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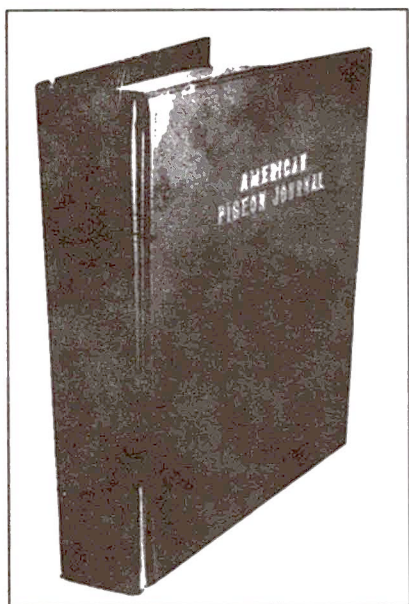
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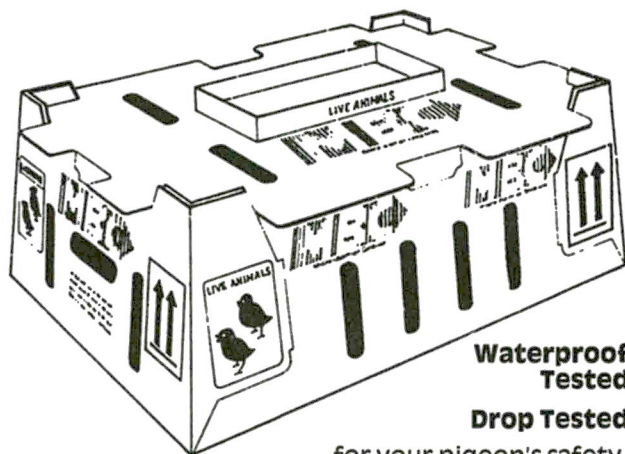
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American Pigeon Journal is published monthly at Warrenton, Mo. 63383. William L. Worley, Editor and Owner. Second class postage paid at Warrenton, Mo. Title registered at U.S. Patent Office. Trademark 527340.

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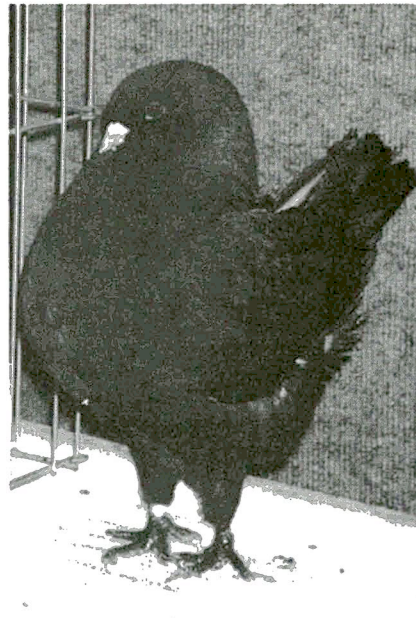
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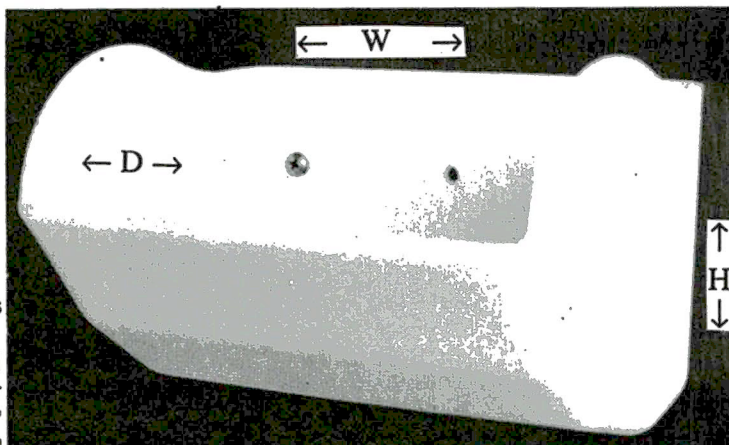
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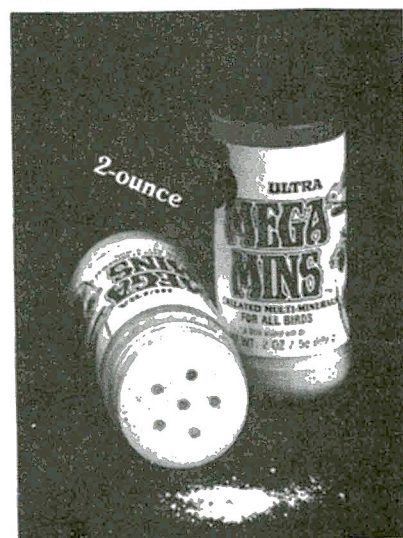
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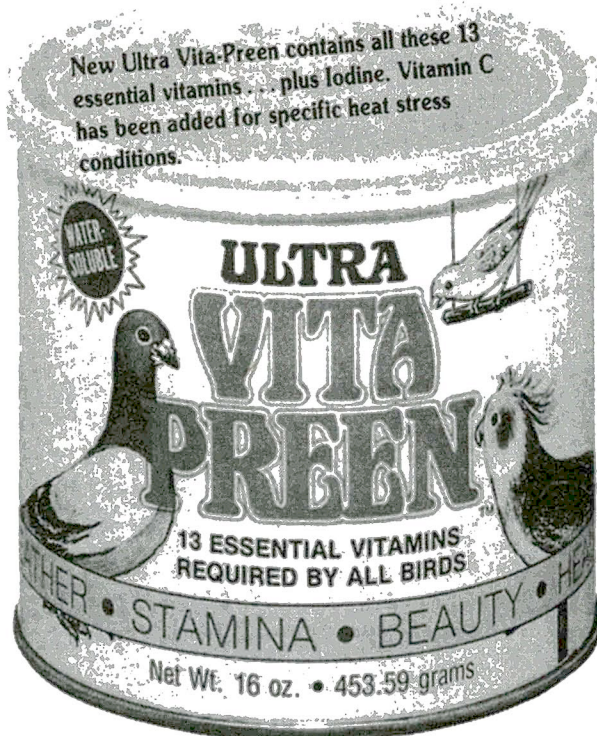
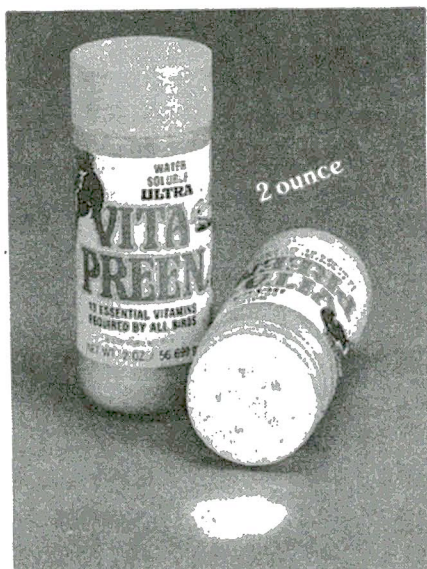
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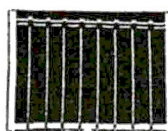
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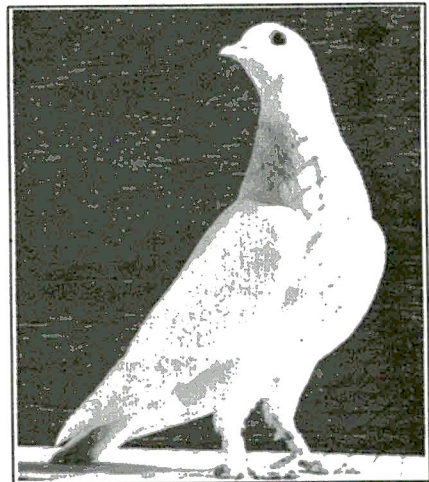
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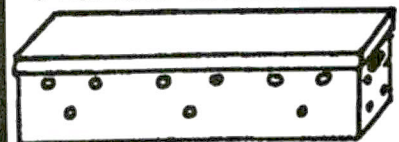
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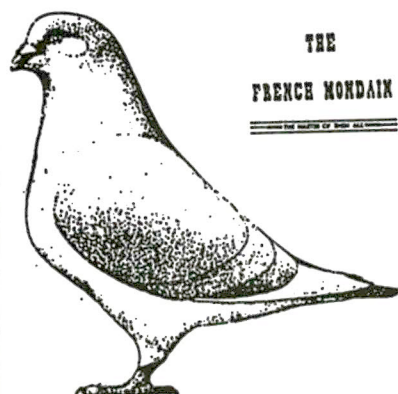
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WILLIAM L. "MIKE" WORLEY, Owner & Editor

JOAN M. WORLEY, Asst. Editor & Mgr.

National Young Bird Show

The National Young Bird Show is set for October 31, 1992, at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center in Louisville, Ky. Show officials have announced that there will be a Flea Market during the show beginning Thursday, October 29. There will also be a Car Show, Auction and probably truck pull. The Flea Market should be interesting to the ladies.

The 1993 show date will be October 23 to help those plan your show calendar.

For more information, please write or call: Al Knauer, 609 Allison Lane, Jeffersonville, Indiana 47130. 812-283-6909.

Change Of Address

If you have a change of address, be sure to send us a postcard or letter at least a month in advance giving your new address. This is very important that we be notified promptly as the Postal Service does not forward second class matter.

Even though we are late, for those of you who live on the West Coast or East Coast, please allow at least 10 days for delivery of your copy of the APJ.

Boost Your Breed

There are many ways to boost your breed of pigeons. Sell only good quality stock, as this helps the new fancier and also the experienced breeder in promoting the breed. If you have surplus birds, advertise them in the APJ and sell only good quality stock, the kind that you would wish to receive when buying birds.

Another way to boost your breed is to work for a Special Issue of your breed. Quite often we are asked to give the requirements for same which are as follows: A total of at least 10 pages of advertising must be guaranteed for a Special Issue. This is necessary as much extra time and expense is involved.

In fact some of our subscribers do not like Special Issues when their breed is not involved. This is understandable as there is little or no space for general articles and club news.

Exhibit your birds at the various shows. This means much to the individual fancier. It teaches him the finer points of the breed, and more importantly, he meets fellow breeders who can help with his problems. Much information can be gained in this way, and for that reason we urge breeders to attend local shows and especially the national shows.

To really boost your breed, it is necessary to specialize on the breed of your choice. While most of us like many breeds, we usually have a favorite breed and rightly so. So make it a point to select your favorite and specialize on it for the best in quality. It will boost your breed.

Advertise Fall Shows

While we are glad to publish the dates of coming shows without charge in our Pigeon Show Calendar, we feel that display advertising is necessary to get the largest number of entries and attendance of pigeon fanciers. It gives your show the kind of publicity and recognition it deserves.

So when you advertise your upcoming pigeon shows in the APJ, be sure to place ads early in order to get the best results.

Brief APJ History

For the benefit of collectors of APJ copies and others, we give here a brief history of the APJ. The magazine was founded by William J. Reid of Oakland, Calif., under the name of Pacific Squab Journal, the first issue being January 1913. It was started as the official organ of the Pacific Utility Pigeon Assn.

It became the private enterprise of Mr. Reid with the April-May 1913 issue, and then with the July 1913 the name was changed to American Squab Journal. E.W. Nichols of Kansas City, Mo., purchased the magazine from Mr. Reid, beginning with the August 1914 issue.

Frank H. Hollmann purchased the magazine from Mr. Nichols, with October 1915 being his first issue. The name was changed to American Pigeon Journal with the May 1920 issue and has been published ever since under that name. The original subscription price was \$1 per year.

After Frank H. Hollmann's death in January 1979, Hazel W. Hollmann, his wife, took over the publishing duties with her brother Wm. L. "Mike" Worley acting as editor.

Then after Mrs. Hollmann's death in January 1980, "Mike" Worley took over ownership of the APJ and still publishes it today.

Moments With "Mike"

Gordon Branch, Rowland, N.C.: "Please excuse my delay in renewing my subscription. For some reason my memory lapsed and I just forgot. I kept looking in the mailbox for the journal but no arrival. This week I started reading my latest issue and saw the reason why, my subscription was out. I have been receiving the APJ only a year but have really enjoyed the articles enclosed in the magazine. My children ask about lesson and I tell them the best teacher is experience. That is why I love to read the APJ. The health and well being of my rollers have really improved, since I have been reading the older fanciers advice and observations. Thank you for a neat compiled magazine. Keep up the good work."

Garry Horton, Anchorage, Alaska: "Enclosed is my renewal for the year and some pictures of a couple of my runt pigeons. I happen to teach seventh and eighth graders and in my school the art teacher decided to use my birds in a drawing assignment. There were some beautiful results. Raising pigeons in Alaska is not without its hazards. On those long, long summer days when it never gets dark and you are tempted to let the pigeons out for a bath, they are prey to marsh hawks, eagles and falcons. In the winter when the darkness rules the day, the owls hang around hoping for a stray meal. At the present time I have 20 runts and would like to thank some other pigeon fanciers for their encouragement, mainly John Delahoussaye, Victor Stoll and Jack Osterman."

Harold Trethaway, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.: "I have received my November issue and your very nice letter explaining the reasons you have not been able to keep the Journal on schedule. Your prompt action in reply to my complaint, has impressed me, so I will not accept your offer of a refund but look forward to your being caught up in the near future."

The Chinese Azure Blue Pigeons

by HO YAN NING, Kowloon, Hong Kong

In the book "The Pigeon Raising in the Capital of China - Beijing," on page 16, the writer Mr. Yu Fei An-4 mentioned in 1926 that there are only five colors in Chinese pigeon breeds. They are: 1st Solid Black; 2nd T. Pattern Blue, like Barred, Dark and Light Cheque, Deep Blue Bar, Powder Blue Barred and Cheque; 3rd Solid Red; 4th Solid Azure Blue - LAN - and 5th Solid White.

I have been keeping Chinese pigeons over 25 years but I have not seen the Azure Blue. I asked a pigeon friend, Mr. C. Chow of Shanghai - deceased. He told me such color looks like the milky Mookee. (See "The Pigeon" written by Mr. Wendell M. Levi, page 128). Around 1950-60, there were many Indian Mookee in Hong Kong bird's market.

In 1976, I attended the Grand National Pigeon Show in Fresno, California. After the one week show and on my way back to San Francisco, I paid a visit to Mr. Avila of Hayward, for he was the keeper of many Chinese birds for Mr. Edward F. Fitzsimmons of Oakland, California.

There I saw an Azure Blue ringbreasted cock pigeon, for the first time in my life. So I built up a pigeon photo device and stayed in a nearby motel for three days to take photos of all Chinese breeds in that loft.

In the book of Mr. Yu Fei An-4, he mentioned Azure Blue is a rare color and these are only the Chinese Spot, the Chinese Ringbreasted and the Raven Head, which inherit Azure Blue factor or color. In the pigeon market of Beijing, an Azure Blue Chinese Spot cost ten times more than a Black Chinese Spot in 1926.

According to my poor genetic knowledge, I think Azure Blue is a recessive color like an Albino. When a pair of Chinese black spot that consisted more Azure Blue genetic factor was mated, youngsters may turn out to be Azure Blue Spot. But those youngsters

usually are female. And if a pair of Black Spot consisted more Azure Blue factor then you may have a male descendant. I suggested to mate the Azure Blue male and female together to intensify the Azure Blue factor and that is the only way to produce more Azure birds. Unfortunately there are no pigeon books in China mentioning genetics variation and inheritance about pigeons.

And when I studied "The Pigeon Doctrine," written 350 years ago by Cheng Wan Chung, he recorded that there are more breeds of pigeons that are Azure Blue colored. So this means that the Azure Blue inheritance is faded from time to time.

Here I do hope that the government of the People's Republic of China do treasure and keep the fancy Chinese pigeon breeds for good besides Racing Homers.



Chinese Azure Blue Pigeon.—Photo from Ho Yan Ning, Hong Kong.

Calling All Fantail Breeders

by JOHN MOPPIN, Kansas City, Kansas

Sept. 1992, will be the date the APJ prints its fourth Fantail Special. With this special comes articles and pictures by you, the Fantail family. I'd like to take this time and encourage everyone to write an article to help this Fantail Special to be as great as the past three Specials. I'd like to hear from those of you who have a personal story about an experience you've had with your Fantails, such as a human interest story, an article about someone who's given you some help in getting started or given you a few good birds, or maybe you have a story about a bird in your loft. Write it down and send your articles to me by June 1st. Also, if you have some tips on breeding better Fantails, something you're doing that really helps your program, write it down. We've picked up a

number of new breeders who are hungry for any information they can get their hands on. In short, every article has a reader, someone who can benefit from things you do every day. So look around and see what you're doing that can help the rest of us.

As in the last Fantail Special, I plan to have as many pictures of Fantails printed as possible. If you have a good Fantail, please by all means send me a picture. This is what makes these Specials so Special. How many times have you opened up a Special on another breed and only had a few dozen pictures of their pigeons? Doesn't make sense to me! So let's rally together and flood this Special with pictures. Show off your best! (Also on the back of your photo please include: Band number and year of bird, who bred it and what show it won or classes it won and where).

The last item I need is all the club lists from any and all Fantail Clubs. This is needed so you'll be on the mailing list for the information the APJ will be sending out to you, the Fantail breeders. This needs to get to me as soon as possible. If you have Fantails and don't think you'll show up on one of these club lists, drop me a note with your name and address, and I'll see that you're not left out. The APJ will use these lists to mail you information on ads and anything else you'll need pertaining to our Special.

So get your pictures and articles together and send them to me soon. All material should be mailed to: John Moppin, 7907 Ella, Kansas City, KS 66112-2626, (913) 788-3273. NOTE: all ads should go to the American Pigeon Journal, P.O. Box 278, Warrenton, Mo. 63383-0278.

Trumpeter Or Drummer?

by MICHAEL GROSS, Fenton, Mo.

Lately I have been reading and hearing so much about a name change of our beautiful and beloved so called English Trumpeter (North American). Sounds good to me, but Trumpeter?

I grew up in Europe and all of my education was in the German language. I also raised pigeons until I came to this country in 1955. It took me several years to find back into the pigeon hobby. I got books on pigeons through local clubs and other sources. When I saw the name Trumpeter next to the photos, Drummer pigeon entered my mind. The late Dr. Hummel had many books on pigeons in the German language as well as other languages. This pigeon we call Trumpeter was called Drummer pigeon (Trommel Taube in German and Tambour in French). The name refers to the drumming sound

created by any variety of this pigeon breed.

I have wondered why they are called Trumpeters. Did anyone ever hear this pigeon make a sound like a trumpet? I have not. Often I've admired a cock or hen on nest or perch drumming up a storm. I'd think, "What a drummer this is."

This concludes why I think the birds should be called Drummers (how about NORTH AMERICAN DRUMMERS?). I don't know for sure but perhaps the name Trumpeter was incorrectly translated from the German, French, Russian or another language.

This is just something I wanted to get off my chest and to think about since we are considering a name change. I thought this was a good time to bring up the subject in the Drummer Fancy.



BERNBERG TRUMPETERS

Bred and owned by Tony Brancato, Santa Maria, Calif.

Bernberg Trumpeters, The Forgotten Trumpeter

by **TONY BRANCATO, Santa Maria, Calif.**

Bernberg Trumpeters are the forgotten Trumpeter. Few fanciers are aware that they exist. At most shows Bernbergs are seldom exhibited. Why is this breed of German Toy so neglected?

Bernberg Trumpeters are double crested, heavily muffed, monk marked birds. They are large in size, between the size of an English Trumpeter and a Bokhara, tightly feathered and absolutely stunning in their intense body color.

So what's the problem? If Bernbergs are beautiful with their intense colored bodies, white heads, wings, muffs and tails and if they are gentle, good breeders and have a marvelous voice, then why are they the for-

gotten Trumpeters?

Personally, I don't know!

Bernbergs capture the imagination. Of all the many breeds I've bred over 30 plus years, I'm still haunted by this elegant breed! One could not ask for a "nicer" pigeon!

I walk into the loft and can literally pick up any bird as they are incredibly tame. The crisp, sharp outline of color contrasted to the white makes even the lay person attracted to their beauty.

My only answer then is - one, most fanciers are unaware of the Bernberg Trumpeter; and two, they might be afraid of the challenge in breeding the Bernberg.

The pattern is fairly easy to breed but intensity of color is another matter. Deep, rich color in the Bernberg is not a piece of cake! However using common sense when mating birds will maintain the richness of color without too much effort. We have Bernbergs in every possible imaginable color including laces and spangles. My favorite is the deep green black, then again when I see a chestnut blood red that's my favorite, or when I spy a mustard yellow - honestly all the colors are my favorite. I've never kept one breed in so many colors ever!

In conclusion, Bernberg Trumpeters are "forgotten" but once discovered, they will worm themselves into one's heart. Bernberg Trumpeters are worthy of your discovery. This breed is not for the faint at heart!

Dove Talk

by **GEORGE SCHUTT,**
Nashville, Tenn.

Breeding season is fast approaching. Many of you have already started. Others are getting ready.

With all of the new colors appearing in doves, it's hard to figure what to breed. If you try a pair or two of each, then you will need plenty of room. At last count, I was told, we now have 39 mutations of Ringneck Doves. Friends, that is a long way from the 50's when we only had two colors. Plus each season we are hatching new colors that we haven't seen. At Louisville (1991) we had several that were new to us. New colors are developing so fast, that we had to enter a new class for them. We now have an AOC class, (All Other Colors).

Don't forget those bands. If you haven't joined the American Dove Association yet, it's time to do so. You can get the bands and membership all at one time. The membership directory will be getting ready to mail and I'm sure you will want your name included.

Remember those babies need banding around 5-6 days old. After that, the leg may be too large to put the band on. A tight leg band may cause injury. I'm sure no one wants a lame or injured baby on their hands. I saw this happen only once. It took the dove six months to recover. It was this long before it could walk without limping. Today it's doing fine. It always happens to your good doves. The ones you count on to raise, for breeders, is the one the problem arises with. The dove happens to be a frosty, and I sure didn't want to lose it.

Patience is required in raising doves. Whether it's caring for sick, or injured doves, or raising them. I hear many breeders complaining about a dove problem. Some don't give their doves enough time during mating. Many think, put a pair of doves together and they should have eggs in two weeks. That's not always the case. Two strange doves must get to know each other first. Sometimes this takes longer than you expect. In other cases I have seen two doves mate 30 minutes, after I put them together. I have had cocks that wouldn't mate to some hens. One case, I tried three hens before I found one the cock would accept. Once he found the right mate he was fine. Also a great parent. I just had to have patience and keep working on the problem. Many breeders don't have the patience to treat sick doves. Some just destroy the bird when it becomes sick. I, myself, like the challenge to try and get the doves well again. Then when it happens again, I'll know how to take care of the problem.

To order your bands write to: American Dove Association, P.O. Box 21, Milton, KY 40045, or, send it to me at: P.O. Box 14984, Nashville, Tenn. 37202.



BERNBERG TRUMPETER

A Black Bernberg Trumpeter at the 1990 Pomona Grand National. - Bred and owned by Tony Brancato, Santa Maria, Calif.

Bob's Pigeon Finally Flies In From Canada

{Editor's Note: The following article is reprinted from the Murray Valley Standard (Nov. 28, 1991) in Australia. Bob Pilchar, Manitoba, Canada, is the person who sent us this item and is the one who sent Bob Appelby the pair of German Beauty Homers. He hopes the readers find it interesting.}

Murray Bridge pigeon fanatic Mr. Bob Appelby has finally obtained his German Beauty Homer after four years of negotiating with a friend in Manitoba, Canada.

The bird is one of the first fancy pigeons legally imported to Australia since 1947 - a span of 44 years.

And although Mr. Appelby's long time Canadian friend 'donated' the pigeon, he said he had spent 'a lot' of money getting the bird to Australian shores.

Mr. Appelby paid for all veterinary inspections, freight, cages and quarantine checks.

"I went without a lot of other things to get that (the pigeon,)" the 67-year old said.

The German Beauty spent nearly six months in quarantine - going in on May 30 in Canada, and released on November 17 at Spotswood Quarantine Station in Melbourne.

It was one of 125 bird varieties to go through quarantine at that time.

But Mr. Appelby has a good reason for getting the pigeon - there was previously none other of its type in Australia.

"I'd seen pictures of it and thought: 'Gosh, if only I could get one of them,'" he said.

According to Mr. Appelby, the German Beauty Homer breed was developed in Germany in the 1950s.

He said its major show property was the shape of its head, "which we haven't been able to copy" in Australia.

"We have birds similar, but only half as strong in the head property - they are nowhere near the quality of this," he said.

He said another man in Melbourne had a pair of German Beauty's come through quarantine at the same time, which both men intended to breed from and then interchange offspring.

"I've reared and bred pigeons all of my life, and have been judging pigeons around Australia for the last 40 years," Mr. Appelby, who has a total of around 400 pigeons in his backyard, said.

"I won't show it . . . it's safer to use the offspring."

And, is he giving the German Beauty any special treatment? You bet!

"I've got him in with four girls, usually it's just one-on-one," he said.

"He's getting the VIP treatment."

Pigeon Cotes

by DICK STRAIN, Chagrin Falls, Ohio

We recently visited the Ladew Topiary Gardens in Monkton, Maryland. These gardens consist of the house and grounds of the late Mr. Ladew, who inherited his wealth but was not, apparently, your typical parasitic rich, but actually did some work on his estate. He also habitually took breakfast in bed, and I have to admit that's a better way to start a hard day's work than any I ever discovered! What I found of particular interest were the pigeon cotes on the grounds. There were no pigeons being housed, but the strip of cotes over the rear entrance and one of the posted cotes in the garden showed signs of possibly being, at one time, working cotes.

If you're in the area, you might want to stop by. There is a charge, but you can tour

the house where there is a guide to show you through. We made the mistake of touring the house first and were rushed through, supposedly so we would have "plenty of time to tour the grounds." I suggest you look over the grounds briefly (the various areas and topiaries are identified by numbered plaques which are referenced in a printed guide you will receive) then tour the house. Tell the guide right away that you have seen the grounds and want to take your time looking through the house! (You can re-tour the grounds later). The guide we had was quite knowledgeable and if that person had just taken their motor-mouth out of high gear, I'm sure it would have been an edifying and enjoyable tour. If you have even the slightest interest in topiary, this is certainly the place to satisfy it.



Dick Strain and Grace Serafini sitting by garden cote. It appeared to be the newest one of the four in the garden.

Pigeon Ordinance Deprives Youth Of Rewarding Experience

by JEROME J. PRATT, Sierra Vista, Ariz.

Hillsboro, Oregon's nuisance ordinance which forbids keeping of pigeons deprives children of the community of a character building experience and understanding of an essential link in biological education. The rearing of pigeons and other small stock instills an appreciation for living things, including human beings. The Boy Scouts of America long ago recognized the value of animal husbandry and offers a pigeon breeding merit badge. Some of the world's leading scientists had their interest stimulated in biology and related disciplines through their involvement with an animal hobby at a young age.

The Honorable Raul H. Castro, a diplo-

mat, who served the United States as an Ambassador in two different countries, and as Governor of the State of Arizona, had previously served as a superior court and juvenile court judge. Ambassador Castro in a television interview stated, that in all his years on the bench as a judge, he had never had a child brought before him as a delinquent who had been involved in raising animals. He had great praise for children enrolled in 4-H and FFA projects and those with a backyard hobby of raising chickens, pigeons, rabbits, and the like.

To be successful at rearing animals, children learn nutritional and hygienic practices which are beneficial to their own welfare,

plus it serves as an excellent occupational therapy. 4-H clubs are no longer just for farm children, but are now being encouraged for urban dwellers as well.

In a government publication, Dr. W.F. Hollander states: "Many boys (but few girls) get pigeon fever between the ages of 10 and 15. It usually runs its course in a year or two, but occasionally it becomes chronic." Many of those where the infection became chronic have gone on to be veterinarians or in other medical professions, researchers and educators because of the biological curiosity stimulated through working with their childhood animal friends.

After reading Keith Caywood's article in the American Pigeon Journal about the pigeon eviction order he had received, I wrote to the Mayor of Hillsboro. In part I stated: "It was astonishing for me to read that the City of Hillsboro has an ordinance which forbids the keeping of pigeons. This hit me because I commanded a Signal Pigeon Company during World War II which was based at the Salem Army Airfield prior to overseas embarkation. Pigeoneers from my unit often released pigeons in and near Hillsboro during our training phase."

I explained to the Mayor how pigeons were the backup communications system during the need for radio silence by the costal defense units protecting the Pacific Northwest. My company had units at Salem, Portland, McChord Field and Paine Field to care for Washington and Oregon. I also mentioned: "You may not know it, but the Japanese put a party of commandos ashore at Depoe Bay from a submarine." Our alert costal defense forces captured them as soon as they stepped ashore."

I also pointed out: "Pigeons create a nuisance in many of our cities, but those are feral pigeons, which bird watchers often call rock doves, and not the birds kept by fanciers. Your city should trap the feral pigeons and use them for food for the needy. The World Health Organization is considering a program to encourage free flying pigeons to be harvested for a protein source in developing countries."

Mr. Caywood was cited by police January 9 on an accusation of violating the city's nuisance ordinance, which bans pigeons. It was the second time since August he had been cited. Another fancier, Dave Holloway, had his case heard in court. The ruling went against Holloway and he removed his pigeons at the end of the year.

