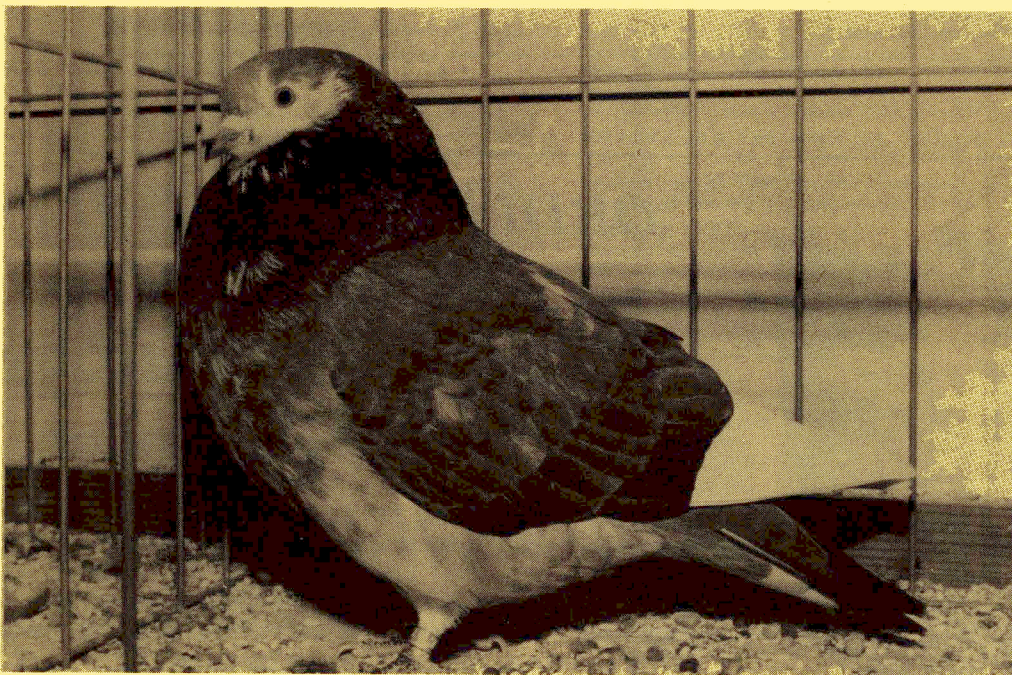


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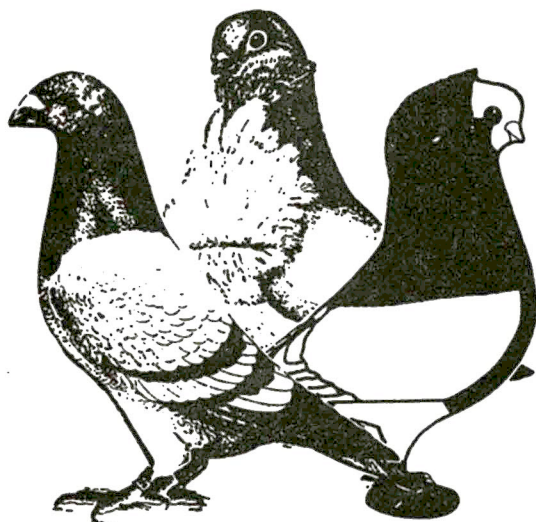
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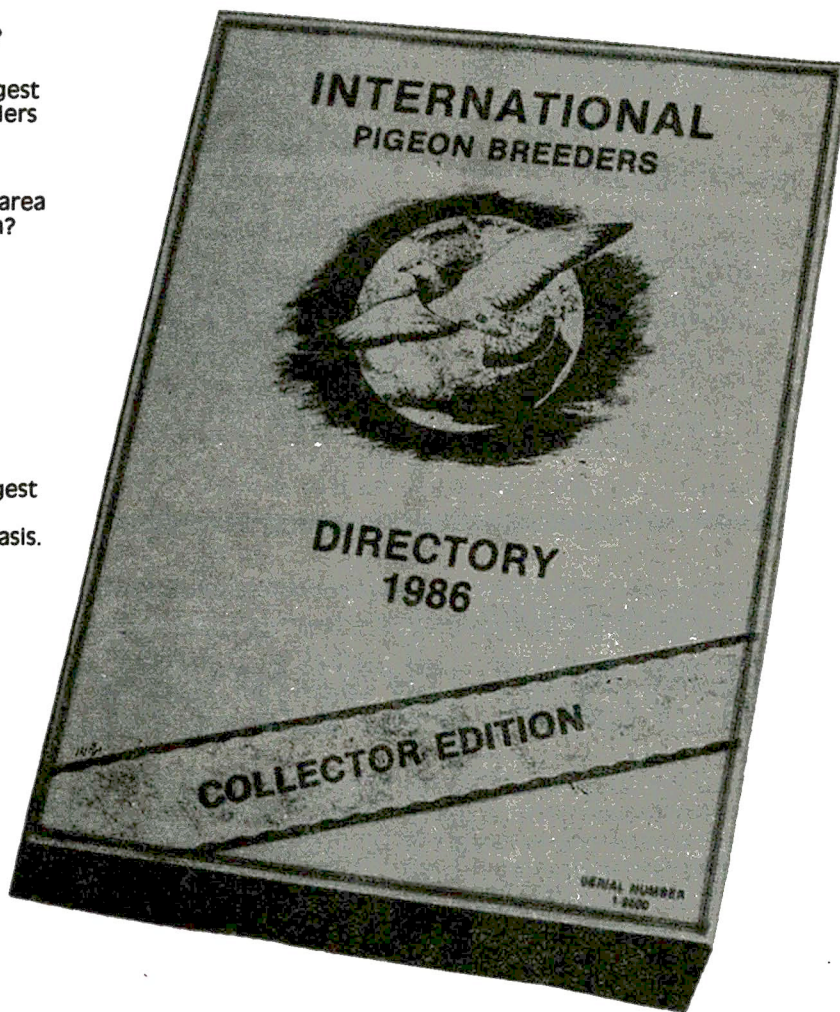
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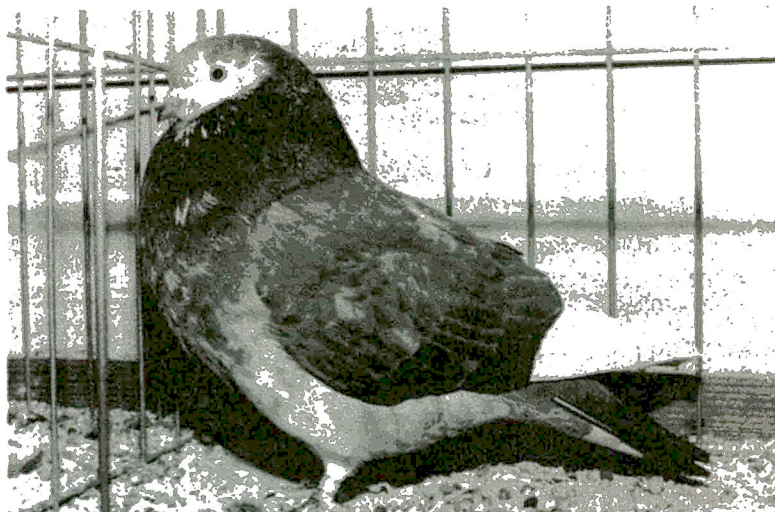
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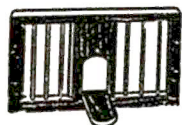
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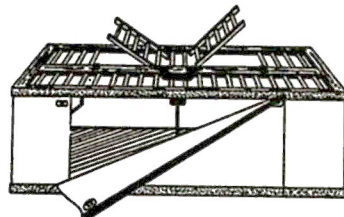
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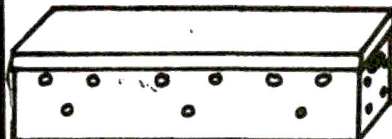
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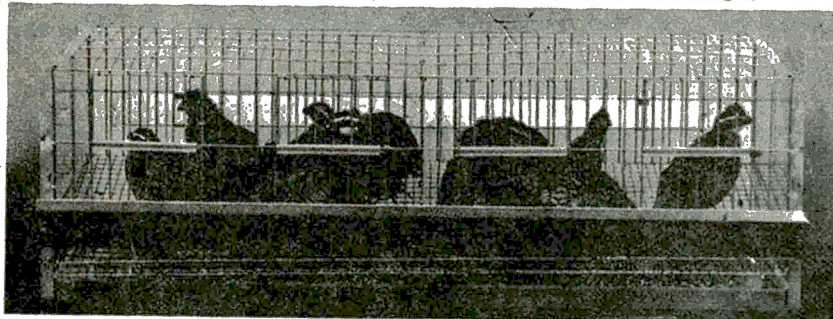
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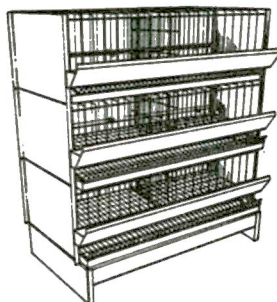
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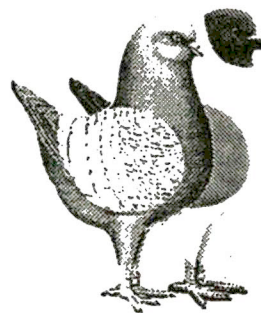
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Upcoming Specials

The schedule for 1986 Special Issues is:

May 1986 — Jacobins. Tom Flamino, Coordinator, Rt. 2, Box 454-A, Staunton, Va. 24401. Deadline: March 1, 1986.

August 1986 — Helmets. Tony Patti, Coordinator, RFD 6, River Rd., Preston, Conn. 06360. Deadline: June 1, 1986.

November 1986 — Pouters and Croppers, Frank Barrachina, Coordinator, 12376 Bryant St., Yucaipa, Calif. 92399. Deadline: September 1, 1986.

To help insure the success of these specials, support your favorite breed with advertising, photos and articles.

Advertise Your Pigeon Show

Each month we publish a list of the dates of forthcoming pigeon shows as a service to the Pigeon Fancy. This is limited publicity for many shows, but in order to get the greatest publicity we urge that an ad should appear in the APJ at least one or more issues before the show.

While we are glad to give this free publicity to the shows, we feel that paid advertising is necessary to insure the success of the show. Without the APJ shows would be limited in attendance and entries. Give your shows the proper prestige by advertising in the APJ. A one inch ad for one month is only \$7.00. See page 2 for other advertising details.

Your Expiration Date

Quite often we get letters from our subscribers asking us to tell them with what issue their subscription expires. May we call attention to the fact that the address plate for your copy shows the date of expiration.

For example, if your subscription expires with the March issue, then "Mar 86" appears back of your name on the address plate. This means that the March issue will be the last copy on the present subscription and that you should renew at once. For your convenience an expiration notice also appears in the same issue. All subscriptions are stopped at expiration.

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 mail.

If you allow ample time on a change of address, you will not miss out on any issues. Thank you.

Don't Forget Our Group Rate

Our group subscription rate is still in effect for groups of ten or more. The rate is 25% off the regular yearly rate which would make a one year subscription rate of \$9.00, a \$3.00 savings per year. There are two requirements that must be met in order to receive the group rate. They are: 1. There has to be ten or more subscriptions sent in at one time. 2. This rate can be had for one year ONLY. It does not apply to the two and three year subscription rate.

Moments With "Mike"

Charles Perryman, Sequim, Wash.: "Enclosed find my check for 1 year renewal of APJ. I look forward to each new issue. I love the specials. Would like to see a French Mondain Special."

Dee Akright, Sodus, Mich.: "I am really enjoying the Fantail Special. The articles are exciting to read, especially from England. It seems the English have a way with words and expressing themselves that makes their articles interesting. I am also a fan of John Moppin and thank him for all his long hard work he puts in for his club and the pigeon fancy, regarding Fantails and their breeders. They sure are lucky to have him."

Roger Baker, Rose Bud, Ark.: "Enclosed is my check for another year of the APJ. You are doing a fine job getting the magazine out to us fanciers on time every month. And most of the articles are top notch. I really look forward to the performing roller articles. And the American Dove Assn. articles. So please keep 'em coming..."

Curley P. Montet, Bridge City, Texas: "The Journal is very good. I hope I can continue to renew my subscription because it helps me very much in many ways. I am breeding French Mondains for 19 years now and I know this is just a drop in a bucket compared to my fellow breeders, but it's amazing how much there is to learn about pigeons and the Journal helps very much."

Peter C. Richard, Hobe Sound, Fla.: "As an octogenarian and 67 years as a pigeon stock flyer and breeder, I would like to renew my subscription for another year with all the tips and good reading, never too old to learn. I am into Chinese Owls, whitesides, yellow, red and black. Still trying. I have the highest flying white Chinese Owls in the state of Fla. Can't see them in a white sky, so added a blue and black. Keep up the good work. I like the Questions and Answers."

Mrs. Jean L. Pearce, Lithia, Fla.: "I truly enjoy this book. One of the sections that is never long enough is Clair Hetland's Questions and Answers. This educated man is very busy I know, sure wish he could make it twice as long. You'd be surprised how ignorant some are on the subject. Can you believe I didn't even know that you were supposed to change their nesting materials and disinfect, etc.? I didn't know until I've had them almost a year and had to take ours to the vet and later found a fellow at a feed store who told me about your book. This is one hobby I think everyone should love. How I love the little critters. They just give me such joy. Thank you again for your book. I read it from cover to cover each month. Thanks again."

Renew Your Subscription

A Feathered Look At Our Pigeons

by DARREL RUTTER, Altoona, Pa.

Are you feather-brained? I'm going to assume with a great deal of certainty you are. Before I ruffle your feathers too much - read on. There's something about the word, "feather-brained", that the majority of people react negatively to.

The same guy who coined the phrase is probably the same guy who advised us that we are "for the birds." But without getting myself lost in a maze of contradictory intentions, I would like you to see that being feather-brained is not such a bad thing after-all, or that being for the birds is certainly a complimentary statement. Sure we're for the birds. We love our feathered friends. God in His infinite creation was "feather-brained" since He used feathers to make pigeons work, and His brain to think it up.

Ok, you're beginning to see what I'm up to and you're right, but you still don't know where I'll go with it.

I was thinking about feathers. There must be as many kinds of feathers as there are pigeons. You couldn't count all the feathers there are on pigeons. There are large ones such as flights to teeny-tiny filoplumes, and colors, oh my - what colors!

Pigeons are full of color. Color you can see and touch with your eyes. They have incredible beauty - from soft pastel tones to brilliant reds to passionately vibrant blues. They may be brown, dark and rich. They may be delicately shaded with elusive tints or tones. Oh, the infinite hues and variations of color that make pigeons one of the worlds most color-expressive birds. Yes, pigeons have color - all kinds, and that's why we say pretty pigeons, pretty feathers of hue.

Of course feathers are more to a pigeon than just color. They are a most practical survival kit bestowed upon them by nature. Feathers are a complex and wonderful natural structure. They enable a bird to keep warm through insulation, and also offer protection from the birds environment through camouflage and flight.

Feathers develop beneath the skin from Keratin when the embryo is still developing. Since pigeons hatch naked, unable to care for themselves, these young birds must remain in the nest dependent on the parents until they grow their own juvenile feathers and grow strong enough to fly and become part of the social structure within the loft.

Feathers develop along certain tracts with bare spaces in between.

When the feathers are fully developed they overlap and cover these bare spots giving the pigeon a smooth outer covering. All feathers grow out pointing in the direction of the tail which creates little wind resistance in flight. These patches of feathers are concentrated along the head-neck area, spine, thighs, wings, breast and stomach. Although it may not seem this way pigeons have thousands of feathers.

A feather begins its journey into the world as a small bit of tissue below the skin. This tissue is nourished from the roots. When the bud develops the follicle, the outer cells harden and become a sheath. Enclosed within the sheath the inner cells grow into the many varied parts. The feather pushes out of the sheath in a spiral pattern. At the point of completed growth the blood dries up and the sheath cracks and falls off.

The primary item that strikes us when viewing a feather is the fact that the flattish feather surface, called the vane, is divided vertically by the central, tapering shaft. This shaft is an extension of the hollow quill, the thickest, basal part attached to the follicle. On its upper part, the rachis, the shaft supports the series of narrow, parallel, and closely spaced barbs, the feather branches implanted on each side. Although it is easy to believe that a single pigeon feather has some six hundred individual barbs. A look at the barbs under a microscope shows us that they, in turn, have tiny branches growing from each side. These barbules - frequently closely spaced and parallel, and bear at their end of the barbicels, many of which are equipped with tiny hooklets called hamuli. By hooking onto the barbules of the adjoining barb, these hooklets serve to join the feather parts together, uniting them in a firmly meshed web.

