class at the Iowa State Pigeon Assn.'s 66th Annual Show, Des Moines, Iowa. Judge will be Jim Petersen. Contact: John R. Hawxby, Box 91, Hartford, Iowa 50118.

Dec. 7 - Michigan Baldhead Roller Club All Age Winter Show, Demonstration Hall, Michigan State University Campus, East Lansing, Mich. Contact: Show Sec. Bob Kuzminski, 69816 Beebe, Richmond, Mich. 48062. 313-727-7839.

Dec. 7 - The Land of Lincoln Pigeon Assn. Show, Springfield, Ill. Write: Jerry Kitchens, Show Sec., 1290 Moffet Lane, Decatur, Ill. 62522. 217-429-0331.

Dec. 7 - The Central Roller Club Flying Roller Show, Springfield, Ill. Contact: Glenn Umphries, 704 N. Randolph St., Macomb, Ill. 61455. 309-836-9362.

Dec. 7 - Mid-Michigan Pigeon Fanciers Annual All Breed, All Age Winter Show, Demonstration Hall, Michigan State University Campus, East Lansing, Michigan. Contact: Don Smith, 1040 Echo Beach, Jackson, Mich. 49203. 517-782-0909.

Dec. 7 - Land of Lincoln Show, State Fairgrounds, Springfield, Ill. Show Sec. Jerald Kitchens, 1290 Moffet Lane, Decatur, Ill. 62522.

Dec. 7 - Iowa State Pigeon Assn. 66th Annual All Age, All Breed Show. Over 15 specialty clubs are holding meets in conjunction with this show. Your club is invited too. Veterans Memorial Auditorium, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Howard Hart, Show Sec., P.O. Box 38, Lanesboro, Iowa 51451. 712-656-2253.

Dec. 7 - "Buckeye Classic" All Breeds Show, Butler, Co. Fairgrounds, Hamilton, Ohio presented by Southern Ohio Pigeon Assn. Show Chairman, Joe Grau, 605 Middleboro Rd., Oregonia, Ohio 45054.

Dec. 7-8 - Mid-America Fantail Club Annual Show, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Club Secretary Brian Grover, 815-964-1906.

Dec. 7-8 - National Modena Club 4th District Show held in conjunction with the Iowa State Pigeon Assn., Des Moines, Iowa. For more info, contact: Del Clausen, RR 1, Box 46, St. Ansgar, Iowa 50472. 515-326-4719.

Dec. 7-8 - New York Combine Domestic Flight Club 16th Annual Young and Old Bird Show at Polish National Hall, 64th Street and 56th Road, Maspeth, N.Y.

Dec. 8 - NCOC District 1 Show, Parryville, Pa. Contact: Richard Moyer, RD 3, Box 3936, Palmerton, Pa.

Dec. 8 - Port Huron Pigeon Assn. All Breed Show, Perch Point Conservation Club, Marine City, Mich. For information, contact: Jim Palmer, 2905 N. Range Rd., Port Huron, Mich. 48060.

Dec. 8 - Mohawk Valley Variety Pigeon Club 3rd Annual Fall Show for old and young birds, Town Hall, Town of Florida (3 miles south of Amsterdam, N.Y.). For entry forms, information: Tom Metallo, 20 Clinton St., Amsterdam, N.Y. 12010, phone 518-842-5263.

Dec. 11-14 - North American Capuchine Club Southwest District Meet held with the Pageant of Pigeons. Contact: Layne Gardner, 1434 Miller Drive, Colton, Calif. 92324.

Dec. 11-14 - National Championship Tumbler Show held in conjunction with the Pageant of Pigeons, San Bernardino Fairgrounds, San Bernardino, Calif.

Dec. 11-14 - Pageant of Pigeons. New location: National Orange Show Fairgrounds, San Bernardino, Calif. For more information, contact: Frank Barrachina, 12376 Bryant St., Yucaipa, Calif. 92399. 714-797-9757.

Dec. 14 - Oklahoma Pigeon Assn. Annual All Age, All Breed Pigeon Show, held at Heart of Oklahoma Exposition Center, Shawnee, Okla. Specialty cubs showing: Indian Fantail 100 Point Show; Southern Pouter and Cropper Club; 4th District Giant Runt Annual Southern Jacobin Club; Helmet Central Sectional Meet; Annual Oklahoma Giant Homer Club; American Lahore Club Southern District Meet; National English American Mooker Assn. District Four Meet; Central Tumbler Club Sectional Meet; Racing Homer 4th Annual Meet; Oklahoma-Arkansas Modena Club Winter Show; Owl, Turbit, Frill Club State Show; Central Fantail Club 5th District Show; American Komorner Tumbler Club, 5th District. Contact: Wayne L. Haws, 16505 SE 44 Street, Choctaw,

Okla. 73020. 405-391-3678.