The Hillsboro ordinance allows keeping up to three dogs or cats as pets, but bans every other kind of creature except white mice, gerbils, hamsters, or birds normally kept in a cage as pets. As far as I am concerned, three cats can be a much greater nuisance in a community than a loft of pigeons.

The City of Hillsboro has stretched the definition of "nuisance" in its ordinance to ban pets.



Dick Strain by garden cote. The main house is in the background.

The Unusual Stuff

by FRANK MOSCA, Montclair, Calif.

There's lots more to the study of pigeon genetics than just color. While most of us are interested in "pretty" birds, color alone does not, and cannot, define a pigeon. Even feral pigeons are more than just their pigment. Behavior, ornaments, disease resistance, feeding ability, body size, feather or beak length, flying style, cere and wattle size are all grist for the hobbyist's breeding plan and the geneticist's wonder. Some things, seldom considered by the everyday breeder, still fall under scientific review: blood type, immune system response, viability of sperm, etc.

Brown & Sharp (PGNL #57: 17-18) reported on "The Association of Transferrin and Glutathione in Pigeons." Wow! you say. So esoteric as to be useless to the common breeder? Perhaps, but their conclusion that high glutathione levels in pigeon blood may be related to a pigeon's mechanism for handling metabolic waste suggests interesting possibilities for racing breeders. What if higher glutathione levels indicate ability to perform longer and harder on the road? A blood test might indicate which birds may be better breeders of winners and take the sport another step toward a scientific understanding of what goes into making a better sire or dam.

Many more features of our birds have been described in genetic terms, yet much of this stuff is seldom discussed outside the pages of "The Pigeon Genetics News, Views and Comments" (PGNVC) or the lofts of those who concern themselves with finding

such information. There's no conspiracy of silence. Quite the opposite, in fact. Dozens of writers, myself included, have shared some of this information over the past 40 years in the APJ, but there is such a vast wealth of it collected that much simply hasn't yet made it to most fanciers. Even those of us who enjoy the genetic side of the hobby as well as the more traditional sides have trouble keeping up with it all. Sometimes important info is written up, then forgotten or buried in the mass of new work.

In 1971, Richard Entrikin (PGNL #59: 4-32) published a study of rolling in pigeons. More than 20 years later, many still do not know that his experiments allowed 19 conclusions, among them: rolling is controlled by allelic genes and neck muscle fibers of Rollers have a "higher resting potential, critical firing level, and lower membrane resistance than muscle fibers of normal pigeon neck muscles."

J.S. Moran, a high school student, performed an experiment on the color vision of pigeons and had his work reported in the Oct. 1970 issue of "Scientific American." How many have seen it?

I remember another article in both the APJ and in the PGNL some years back by another boy who found "docile" nest behavior is a simple recessive condition. Don't like that slap happy bird on the nest when it knocks the egg out of your hand? Breed for the docile stuff. Ain't got none? Cross it in.

Sometimes we find "common sense" isn't all that accurate. Everybody knows white

reflects heat while black absorbs it, right? That's why it's better to fly lighter birds in the desert. Turns out, it ain't necessarily so. In "Sonoran Desert Summer" by John Alcock, I found data that may explain why white racers seem to be lost on the road more often than colored ones and it has nothing to do with their supposed vulnerability to hawks.

Alcock mentions G.E. Walsberg's experiment with phainopepla, a native desert bird. In this species, males are black and females gray. Tests showed that despite "common sense," the black males were actually about the same temperature at the skin surface as were the gray females. Why, became the question. Walsberg tested pigeons. He used them because of their many colors.

His final results showed the shortwave component of solar radiation easily penetrates through the white plumage to the skin surface. However, darker plumage doesn't allow that component of the sun's radiation to get through. Darker plumage keeps the heat load at the feather surface where it is removed by passing air currents. Whites, on the other hand, heat up faster at the skin surface and this heat is not readily lost since the feathers now prevent it. Just as greenhouse glass allows the sun rays in but not the heat back out.

Perhaps, many white racers drop faster than their colored relatives do for water on race days. Perhaps, they just stop racing due to heat exhaustion. Perhaps, they're culled by the breeder as "slower." Perhaps, that "slowness" and their visibility contribute to their "hawk-bait" reputation.

I'm working to decipher the inheritance of the "lobster-like scooped tail" of the Marchenero Cropper. For those who've never



Students in Anchorage, Alaska, using Runts as models for a drawing assignment. Garry Horton of Anchorage, who also is a 7th and 8th grade teacher at the same school, provided his birds.

seen this breed, one of the Spanish Thief Pouters, it flies with its back roached and its tail curved deeply up under the body. It looks in the air much like a lobster in swimming position. I've tentatively symbolized the condition (Lt) in my own records as a mnemonic for "lobster tail." I've used a capital "L" since early breeding results indicate the mutation to be simple dominant. It also does not appear to be sex-linked. But I'm just one person working on one particular factor.

What about more "practical" stuff though. Well, Dhr. L. Petrus of the Netherlands has noticed dark egg-yolk colored down of squeakers is indicative of birds carrying iridescence. W.F. Hollander and Gerald Dooley, both, have accumulated much data on web-foot conditions. Others are working on pattern inheritance. Some brief work of my own indicates that Baldhead and Swallow marking are alleles. Interested in following a recessive red cross? In the 50's, it was shown that many smokey birds heterozygous for recessive red show a reddish beak ring rather than a dark one at hatching.

Paul Gibson has found moving brander bronze from one breed to another is fairly simple, so long as you use the right mate, a non-Spread carrying recessive red. Gibson and Potter have worked out the inheritance of the color of Oriental Frills. It includes both Frill stencil and Toy stencil for those interested. Others have documented the existence of the Dominant Crest we've heard rumors about over the years. Lynn Willis has done such wonderful things with archangel bronze, he should be bronzed himself. Gibson, Hodson, Fillmore and others have reported brand new colors. Others have reported some unusual physical features. Did you hear about the genetic condition that produces perfect mirror images of the wing flights so that a bird may have 20 flights back to back?

There is literally so much more it would take a book at least the size of Levi's, "The Pigeon," to begin to deal with it all. By the time that book was written it might well need to be revised. This is not to say that the subject's so large and daunting no one can learn it. Much we're studying at the moment will undoubtedly be found to be various expressions of the same mutations under different conditions. Still, I'd just like you to know no matter what your interest in pigeons, there is likely an aspect of their genetics that might help, or at least interest you.

While much of pigeon genetics is readily practical, easy to understand, and immediately useful, not all is. After all, people have been raising pigeons for about four thousand years. That allows more than enough opportunity to put together complex combinations of mutations. It's going to take some time to unravel them all. In fact, it's going to take some time to even find them all. You can take pride in the fact, though, that we're living in the first century of breeders to have even tried. You can take even more pride in DOING it. Why not try?

February 1992

Komorners' Hungarian Standard

(Editor's Note: The following was sent to us by Bela K. Kiraly, for publication).

DESCRIPTION OF MERGANSER CIRCULING SPECIES OF KOMÁROM

SHAPE AND SIZE: Dunghill pigeon size, stubby body, carriage is directed upwards, with brisk look and movement, tranquil temperament, with rich feathers, closing to body. Its length is equal with its height.

HEAD: Wide, roundish leaning towards nape forehead is high. At the cocks the secondary sex characters must be in the head shape. On its head under the nape a wide, rich, filled comb leaning backwards, extending from ear to ear is placed semi-circularly, that must go down to the middle of neck continuously creating a chain. The part of comb on the nape of the neck must be mane like. The specified shape of comb must show up well both for pigeon held in hand and for one being free.

BILL: Middle long, that is it must be 1/3 longer than the width measured at the mouth corner. It is directed downward dull, closed and must pass in the same direction with the forehead. In no case may be included or curvirostral. It is light coloured, its nose bulge is little and flat.

EYE: Relatively large. Its skin ring around the eye is wide, a little swollen, in case of pigeon having vivid red feathers the brighter red is allowed. For pigeons with heart-back the iris is dark chestnut brown, for ones with unicoloured pearl-white. The pearl may be weakly blood veined.

NECK: Proportional with body, rather short than long.

CHEST: Wide but it does not swell towards.

BACK: Wide, short, leaning backwards.

WING: Closes to body, resting above tail. The wingends contact almost.

TAIL: Middle long, closed leaning backwards but it does not contact with earth. It consists of 12 tail feathers. It exceeds the wingend with 1-2 cm.

FOOT: Grown from wide chest space: middle long, flat, vivid red coloured. The colour of claws is bright.

COLOUR AND DRAWING: The ground colour of the ones with heartback is white.

WHITE: Is the head up to the lower line of eye, that the throat spot under the chin about in 1 cm dept, arched semicircularly. White is further the wing, the lower part of the abdomen, the feather of leg, abdomen sides and the waist.

COLOURED: Is the comb inside and outside, chest, crop, limited with a straight line falling about 2 cm from the leg. Coloured is further the shoulder cover and the back as far as the white waist then the tail, with the lower ornament feathers. The ones with heart back are black, red, yellow, coffee coloured, blue, bright and dark silver the unicoloured ones are black, red, yellow, coffee-coloured

and white. The clean, uniform, full and high colour is an essential requirement. The white-silver ones may not be counted among the unicoloured ones, because their chest feathers deviates from the white ground colour hardly observably and the iris of their eyes is not pearl-coloured, but brown. Nonaccepted mix-colours are: those with dotted back, plum-coloured or rusty chest.

JUDGEMENT: According to the category E of the 100 point system. Among specimens that reached the same point number, the priority is given to which verify the flying and tumbling results.

SHAPE FAILURES: Disproportionate or loose body, sloven or humped bearing, low forehead, narrow head, striking breaking between the line of forehead and bill. Broken or heteromorphic eye, comb, closing to the head, or slid on neck, or not enough round, included, think, imperfect or little, or the feather curl disconnecting the chain-like continuation of comb. In case of regular bill directed downward failure can be the sharp, narrow, inclined curvirostral, open, deformed or too long bill. Failure is the wing hanging under the tail, the too short leg resulting a toddling, further the leg feather or stocking.

FAILURE IN COLOUR AND DRAWING: For ones with heart-back the deviation from the colour shape of back drawing, either on one or on both sides, or when in the back drawing white feather are incorporated. The foregoing is "large back," the latter is, "butterfly-back." Failure is the coloured feathers on the side of head, on that top, and mouth corner. The too little or too large (more than 1 cm) throat spot, whiteness of inner side of comb, mixture of colours in comb and waist feathers. A large failure is the white feather in the leg feathers or around the cloaca for the unicoloured pigeons. For the unicoloured yellow and red ones the blue or blue shade tail feathers. For all colour and drawing variante the black bill and claw is a failure.

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Breeding Better Pigeons

by HAROLD CLIFFORD JONES, Staten Island, New York

A comprehensive breeding program must begin with the selection of, or re-evaluation of, members of the breeding team. The criteria should eliminate any specimens that show clearly disqualifying faults. Any value that these birds could have held will not compensate for the introduction of faults in structure that will almost seem impossible to eradicate later on.

Serious faults may allow birds to remain active in the breeding programs, only if their overall worth, is extremely high, and the traits they possess and which you wish to strengthen in your succeeding generation, outweigh the negative effect of the fault. Birds of this category are only allowed one serious fault. Refer to your standard as to what constitutes a disqualifying, serious or minor fault. Breeders with a serious fault should be eliminated from the program once they have sired several youngsters that are better than themselves. The last subject is the bird with only minor faults. NOTE: all pigeons possess faults to some degree.

Minor faults are relatively invisible on the bird with even the slightest potential for breeding program improvement. Minor faults should not be ignored however and when one has many faults (minor), that elevates him to the serious category.

The objective will be to establish a family where members resemble each other more than they differ from each other. Greater genetic predictability will be the result. Outside stock should still be introduced to our colony in limited numbers, but only where

we feel it has something special to offer us, and only if we know its genetic base. Those of us in rare color work, will need to keep many, many, more specimens, until they are no longer needed in fixing the desired colors.

Setting Up The Breeders

Approximately three months before breeding, corn will need to be eliminated from the feed mix, especially in the event that your birds are overweight. Barley is a good substitute. Approximately four weeks before breeding, a medical cleansing must be undertaken. For one week give an aureomycin treatment (remove grit). For the second week give tetracycline (remove grit also). For the third week give a coccidiosis medication, and for the fourth, administer a canker drug. All medicines are given at one half the normal dosage. After all of the above steps, worm your birds. With that done, trim the tails and vents of both sexes. Approximately one inch should be taken off the tail. This will foster fertile eggs. To further aid hatching, place several drops of tamed iodine in the drinking water once a week. Vitamins are given two to three times a week.

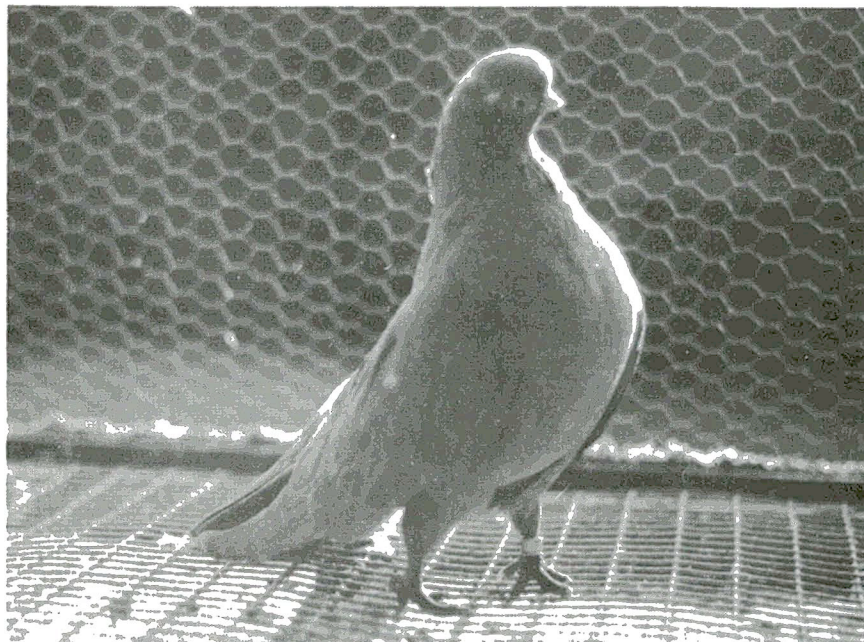
Actual Mating

Mate your birds only after studying both pedigrees and their structural appearance. Entire books have been written on the subjects of line-breeding, in-breeding, and out-breeding. Suffice to say, line-breeding will enable you to maintain a closely related family of pigeons, once you have established "type" in your loft. An occasional cross will bring in fresh blood and some added virtue

your birds may be lacking. In-breeding will be necessary when as a novice, you are still evolving that family. In-breeding should not be practiced for more than one or two generations, however. Do not be afraid to keep a few pigeons with somewhat more or less of a desired trait. You will be undoubtedly in need of extremes on occasion, to balance out the other parent's weaknesses or even overstandardization. Some of my finest champions were off one or both parents that were downright ugly in appearance themselves, but as a breeding tool, clicked well with certain other birds. Once your birds are improving in type, discard the older, inferior stock instead of breeding it back to better young birds, which would erase the progress you have made.

Do's and Don'ts

Do try to produce your breeders with at least 14 hours of light to enable them to keep their squabs pumped up for maximum weight gain, and optimum development. Do not allow your birds to breed year-round, destroying their health and vigor. Do provide separate breeding pens to ensure accurate matings, if time and facilities permit. Do not keep sick or weakling youngsters on the premises. Destroy any such hatchlings before they infect others. Runts will never attain champion status. Clean nest boxes frequently, once the young are being fed solid grain. Do not enter the loft more than is necessary. Breeders need their rest and privacy. Feed twice per day, allowing parent birds to feed their young likewise. Do not neglect to change water and grit daily, cleaning all receptacles at that time. Place four week old young in a young bird loft at this appropriate time. Do not limit breeders to a single nest box. Provide at least two per pair. Provide baths at least once a week. Bathing aids hatching and the birds truly enjoy it. Do not allow other "pigeon folk" to enter your loft. Disease can be spread from loft to loft, being carried by the shoes of these persons. Do cull periodically, rather than waiting to the end of the year. Your feed bill will be lightened as well as health in the loft improved. Do not become "loft-blind." Look at your birds objectively. Do remember to have fun. Fun spelled backwards is NUF SAID!



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An Opinion On Color In The Bohemian Pouter

by HERB BERG, Austin, Minn.

The 1991 Pouter and Cropper Special is now history. To say it was a success is an understatement. Once again, Frank Barrachina and the blower fanciers teamed up for an issue of reading delight. It was described to me as being "fluff free." If you had any interest in the Pouter family you could read and learn. Congratulations!

My particular interest, as most know, is in the Bohemian Pouter. It was very rewarding to see the number of articles on the breed by various authors. One that stands out was done by Jaroslav Sindelar. The Czech Stavak and/or German Steller are the grandparents to our American Bohemian Pouter. We agree and disagree. I hope that's o.k. among Pouter lovers. The Bohemian (I'll call them European) have fantastic color. It is a quality we are striving for. I think we are on the correct course and it is just a matter of time. Had they been shown here with the same enthusiasm as they are there, the color would be a non-issue. I have seen color photos of the Stavak/Steller in books at Vince Bednar's and they are a breeder's delight. But it is also at this point we differ.

Imagine if you will, a one pound Runt. A Fantail with 12 tail feathers. Or a Pouter that doesn't blow. Yet, according to his article that's what is happening to keep the red color. Now we're talking about recessive red not the ash red most are familiar with. Recessive red can be difficult. There are other words to best describe it but this is a family magazine. Why it can be so deep on the head and chest and so lousy in the rump and tail defies explanation. But in spite of all that we keep plugging along. But I'll be honest. Tell me we have to breed birds with no type and don't blow in order to keep the color and I'll show you soup. I have the highest respect for my European cohorts but if that's true then

they're in left field.

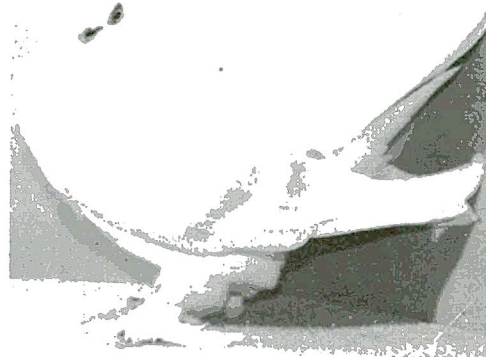
I have never claimed to be a genetic wizard. But decent color can be had without sacrificing everything else. No breed I can think of offhand has as many colors available as the Modena. Yet the red Schiotti is immediately recognizable. As for shine or sheen it's in any bird with good color. The Reversewing and Carneau breeds have great red color but remember too they are only bred in red, yellow, black, blue and in Carneau white. A limit on available colors makes those bred easier to maintain. Rick Duckett will be working on red this year as will Merle Frank. If I'm able to get the bird I want, I may go back into the fray myself. I'm sure the new breeders will be doing their best also.

Prior to establishing the American standard for the breed I saw two from Europe. One was a translation by Guenter Wenzel of the German one used in the NPA Book of Standards and a Czech standard sent to me by Frank Barrachina. Now I admit both may well have been abbreviations of some what longer versions but neither gave a point designation for the bird's structure. In the case of the German standard, awards were given to birds that, according to the version I saw, had serious faults. The Czech standard did give strength to the sheen/shine but made mention of the Bohemian pattern only in passing as one of many variations in the Stavak breed. Here we are treating them as a breed unto themselves. A marked pigeon is decidedly more difficult to produce than a self. If you doubt that talk to a tumbler breeder trying to improve the saddle marked muff. It takes the patience of Job to even come close. Mr. Sindelar feels we have weakened the standard. I fail to see how. We have set point values for the bird's areas of struc-

ture. A check of the standard will point out that the highest number of points is given to color. In comparison the standard for the Pigmy Pouter sets a color value of five points. Ours is 20, four times as high. Pigmy markings are five, ours about three times higher. Yet no one, myself included, would say the Pigmy standard is "easy." I made a swap with Dick Bohman last fall and got some dandy Pigmys to work with. But to breed them to standard will be hard.

Reports from shows tell me we have two areas of concern. First is getting judges familiar with the standard itself. The standard states the spot is preferred. That does not mean over and above any birds that doesn't have one. If all other values are equal, a spot should prevail. Reason being a spot marked bird is harder to raise than a plain head. The spot requires size and placement. It can also affect the beak color. Plain heads always come with a clean beak. In blacks and blues, staining is a constant worry. The other is not limited to our breed. It's the preference for a judge towards a particular color. One show had all top placings going to one color. This breed is not dominated at this time by one color, especially the one chosen at this show.

I'll conclude by stating I do not believe we are breeding to an easier standard than our European brothers. In fact, it could be to the contrary. We will not let one point dominate over everything. Last but not least, this is not meant to be a bashing of Jaroslav Sindelar. He had the conviction to state his views. Something that can be lacking in many people. While we may not agree on specific points we do agree the Bohemian Pouter is a breed worth cultivating to its highest form. That's the most positive point of all. Mr. Sindelar, thank you.



WINNERS AT THE 1991 PAGEANT OF PIGEONS

Winners at the 1991 Pageant of Pigeons, San Bernardino, Calif., were: 1st photo, Marchenero Pouter, Blue Check, Frank Mosca; 2nd photo, Oriental Roller, White, Mike Hughes; 3rd photo, Berlin Shortface, Cream Grizzle, Frank Quatrochi. - Photos by Ray Mathewson and John DeCarlo Jr.

Gleanings From Master Judges

by RANDALL RAPETTI, Laguna Niguel, Calif.

For the past year I have been committed to learning how to evaluate the American Show Racer. I have taken a tertiary approach to this learning process. First of all, I spent countless hours going through birds with Jack Hamilton, a Show Racer Master Breeder. Depending upon the time of year, Jack may have up to 200 Show Racers in his loft. He has painstakingly taken me through both the positive and negative aspects of each bird several times over. Such experiential learning cannot be communicated through writing or video, and I would highly recommend that, if you have such an opportunity, you study in like fashion with a master breeder.

The second approach to learning about Show Racers I have taken this year has been to attend the monthly meetings of the Genetics Club, a group of outstanding Show Racer breeders such as Joe Frazier, Amos Hodson, Jack Hamilton, to name but a few. These fanciers bring pigeons which are judged and evaluated by one or more of those present. Often long discussions follow. One evening Amos Hodson shared with us his approach to judging a class of birds. In sum and substance this is the way he goes about it: I. Scan the class visually. Look for station, glaring faults and exceptional qualities. II. Catch each bird in turn. Take gently in hand rearranging into proper placement any tail or wing feathers which might have been lapped incorrectly or forced out of order by the catching. Holding the bird facing you, and without looking at birds side profile, feel for wedge shape, strong, long and straight keel, and strong, tight vent. Remember, these qualities are all evaluated by "feeling" the pigeon. III. Now visually evaluate the bird in hand: Wedge shape, back strength, length, head width, wings and flights, color and pattern (deficits and good qualities) and cleanliness. IV. Now visually evaluate the head from both sides checking for: eye brightness, color

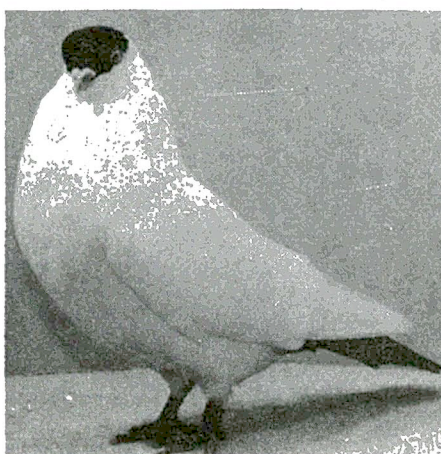
and size, eye ceres, beak and wattle, reach of head, top skull and back skull. V. Return bird to coop and check for station, conformation and overall balance. Check legs for length, width apart, and bone size. Does the bird have good general Show Racer appearance? If necessary use the judging stick to give the bird every chance to station properly. By now you should know the bird in cage one and be ready to move on to cage two where the process is repeated. VI. In large classes group the best few birds to the left, the good ones to the center and the poorer ones to the right. Spend most of your time and energy in working with the top half of the class. This outline is obviously focused on the judging procedure and does not attempt to address specific qualities and faults. Refer to the standard for those.

The third learning experience I was afforded this year was to serve as a trainee with Master Breeder Joe Frazier at the Pageant of Pigeons at Pomona, California. Joe, one of the all time great judges, came prepared with notes which helped me prepare for the task at hand. Permit me to share them. First and foremost, a judge must develop a consistent routine so that each bird in each class is given equal chance. When first approaching the class stay back and make an overall appraisal. Take a positive approach, looking for birds that stand out as "overall" quality. Visualize the standard as you examine the class. With experience this comes quickly. Look for those birds possessing one smooth continuous line from the tip of the beak to the tip of the tail. The neck should blend progressively into the breast and shoulders. Beak and wattles should be "as one" with the head. Wing butts should be prominent but not extend forward of the breast. Watch for serious faults such as poor conformation and balance, light colored or broken eyes, poor station, long legs, straight legs showing no

hock angle, and pants (feathers loosely covering the upper leg. Other faults include poorly formed or weak beaks, open back, wild or sickly behavior. Remember to watch for those less obvious faults such as a white toenail, white hocks, a tic or black flecks on an ash red hen. Do not spend too much time on the lower quality birds. Keep asking yourself why you are placing this particular pigeon in this particular position of placement. If something does not seem quite right then slow down, back up a bit and don't hesitate to make a change if justified. Keep in mind the overall balance of the bird.

One of my problems as a trainee was that I tended to be drawn toward birds with exceptional features but which lacked overall conformation and balance. The bird Joe eventually made champion did not have the best head or the best body, but overall had very good quality and great station. Joe suggested I should ignore the exhibitors' comments. Do not be intimidated; believe in your own judgement. Settle into a rhythm and stay with it. When you have announced your placements you are not finished. Make certain the winning bird and at least the second place bird are properly recorded by the secretary lest there be a mistake.

When judging for first place in the age/sex category (best young hen, etc.) or for champion, look also for subtle details such as eye cere neatness, eye color, smoothness around wattle or under vent, condition. Often the best birds are of such quality that even a difference in behavior may decide the champion. Finally, the four birds going for champion should be of uniform quality so that, indeed, it will be the finer points that decide which is champion. Also keep in mind that judges, much like athletes, may not be as sharp as on other days. Just do your very best to find the very best individual Show Racer. I am truly grateful to these fine Show Racer breeders mentioned above for their willingness to share with a newcomer their time, experience and insight.



WINNERS AT THE 1991 PAGEANT OF PIGEONS

Winners at the 1991 Pageant of Pigeons, San Bernardino, Calif., were: 1st photo, Vienna Gansel, Ash Red, Bill Mackey; Crest Helmet, Red, John Heppner; 3rd photo, Plainhead Helmet, Black, Russ Schatz. — Photos by Ray Mathewson and John DeCarlo Jr.

The Pigeon Fancier Up On Reservoir Street

by VALERIE KIMBLE

(Editor's Note: Sam Pino, Socorro, N. Mexico, was featured in his local paper. The following is the article which appeared Feb. 2, 1990.)

SOCORRO, N. MEXICO – It's a different world up on Reservoir Street, where chickens live side by side with old sheds and rusted trucks. The air is still, and the sun seems to shine with an intensity not found anywhere else in town.

Samuel Pino y Garcia de Noreiga was born on Reservoir Street, in a home he still shares with his family. On this, a blustery Monday afternoon, there are nephews and nieces in the living home, and friends wait out back to visit.

It's a home Pino shares not just with his family, but with over 250 feathered friends, members of the pigeon family.

The birds fill the air with a sound like wind rustling through the trees; ironically, says Pino, the birds don't like the wind.

He knows them all, knows their breeding history, their very moods.

When Pino was 12, his father brought home some "commons," like the pigeons that roost on the courthouse roof. It is a hobby Pino has kept for 24 years.

Back then, there were a whole group of pigeon lovers, and Pino and his friends had their own club. "We had different breeds then," he said, "but not the quality I have now."

His pigeon population suffered in the months after Pino graduated from high school, when a fox killed his best birds. The following year Pino enlisted in the Navy; but a transfer from the dental technician program to one for field medical corpsmen sent the youth to Vietnam.

Four months later he received an honorable discharge, and still wears a green, Army-issue camouflage coat. In Pino's closet is his dress-blue Navy coat, decorated with seven medals won in Vietnam.

"I got over most of it," says Pino of the war. "It wasn't easy." Soldiers are trained to kill, and so that is what Pino did. He half-smiles, saying that since his return home, he has had more injuries than in months of combat duty. One of life's ironies . . .

Perhaps another irony is that pigeons resemble doves, a symbol of peace.

But even at that, Pino doesn't feel pigeons hold any spiritual symbolism for him. "The one that does have spiritual meaning for me is the eagle."

But pigeons are a big part of Pino's life. He waters them in the morning, even before he has his own breakfast. After eating, he returns to his four pigeon lofts to dole out grain, an estimated 50 pounds every four days.

He has 16 different breeds, of over 700 breeds in the U.S., and some 1700 breeds and

subvarieties worldwide. Mostly Pino raises Spanish or Valencian Monjin birds, which he often sells to other pigeon fanciers.

"The parents usually mate for life," Pino says, adding that some breeds are more prolific than others. Pigeons, he says, are divided into three categories – utility, performance and fancy.

"They're not too aggressive," he adds, "but it depends on the breed."