While the feather has to be strong in order to withstand air pressure during flight, it also has to be flexible. If the hooklets were fixed to one spot and unable to move, the vane would become too stiff and might easily break. The curved edges with which the barbules are equipped eliminate this problem: the hamuli can slide freely along this edge, adding elasticity to the vane without causing it to lose any of its firmness.

The feather is the unique structure, it's superlight and has both maximum strength and flexibility. During flight these structures

support a bird many times heavier than the sum of its feathers. The wear and tear on the feathers especially our flyers is phenomenal. This is why a good moult is a must. Plenty of rest, good health, and plenty of the right food, high in protein will insure a good moult.

There are three kinds of feathers that cover our birds. The primary flight feathers are the largest and strongest. These are located on the outer part of the wing and support flight. A second set of primaries are called secondaries; these help support flight and act as flaps on an aircraft. They provide lift and also braking when the bird lands.

Tail feathers, although not needed to power the pigeon in flight, served as a rudder to turn or slow a pigeon down. The other types of feathers that cover the bodies of our pigeons are contour feathers. "These are distinguished by an after shaft, a smaller secondary feather with its shaft attached to the junction of the principle shaft and quill."

Down feathers have still a different structure. They are usually small and very soft. They have no vane; they're greatly reduced, weak shaft supports disproportionately long, flexible barbs and long, thin barbules. These make a formless cover of soft feather branches.

The last type of the three types of feathers is the filoplumes. These hair feathers clump around the follicles of many feathers and are thought to be sensitive to touch.

The good Otto Meyer told me that a pigeon's feathers reveal a great deal about a pigeon, and what it has experienced in that year. I must admit it makes sense. If you're interested read his article, "The Complete 'Feather Reading'" in the Pocket Racing Pigeon, Vol. 8, No. 3, Page 27. Another must is "Rotondo On Racing Pigeons", the chapter on the Moults and Feathers, page 127, is just excellent.

Another item to touch on, but to be brief is that of color in feathers. Since all pigeons are descended from the "Rock Dove" (*Columba livia*) and its colors are principally that of blue, I can only believe that this base color was for camouflage since they were cliff dwellers. However, since man has bred them - many colors have evolved, and nowadays almost any color is possible.

Color in feathers is produced chemically by either pigments or physically; that is through simple surface structures. Most color is produced as a result of color cells. A feather may have more than one pigment making up its color.

Some color is due to patterns produced when color cells stop

American Pigeon Journal

during feather growth. This is because the pattern follows a strict genetic code. Some colors are a result of a "stop and go precision arrangement in order to create the distinct and often symmetrical pattern" of patches peculiar to color in pigeons.

Another relevant point is to realize that black and white are not colors. White is the absence of colors, "it is total reflection of white light, just as black is total absorption. As we know white light is a combination of all the

colors in the spectrum." This is the reason you get other colors when you breed whites. It makes not only white possible, but other colors as well. It can be dominant or recessive.

Just as the feathers on our pigeons, this article just barely covers the subject. The intent here is to get you interested about feathers, and to take a more indepth look at our "feathered-friends" - a feathered look at our pretty pigeons - pretty feathers of blue, brown, white and black. □

Mission Completed

by DEAN THRASHER, Henderson, Texas

Many would say the title is all wrong. For myself, I can think of nothing more appropriate. For you see a mission was what I have been on since June 1985 and to make a success out of anything you have to treat it as your personal mission in life.

You must be willing to make any sacrifice. Your eyes, mind and energy must be aimed at your goal, your mission.

This has been a very rewarding venture in terms of success. I could not have thought of anything else aimed at the pigeon fancy that would have been as well received.

The lasting friendships made through this in itself makes it worthwhile, can you understand this? I have received invitations to come and visit fanciers in Bermuda, Scotland, England, New Zealand, Australia, West Germany, Holland, Hungary and Canada. Now I ask you, has this project been received worldwide?

We have on file literally thousands of letters from fanciers, ranging from the backyard hobbyist to the world famous, each praising the efforts and extending best wishes.

I'm sure most of you have followed the progress since June, as you will notice there has been no mention of money. It was my idea and if it did not work I didn't want to have others lose a single dime.

Now that the totals have been tallied up, here is what I will report.

With a work force of two to five people with over 4,800 man-hours at a cost of in excess of \$105,000.00, the International Pigeon Breeders Directory is now at the printers. We have a very unusual marketing plan.

First as you will see in our ad we have made arrangements with the printer to create a special series, that being a limited collector's edition. There will only be 2,500 copies. These will be serial numbered, registered in the owners name and distributed worldwide.

Our projections on these copies are as follows, we have sent out only 500 sales letters, these from random drawing, 500 on a first come, first serve basis through the ad appearing in this issue of the APJ, 1400 for foreign fanciers, then 100 copies held back for three months, this I will explain later.



Pictured left to right are: Wm. L. "Mike" Worley, Editor and Owner of the American Pigeon Journal; Dean Thrasher, publisher of the International Pigeon Breeders Directory; and Joan M. Worley, Asst. Editor of American Pigeon Journal.

Distributorship Rights Finalized

by DEAN THRASHER, Henderson, Texas

Of my many trips to visit the Worley's and visit the facilities of our beloved APJ, this trip was the most rewarding and has very special meaning.

I am proud to announce to the general fancy that distributorship rights has been awarded to the American Pigeon Journal to serve the fancy as a dealer for "The International Pigeon Breeders Directory."

When a product that is this valuable and so well received is offered to the public, (in this case the

The cost of the standard run copies will be \$25.00 with the postage and handling paid.

Through the ad in this issue the collector's edition copies are being offered at the same price, this is only for the U.S. and Canada. The other countries will be through agents there.

Now the 100 copies that were held back will be offered later at \$50.00 per copy to complete the series, this makes all 2500 copies valued at \$50.00 or more per copy.

I would suggest if you are interested in this special offering you send your order NOW, as mentioned these will be on a first come first serve basis.

The standard run copies may only be obtained from us or the APJ for we feel to serve the fancy this has to be handled by responsible agents, and of course the APJ is the choice for the U.S. and Canada.

We will be setting up agents in

(Continued On Next Page)

fancy), you simply have to deal only with reputable people.

The APJ will have a very large supply on hand with which to fill your orders.

The Worley's are to be commended for their effort in producing what many feel is the very best pigeon magazine in the world, as well as having the reputation worthy of receiving the above mentioned distribution rights.

Good luck to all and may God Bless each and every home. □

Australia, New Zealand, Bermuda, South Africa, West Germany, and others will be developed.

Subscribers outside the U.S. and Canada, should write to us for the agent in your areas.

To make a long story short I will say that it's a personal guarantee that you will be totally amazed when you see the total of fanciers in your area that we have listed.

I feel that a large number of new clubs will be formed as a result of the directory. Folks, there are thousands upon thousands of fanciers out there that are not members now, find the ones around you, interest them in your club or breed, this was one of the reasons for the directory.

The following is some of the questions asked about the directory.

How large is it going to be?

•Our directory contains the largest combined list of pigeon breeders in North America.

Will it help me find a club in my area or chosen breed?

•Our directory contains the largest list of pigeon clubs in the U.S.

I travel a lot, will it help me find fanciers in other areas and countries?

•Our directory contains the largest combined list of pigeon breeders on an international basis.

How does it compare to the Pigeon magazine?

•Our directory has listed more fanciers than the combined subscriber lists of all (4) periodic pigeon publications in the U.S.

Now I ask you what pigeon fancier would not be able to make use of the directory?

Our wildest dreams was to have 10,000 listings. Well, we had that in 30 days, so I quit counting. At the end of 60 days, we had over 20,000. Again, I quit counting, so I can't honestly tell you the total, but I promise you it will amaze you to be able to make contacts with this many in the U.S. then to have connections in over 30 countries.

Well enough of this, if you would like to have a collector's edition, you must hurry, for it is first come, first serve, all late orders will be filled with the standard run.

I thank all of you for helping to make this possible and making my mission a success. □

What You Should Know About Pigeon Breeder's Lung Disease

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Fulton, Levi And Thrasher

by WILLIE ENGLISH, Jacksonville, Texas

Levi and Fulton gave us wonderful books on pigeons.

Then along comes Dean Thrasher of Henderson, Texas, with the idea of a pigeon directory.

Many over the years have come up with this idea, but none ever got it "off the ground."

Getting an idea is EASY — but following through is the JOB!

To accomplish this great work took many hours, lots of money, several trips from California to New York City and many places in between. Phone bills one would not believe including many overseas calls.

Last July Dean quit working to devote full time to follow through with this project. That's when I decided that he was sincere and would complete the project. He will be the first to admit, he would not have accomplished what has been done so far without the help of his wife Charlie. She has spent hours on end running the computers. We're not talking eight hour days, but hours sometimes through the night.

What does this pigeon directory mean to the fancy?

It will list thousands of pigeon fanciers names, addresses, breeds kept - not only in the U.S.A., but many foreign countries.

Also listed will be hundreds of clubs with club secretary's addresses — all breeds clubs, speciality clubs and on an international scope also.

Feed suppliers, pigeon book dealers and pigeon supply houses will also be listed.

You may ask, "What are the benefits of having this pigeon directory?"

Many of us travel and as we go down the highways we often wonder just how many lofts we are passing by. Often when I'm spending a night in a motel in a strange place I'd like to chat on the phone to a pigeon fancier. With the directory as a traveling companion I have this problem solved.

Perhaps you would like to import pigeons - just check out the international listings.

Also in the directory will be several ads. Somewhere in there you will find my full page ad. Many of us fanciers realized the potential of this directory and gave our support to Dean with our ads.

Have you often wondered if perhaps there was someone in your town or county that had pigeons that you did not know about? Check the directory - you might get a surprise!

Interested in a certain breed and would like to know just how many have this breed? Check the directory.

This past weekend my friend Charles Hanna and I were guests of the Thrashers where we were shown the directory being prepared to go to the printers.

Charles and I both gave Dean our cold cash for our copies of the directory. Dean informed us that there were to be printed 2500 collector's edition series copies with a special cover numbered from 1 to 2500. The first 100 copies will be held back, to be sold in approximately 90 days at \$50 per copy postpaid. Of the remaining 2400, 1400 are reserved for U.S. sales. The other 1,000 are for worldwide sales. The 2400 will be sold through ads in the APJ and direct mailing at the standard run price of \$25 postpaid. When the 2400 copies are sold, the 100 held back will be sold at the stated price of \$50 each postpaid. This will make your copy worth \$50.

Number 1 through number 2500 will be registered in the owner's name.

This is a "First" for the pigeon fancy. I personally know hundreds in the pigeon hobby as I've been involved in the hobby for way over 30 years.

Not many would make the sacrifice that the Thrashers have made to get this directory out to the pigeon fancy. So why not help yourself and the hobby in general by supporting this endeavor. □

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Pigeon Feeds

by WES CONOVER, Beaufort, N. Car.

I have had many top pigeon grain mixtures tested over the past year, and toxins were found in all of them. This problem changes daily, as a feed mixture will be high in toxins one time, and low the next time, etc. This is according to how much toxin was used by each farmer on his grain fields.

I have also found out that pigeons are hurt more by toxins than any other bird or animal alive. So, who knows what safe levels are for a pigeon? How many tests have been made on this subject?

Awhile back, I was feeding a well-known pigeon grain mixture, and found that the pigeons just would not eat the milo in this feed. I took a sample of this feed to our State Lab to have it tested. Toxins were found in it. When I went to see about it, I talked to the lab technicians there, and they told me there was an easy explanation for the pigeons' refusal to eat the milo. They said that the farmers spray a product on the milo to make it taste bitter. This is intended to prevent wild birds from eating it. Then the farmers grind the grain into feed for cows. I am told that these products will not hurt the cows.

Well, on my way home from the lab, I stopped in and talked with a person who has made a study of these things, and who is a member of the Audubon Society. She told me that not only will the wild birds not eat this milo, but if they do eat it they will drop dead. So, here were my **pigeons, refusing** to eat this grain, right in front of me! Were they trying to tell me something? I sure think they were.

Here I am, paying over \$11.00 per 50 pounds for poison to feed my birds. Today I would pay almost anything for grain that was grown like it was 20 to 25 years ago: the old organic way that has been proven to be the right way, and has passed all tests with flying colors, for millions and millions of years.

Back during the times when our birds loved their food, and because it was good for them, they, themselves, could build up all these antibodies in their own bodies to fight off all these diseases they have today. I know we have millions of people to feed in the world today, and we can feed them all, too ... the organic way - if we start working on it. The easy way is not always the best way.

I want to add one thing that might help some of us now. I have been

told, and have found out from my own experience, that any kind of heating or cooking process will do away with a lot of the toxins in this grain. Some forms of pellet or crumble feeds that were put through an extreme heating process are much better for our birds than whole grain. Also, some pigeon fanciers today are baking their grain mixtures in the ovens of their stoves before feeding it to their birds. They are having better results with this feed, I am told.

Many people will tell you that their grain mixtures are so low in toxins that they are safe, etc. Ask them if they know how safe they are on pigeons, which, as mentioned above, are hurt by these toxins more than any other bird or animal alive.

If these feeds are low in toxins, but fed year after year, how high a level do they reach in the pigeon's body over a period of time? Ask them how many tests they have made on pigeons, and over how long a period of time.

I remember something the late Eric Buri told me 15 or 20 years ago. He said, "I will not live to see it, but you will be able to buy pigeon grain mixtures that will be clean and just beautiful to look at, and you won't find a bug or a worm in any of it. However, you will find that you won't be able to raise many birds on it, and your birds will not enjoy eating it."

He said, "Wes, when this happens, drive over into Pennsylvania where the Amish or Mennonite people live. They still use just good old animal and chicken manure on their fields, and they weed their crops by cultivation (they plow the weeds under with a cultivator)."

"Buy a bag of their feed and open it up, and if you find that it is dirty and dusty and full of bugs and worms, feed **this** to your birds, because what's **good** for those bugs and worms is also **good** for your birds! You won't find any bugs or worms in these modern feeds because **they can't live in it!**"

Mr. Buri has been gone now for some 15 years. Through experience of my own during these past 15 to 20 years of raising birds, I'm now very sure that my good friend, Mr. Buri, was right.

For those of you who are now saying that my line of birds have been linebred for too long, and that is the reason for the trouble in breeding them, etc., please explain

to me why it was possible for me, during some of these past 15 years, and just recently also, to be able to start this flock of birds breeding like mice every time I was able to find a source of feed that was good, and had just plain good old **food value** in it -- no toxins.

Also, tell me why some pigeon fanciers today, who are growing their own pigeon feed (without toxins), are having such wonderful luck raising pigeons today, and some of these lofts under very unsanitary conditions, also!!! I can mention many lofts that I knew of 20 years ago that were kept under very, very unsanitary conditions where many national champions came from and that 95% of all the birds in these lofts were in top health and stayed that way for years and years, and produced many, many healthy, strong youngsters. Could it be that good old organic grain had something to do with it, back during those years? Can any of you tell me where I can buy grain like this today?

Watch your pigeons. They will tell you what's good for them. For instance, some have said that they don't need a bath. When I lived in Alabama, there were several separate sections to my loft. One section had running water running through it at all times where the pigeons could take a bath whenever they wanted to. I could never find any lice on birds in this section, but did have these troubles where they couldn't bathe. Where do wild pigeons drink? Did you ever watch them in the wild? They drink from a gutter on a house where it has been laying stagnate, etc., not at a spring where it's fresh out of the ground. Years ago, before man had anything to do with pigeons, these birds lived on the sides of rock cliffs and drank water from places where it was caught in the rock crevices when it rained, where it must have become stagnate. Could it be possible that they were getting their antibiotics to fight off sickness in this way? Was it nature's way? Well, they stayed healthy, so: were they doing wrong or are we doing wrong? Why is it that we hear many times where a fancier throws a sick bird out of his loft only to find that this bird then gets well by itself? Maybe we ought to study more closely what this bird does! The Good Lord taught these birds how to stay in good health and

(Continued On Next Page)

He also taught all of nature the same thing. Now, I ask you, **who** are the smart ones? All of nature can stay in balance and in perfect health, if left alone.