Dec. 14 - Central Fantail Club 5th District Show held in conjunction with Oklahoma Pigeon Assn., Shawnee, Okla. Contact: Rick Sparkman, Rt. 5, Box 133, Ennis, Texas 75119. 214-666-2055. Judge: Gordon Larson.

Dec. 14 - Sheboygan Lakeshore Pigeon Club Annual All Age Show, Sheboygan Falls, Wisc. Contact: Ron Haas for more details, 529 David Ave., Sheboygan Falls, Wisc. 53085. 414-467-2343.

Dec. 14 - Garden State Variety Pigeon Assn. Old Bird Show, American Legion Hall, 540 Shaler Blvd., Ridgefield, N.J. Contact: Bob Columbo, Show Sec., 6500 Durham Ave., N. Bergen, N.J. 07047.

Dec. 15 - Florida Gulf Coast Pigeon Club Open All Breed, All Age Show, Knights of Pythias Hall, 2522 - 30th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Fla. Contact: Thomas Vivinetti, Show Sec., 3275 - 57th St. North, St. Petersburg, Fla. 33710. 343-9750.

Dec. 15 - United Nun Club Baby and Futurity Show held in conjunction with the Garden State Variety Pigeon Fanciers Assn., New Jersey. Contact: Chester Grimes, 6800 Columbia Ave. 4Q, North Bergen, N.J. 07047.

Dec. 29 - Northern Illinois Pigeon Assn., Old Bird Show. For more information, contact: Brian Grover, 8038 W. State Rd., Rockford, Ill. 61102. 815-964-1906.

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Jan. 4 - Midwest International Pigeon Show, Fremont Pigeon Club 48th Annual John Hoffman Memorial Show, Sandusky Co. Fairgrounds, Fremont, Ohio. Contact: Jim Feasel, Show Sec., 2373 County Road 181, Clyde, Ohio 43410, 419-639-2935.

Jan. 5 - Empire Short Face Futurity Show to be held at the Polish National Hall, 61-60 56th Road, Maspeth, N.Y. Show Sec.: Dave Fhagen, 154 Oak St., Medford, N.Y. 11763.

Jan. 5 - Show Kings, Old Bird Show, Rockford, Ill. Contact: Merle Meyer, 3850 Lonegan Rd., East Dubuque, Ill. 61025.

Jan. 10-12 - Central Fantail Club Annual Meet, Omaha, Nebraska. Contact: Ed or Mary Karnish, 3532 Vinton St., Omaha, Nebr. 68105.

Jan. 10-12 - National Chinese Owl Club 1st District Show, Reading, Pa., Winter Expo. Contact: Ron Schwartz, 662 Minor St., Emmaus, Pa. 18049.

Jan. 10-12 - Reading Pigeon Assn. Annual All Age, All Breed Show held at The Inn at Reading, Reading, Pa. Contact: Terry Fick, RD 3, Box 412G, Pine Grove, Pa. 17963.

Jan. 10-12 - United Nun Club All Age Annual Meet held in conjunction with the Reading Pigeon Assn. Annual Show. Contact: Terry Fick, RD 3, Box 412G, Pine Grove, Pa. 17963.

Jan. 11 - St. Louis Metropolitan Pigeon Fanciers Assn. Winter Show, Keith Warmhoff, Sec., 1517 Doris Dr., St. Louis, Mo. 63138. Judge: Wendell Conger.

Jan. 16-19 - National Chinese Owl Show and Annual Meeting held with the 70th NGA Grand National Show, Milwaukee, Wisc.

Jan. 19 - New York Combine Domestic Flight Club Futurity Show at Polish National Hall, 64th Street and 56th Road, Maspeth, N.Y.

Jan. 26 - Long Island Domestic Flight Club "Futurity Show," Islip Homer Club, Richard Street, Islip, New York. Show Sec. Angelo Cavallo, 68 Martin Rd. North, Bethpage, N.Y. 11714. 516-796-1378.

Feb. 2 - Nassau-Suffolk Pigeon Fanciers Club Annual Futurity Show, Knights of Columbus Hall, Carleton Avenue, Central Islip, New York. Information: Barbara Beer, 194 Lido Prom. West, Lindenhurst, N.Y. 11757, 516-226-3534 or Jim Price, 1358 Richland Ave., Bay Shore, N.Y. 11706, 516-MO6-8389.

Feb. 2 - Mid-Island Flight Club, Annual Futurity Show, Knights of Columbus Hall, Carleton Ave., Central Islip, NY. For info. - Fred Sommers, 4 Dual Drive, Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779, (516-588-4537) or Richie Bailin, 32 Snapdragon Lane, Levittown, NY 11756, (516-731-0603).

Feb. 9 - All Breed Pigeon Show. Contact: Jerry Hackbart, 508-13 St. N.W., Watertown, S.D. 57201.

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