Eggs hatch in 18 days, and both parents feed the squabs. The new pigeons then are ready to breed in four to six months.

Pino says the birds can be successfully inbred to improve certain characteristics. Toward that end, Pino is working on a color project, cross-breeding the Fairy Swallow and English Trumpeter. His goal is a sienna-colored Trumpeter, which he estimates could come about in five years or so.

Pino has a collection of ribbons and rosettes from the West Texas Pigeon Association, including two for best of breed. His goal is not ribbons but trophies.

He belongs to four pigeon clubs, and shares membership with at least two other Socorro County fanciers.

"Even the President likes pigeons," says Pino, referring to an article in a pigeon periodical in which George Bush admits to just that.

Pino says that more than 50,000 pigeons were used in World War II to carry critical information.

If freed, his own birds would return to their lofts, he says, with the exception of several racing birds which might just return to Deming.

A side hobby is research into his family ancestry, for which he has a notebook detailing his family tree.

Spain, says Pino, was the giant melting

pot of Europe. For an idea of how important ancestry is to Pino, know this: he has a tattoo on his chest of his family's coat of arms.

It was curiosity that led Pino to search for his roots; that same curiosity has led him to explore the seven major religions of the world, as well as the spheres of the occult, astrology, self-defense.

If he has a personal creed; it is to be not just a believer, but a doer.

His bookshelves cover a variety of subjects, from gardening to arrowheads. "I love flowers, birds and people to some extent," says Pino, adding that he has learned to be alone.

"I'm very proud to have served my country," he said. "The only thing I haven't done is become a father, but I have plenty of nieces and nephews."

He also has had personal sorrows, and, like the war, the hard life has taken many of his friends.

These days, "I try not to be materialistic, and to leave the past in the past."

But on this Monday afternoon, there is nothing but the present, and a symphony of movement created by the flurry of 250 birds.

"Look," says Pino, handling a Catalonia Tumbler, whose iridescent colors shine brightly under a warm sun. The bird is beautiful, her feathers a blend of green, violet, burnished brown.

The bird's band reminds Pino of her history, just as his own coat of arms is a reminder of his past, his personal legacy.

Pino releases the Tumbler. "I'll give some away and sell some," he says. And some are not for sale.

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Good Hens – The Backbone Of A Komorner Family

by ALLEN B. ZITTING, Centennial Park, Ariz.

In genetics we learn that a pigeon obtains one-half of its genetic code from its father and one-half from its mother. It would stand to reason then that a good quality cock bird is just as valuable as a good quality hen, and in theory this may be so. But, my experience has taught me that quality hens are much more difficult to come by. Without any scientific or statistical data to back that statement up, let's just call it an observation based on my experience. Indulge me a little further, and I will speculate as to why this seems to have been the case in my loft.

First, I very rarely have a year when I don't produce more cock birds than hens. Thus, at the end of the year, I generally have more young cocks to show and select for next years breeders, than I do hens. (This in itself would make for a good scientific study, to see what proportions of cocks to hens are produced by fanciers throughout the country over a period of years).

Second, during the course of the breeding season, even under the best of loft conditions, the hens are severely stressed while laying (especially if feeding youngsters at the same time) and seem more susceptible to disease. When I have lost an adult bird during the breeding season, it has usually been a hen that is laying or has recently laid. Hens that maintain vigor and health while breeding are to be highly prized. Hens that have difficulty laying, become listless, or fail in their parenting responsibilities, should be eliminated from your breeding program as soon as possible.

A third point to take into consideration is the emphasis Komorner fanciers place on what I will term "power" characteristics, that is bully necks, broad frontals, thick beaks, broad chests and large profusely feathered crests. I believe one would find that in most of the Komorner families in the United States and Canada, the cock birds tend to exhibit more "power" than the hens do, and I think this is natural in the species itself, as in most breeds the cocks are a little larger and a little more powerful than the hens. Such a situation produces more cocks suitable for the showroom, and makes the hen that can compete with the cocks all the more valued.

When picking a Komorner hen for the breeding pen, I look for a very healthy and vigorous bird. When handled, she should have a broad breast, that feels good in your hand (and fills your hand as if you were holding a large apple). The flesh should be firm (muscle and not soft (fat), neither should the bird feel narrow or light. The keel bone should be barely apparent, buried in the muscle of the breast, not prominent and bony like a Carriers.

A good Komorner hen for the breeding

pen should be medium to large in size. Small hens, although attractive to some in the show pen, rarely produce power in their youngsters. Medium to large hens generally produce larger eggs, have stronger young at time of hatching, are better feeders and better parents. A medium to large hen mated to a medium sized cock bird seems to produce the most consistent results as far as power and size go. A small cock bird mated to a large hen works well for me, but a large cock bird mated to a small hen has never produced satisfactory results. Generally speaking, I like my hens a little on the large side, and have had better results with the larger hens than the smaller ones.

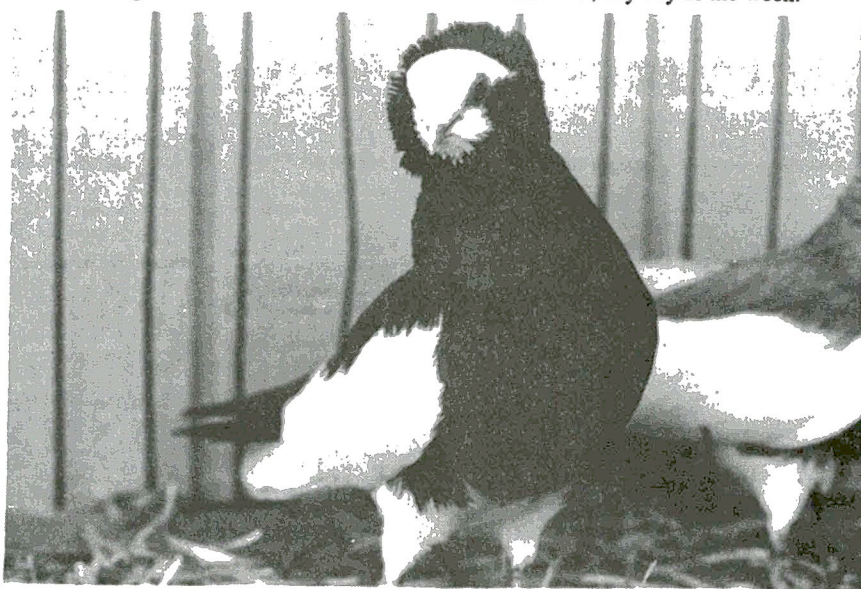
Another thing to watch when selecting hens is crest and rosette size and placement. Hens tend to carry their crest and rosettes lower on the neck than the cock birds in the same family. Hens with very large rosettes, will often carry them way too low on the neck (like a Capuchine). However such a hen, when mated to a bird with a high, tight crest, can add length of feather and produce exceptional young. Again, generally speaking, I will work with a hen with a low crest and rosettes if she is from a family of long feathered powerful cocks, she has considerable length of feather herself, and she has sufficient backskull feathering to prevent the crest from capping.

To illustrate my point, I have included pictures of 83-945, a Red Magpie Marked Hen bred by Ken Bickler and purchased from Glenn Julian in 1985. (Please note that the birds in this pictures (taken in June) have been breeding for 5-6 months and are not in

the best of shape). The hen, 83-945 has an excellent body, is medium in size, with an excellent head, crest, and station. Her color is good and she has excellent markings except for a white patch under the tail (pluckable) that she frequently passes on to her young. She is a prolific breeder, lays large eggs, and is a tight sitter, staying with the young at night until she lays her next clutch of eggs. At eight years old, she is still going strong and laying regularly.

Her first mate at the Zitting loft was two time National Champion Yellow Cock 328, bred by Bob Baird and purchased from Bob Divilbiss. They produced 85-2001, an excellent colored yellow hen with a large (but low) crest and rosettes. 2001 has produced several excellent youngsters, the best being 86-241, an excellent colored red hen with exceptional power in the body and neck. In 1986, I mated 945 to an Evans Black Cock which produced two exceptional youngsters, Red Cock 86-243 (Champion 1988 Portland National) and 86-289, probably one of the most powerful blacks I have seen, but he has a persistent break in the mane and stained beak that keep him of the showroom. 1988 saw her mated to a white cock, which produced 88-911, a very stylish small cock with good broad frontal and excellent station. The past two years 945 has been mated to an Almond Cock, producing several reds, blacks and finally an almond earlier this year (1991).

Although not a perfect bird, 945 excels in several areas and by now is in the pedigree of practically every Magpie (and several selfs) in the Zitting loft. Her exceptional body, vigor and prolific breeding ability are key traits I hope to establish in this line of Komorners. True, I couldn't have done it without some excellent cock birds as well, but I will still trade three good cock birds for a hen like 945, any day of the week.



Red Magpie Komorner Tumbler, OH #83-945, bred by Ken Bickler, owned by Allen B. Zitting. This hen is a full bodied bird with excellent head, crest and station.

Strange Problems

by JOE STAYER, Olean, N.Y.

In the process of flying birds from my mobile loft, I have come upon a few things that strangely bother my birds especially when they are just returning from a fly. The locations picked as far as terrain do not cause too much of a problem, but they like consistency in a color. Once I had taken my birds out and had a white T-shirt with a brown carhart jacket over it. The birds started down but wouldn't come in. At home I had always worn a red and black plaid jacket. So I changed and put it on and the birds came right down.

I have two mobile lofts: one for training

and one to take out of the area for flying. Both lofts are the same color now but one time one was white with blue trim and white roof. The other was blue with white roof and trim. Both have two compartments which hold 25 birds each. I had trained a kit to the blue loft. Then I moved them over to the white. My older birds refused to go in so I had to go back to the blue.

This also applies to the trap doors which are the loft doors on hinges used as a landing board behind which are the traps. If I fly one kit from the left side they will not come into right side even if the door is open. But if I

close the one side and open the other they will go in.

Noise is another problem in getting birds to trap. Once while working in Surry, Va., I was parked out in the farming country flying my birds. They were preparing to come in but about 25 ft., from the ground, they refused. Hearing a noise, I looked all around and I found a paper lime bag under my truck. With the wind blowing, the bag made a strange noise and as soon as it was removed they landed.

Another time I was flying my birds for a friend in Burlington, N.C., who ran the SPCA dog kennels. The dogs' barking spooked the birds and I had to move the truck before they would trap.

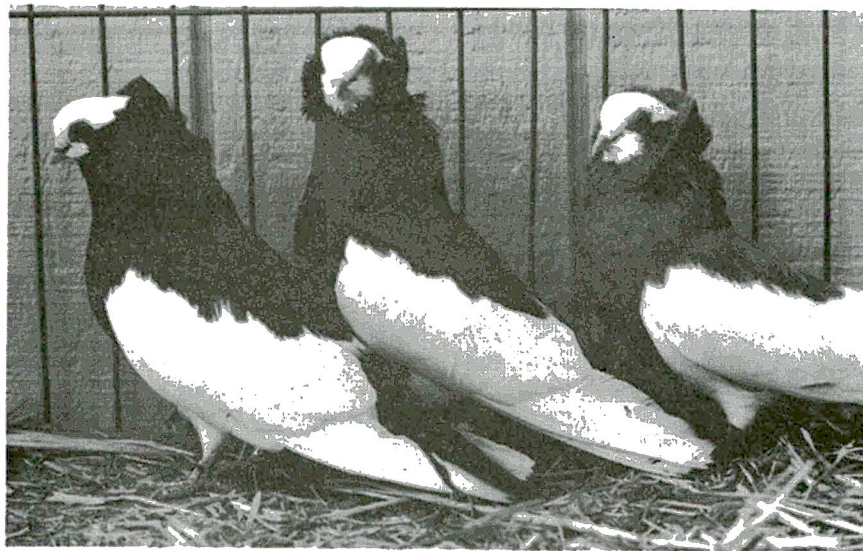
Flying from a mobile loft the birds learn to trust you by your voice, whistle and what you wear. Many times when I show my birds in a new area, when they return and land on the loft, if they hear my voice or see me sitting near by, they come near or sometimes even sit on my shoulder.

One time I was visiting a retired Roller man who had to give up Rollers because of ill health. I tried to visit because he enjoyed watching the birds perform. The birds were ready to drop but they would get down to about 25 ft., and then take back off. After I moved the loft, they dropped and trapped. Looking around to see what could have been the problem, I discovered 10 black homers sitting on the roof nearby and my birds would not land with them there.

I found that it is best to check out each area before flying birds. Things we take for granted look different from the sky. Distractions could range from an old car, machinery, strange color paint or a rust color. Moving the loft to a different locations in the same area usually brings them in.

Even the process of keeping my loft clean gave me a lesson. I put about 3" of cat litter on the loft floor. Without thinking ahead I purchased a new brand of litter and dumped the 25 lbs. in the loft, spread it around and called the birds inside. The birds started to eat the cat litter like they were starved. I feed my birds pellets and the cat litter was in pellet form. I had to get my wife's vacuum cleaner and clean up the whole 25 lbs. and throw it away. Now I only use the gravel type.

Another thing I have noticed is that birds will take a bath every day if you change the water. They don't seem to like to take a bath in dirty water.



Red Magpie Komorner Tumbler Hen, #83-945 (center) with daughter Yellow Hen #85-2001 (right) and granddaughter Red Hen #86-241 (left). 2001 and 241 bred by Allen B. Zitting, 945 bred by Ken Bickler. All birds owned by Allen B. Zitting.



Red Magpie Komorner Tumbler Hen #83-945 (left) with three of her sons. Front center, Red Cock #86-243 (Champion 1988 Portland National). Rear center, Black Cock #86-289 (an exceptionally powerful beak). Right, white cock #88-911 (very stylish small birds with good broad frontal and excellent station).

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A History Of Doveland – M. Frank Cook's Masterpiece

by ROBERT "BOB" NOLAN, Dana Point, Calif.

For those not acquainted with artists M. Frank Cook's beautiful masterpiece Doveland, this article will serve to enlighten and for those already familiar with the oil painting hopefully this essay will give the reader an appreciation of what efforts it took to obtain it.

The mere size and scope of the painting is enough to command attention and awe. Encompassed by an ornate gold leaf frame (valued at \$2,000), the painting measures 6' x 8'. It was painted in 1911, and took the artist two years to complete. The idea for the theme came to Cook (1869-1953) after viewing an old German postcard which showed a castle and a few pigeons in front of it. Cook elaborated on this theme of the medieval castle by adding a forest and 132 different breeds of pigeons. It was erroneously reported to have been painted on plywood but in fact it was done on canvas.

Cook was 41 years old at the time and probably approaching his best years as an artist. He had painted from boyhood without the benefit of formal art training. The nearest thing being some casual advice from Schilling, the noted poultry painter. His talent was a natural one aided only by trial and error, otherwise known as the school of experience. Considering he was a tradesman (sheet metal worker) and painted only in his spare time the difference in quality between his paintings prior to 1909 and Doveland is startling.

When completed, it was sold for an undisclosed amount to a wholesale grocer in Cook's hometown of Rochester, New York. This man treasured the painting and had it in his possession for about 15-17 years. Unfortunately, he had a nervous breakdown in 1927, and was confined to a sanitarium. When it became apparent he would not recover, his wife sold the business and their home and moved away. Before leaving, however, since she was not a pigeon lover, and owing to the smaller size of her new apartment, she informed Cook the painting was for sale.

The artist relayed this information to his friend and fellow Swallow breeder Joe Ruelbach, also of Rochester, N.Y. The asking price was \$650.00, an astronomical figure for those days. Consider for a moment that a model T-Ford was selling for about \$450.00. Ruelbach, a second generation carpenter, was far from a wealthy man. In fact, although close to 30, he still lived in his boyhood home with his father and mother for financial reasons. Since he was single, it made it easier for him to justify his indulgence in his hobby. Nevertheless, he later remarked that he had to alter his lifestyle for sometime to recover from this purchase. However, he realized this was an opportunity that would come along only once in a

lifetime.

The question of how to move Doveland was answered when Ruelbach remembered a carpenter friend who had a flat bed truck. After carefully loading it on the truck, and heading for home, a disaster was barely averted. Because of its size, a considerable portion of the painting hung over the side of the truck. A car whizzed by narrowly missing the exposed portions. Upon arrival at his home, his mother was shocked at the size of the painting and asked, "Joe where are you going to hang it?" Finally it was decided the only possible place was a small 10' x 10' den. The painting took up one whole wall with maybe two inches to spare. This would be Doveland's home for the next 63 years. Only once in that time was it moved and that was for public display at a swallow meet in Buffalo, N.Y., around 1948. A fellow Swallow breeder who worked for the post office volunteered his mail truck to transport the painting to the show. With Ruelbach in the back of the truck holding onto Doveland, both resting on a mattress, they set off for Buffalo, about 40 miles away.

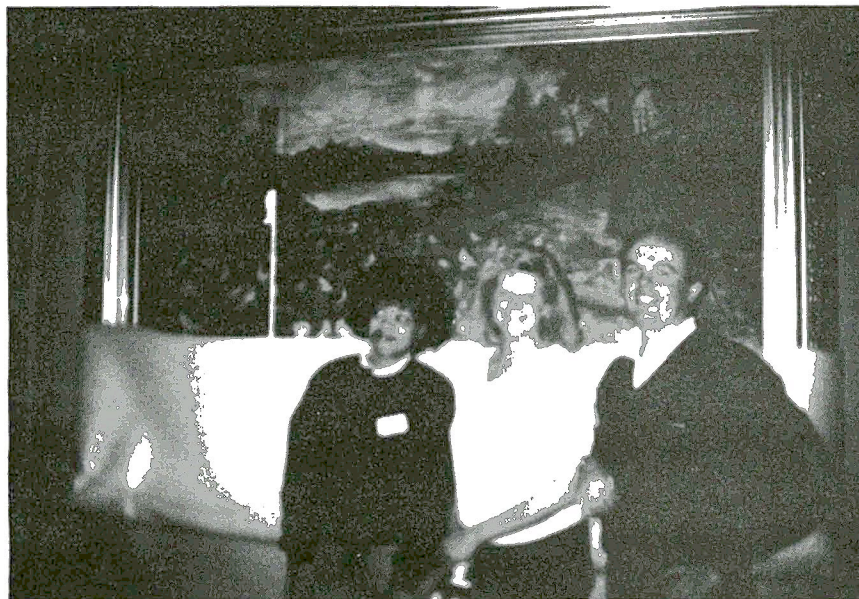
Evidently, this cold and windy ride was enough to convince Ruelbach to keep the painting at home for it was not moved from the den again until it was sold in 1989.

For all those years the painting stayed firmly anchored to the Ruelbach wall. Stories of the legendary painting were wide spread in pigeon circles during the 1960's, 1970's and 1980's. The question always being asked was, "Would he sell it?" Approached many times, the answer was always no! Some said Ruelbach wanted it to remain in Rochester forever. As the years

wore on Ruelbach kept going to the funerals of his lifelong Swallow breeder friends. Finally, the day came when he looked around and realized he was an old man, he had outlived all his Rochester fancier friends. There was no one to leave the painting to in Rochester.

In 1988, Ruelbach saw Lynn Watson's ad in the APJ wanting to buy pigeon art. It was a reminder that the California collector had approached him ten years earlier to buy Doveland but he had said no. However, he did say that when the time came to sell it he would contact Watson. That day came in December of 1988 when a letter arrived in San Clemente from Ruelbach, Watson's once-in-a-lifetime opportunity was there. Soon the excited collector was flying towards New York, seeking his grandest purchase ever. Watson and Ruelbach hit it off immediately, talking for hours on end about M. Frank Cook, the history of the painting, and the pigeon fancy as Ruelbach remembered it. This fast friendship no doubt played a key role in the painting ending up in California.

The deal was struck, money changed hands, Lynn Watson was the owner of Doveland. A dream had come true. On the negative side some problems arose. It was the dead of winter. Shipping by air cost several thousand dollars. A substantial shipping crate would have to be built. Watson tried several firms but either the price was exorbitant or they did not want to tackle such a huge job. Pressed by the need to get back to his job as a painting contractor, Watson returned begrudgingly to San Clemente without Doveland. He decided to wait until the



Team of movers assigned the task of shipping Doveland from New York to California. Photograph shows massive size of painting.

weather conditions were better. In the meantime hopefully he could find a mover. The months slipped away, the painting remained in Rochester, soon the onset of another winter faced Watson. Deciding he must make a move now or wait until next spring, he found a moving company who would build a crate, pack it in bubble wrap and cardboard, and transport it by truck to California for \$1150.00.

Watson called Ruelbach and told him he was ready to move the painting. The old man now past 90 wanted Lynn there to supervise the packing. The cost of a transcontinental flight and many long distance calls later, Watson was back in Rochester. The day he arrived was bright and sunny. The next morning when he awoke he couldn't believe his eyes, an early unseasonable blizzard had hit during the night. What would he do? He decided to go ahead with the move in the bad weather. As the movers took it carefully down off the wall and outside to the waiting van, Watson stood shivering on the porch for 30 minutes in below zero weather. It seems Doveland would leave Rochester only under protest. The giant painting, so long rooted there, refused to fit into the crate. Some hasty

alterations to its' wrappings and it at last slid obediently into the crate. Like it or not California would be its new home.

Some eight days later it arrived at 178 Aragon Street in San Clemente in perfect condition after 3,000 miles of bumpy roads. Hung on the living room wall for all to see Doveland's arrival caused a stir among knowledgeable pigeon men in Southern California. Naturally everyone wanted to see it.

Watson decided the perfect place to display it would be at the 1991 NPA Grand National at Pomona. Accordingly, the announcement was made not only here in the USA but in Europe as well. Invitations were sent by Watson to friends in Europe to visit the show and see the magnificent painting. At his own expense, a moving van was rented, a special easel was built to display Doveland on, and help to move the painting was secured.

Doveland's solitary confinement in Rochester had come to an end. During those three days of the show more people viewed it than had in its previous 63 years. Among them were 15 international visitors from Germany, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Australia and England. Doveland will always be associated with the

Pomona National. The cost, effort, and danger to the painting preclude its probably showing publicly for quite sometime. For those there at Pomona who saw Doveland, the memory shall remain forever green.

(Note: Since this article was written, Lynn Watson has sold Doveland to Karlheinz Soll Frank of Germany.)

MORE PHOTOS ON NEXT PAGES

Can These Theories Work For Me?

by DENNIS EDWARDS,
Baton Rouge, La.

1991 was somewhat dismal with my breeding because I was away practically if not all year. Any success I may have achieved should be given to my wife (Betty). However, thank God we are here to read and continue in a truly wonderful hobby.

I concentrated on breeding for purity and condensing dominate and superior genetic genes into a super show bird and high performance birds in my show Kings and Runts for show and performance in my Racing Homers.

Would some experienced breeder substantiate or disprove these theories I'm using in my breeding season?

1. I use my "second" best male to mate with my best hen. Their offspring (females) are then mated to the "best" male. Then best offspring "females" are mated back to the father on a rotation basis.

"Reason is" the second best male gives his genetic qualities to the first generation females with his one chromosome, then the "best" male is mated to those first generation females who pass those chromosomes to her sons along with chromosomes from the "best" male who is now bred to her.

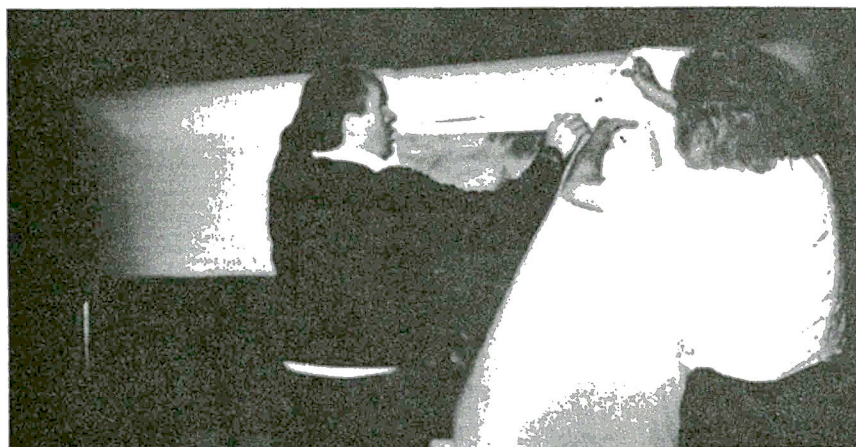
Theory #1 - Sons should have all quality genes from your best and second best male now, and probably be by far better birds in all characteristics then the two original males.

Theory #2 - Daughters should have their father's ("the best one") one chromosome (which should be great, he was your best).

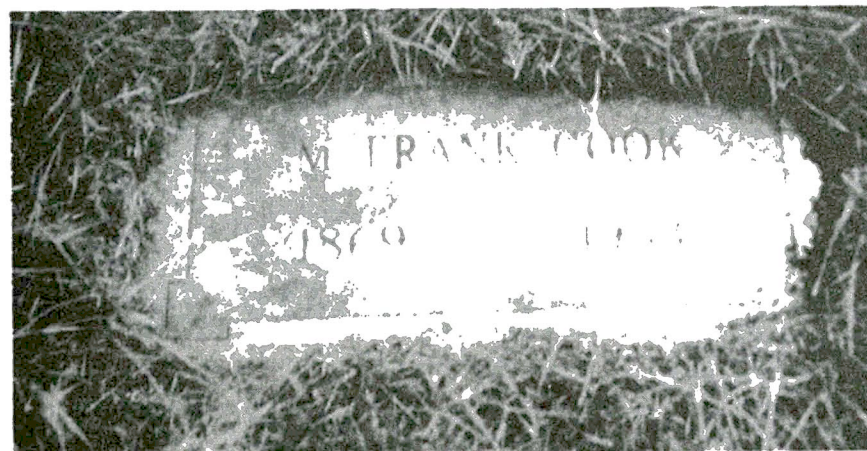
The above sons and daughters are then mated together after choosing the best female to mate with your best male.

Note: A. This is my system of breeding/inbreeding which in my show birds the appearance and standard qualities determine which is best and which is second best. B. This is my system used in breeding/inbreeding my Racing Homers whereas pedigree, performance and results determine which is best and which is second best.

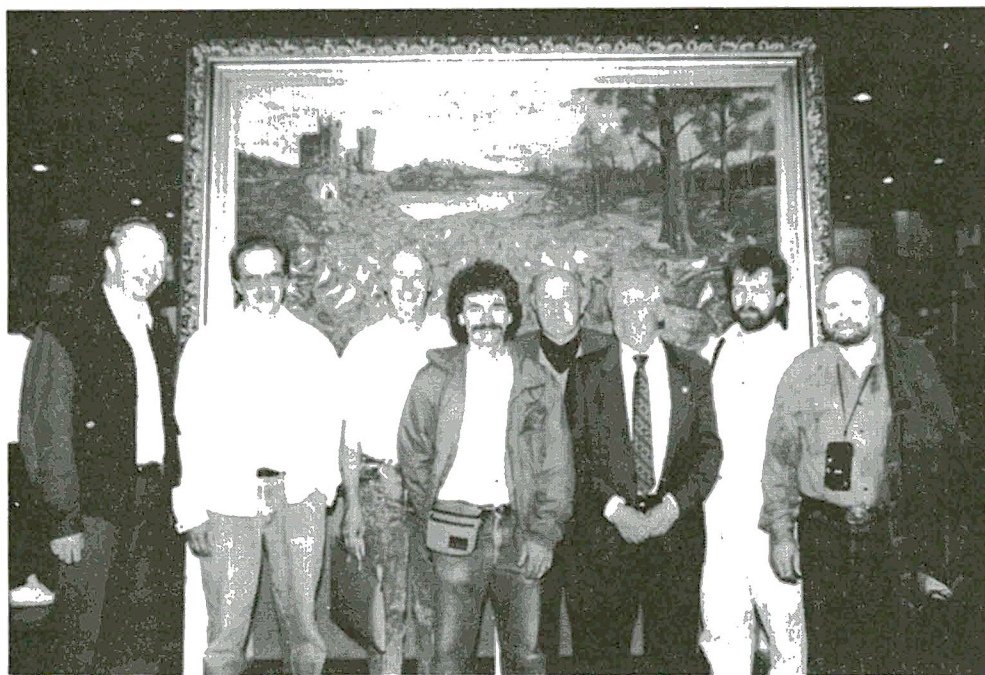
Anyone who may wish to try or give me and other members some recommendations or amendments that will be of greater advantage please respond to: D. D. Edwards Sr., 4005 Eleanor Drive, Baton Route, LA 70805.



Movers shown bubble wrapping Doveland in preparation for shipping to the home of Lynn Watson, San Clemente, Calif.



Gravestone of Doveland artist M. Frank Cook in Rochester, N.Y. His date of death has been reported in the 1940s. Stone clearly shows he died in 1953 at age 84.



INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

Who attended the Pomona Grand National in anticipation of seeing Doveland. Pictured left to right are Jewel Lauwers (Belgium), Rudi Proll (Germany), Dick Krueger (USA), Lynn Watson, former owner of Doveland, Frank Frohmann (Hungary), Phillip Reiter (Germany), Mario Reichenbach (Germany) and Christian Reichenbach (Germany), editor of the popular "Geflugel-Borfe" magazine.



Joe Ruelbach at age 93, the famous Swallow breeder, owned Doveland for 63 years.



Doveland painted by M. Frank Cook.

Pigeon Fancy's t Revered Painting

The home of M. Frank Cook in Rochester, N.Y. Here, after two years of work, Doveland was complete.