I can remember many years ago when I was a young boy living back in New Jersey. In the Spring of the year, you would get up one morning and there would be a brand new feeling all around you. The sun would be shining, the air would be warm and have a beautiful new soothing feel, and you could smell the new freshness of spring flowers everywhere. The birds would be

singing everywhere and you would know for sure on this morning that Winter was over. If you looked high in the sky, you could see many flocks of wild geese flying north and hear their cries of sheer delight. You would look and see your pigeons who had their freedom sailing through the air, clapping their wings, in perfect health and happiness, and you knew for a fact that nature was in balance. There was no doubt in your mind about it. The geese overhead knew where they were going, of this I was very sure back then. I'm not so sure anymore. □

A Visit To California And The Pageant Of Pigeons

by **SCOTT L. SHARP, Dundee, Scotland**

Early last year I was asked by Frank Barrachina, the secretary of the Western Pouter and Cropper Club of America, if I would judge their 20th anniversary show, to be held at the annual Pageant of Pigeons in Los Angeles during November.

I agreed, and arranged to take three weeks' holiday and make it a sightseeing trip as well as to visit pigeon breeders, and before I knew it, it was time for my wife and I to fly out.

The first week we stayed near Sacramento with my good friend, Cortus Koehler and his wife, Addie. Cortus had changed his place considerably since my last visit with him, having added numerous cages and flights to his existing large pigeon loft, to accommodate his parrots and cockatoos. He still had his English Short Faced Tumblers, Modenas and German Beauty Homers, and was eagerly awaiting for another breeding season to start.

In fact, we paired up his ESF in the middle of November, in vast contrast to the weather I'm used to in Scotland. After a week filled with sightseeing tours in Northern California, we reluctantly left the Koehlers and headed for Los Angeles, where Frank Barrachina met us and drove us to his home in Yucaipa.

On arriving at his home, we met his girl friend, Tally Mezzanatto, and soon were looking over their large assortment of birds - about 600 in all.

Tally is a Master Breeder of Pigmy Pouters and it was soon obvious why. The quality of her Pigmies was very high, with excellent birds everywhere I looked.

As well as her Pigmies, Tally has what must be one of the best studs

around of Oriental Frills. I brought some Blondinettes back home for a friend and also a few excellent Pigmies. Tally also breeds Jacobins, Saxon Pouters, and has a few Steiger Croppers.

Frank is a Pouter man at heart and breeds Reversewing Croppers, Old German Croppers, Thuringian Croppers and his number one love, English Pouters. I don't know if it's the Californian weather that does it, but, like Tally's birds, they were excellent in quality.

Most impressive were his English Pouters. Frank has crossed German stock with his own bloodlines and has really hit the jackpot, breeding tall, strong birds with excellent limbs and beautiful type.

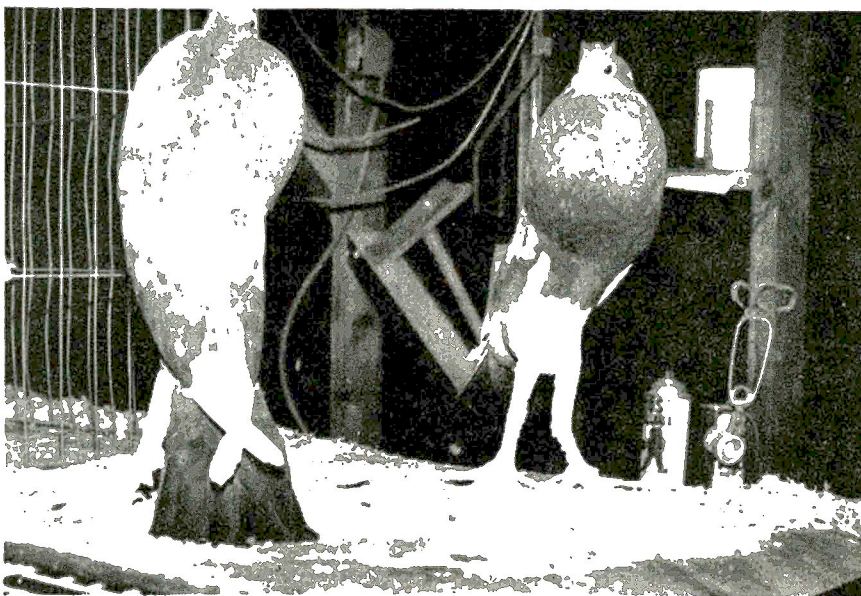
Frank also had a good team of Dragoons and Scandaroons, which were used for feeders, and I also like the Czech Bagdads, kept for the same reason. I added a few pairs of English Pouters to my import permit.

Later that night we went to see Frank's good friend, Herb Matheson, and as it was Herb's birthday, went out for a meal. Afterwards, we looked over Herb's English Pouters and Norwich Croppers. Once again, I was most impressed with his English Pouters.

During the following few days, Frank took us sightseeing around his area. One evening we visited Roland Teed, whom I had not met, but only spoken to on the phone. Roland has a very nice loft and breeds CL Long Faced Tumblers, mainly in Black Self, but also has a number of Barred birds. I was most impressed with Roland's birds, and bought a few, which I hope will help my breeding programme.

I liked the short, box beaks which all his birds possessed, and particularly the setting. We were out in the loft for a few hours and I could have stayed longer, but for the time, as it was getting late.

The next day was the setting-up of the show, and I went along to help until lunch-time, when Charlie Piehler and Johnnie Blaine came to pick me up. Johnnie had just arrived from Kansas, and we went back to Charlie's home and spent an enjoyable afternoon looking at his LF Tumblers. Charlie has some excellent Creams and Mealies, and also a few useful Blues. Charlie's newest project is Barred Muffs and he



PAGEANT WINNERS

Two young English Pouters, both class winners at the Pageant of Pigeons. Bred and owned by Frank Barrachina, Yucaipa, Calif. — Photo from Scott L. Sharp, Dundee, Scotland.

showed up some pretty impressive ones, too. He just kept on bringing bird after bird out of his loft! I got some Mealies and Creams, which I hope will help me, and also a pair of Brown Bars from him.

I started judging the Croppers and Pouters on the Thursday around 12. There was a total of 494 and the overall quality was very good. Biggest entry were the Norwich Croppers with 174, a record for the club.

The winning birds in all breeds were outstanding, and I was particularly impressed with the English Pouters, Old Germans, Reverse-wings, Voorburgs, Pigmys and the leading Norwich and Brunners. When all the dust had settled, a young Black English Pouter cock of Frank Barrachina's emerged as Champion Pouter, with a young Black Brunner cock belonging to Dave Kasperick as Reserve. Other birds in contention in the final line-up were a Blue Pigmy cock of Tally's, Red Norwich Cropper hen and Brown Voorburg hen of Doug DeNeen's, and a Red Reversewing and Black Splash Old German Cropper, both belonging to Frank.

On the Friday night at the club's banquet, I was awarded a plaque with the club's crest and honorary life membership. A great honour for me, and one which is very much appreciated.

With all the Croppers judged, I turned my attention to the English Short Faced Tumblers, which I judged on the Saturday morning. The main exhibitors were Stan and Monty Luden, Dan Ray and Joe Cesar. The leading Almonds and Reds were very good, and although the winning Kite old cock and young hen were good, I felt the rest of the Kites were behind ours in the UK. Champion ESF went to an old Almond cock belonging to Monty Luden, with a beautiful old Red cock of his Reserve Champion. Stan Luden won best young bird with a real typy Almond cock.

What amazed me at the conclusion of the show was the amount of people who stayed behind to help with the pulling down of the pens, tables and sweeping up. I saw breeders from other States, who I knew had a long drive home, giving a helping hand before they set off. In two hours, all pens had been dismantled and the hall looking as clean as it was before the show started.

With the show now over, we still had one week left to do more sight-seeing and visit some pigeon lofts.

We stayed with Frank and Virginia Soto for three days. Frank breeds Pomeranian Pouters and Bokhara Trumpeters mainly, and had some

very nice ones in his attractive loft. Frank took me to see Dick Krueger, and it was a great opportunity to see his very large pigeon book collection. Dick had books that I had only heard about, and it was great to see them.

Later that same evening we went to see Fred Maenpa. Fred has Norwich Croppers, Voorburg Shield Croppers, Holle Croppers and Brunners in his well-laid-out lofts. He is to be building new lofts soon and has plans for them already in his head.

Fred also keeps a kit of Rollers which he flies every day. I saw a white-barred Opal amongst them which I really liked, so try and breed me a couple. Fred, and I'll pick them up on my next visit!

The next morning, Stan Luden came and picked us up, took us for lunch and then stopped off at his brother, Monty's place so I could look over the ESF. A short time later we were in Stan's lofts. Again, Stan breeds ESF Tumblers and also Indian Fantails. I was most impressed with a Blue Bald ESF hen.

The George Abbe Service Award, Cast Your Vote For A VIP

by JAN PARROTT-HOLDEN, Vancouver, Wash.

Webster's dictionary defines VIP as a person of great influence or prestige. I suppose you can find those kinds of people in every organization, every aspect of our "organized" society. We, in the pigeon hobby, have people we consider VIPs. We have our master breeders, our club presidents, our pigeon council. No denying these are people with both influence and prestige. But often in the clatter and clamour of our club meetings and shows we lose sight of the person, or persons who have done the most for our hobby. Sometimes these people are too busy working to take time for accolades. Sometimes their work, sadly, is overlooked by the rest of the hobby.

George Abbe is one of those kinds of pigeon people, the kind that a lot of us fail to recognize. Though not a pigeon breeder, Abbe wrote one of the most stirring books about our beloved bird that I've seen in a long time. The book, simply entitled "The Pigeon Lover" was written in 1981, and concerns a true story of a battle to stop a city council from poisoning the pigeon population. It is a deeply moving story of one man's deep concern and love for creatures. As Cleveland Amory so aptly put it, "You don't have to be a pigeon lover to love this book. And it makes no difference anyway, because after

As Frank Soto kindly trusted me with one of his cars, my wife and I spent a couple of days visiting Disneyland and a trip across the border to Mexico to do some shopping.

Soon it was time to head back to Frank and Tally's place for the last couple of days, but on the way to Yucaipa, we made a quick call on good friends Bill and Marguerite Hawkinson in El Monte. Bill is now seriously into Racing Homers, but he still has his fancy birds as well. These included Oriental Frills, Arch-angels and some rare breeds such as Chinese Nasal Tufted and Beak Crested.

Our final day in California was spent checking and double-checking ring numbers for my import permit, getting the birds in the crate and ready for their long flight back to wet and chilly Scotland.

To everyone who helped make this trip unforgettable for Donney and I, please accept our sincere thanks. And to all those friends, old and new, and too numerous to mention here, I hope we can meet again some day. Thank you all. □

reading it, you will be."

It was my stumbling across this story that persuaded me and my fellow council members (American Pigeon Fanciers Council) to establish an annual award for the hobby. An award to be given, not to winners in the showroom, but to be presented to a man or woman who has done the most to serve the hobby. That service might include Public Relations, Scientific Research, Youth Organization work, any number of areas where the pigeon is presented to the public in a kinder light.

Each of you can help us make this important service award an annual success. And you can start by sending your nomination for the award as soon as you lay down this copy of the APJ. It needn't be time consuming. The hardest part may indeed be selecting just **one VIP** from the many you have met over the years. When you've made that decision, jot down the name on a piece of paper and a sentence or two or three or ??? saying WHY you have chosen this person.

Cut off date for nomination will be June 20. Now here is where to send your homemade ballot:

Jan Parrott- Holden, P.O. Box 3904, Vancouver, Washington 98662.

Don't postpone this important task. One day you may be accepting this honor. □

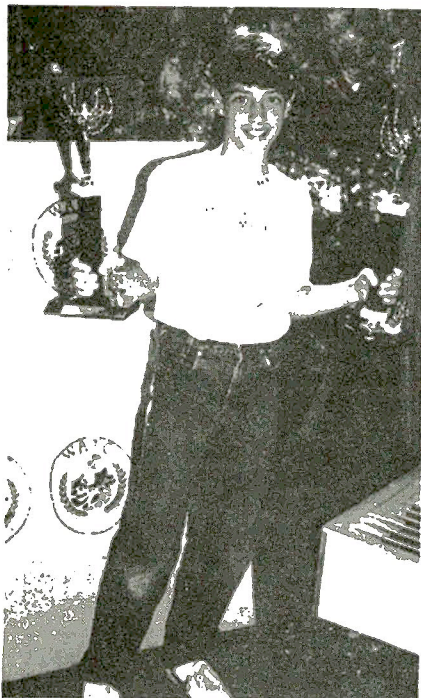
Tails And Tales Of A Ten Year Old

by CHRIS HABITZ, Burbank, Calif.

[Editor's Note: Chris Habitz is one of our most enthusiastic junior breeders. Although, the breed once had mostly junior breeders, they have now all moved along into middle age. There have been few juniors to take their places. For this reason and for the unbridled enthusiasm that Chris exhibits at all our shows he is the darling of the older breeders. Perhaps most of us are able to see ourselves in Chris and rejoice in being able to recapture our youth again if only briefly.]

I got pigeon fever when I was nine years old. My grandpa got me a pair of rollers and I had a lot of fun with them. I started in English Trumpeters about a year later. I got my first pair from Arnold Bercovitz. I raised four whites and showed them at the Pomona Fair and got some ribbons. I also met Bob Nolan there. He got me into the Western American Trumpeter Club. To this day he always has time for me and my questions. I later met Gene Cooper and he helped me out with some very fine breeding pairs. I was on my way to being a top junior breeder.

In 1984, Bob Nolan loaned me old #12, he was a good red cock. Larry



CHRIS HABITZ

Chris Habitz, 10 year old junior English Trumpeter Breeder from Burbank, Calif., Chris has been the major junior breeder in the California shows. He has won over 10 trophies in two years.

Bremmer also loaned me a yellow hen with no band. After three rounds of eggs, I had raised a good yellow cock #2897. As the year went by I entered #2897 in the W.A.T.C. Most Promising Young Bird Show and won my first trophy for best junior bird. I later entered him in some other shows and took first as well. Then came the Pageant of Pigeons, my big dream was to win best junior at that show.

My dad and I met many nice guys and saw so many great birds at the Pageant. The judge (John DeCarlo) asked all Juniors to bring up their best bird. I grabbed #2897, my lucky yellow cock. There were three other

juniors going against me. It seemed like the judge took his time, then he picked my yellow cock up and put him down in the first cage. He then said to us, "This is the way I see them." My dreams had come true. I was the champion junior of the 1984 Pageant of Pigeons.

I have learned a great deal about show pigeons and competition since I began. One big lesson was never underestimate any bird in your loft. You never know, you might have a champion and never know it until you show the bird.

We all know that raising English Trumpeters is a lot of fun, but it is even more fun when the competition is plentiful. So juniors bring your birds to the next show even those you aren't sure about. Meet the nice people and show your trumpeters. □



UTAH ENGLISH TRUMPETER BREEDERS

Utah English Trumpeter breeders pictured are (l.-r.): John Fife, Stan Farer, Jerry Ohrn and Bruce Robinson. — Photo by Holmberg.

The English Trumpeter Breeders Of Utah Past And Present

by JOHN T. FIFE, Bennion, Utah

I was introduced to pigeons at an early age by my father an avid pigeon fancier. Quite naturally I came in contact with many pigeon people. My first recollection of English Trumpeter breeders was in 1955. Art Grant an adult breeder and Lynn Kano a junior, about my same age (15 years). Lynn Kano was avid and shipped in his birds. He bred mostly black selfs.

I left the pigeon fancy in 1958. In 1964, the pigeon bug again bit me and I purchased two pair of E.T.'s from a young man you may have heard of ... Robert "Bob" Nolan, then of Burbank, California. Thus began my emergence on the English Trumpeter scene.

There were several adult breeders besides Art Grant active at the time. Frank Myers of Murray, Utah, had red and yellow selfs. Many of his birds were imports from Gene Darnel of Colorado. Frank Myers unfortunately gave up his English Trumpeters shortly after my return to the fancy. Another fancier was Keith White, a long time pigeon man from the Salt Lake City area. Keith was very competitive and supportive in the shows, but he also gave up the breed around 1965.

Art Grant was still at it, breeding all colors including baldheads. To his credit Art continued raising, and showing English Trumpeters until his death a number of years ago.

Jerry Ohrn, my good friend, has raised E.T.'s for 20 years or so. He likes barred birds. Jerry won the best silver at the 1984 Pageant of Pigeons, with a dandy silver young cock. Jerry has had a battle with illness in his lofts for several years, hang in there Jerry.

Ray Parry was a young man I met in 1966. Ray was 14 years old, and became a very close friend of mine. He was very active until he was 18 years old. He disposed of his English Trumpeters and no longer raises pigeons.

Stan Farer raised E.T.'s for several years. For personal reasons he had to give up his birds. We hope sometime in the future he will return to the fancy.