Lynn Watson, San Clemente, Calif., at the grave of M. Frank Cook. Lynn was former owner of Cook's most famous work, Doveland.



Information Please!

by ROBERT J. MANGILE
816 E. Atkinson
Pittsburg, Kansas 66762



All Pigeon Eggs Ain't 'Egg Shaped'!

Eggs are not always typically 'egg shape' as we generally believe. But, we are seldom impressed with their variability unless their condition is extreme. For example: earlier this Spring (1991) I found a mostly normal looking egg, void of a shell. The yolk was visible through the soft, rather tough, membrane covering. Apparently, something went wrong and the egg failed to receive a coating of egg shell as do normal eggs.

Variations which occur more frequently don't seem to rivet our attention. Some have rough or softened shells or are quite large. Others may be rather long and tubular shaped or very small and round. Often the small ones lack a yolk and perhaps should not even be considered an 'egg.'

A Racing Homer hen (788-W) of mine that regularly lays large eggs, laid an unusually large single yolked egg that measured approximately two inches long. Her sister (788-B) also lays large eggs, which regularly measure approximately 1-3/4 inches long. Both sibling hens lay larger eggs than my French Mondain mongrels. The difference is quite striking when compared to more typical Racing Homer eggs which measures about 1-1/2 inches long or Ringnecked Dove eggs at a little under 1-1/4 inches long.

Such large, single yolked eggs in the same family of birds suggest that hereditary

plays a part in egg size. So . . . , when such things present themselves I try to make a small note of it in my breeding records, hoping it will solidify a new idea sometime in the future.

Someone might ask: "What good are all those seemingly useless notes in your breeding records?" That's a tough question to answer! However, one never knows when such notes or sketches become important; because memory is unreliable and hardly considered documentation to support a new idea. What may seem to be a rare occurrence or condition may turn out to be less of a rarity if we all make and gather our notes. We might solve age old problems and/or learn many new things about pigeons from such little notes. The following just might be such an example.

In a letter from Dr. Willard Hollander some time ago, he mentioned a female pigeon (217-A) that laid a clutch of 'kidney shaped' eggs. Such a comment might seem inconsequential but . . . if it jogs your memory, as this one did mine, and stirs your curiosity, they become the pertinent ones.

My recollections of a hen that regularly laid odd shaped eggs during 1990, spurred me to search my records. Eventually, I found the grade Chinese Owl hen (908-D) with my notes and a small sketch depicting eggs that were generally flat on one side. Not too

different from a 'kidney shape.' Wow! Ain't that an unusual coincidence? If I'd been more thorough, I would have taken photos of them or cleaned them out and saved the shells for future reference. Documentation is vital.

Apparently, Doc wasn't able to simply accept those unusual looking eggs without some inquiry. First he took some photos (see Figure 1) to have a record of their appearance. Then he autopsied the hen looking for a possible cause. Internally, all looked well, except for the possibility of some adhesions. (Adhesions are the joining or sticking together of body parts that are usually separate, which typically results from inflammation). He speculates that these adhesions may possibly hamper oviduct function and alter the end result of the shell layering process. The idea that adhesions may be the cause of non-symmetrical eggs seems plausible.

Have you seen any crooked eggs lately? I think I've seen another instance in my loft recently. I recall seeing an egg that looked ringed or squashed from end to end. But . . . shame on me; because I've failed to make a note of it or take a photo of it. Something causes eggs to take on such unusual shapes. What can it be? Can anyone offer a better explanation for their production? Unfortunately, Hollander reported that the eggs in the photo were infertile. My records indicate that the flat sided eggs from my hen (908-D) hatched at the same rate as other normally shaped eggs. Can anyone add anything to this story?

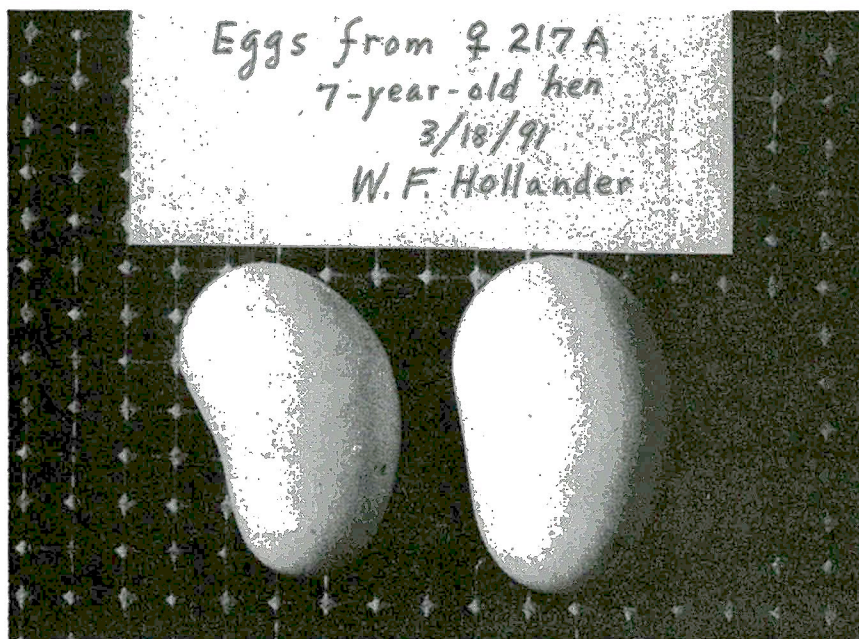


FIGURE 1

Shown are the 'kidney shaped' pigeon eggs laid by Hollander's seven year old hen (217-A). Both eggs were infertile. — Photo by Paul Hollander.

- Announcing - THE SHOW SECRETARY

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by ROBERT "BOB" PHILLIPS
Publicity Writer
Box 218 • Lithopolis, Ohio 43136

So You Plan To Move

It was a recent letter from Gary Thompson of Shropshire, England and his reply that has prompted this article. To begin with Thompson wrote requesting help from the A.U. on home buying as he wanted to move to Florida. I thought if people like Thompson from overseas are asking for home buying assistance why not do something for all our fanciers.

The Avian Assistance Council, as a service to pigeon fanciers, has prepared a Pigeon Breeder's Home Buying Guide. This booklet was prepared by the Avian Assistance Council under the auspices of the American Pigeon Fanciers' Council and with the financial assistance of the American Racing Pigeon Union.

You ask what is The Avian Assistance Council? The Avian Assistance Council is an organization comprised of attorneys and lay persons who desire to promote its purposes which include procuring promulgation of statutes and ordinances conducive to the enjoyment of breeding, showing and flying of pigeons and all other avian species; and aiding in the defense of non-justifiable infringement on the rights of affected avian participants.

What follows are pages taken from the Pigeon Breeder's Home Buying Guide. The largest single investment most of us make is the purchase of our home. As pigeon fanciers one of the criteria we use to decide which home to buy is the desirability and usefulness of the property for our hobby. We make sure there is a good place to locate the loft, and if we breed a flying variety, we look for a good access for the birds without power lines or similar obstructions. Racing pigeon fanciers also consider the property location in relation to the race course and competing lofts.

These things are important, but not as important as finding out if there are restrictive covenants or ordinances that prevent maintaining a pigeon loft. Failure to make the right inquiries can be disastrous. Too often a fancier discovers after buying a home that keeping pigeons violates restrictive covenants, a zoning code prohibits accessory buildings such as a pigeon loft or a city ordinance outlaws keeping pigeons. A legal action is filed to require the pigeons to be removed, and often a criminal violation is alleged which threatens a substantial fine or imprisonment. If the fancier loses the legal

battle or can't afford to engage in a court fight, he either has to dispose of his birds, or must move, incurring the expense of selling, buying and moving to be able to enjoy his birds.

Most home purchases begin with a contract between the sellers and the buyers which is usually prepared by a real estate broker. It is a written document, and may be called a "Real Estate Purchase Agreement," "Offer of Purchase," "Earnest Money Agreement," or a similar name. Many buyers have the impression that this is a preliminary document and final terms will be agreed upon at the closing, or after their attorney looks at the agreement. Wrong - Not True! The provisions of the initial agreement are binding and control the terms of the sale.

The majority of real estate agreements are signed by the parties in the evening or on a weekend when the buyers are being shown the property. The realtor and the seller want to sign up the buyer before he changes his mind. Often a buyer also wants to bind the seller with a contract quickly before someone else makes an offer. The best procedure is for the buyer to insist that his attorney approve the agreement before signing, even if it means waiting a day or more to bind the seller.

The pigeon fancier needs language in this first document that assures the contract can be cancelled and earnest money refunded if there are conditions that will not permit keeping pigeons at the new home. Here is a suggested clause to be included in the initial contract:

"The seller(s) understand that one of the intended uses of the property by the buyer(s) is the raising, flying and exhibiting of pigeons, doves or cage birds. In the event at any time prior to the closing, buyer(s) determines the existence of any statute, ordinance, rule, regulation, covenant, plat restriction, zoning code, building regulation or health department requirement which will interfere with the intended use to keep and maintain pigeons, doves or cage birds, buyer(s) shall have the option to terminate this contract, receive a full refund of earnest money paid hereunder, and shall be relieved of any liability under this agreement to the seller(s) or seller(s) agents."

If you are considering making an offer for a home, tell the real estate agent who is showing you the home about your interest in pigeons, and advise the agent (preferably in

writing) that you must have the above clause in any contract you sign. If you are having your attorney examine and approve the contract before you sign, explain your intent to raise pigeons and ask the attorney to make sure the contract contains this clause or similar language approved by the attorney.

By now you have a pretty fair idea that this booklet contains much needed information that you and I do not have at our finger tips. Russ Burns has informed this writer that one of these booklets went out to each club secretary this year. Should you need one and the much, much more information that is in this booklet see your club secretary. I will give you the address below where you may obtain one. The cost of the A.P.F.C. Publication #6 "Pigeon Breeder's Home Buying Guide" prepared by the Avian Assistance Council is \$1.50. This amount covers postage and handling.

This year alone I have had many calls on this subject only after the home had been purchased and before the new loft was finished. I am sure that the cost of this booklet is far less than the cost of the phone calls the concerned parties made to me.

The New A.U. has made this possible for you with the help of many others - won't you please make good use of it as a tool to better enjoyment in this great hobby of ours.

The racing pigeon flyers may send their order to Russ Burns, P.O. Box 2713, South Hamilton, MA 01982. Russ states that he has only 40 copies of this booklet left.

The cage bird and fancy pigeon hobbyist may send their order to: The American Pigeon Journal, P.O. Box 278, Warrenton, MO 63383-0278.

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SPOTLIGHT ON YOUTH

by KELLEY D. SPURLING,
Head Junior Director,
Performing Roller Assn.
1475 Sunglo Dr.
Grants Pass, Ore. 97527

"The Performing Roller Association Junior Program – One Year Later"

I am writing this several days after having flown in the "PRA Debut West Coast Fly." With my stress gone, I am able to write this column.

Joe Testa, Founder and President of the PRA affiliated Massachusetts Association of Performing Rollers, judged this event.

Joe is a kick to be around, and his knowledge of Flying Rollers is excellent.

In the Southern area of Oregon we flew on Nov. 7. Southern Oregon had four flyers in this event. Kelley Spurling was the only Junior.

The first flyer was Mario Gonzalez. Unfortunately the fog was yet to burn off. They went up climbing above the fog. Better luck next year, guy.

Dan Ouellette flew next. He put up a kit of entirely self pigeons. Despite their young age, they put on a great frequent performance. Several of these birds had great velocity and style. As always, Dan put up a real quality kit.

The third flyer was Gary Millar. Apparently some type of raptor was nearby as they flew in tight circles with a quick homer-like wing action. Incidentally, they put on very little performance; this type of thing is familiar to everyone. I hope Joe gets to these again on a good day as Gary has good Rollers.

Kelley Spurling was to fly next. I was a bit afraid to fly them as I was not pleased with them. They put on a decent performance considering their young age (six months). Joe noted a few good individuals.

The PRA Junior Program has prospered and grown to a great size.

I am the only Junior Charter member of the PRA. In 1989, the PRA had four Junior Members; three in Southern Oregon and one in Arkansas. By 1990, we had only two.

In November of 1990 the PRA Junior Program was born. Barry Bean was the first Junior Director appointed by myself.

At this time, the PRA has 13 Junior Directors in nine states. The PRA boasts a Junior Membership of 41; all of us raise this one breed. We are a specialty club devoted to the one breed.

The PRA Junior Membership is over half the size of the NPA Junior Membership which caters to all breeds. This gives one an idea of the size of the future of this organization.

Next year we would like to see a Junior Class of PRA verified Rollers at PRA dis-

plays. I suggest all the Juniors verify their best performers to help preserve this breed.

I assure everyone the PRA is the Roller Association of the Future.

For those who do not agree with or cannot understand the purpose of the PRA, I suggest you form your own club. Do the work, get the credit.

As the organizer of this program, I can honestly say it is a total success.

The PRA continues to grow, everyone who agrees with us is welcome to come in. All correspondence is welcomed.

NPA News

Here is some news from Mike Neill:

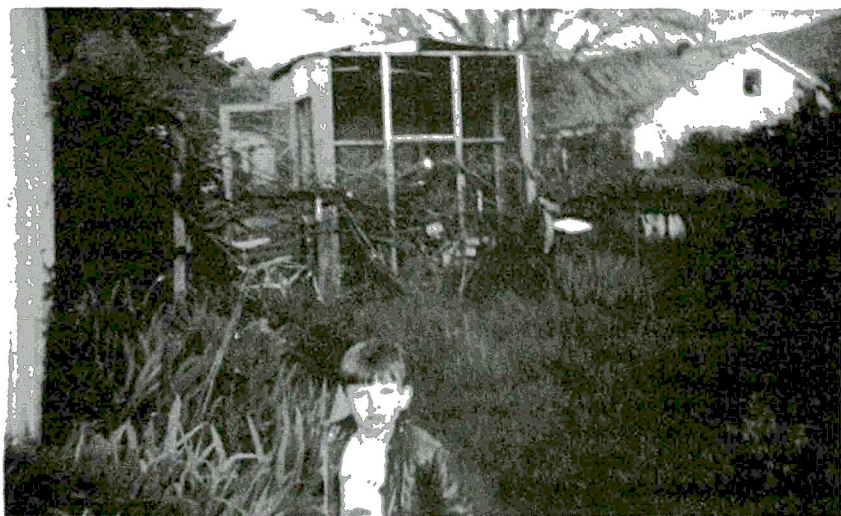
"Thought you may be able to use all or part of this in your 'Spotlight on Youth' articles. It may help convince a few senior NPA and specialty club members to get more

involved and utilize the skills of those hardworking junior pigeon breeders. Keep up the articles - you're doing great! I will be publishing most of this in my monthly bulletin for the Santa Clara Valley Pigeon Club. Also, you may want to note that it looks as though we will be having a Roller demonstration at our Great Western Pigeon Show in October again. There is a fellow that Art Solorio and some of the other Roller breeders in our area know that flies a portable kit (out of a trailer-loft). It was really a good demonstration for the breed and I know it takes innumerable hours of training.

"On August 18, 1991, the Santa Clara Valley Pigeon Club held its Fall Auction in Livermore, CA. The club was somewhat put on the spot as the usual date for this auction is the 2nd or 3rd weekend in September. Many of the senior members who volunteer their time and support for this event already had vacation plans or other commitments and the club was left a bit short of workers. It just so happens that the SCVPC is blessed with a number of Junior members who are normally assigned to the minor tasks of clean-up, feeding, and running paperwork at shows and auctions. This time they covered all of the jobs that are usually taken care of by a more experienced adult.



A kit loft of K.D. Spurling owned in 1986 and 1987. Not what a kit loft should be. This held a crowded 20 pigeons.

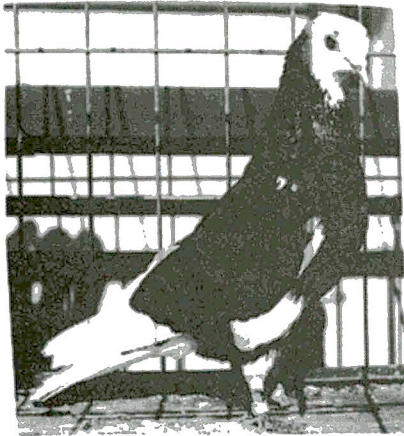


Kelley D. Spurling's first loft (circa 1982) used from 1976-1987. Kelley is in the back and Philip Roark in front.

"The juniors ran the food sales, clipped and unclipped cages, recorded the sales for the auctioneer, assigned buyer's numbers, checked in auction birds and animals, and checked out buyers. They were responsible for adding up the amount of the sales and tending the cash (which was in excess of \$3,500.00). They wrote up receipts and received the money for the check-in and buyer's numbers. The best part was that the Juniors did all of this somewhat spur-of-the-moment and did it with a smile and great enthusiasm.



Dark Check Self Roller cock, IRC-87-895. - Bred by J. DeGroat, owned by Barry Bean, PRA Jr. Director of Idaho.



Black Bald Roller hen. - Bred and owned by Adam Springston.



Dark Check Badge W/WIT Roller cock, IPB-84-130. - Bred and owned by K.D. Spurling.

There was no hesitation when they were assigned a task and they had a lot more energy than most of the adults at the end of the day. They were pleasant to the people attending the auction and were very, very serious and careful in doing the jobs assigned to them. On behalf of the Santa Clara Valley Pigeon Club Seniors, I would like to thank the following juniors: Tim Hodge, John DeCarlo Jr., Eddie Duwart (John's friend who happened to spend the night and was volunteered to work), Amy Neill, Mike Neill, Issa Hilweh, and Ramsey Ajlouni. The average age of these volunteers is '14 years old,' with Ramsey and Issa being the oldest and Tim Hodge being the youngest.

"Anyone in a specialty club or breed club who wonders just how much help a junior member can be or how much they can contribute, should give our club a call. We'll let you know just what kind of special gold mine you have in your junior members."

Obviously, the NPA is growing; however, in my opinion, the NPA must make a few changes.

The main change is the "Junior Merit Award." I think the NPA should eliminate all of the requirements.

The NPA's only strength is the specialty club. The NPA must let its affiliates use the Newsletter more. I don't get anything out of President, Secretary, and Area Reports. Are you a business or a club?

Back to the "Merit Award," erase the requirements. So many of those requirements involve merely "schoolwork," many are mere "book reports" and "field trip reports."



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I say let the specialty clubs in the NPA, choose their most knowledgeable and successful Juniors.

After all, the specialty clubs know, not the NPA.

I propose the following:

A. Each specialty club (National) chooses top Junior(s) in membership.

B. Specialty club tests or interviews for their candidate.

C. Results are sent to the NPA, from there the NPA chooses the outstanding candidates.

D. The specialty club's name should also appear on the award next to the NPA's. I.E. if a Fantail fancier tells me I have great Rollers, I will be flattered; however, if a Roller fancier tells me the same thing, coming from him, it will mean much more. I hope point is taken.

Send all correspondence, photos, news, etc., to:

Kelley D. Spurling, Head Jr. Dir., Performing Roller Assn., 1475 Sunglo Dr., Grants Pass, Ore. 97527.

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Organizations



American Owl Club News

by TONY LOMUTO, Pub. Dir., Brooklyn, N.Y.

The AOC had its annual meet at Reading, Penn., on Jan. 10, 11, 12. It was a great show as always. The AOC only had 50 Africans entered but the competition was there.

I don't have all the class wins as of now but I know Tom Zaengle took Champion and Reserve Champion. Congratulations Tom. There were six exhibitors: Tom Zaengle, Tony Lomuto, A.J. Stratton, Jim Ashton, Henry Jaeger and Vinney Rooney.

Gene Pardini did a fabulous job as judge. Gene explained a lot about all the birds and had a tough time with some of them when it got down to picking first and second in a class as the quality was excellent. Gene also pointed out a lot of the Africans had a thick eye cere as it should be very fine. Also some of the birds had long legs and not much gullet. Well, we all learned a lot from Gene and all we have to do now is work on these faults for next season. Some of the Blacks also had poor color and also the Reds. Gene did a great job. I wonder how Gene would have picked a winner if the Africans had no faults? Tough question for any judge. Thanks, Gene, for superb judging.

The AOC has a lot of newly appointed

officers and I believe some more new members also. When I get all the information, I will print it in my next article in the APJ. We are working on a yearbook for next year as it is the 100th Anniversary for the A.O.C.

We will need help from all African Owl breeders with ads and articles. I will let everyone know the details and where to send your articles, pictures, etc., within the next few months.

I would like every African Owl breeder to send in a little something to make this the best 100th Anniversary book ever. So get your pens and paper ready and start putting your thoughts together now.

I will be writing a monthly article on the A.O.C. in the APJ, but fanciers, I do need a little help from everyone so please write me with some news from time to time. Let everyone know how many pairs of Africans you breed from, what colors, loft size, what pumpers you use, method of breeding, feeding, medication, anything at all will help. Write me at: 2023 83rd Street, Brooklyn, New York 11214.

Till next month, good luck to all in the upcoming breeding season.

Western Show Racing Homer Assn. News

by LOU FERRARI, Saratoga, Calif.

The purpose of the Western Show Racing Homer Association is to promote the breeding, competition, and sport of showing Racing Homers. Plans are now being made for the 1992 show season. The W.S.R.H.A. will sponsor three district shows as well as the 1992 "U.S. Open Racing Pigeon Show." Also this year we will present our first "Master Showman" award based on the results for the W.S.R.H.A. show season.

The 1991 show season found competition at its highest level. The quality of the birds was very high at every show. The 1991 Western National Young Bird show was won by Dick Halvorson with a beautiful opal check young hen. Leonard Rusche won the Great Western Pigeon Show with a powerful grizzle old cock. This bird typifies the strength found in Leonard's racing pigeons. Over 400 Racing Homers were in competition at the

California State Racing Pigeon Show. A panel of eight judges awarded champion to "Ferrari Lofts" with a gorgeous blue check young hen. The "Nelson Lofts" won the Northwest Winter Classic with a superb red check old hen. Ferrari Lofts won again at the Sacramento Fall Classic with an outstanding blue check old cock. The show season came to an end at the Pageant of Pigeons with Leonard Rusche winning Champion with a pretty blue bar old hen.

The Western Show Racing Homer Association would like to extend an invitation to all Racing Homer breeders to join our club and help promote the world's most beautiful show pigeon - the Racing Homer.

If you are interested in joining, write Lou Ferrari, Secretary, 20486 Pierce Rd., Saratoga, Calif. 95070.

Cascade Roller Breeders Show At Western National

by VERLE KIRK,
Vancouver, Wash.

Judge Ron Torrence of Eugene, Oregon, placed the Show-Type Birmingham Rollers at the Oct. 12, 1991, Western National Young Bird Show held in Portland, Oregon. He did so with assurance and skill. The Birmingham Roller Show was sponsored by Cascade Roller Breeders of the Seattle-Portland area. The winners were as follows:

Young Cock Classes

Blue Check Self, 2223, Ron Whitson; Blue Check White Flight, 239, Joe Larson; Blue Check Mark, 220, Joe Larson; Blue Bar, 247, Joe Larson; Blue Grizzle, 2810, Tony Thoms; Red Check, 432, Verle and Elaine Kirk; Red Check Mark, 2227, Maia Whitson (Jr); Red Bar, 205, John Larson (Jr); Red Grizzle, 216, John Larson (Jr); Light Tortoise, 445, Verle and Elaine Kirk; Dark Tortoise, 427, Verle and Elaine Kirk; Blue Baldhead, 706, Larry Baginski; Red Baldhead, 9, Glenn Julian; AOC Baldhead, 11, Glenn Julian.

Young Hen Classes

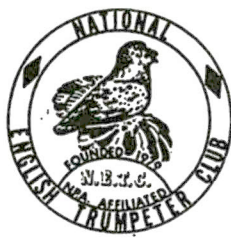
Blue Check, 430, Verle and Elaine Kirk; Blue Check Mark, 422, Verle and Elaine Kirk; Blue Bar Self, 724, Larry Baginski; Blue Bar Mark, 201, John Larson (Jr); Blue Grizzle, 2809, Tony Thoms; Red Check, 446, Verle and Elaine Kirk; Red Check Mark, 213, John Larson (Jr); Red Bar, 460, Verle and Elaine Kirk; Light Tortoise, 2806, Tony Thoms; Dark Tortoise, 2815, Tony Thoms; Yellow, 256, Joe Larson; Blue Baldhead, 710, Larry Baginski; AOC Baldhead, 68, Glenn Julian.

The Champions

Champion Baldhead, 11, Opal YC, Glenn Julian; Reserve Baldhead, 710, Blue YH, Larry Baginski; Champion Junior, 2208, Light Tort YH, Maia Whitson; Reserve Junior, 216, Red Grizzle YC, John Larson; Champion Birmingham, 2815, Dark Tort YH, Tony Thoms. Reserve Champion, 724, Blue Bar YH, Larry Baginski.

Immediately following the show, the sponsoring Cascade Roller Breeders Club held an auction of Rollers donated by the exhibitors. This annual auction has benefited the Club greatly with the funds going toward next year's cash awards and trophies.

Birmingham Rollers were the second largest breed shown at the 1991 WNYBS. We were also second in 1990, but are shooting to have the largest entry in 1992. All Show-Type Birmingham Roller breeders are cordially invited to come to Portland this October to show with us. For more information, or to receive a Show entry, contact Larry Baginski, Seattle, 206-772-6130 or Verle Kirk, Vancouver, USA, 206-699-5468.



National English Trumpeter Club News

by GALEN GOSHORN,
Chambersburg, Pa.

Hello Fellow E.T. Fanciers.

The Reading Pigeon Club held its "Reading Expo" pigeon show, and it was a good one. As always the Inn at Reading had excellent accommodations and fantastic food for all and a good time was had by all who attended, as far as I could tell.

There were 72 Trumps on hand for Bill Baker (who received his Master Breeder Award at the National) to pass judgement on.

There were six exhibitors: Steve Combs, Stanley Wood, Roger LeClair, Bill Davis and myself, with one junior breeder showing, Brian Combs of Mt. Airy, MD.

Roger LeClair of Rhode Island won Champion with a power house Deroy #135 cock bird. Reserve Champion was a yellow splash young cock #700, bred by Stanley Wood of New York. Best Young Bird Award also went to Stanley. Best Opposite Sex was given to a black self hen bred by Steve Combs of MD.

Best Junior Champ was an Andalusian young cock of Brian Combs, also of MD.

There was a 50/50 drawing held Saturday following the finals. But my forgetful self forgot to get his name or address. We got over \$100.00 in the pot before drawing out

the winning ticket.

The 1992 breeding season for myself can now get into full swing, with all the shows over, for me anyway.

As of January 16, 1992, I have banded four young and have about a dozen fertile eggs under Racing Homers. I sure hope I have better luck with my 1992 season than I did with 1991.

In the next several weeks as breeding season does get going, I hope to hear from others as to how their birds are progressing.

Two more things before I put down my pen, the next time you run into or talk to Bill Baker, be sure to congratulate him on his Master Breeder Award, and Norm Geihl on his Superior Breeder Award also.

Also remember, anyone wishing to join the National English Trumpeter Club, please send your 1992 dues to Royce Perry, 2101A Gary Lane, Hobbs, New Mexico 88240. Anyone knowing a younger person who raises Trumps, but is not a member, why don't you send dues in for him or her and help out?

Until next time, yours in the fancy –
Galen Goshorn, 1799 Guilford Station Road,
Chambersburg, PA 17201, 717-264-7141.

Tennessee Pigeon And Dove Club News

by GEORGE J. SCHUTT, Lebanon, Tenn.

First I would like to say I am the new Publicity Director for the Tennessee Pigeon and Dove Club. So, I will be keeping all of you pigeon and dove people up-to-date on what's happening in our club.

We just had our first meeting of the year. This meeting is always important because we plan for the year ahead. Also new officers are elected.

This year our new officers are: Charlie Brown, President; Gene Baxley, Vice President; Secretary-Treasurer, James Burns; Publicity Director, George Schutt; Board Director, Terry Campbell.

We also plan our meetings for the year. We try to arrange our meeting at a member's home, so we can visit and talk birds. Our March meeting was held at Terry Campbell's home in Murfreesboro, Tenn. Our next meeting will be May 16 at my home. I live at 9083 Cobs Ferry Pike, Lebanon, Tenn. Everyone is welcome to join us. For further information you can write or call me at 615-444-

3683 nights and weekends. August 15 will be our next meeting. It will be at Charlie Brown's home. This meeting will include a picnic and a Young Bird Show. This gives everyone a chance to show some young birds they have raised this year.

On April 11, we will have a show at the Fairgrounds in Lebanon, Tenn. This will be held with the middle Tennessee Poultry Show.

On November 14, we will have our annual All Age Dove and Pigeon Show at Columbia, Tennessee.

We invite everyone to join us. This is always a good show with plenty of birds on hand.

We will also have some specialty clubs to show with us. I will have more information on this later.

Anyone interested in joining our club can contact James Burns, Rt. 1, Box 181, Santa Fe, Tenn. 38482. He can also help you on any show information. Membership is only \$5.00 a year.

United Nun Club News

by STAN RYAN JR.,
North Branch, N.Y.

At this writing we are smack-dab in the middle of the show season. So far as I know and have seen there has been a good representation of Nuns at all of our Northeast shows. The Cairo show in New York State had four members present and 30 Nuns were shown. Champion was #58 bred by Tony Patti. Reserve Champion was #3 bred by Schubert and Liamero. Also present were Woody Woodworth and myself.