Ken Hollingsworth first came on the English Trumpeter scene in 1974. Little did I know at that first meeting, that Ken would have such an impact on English Trumpeters in Utah. He built the most elaborate

lofts, and purchased some very fine birds. He upgraded the quality in all colors, giving other area breeders opportunities to improve their stock. He also was very competitive, and would support our shows, as well as W.A.T.C. and E.T.C. sanctioned shows. Ken loved his English Trumpeters so much that when it came time to cull his birds, which he did very closely, he would have someone else do it for him. Health problems that Ken lived with for many years, finally forced him to dispose of his birds last year. It is the hope of this writer that Ken regain his health, and someday returns to the fancy.

Edward Bills of Magna, Utah, a well known Oriental Roller breeder and promoter started raising English Trumpeters in 1984. He is an enthusiastic pigeon man and with the purchase of several quality birds from Ken Hollingsworth's loft will be a competitive force in the Utah English Trumpeter fancy. □

My Start In English Trumpeters

by BILL BAKER, Marysville, Ohio

My start in English Trumpeters began when I was very small. My father took me to a friend's house and I picked out a Black Baldhead English Trumpeter. I really liked that bird, but one day it was missing and we couldn't find it. I just couldn't get interested in the birds again. Although my father kept pigeons of all kinds, they were still an influence on my life. Of course in high school I didn't think much about pigeons except the two legged ones with curves and such. But, after graduating and working two years after, I met and married Diana. When we moved into a small country community (outside town) I began to get the fever again. One day we saw rollers flying around the house. I said we have to get some pigeons. My wife just about had a fit. She said, "Pigeons! No Way!" Guess what? We went and bought a few breeds that included Rollers, Pouters and Modenas. We put them into our utility shed. After hearing about a show in Hilliard, Ohio, and going to see about it, we met a man that told us that a fellow by the name of Richard Rutledge was going to sell his English Trumpeters, but that he lived in Michigan. When I got his phone number I gave him a call, got the directions to his home, and was on my way to purchase English Trumpeters, something that I thought I had lost interest in long ago. Boy, by then I really had it bad. I bought all available information on these birds I could find, including the APJ special of 1976. All I read

seemed to stir my passion for the birds even stronger. I wrote then to John Heppner and purchased a pair of Black Splash, Yellows, one red Baldhead and one extra Yellow and I was in business.

We then decided to see a show. We had heard that the National Young Bird Show was to be held in Louisville, Ky., and they had the best showing of your birds around, including English Trumpeters. This is where I met my good friends Wes Shores and Virgil Hinesley. Wes and I have now been showing E.T.'s at Louisville for eight years together. And by far it is the very best showing of young birds I've ever seen. I've met several good friends at this show, Gary Goodman, Eddie Lujan, Steve Combs and the Kellenbergers to name a few.

I also have been attending the N.P.A. Grand National since 1980. I can't begin to tell you of the fellowship between all English Trumpeter breeders, it's just amazing the friends you make and keep through the years. And these people will always be there for you. I've met just about everyone in the E.T. breed. And they are the best group of people you'd want to meet.

So if you're looking for a breed of birds, as well as the people involved, join and be a part of the English Trumpeter Fancy. We'd like to see more faces and young breeders get involved to keep our hobby alive and well.

'Til I see you at the shows. □

The Altpeter Classic: A Review

by BRIAN POGUE,
Guelph, Ont., Canada

One of the greatest events in Fantail history occurred on Dec. 5, 6, and 7. This gala event was action packed featuring a seminar, a spotlight sale, a clinic on tail preparation, a spectacular show and a festive banquet. I particularly enjoyed the buffet in conjunction with the Annual Meeting. The Altpeter Classic was the focus of attention for a great number of fanciers as evidenced by the second largest fantail show ever held with some 700 birds exhibited by 65 fanciers, with many more in attendance. One fancier was all the way from Israel.

The event celebrated the 60th Anniversary of the Central Fantail Club. The C.F.C. took advantage of the opportunity to pay special tribute to two of the fancy's more prominent members: the father-son duo of Gene Altpeter Sr. and Jr. This family has had a great impact on the fancy by means of sharing quality birds with other fanciers, setting the direction for the breed by judging and writing articles and of course their fellowship. Thanks Gene!

The whole event ran very smooth for which the C.F.C. and the exhibitors must be congratulated. The show was well organized as it started promptly at 8 a.m. on Friday morning and concluded by about 3 p.m. on Saturday. Earl Biedermann deserves credit for his part as Show Superintendent. Earl's voice can get to anyone's nerves but he was very effective in getting the birds into and out of the show pens. The Show Secretaries, Marge O'Dell, Donna Schabert and Anita Marciniak, did a very efficient job as they keenly followed the placings and recorded them in what will be the greatest show report of the last ten years. It was everyone such as the stewards, or shaggers as John Moppin called them, helping out which made this event a success. At the risk of leaving someone out, there are some people who should be recognized for their efforts in this event. The workhorses Bill O'Dell and Tom Pritchett were responsible for a large number of small details. Bill Diemer with his 'hotline' along with Dick Ury handled all of the arrangements with the hotel. John Moppin did a masterful job with promotion leading up to the event. Dwight Crewdson presented a fine display of trophies and specials.

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Last but certainly not least are those fanciers who donated birds to the sale in order to defray costs of the show hall.

It was indeed a great honour and privilege for me to be teamed up with Tom Pritchett as judges for this show. I will submit detailed comments to Marge O'Dell on the classes that I judged which should appear with the complete show report in the next Central Bulletin. This article will provide some of my overall impressions and comments on the winners. It was apparent from the vast depth of quality in almost every class that tremendous progress has occurred during the past ten years. The entire fancy appears to be striving for a bird with a small baseball body with a dinner plate tail attached high enough for maximum top tail and yet low enough to provide adequate shoeing for support as the head gently rests in the pocket at the base of the cushion and most importantly the legs set well forward following the curve of the body allowing the bird to walk in a graceful manner. Since the Ray LaFleur Classic in 1976 the greatest advances have been in the direction of refinement. This is particularly noticeable with the number of smaller, daintier birds that possess thin wings which are held tight to the body as if from the same mold. In striving for perfection we must continue to improve the roundness, the refinement and the proper forward leg setting of our "queen of the fancy."

The advances in the fancy were noticeable in virtually every colour class as was displayed in the last class of the day; that for Grand Championship honours. When judging for Champion there were five birds which I felt separated themselves from the rest of the class. The winner was a young blue cock shown by Gordon Larson, which was tremendously balanced displaying almost all of the qualities desired by the standard. He had a large flat tail with just the correct amount of concavity, a beautiful wide fully body which covered a refined pair of wings, a very easy and relaxed head setting, and a tremendous set of legs which allowed him to walk in jaunty fashion as he displayed his wares to the audience. The Reserve Champion was the fantastic tailmark hen of Gary Summers. This hen was small and round with tremendous top tail, a very easy yet very deep headsetting and general refinement: overall tremendous conformation. The placing of these two birds was very close: the blue winning due to his hard tight plumage, his well covered clean frontal, superior

colour, legs which had the proper angle without bowing and being somewhat of a more consistent shower. I would grant that the tailmark had superior toptail, a deeper headsetting, was smaller and rounder and more refined. The refinement possessed by this hen is quite remarkable as I later learned that she was five years old. These two birds were a beautiful site and very enjoyable to study.

The other three birds in the top five were a white hen, an andalusian hen and a silver hen in that order. The white which became 2nd Reserve was also shown by Larson. She had a tremendous huge tail on a very small body with legs that had her showing very easy and very strong with a very deep pocket. This hen could be criticized for heavy but not course wings and a body that was more feather than meat. Gord also had 3rd Reserve with a young blue hen that was small, round and refined with a good set of legs and overall balance. Unfortunately the tail on this bird was set too high on her body which prevented her from showing with the ease of the top three birds. This young blue beat out an exceptional Andalusian exhibited by Bill Diemer. The andalusian hen

had a superior well shaped tail, good carriage and motion with a strong set of legs and a deep headsetting. The blue hen won over the andalusian on her small round body and refinement. The last of the top five was an old silver hen once again owned by Larson, which had a very small round body and a powerful set of legs but lacked the tail, headsetting, plumage and ease of motion to compete with the aforementioned birds for the top awards.

Apparently there were over 100 people gathered around the judging pens when the Champions were being selected. The fellowship of other fanciers certainly adds a great deal to our hobby. It was a pleasure for me to visit with old friends and to meet so many new fanciers. Those who missed the Altpeter Classic certainly missed a great event!

The momentum for our "queen of the fancy" has certainly picked up with such occasions as the Classics and the APJ Special. Let's keep the ball rolling rather than waiting another ten years before rallying behind these great events. The opportunity presents itself this winter with FANTASIA - celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Canadian Fantail Club. □

What Is A Show Racing Homer?

by LES REMMICK, Gresham, Ore.

I have been playing around with a breed of pigeon called, Show Racing Homers, for about two years. I've raised Oriental Frills since 1978, using regular Racing Homers for feeders. So a while back I decided to raise show quality homers as well. A recently deceased friend of mine, Earl Treber, let me have some of his better show Racing Homers, from which I've raised a few show winners. I think they are beautiful pigeons, and would like to get into them a lot deeper.

Now my problem. Is there a standard for Show Racing Homers? If so, where? And if not, why isn't there one? There is a master breeder of Show Racing Homers in the person of Mr. Jim Looper. (1982 NPA Master Breeder List). So there must be a recognized standard. I have a copy of an article by Brad LaVerne, (with which I mostly agree). I use this as my guide. But it isn't a recognized standard. The new NPA book of Pigeon Standards does not have a standard for this breed of pigeon.

I'd hoped there would be a printed standard in the March issue of the APJ, which was supposed to be a Show Racing Homer Special. This

special I understand is not to be, for lack of interest, and I'm sorry for that.

I'd hate to think I'm working on a breed, just to find I'm on the wrong track. If there is anyone in the APJ readership, that has a solution to my problem, please write me personally, or better yet, put the information in an article to the APJ where others can benefit from it too. — Les Remmick, 7900 S.E. Pleasant Home Rd., Gresham, Ore. 97030. □

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45 Years Of Homers

by JOHN RITCHING, Roscommon, Mich.

I acquired my first homers in 1941 and fell in love with them immediately. No particular color seemed to take precedence over another. I loved them all. My first really good birds came from the late David Beattie who gave me many tips on all aspects of good breeding. He also instilled into my thinking never to give up and always strive to win.

In 1959 I saw articles and photos of birds bred and shown by George Greenshields. My blood started to churn. I had to have birds of that type and caliber, no matter what. Finally, in 1964 I was able to obtain several specimens including some imported direct from Greenshields loft. I also obtained a blue cock #860 bred by Edgar Griffiths. #860 was responsible for breeding a winning y.b. three successive years in a row

to retire the Bay City silver cup. With this nucleus I proceeded to build a family of birds that would win anywhere.

Win they did ... the trophies started to pile up and ribbons by the hundreds. By 1970 many fanciers were buying my family of birds and shipments were going out internationally. I had done it. Now after all these years of racing and showing I feel I attained what I tried to do. It is a great feeling, but I am sure God was behind me all the way because of all the love and beauty involved. I started this family with imported Griffiths and Greenshields. They are basically all one family. I observed



SHOW RACING HOMER

This cock, 2886 RCC Greenshield, is a top breeder with good type, feather and color. — Photo from John Ritchings, Roscommon, Mich.

from many old pedigrees that both Edgar Griffiths and George Greenshields exchange many birds back and forth. So I have followed their script, so to speak, and kept them pure all these years. They still carry the old traits, etc. I am sure many thousands have been raised from their progeny, having sold most of what I raised. #2886 R.C. cock was a direct descendent of "Robbie Burns", one of Greenshields best.

I no longer raise them, but my son has taken over my family of birds, and he seems to have a natural knack for it and he loves the competition as well. With perseverance, the family should exist for many more years. Grandson, you are next? □

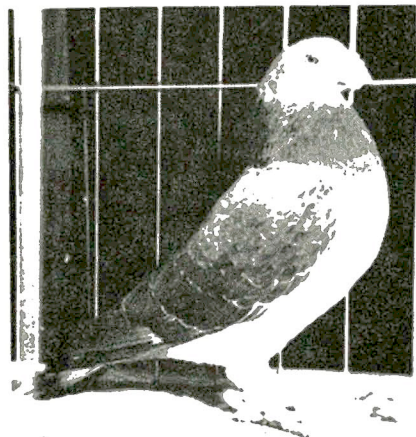
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SHOW RACING HOMER

This cock, #1799 Bronze Greenshield, is excellent in pens, breeds well and has produced many top young birds Excellent type. — Photo from John Ritchings, Roscommon, Mich.



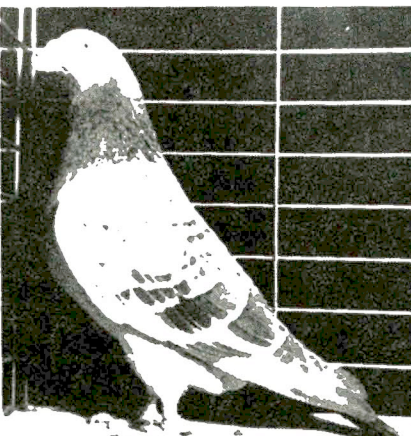
SHOW RACING HOMER

This Bronze Pied Wft. Hen, AU 64 VC 969, has won many prizes including BHIS. She is A-1 type and good breeder. The sire was Surp 55 E 529, Black Check Wft. The dam was AU 63 VC 1234 BR2, a pied.



SHOW RACING HOMER

This cock, Ed Griffith's #860, BBC WHU 66 F, is a top show bird and breeder with many wins and excellent feather and body. — Photo by John Ritchings, Roscommon, Mich.



SHOW RACING HOMERS

This BCC "Griffith" Show Racing Homer, WU 62 BB 2564, is a Griffith cock. This cock is "priceless". Excellent in every way. — Photo from John Ritchings, Roscommon, Mich.

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My Thoughts On Improving The English Trumpeter

by DENNIS BRIGGS, Sugar City, Idaho

As you begin this article perhaps I should warn the reader I am far from a polished writer or even a well known English Trumpeter breeder. Nevertheless I want to do my part in supporting this worthy project, so here are my thoughts and opinions.

Being that this is my first published article a few words about my association with pigeons seems appropriate. Like many of you who read these lines, my career with pigeons

goes back to boyhood. At age 7, I was catching wild pigeons in the local barns. By age 10, I had graduated to buying purebred birds. As I recall now my first English Trumpeters were purchased in 1965. They were a very nice pair for that time in history. The cock was especially nice, they had originally come from the Salt Lake City area.

This early phase of my pigeon career came to an end with the

military service. I spent a year in Viet Nam. Back in the good old USA I waited a couple of years and then purchased some nice Trumpeters from John Fife of Utah. John is one of my favorite people in the English Trumpeter fraternity. He is not only a good breeder but one of the nicest persons I have met in the fancy.

I have been trying to improve and develop a strain of my own. I have had good success but not good enough to keep pace with many of the other breeders of English Trumpeters.

I am especially pleased and proud of the new standard we have. I feel it is the best of all the varieties of pigeons. As much as I love our standard I feel some people put more emphasis on certain areas than others. This I feel can be beneficial as it helps improve the quality of the English Trumpeter. For example in the past 6 years I have placed a lot of my emphasis on the mane. I am trying to keep away from the major break in the mane. Some birds for that matter don't even have manes.

This lack of mane or serious break has occurred because some breeders have placed tremendous emphasis on crest height and skull power. Often these huge headed birds are very weak in the mane if they have any at all. Now don't get me wrong I love the high crest and large skulls as much as the next guy, I just don't want to sacrifice a break in the mane or no mane at all to get it.

Another area I am striving to improve in my English Trumpeters is the shape of the muffs. There are a lot of English Trumpeters with irregular shaped muffs. What stimulated me to work hard on this feature, was seeing a dun hen of Steve Cathey's. This bird had fantastically beautiful muffs. I was so impressed I decided right then and there to strive to recreate those muffs on my birds.

Perhaps the specific areas that each of us are emphasizing in our birds may inspire others to improve those features in their birds. So fellow breeders don't be afraid to emphasize those special likes of yours. Who knows it might just give you the edge you need to compete with those great leaders of the fancy. □

The Old Dutch Capuchine

by BOB SALWEY, Devils Lake, N. D.

The Old Dutch Capuchine is a very beautiful breed of pigeon. As many have read in previous articles in the APJ it was thought to be extinct until about 40 years ago. Well, the breed is not extinct in the U.S.A. or Canada thanks to some serious people who love the breed. The cap is a hardy breed which has no trouble with raising its own young. And being from North Dakota I can tell you it handles the cold weather just as good as any other breed and better than a lot of others. The "cap" is thought to be an inferior Jacobin but through reading some articles I have come across there is no doubt in my mind that it is not true. They are marked like a Jacobin but have a much tighter feathering which I prefer.

They are aggressive but get along

well with the Modenas and Trumpeters that I breed. They also have an impressing array of colors such as: red, yellow, black, dun, bronze, kite, blue bar, silver bar and then the splashed and grizzled patterns of each of the preceeding. Their numbers have been increasing at shows over the past couple years and now that the American Capuchine Club has been started I think we can expect to see that trend continue. There are breeders all over the U.S. and Canada that raise a few pairs of these birds and it is important to be organized to improve and support the breed. So if you raise this breed or would like to write or better yet join the A.C.C. today, contact Bob Salwey, 1106 14th St. S., Devils Lake, N.D. 58301 or George Mihalik, Sandia Park, New Mexico. □

Attention! Regarding Orders On The Squab Feeding Kit

by JANIS L. PATERNOSTER, MESA, Ariz.

First of all let me thank all of you that have expressed an interest in our kit. We have had several mail orders, as well as telephone calls, and some of you have apparently misunderstood our article. I would like to take this moment to clarify our article and our ad that was originally placed in the January 1986 issue of the American Pigeon Journal.

Many of you have been sending me checks in the amount of \$22.00 and you carry a U.S. address. I realize you're sending me \$2.00 for postage, however, please make note that the postage is "prepaid" when you reside in the U.S. Those of you that are sending me this overpay-

ment are being sent a \$2.00 check in with your order.

A couple of you have asked me about the "durability" of the feeder. This feeder can be used over and over again with both pigeons and doves. However, you should **not** put it in a dishwasher as it would warp certain parts.

Just a word of caution -- please do not use the feeder until after you have read my instructions. And, make sure you put the squab's beak into the top of the feeder.

Again, thank you for your interest in our kit and if you have any further questions regarding it's use please feel free to contact me. □

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Eddie Lujan, N.E.T.C. Vice President, presenting Marty Lujan his award for "Best Junior Bird" at the 1984 NPA Grand National meet held at El Paso, Texas.

Looking Back At English Trumpeters

by EDDIE LUJAN, Las Vegas, N. Mexico

I can still recall the first time I saw an English Trumpeter. I was 12 years old at the time. I still remember it as if it were yesterday. They were two blacks and a black splash that my grandmother had acquired along with a few other breeds of pigeons. She told me that these birds had come from Santa Fe, N.M. They didn't have any bands on them, so I didn't know who had bred them or where they originally had come from, besides back then I didn't even know what bands were used for, all I knew is that they were exceptional looking compared to all the other breeds that were in there with them. I guess the one thing that really caught my attention were those big feathered feet that these particular birds sported. They were unusual to say the least!

These feathered birds made my common birds just look uninteresting to me. I remember I would sit in front of my grandmother's chicken coop and look at all the different breeds of pigeons that were in there. I still kind of vaguely remember her giving me the go ahead to go in there and pick out a pair of birds for myself. I took the opportunity in hand and went in to the chicken coop and caught the two black E.T. With the biggest grin on my face that any little kid could have had, I raced across the field with two black bundles of feathers tucked close to me. That summer of '61 was a summer that I will remember as being a great one!

I myself came from a poor family, I don't remember having very many toys to play with, maybe a play gun

or a small truck. So that one pair of E.T. filled a big void in my life. That pair of E.T. that were given to me by my grandmother were worth more to me than a store full of toys from "Toy's are Us." That summer I was the happiest kid in the whole town of Santa Cruz.

Everything was perfect that summer except for that black Saturday when I let the birds out to exercise

and eat seeds from my mother's garden. The E.T. would never fly very far. They always stayed close to the coop. I remember my father sending me on an errand that afternoon. When I returned I found black feathers scattered all about the yard. The neighbors cat had decided he wanted my E.T.'s more than I!

It's strange that a love for E.T. has lasted for so many years, this is a love that will keep going for many years to come. When I can't take care of my E.T.s, hopefully my son, Kevin, will take over for me. I can see the sparkle in his eyes as he watches the E.T.s and assists me in feeding and watering them. He enjoys holding newly hatched youngsters and he laughs at how they beg for food. He also enjoys them pecking at his fingers. Just the other day he learned that a light colored beak will be red, a dark colored beak will be black or black splash, (this being our main colors that we breed) he will learn later that this applies to other colors, his education will continue to grow, as we both grow together. If I can help Kevin remember pleasant memories like mine, then it's all worth it. At present Kevin is only six years old.

We must instill in our minds that the breed that has a good following today and is being ungraded yearly must be passed on to junior breeders. We must keep the English Trumpeter accessible to these young breeders. Encourage them as much as possible, sell them birds at reasonable prices. We must keep them interested if the breed is to continue to have a bright future in years to come. You're welcome to join me in this crusade of keeping the beautiful E.T. flourishing! □

National Avian Disease Task Force For Pigeons & Doves

Paramyxovirus (PMV1)

From JOE QUINN, Atwater, Ohio

[APJ Editor's Note: This article is reprinted from the Sept. 1985 American Racing Pigeon News.]

Editor's Note: The following article is to appear in both the Racing Pigeon Bulletin and the American Racing Pigeon News. Although it is against our policy to publish this in both of the publications, it is felt that it is necessary to reach as many flyers as possible in order to spread the results of all of the work that has been carried out by the National Avian Disease Task Force [NADTF].

It seems that a large number of flyers are taking the NADTF for granted, and don't realize all of the dedication and work that these individuals are providing to the fancy at large without any reimbursement for their time. This is a total dedication to all of us and we hope that

the reports put out by Mr. Quinn on behalf of all the researchers are read and analyzed for the value that they contain.

I have been asked by the executive committee to respond to a bulletin issued by Home Art Laboratory Inc., July 8, 1985, concerning the use of Twinvax-MR to protect against paramyxovirus PMV1 in pigeons. I have read the "Vets Corner", page 1, over a dozen times and I am still dumbfounded! I hardly know where to begin. The National Avian Disease Task Force is in the business of research. Nothing printed is not back by professional opinion, research and the reference for the information.

Early in October, 1984, reports came in from all over the eastern seaboard that racing pigeon flyers

were vaccinating with a product called Twinvax administered by eyedrop for the purpose of protecting against PMV1 in pigeons. I immediately called Home Art Lab and requested the basis for their recommendation. I was given the answer, "The fliers in New York use it and have said it works." My approach was calm, if there was any research support for its use, I wanted to print it immediately. I followed the same questioning with Kevin Lynch at Animal Health Sales and was told, "We're not recommending this product, but if you ask what the fliers in New Jersey are buying, I will tell you." I followed the same format with the research people at American Scientific Laboratories (ASL) and was assured that nobody within ASL, which manufactures the product Twinvax-MR, had or would recommend its use in pigeons.

The question was referred to the professional committee and it created some laughter, but the matter was researched. Let us begin with what TWINVAX-MR is:

TWINVAX-MR

Newcastle (B1 Type - B1 Strain) Bronchitis (Mass. and Conn. Types)

Vaccine Live Virus, Chicken Embryo Origin

Description and Indications

Twinvac-MR is a combination live virus vaccine prepared from mild reaction infectious bronchitis virus strains and the B-1 strain Newcastle virus. It provides chickens with durable, long-lasting protection against a variety of both Newcastle and bronchitis field viruses. Vaccination reactions are minimal.

The Newcastle (B-1 type-B-1 Strain) found in TWINVAX and the Bronchitis (Mass. and Conn. types) is produced in combination under various trade names by many laboratories in addition to ASL. It is standard practice to vaccinate all day old broiler chicks in the United States with this live virus combination. In fact, a comparable product is available in most countries where poultry is a major industry. The hot LaSota strain's still forbidden in the Un. Kingdom, but the Hitchner B1 vaccine has been discussed in the English pigeon journals for two years. The Task Force's major objection to using the combination live virus vaccines was the total absurdity of exposing the pigeon over and over again to a live chicken bronchitis, virus, of course, most authorities indicate this virus probably just passes through the pigeon, but, and it is a real positive BUT, there is no research on this matter. Why would anyone recommend the combination

live virus vaccine when every vaccine laboratory including ASL has the same Newcastle B1, live virus vaccine available without the virus for infectious bronchitis. PMV1 is a Newcastle seriological type 1 virus. If any protection could be derived from the LaSota on B1 strains, it would still make little sense to include another infectious live virus when it is patently unnecessary to do so.

The use of LaSota and B1 strains of live virus in pigeons has been under study since the outbreak of exotic Newcastle disease (VND) in California in 1972. The Avian Disease Research Committee of APFC has reviewed the use of the live virus vaccines in pigeons with R.E. Baer, DVM, and the Committee of the American Federation of Aviculture for several years. In September 1979 Erickson, Brugh and Beard published their findings in pigeons concerning VND (Exotic Newcastle Disease) and reported little or no protection from the live virus LaS vaccine from this Newcastle type virus (Avian Diseases, Vol. 24, No. 1). Dr. C.W. Beard recently reported "Avian Paramyxovirus Update" that, "Pigeons are almost completely refractory to infection by the B1 and LaSota strains and develop little or no antibody response when vaccinated with those strains." In other words, the LaSota or B1 strains of live virus do not readily infect the pigeon, therefore, little or no immunity is conferred against another PMV1 virus. That should be plain enough! But let us look further. How good is Newcastle B1 strain vaccine in chickens in preventing Newcastle disease. Even here, with chickens, it's intended use, all reports indicate a short immunity pattern. Even in chickens where birds are kept longer than a year, it is recommended they be vaccinated with a killed virus Newcastle vaccine.

Yet, let's begin at the beginning - research and factual information to the pigeon breeder is the mandate of the Task Force. Our committee reviewed and published the reports of Russell, P.H. and Alexander, D.J. 1983 (Arch Virol, 75, 243, and Guittel, Proc. Avian Pathologists), Paris, France, Mar. 1984. Dr. Guittel clearly states live virus Newcastle vaccines provide poor immunity response to PMV 1. The following additional references are provided to support the preceding remarks.

1. Alexander, D.J. - Avian Paramyxoviruses. The Veterinary Bulletin, Vol. 50: 737-752, Sept. 1980.

2. Alexander, D.J., P.H. Russell and M.S. Collins - Paramyxovirus type 1 infections of racing pigeons: 1. Characterization of isolated

viruses. The Veterinary Record. 114: 444-446. 1984.

3. Alexander, D.J. and G. Parsons - Avian Paramyxovirus type 1 infections of racing pigeons: 2. Pathogenicity experiments in pigeons and chickens. The Veterinary Record. 114: 466-469. 1984.

4. Alexander, D.J., G.W.C. Wilson, J.A. Thain, S.A. Lister - Avian Paramyxovirus Type 1 infection of racing pigeons: 3. Epizootiological considerations. The Veterinary Record. 115: 213-215. 1984.

It has previously been reported in the pigeon publications the papers presented at the conference at University of California, Davis, California, March 3, 1985. I will not review evidence already published, but let us look at the results of tests of the live virus (B1) strain against PMV1 as presented by Dr. Dennis Alexander (Central Lab. Inst. Weybridge, England).

Vaccine Used

1st Vaccine	2nd Vaccine
Live Virus	Live Virus
Live Virus	Killed Virus
Killed Virus	Killed Virus

Challenge Results

Death or Nervous Symptoms

LV x LV	8 of 10	80%
LV x KV	5 of 10	50%
KV x KV	1 of 10	10%

In other words, 80% of the birds vaccinated with a Newcastle live virus vaccine either died or developed neurological symptoms of the disease when challenged with PMV1. What possible evidence has Home Art Laboratories discovered that counteracts the work of a world authority on Newcastle viruses. NADTF would gladly publish any evidence, but alas! The real question is - if these people have any evidence, why haven't they reported it, to assist pigeon fanciers in choice options? They (he) stated: "For well over 1 year now, I have been recommending the product TWINVAX-MR. Hundreds of you have taken our advice and thousands of pigeons have been vaccinated with this fine product. We have conducted tests with TWINVAX and still feel it's the best." What tests? Where are the results? ASL, which makes the product, has not conducted any tests. To test the virus, you have to have the PMV1 virus isolates. No license to handle live PMV1 has been issued, to my knowledge, to either company. ASL is considering some field testing, but openly admits they have not completed any formal testing of TWINVAX on PMV1 isolates in the pigeon.

This Home Art bulletin further states, "As for me, I want proof. I want to be 100% sure. With TWIN-

VAX-MR, you and your birds are safe."

I will not comment on the statement, "Arming the average pigeon flyer with needle and syringe to me, is like giving a monkey a straight edge razor." If any of you (monkeys?) are still reading this report, I wish to state the NADTF executive committee pushed strongly for breeder clinics to train pigeon flyers to administer the PMV1 killed virus vaccine, rather than have it only administered by licensed veterinarians, because we had confidence every breeder could learn the injection procedure and it would be far easier and safer than attempting to train inexperienced veterinarians to hold and handle pigeons.

Proof was asked for - let us proceed with proof, validated proof; published proof; authoritative proof - live virus Newcastle B1 type vaccines: England Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, (MAFF) report 11-9-84:

Although Hitchner B1 live vaccine has been cleared for use on poultry, none of the live vaccine of this type has been tested on pigeons. Veterinary opinion both here and abroad is that the vaccine does not produce a strong enough antibody to afford lasting protection from the strain of the virus which causes Paramyxovirus disease in pigeons. Ministry advice therefore remains that the specified inactivated vaccine should still be used to protect pigeons against Paramyxovirus-1 disease."

Dr. Weber, The Racing Pigeon, Nov. 2, 1984:

"The Central Veterinary Laboratory, Weybridge, are carrying out some experiments using the live vaccine on pigeons (and that is Hitchner B1), the experiments are not yet completed but they do show that the immune response to pigeon virus is very poor. This would indicate that any protection afforded by such vaccine would be of very short duration.

If you read the Racing Pigeon, you will attest to the fact that over 50 such reports have been printed in the past two years. My scrapbook is filled. Find a friend that gets an English publication and read of the arguments pro and con, but note the scientific credentials of the writer. Before I leave England, in review, let me tell you a sad story. At least it saddened me. In the Racing Pigeon, London, England, edited by Colin Osman, there appeared in the letter to the Editor section the following remarks, dated May 24, 1985:

Louella Vaccination

Sir, - In February/March of this

year we vaccinated all the birds with Hitchner B1 in the drinking water. Like many other fanciers in the country we thought that the use of a live vaccine administered in the water, was a great timesaver and simple to use especially in our case where large numbers are involved.

At the beginning of April we noticed a problem with our young birds in the nest. Therefore we voluntarily closed down and the best veterinary advice was sought, from the private sector and the Ministry. Both administrations informed us they did not recommend the use of Hitchner B1 in the drinking water, nor would it provide the required protection. We were further informed that if the live vaccine was to be used at all, it should be administered in eye droplets at ten times the strength recommended for chickens. This is not a simple operation and takes as much time, if not more, than the use of a dead vaccine. Plus we were told that any immunity is only short term. The Ministry further recommended that we re-vaccinate all stock with Harkers Paramyx-1 and this would provide long term immunity. This has now been carried out and all birds are looking in superb condition. Both Louella Lofts and the Ministry are delighted. All stock now sold from Louella Lofts will be vaccinated with Paramyx-1, including young birds straight from the nest.

L. Massarella

Hall Farm, Charley,

Near Loughborough, Leicestershire

And finally, the RPRA studied the alternative vaccines. They attempted to find a laboratory which could produce a vaccine administered by some other means than a hypodermic syringe. I will quote the responses.

Wickham Laboratories Ltd.

"While, therefore, we appreciate the difficulties faced by pigeon fanciers in administering the present vaccine by injection, it would seem that for the moment at least, there is no alternative."

Intervet Laboratories

"...the present live Hitchner vaccines available on the poultry market, given either in the drinking water or by the eyedrop method, will not be successful in conferring immunity against paramyxovirus challenge. If injected they will give a transient response but it is not as prolonged or at as high a level as the current oil adjuvant vaccine administered by injection."

"Unfortunately for your members, this all adds up to the obvious fact that there is no alternative to injection of an inactivated vaccine at the present time."

Smith Kline Animal Health Products With Live Virus

"...also safety would have to be demonstrated that the vaccine virus did not revert back to the wild strain thus causing problems for the poultry species and other birds."

Micro-Biologicals Ltd.