The next show I attended was York, Pennsylvania. Before I give you the results of the show, I would like to commend the people running this one. After not being able to attend the White Rose Pigeon Association show in York for two years, I'm delighted to say that I was truly impressed with the all around professionalism and expertise that was used in running this show. It was a real gem. Present were four Nun breeders including U.N.C. members Skip Johnson and yours truly. Twenty-eight Nuns were shown. Champion was an old black cock #448 bred by Stan Ryan Jr. Reserve Champ was an old black cock owned by Skip Johnson.

The next show was the Central New York Pigeon Club in Syracuse, N.Y. Fifty Nuns were shown. Members present were Woody Woodworth who did the judging, Tony DeSantolo, Ed Schubert, Rita Christen, Bill Bosser, Gerry Clarson, Stanley Woods and Stan Ryan Jr. The following are the results.

Old Cocks: 1st, Brown #59 bred by L&S. 2nd, Ash Red #2775 bred by Stan Ryan Jr. 3rd, Yellow #239 bred by Stan Ryan Jr. In the old hens, first was a black, #78, bred by L&S. 2nd was #54, a brown bred by L&S. 3rd was an Ash Red, #3, bred by L&S. In the young hens, 1st was a black #334, bred by Stan Ryan Jr. 2nd was a black, #506, bred by Gerry Clarson. 3rd was #519, a black bred by Gerry Clarson. In the young cocks, #502, an ash red bred by Gerry Clarson was first. 2nd was a black #1342, bred by Harry Von Britenfeld. 3rd was a black #384, bred by Stanley Wood. Champion was #59 and Reserve was #78, both bred by L&S.

I don't have all the details but I do know that Harry Von Britenfeld had Champion Nun at the Bayshore Variety Pigeon Club Show in New Jersey. Congratulations go out to everyone and thanks for turning out. This is a great show season.

I received a letter from Gerry Clarson of Clark, N.J. recently. The accompanying photos are of Gerry's 8'x8' loft. Please note the "see through" fiberglass roof which lets in plenty of light. Gerry usually ends up the breeding season with about 80 birds. He attributes being able to keep so many birds in this small area to the fact that he lets the birds out. Gerry usually breeds from 10 to 15 pairs. His main objective at this time is to breed

(Continued On Next Page)

straight faced birds through selective breeding as opposed to introducing a straight faced breed. By doing it this way you don't have to sacrifice all the other characteristics. The next paragraph is a direct quotation from Gerry's letter.

"If we can stop talking about the beak and pick the Nun with the best bib, best crest, best markings, best type, etc., when you get down to the last two or three birds the best beak will probably decide the best bird. Never, in my opinion, should a ten point characteristic be dominant and eliminate a superior bird."

I would like to thank Gerry for his letter and pictures. If anyone has any comments please drop me a note.

This year, as decided at our Spring meeting, the price on futurity bands is \$3.00. All prize money will be raised accordingly. There will not be a limit on how many you can buy.

I and the U.N.C. would like to welcome the following new members. Russel Schock, Vincent Holowinski, (my ole buddy) Skip Johnson, Andrew Delli Paoli, Gig Interrante and Jack Levine. Welcome to one and all. If there is anything I can help you with please let me know.

John Garren, the U.N.C. Promotional Director, has come through with all the information on the new "Show Coats." Please consult the U.N.C. bulletin for more information.

December 14, 1991, will be remembered by all the folks who attended The United Nun Club Annual "Baby Show" held in conjunction with the Garden State All Variety Pigeon Club Show. Our "Futurity" Show was also held at this meet along with a very successful auction of Nuns.

The Nun entry at this show was 72 baby Nuns and the following members were present: Gerry Clarkson, Woody Woodworth, L & S Loft (Lamiero and Schubert), Harry Von Britenfeld, Tony DeSantolo, Joe Linardi, Jerry Michael and myself. Woody also brought some of Rita Christen's birds for the show. The birds were judged by various members of the U.N.C. and the final line-up was picked by a panel of three judges. The following are the results.

Red YH was #654 belonging to Woody. This was the first place bird. In the Red YC,

first was Woody's #603, second was L&S's #61 and third was L&S's #58. Brown YH, first place bird was #331 bred by Stan Ryan Jr. Brown YC, first place bird was Woody's #605. First place Yellow YC was Stan's #354. In the Yellow YH's, first was #321 bred by Stan. Second was #21 bred by L&S. Third was Stan's #362. In the Blue YH's #396 bred by Stan was first. Second went to #542 bred by Gerry. Third went to Tony's #176.

In the Blue YC's, Stan's #307 was first. Second was #509 bred by Gerry. Third was #1338 bred by Harry. #1321 was first in the Black YH's. This beauty was Harry's bird. Second went to L&S's #48. Third was Woody's #606. In the Black YC's, first went to Woody's #601. Second was L&S's #60. Third was #709 shown by Jerry Michael. In the Ashes, Harry's #1323 was best YH. Second and third were Gerry's #531 and #501 respectively. In the YC's, first was Gerry's #502. In the A.O.C. Gerry's #548 was first in

the YH's and Woody's #624 (a Bronze) was best YC. The Best Nun overall was Harry's Black, #1321, a real beauty. Best Blue in the show went to Stan's #307 which was awarded \$20.00 put up by Tony for Best Blue. The Futurity was as follows: Black #1321, Harry. Red #603, Woody. Yellow #362, Stan. Blue #396, Stan. Ash Red #531, Gerry. A.O.C. Silver-Dun #1329, Harry.

After the judging was completed an auction was held. About ten very nice birds were auctioned off. Most were futurity birds and some real winners were spread around. Being that it was so successful the U.N.C. is already planning a giant auction for next January's Reading Show. I am pledging to have at least ten Yellows (cocks and hens) reds, blues, and a couple of others for this auction. I would like to see each member come up with a few birds for this cause. I think we should be able to come up with 30 or more birds. This will be the place to be for any perspective Nun breeders.



National Pigeon Assn. Insights

by MIKE LERP

Publicity Chairman

P.O. Box 221, Manchester, MD 21102

For well over a decade the name John Heppner has been synonymous with the English Trumpeter fancy in North America. John's name will now be synonymous with the National Pigeon Association because, as is widely known, he is the newest President of our organization.

During his term of office, John will be able to draw upon his past experiences in positions of authority in other associations devoted to the pigeon fancy. He's served as the president of the Western American Trumpeter Club, the National English Carrier Club, the English Trumpeter Club of America and the Los Angeles Pigeon Club (he's now a director in the LAPC). John is also a former secretary-treasurer of the International Bokhara Trumpeter Club.

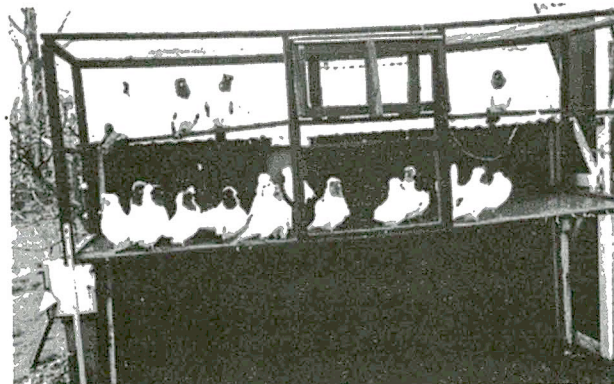
In the NPA, John has served as one of our Western Vice Presidents, and he has been an

NPA member for approximately 23 years. For his position of leadership within the club, John received the Outstanding Service Award and for his expertise in the field of English Trumpeters, he was made a recipient of a Master Breeder Award. (While writing this column I've learned that John will receive his English Carrier Master Breeder Award at the Milwaukee National). Another award that John is proud of comes from the Western America Trumpeter Club. This award is the Joe Mooney Memorial Award, and it's given to the individual who has contributed the most to that club in a given year.

In the questionnaire that I mailed to our newest NPA President, one of the questions I asked was, "What are your goals for the NPA during your term of office?" John responded with this answer: "To have fanciers



Gerry Clarkson's loft, Clark, New Jersey.



everywhere look upon the NPA as hot dogs, apple pie and motherhood. I would hope all pigeon fanciers could say 'If it's for pigeons, I am for it!' Unity and joint efforts like that would help the cause of pigeons everywhere. The foregoing is a general and lofty goal. My specific goals include: 1. Enlarged membership for the NPA. 2. Improved Quarterly Review with substantial articles on pigeons. 3. Improved awards and recognition for deserving members who go unnoticed. 4. First class show reports with adequate photos. 5. Increased intercourse with other pigeon associations. My general idea is to help a good organization (NPA) to become just a little better. We will build on a great foundation."

Like many of us John was introduced to the hobby of pigeon raising as a youngster. His grandfather raised pigeons and when John was about eight years old he purchased his first pigeons from a neighbor. It wasn't until later that John discovered that there were clubs for people who shared an interest in his hobby. John is quick to point out that he would still be raising pigeons even if he hadn't learned about clubs. But he feels very strongly about the role that all clubs, be they national or local, all breeds clubs and specialty clubs alike should play in the life of our younger fanciers. Our organizations should provide them with guidance, assistance and recognition.

And what other breeds of pigeons does John have on hand besides English Trumpeters? Well, I don't think I'll list them all but here are a few. English Carriers, Domestic Flights, Helmets, Dragons, Scandarons, English Pouters, Russian Tumblers, African Owls and LFCL Tumbler. Remember that these are just a few of them and John's list of breeds that he no longer raises is also quite long. On the questionnaire John commented that he was totally surprised that he has so many varieties. I'll agree with him on that point, but I was also surprised to learn the number of different pigeon clubs that he is a member of. I won't go any further by listing all the clubs, but I'll put it to you this way, John Heppner must spend more on yearly dues than most of us spend on dues and feed for a year.

NPA Update

As of November 23, the National Pigeon Association has 1,250 members. The number of Affiliated Clubs totals 147. Although the number of members on our rolls has grown from a little over 700 when Jerry McCalmon took over as Secretary-Treasurer in 1988, we aren't satisfied. There are a lot of fanciers out there who haven't joined and if you're one of them watch out. We will sign you up this year, and hopefully before too long Jerry will be kept busy keeping 3,000 members posted as to the happenings of the NPA.



**The English Trumpeter Club
Of America**
by DENNIS RUPP, Publicity Director
New London, Minn.



COTTONWOOD YOUNG BIRD SHOW

This fine young bird show was held October 19, 1991, at the Cottonwood Civic Center. Two hundred English Trumpeters were exhibited by 14 upper Midwest breeders.

The Champion young bird was a very nice typy bird which exhibited proper station, deep yellow color, high crest height with fair to good muffs. This young hen was shown by none other than Norman Geihl, Cottonwood, MN. The second and third place birds were also shown by Norm. The second place bird was a black Baldhead. The third place bird was a white.

Other class winners follow but not in order of placing as the writer could not remember the order but was fairly sure of the winners. Black - Dan Regstad, Red - Perrizo, Grizzle - Dennis Rupp, Andalusian - Larry Beakler and Norm Geihl winning the following colors: yellow splash, red splash, black splash, dun and AOC splash. I do not have a list of placings but feel these are right. A congratulations go out to Norm and all other color class winners.

ET STANDARD CONTINUED

In last month's column, I discussed the heart shaped body. This month I would like to direct my comments to the muffs and hocks (14 points) and station and legs (10 points).

The muffs shall consist of three layers of circular rows of feathers. The first row which is on the ground is the longest and is covered by the second and third layers each which is respectfully shorter. Each row shall have a rounded shape, dense plumage and lay flat on the ground. The muff feathers shall be as long as possible and be in proportion to the rest of the bird. The circular outline of the muffs shall be continuous without any breaks. The feet, toes and legs shall be completely hidden by muff feathers. The last item of importance concerning the muffs is that the bird should have good control of its muffs and be able to walk without stumbling.

Faults to avoid concerning the muffs are "splits" or spaces between the muff feathers; twisted feathers; non-circular muffs caused by the front muff feathers being too long; broken or frizzled feathers caused by weak quill strength. Hock feathers should be the same length as the muff feathers, not longer or shorter. There should not be a break between the muffs and hocks.

If you have all the features and have

avoided the faults listed above on a Trumpeter you raised, you have a bird with an excellent set of muffs.

Station refers to the position or bearing of the bird while standing. The back (shoulders to rump) shall be at a 45 degree angle to the ground. The tip of the tail shall be as low as possible without touching the ground. The angle of the full rounded chest shall rise gradually and blend with the short stout neck giving the bird a proud alert appearance.

The length of the legs and their setting influence the station of the ET. The legs shall be short; the underbody at the leg setting shall be one inch from the ground. The legs shall be set wide apart to give the appearance of stability and power.

It is very important that the ET be calm and alert, yet poised in the judging pen, positioning itself so as to advantageously show all its features.

Now if you can avoid the following faults you will have a bird with excellent station and legs. Common faults are the angle of the back more or less than 45 degrees; listless station; the bottom of the bird's underbody being held higher or lower than one inch from the floor and legs set too far apart giving the bird the appearance of being bowed legged. Other faults are legs set too close together thus hindering the birds walking ability; lame or deformed legs and feet; the tail riding on the ground; rearing back and sitting on the tail and wild or nervous birds not showing while being judged. Avoid a bird which shows a general lack of proudness or elegance thus a lack of "type" or "style."

Next month I will discuss the condition of plumage and color.

PHONE INQUIRY

CONCERNING SMALL LOFTS

Jeff Hubbard, 2006 Chawnee St., Denton, Texas, 76201, phoned one night last week inquiring about my experience or if I knew of a breeder raising ET's in small confined lofts in residential areas. He is looking for ideas concerning how to build a small loft and make maximum use of space. If any readers can help him out, pick up your phone and call him now. Just do it. His phone number is 817-382-5626 after 7:00 p.m.

And remember, please send me a letter or give me a call in order that I might relay information on to the readers of the APJ about your show or just about your birds. 2840 CTY RD 40 N.E., New London, Minn. 56272 is my address and 612-354-4554 is my telephone number. See you at the shows.



This issue we are privileged to have three prominent Show Racer breeders as our writers of the month.

Guest Writer: Bob Trane, Fresno, CA

In the September Show Racer Special of the A.P.J. appeared a short article by Castle Childs titled "Change in the Standard."

This was a small article but it held a very big message. Namely that we should not lose track of the name our birds bear, "Show Racer" and what it implies.

Our bird had its beginning with the Racing Homer and still has many of the same features - Body structure, keel, vent, firm flesh of breast, back, wings and tail. Where Show Racer breeders applied their breeding techniques was in the development of a stronger beak, head, neck, finer eye cere and wattle. Also agreeing on a particular stance called STATION.

Through the years our bird was inclined to grow bigger mainly because a bigger head was more desirable and with a bigger head goes a bigger bird. Some breeders have made an effort to keep the size down to where the relationship to the Racing Homer is not too far out of line. Some have not! Some seem to desire a larger, shorter, broader type - more on the order of a utility breed.

As Castle wrote in his article "let's not stray too far from the origin of our breed." Let's keep it slick and trim, as does our current standard.

Guest Writer: Coy McKenzie, Norman, OK

Recessive Red and Yellow

At the present time I am trying to establish families of Recessive Red and Yellow pigeons in Racing Homers, Show Racers and Giant Homers. Several recent letters from various areas of the country indicate that despite the fact that several recent articles designed to help "understand recessive red and yellow" have been published in various magazines and nesa letters, many of the correspondents still don't understand the basic principles.

At the risk of further clouding the issue, I have written the following summary in an attempt to explain it in a way that may be understood. I have always maintained that if something is simple enough for me to understand, ANYONE can understand it.

The first step in understanding the basic genetic principles controlling color and pattern in pigeons is that:

COLOR IS ONE THING - PATTERN IS ANOTHER - RECESSIVE RED IS AN-

OTHER.

The next step in understanding that the factors controlling the primary colors ARE on the sex chromosome. The factors controlling pattern are NOT on the sex chromosome. The factor controlling dilution IS on the sex chromosome. The factor controlling Recessive Red is NOT on the sex chromosome.

The next step is understanding that the factor that gives Recessive Red and Yellow is a modifier. Hidden beneath the Red or Yellow are colors and patterns that have been covered up the same way as if you had taken an ordinary blue bar or red Check and sprayed it with a solid coat of paint. You can't see the color or pattern, but they are there just the same. Both cocks and Hens must get two factors (one on each chromosome) in order to show Recessive Red or Yellow.

The next step is understanding that the sex chromosome got its name from the fact that it controls whether the bird is a cock or a hen. The cocks get TWO sex chromosomes. The hens just get ONE. Recessive Yellow cocks must get the two factors for dilution; Recessive Yellow hens only get one.

The next step is understanding (this seems to be the place where most people get lost) that the factor is RECESSIVE (can't be seen) to the normal condition if the factor is only present on one chromosome, but becomes DOMINANT (covers up both color and pattern) when it is present on both chromosomes. Both cock and hens must get two factors for Recessive Red to show it.

If you understand the above concepts, you understand the basics of Recessive Red and Yellow. If you don't understand and don't keep asking until it is explained in a way you can understand, that is YOUR fault. If you keep asking and I, or whoever else is trying to explain it, don't keep trying until you do, that is OUR fault.

Guest Writer: Randy Rapetti, Laguna Niguel, CA

THE AMERICAN SHOW RACER: A MARRIAGE OF OPPOSITES

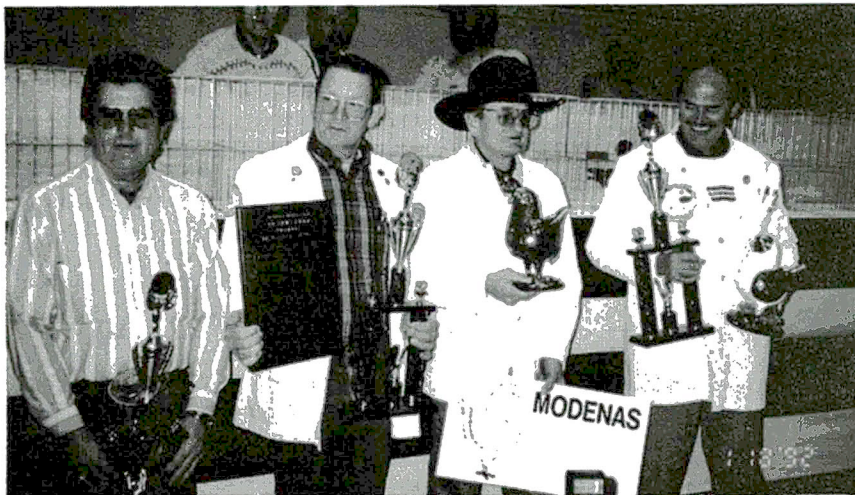
I am currently beginning my fifth breeding season with American Show Racers. Not a long time by most standards of success in the pigeon fancy, but long enough to realize that breeding to our standard is a very difficult task indeed. Breed a bird with great reach in the head and he seems to be "reachy" everywhere: long neck, legs, tail, etc. Pro-

duce a nice wedged pigeon which is the appropriate height and you end up with a bird short in the face or small in head size as well. It can become frustrating!

I suppose what we are all after is the most balanced; integration of these opposites. We want a good sized head with plenty of reach on a pigeon that is rather short in height and length. At the 1988 Pageant Jim Bruning had a splash cock caged right next to my white hen. He was a very nice headed bird with fantastic distance between the center of his eye and tip of his beak. However, he stood on rather long legs, had a somewhat long neck and was a bit long in tail. My hen was short and "typey" so to speak, but her head was small and her beak was thin. Jim commented to me at the time, "Put that head on your little hen and these guys will be knocking your door down to get one of them from you." I bought the splash cock thinking that I had an easy solution to the problem. Four years later I'm still trying to accomplish the task Jim set forth. Although each generation gets a little closer to my objective, the best headed birds look like that old cock, and the best in type look like the hen.

One of the things I am convinced of in my search for the "perfect" show racer is that it requires differing, almost paradoxical traits to produce what we are looking for. Virtually every loft has something that is needed by another to produce that champion we seek. Every breeder has ideas, beliefs, and visions of what the show racer should be which influence the final product that ends up in the winner's circle. The very bird was are trying to produce is a metaphor for the unity of the organization that breeds, feeds, and exhibits it. There is often considerable disagreement between fanciers with opposing viewpoints in our organization. Some are "purists" in that they breed and judge according to the standard strictly and literally, while others take a more liberal approach and experiment with new concepts and ideas which fly in the face of the printed word. Without those in the former camp we would all be breeding completely different birds with little or no uniformity from loft to loft. Without the latter group our breed would progress too slowly and lack creative form. The fact that some may have opposing viewpoints only serves to strengthen the foundation of our organization if we can be patient enough and humble enough to learn from each other. Our differences are essential to the balance of our club just as different birds are essential to the production of a balanced show racer. We produce a fantastic looking pigeon. We are seeing newcomers in our district attracted to our breed because of its symmetry and balance. I hope we can produce that same attraction in the process of our organization through dialogue and understanding. You see, the success of the American Show Racer Association, like the bird we produce, is indeed a marriage of opposites.

American Pigeon Journal



Modena winners at the Milwaukee National, left to right, are: Ed Loomis, Best Young Schietti; Doyle Conner, Best Young Gazzi and Best Young Modena; Rex Arnold, Best Schietti and Best Modena; and Dennis Weyrauch, Best Gazzi.

National Modena Club News

by EUGENE SPRINGER, Morton, Ill.

Many of the Modena breeders are well into the 1992 breeding season, with nice numbers of youngsters already banded. I want to encourage you to use N.M.C. bands. There has been more demand for bands than in recent years. The remaining supply is quite limited, so I would suggest you send your orders soon.

The bands can be obtained from Russ Sapp, 122 Spout Spring Avenue, Mt. Holly, N.J. 08060. They are priced at twenty cents each plus one dollar for postage and handling of your order. I will mention again that the band size has been slightly increased to accommodate the stronger legs of the birds we are presently breeding.

Anyone who had the privilege of attending the Milwaukee National had to be impressed with the quality of the Modenas on display. When it was time to pick best Modena there were 54 colors represented, and the quality was consistent even in colors that aren't bred in large numbers. Why not add a pair or two of the newer colors to your stud. Don't be afraid to cross colors in your matings. This practice is the reason for such rapid improvement in the rarer colors.

Plans are being made for our district and regional meets. The directors are receiving birds for the meets and will be placing them in the near future.

If you would be interested in hosting one of the National Modena Club Meets contact the district director in your area. He will be glad to assist you in preparing a bid.

Ballots concerning the proposals recommended by the members attending the annual meeting have been mailed. Be sure to read them over and mark your choice. This is also your chance to vote for judges at the

Pennsylvania National. The choices for Gazzi Judge are Jim Vines, Marvin Angle, Bob Burns, and Ken Lavoie. For Schietti Judge, it is between Ed Loomis, Dan Ducker, Dann Maschke, and Stewart Webster. These men are all excellent judges and it is important you make your choice known.

If you are not a member of the National Modena Club we would welcome you to become a part of this great club.

Wishing you all much success in 1992.

AMERICAN TURBIT CLUB



**American
Turbit
Club**

ORGANIZED 1897



by CHARLIE CICHANOWICZ,
Publicity Director
Hatfield, Mass.

The American Turbit club held its 91st annual meeting Jan. 12, at the Reading Pigeon Expo, in Reading, PA. It was good to see all the smiling faces from last year and quite a few new smiling faces that were added to our club roster. A total of 14 members attended the show, and I know that everyone had a marvelous time. Pigeon stories went on late into the night, every night. I think a few fellows were looking for their loft scrapers after a few of Al Williams' stories, he sure can tell some tales.

The show was another story, the competition was tough, over 90 birds entered and not a bad one to be seen. Our judge, Al Stebbins, had no easy job sorting them out. The quality of the birds was outstanding throughout all the classes. Everyone showing was kept on the edge of their seats. It was really nice to see that no one person dominated more than one class. I think that this shows that all members have good birds. A

(Continued On Next Page)



BEST MODENA
*Best Modena at the
Milwaukee National, #905-
90, Bronze Schietti hen bred
and owned by Rex Arnold,
Checotak, Okla.*

special thanks to Buddy Schall, Fred Kula and Charlie Smith for doing the stewarding and keeping the judging moving at a nice pace.

Reed Kinzer of Lancaster, Pa., was the big winner this year. Reed had some super blues and silvers. A young blue cock that won best young cock went on to win Grand Champion Turbit, and outstanding young blue cock with plenty of reach and a nice wide frontal. Reed will be the second recipient of the Phil Roof Memorial trophy and will have his name etched into Turbit history. Congratulations to Reed Kinzer for a job well done. Reed also raises Jacobins, I think he uses them for feeders, I'm not sure.

Charlie Smith, our Texas Vice President, came with a nice entry of birds. After a quick look it was plain to see that Charlie knows a good Turbit when he raises it. He had a pair of young blacks that showed well and was the winner of the Schaffer Memorial Trophy for the best black. It's always nice to see Charlie and his Texas Turbits. I, like everyone else, would have loved to have taken those blacks home.

George Polochi of New York, again had his first rate show team of reds and yellows and this year had a few nice blacks. George is always tough competition and a good sport. George went on to win best old bird and best old cock.

Dick Schneider of New York, was showing strong in most classes and had a pretty nice red. Dick's birds were in tip top shape and he went on to win the Heptig Award for the best red. His black old hen did real well, and his blacks are still hard to beat.

Buddy Schall of Dobson, NC, had a few young birds entered in the blue and A.O.C. classes. It was good to see Buddy showing again, he had some nice youngsters. Buddy took 1st place in both the young male and female A.O.C. class. Good going Buddy.

It was a pleasure for me to meet Billy Wren of Hempstead, Maryland. Billy had some nice blues and blacks. I was impressed with the width of the heads of Billy's birds. Billy had a real nice dun hen that went on to win best old hen. I did manage to get a few birds from Billy to introduce into my stud.

I did pretty good, a few first place wins and a few second place wins. The young black cock that I was so excited about did measure up to Dick Schnieder's, but Charlie Smith came by and beat us both. Texas Turbits #\$\$\$#. All the birds were super and it was a real tough choice for Al. My dun hen that I had raised in the parking garage at work went on to win 1st in her class and my cream cock did real well.

Al Williams, Fred Kula, Jim Neagle, Frank Serra, Bernie Tomasetti, Muard Naugle and Jay Curtis attended the show but did not show any birds. We did get some promises for next year.

Bernie Tomasetti of Pittsburg, Pa., had a lot of trouble with hawks and needed to replace some birds. He did manage to find a



Some of the American Turbit Club members at the Reading Pigeon Expo. Pictured left to right are Charlie Cichanowicz, Jim Neagle, Charlie Smith, Al Williams, George Polochi, Jay Curtis, Al Stebbins, Fred Kula and Muard Naugle.

pair to help get him back on his feet. We hope to see him next year. Stick with it Bernie and good luck.

Al Williams of Baltimore had most of his birds stolen just before the show. He was doing some serious shopping at the show. He did manage to get a few to take home to get him back on his feet. I later learned that what few birds he did have left were also stolen, including his Old Dutch Turbits and his English Turbits. Al lost over 30 birds in less than two months. He has decided to call it quits for now. I don't know how long he will be able to go without any pigeons, having had them for over 60 years. Maybe just long enough for the thieves to find another place to get their pigeons, perhaps a nice high slippery bridge. Too bad, Al, we all feel for you.

The American Turbit Club welcomes two new members. They are:

Jim Neagle, Richmond, VA. Jim has been raising and successfully racing, homers for



Dick Schneider, winner of the Frank Heptig trophy (best red or yellow).

years and now wants to add some Turbits to his loft for a show breed. We're glad he chose Turbits for his second breed. He did manage to buy a few pairs of red and blacks from Dick Schnieder of New York. Knowing Dick's birds we know he is off to a good start. It was good to see him at the show and he found a few more birds needed to fill out his stud. He says he'll be back next year with his efforts. Good luck, Jim.

Fred Kula, Enfield, Conn. Fred, a retired mink rancher, who still keeps a few martins and fishers, had pigeons as a boy and likes all kinds. He especially likes the Turbits and after a short search found George Polochi of New York, for some red and yellows and Mike Trybalski of R.I., for some blacks. George, we see all the time in the show reports with his red and yellows. Mike always had nice blacks, but for some reason stopped showing Turbits, maybe with the increased competition he could be tempted to show again. Anyway, Fred had a pretty good first season once he got his feeders working. He had a good time at the show and says he will bring his birds next year. It will be nice to see him at the shows.

The American Turbit Club has seen some



Reed Kinzer with his grand champion winner.

good new growth in the last year. We know that there is a lot of interest in the Turbit. We would like all those who are interested in promoting this nice little Turbit to feel free to join our small but friendly club. We will be celebrating our 100th birthday in a few short years. We consider the American Turbit Club to be the mother club for Turbits in the United States. There are other clubs but only one American with deep roots. We all belong

The United Roller Club News

by JIM PETERSEN, Pub. Dir., Davenport, Iowa

CLUBS . . . no, I'm not talking about golf clubs, Pigeon Clubs, especially Roller Clubs. I'm often asked which one is the best to belong to and why. I think my long time Roller buddy, George Reeve said it best, "belong to as many as you can afford, as long as you enjoy your membership." Or to paraphrase our favorite Jim Perry-ism, "The worst Roller Club I ever belonged to was still wonderful!"