Live Hitchner B1 vaccine appears superficially to be easy to administer but this vaccine is at best unreliable and at worst quite useless in pigeons. This vaccine was developed for use in chickens. Pigeons are not chickens and the effect of the vaccine is different. It is clear that pigeons require about ten chicken doses to obtain a good effect. It is equally clear that administration of Hitchner B1 to pigeons in the drinking water is unreliable to the point of being useless. Water administration of this vaccine to chickens is also well known to be the least reliable method of administration. If live Hitchner B1 vaccine must be used it should be administered by eye drop, giving 10 chicken doses to each pigeon.

To obtain really effective protection the use of oil-based vaccine given by injection is required. There is widespread research work in various European countries which shows conclusively that this is currently the only effective means of obtaining a high level of protection against PMV-1.

None of this should deter people from vaccinating their pigeons with inactivated vaccine. This vaccine is like everything else: it must be used properly to give good results and if this is done there will be no problems. The problems arise from inefficient administration of the vaccine.

Duphan Veterinary Ltd.

The current Hitchner B1 vaccine in the water has not been scientifically evaluated in pigeons. Various suggestions have been made such as a 1,000 dose chicken vial is adequate for, say 100 pigeons or 25 pigeons or whatever. The fact is that a dossier for licensing for any product would require not only safety but efficacy data - the latter being not simply measurement of serological response but real challenge data.

I have briefly touched the surface of the problems. Suffice it to say that injectable inactivated paramyxovirus vaccine is the product of choice.

In conclusion: the overwhelming evidence of all current research on the use of live virus, LaSota, B1 or other strains vaccines is that it will not protect your flock from PMV1. Dr. Tudor states, "Live virus chicken

(Continued On Next Page)

vaccines are useless, in preventing PMV1 in pigeons."

As recorder for NADTF, it has been my job to review the work of the professional committee, write the reports, mail out the thousands of documents researched in this project. I have written at their direction nearly 80,000 words on PMV1 and the European Pigeon press have asked permission to reprint NADTF articles. After one full year of reporting, I cannot find a single technical error in the reports submitted to me by the professional committee. One final remark concerning the Home Art bulletin. It states, "Hundreds of you have taken (their) advice." I won't be that modest. I believe TWINVAX-MR has been used with most of the racing pigeons on the east coast. It was used early on throughout New York, New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania.

NADTF had one confirmed case of PMV1 in Maryland, New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania early in April. We organized clinics, shipped vaccine to the Philadelphia area and began a program to convince breeders to vaccinate. Our attempts fell on deaf ears. I took over thirty phone calls indicating this or that combine didn't want the MBL vaccine. "They were vaccinating in the eye." Two weeks before Memorial Day, we were preparing to ship the Maine Biological Laboratory vaccine back to the laboratory. We conducted 8 clinics in the area; properly advertised, but we failed in our efforts. A clinic held within ten miles of Philadelphia was attended by only two fliers. The "eye drop" had won!

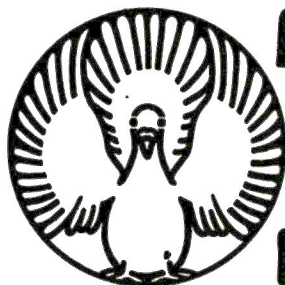
One day later we could not deliver (MBL) vaccine quick enough to meet the demand. PMV-1 had broken in the area with unusual fury. By Memorial Day 35,000 doses of the killed virus MBL vaccine had been delivered and within a week nearly 80,000 pigeons were vaccinated. I went to Philadelphia and concluded a seminar at the Best Western Hotel. The only topics covered were how to best inject their pigeons to keep them from dying.

The MBL vaccine is designed to protect against the disease not cure it once you have it. Yet, in this emergency, squabs were vaccinated down to 4 days old - they were all dying anyway. The results were rewarding. The outbreak appears to have been curbed, but the losses were high. We paid a heavy price in valuable birds for the delay in vaccinating with the MBL, killed virus, vaccine.

The bulletin from Home Art Laboratory carries a message which

could be far more influential than the work of the Task Force, simply because it tells breeders what they want to hear. "You don't really have to risk the needle to protect your birds." We all wish it were true. Cleveland, Ohio is vaccinating with TWINVAX-MR because of this Home Art bulletin. I personally would hope, even pray, the live virus vaccine would protect the valuable pigeons of

Cleveland, but I know it will not. I would hope the Cleveland flyers would call friends in Long Island or Philadelphia, but I know they will not. I wish I could state that this and other live virus vaccines are totally worthless, but the research only supports me saying they offer very little protection against the deadly disease paramyxovirus PMV1 in pigeons. □



American Pigeon Fanciers' Council

BOB PHILLIPS,
Publicity Chairman
Box 218
Lithopolis,
Ohio 43136

JAN HOLDEN: A STAR IS BORN PIGEONS PUT COLOR BACK INTO JOURNALIST'S LIFE

by Darrel Rutter

What must the Pigeon Hobby do to succeed? Who will do it and how? An up and coming journalist goes out on a limb with her answers.

Somewhere between Jan Holden's penumbra of childhood and parent-hood a small spark flickered for birds. Given the right circumstances, Jan's spark was fanned into flames in the form of a pair of retired Capuchines. Within a few short years she has emerged into one of the hobby's newest and more sparkling personalities.

In this interview one will readily see that a woman can raise pigeons and still be quite feminine. Her philosophy forces all of us to stop and take a look at ourselves and our hobby. Are our priorities in the right place? Her sometimes witty and endearing answers will cause us all to laugh and to think about the hobby we all love.

Rutter: Jan you seem to have come out of nowhere. Is that a fair assumption?

Holden: I've only been part of the pigeon family a relatively short time. Since I became the APFC Youth and Media chairperson, I've gotten more involved and since I'm a free lancer, I decided to use my experience to help something I enjoy — my pigeons.

Rutter: I think your idea behind the Writers Group is great.

Holden: Yes, it's something our hobby needs.

Rutter: Can you tell us just what the Writers group is?

Holden: The APFC started this

new and exciting project just recently. This project, a writers group, will have several purposes, the first and most important being to help promote the pigeon as an important creature while helping the public explore the diversity of the hobby.

Currently we are attempting to establish a list of Writers, both novice and professional, who would like to participate in such a group. This would draw together bird writers and allow for a sharing of potential markets, subject matter and knowledge.

A quarterly bulletin and membership directory will soon be in the works. If you wish to join this group, you should send your name and address to me: Jan Holden, 2617 S.E. 138th Loop, Vancouver, Washington 98684.

Rutter: Why did you get involved with this Group?

Holden: I'm not a "joiner" in most cases. But there seemed a definite need for more positive pigeon publicity and it coaxed me out of hiding. It is my hope that it will be well worth the time and efforts by dedicated fanciers like yourself.

Rutter: That's the first time I ever thought of myself, check that, that I ever was told that. Thank You!

Holden: You're welcome I'm sure.

Rutter: Are you getting the feedback you expected?

Holden: It's too soon to say, it is always nice to have feedback and usually there is not enough of that sort of thing when launching new programs.

Rutter: I received the "make-shift" bulletin you sent out, why did you do it that way?

Holden: Since I did not want to bill

the Council for any costs, I simply took what I considered the least expensive route and picked up the tab. Of course, if this project does meet with success, it may carry itself. Say you have some fine ideas but you haven't mentioned where the \$\$\$\$ was going to come from. Pigeon people are not the most liberal with their wallets but I'm sure you know that already.

Rutter: Does it bother you when people put pigeons down?

Holden: It is my secret hope to help dispel many of the deep-rooted prejudices in our society toward the pigeon. Pigeons were not always held in such low esteem.

Rutter: As a free lance writer and pigeon fancier, what have you written on pigeons recently?

Holden: If you have seen the September 85 issue of the A.F.A. Watchbird, you already know me. Or, if you are familiar with Bird Talk magazine, you may have seen my piece, "Getting the Scoop on Pigeons." (Nov. 85).

Rutter: How long have you been associated with pigeons?

Holden: Four years.

Rutter: Have pigeons influenced who you are today?

Holden: Definitely. Some women feel they are extensions of their children. I am an extension of my birds, strange as that may seem. By the time you are 33 years old, have been married 15 years and have two children you tend to think life has few surprises left. Then, quite by accident you discover birds — not

just pigeons — but BIRDS. Nothing remains the same after that. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that pigeons have given me a deeper appreciation for the cycle of life, than any "faith" I have researched or attempted to live. Birds play as important a role in my life as my children, and offer me more stability than any type of meditation or stress relieving exercise. I guess they have given me a kind of continuity, a feeling of orderliness and acceptance. If it sounds like I'm talking about a religion, I guess I am. No matter what befalls me, I'll never be without my birds.

Rutter: Has your career been everything you expected it to be at this point?

Holden: If you're talking CAREER as is business, I guess I'd have to say it's been better than I expected. Free lance writing has been more an avocation than a vocation. I'm not a Clive Cussler whipping out 60,000 word novels. I write because it pleases me to write. And, fortunately it pleases most of my editors to pay me. Now that I am involved with pigeons there is a whole new realm to explore. Pigeons aren't popular. Writing about pigeons is unpopular, I like being involved with both. I wonder what that says about me. If you are referring to my career as a pigeon person, I haven't the foggiest idea of how to respond. I always just thought of pigeons as something fun. Maybe that makes me eccentric.

Rutter: Do you see the Sport of Pigeon Racing moving ahead?

Holden: I'm unqualified to answer any questions concerning flying birds as it isn't my thing ... now. In the future, who knows? I would venture to guess that racing has become too much of a business to be as much fun as it should be. And aren't we all desirous of fun? Besides, who said that a sport had to be tied with bucks?

Rutter: Do you think the major pigeon organizations are doing all they can?

Holden: Don't ask me.

Rutter: Should we have only one large organization instead of being specialist?

Holden: Large organizations that don't do anything meaningful are a waste. It's like a church with too many chiefs and not enough Indians. I'm not at all convinced that one organization isn't too many, especially if the leadership is out-to-lunch. I think there is more potential for good in the American Pigeon Fanciers' Council. But I also think too few hobbyists know who and what the council stands for. It's not just the fact they don't support the council financially, they don't know Who The Council Is! Maybe they don't care.

Rutter: That reminds me of a joke I once heard: I don't know what apathy is, and I don't care. There's a lot of that going around these days.

Rutter: Do you see any new trends in the future?

Holden: I'm afraid not. That's

(Continued On Next Page)



JAN HOLDEN AND HER LOFT

Above: Note how Jan and Steve in keeping with the "aesthetic" tastes of their neighbors have built the loft "into" the house. On the left: Jan Holden, the pigeon raiser, who makes pets of her birds.

pretty scary isn't it? I'd like to see some changes, but it is hard for a newcomer in this hobby to do anything. (And being a woman does not help a whole lot). If I had my way there would be more women in this organization. Unfortunately too many women feel you can't raise pigeons and be feminine. Another big problem I think is too much emphasis on winning. Believe me, I have nothing against competition. Why that would be unAmerican. But when an experienced breeder is so fearful of helping the novice that he'd rather shaft than show I think it's time to throw in the rag. I think a dandy new trend would be for more "ass kickers" to start showing a little genuine concern for promoting the pigeon rather than themselves.

Rutter: Would you like to see an A.U. Ex. Director?

Holden: Depends upon who he is.

Rutter: What has been your most wonderful experience with your pigeons?

Holden: The most wonderful thing is just having them. They've taught me to consider life as a gift. I think I'd forgotten that until pigeons came into my realm of everyday experience.

Rutter: What is your strongest asset as a pigeon hobbyist?

Holden: Patience and love for my birds. In my brief history as a "pigeon person" I have encountered my share of difficulties. Many of these lie in the fact that "Man-made" breeds, though highly prized, are not easy to raise. (Don't let anyone tell you differently!) It takes patience, a great deal of it, and study to strengthen a bloodline without losing the look that these birds are noted for. I expect it will take me the rest of my life to acquire enough expertise to produce prize-winning birds. Whether I do or do not, the true joy lies in helping to perpetuate a worthwhile creature.

Rutter: How do you rate yourself as a breeder?

Holden: If I'd been involved with pigeons 30 years rather than four, I'd still just be an average breeder. Fact is I like the birds too much to excel. If I like the looks of a pigeon, I don't give a darn whether he fits someone's standard. If it fits my standard, I'm thrilled to death.

Rutter: How big is your club?

Holden: Every club I've ever been associated with ranged in size from two (when there was a big job to be done) to 30 or more when it was time to line up at the banquet steam tray. I'm really not much of a club person because I'm not terribly social. I prefer a few meaningful relationships

with people I can enjoy. Those people don't try to make me fit the mold of a "pigeon person." They are usually just as "off the wall" as I am. We get along great. Of course when it comes to total acceptance, I go out to my pigeon loft.

Rutter: What can you say about being Youth and Media Officer (Chairperson)?

Holden: The only "office" I can say I hold is with the APFC. This I think came my way only because I proved to Joe (Quinn) that I was as feisty as any Irishman. How successful I'll be in my role with the council is yet to be determined. I'll give it my full energy and whatever talents I've been blessed with. Being quite frank, the role of youth chairperson disturbs me. My main concern is not with getting an eight-year-old kid involved with living creatures as much as it is keeping the 30 to 60+ age group from getting burned out with the bull that comes their way. In other words, what good is a hobby without unity? It's high time people differentiate between friendly competition and out-and-out rivalry. One promotes, the other destroys. Guess what is happening in the pigeon fancy?

Rutter: Are pigeons your first love?

Holden: Compared to what Darrel? Pigeons are necessary to my happiness I think. And I probably wouldn't have said this five years ago. Fact is, if someone had told me I'd ever have a loftful of pigeons, I'd told them they were crazy. Now I think I'm the one who is crazy — crazy about pigeons!

Rutter: Who are the personalities in pigeons you admire?

Holden: I've several people that I admire greatly in this hobby. The few that come to mind immediately are Joe Quinn, Bob Phillips and Dave Rinehart. Joe for his vitality, wit and leadership ability that he continually denies possessing. Bob, because he can make you look on the bright side. You simply can't feel bad around Bob. A great synonym for Bob would be ebullience. Dave for his knowledge. He has a knowledge that inspires, that makes me believe I can do it. These men are friends who have added greatly to my enjoyment of the hobby. Hopefully, the list will grow as I become more familiar with fellow fanciers.

Rutter: What's your favorite book?

Holden: I've two favorite books, Darrel, concerning pigeons. Both were written by non-pigeon people. The first is "The Pigeon Lover" by George Abbe. The other "Diary of A Pigeon Watcher," by Doris Schwerin. How-to books are always

fine, but the books that lend credence to my obsession with pigeons, these I never forget.

Rutter: Who do you consider the best flyer, breeder, writer in America today?

Holden: (laughter) I wouldn't know the best flyer to save my soul. The best breeder I probably wouldn't want to know and the best writer — that's simply a matter of taste.

Rutter: So what's your taste?

Holden: I enjoy Doc Hollander's style and pick up a few facts while getting some laughs. Tanner Chrisler has a talent. There are lots more, but it's better to avoid asking a writer who is the best writer. I like Tennessee Williams and he wouldn't have known a pigeon from a peacock. (slight exaggeration).

Rutter: Are you worried about the pigeon breeders lung disease?

Holden: Nope.

Rutter: Do you vaccinate?

Holden: Yes, for paramyxovirus.

Rutter: Do you have any funny stories about pigeons?

Holden: I don't have a funny story about any of my pigeons. I only have funny stories about pigeon fanciers, (which best be kept under wraps).

Rutter: Any sad stories to relate?

Holden: No, none, really.

Rutter: What would you like to see more of in the pigeon magazines?

Holden: I'd like more detailed health-related pieces for the novice. (Meaning in terms a novice can handle).

Rutter: How many magazines do you get?

Holden: Three pigeon-related and four general bird publications.

Rutter: How many pigeons books are in your home?

Holden: Two, maybe three. I haven't read them because I'm six years behind on my reading.

Rutter: How much is a really good pigeon worth to you?

Holden: Some of the pigeons that mean the most to me were practically "freebies". Of course if you've paid \$5,000 for one bird, he is probably your favorite. To me, cost isn't where it is at because I'm not a flyer. Performance isn't my concern. I'd be truly hard pressed to say what qualities make a bird important to me. I guess I place too much stock in personality. They do have personalities if you care to get acquainted with your birds. Of course if you get to know them it makes culling difficult.

Rutter: What do you look for in a good pigeon?

Holden: If a pigeon "turns me on," it's a good pigeon. Naturally I want it to look like the breed it is supposed to represent. But I'm the

offbeat pigeon person. I don't get ruffled about a ruffled feather.

Rutter: Do you try to cure birds?

Holden: You bet I try. It's the only way to learn. What do you learn by taking a hatchet to their heads?

Rutter: Do you understand genetics?

Holden: I don't believe even the geneticists understand genetics.

Rutter: What do you feed?

Holden: I give them Ag-Co brand feed, the super A mix. They get all they want without wasting.

Rutter: Tell us a little about Jan Holden?

Holden: I've always been an idealist at heart. All my life's experiences have been colored by the fact that I'm constantly wondering why what ought to be --- isn't. Does that make any sense? When I was a kid I wanted to grow up to be a poet, but my college writing professor advised against it because all of my poetry dealt with morbid subjects. It was a disappointment for a time, until I realized that poets don't even make as much as free lance reporters. Thus, I fell into journalism. For several years I produced what I call "cheap filler" for newspapers in town. Occasionally I got to do something more inspiring.

Two years ago I left the newspaper job because the city editor was a stuff shirt. (He didn't appreciate pigeons either).

Today I am special contributing editor for A.F.A. Watchbird and do occasional pieces for other bird publications. But I like diversity, so

much of my time at the typewriter is spent with other projects.

I just realized what a boring person I am so let's move on to something else.

Rutter: Hey, Jan, we can't all fight in wars, play football in the Orange Bowl, dabble in politics, see the world, know movie stars, ride Good-Year Blimps, fly Airplanes, teach school - Need I say more. We appreciate who you are for you. Not the other stuff. It's not always greener over here! You are a child of the Universe, and you are not boring, and you have a right to be heard.

Holden: Right????

Rutter: How do you want to be remembered by the Hobby?

Holden: (laughter) I'm not a vain person, certainly not vain enough to harbor the illusion that I will be remembered for anything. It hurts a little to realize that I'm so insignificant, but it's helped by the fact that at least I've had a chance to be. I've met some great people that I care for very much. I've had some fun, and have received some of life's most precious gifts. One of these has been

pigeons!

Rutter: What is your favorite breed of pigeon?

Holden: The Old Dutch Capuchine. I ran across a pair sunning themselves at a bird farm. I bought them and brought them home and three months later, I found myself in the breeding business. These fancy birds were destined to become my most delightful pastime.

Rutter: I'd like to thank you, your husband Steve, your 60 pigeons and your neighbors, without whom this interview would not have been possible. □

ENROLL IN THE APFC TODAY!



**American
Pigeon
Fanciers'
Council**

ENROLLMENT FORM

David Rinehart, Treas.
559 Alandale Drive
Tallmadge, Ohio 44278

Our club wants to support the goals of the Council to sponsor improved education, research and public information on pigeons and the hobby.

Club Name _____

Sec.'s Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

We have _____

members and enclosed for enrollment _____

Pigeon Science Corner

by WILLARD F. HOLLANDER

Ames, Iowa

The Larger View

Lots of high-school students take a course in Biology and look at prescribed objects under the microscope. Some may get a chance to do more individual exploring with this gadget, but without good coaching it is easy to become discouraged. How to light the subject best may be the main trouble, after you get used to the upside-down-and-backwards image. And keeping the lenses clean!

Well, let's assume that you are a microscope buff and have a yen to see pigeons in a bigger way. You don't have a scanning-electron job, or even a light-amplification UV-HF, but more likely a conventional scope, maybe with 10X oculars and three

choices of objective lenses, such as 10X, 44X, and 95X. You have cleaned the lenses even though the scope has been kept under a dust cover for the past six months. You have some glass slides, also cleaned, and maybe a supply of glass cover-slips. What else is needed? I'd suggest a good table and an electric outlet; one or two forceps (tweezers), small sharp scissors, razor blades, needles, and paper towels. Oh yes, you will probably need some water (free of flotsam!) and a pipette (medicine dropper) (clean!). All set? Nearly; need a chair too. And a notebook and pencil (yep, to make notes and sketches of what we do

(Continued On Next Page)

and see!).

So first thing you want to magnify is a feather. Pull the ocular lens out of the scope and use it for a preliminary once-over. It gives 10X, which means the feather looks 10 times normal size (diameter). You may find a gigantic louse crawling around. Next put the ocular back and put the feather under the objective. Holding it still enough is almost impossible unless it is fastened to a slide. Fiddle with lighting and position until a good view is found. With 10X ocular and 10X objective lens, the 2-inch feather is magnified 100X, so it looks 16 feet long (obviously the scope can't show the entire feather -- we are looking at only a small part of it). Feathers from different parts of the pigeon may look very different; the fluff on the sides of the back is usually loaded with powder granules.

Looking for worm eggs in droppings can be exciting. A bit of droppings should be well diluted on a slide with water so that the light can come through easily from underneath.

Blood is another fascinating subject. To get a drop from the pigeon you can make a tiny cut on the side of a toe with a razor blade. Put the drop on a slide and touch the end of another slide to it, then drag the drop along to make an even smear. This makes a nice clear view of the millions of blood cells; they are best viewed after the smear has well dried, and with the higher magnifications. Various kinds of stains can be tried to make the cells show up better and reveal the nuclei and possible parasites. In late summer it is often possible to discover malarial infections in some of the blood cells.

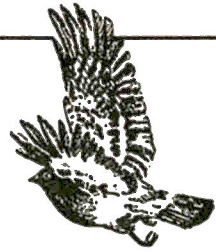
When you become more expert, you may want to look at thin slices of muscle and other tissues. That gets to be too delicate an operation for most home labs, and you will want to get help from medical and university technicians. Take time to visit your local hospital's pathology laboratory, and see really sophisticated equipment in use, such as the freezing microtome and the blood counters.

No end of possibilities -- think small! □



MAKING A BLOOD-SMEAR SLIDE

Racing Homers



American Racing Pigeon Union News

by EDNA SCIFRES, Greenville, S. Car.

AU HQS - Buffalo, N.Y. Convention and Race. Hosted by the Buffalo Center - October 29 - Nov. 2, 1986. Sam Giarratono, Convention Chairman, and his fine committee of hard working friends have a great program planned with more benefits than we've seen in years. And prices that go back to "remember when"! Plan to enjoy another great AU Convention and festivities among friends, and we'll have all the details to you shortly.

Please Note: Address all correspondence to the AU Secretary as follows: Fred Ames, P.O. Box 95, Maineville, Oh. 45039. The new AU phone number is 513-677-2665. Call between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., weekdays all day Sat. or Sunday.

Fred Ames of Maineville was a friend of the late AU Sec. Charles Herin, and had helped him during rush periods with bands, Sec. Kits and other mailings. While we were all deeply shocked at the sudden death of Mr. Herin, we were extremely grateful that Fred Ames was able to meet with President Jerry McIntosh and former Pres. Laurie McIntosh in Maineville, Oh., at that sad time. To guarantee that the AU business would be in dependable hands, the AU officers and Board readily appointed Mr. Ames as Sec./Treas., to serve, pending the formalities as required by the AU Rules.

Everyone with whom I have had contact received their bands on time, and I'm sure it has been that way nationwide. It is a credit to the efficiency of Jerry McIntosh, Laurie McConnell and Fred Ames, and their concern for the well being of the Union is certainly appreciated. There is much yet to do, and Mr. Ames asks your support and help in handling his new office. The Secretary Kits will be out shortly after this article is published, and the club Sec.'s, can really help by noting the following: List all members names, addresses and Zip Codes accurately - if possible, type or print clearly. Dues are \$3.50 for "B" club members, \$2.00 for Junior members,

send the correct amount by check or money order. Order your 87 bands and figure the price correctly. Order your diplomas, and **use the forms** provided for all.

Use your club's band letters on all club correspondence to the Au Secretary. If yours is a new club applying for AU membership, be patient! Your application will be valued, and processed as quickly as possible. Your consideration will be appreciated - thanks.

The AU Update will have listed the new Chairmen and Program Directors; to answer inquiries note the following: Au Film Program Director - Joe Bishop, 6552 Fernhurst Dr., Parma Heights, OH 44130.

Special Aid - Bob Neeley, Route 1, 15 Carriage Lane, Wichita Falls, TX 76301.

Hall of Fame "A" - Bernard Ellis, 18205 Shurmer Rd., Strongsville, Oh 44136.

Video Tapes - Chuck Weaver, 624 Kumukahi Pl., Honolulu, HI 96825.

President Jerry McIntosh thanks all officers and the AU membership for their cooperation and promises that the same fine service and leadership will prevail through the coming years. We note the exceptional job done by past President Laurie McConnell and Rules Chairman Art Anderson, Chuck Weaver, Editor of the Update, and Wayne and Nancy Reinke of the ARPN and Bulletin. And a special thanks to Bill Bonwell, Legal Advisor, for his valuable services to the AU.

We hear from Thelma Snyder, President of the AHP Institute, that the membership and memorial program for the Library and Museum will be announced very shortly. The past year has seen not only good progress on this goal, but an even greater need. Please support this great gift to all our 'pigeon people' - you will be blessed.

Happy Notes From Our Friends In The Sport!

Cambell Strange - fine host of the super BBQ and tour during the Fort Worth Convention called to say Hi,

and get some info -- Francis Weber, champ flyer, called about the HOF and American Awards info - hopefully his name was on the list compiled by Gordon Still, and will be published in the Update soon.

A most appreciated call from dear friend Past Pres. Ed Tatum in San Antonio, much under the weather now with cancer, but cheerful and hopeful. Ed wishes to thank all who has sent cards and letters to him and dear wife Dorothy, and sorry he can't answer them. Stay in touch with these wonderful people, with a little sunshine when you can - we love them.

Among my 1985 treasures - The beautiful Texas Center Directory from Bill Morrow of Houston. Bill autographed it for me at the Tampa Convention and when I looked around, there were some of the world's best Texans standing right there! So I got autographs from Ed Gardner, Art Anderson, and Bob Neeley! Thanks to you all - made my day.

Also thanks to Dean and Alice Marshall, Convention Chm. and Yearbook for the California State. Their handsome Convention Book was dedicated to the late Douglas Cox Jr., of Vidalia, CA, and featured the 'End of the Trail' a photo of the bronze statue of a cowboy and his horse, which stands 20 feet tall, and was created for the opening of the International Exposition in San Francisco in 1915. Since restored at the cost of \$100,000.00 now is in the Cowboy Hall of Fame and the Western Heritage Center. The CSRPA Newsletter is certainly a credit to the organization too, and truly pigeon racing is alive and well in this great state. We are sorry to hear that Ed Daniels is leaving his good newsletter "Tok Talk" group, and thank him for several years of good copy and interesting articles. Good luck to all in Tulsa. I do appreciate hearing from everyone, and your cards, letters and news are most enjoyable.

Some of our 'long distance' friends - Dick Mortemore in Hawaii said he is getting some Doug McClary birds from Harold Fritsch in Michigan; Fernando Cesar Garcia in Mexico sent race pamphlet which I'm guessing is a Grand International Race - "Triple Corona De Leon '86", and best wishes to all. Bob Kinney reminds all of the North Valley "Winter Blast" at the Ramada in Elgin, Ill., on March 7-8-9 for tons of fun for everyone - sounds like a winner in winter!

Jim Avery had a good YB season, and Pete Barry had a bleak holiday season with a shattered elbow from a

fall - so sorry about that, and get well soon.

Some interesting clippings from: Neil McDermott - "Birds have a role in French defense" advising that along with their advanced communications technology, such as the 4.3 billion dollar RITA system which was recently sold to the USA, the French forces include 100 homing pigeons. The loft is in charge of W/O Jean Piere Fauvez who feels that modern means of destruction could seriously affect other communications, while the hardy pigeon could carry on.

Walter Skrzynecki in Curtic, OH, sent "Pesky Pigeon's Perch Poses Public Problem" reporting that even owls are used to scare off the street pigeons. Leslie Richards in Wellesley, Mass., sends an ad from a farm journal for "Bird X" Ultrason which creates an ultrasonic sound barrier with sounds intolerable to birds. Then there's the positive side -- Judy Herrewyers sent "Winging It" from the Chicago Tribune, with an Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gahdhi releasing a pigeon during the opening ceremonies for the India International Trade Fair 85 in New Delhi.

Lucille Schumann in Davenport, Iowa, along with many friends, expressed the sorrow that all deeply shared in the loss of Charley Herin, the late AU Sec./Treas., and the

kind and complimentary words for his work and friendship would fill the page.

There are lots more - including greetings to all from Robert and Viki Archer in London; from Roy and Mary Eatchard in St. Louis; from Hope, N.J. among our favorite people in their sunset years, Jim Cole; from Freddie Rivera now enjoying life in Tennessee with Carole and Bianca; from Stan Garwal whose new address is P.O. Box 422, Aubrey, TX 76227. From Leon Kugler calling for the Nebraska club spelt backwards! for info; from the good IF friends Al and Helen Iannuzzi in N.Y., who enjoyed the AU convention in Clearwater; and dozens more all of whom are part of our great pigeon fraternity - making the world a better place. Thank you all so much.

Your club is invited to join the AU! Share the benefits of the free AU film loan - club diplomas, Special Aid help with health and loft problems, race awards, and much more. Contact AU Sec., Fred Ames, P.O. Box 95, Maineville, OH 45039, for an application for a five or more loft club.

Make plans to enjoy a wonderful 1986 AU Convention in Buffalo, N.Y., and stay warm until spring! Kindest regards to all. □

Remembering Charley Herin

by EDNA SCIFRES, Greenville, S. Car.

In a year of sad losses in the American Racing Pigeon Union, the final tragedy came in mid December, 1985, with the death of AU Secretary/Treasurer, Charles E. Herin, dedicated worker and a friend to all.

Elected by the AU officers and Board of Directors in the early 70's, Charley Herin served the Union through the terms of Past Presidents Bill Bonwell, Edwin Schmidt, Edward Tatum, Bill Rice, (Dec.), Laurie McConnell. Each of these fine officers had the utmost respect for Mr. Herin, and their confidence was well placed, for his services to the Union were given with total dedication.

Charley Herin was a good friend to all in the sport, known and admired not only in the USA, but in every area of pigeon activities throughout the world. No one will ever know the magnitude of the good deeds, helpful assistance, and personal efforts he contributed to the pigeon world. Tributes to Charley were few and far between. He did not seek them, and

in his office as AU Secretary, it was just a job that he loved, and did well.

The last years were difficult when his dear wife Marcia suffered critical health problems, and the burden of grief took its toll on Mr. Herin's own health. We pray for comfort and strength of Marcia, and ask that she not be forgotten in your prayers.

At the AU Director's meeting in Clearwater Beach, Fla., Mr. Herin advised, following his re-appointment as Sec./Treas., that he would serve through 1986, with assistance given to a future Sec./Treas., to replace him. That he could not do this last service for the ARPU is a loss we all share equally.

We like to remember Charley in happy times, meeting and greeting old and new friends at the conventions and gatherings, sharing a smile and enjoying the fellowship with members. As we travel through life, there are special people we credit with making our world a much better place. Charley Herin, friend, advisor, supporter, is very high on that list. □



NEW IF PUBLICITY MAN

Darrel Rutter (right) talks to WTAS-TV about pigeons in his new publicity job for the International Federation of American Homing Pigeon Fanciers, Inc.

International Federation Of American Homing Pigeon Fanciers, Inc.

by DARREL RUTTER, Pub., Altoona, Pa.

Ring out the old and ring in the new. This phrase of course is used to refer to the year just ending and the one being ushered in. This year that phrase takes on an added significance for the I.F., since a lot of new faces have popped up in the newly elected, or appointed officers to the I.F.

1986 for the I.F. represents a new beginning, and although we hate to make promises, it should be a better year than anticipated; since we have a few special surprises this year.

The new president is Joe Lizik of Pittsburgh, Pa.; Honorary President is Nicholas Schiavone; 1st Vice Pres., Joe Zebrowski; 2nd Vice Pres., Matt Reilly; 3rd Vice Pres., Dick Smith; 4th Vice Pres., Jack Keen; 5th Vice Pres., George Smith; 6th Vice Pres. John Stauffer; 7th Vice Pres., Lou Arcuri; Legal Advisor, Paul Giblin; Sec.-Treas., Marie Rotondo; Committee Chairmen: By-Laws, George Clark; Publicity, Darrel Rutter; Finance, Nick Schiavone; Good and Welfare, Jim Dalessio; Ballot, Marie Hoffman; Hall of Fame, Nick Shaw; Legislation, Dick Dworek; Membership, Dennis Rehrer; Youth, Ron Liszcz; Convention Coordinator, Ben Feuerback; Trustees: Nick Schiavone, Ben Feuerback, Ben Watson, Harry Hansen and William Walling. Making up the Olympiade Tours Committee are Nick Schiavone, Marie Rotondo and Joe Salvatore.