The Iowa Flying Roller Club held its annual show in Des Moines again this past December. They had 148 Flying Rollers entered by a large number of performance enthusiasts. As I told the gang before, I had the honor to pass judgement on this nice group of birds, I'm pretending all the bird entered were top spinners and I'm looking for the bird(s) with the most qualities. Good spinners could be overlooked. Don't take the results of this show too seriously. Think of it as an excuse to get together and have a fun bull session. When the smoke had cleared, Phil Weatherly had the champion with a dandy red check marked old cock. John Johnson won the best opposite sex with a blue check white-flight young hen. Curt Neuendorf had the best certified spinner with a red check marked old (all birds in the certified class are old birds) hen, and Curt also had the best opposite sex with a blue check self old cock. Congratulations to all of you and also to Jerry Green who won the overall kit fly point championship in 1991.

To digress here a moment, I've called my loft "Nine Pines" ever since I noticed there were nine large pine trees in the back of my yard. One time, when receiving a pigeon trip wake up call in a Des Moines motel room from my pal George Reeve, I thought I'd "spring" a cute answer on him, "Nine Pines Roller Loft - Pure Pensoms Purely For Pleasure," I said in mock pride and with a groggy grin on my face. Like the crack of a whip, George's gravel voice replied, "Oh, is this where the pseudo elite meet defeat?" It's been hard staying ahead of that guy over the years!

Three days before Christmas, on a foggy morning, one of my favorite stock hens got out. She hadn't flown for two years or more and that coupled with the fog made it quite likely her disappearance into the heavy mist would be permanent. The next day was sunny and relatively mild for an Iowa day in De-

more than one club anyway, so why not join us and we can all help to make our club the best. Send your correspondence to me or to our club secretary, Al Stebbins, 9 Cedar St., Seldon, NY 11789. And if you should decide to join us be sure to include \$10, only \$3 for juniors for a nice packet of useful information on the Turbit.

Send your news to: Charlie Cichanowicz, Box 197, Hatfield, Mass. 01038.

ember, and my hopes were high that old #998 would somehow reappear in my loft with one of the two kits I flew that day. Such was not to be. However, three sub-freezing days later, on Christmas morning, my son Jerry said, "Hey, Homer" (in his best Bart Simpson voice) "you got a pigeon out?!" Looking out the frost framed window, I replied in a near tearful voice, "she's back . . . she's back!" Dear wife Sue made little circles with her index finger while pointing at her head. Son Scott said, Merry Christmas to you, huh Dad? You bet it was and I hope all of you had the same!

As they have at several Midwest cities, my town will soon be stocked by the DNR with expensive peregrine falcons on the rooftops of our highest buildings. I wrote the following "letter to editor" to my local paper. I had the local radio talk shows buzzing for a few days. I include it here for your interest and amusement:

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE FALCON PROGRAM

I read with sadness the coming of Peregrine Falcons to the Quad Cities. I've belonged to the Audubon Society, the National and the International Wildlife Association and the Iowa Heritage Foundation. Currently all who know me consider me to be an environmentalist and one who completely supports wildlife, including catch and release fishing. I subscribe to many outdoor publications including "The Iowa Conservationist," a product of the Iowa DNR. I have for several years donated money through the "Chickadee Check Off" option on our Iowa State tax form, as I was led to believe this money was to be used in various wildlife preservation projects directed mainly at habitat protection and procurement. Again, I was deeply disappointed when I read in "The Conservationists" that this money was in fact being used for the Falcon stocking program in various Iowa cities.

I think everyone should be disappointed, even outraged to have been duped by the "Chickadee Check Off" misnomer for this program. Even our own "Quad Cities Times" was misled when they concluded the article about the falcon program by saying "falcons eat pigeons, starlings, black birds and sparrows." Conveniently left off this list are other obvious food choices for these aerial killers, namely doves, cardinals, robins, flick-

ers, meadowlarks, blue jays and any decent sized bird that is only a split second slower than these predators. I submit they were left off the list to quiet public outcry. A pair of falcons will kill a great many birds especially in winter and when feeding their young. They will range 100 miles for prey! In my view, the cost of \$30,000 for the first year should be more than enough to cause outcry in these troubled economic times. Can't we think of anything more worthwhile to spend \$30,000 on beside stocking falcons to kill our beautiful song birds? How about spending it on the real environmental issues as it was intended?

The outlawing of DDT was a positive step to improve the environment. Various hawks and eagles have made a tremendous recovery and I'm glad that this balance of nature has been restored. Have you noticed that you don't see the large flocks of robins like you used to see during the fall migration? Birds like the robin, the meadowlark, and the flicker have had a reduction of their numbers over the years in part because of the recovery of our raptor species. This has been a natural recovery which is good. However, I can't see an expensive restocking program of a #1 song bird killer. If falcons do recover, let them do it naturally. They will expand their range into our prairie states as their numbers increase. An example of this would be all the starlings in America today that came from a few pairs stocked in New York City's Central Park at the turn of the century.

There is also a danger to these expensive falcons from what I call "slob" hunters who will shoot anything that flies. Thousands of Racing Homer pigeons are killed or injured each year exactly this way, despite they're also being federally protected.

I say let's NOT go through with this program. It's based on deception, it's too expensive and unnecessary, it will deplete our song bird population even more than it is already, and the high mortality rate these expensive birds will suffer is not worth the taxpayers support.

Enough of the serious stuff. Send in your dues, order your bands, order your pedigree forms and enjoy your United Roller Club and your Rollers. Until next time . . . Keep 'em flying!

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That Is Dedicated To All Aspects

Of The Roller Hobby

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For Information, contact:

Don & Judy Smith, Sec.-Treas.

1040 Echo Beach

Jackson, Mich. 49203

Helmet Happenings

by **BRUCE SCOTT**,
Richardson, Texas

Publicity Director
American Helmet
Association



The 1991 National, Sectional and District Shows are now history. I hope those of you that were able to attend our AHA Meets did well. If not, there's always next show season. I'm sure 1992 will be another banner year for the American Helmet Association with bigger and better shows on the planning board of our officers.

In the meantime, we all have some serious breeding to do the next several months. My AHA 1992 bands arrived on time and in excellent condition, thanks to our very able Secretary, Lloyd Larghe. I'm anxious to start using them if and when my pairs will all settle down. Every year at the start it can be frustrating to get all your pairs going. Some pairs start right up but others can be stubborn. I always try to have at least one of each pair be an old bird, as mating two young birds can take longer.

TWO FOR ONE SEASON

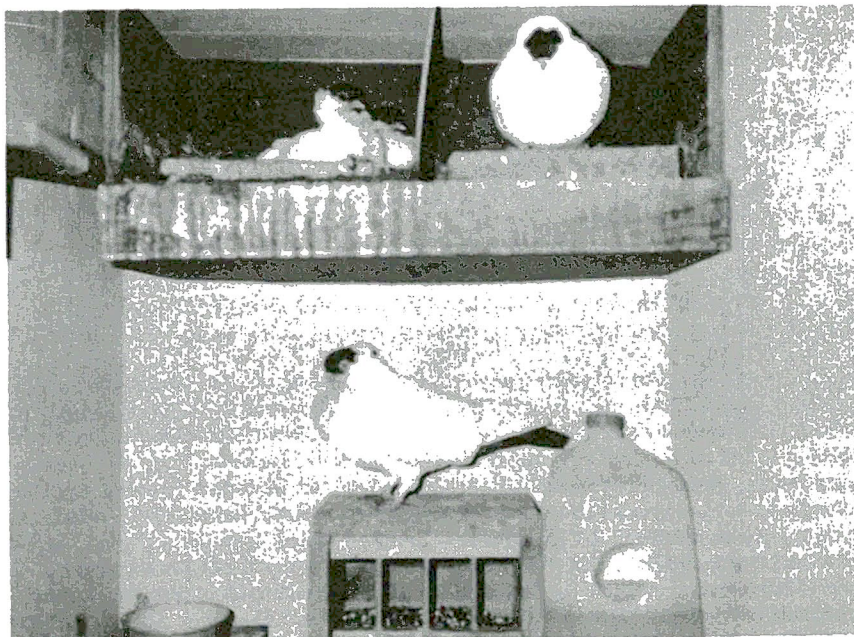
This year I've decided to go for two completely different sets of matings in the breeding season. In January, I put together six pairs in my individual breeding compartments loft (see photo). With any luck, I hope to get two rounds of youngsters before changing over to six complete different pairs for their two rounds in April. By the time they then raise their two rounds it will be June and time to start winding down the '92 breeding season. From those 12 pairs I should get a pretty good cross section of youngsters. By the way, these will all be M/F Crested Helms.

In the meantime I have four pair of M/F Plainheads. They'll be in a separate loft for the entire breeding season. My overall loft capacity is somewhat limited but as you can see I'll get production out of 16 pairs. That should more than be enough to give me some show prospects for the 1992 show season.

My main purpose in bringing this up to show those of you who are faced with a space problem that you can arrange a breeding plan like mine to get the benefit of all your adult birds. I presume you would want to get 100% of your adult birds breeding or there would be no reason to carry them over from last year. The feed bill keeps on running so try to get all you can out of your birds even if it is only for half a season for some of them.

NEW MEMBERS

Yes, we are still signing up new members. New blood is essential if a club is to



Pair of Black M/F Crested with two youngsters in individual breeding loft. — Photo by Bruce Scott, Richardson, Texas.

grow and prosper. A big welcome to the following 22 new members (a record for one month).

Luke Sieverts, Riverton, Utah; Dwayne Mangus, Norman, Oklahoma; Dick Hendricks, Fon du Lac, Wisc.; Hiram Young, Becket, Mass.; Riley Whittaker, Houston, Texas; Ed Sonnenberg, Bishop, Calif.; Bill Murphy, Toppenish, Wash.; Jacob Greenwall, Frankfort, KY.; Sam Dufner, Clarkston, Utah; Mike Wilson, Windsor, Ont., Canada; Ray Dixon, Windsor, Ont., Canada; Carey Nolan, Wyoming, Ont., Canada; Al Campbell, Waltham, Mass.; John Raposo, Newport, R.I.; Roscoe Harbold, Thurmont, Maryland; Tom Whitehead, Newbury Park, Calif.; Geoff Peigen, Monterey, Calif.; Lue Jones, Portland, Oregon; Warren Carlow Jr., North Scituate, R.I.; Terry Scott, Blackfoot, Idaho; Alex Otto, Des Moines, Iowa and Howard Foster, Des Moines, Iowa.

1993 BAND ORDERS

Our Secretary, Lloyd Larghe, is urging all members to place their order early for AHA 1993 bands. Every year the number of bands purchased goes up. Lloyd tries to order enough but he must get an accurate estimate way in advance. I ordered mine back in December and I suggest everyone does likewise as soon as possible.

GROUP SUBSCRIPTIONS

I'm sure you've all noticed that the price of things keep going up including the APJ. One way to keep the price of your annual American Pigeon Journal subscription rate down is to buy it through a group rate plan. Over the years I've been able to do this through a local club or being able to do it with one of the other national clubs.

I think the time has come for the American Helmet Association to seriously con-

sider doing this as a service to its members. This need not be a year long project but have it just once annually beginning with the January issue. In the fall of each year, when interest seems to be at its highest in the pigeon world, members could send their group rate check to a designated member of our club. He or she would in turn mail the combined list of members and their money to the APJ the end of December.

This of course is my personal opinion, but I will be taking it up with Bob Dunlap, our President. This would be a voluntary thing and nobody is forced to do it. I think there is enough interest in something like this to make it work. Every member receives our AHA Club Bulletin put out very ably by Al Flinn every month. However, if we are to be serious pigeon fanciers, we should all be receiving the APJ each month too.

PICTURE OF THE MONTH

I believe it spices up Helmet Happenings to have a photo included. This year I will attempt to submit at least one such photo every month that I write this column. I have a backlog of several such photos, but I will also need the aid of any of you members that can send me a photo or two that would be of mutual interest to our readers.

SHOW PUBLICITY

As you know, in the interest of conserving space in the APJ, we rely upon our club to get show reports out via the Bulletin. However, I would be more than happy to include in Helmet Happenings any exceptional news and/or big win announcements from your District and Sectional Shows. If you want any publicity to stimulate interest in shows in your locality, please let me know. Obviously I only have first hand information on shows that I am able to attend. Therefore, let me hear from you club members in other



Gerald Butler handling the judging book at the 1990 Blackwell, Okla., Show. — Photo from Bruce Scott, Richardson, Texas.

parts of the U.S. and Canada. My address is as follows:

Bruce Scott, 2211 Eastwood Drive, Richardson, Texas 75080.

Until next month, good luck on your early rounds of breeding. I know I always look forward to the first hatch and hope for a champion.

JANUARY NEWS

I trust by now you've gotten used to putting 1992 on your correspondence. Where did 1991 go? Last year was a good one and the AHA should see bigger and better shows this new year. For my part, I'll do my best to make *Helmet Happenings* as interesting and informative as possible. In order to accomplish this, I'm encouraging any of you AHA Members that have photos and news that would be suitable for the *American Pigeon Journal* to send it on to me. Our club has an excellent monthly Bulletin, edited by Al Flinn that needs constant input to be of service to the AHA. However, if you have any timely information of a general nature, of interest to both members and non members who read this column, do not hesitate to keep this in mind by sending it on to me. For the record my address is as follows: Bruce M. Scott, 2211 Eastwood Drive, Richardson, TX 75080, telephone (214) 234-2855.

NEW MEMBERS

Here are the Most Recent new members to the AHA. This past year has been another banner year for Lloyd Larghe, our Secretary, in signing up new recruits. If you are not already a member, this would be a good way to start 1992 by joining. As a reminder, our Secretary's address and phone number is: Lloyd L. Larghe, 44212 Rodeo Court, Elizabeth, CO 80107; (303) 646-3598.

These new members and their home towns are as follows:

Debbie McGwier, Livingston, Texas; Peter Monti, Bronx, New York; Andrew Zgura, McCungie, Pennsylvania; David Smith, Ithaca, New York.

DUMMY EGGS

For many years I've been using dummy

eggs for various reasons during the breeding season. The big use I have for them comes at the end of the breeding season. The pairs are laying eggs like crazy just when you are thinking about breaking up the pairs until next year. I usually always slip dummy eggs under the pairs prior to separating them. After raising young for three or four rounds this gives them a chance to take it easy on the nest for a week or so.

Once in a while I'll have a pair that is having difficulty raising two at a time. I'll extract one of the eggs and replace it with a dummy egg until the single fertile egg hatches out.

At other times I'll have a young hen that is having a tough time getting started. I'll give the pair a set of dummy eggs for one cycle. If they adopt the eggs, all well and good. It doesn't always work but it is worth a try to get their cycle of egg laying started.

FUTURE OF LARGE CLASSES

In the October '91 *Helmet Happenings* I stated that I observed that some specialty clubs only place the top half of their larger classes, while others place all birds entered. I realize there are reasons for not placing the entire class but when you read the show report it leaves a void as to who all entered that color class. You might have 20 different members enter, but only a few names will appear with this system. It's nice to know who is currently active in the color classes, win or lose.

Currently at the major shows the entry fee is \$3.00 and should be compensation enough to allow the extra time of judging to place 100% of the birds entered. This is one opinion and there are several long time fancier friends that agree with it. However, I also know there are friends of mine that want to streamline our shows and the heck with the losers. They only want to see the top half placed but perhaps they are missing the point of having big classes.

The decision to only place the top half of the large classes such as the National could mean the end of the climb in number of Helmets entered at our big shows. We were

all proud of the record 620 Helmets entered at the Salt Lake City National. Many of us have entered more than one bird in a particular class to make for a nice display in each color class. However, this practice may end in the future because when we pay an entry fee to show our birds, we may never see over 50% appear on a show report. Particularly at the National and Sectional Meets, there should be very few "culls" in the line-up. You may see some borderline Helmets at local shows, but by the time you get to the big shows most fanciers have entered only quality Helmets and they deserve to be placed and listed on the show report.

We are proud of the progress we've made with our Helmets. We want to see large classes at our shows so we shouldn't do anything to discourage this. Helmets were just another variety at the big shows in the old days but we no longer have to take a back seat. When a fancier is considering what variety to specialize in and see that Helmets are so popular, he or she will want to get on the band wagon when they hear Helmets are among the top entries at the big shows.

Success comes with a price as in any undertaking. It takes more time and judges to handle a large entry but "you can't have your cake and eat it too." Our officers want to see the AHA grow and our members do too. Let's hope this can be resolved before the 1992 Show Season starts. Let your District Director know your feelings on this matter. This places the AHA at a crossroads in our growth at shows. Regardless of the final outcome, I'm sure we can live with it. We will continue to enjoy our Helmets with or without a complete show report, right.

STATE FAIR SHOWS

Back on October 19th of last year I entered three pair of Helmets at the Texas State Fair in Dallas. Needless to say this was a far cry from our sanctioned AHA Meets with hundreds of Helmets entered. However, there were 38 Helmets there with 7 exhibitors participating. Overall there were probably several hundred birds in the show hall with thousands of State Fair goers passing through to see our pigeons. I really enjoyed myself that day. I couldn't help but think that this was probably the roots of our hobby for many of us. It was back in 1960 at the Michigan State Fair that I discovered Helmets. One of our first Master Breeders in the AHA, Clarence E. Mann, of Royal Oak, Michigan, was exhibiting his fine strain of Helmets that year.

I was fortunate enough to strike up a friendship that year with this gentleman that has continued to this day. C.E., as we call him, sold me two pair of Helmets at that Fair and the rest is history. I am sure there are some of my readers out there that got started in this same fashion. I have purchased and traded Helmets over the past 30 years, but I've never been as excited as that day I

(Continued On Next Page)

brought home those first two pair of Helmets from the Michigan State Fair. I still love my Helmets and I think back to that year in 1960 many times. I hate to think of what if I had decided not to go to the Fair that day. In life, you have events that are turning points and for me that ranks right up there.

At the Texas State Fair I talked with several prospective new members and sold some birds too. I hope I planted the seed with those folks so they also will become lifelong pigeon fanciers. Next year check the State Fair date in your home state and just maybe you too can become a goodwill ambassador for our Helmets and the pigeon fancy.

APPRECIATED

From time to time we have a member that stands tall in our ranks. Such a member is Gerald Butler of Olney, Texas (see photo). In the decade of the '80s and here into the '90s, Gerald has been and continues to be a very dedicated member. Those of us living in Texas and Oklahoma have been blessed to be associated with this fine gentleman. Gerald and his lovely wife Mary have given of their time to welcome many of us to their home in Olney. It is always a pleasure to see his Helmets in his beautiful loft. He has everything in "apple pie order" at all times. Gerald, we want you to know all your time planning our meets and doing the show reports has been appreciated.

LOUISVILLE

They tell me that the Louisville National Young Bird Show was another record setting show on October 26, 1991. I couldn't get off duty to attend as it takes a minimum of three days overall. Allowing for the 800 miles traveling each way from Dallas, Texas, it was out of the question. When I retire in a couple of years from the University of Texas, I hope to have plenty of time for such shows.

I haven't received the show report as I go to press. However, our Immediate Past President, Bob Davis of Mansfield, Texas, just called me with the news that Don Phyl of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma "won it all." Congratulations, DON, you have really been hot lately. By taking Champion M/F Crested, 1st Reserve and 2nd Reserve at Louisville, you are sure showing the rest of us how it is done!

JOINING

The first month of the new year is a good time to put in a plug for any of my readers that might want to join the American Helmet Association. We have a very active club and if you like Helmets, it is almost a must to join so that you'll be in on the know regarding shows, the Standard, etc. All you have to do is write or call Lloyd L. Larghe.

Lloyd is our club Secretary and he will be glad to handle your application. He has been our very capable Secretary for a number of years and will be happy to furnish you with any information regarding the AHA. Hope to see your name on the New Member List in the near future.

MATING TIME

Until next month get all your pairs mated up for what could be an outstanding breeding season. It's an exciting time of the year that we all look forward to. Let me hear from you on your plans and goals for 1992.



1991 Fall Show Report

On Saturday and Sunday, December 7 and 8, the New York Combine ran its Annual Fall Show. This show will go down as the Greatest Flight Show ever.

It is not my opinion alone but that of our members and distinguished visitors and affiliates. This show had everything — beautiful birds, great food, eye-catching decor, the Ultimate Auction, raffle for a 27 inch color stereo TV and basket of cheer, fantastic trophies, top quality judging, visitors from across this country as well as Europe and even Israel, warm friendly atmosphere and great camaraderie. The credit for this extravaganza must go to a hard-working group of dedicated officers, board members and a membership unmatched anywhere. This, the second leg of "The Triple Crown" for Domestic Show Flights, is a show that will be remembered always. Over 340 of the finest Domestic birds were on display and when the dust settled, there were 72 winners up front. These represent the "cream," the "ultimate" in the Domestic Flight World. There are none better anywhere. The following is a list of these winners.

YOUNG BIRDS

Caps (95)



**GRAND CHAMPION
DOMESTIC FLIGHT**

This Red Teager Cap cock, #NYC-42, was Best Old Bird In Show, Best Bird In Show and Grand Champion at the New York Combine Fall Show. — Bred by Gigante and Monteleone.

Red and Yellow Caps (12): 1. Gigante and Monteleone. 2. Gigante and Monteleone. 3. Gigante and Monteleone.

Red and Yellow Teager Caps (19): 1. Gigante and Monteleone. 2. Scavone. 3. Grasso.

Black and Dun Caps (13): 1. Montanino. 2. Mikes. 3. DeCaro.

Black and Dun Teager Caps (17): 1. Montanino. 2. Montanino. 3. Mangino and Waller.

Bar Caps (7): 1. Fratangelos. 2. Thorntons. 3. Thorntons.

Stock Caps: 1. Gigante and Monteleone. 2. Montanino. 3. Serra.

Best Young Cap In Show: Yellow Cap #18, Gigante and Monteleone.

Plainheads (100)

Red and Yellow PH (23): 1. Gigante and Monteleone. 2. Spahr. 3. Braccia.

Red and Yellow Teager PH (13): 1. Gigante and Monteleone. 2. Grasso. 3. Grasso.

Black and Dun PH (16): 1. Ratti. 2. Mangino and Waller. 3. Ratti.

Black and Dun Teager PH (11): 1. Montanino. 2. Willi. 3. Thorntons.

Bar PH (7): 1. Montanino. 2. Montanino. 3. Montanino.

Stock PH (30): 1. Gigante and Monteleone. 2. Pluchino. 3. Pluchino.

Best Young Plainhead In Show: Yellow Teager PH, #2, Gigante and Monteleone.

Best Young Bird In Show: Yellow Teager PH, #2, Gigante and Monteleone.

OLD BIRDS

Caps (82)

Red and Yellow Caps (12): 1. Gigante and Monteleone. 2. Gigante and Monteleone. 3. Simeone.

Red and Yellow Teager Caps (16): 1. Gigante and Monteleone. 2. Gigante and Monteleone. 3. Gigante and Monteleone.

Black and Dun Caps (11): 1. Montanino.



**GRAND CHAMPION
DOMESTIC FLIGHT**

This Yellow Teager Plainhead cock, #NYC-2, was Best Young Bird In Show at the New York Combine Fall Show Dec. 7-8, 1991. — Bred by Gigante and Monteleone.

2. Montanino. 3. Willie.

Black and Dun Teager Caps (21): 1. Scavone. 2. Scavone. 3. Scavone.

Bar Caps (7): 1. Rossi. 2. Spahr. 3. Thorntons.

Stock Caps (15): 1. Scavone. 2. Gigante and Monteleone. 3. Scavone.

Best Old Cap In Show: Red Teager Cap, #42, Gigante and Monteleone.

Plainheads (67)

Red and Yellow PH (12): 1. Gigante and Monteleone. 2. Gigante and Monteleone. 3. Gigante and Monteleone.

Red and Yellow Teager PH (11): 1. LaSala. 2. Pluchino. 3. Scavone.

Black and Dun PH (10): 1. Montanino. 2. Simeone. 3. LaSala.

Black and Dun Teager PH (9): 1. Willi. 2. Mangino and Waller. 3. Scavone.

Bar PH (11): 1. Thorntons. 2. O'Patovsky. 3. Thorntons.

Stock PH (14): 1. Gigante and Monteleone. 2. Gigante and Monteleone. 3. Scavone.

Best Old Plainhead In Show: Yellow Teager PH, #651, Steve LaSala.

Best Old Bird In Show: Red Teager Cap, #42, and Grand Champion: Gigante and Monteleone.



By the time you read this, everyone in the Northern Hemisphere should have a loft full of youngsters and looking them over trying to find at least one that will be a Champion this fall. The other part of this world of ours is starting their show season and hoping that all the time and preparation they have devoted to their birds will pay off with a Championship Award.

I am going to turn this month's column over to a guest writer, David Paddick, Jr. Many know David as the Secretary of the Western Tumbler Club, a job that he handles very well. Anyone who would like to write to David about his composition, can reach him at: 3823 E. Broadlands Ave., Terre Haute, IN 47805. While you are at it, if you are not already a member of the Western Tumbler Club, dues are only \$5.00 a year and you can enclose that amount with your letter to David. I am sure he would be happy to add you to our growing list of members.

For those who would like to write to me, my address is: Box 157, Memphis, NY 13112, or phone me at (315) 689-7753.

**PREACHERS, PIGEONS,
PROMOTION**
by David Paddick, Jr.

Being both a minister and a pigeon fancier, I am afforded with the opportunity to meet many varying individuals. While I am always looking for a way to promote the Christian lifestyle, I am also looking for ways to promote the pigeon fancy. Recently, I found that the two sometimes go hand-in-hand.

One of the groups that I enjoy working with the most in our congregation is "Prime Time." Prime Time is a group of retired folks who get together every Tuesday for a program and some lunch at our church. The program director came to me one day in dire straits, she desperately needed a program for the last session of the month. I suggested to her that I had the perfect solution - PIGEONS! Although her eyebrows raised a little, she consented and I went to work on the program.

When the time came I was nervous but self confident. I began by explaining the various groups of pigeons: utility, performing and fancy. Also included in the presentation were feeding, medications, genetics, showing and breeding. I also took along LOTS of visual aids. I included books (The Pigeon and The Encyclopedia of Pigeon Breeds), "Pigeons of the World" calendars, genetic booklets, photos from lofts and shows, judging standards, club bulletins - let's face it I took everything I could beg and borrow that had to do with pigeons.

The "lecture" and the visual were helpful and spawned a few questions but things really took off when I brought out the "live entertainment." Since I have a small stud of birds, I don't have a wide variety of breeds, however I did the best with what I had. I use homers and flights for feeders so I took one of each. I happen to have one Modena in my loft (a project bird) so I took it along and of course I took my muffed Tumblers. The other birds didn't seem to excite the crowd but one look at those feathers on the birds feet and the "oh's and ah's" began. I also happen to have some genetic projects (which I received from Bob Baruth) so they gave my birds and self quite a contrast. The Grizzles and the indigos seemed to make the biggest impact.

After a brief question and answer period we took a break for lunch. During lunch I had the privilege to talk more in depth with some inquisitive folks. I couldn't believe that they were so fascinated by the pigeons.

As a result of the presentation, some of the sons, daughters, and grandchildren of the group are coming around to my loft to see my entire stud of birds. I hope that their interest is aroused enough to want to get into the fancy.

Since the "Prime Time" presentation went so well, I decided to contact the local 4-H director and the local Scoutmaster about doing a presentation at their respective meetings. What is the point in all of this rambling you say? It is easy. If we are concerned about bettering the fancy and getting new (and

young) fanciers started we must PROMOTE the hobby in any way that we can. I have listed only a couple of ways out of thousands. The times when folks wandered in off the streets to see what pigeondom is all about are over. It is time we went out and presented our hobby to the world.

Just a few words of caution before you load up the birds for a road trip. Many people do not understand not only pigeons but why anyone would want to breed them - BE PATIENT! Don't expect that everyone is going to be thrilled and amazed at first sight. BE TOLERANT! People who have not been around pigeons or genetics are bound to have lots of questions - TAKE TIME AND DO YOUR BEST TO ANSWER ALL OF THEIR QUESTIONS. If you don't take time for them now, don't expect them to be a future fancier. Explain as much to them as you can. Let them handle the birds. Show them how you trim beaks or prepare them for breeding. Invite them to your loft - and take them in. Nothing turns your people off quicker than to be told they can look through the window or flypen but are not allowed inside. Treat them like you would like to be treated if you were in their shoes. Remember someone took time to "show and tell" you all about their birds once. And lastly BE GENEROUS! I'm not saying give your birds away but don't charge (especially a young person) more than they can pay. Don't give them your JUNK but charge them a decent price for a quality bird. I have heard it said "don't ever sell a bird that you wouldn't buy." That is good advice. You aren't promoting the fancy or helping a beginner when all that you give or sell to them is junk. A transaction like that gives a bad name to all reputable breeders.

In our world time is at a premium. When we promote our hobby we are in competition with a billion other things for the time of the individual. The Bible says "you reap what you sow" and nowhere is that more true than when you're promoting the pigeon fancy. We are in great need of promotion but let's all make sure that we are promoting our hobby in the right way. After all isn't that what our hobby is all about - although the birds are great, the friendships are even greater!

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BREEDING AND BUYING GIANT HOMERS by Joe Haas

Inbreeding involves the mating of very close relatives such as: mother and son, father and daughter, sister and brother, etc., for the purpose of fixing or stamping in certain strong points that such relations possess. Line-breeding, on the other hand, involves the pairing of less closely related birds, such as first cousins, to maintain or consume the points of each line of birds. The goal in all types of livestock breeding is the optimum for the breed, and the assured and best way to attain this goal is through the process of line-breeding or inbreeding.

There are those who contend that inbreeding ruins the birds' constitutions. However, it is a fact that deterioration occurs not from the concept of inbreeding, but from the breeder's improper handling of the inbreeding process. In fact, the whole process is dependent upon the original pair and their ancestors, possessing the required properties to set the end product for reproduction. Without these properties in your original pair, neither inbreeding, line-breeding, nor helter skelter pairing will produce the desired results. For example, it is absolutely essential when inbreeding to selectively pair birds of robust constitution and to eliminate any weaklings that appear in the offspring. Control by culling, culling and more culling is extremely important. Provided that you rigidly cull both the parent and their offspring, inbreeding can occur indefinitely. So it is very important to remember that without rigid culling, you are setting bad points, defeating your purpose and putting your stock at a disadvantage.

Inbreeding is a means of propagating throughout your stock, the desirable qualities of particular birds. The offspring from a given cock of excellent type and size should inherit some of their father's good points. However, this may be more apparent in some offspring as opposed to others. It is also very possible that the offspring possess far stronger feathers than those of the father.

The year following the original inbreeding process, the very best of the hens are paired back to their fathers, to achieve 75% of the father's genes in the offspring. If this

process is continued (grandfather to granddaughter and great-grandfather to great-granddaughter), mathematically, we are approaching 100% reproduction of the original cock bird's gene bank, and some of the hens will be more superior than the original hen. This then would be a good indication that you (as the breeder) properly did your part in selecting the pairings and culling the offspring.

It must be indelibly impressed in your mind that the shorter way to disaster is to inbreed just for the sake of inbreeding. You must have an objective; a goal to achieve the standard of excellence. Without this goal and a plan to achieve it, you cannot properly select or cull for excellence. As a result, undesirable traits become apparent. Once this occurs, there is no sliding by, the undesirable traits will simply magnify. Therefore, one must be very careful, constantly vigilant, and ruthless in the elimination of all undesirable points.

Inbreeding enables the breeder to be reasonably certain that the type of bird selected for the foundation will be selective matings, be reproduced in the offspring and the longer it is practiced the more certain those results will be. By continuing this method systematically, it is possible to produce a bird which is dominant for its individual characteristics. It should be understood then that the perfect bird or near perfect birds are the product of a considerable number of years of labor. The more perfect the original birds are, the shorter the period will be in attaining the desired results. However, it is not intended that even in time, all offspring become identical copies of the original, but it is possible (given proper breeding practices) to breed typical specimens of excellence a high percentage of the time.

A great misconception is the assumption that because the parent birds are blood relatives, they will always produce better offspring than themselves. This is not necessarily the case. Neither parental partner can pass on all of their characteristics or genes. Certain genetic characteristics may not even appear in the offspring until after many generations of breeding, which may account for inherited discrepancies among siblings (brothers and sisters). It can be said then, that it is possible for certain traits to remain dormant throughout the inbreeding process and not manifest themselves for many, many years. Each parent and assembly of genes (good and bad), are inherited from their ancestors, so that inbreeding not only consolidates the good, but also reveals the bad genes. Inbreeding should focus on eliminating the bad points, as well as intensifying the good.

In inbreeding, the system usually advocated is to pair back to one of the parents and concentrate on this line. If birds superior to the mother or father are produced, the original parents can be discarded and the superior offspring used. Forecasting the type of young-

sters these dominant birds will produce can be done with a fair degree of accuracy. To the contrary, the offspring of unrelated pairings are always unpredictable because the birds possess dissimilar genes. During the following seasons the latent (hidden) characteristics, both good and bad, will reveal themselves and the breeder should know instinctively which birds to pair together. With unrelated birds this is not possible.

A bird that has a bad fault, such as crossed wings, dropped tail, a flat head, etc., should never be selected for inbreeding and subsequent formation of the strain. Such faults are usually inherited and passed on to the offspring. A bird that is a fair representation of the Standard of Excellence would be preferable. It would also be unwise to buy a bird to change the size if it has any faults. Remember it is necessary to breed out any faults, so why make more problems. The breeder who plans to follow this method to perfection should think twice about introducing a new bird into the program. This bird and its offspring should be kept separate, held out of the line until several generations can be observed for defects, then introduced into the line only after the introduction carries 3/4 to 7/8 of the line blood.

When it becomes apparent that an outcross bird must be purchased to improve certain characteristics, then it should be obtained from the same stock as the original birds. With that certain quality needed in mind, purchase the best bird affordable and available, always keeping in mind the points of outcrossing mentioned earlier.

You cannot expect to buy most perfect birds from a breeder. Very seldom they will part with them. However, know the Standard of Excellence required for any bird to be purchased. Nothing inferior to that must be obtained. It is better to go home empty-handed and try another year.

One's skill when purchasing birds will play a big part in the quality of stock bought. The pedigree of the bird should be obtained and carefully studied. Disappointment undoubtedly will occur with the first outcross youngster, but retain the one or two whom are strong in the quality needed to improve the line and discard all others. Discard them all if they fall below your Standard of Excellence. At any rate, do not introduce them too quickly into the line. If need be, try for another outcross.

It can be a mistake to purchase a bird just because it is a nest mate to a big winner. Remember, the winner represents all the good genes in the family and the inferior bird may carry all the bad ones. Breed only with birds that are otherwise almost perfect.

Each parent contributes something individually to the offspring. If the pair is unrelated, the offspring will be different from either parent, and in some respects like them.

If the outcross process is continued for generations, the offspring from each pair will continue to be different. If, however, the

parents are chosen from the same family, they would produce young more or less like themselves.

Outcrossing gathers together different bits of characteristics from the lives of ancestors and molds them into a composite whole. If it so happens that the two outcross parents possess certain characteristics which conform to one another, then the young would inherit those characteristics.

If these outstanding features are good, then the young will be good. If they are bad, then the young will be bad. The genes of each parent contain inherited tendencies from past generations. Hence, there is a long chain of heredity behind every individual bird. These genes are like a surprise package. It could be elation, but chances are greatest for dejection.

The more outcrossing of the stock, the wider are the fields of possibility in the offspring. With line-bred birds, the field is narrowed down and expectations are fairly accurately predicted. A peak in the surprise package.

If you have read this article with an open mind, you should have some idea as to how much work goes into breeding a champion, not just money spent on stock birds, food and labor but years of joy and disappointment.

I just want to thank all of you out there, old members and new members, in this hobby of ours, rich and poor, you are the greatest. I have heard from seven members this month and they are breeding from 169 pairs of giants – that is an average of 24 pairs per member. We accept the challenges of our chosen hobby and we face the future with hope because we know that we are loved by GOD no less than previous generations and if you don't think GOD loves you, just remember that I love you, one and all. – Joe.



HUNGARIAN GIANT HOUSE PIGEONS

Bred and owned by Tony Brancato, Santa Maria, Calif.

Hungarian Giant House Pigeon Newsletter

by TONY BRANCATO,
Santa Maria, Calif.

Dear Fancier:

It's no secret that Hungarian Giant House Pigeons and for that matter any large breed have a talent for stepping on newly hatched babies.

Through trial and experience, I can suggest how to help the odds in favor of more than one baby making it to weaning age.

I have found that after the hen has laid the second egg, I slip an artificial egg (either wooden or plastic) under her, so that the hen is incubating two real eggs and one artificial egg.

When both chicks hatch, the third egg is a constant reminder to the parents to be careful! Rarely does a chick get stepped on when there is an egg in the nest.

This is an excellent suggestion for other breeds, especially breeds that are heavily muffed. I remove the artificial egg once the chicks are two weeks old.

Hungarian Giant House Pigeon babies are no bigger at hatching time than my Schmalkaldeners! That's why it is very important to give the little guys the best chance possible to survive.

Otherwise, you will end up with a lot of single babies! I also recommend that if there are two single babies of the same age, I put them in one nest, all my birds are in the habit of raising two babies – not one.

Until next time, Tony.

King Trivia

by JUNE TRONE

Rt. 1, Box 129
Meredosia, Ill. 62665

Thank you everyone for all your cards and letters. I sure do appreciate hearing from you. We learn from each other, that's wonderful.

On Jan. 3, Dick Voss, Ill., called me and said that Winnie Foley had just called him to tell him that Harry Foley died. His services were to be held on Jan. 12, at the Methodist Church at Wood River, Ill. I sent a number of letters to friends plus made a few calls to make sure everyone who lived close enough could come. I asked several to ride with us. As it turned out, Lloyd got sick and we couldn't go and no one else was able to go with us after all.

Harry Foley was an AKC Life member and an MKC Charter member. MKC was established Jan. 1, 1935, so Harry had lots of good King years. Harry was 96 years old. He and Winifred would have been married 46 years on Valentines Day. Harry was a good man and will be missed.

Ellie Murphy called to say they wouldn't be able to come down to go with us to Harry's services. Jim Murphy has six babies banded already. I have two banded and plan on banding two more tomorrow. The weather has been so nice that most of the birds are nesting or in the process. We pulled some orchard grass and I tore it up for each pair and they loved it. A few of the extra birds that are on the floor started making nests with the grass, so now I know how to get them together faster.

I wormed all the birds. I used to always give them NFZ too, but haven't been able to find it in the farm stores anymore, so I sent for some from Foy's. I sent for some Tylan and used it. I don't like to use many drugs, but we need to prevent diseases in our birds. One thing when you order from Foy's, they give instructions on how to use it, I like that.

Lloyd and I drove to Ft. Madison to visit the Marlettes on Jan. 10. I was in so much misery with leg pain, I was wondering how I would make it back home. I've had problems for years, but it seems to be much worse these days, old age, I guess. I enjoyed looking at all the beautiful antiques Wauneta has and hearing about the history behind each piece. They just got back from Georgia where they were about a month. Wauneta had a delicious meal in a short time, she's amazing.

A big Happy Birthday to Eileen Blanchette, Peg Winter, Paulo DiCandia and all the others in Jan. Also Happy Wedding Anniversary to Bob and Ethel Adams and anyone else celebrating. Much Love to all.

We wish to welcome some new King breeders to the scene, Bernie Warren, Canada, Larry Spires, S.C., Bobby Shelton, N.C., Leonard White Jr., and Gary Richardson, Ill., Mark Snider, OH, Mark Schneider, Iowa.

Flights Around The World

by **PETER P. FRATANGELO**
300 E. 3rd, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11218



On Friday morning, October 25, several New York Combine members left New York for the National Young Bird Show, which was held on the 26th in Louisville, KY. The nicest part of this trip is meeting and visiting with our affiliated club members, talking with them, seeing their young birds improve each year, showing with them and helping promote the Domestic Show Flights. One of the highlights of the show was the fact that there was a record breaking 108 beautiful Domestic Show Flights being shown, which is a compliment in itself; three of the Combine members that made the trip showed Domestic Flights. They were President Sal Gigante, Senior Executive Vice President Vinnie Montanino and Pete Fratangelo. The following Combine members also attended: Ange Mangino, Angelo DiBiasi, John Spahr, Mike Celebre, John Pluchino and, making their first trip to Louisville, Frank Braccia, Tony Modafferi and new Combine member Nelson Bowers. A complete update of the Louisville Show under Southern Domestic Flight Association will follow.

Another highlight of the Combine member's trip to Kentucky for the National Young Bird Show was the fact that RWP Johnston (Wyck) his friends call him, a Combine member from Lexington, KY, invited all the Combine members who made this trip to his home in Lexington for a barbecue. The trip started about 1:30 p.m. on the 25th when three Combine members, Sal Gigante, Mike Celebre and Neslon Bowers rented three Lincoln town cars and chauffeured the other

combine members from Louisville to Lexington. Once we had the cars it took about one hour and ten minutes to arrive at Wyck's house. The sights on the way were just beautiful. Seeing the Kentucky Blue Grass Countryside was just magnificent. We passed the Kentucky Horse Center and indoor/outdoor track and several horse farms along the way. When we reached Johnston's road, where Wyck's house is, there were more horse breeders along his road. They were C.V. Whitney and Dr. Johnston, a cousin of Wycks. We arrived about 3:30 p.m. and went directly to Wyck's loft, where we saw a loft of nice Domestic Flights in all colors. Wyck was using Homes as pumpers and he has a real nice set up in his loft.

RWP Johnston called this a barbecue? It was more like a sit down dinner. He hired a French Chef who cooked everything from soup to nuts, a five course dinner, two tables set up with fine silverware, flatware, stemware and a beautiful center piece made for each table and a meal that was fit for kings. Magnificent! His generosity and hospitality was second to none. There have been six generations of Johnstons living on this



BEST IN SHOW

This Yellow Cap was Best In Show at the New York Combine's meet at the National Young Bird Show, Louisville, Ky. - Bred and owned by Scavone and Muscanera.

property and in the same house. About 30 years ago, RWP Johnston took down the house that his mother and father and all the generations of Johnstons lived in and build a new house for him and his wife. About six years ago he lost his lovely wife of many years and buried her in Johnston Cemetery which is located on his property, along with his mother and father and generations of Johnstons buried there. A trip like this will be talked about for years to come all because of one man RWP Johnston!!

SDFA UPDATE

Submitted by President Mike Lerp
Southern Domestic Flight Association judge, Robert Fisher, had his hands full at our annual Baby Show at the National Young Bird Show, where a record setting number of 108 Domestic Flights were entered. Fifteen Domestic Flight fanciers from across the nation helped us to reach this number. For the most part these exhibitors were SDFA members, but also on hand were John Heppner and Jim Bush who are members of the Western Domestic Flight Association, as well as Sal Gigante, Vinnie Montanino and



NYC President Sal Gigante (center) receiving a drawing of his triple crown winner. It was presented by SDA President Mike Lerp (left) and Don Little (right). The drawing is by Monica Cheney.

*New York
Combine
members who
made the trip to
R.W.P. Johnston's
home in front of
his loft.*



Pete Fratangelo of the New York Combine.

Judging results are as follows. Stock Caps: 1. Gigante. 2. Canyon Lofts (Bush). 3. Little; Red/Yellow Teager Caps: 1. Scavone and Muscanera. 2. Jim Bean. 3. Scavone and Muscanera; Black/Dun Teager Caps: 1. Canyon Lofts. 2. Gigante. 3. Johnston; Red/Yellow Caps: 1. Scavone and Muscanera. 2. Gigante. 3. Johnston; Black/Dun Caps: 1. Scavone and Muscanera. 2. Lerp. 3. Johnston; Stock Plainheads: 1. Scavone and Muscanera. 2. Little 3. Canyon Lofts; Bar PH: 1. Montanino. 2. Heppner; Red/Yellow Teager PH: 1. Garmon. 2. Johnston. 3. Fratangelo; Black/Dun Teager PH: 1. Little; Red/Yellow PH: 1. Gigante. 2. Johnston. 3. Scavone and Muscanera; Black/Dun PH: 1. Little. 2. Lerp. 3. Scavone and Muscanera.

Best Cap as well as Best in Show was Muscanera and Scavone's Red/Yellow. Montanino's Barred bird was Best Plainhead in the show.

A number of our members are to be given credit for making sure that things progressed in an orderly fashion at our meet. Our stewards were Frank Banville, Jim Bean, Don Little and Ken Garmon. Functioning as the recording secretary was Nelson Bowers.

As is their usual custom, quite a few members of the New York Combine made the trip to Louisville in order to visit with us. While it was great to have these old friends at the show, our feelings were dampened because the chair usually occupied by Lenny Mintz was vacant. Lenny shared his experiences and knowledge with many of us, and speaking from personal experience Lenny unselfishly shared his Flights so that he could supply someone with a bird they were in need of. Yet I believe that Lenny's greatest gift to us was his friendship. We of the SDFA were saddened by Lenny's passing.

In the 1992 show season the SDFA will once again hold its Baby Show at the site of the Louisville National Young Bird Show. Our annual all age show will take place at the Atlanta Classic. We're also pleased to announce that there is a strong possibility of holding a meet in Florida. And due to an increase in Domestic Flights here in the mid-eastern states a fourth get together may take place in either Pennsylvania or Maryland.

UNITED ENGLISH TUMBLER CLUB **Tumbler Talk**

By **ROBERT H. SMITH**

P.O. Box 275
Manchester, Calif. 95459

This month we feature a synopsis of the Doncaster Show in England. The report was written by our "Ace" reporter in Great Britain, Les Williams and we thank him for his effort.

"The British Pigeon Show Society in conjunction with the N.P.A. Annual Championship Show at Doncaster Nov. 30 to Dec. 1, 1991.

"A Winter Show but blessed this year by good weather and good attendance and needless to say our Number One show held in a superb hall, very well lit and single tier staging. This show managed by Mike Knaggs is certainly the one to visit.

"The entry this year was a little down, recession and clashing with a huge European Show in Cologne, Germany, which a contingent of fanciers from the U.K. chose to visit.

"L.F.C.L. Tumblers were down in numbers, many fanciers having had a poor breeding season.

"General impression of the C.L. Tumblers:

"Blacks: No real progress, hard to visualize a big leap forward. Small refinements are required in color - beak shape. John Graham and Kevan Wright shared the classes. The adult taking the certificate. In my opinion progress is being made when the young birds dominate the top of the tree.

"Reds-Yellows: Some good Tumblers here, nice type, wide chest - color. Classes shared by John Graham and Archie Taylor, who exhibited a most pleasing young yellow hen, lovely expression, just a shade stronger in beak and could challenge the best.

"Whites: As usual Mike Knaggs taking his fair share with Ashcroft and Dea., good all round birds, well shown, but would benefit from a touch more style.

"Bars: A disaster, badly need a few keen fanciers and an importation or two.

"Teagers: Our club adopted this U.S. color/pattern a couple of years ago and is proving most popular with many fine specimens, Les Williams took both adult classes. The adult hen then went on to become Champion Tumbler (296 present) and then right through to become Grand Champion of the show, 4,000 approximate pigeons being present, a good piece of promotion for our breed. This was an excellent shaped Tumbler, good pattern mix, no serious fault, stood to attention throughout all the handling and looked as good after three days as when first penned. Credit must be paid to Fred Drumm, that consistent breeder of fine Tumblers.

"Balds: Numbers well down and quality not as in the recent past. Jim Todd penning a decent team. I feel sure Mike Knaggs will have an acquisitive eye on the marked classes at the Pageant.

"Beards: None shown.

"Muffs: Many keen fanciers, but cannot compare favorably with the U.S.

"By the time these notes appear, Mike, Archie and myself will have attended the Pageant in its new location and experienced once again the fine hospitality of our American friends, always a wonderful experience.

"We will enjoy discussing your many fine birds and meeting old and new friends. An International fraternity. Look forward to it. Thank you all, Les Williams."

Although we don't have the judging records available, we can tell you a little of the recent NCTS in San Bernardino, Calif., December 12-14, 1991. This was a wonderful turnout with some 625 LF Tumblers and 25 plus ESF Tumblers shown, our largest show in many years.

The major winners were in Muffs. Best Old and Champion Muff, Black OC by Jim Stehr, Sr. Best Yg. Muff, White YC by Larry Deckert. There were 105 white muffs shown, a record. Best Marked Muff, Blue OH to Bob Poloway.

In LFCL Selfs: Best Old, Yellow OH, Jim Bush. Best Yg, Black Self YH by Fred Drumm. This YH was also best Self and Champion Tumbler overall.

In LFCL Barred: Best Old and Best Bar to Mealy OH by Piergiorgi and Murphy (this bird was Best Bar at the NCTS in Bay City, Jan. 1991). Best YG to a Mealy YC by Don Copeland.

In LFCL Marked: Best Old and Best Marked to a Black OH by Tony Olzewski and Best YG to a Blue Bar YC by Joe Colesanti.

There were quite a few visitors from overseas, including six from Germany, the Haddletons from Canada, two from Scotland (including Scott Sharp) plus our English friends, Les Williams, Mike Knaggs, and Archie Taylor. There was also surprisingly good support from many of our members across the country considering the state of the economy and it's always good to see

(Continued On Next Page)

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them at least once a year.

The complete Show Report should be published in one of our upcoming Club Bulletins. One of the highlights of the Show was the announcement that the "Hall of Fame Award" was made to Henry Jaeger and Bob Poloway and the "Master Breeder Award" was made to Fred Drumm. Congratulations to these three members. Good luck in 1992 and let me hear from you during the year.

KingTracks

by HELEN TRACHT,
Publicity Director
American King Club

Here we go again, another National Pigeon Show has come and gone and I'm sure some are delighted and others disappointed.

We chose not to go for several reasons but the most important was our eldest granddaughter asked us to be there when she delivered her first children, twins, our first great grandchildren. Due to her having had Hotchkiss Lymphoma three years ago, she had these babies by in vitro inception. It was a thrill and the good Lord gave them a beautiful, healthy 5 lb. 2 oz girl, Taylor Jane and a 6 lb 8 oz. boy William David as we had all prayed for. Now that is better than any old pigeon show, wouldn't you say?

It is 5:30 a.m. and again I couldn't sleep after having many calls from friends getting home from the National. I was hoping that this was going to be a banner year, with all the harmony restored in the AKC.

After listening to all, I sat down and read what our President wrote about from our first meeting. He hoped everyone would send articles to help me. Again, reading the duties of Publicity Chairman, this is what I have decided I will do as I have had no cooperation from most members. You will in the next four issues, which will be the end of my term, get the facts as I see them.

First, congratulations to Egon Thiel, the competent judge, for doing a marvelous job, so I heard. To John Schroeder for having Grand Champion, and to all the others for showing and placing. The following are the winners in the Parade and the rest will be in the A.K.C. bulletin in March. Parade winners: #692, YrWC, Schroeder. #725, YR Rare, C. Austin. #5068, Yr SH, Nethercot. #546, YrCKH, Abreu. #225, YrBKc, DeLillo. #160, YAOCH, Jenner. #616, YBLH, J. Abreu. #845, YRedC, Austin. #9143, YARBarC, Bacon. #2625, OTSH, Beilke. #531, YYH, H&Z. #810, YrBrH, DiCandia.

There seems to be a bit of controversy regarding the guidelines difference in the AKC and NPA Master Breeders version of the award. Since the NPA awards this coveted award, I can see no reason for the AKC's written guidelines to differ with the NPA. Other than a few requirements the AKC

insist on, pertaining to placement in the Parade of the top 10% of each respective class of 10 or more – plus Grand Champions, in recognized shows, as specified in the NPA guidelines.

One more thing I heard a lot about. Why are the National Shows held where the weather is so miserable that it is hard to enjoy? That too is one of the reasons we didn't go. Jeff just recovering from by-pass surgery and having talked to relatives in Minnesota, I knew what it would be like. That's why we moved from there.

We wish to convey our condolences to the family and friends of Mike Freedman and Harry Foley, both of the 2nd district. We know they will be sorely missed by their family and friends and also the pigeon world. This reminds me of a poem we use in Eastern Star, it is as follows:

A CANDLE

A candle's but a simple thing
It starts with just a bit of string.
But dipped and dipped with patient hand
It gathers wax upon the strand
Until complete and snowy white
It gives at last a lovely light.
Life seems so like that bit of string.
Each deed we do, a simple thing
Yet, day by day, if on life's strand
We work with patient heart and hand
It gathers joy, makes dark days bright
And gives at last a lovely light.

I would like to conclude my column with this article:

A FEW POINTS FOR NEW KING BREEDERS

by Philip Van Norman

Don't start buying birds until you have a good picture in your mind what a good King looks like. The best way to get this picture is to attend a lot of shows and see first hand what birds are consistently placing in the top ten show after show under different judges. Then kindly tell the judge that you are trying to learn and would he please point out why he placed one bird over the other. I know of no good judge that wouldn't be happy to help anyone, new or otherwise, learn more about breeding Kings. By helping others, we learn more ourselves. When you have developed an eye good enough to distinguish the differences when they are explained to you and you have learned enough about keeping pigeons to keep them healthy, then start buying a few good birds, using your own judgement. Read the standard periodically.

Now, a few things to look for. You wouldn't keep a dog or cat that bit you every time you went to feed it – so watch a bird's disposition. We breed Kings because they are probably the pigeon most adapted for pets. A bird with a bad disposition doesn't often show good. An old seasoned breeder may be able to cope with this fault but a beginner should stay clear of it.

Next pick a bird that has permanent station in the coop, out of the coop, in the show

or wherever this bird may be – still it has station. If it doesn't have this characteristic it will be at its worst in the show pen.

A bird without permanent station is unpredictable. When we talk about station, we also have to keep in mind a good King pigeon is a proud bird. The men that worked out the model gave hours of thought and time to its development. We should strive to keep our birds looking as near like the model as possible. In order to have an orderly society, we must live by certain rules and regulations. The same goes for breeding Kings. If we don't stick to the model and standard regardless of what our ideas might be, we would never get any place.

A bird should have a natural hard round body. By this I mean the keel should have a rocker affect when you feel it. The flesh on each side should be full and round giving the bird a full plump round feeling when held in your hands. When you set it down, its station ought to give you a picture as near as what you see when you look at the model as possible. Again not what you or some of your friends think a King should look like but what the model looks like.

One of the things that probably has been the deciding factor on more judges decisions than any other, when we come right up to the top few birds in a class, is the color of the beak, eye ceres and legs. On whites the standard states 'best red in color.' A good white King makes a beautiful picture in a show coop if it has deep red trimmings to make the white stand out. If not, the picture is drab and anemic looking. Now assuming that we have a bird with all the qualifications we just mentioned and for some reason we didn't get him to the show with his feathers in top shape and someone has birds there that meet all the qualifications with good smooth feathers, you know what is going to happen. Any kind of parasites, overcrowding, fighting or lack of bath water will harm the plumage on birds. Pigeons should have plenty of sunshine, especially early morning sun. The competition is rough in Kings. It takes top birds to get to the top. This is why I like to breed them. There is always a challenge if we do not become discouraged.

Again, what to look for in a good King:

1. Disposition.
2. Station that looks like the model.
3. Good, smooth, glossy feathers.
4. Deep red beak, eye cere and legs - with legs set well apart.
5. Good round plump body with rocker keel.

After you have learned to distinguish these points, then you can start looking for the finer points. Now if you get a good bird like this and you don't win with it the first time, don't get mad at the judge, your friends and the bird – just keep trying. Have patience and keep a cool head and your turn will come soon.

Carneau Gleanings

by VICTOR STOLL
Finger, Tenn.

Here we are already heading for 1992. The weather has been warm, damp and rainy which is a very good combination to increase disease problems.

With around 300 birds to look after in mostly Carneau, Runts and a few French Mondains, this becomes time consuming. Many are back to laying eggs and going to work after their fall moult.

This was my best year in producing White Carneau. It has been around ten years since I started developing a stud of White Carneau. I did not use any squabbing White Carneau of the Palmetto Whites but used a nice White Cock with Runt and French Mondain cross and then outcrossed on Red and Yellow Carneau. Jean Millet also sent me a White Carneau Cock with bull eyes. From these two birds I got all my White blood and today my White Carneaux are really good show quality although a few still are a bit too long.

In bygone years White Carneau were all bred with orange eyes and this feature made it very difficult to retain the pure white plumage and when breeders prepare their white Carneaux for the show room, they pulled off colored feathers.

Since the American Carneau Association changed the standard to also allow for bull eyes, the White Show Carneau is much easier to breed and will definitely increase in popularity.

The White Show Carneau has retained all the Carneau features of large head, back skull and upright 60 degree station and looks identical to the Red, Yellow and Black

Carneau. They are indeed beautiful birds and I may have the only stud of White Show Carneau left since I developed them because I was unable to find anyone with a stud of White Show Carneau. Recently I am selling some White Carneau and demand is excellent. I am including photos of two White Carneau hens, yearling hen 370 and old white hen 897. I also included a young 91 cock which is an A.O.C. but mostly white. Notice massive head and large back skull. I will put this beautiful young cock on a short bull eye all white hen and continue to increase the beauty of my White Carneau stud. All photos were taken in Dec. 1991.

I want to include a report of show winners at the third district show at Dallas, TX, with a good turn out of 115 Carneau entered by five breeders.

Champion Carneau was Red Cock #8, also Best Young and Best Red, shown by Luther Masserang.

Young Red Hen, #215 was Best Opposite Sex, shown by Earl Rutledge.

Young Yellow Hen #210 was Best Yellow, shown by Earl Rutledge.

Young Black Hen #214 was Best Black, shown by Earl Rutledge.

So much for the winners at the Dallas third district.

By the time this article appears the N.P.A. show will be history.

Wishing all Carneau breeders a successful 1992 season. Let's bring back the beautiful Carneau to the popularity it once had and get it in the hands of more breeders. May God Bless you.

February News

This is the time of the year to get the pairs back in the breeding coops and hope for a great year. We are having extra nice weather for late January. So my Carneaux are really taking off since they are back from the NPA Show at Milwaukee. I'll probably never enter 100 Carneaux again. It was just a publicity stunt to help revive a beautiful breed.

We are glad to report that we are germinating some real interest in the breeding of



BEST RED

This Yearling Red Carneau Hen, #356-90, was Best Young Red Hen and Best Opposite Sex (all young) at the Pomona Grand National and was Best Red Yearling Hen at the Milwaukee Grand National. "This is the best I ever raised," says Victor Stoll, owner and breeder. Note the excellent station with good, short cobby appearance.

Carneau with what I believe is going to be some serious breeding.

Bernie Hartle of up Peoria, Ill., area is going to show at Louisville Young Bird Show next year and hopefully at the NPA in Pittsburg, Pa., also.

We plan on making four shows next year. The Dallas Third District, the Louisville Young Bird Show, the Columbia, Tenn., Pigeon and Dove Show and the N.P.A. at Pittsburgh.

We also have Joe Stewart of Melissa, Texas, joining the A.C.A. and he has purchased a few Carneaux and wants to buy some more good quality Carneaux. Joe has

(Continued On Next Page)



CARNEAU

White Yearling Hen, #370, has orange eyes and is a very good blocky hen that is wide breasted, short and cobby. - Bred and owned by Victor Stoll, Finger, Tenn.



CARNEAU

A Young AOC cock is a very large bird with large head and neck and excellent station. - Bred and owned by Victor Stoll, Finger, Tenn.



CARNEAU

White Old Hen, #897, is a very good hen with excellent station and has orange eyes. - Bred and owned by Victor Stoll, Finger, Tenn.

been up in the front seat as Secretary-Treasurer of the Giant Runt Club and is the man who edits the Runt Bulletins. He has been very instrumental in the rise of these Giant Birds, the Monarchs of the pigeon world. We are so glad to have you Joe and trust you will help do for the beautiful Carneau what you are doing for the Runt breed.

So with these more serious breeders joining the A.C.A., things are indeed shaping up in promoting a beautiful bird that is claiming its rightful place with a bright future once again after many years of obscurity when the light indeed was dim and flickering.

I read with interest the article by Jacob Stoltzfus of Myerstown, Penn. This was also a dream I had as a boy to be raising squabs for market and having a pigeon ranch. I noticed he feeds a 16% turkey pellet, plus corn. Could there be a connection in feeding a turkey ration that might contain a drug to prevent, "black head" in turkeys?, and thus also serve as a drug to prevent canker?? Blackhead and canker have been successfully treated with the same drug for many years.

I am sending three photos of my yearling hen #356 which is probably the best Carneau I have raised. I would say she runs a close race to my yearling Black Cock #212. These two birds are tremendous and station perfectly and consistently in the breeding loft but put them in a show cage and they sorta crouch and look most miserable and therefore never place in the category they really belong.

Following are the winners of the 3rd District Show at Dallas:

C.L. Masserang won Grand Champion with Young Red Cock #8.

Earl W. Rutledge won Best Opposite Sex with Young Red Hen #215.

Earl W. Rutledge won Best Yellow with Young Yellow Hen #210.

Earl W. Rutledge won Best Black with Young Black Hen #214.

So much for the top winners at the Dallas district show. Next month I will have the top winners of the N.P.A. Show at Milwaukee. - Victor Stoll, R. 1, Box 664, Finger, Tenn. 38334.

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Some show reports from this past show season.

National Young Bird Show - Champion, Best Hen, Best Cock, Best Black and Best Rare, Tony Cabral. Reserve Champion, Reserve Hen, Best A.O.C., Douglas Helms. Reserve Cock, Best Blue, James Widgeon. Best White, Charles Clegg. Best Dun, J.C. Johnson. A total of 48 entries by eight exhibitors. Judge was Marvin Durland.

1st District Show - Champion, Best Young Hen, Best White, Manny Franco. Reserve Champion, Best Old Cock, Best Old Hen and Best A.O.C., Tony Cardoza. Reserve Young Hen, Reserve Old Hen, Reserve Young Cock, Reserve Old Cock and Best Rare, Jose Salema. Best Young Cock and Best Black, Dave Lima. Best Blue, Germias Macedo. A total of 99 entries by 14 exhibitors. Judge was John Travassos.

2nd District Show - Champion, Best Old Cock, Best A.O.C., Best Young Cock, Bill Mustin. Reserve Champion, Reserve Old

Cock, Best Rare, Best Young Hen Reserve Young Cock, Reserve Old Hen, Reserve Young Hen and Best Old Hen, Ted Weaver. Best Dun, Scott Hiester. A total of 21 entries by four exhibitors. Judge was Marvin Durland.

I hope to have the Grand National report in the next issue. We are not a big club. Our membership has been in the 40-50 range for the last year or so but we still have some good shows as most of those that are members are active members and that is what every club is looking for ACTIVE members.

I read with interest the article "Clubs and Money" by Gene Nollan, Tacoma, Wash., in the November 1991 issue. The A.G.R.C. has had the magazine subscription style membership for the last six years and as Treasurer of the club, I can tell you that there is no better way to go. The money comes in evenly through the year.

Gordon Gilchrist, our past Secretary, had a double heart bypass operation this past summer. He is feeling good at this time and has most of his birds ready to go in a few weeks. Robert Rankin of Preston, CT, had a pair this past summer that produced 12 young - how is that for breeding. Most of my birds average about 6-8 a year. The Giant Rumbler has been in demand these past few months. I'm down to 7 pair, that's right 7 pair. That is all I'm going with in 1992. Most years I'm in the 13-15 range.

Keep breeding "The Bird With A Beautiful Face" and "Show Your Best and Leave The Rest."



Marvin Durland picking the Champion American Giant Rumbler at the AGRC meet held with the 1991 National Young Bird Show. - Photo by Tony Cabral, London, Ont., Canada.

Obituaries

DeWAYNE SNYDER Ottawa, Kansas

The pigeon hobby lost a true friend and supporter in the passing of DeWayne Snyder on Feb. 18, 1992, of a massive stroke at the age of only 50 years.

DeWayne was born Nov. 7, 1941 and had lived in Ottawa from the age of four.

DeWayne raised pigeons since his early boyhood, having many different breeds.

At one time he was the owner of the Snyder Pigeon Supply here in Ottawa.

After graduating from high school in 1959, he served in the U.S. Marine Corp for four years and the F.B.I. for one year. He had

worked for the City of Ottawa Utilities Dept., the last 26 years.

DeWayne was one of the founders of the Central States All Variety Pigeon Club, Ottawa Chapter of Quail Unlimited and a member of the Heart of American Game Breeders Assn., K.O.A.M. Pigeon Club, Heart of America Bantam Club, The Kansas State Historical Society and several other organizations. He was also an avid book collector and dealer.

He is survived by his son Anthony David "Tony" of Italy, his parents and sister of Ottawa, friend Jonella Leslie of Iola, KS, and many, many friends.

At the close of the military graveside service, as taps were being sounded, a kit of Racing Homers were released into a beautiful blue sky, thus symbolizing DeWayne's spirit returning to his creator. — Submitted by Max Cartmill, Ottawa, Kansas.

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RABBITS IN CANADA - Monthly magazine about the happenings in Canada in the rabbit industry. Also U.S. and worldwide rabbit news. Canada - 1 year \$7.00, 2 years \$12.00; U.S. - 1 year \$8.00, 2 years \$14.00. Single copy \$1.00. - Rabbits in Canada, Oak St., Bewdley, Ont., Canada K0L 1E0. (tf)

SMALL ACREAGE MANAGEMENT - The newsletter for the small holder wishing to increase income from his or her land and holdings. Regularly covering livestock, poultry, agriculture, market gardening, specialty crops and conservation practices. One Year Subscription (Quarterly) \$7.50. Each subscription includes a free 20 word ad. - Small Acreage Management, Rt. 1, Box 143, Silix, Mo. 63377. (tf)

RACING HOMERS

1992 RACING HOMERS - Otto Meyer, Trentons, beautiful Reds and Mottles. Also Ganus Janssens. Call: - Ray Grabowski, 313-848-8065. (292-492)

RODGER MORTVEDT'S - Snow white racing homers. - 509-525-2442. (292-193)

BLACK EAGLES, BANDITS - Trentons. White Racers - Calla - Vernazza Janssens, Hartog Janssens. Top quality birds at reasonable prices. All birds sold with pedigrees. Ship anywhere - Jay Alexander, 408 Vivian, Crane, Texas 79731. Ph. 915-558-2553. (292-193)

WANTED - Saddleback Homers, all colors. Also solid black, red, yellow, chocolate or dun Racing Homers. - 516-433-3086. (292-492)

MUST REDUCE STOCK - 78 years old. My loss is your gain. Sixty years racing, breeding and showing. Three years in WWII signal pigeon corp. Quality birds. 1991 AU Youngster now available. Fenoyer Sion \$150 to \$200 pair, youngsters \$35 each. Black Eagles \$75 to \$150 pair, youngsters \$35 each. White Pletincx \$150 pair, youngsters \$35 each. White Splashes \$75 pair, youngsters \$25 each. Stassart, Husken Van Riels, Vernazza, Mexico Janssen, Trenton, Fabry, Heitzman, Sion and Bricoux - \$100 to \$150 pair, youngsters \$20 each. Breeders and youngsters. Buy 6 or more. Mix or match. - Louis Nicosia, 324 N. 18th St., Waco, Texas 76710. 817-754-1691 (work), 817-772-1587 (home). (292-1292)

SIONS, TRENTONS, BASTINS, EAGLES - Forced reduction, entire loft listed, free trophies, ship anywhere, reasonable. - Schneider, HC7-B.4, Bismarck, ND 58504. 701-673-3465. (292)

SIONS - Quality stock. Young birds \$10.00 each. Breeders \$30.00 pair. - David Loy, 943 E. Dayton St., Madison, Wisc. 53703. 608-255-7366. (192-392)

IRON-BLOOD LOFT - 8 for \$125.00. 1992 youngsters. Special help for beginners. - 219-483-5197. (192-392)

TOP QUALITY HOMERS – Laced Saddles, White Bar Saddles in Cream, Platinum, Blue, Lavender, Spangled. Also White Bar Sells. Almond Andalusian and Trentons. Some in stock, taking orders for 1992 youngsters. Video of birds available. Pedigrees. Will ship. – Rick Orr, evenings. 410-760-8766. (192-392)

HVR BLACK EAGLES. – Young birds, old birds, Puloma clock, used 1 season. – Lynn Turner, 45 E. 2nd St., Wellsville, UT 84339. 801-245-4073. (591-492)

CHAMPION "NON-FLOWN" SHOW RACING HOMERS – Show and breeding stock. Standard and rare colors. – Harold C. Jones, 142 Fisher Ave., Staten Island, N.Y. 10307, 718-984-1009 after 7 p.m. or weekends. (391-292)

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WHITES – Steve's Show Winners (Belgium) Racers, Youngsters \$30.00; Blacks, Reds, Yellows, Breeders, \$20.00 each. Order 20 or more for 1/2 price. Supply is limited. – 619-276-6919, 4965A Jellett, San Diego, Calif. 92110. (391-292)

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CRESTED SOULTZ – Import lines. Blue Barless. – Tally Mezzanatto, 12376 Bryant St., Yucaipa, Calif. 92399. 714-797-9757. (192-392)

WANTED – Qets (Roller of Saudi Arabia) – Dave Benjamin, 1093 SE 11th Ave., Ontario, Ore. 97914. 503-889-2441. (192-392)

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TOYS, UTILITY, SYRIAN, PERFORMING – Terry Fick, RD #3, Box 412G, Pine Grove, Pa. 17963. (591-492)

PERFORMING SYRIAN COOP TUMBLERS – Iran Rollers, Egyptian Swifts, Syrian Swifts, all breeds of Dewlaps, all Lebanons, Damascenes, Syrian Fantails, Shakhshari Tumblers. – Jack Schubarth, 508 Central Ave., Great Falls, Mont. 59401. 1-406-467-2910. Visa and Mastercard accepted. (391-292)

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PLONA STRAIN SPINNERS – Performance bred and flown young birds and stock available. – Jim Osche, 1454 Boise, Alliance, Nebr. 69301. 308-762-6142. (292-492)

CHAMPION FLYING ROLLERS – (International Show), dark grizzle cock; grizzle mate, four relatives. \$100. – Paul Schneider, HC7-B.4, Bismarck, ND 58504. 701-673-3465. (292)

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LOFT REGISTER - Deluxe - \$11.00, Regular - \$8.00, records offspring from each pair. Personalized Pedigree Blanks: your name, loft and breed - \$0.18 ea. - 50 min. All products laser quality. - Russell Publishing, David Russell, Rt. 5, Box 213, Hartsville, S.C. 29550. 803-335-5639. (1291-292)

FOR SALE - Micro-Barrier Containers for shipping birds, \$18.95 plus postage. - AB Supplies, 27383 W. Wilmot Rd., Antioch, Illinois 60002. 708-395-2782 evenings. (391-292)

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UNITED SWALLOW CLUB - Dues \$7.50 year. Quarterly bulletins. - Dave Harris, Rt. 3, Box 99, Appleton, Minn. 56208. (192-392)

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IMPORTED MACCELSFIELD TIPPLERS - With Butterfly Action. Loft Tom Beechiner, South Wales, England. - Anthony Pietranski, 41 Helms Hill Rd., Washingtonville, N.Y. 10992. 914-496-7969. (1291-292)

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LOVATTS - Also by Arti Canadian and Lovatt crosses. - Robert Culley, Foggintown Rd., Brewster, New York 10509. 914-279-2542. (291-392)

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AMERICAN TIPPLER UNION, INC. - Monthly meetings, 9 official system flying contests. Annual Lawn Show, 3 Fall Shows. N.Y., N.J., Conn. fanciers only. Initiation \$5. Dues \$20. - Clarence Williams, 831 Nichols Rd, Deer Park, NY 11729. (391-292)

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In The Classifieds!**

TOYS

TOYS - I have the colors. Red, yellow Saxon Monks. Crested Muffed Monks. Thuringer Fullheads, red, yellow. Blazeface, red, yellow. Crested Shields. White Tailed, Starling colors. Archangel, Light Bronze, Blue Laced Wings and White Bars. Cleanleg Fields, Silver laced, crested white bars. Thuringer Spots, Black Velvet. Yellow, red, velvet Muffed Swallows. Others. Minimum 2 pair. - Rich Mrowka, 1190 Durham Road, North Madison, Conn. 06443. Stamped envelope please. Call before 9 p.m. East Coast time. (292)

TRUMPETERS

ENGLISH TRUMPETERS - Black Splashes, Blacks. - Tally Mezzanatto, 12376 Bryant St., Yucaipa, Calif. 92399. 714-797-9757. (192-392)

ENGLISH TRUMPETER CLUB OF AMERICA - Family \$10.00, Adult \$7.50, Junior \$3.00. - Orin and Barb DuChien, 751 Park Ave. E., Big Lake, Minn. 55309. (1091-992)

ENGLISH TRUMPETERS - Blacks, Reds, Yellows, Splashes (Red and Black), Almonds and more. - Roger R. Leclair Sr., Ph. 401-766-0883. (1091-992)

ENGLISH TRUMPETERS - Will ship by mail, \$25.00 up. - Whitey Parkins, 83 Rebecca St., Tiffin, Ohio 44883. 419-448-1220. (1091-992)

NATIONAL ENGLISH TRUMPETER CLUB - Seniors \$10.00, Juniors \$5.00. Contact: - Royce Perry, 2101 A Gary Lane, Hobbs, N.M. 88240. (691-592)

WESTERN AMERICAN TRUMPETER CLUB - Join today! \$3.00 Jr., \$10.00 Sr., \$15.00 couples. - Bobby Perrenoud, Sec.-Treas., 28889 Capano Bay Ct., Menifee, Calif. 92355. (591-492)

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AMERICAN FLYING TUMBLERS - Bill Lomont, 5000 Ardmore Ave., Ft. Wayne, Ind. 46809. (292-492)

LONG FACE MUFF TUMBLERS - Whites exclusively. Stock and show quality, winners wherever shown. 88 - 89 - 90 Pageant of Pigeons, 91 C.T.S., Bay City, Mich. Will ship. Contact: - Larry Deckert, 1905 E. Walnut, Orange, Calif. 92667. 714-639-8975. Please note phone #. (292-492)

LONG FACE CLEAN LEG TUMBLERS - Sells - Whites, Reds and Baldheads. - Louis Spahn, RD 1, Box 643, Afton, New York 13730. 607-639-2556. (292-193)

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WANTED

WANTED - Swing Pouters, Red, Yellow, Black. - 618-548-6847. (192-392)

WANTED - Diamond Doves, pairs of larger breeds of Pouters and Croppers at reasonable prices. Ph. 717-543-5645 or write to: - Adam J. Barkat, RD 2, Box 1087, McClure, PA 17841. (192-392)

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ORPHANAGE NEEDS PIGEONS - Would like Saxon Monks, Jacobins, Reversewing Pouters, Oriental Frills. Varmint attack wiped out many birds. Loft has been varmint-proofed now. All donations are appreciated. Contact: - APJ, P.O. Box 278, Warrenton, MO 63383 or call 314-456-2122. (tf)

WANTED - Yellow, Black Voorburgs. - Mike Harold, HCO2, Box 9, Wallace, Idaho 83873. (1291-292)

WANTED - Pigeons for raising squab and contacts for selling. - Ingram, P.O. 1324, Perris, Calif. 92572. 714-657-1468. (991-892)

WANT QUALITY PIGEONS - Jacobins, Modenas, Satinets, Vienna Short Face, Bokharas and others. Quantity no problem. 317-795-6703. Will return call if you miss us. - Ponderosa Pigeon Farm, RR 3, Box 389B, Cloverdale, Ind. 46120, Ralph Cole. (591-492)

WEST OF ENGLANDS

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 Quarterly Bulletins. Contact: - Frank Bailey (Sec.-Treasurer), 840 SW Holden, Seattle, Wash. 98106. 206-767-4994. (891-792)

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

MODENAS - SCHIETTI: 4 pr. Black; 1 pr. Mealy; 1 pr. White; 1 Gold cock. **GAZZI**: 1 pr. Blue; 3 Blue cocks; 5 Bronze cocks; 1 Bronze-Tri cock. Total of 24 birds for \$360.00 or \$20 each - your choice. - Wendell Conger, 923 N. Dutton St., Pittsfield, Ill. 62363. 217-285-2454. (292-392)

ROLLERS - 6 NICE PAIR of proven fliers, stocked because of quality performance. Hatcher, Sale, Gillespie bloodlines. \$150 or \$30 pr. - Benjamins, Ontario, Ore. 503-889-2441. (292-492)

PIGEON SHOW CALENDAR

March 28 - Mohawk Valley Variety Pigeon Club Swap Meet, Amsterdam Homing Pigeon Club, 27 Lefferts St., Amsterdam, N.Y. For information, call Tom Metallo, 518-842-5263.

April 5 - Southern Minnesota Pigeon Assn. Spring Swap 'n Sell, Austin National Guard Armory,

Austin, Minn. 8 a.m. to noon. Contact: Ted Conradt, RR 1, Box 32, Lyle, Minn. 55953. 507-325-4507.

April 5 - Tri-K Pigeon & Bantam Club Bird Fair/ Swap Meet, Kankakee County Fairgrounds, Kankakee, Ill. For information, Guenter Wenzel, P.O. Box 203, Grant Park, Ill. 60940. 815-472-2238

April 12 - Lincoln Hills Pigeon Club Swap Day, Dave G. Dougan, Sec., 4923 W. 900 S., Huntingburg, Ind. 47542.

April 25 - Blue Ridge Poultry Club Show (includes pigeons), Hillsville, Va. Contact: Mike Griffin, Rt. 1, Box 263, Sandy Ridge, N.C. 27046.

May 2 - Delmarva Pigeon Club Spring Show, Messick Community Building, Delaware Route 14 West, Harrington, Del. Show Sec. Walt Studte, 1004 Dogwood Ave., Woodhaven, Milford, Delaware 19963. 302-422-9385.

May 3 - Annual Spring Swap by the Fremont Fancy Pigeon Club, Sandusky Co. Fairgrounds, Fremont, Ohio. Contact: Jim Feasel, 2373 Co. Rd. 181, Clyde, Ohio 43410 or call 419-639-2935.

May 3 - High Plains Pigeon Club Spring Swap Meet, Ellis Co. Fairgrounds, Hays, Kansas 9 a.m. till ? Information: Stan Maslanka, 118 Cindy Dr., Russell, Kansas 67665. 913-483-6154.

May 3 - Tri-K Pigeon & Bantam Club Bird Fair/ Swap Meet, Kankakee County Fairgrounds, Kankakee, Ill. For information, Guenter Wenzel, P.O. Box 203, Grant Park, Ill. 60940. 815-472-2238.

May 17 - Saginaw Pigeon Assn. Swap Meet, Falcon's Hall, Swan Creek Rd., Saginaw, Mich. Sec. James Bedell, 3073 Boy Scout, Bay City, Mich. 48706. 517-684-6051.

May 17 - High Point Pigeon Club Spring Show. Contact: Tovrea Brady, Sec., 1129 W. Holly Hill Rd., Thomasville, N.C. 27360.

May 17 - Southern Ill. Pigeon Club Spring Show and Swap, Bridgeport Pavilion, Bridgeport, Ill. Contact: Gerald Stevens, Show Sec., P.O. Box 47, Parkersburg, Ill. 62452. 618-442-5479.

June 6-7 - Lake of the Ozarks Pigeon Club Swapper's Day, located on State Road T T, 7-1/2 miles south of Versailles, Missouri, at Jacobs Cave. Pigeons, poultry and other small animals and pets. For information, call: George Eichelberger, 314-378-5676 or Frank Hurley, 314-378-4374.

June 20 - Houston Pigeon Club Young Bird and Yearling Show, 9 a.m. till 7, Stancel Park, Cleveland, Texas. For information: Bobby Brodie, 115 Perry Dr., Livingston, TX 77351. 409-327-2633.

June 28 - Lincoln Hills Pigeon Club Show. Dave G. Dougan, Sec., 4923 W. 900 S., Huntingburg, Ind. 47542.

July 26 - The White Rose Pigeon Assn., Inc., Annual Summer Show, York Fairgrounds, York, Pa. Both old and young birds accepted. Contact: Show Sec. Gary Cable, 1552 Haviland Road, York, Pa. 17404. Specialty Clubs invited.

Aug. 16 - Saginaw Pigeon Assn. Lawn Show, Falcon's Hall, Swan Creek Rd., Saginaw, Mich. Sec. James Bedell, 3073 Boy Scout, Bay City, Mich. 48706. 517-684-6051.

Aug. 30 - High Plains Pigeon Club Fall Swap Meet, Ellis Co. Fairgrounds, Hays, Kansas 9 a.m. till ? Information: Stan Maslanka, 118 Cindy Dr., Russell, Kansas 67665. 913-483-6154.

Sept. 6 - Tri-K Pigeon & Bantam Club Bird Fair/ Swap Meet, Kankakee County Fairgrounds, Kankakee, Ill. For information, Guenter Wenzel, P.O. Box 203, Grant Park, Ill. 60940. 815-472-2238.

Sept. 27 - Fremont Fancy Pigeon Club Annual Young Bird Show, Sandusky Co. Fairgrounds, Fremont, Ohio. Contact: Jim Feasel, 2373 Co. Rd. 181, Clyde, Ohio 43410 or call 419-639-2935.

Sept. 27 - Southern Ill. Pigeon Club Fall Show and Swap, Bridgeport Pavilion, Bridgeport, Ill. Contact: Gerald Stevens, Show Sec., P.O. Box 47, Parkersburg, Ill. 62452. 618-442-5479.

Oct. 3 - Midwest Young Bird Show, Sheboygan Falls, Wisc. Contact: Earl Helmer, N6473 Riverside Lane, Plymouth, Wisc. 53073. 414-893-8892.

Oct. 3-4 - Lake of the Ozarks Pigeon Club

Swapper's Day, located on State Road T T, 7-1/2 miles south of Versailles, Missouri, at Jacobs Cave. Pigeons, poultry and other small animals and pets. For information, call: George Eichelberger, 314-378-5676 or Frank Hurley, 314-378-4374.

Oct. 4 - Lincoln Hills Pigeon Club 1992 Fall Show. Dave G. Dougan, Sec., 4923 W. 900 S., Huntingburg, Ind. 47542.

Oct. 4 - Tri-K Pigeon & Bantam Club Bird Fair/ Swap Meet, Kankakee County Fairgrounds, Kankakee, Ill. For information, Guenter Wenzel, P.O. Box 203, Grant Park, Ill. 60940. 815-472-2238.

Oct. 10 - Utah Pigeon Club Young and Yearling Show, Utah State Fairpark, Salt Lake City, Utah. Contact: Greg W. Pola, Show Director, 3808 Atlas Way, West Valley, Utah 84120. 801-969-8923.

Oct. 18 - New York Domestic Show Flight Club, 17th Annual Young Bird Show at Polish National Hall, 64th St. and 56th St., Maspeth, N.Y.

Oct. 23-25 - Short Grass Pigeon Show, held in Rapid City, SD. All Breed Show, silent auction, banquet and a lot of fun. Contact: Jerry Goetz, 5320 Solitaire Dr., Rapid City, SD 57701 (605/393-1879) for information.

Oct. 24 - Blue Ridge Poultry Club Show (includes pigeons) Hillsville, Va. Contact: Mike Griffin, Rt. 1, Box 263, Sandy Ridge, N.C. 27046.

Oct. 31 - National Young Bird Show. Show Sec. Rita M. Courtney, P.O. Box 21, Milton, KY 40045.

Oct. 31 - The Great Lakes Fantail Club once again hosting your 1992 young Fantails at their annual show, Kentucky State Fair and Exposition Center, Louisville, KY. Judge: Mike Soda.

Nov. 7 - The White Rose Pigeon Assn., Inc., Annual Winter Show, York Fairgrounds, York, Pa. Both old and young birds. Contact: Show Sec. Darla Stover, RD 2, Felton, Pa. 17322. Specialty clubs invited.

Nov. 7 - Albuquerque Pigeon Fanciers Fall Classic (All Breeds Show), Bosque Farms Rodeo Arena. For more info and entry forms, contact: Douglas Johnston, 468 59th St. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87105. 505-831-5330.

Nov. 7 - National West of England Tumbler Club District 4 Show. Hosted by the Albuquerque West of England Tumbler Club. Held at Bosque Farms Rodeo Arena. For more info, contact: Douglas Johnston, 468 59th St. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87105. 505-831-5330.

Nov. 8 - Long Island Show Homer Assn. Fall Show, Islip Terrace Club, East Islip, N.Y. Classes for Show Racers, Unflown Birds and Race plus eye sign classes. For information, call Joe Ognibene, 718-499-4210.

Nov. 8 - High Point Pigeon Club Fall Show. Contact: Tovrea Brady, Sec., 1129 W. Holly Hill Rd., Thomasville, N.C. 27360.

Nov. 13-14 - Third annual Gurnay Racing Pigeon Convention, Show and Futurity, Columbus, GA. For information: Hal Conn, 6625 W. Seven Rivers Dr., Crystal River, Fla. 32629. 904-795-6257.

Nov. 14 - Tennessee Pigeon and Dove Club Annual Fall Show, National Guard Armory, Columbia, Tenn. Specialty clubs welcome. Contact: Eugene Baxley, 2103 Shannonhouse, Huntsville, Ala. 35803. 205-881-3231.

Nov. 14 - American Komorner Tumbler Club District #2 Meet. National Guard Armory, Columbia, Tenn. Contact: James Burns, Rt. 1, Box 181, Santa Fe, Tenn. 38482. 615-682-2905.

Nov. 14 - Annual All Age, All Variety Dove Show, National Guard Armory, Columbia, Tenn. Contact: George Schutt, P.O. Box 24948, Nashville, Tenn. 37202-4984. 615-444-3683.

Nov. 21 - Saginaw Pigeon Assn. Winter Show, James Township Hall, 6060 Swan Creek Rd., Saginaw, Mich. Sec. James Bedell, 3073 Boy Scout, Bay City, Mich. 48706.

Nov. 28-29 - New York Combine Domestic Show Flight Club, 17th Annual Young and Old Bird Show at Polish National Hall, 64th St. & 56th Rd., Maspeth, N.Y.

Dec. 5 - Delmarva Pigeon Club Winter Show (NPA State Meet), Messick Community Bldg., Del. Route 14 West, Harrington, Del. Show Sec.: Walt Studte, 1004 Dogwood Ave., Woodhaven, Milford, Del. 19963. 302-422-9385.

Dec. 11-12 - Utah Pigeon Club Premier Show, Utah State Fairpark, Salt Lake City, Utah. Contact: Greg W. Pola, Show Director, 3808 Atlas Way, West Valley, Utah 84120. 801-969-8923.

Dec. 12 - Sheboygan Lakeshore Pigeon Club Annual All Age Show, Sheboygan Falls, Wisc. Contact: Ron Hass, 529 David Ave., Sheboygan Falls, Wisc. 53085. 414-467-2343.

Dec. 13 - Mohawk Valley Variety Pigeon Club 4th 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, 518-842-5263.

Dec. 19 - St. Louis Metropolitan Pigeon Fanciers Assn. Annual Show, Keith Warnhoff, Show Sec., 1517 Doris Dr., St. Louis, Mo. 63138. 741-0527.

1993

Jan. 16 - Midwest International Pigeon Show, Fremont Fancy Pigeon Club 49th Annual Winter Show, Sandusky Co. Fairgrounds, Fremont, Ohio. Any and all specialty clubs are welcome, we want to host your meet. Contact: Jim Feasel, 2373 Co. Rd. 181, Clyde, Ohio 43410 or call 419-639-2935.

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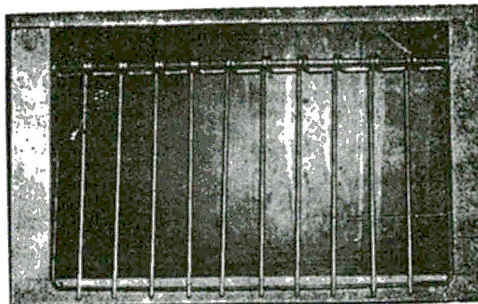
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