President's Message

"Because of my Public Relations, I

saw the need for more publicity and the need for improvement in the sport; and I want to promote a better image. The office of President is the vehicle I'll use to get some of my goals for the I.F. and the sport accomplished. We're not moving - there's stagnation everywhere. The A.U. and the I.F. have their own ideas, and nothing is being accomplished. I want to work with the A.U., but keep the I.F. identity. It's practical and we should be more compatible. I propose to be a roving ambassador.

"During my term as President, I'd like to get the Boy Scout Program moving again and build membership.

"It's time to quit blaming each other for our problems and get to the real causes. As the new I.F. President, it's time to roll up my sleeves and go to work minding the I.F. and I'd appreciate any help that might come my way."

A Changing of the Guard

Although I first forged my writing career as a free-lancer, I now have ensconced the high place of contemporary Pigeon Publicist. As the new I.F. Publicist, it is my earnest wish that I might deliver some intelligence along with some wit and entertainment. I hope the I.F. made the right choice when they asked me to assume responsibility for this office.

I'm a tough and candid writer with a simple decency for myself and others. Listen!!! I have no illusions

about what I can or can't do. However, I'm no slouch and my current emergence to this lofty position comes as a result of having free-lanced more articles in more magazines than I care to recall. I want to be the best I can, I want to improve and help the sport and the people I love in it.

Somewhere between the penumbra of my emergence and anonymity in the *Game of Life*, I've become a winner with words. I've been lucky enough to develop a technique for writing that seems to appeal to most, and I intend to use this talent to better the sport by keeping an open mind, tackling any assignment with enthusiasm, observing and using my gritty insight. It's not going to be easy. I'll need your help and your patience. I'll need news from each one of you. Without your input, it will be impossible to infuse the pulse of the I.F. into a superlative column of which we will all be proud and deserving of.

In case you think I've forgotten the fact that Tom Smith may be overlooked for his excellent work as Publicity Chairman, don't worry, he hasn't. Tom was always interesting to read and quite educational. He made important contributions to this post and the sport. He had a high likeability quotient and a gentle humanity about him. He'll be missed, but it's only fair that others pick up the torch and carry it for a time. At least we educators have kept it in the family so to speak. Good luck Tom in your future endeavors, we'll be looking forward to seeing you again in "Methods of the Masters."

Home Is Where You Are Happy

The I.F. is big enough to serve



JOE LIZIK

Joe Lizik, Pittsburgh, Pa., is the new President of the International Federation of American Homing Pigeon Fanciers. — Photo from Darrel Rutter, Altoona, Pa.

you, and small enough to know you; as the saying goes. The I.F. is getting a new face lift, it's a friendly face and one that welcomes all of you. Nothing is Black or White anymore, or Right or Wrong; so how can we know which shade of grey is right for us? We, in the Pigeon Sport, are caught between two worlds - the I.F. and the A.U. Both stand tall side by side like the World Trace Center Buildings, together but separate.

It's hard to mesh old values and ideas with new beliefs, but I believe it's time to pool our resources and pull together. One horse will never pull the wagon as well as two. The beauty of our sport is not in its organizations, not in its people, or its rules. Its greatest beauty is in its pigeons.

Pigeons are our ultimate unity. Our only real value in this sport is that we race Homing Pigeons, not the aesthetic or the political. Sooner or later most of us will learn that our sport is not about the A.U. or the I.F. but about each one of us flying our pigeons in **friendly competition**

with harmony; and believing there's nothing better here on earth - not even the **super bowl**. Sounds too good to be true? Ha! Ha! Well it's not, for that's just the way it used to be. Let's give our sport back to the pigeons, and take it out of the hands of the money-changers. Like those who came before us, we need to bring a spirit and an energy that will preserve our sport's uniqueness. We need to bring the A.U. "them" into "us". That will be the redemption for our future. "A new combination of ideas that is not wasteful, messy, or sometimes tragic."

The Kinetic energy of the two will bring about change as profound as ever witnessed before. It's easy to be ambivalent about this alchemy absorption, but it's what we need - enormous energy unleashed by both the A.U. and the I.F. working together as separate bodies. The Dove is the International Symbol of Peace; we are the Keepers of the Dove. Shouldn't we set an example?

The I.F. is the choice of our generation. □

N.Y., while the County Center is being remodelled. Clyde serves as Secretary for this show and does a great job.

Louis and Kitty Hoppmann and Bob and Florence Fennell are still enjoying memories of good times at the AU Convention in Clearwater Beach. Shared a great time with Joe and Milly Bishop, Thelma Snyder and friend Mazie Clements, Gordon Still and yours truly at the famous "Kapok Tree" in Clearwater, among other pleasurable events and festivities.

On January 10-12, the Atlanta group hosted a fine show in their city, and as always a pleasure to be with many good friends. Curtis and Diane Christian, Show Pres., did a super job on the show - a first when they brought their home computer along to replace the paper work of entries and results! About 250 birds competed, and were capably judged by Wade Shriville of Charleston, Mike Anika of Savannah and Frank Price of Atlanta. Steve and Linda Whitmire and Leon and Mrs. Furness loaded up the hospitality room, enjoyed by all. Thanks to the handlers, Tommy Tisdale and Leon Furness with Jimmy Williams as top steward, all worked hard and ran the show most efficiently.

Some fine gifts were donated by Art and Terry Zernia and Linda Whitmire - a copy of Doug McClary's new book "Pigeon Showing" went to proud owner David Mathis, son of Frank and Marilyn Mathis of Greenville, our new teenage fancier in the sport. Sleepy and Gay Elam of Chattanooga, Tn., visited around and looked well, good show supporters Bill Mitcham, Walt Kuklane and Mr. Murray were among many who filled the coops. Unfortunately our SRPA photographers Tommie Justice and Jerry Queen forgot their cameras, but the birds were all beautiful, and deserving of the awards which went to many. While the complete results are still on the way - the Best Milage and Diploma birds went to Bill Mitcham of Springfield, Oh. On the Unflown (Color) birds, Jerry Queen had Best YH, Best OC and Best Opp. Sex. Boris Pensky had Best OH, and Mr. Murray had best YC and Best Color Bird. Congrats to all and thanks for a fun weekend!

We'll see ya'll at the SRPA Convention, Race, and Show in Charlotte, N.C. Dec. 4-7, 1986. Stay well and happy! □

Southern Racing Pigeon Assn. News

by EDNA SCIFRES, Greenville, S. Car.

SRPA HQS - Charlotte N.C.

Convention - Race - Show!

December 4-7, 1986.

The Mint Hill Racing Pigeon Club hosts are pleased to announce that a Convention Race will be held in conjunction with the 1986 SRPA Convention! Just like old times! SRPA Sec. David Yarn writes, "the 200m SRPA Convention race will be flown on Dec. 5 and you are invited to participate. Use your own bands, and ship your birds (pre-paid) to Henry Plummer, Route 1, Box 403, Harrisburg, N.C. 28075 - phone (704) 547-0235. Entry is \$15.00 per bird or two birds for \$25.00. There is a 200 bird limit, so get your entries in before June 1 to insure proper training and conditioning. There will be a Calcutta and you may buy your birds back prior to the race for \$25.00. All birds will be flown to one loft, for maximum enjoyment of the breeders. We have experienced handlers to give your young birds the best possible chance in the race. For more info, call or write SRPA Sec. David Yarn, 6801 Barrington Dr., Charlotte, N.C. 28215, phone (704) 563-1364.

The SRPA Show has been the one to win for 35 years! With today's top showmen competing in Color (Unflown) Milage and Diploma classes, and expectations of 600 or more of the finest quality show entries, the 1986 SRPA Convention Show will be a challenge to all. The

Holiday Inn North on Tryon St., Charlotte, N.C., will be the place to be - plan to enjoy a fun time with friends - you will be warmly welcomed!

The 1986 SRPA (Joe Engel) bands are available from Sec. David Yarn - band some winners for the JE YB 200m race on September 27-28. Bands are \$1.00 each as usual.

The SRPA Old Bird Series will begin with the JE (SRPA banded) 300m on May 3 and 4, the Open SRPA 300m on May 17-18. The Open 500m flown on Saturday, May 31 only. Entry for the Open races is \$1.00 per bird, all prize money to the fastest speed of the 3 top clubs reporting, as follows - 50%, 30%, 20%. Good Luck!

The winter months are great for catching up with old friends, and good to hear from the Willard Baldwins in Wilmington, N.C., all doing fine. They take a couple of weeks off for the holidays and then go back to flying those good pigeons! Keep up the good work.

Long time friend Father Martin of Belmont Abbey missed the SRPA convention last year but we'll keep him up with the dates on the next. Clyde Galloway remembers all in the SRPA kindly, and hopes to be back with us soon. We note the change in location of the fine NSRA National Show, formerly in White Plains, N.Y., has been moved to Yonkers,

**Sell Your Surplus,
APJ Classified Section!**

A.C.A. Y.B. Bond Race & Futurity Race

by DAVE THOMAS, Pub., Frackville, Pa.

The Anthracite Concourse Racing Pigeon Assoc., has flown a young bird bond race since 1974, before that we had a futurity race. This young bird season we flew both. As most of you probably know, a bond means buying or paying so much for a bird or amount of birds you plan on shipping to that given race. Example: You buy 10 bonds, at \$1.00 a piece, before the deadline in July, when the race comes in at the end of October, you are able to put in 10 birds. On the other hand, a futurity is where you buy the band. We charged \$5.00 a band, \$4.00 went towards prizes, and \$1.00 went into our truck fund. Both races were shipped the same night, with a different liberation time planned for both.

On October 26, at 8:00 a.m., 265 pigeons from 52 lofts were liberated

from Raphine, Virginia. This was the Bond Race! The bond birds had a clear day with a light westerly wind prevailing. At 2:22, Joe Maradeo of NES club clocked two pigeons, which flew their 273 miles in good enough time for 1st and 2nd, concourse, and 1st and 2nd long section, with 1259 and 1258 speeds. RRR of PGC was third concourse and first short section with 1252 speed. Sparich Loft of NES club was fourth concourse with 1251 speed. Placing 5th concourse and first middle section was S.F. Capik of Mirr Club with 1248 speed. NES club sneaked another member in at sixth concourse and it was Stianche and Son. Down in the HBG Club Dave Lebo placed seventh concourse and second short section with 1244 speed. Harry Cook of WBC club was eighth concourse with 1238 speed. Dave Thomas of APC club

seized ninth concourse and second middle section with 1238 speed. The last concourse diploma went to J. Rautzahn, Jr., of LVC Club, who also placed third short section with 1229 speed. The other prize winners were Baddick Loft of HFC with two in the same barrel at 1226 speed. While W. Pinkerton of LVC club nabbed the last prize with 1222 speed, placing thirteenth concourse. Over 18 lofts did not report on this race.

The Futurity Race was liberated from Raphine, Virginia, at 8:30 a.m. Many bands were bought, but only 71 birds from 27 lofts were left by race time. You wonder how a half an hour difference would make the race slower, but it did. At 1:39, John Waidlich of HBG Club clocked his pigeon which flew its 208 air miles in good enough time to win with 1183 speed. Right behind John was Bob Koch of HBG Club with 1180 speed. Seizing third, fourth and sixth place honors was Kurt Waskow and Waskow Bros., of APC club. Kurt Waskow was also first middle section. The speeds were 1177.42, 1176.90, and 1176.53. Sneaking in-between for fifth place honors was John Waidlich's second pigeon having 1176.66 for speed. Mike Malay of TFC club was first long section and seventh concourse with 1168. The other prize winners were: D. Price of TFC Club, Joe Namey of WBC Club, Cliff and Edna of PGC Club, and Stalgaitis Boys of TFC Club.

Next year these two races promise to be even bigger, as interest is growing. Not everyone flies the futurities and bond races, but it is fun to those who do, but on the other hand, no one should feel obligated to fly these; because, they are special races, they do not count for average speed, they are like tournaments after the regular season is over.

Just a little trivia about the A.C.A. before we close. Did some research into average speed winners in our concourse for the last ten years. Basically, over the last ten years, our average amount of flyers was 170 and average speed trophies were awarded on roughly 12% of the flyers for that series, give or take a percentage. Listed below are the flyers who were in the trophies nine out of the last ten years - be it young birds, old birds, or both. I think these men deserve special recognition as very steady pigeon flyers: Joe namey of WBC Club, Jack Burns of HFC Club, Mike Malay of TFC Club, David Price of TFC Club, Gil Yoder of SHA Club, Kurt Waskow of APC Club, and Dave Thomas of APC Club and Baddick Loft of HFC Club. □



CHICAGO LADIES AUXILIARY

In the photo on the left are: Back row - Angie Richmond, Joe Lee, Rose Wierus, Elaine Lesz, Olga Kroll, Margaret Jamrock, Theresa Winek. On the front row are Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus. In the right hand photo are: (l.-r.) Judy Herreweyers, Mark Haas and Rose Wierus.

Chicago Ladies Auxiliary

by JUDY HERREWEYERS, Chicago, Ill.

The past year has been a busy one for all of us. December was a particularly busy month with the convention being the first week. Some of our lucky ladies and their spouses cruised the blue waters of the Caribbean the week before attending the convention. All returned with stories of a great time which was helped by perfect weather conditions.

Even though we all had busy schedules we were able to make time for the preparations of our Annual Christmas Party. The 1985 Chicago Ladies Auxiliary Christmas party was held at the South Side Club and was a really great party. The dinner was catered with the deserts being provided by the ladies. The food was excellent. After dinner two presentations were made. A trophy was presented to the winner of the first 200 mile young bird race. Mark

Bartels was unable to attend so his trophy was accepted by a friend. Junior flyer Mark Haas received his gold medallion for winning the 1985 National Junior Championship. (The Chicago ladies are strong supporters of the junior race program).

After the presentations we continued the party with a cake walk, 40 homemade cakes and pastries were given away. Then there was dancing, the band had to be interrupted for games and a gigantic raffle of 40 or more prizes. And of course, we cannot forget the grand finale of a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Claus with their bags overflowing with gifts for all of the good girls and boys in attendance. (After all, we're all children at heart). If it's possible I think the party this year was the best one ever. □

Organizations



Midwestern District Meet Of The Western Pouter & Cropper Club

by DR. TIM BURKE, Iowa City, Iowa

The Midwestern District of the Western Pouter and Cropper club held its first meet in Des Moines, Iowa, in conjunction with the Iowa State Pigeon Association the first weekend in December. 103 Pouters and Croppers in a dozen different breeds were shown by 12 exhibitors.

An impressive list of awards were provided by both the Iowa State Pigeon Association and the Western Pouter and Cropper Club. The ISPA provided trophies for the best of breed in Swing, English, Norwich, Pomeranian, and Brunner. The Western Pouter and Cropper Club provided for Grand Champion a 1908 framed print from the Feather Merchant of an English and a pigmy. This was a very attractive award and drew a lot of attention. The WP&CC provided for best and reserve of breeds Beer Steins and Coffee Cups that had the Club Logo on. These awards also drew a lot of attention not only from the pouter and cropper breeders but also from breeders of other breeds of pigeons. These cups and steins are a novel and very useful alternative to a trophy. I'm using mine at work to drink my coffee from. It has gotten a lot of attention there also!

The judges did an outstanding job with Dr. Jack Gray judging the Norwich and all the other breeds judged by the very knowledgeable Ken Berns of Watertown, South Dakota. Best Junior was judged by myself.

The Midwest has long been a "sleeping giant" concerning pouters and croppers as there are a number of very good breeders in the area. These people seldom have had the chance to show with the pouter and cropper clubs as most are too far East or West. The district concept of the WP&CC has allowed many of these fine people the opportunity to show together, visit together, and show each other just what they have been doing with the pouters and croppers.

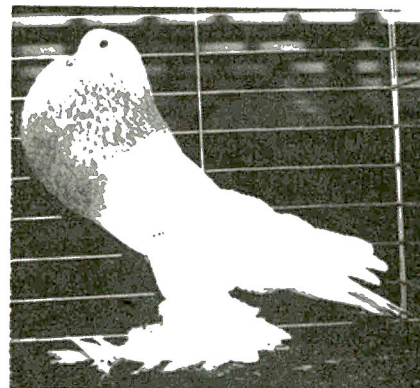
I expected to see some fine birds but I was really surprised at the outstanding quality and the level of competition in a number of the breeds. Judges Ken and Jack really had some very difficult decisions to make in a number of the classes.

The competition was the keenest in three breeds, Norwich, Pomeranians, and the Brunners. Some very fine, superbly conditioned, and well trained pomeranians were shown. I

remember two classes especially where the first and second place birds could have gone either way. One was the Old hen class where Tim Bueb's old blue Pied squeaked by Karl Teser's fine yellow. The other class was in the Young Cocks where again one of Tim's blues was able to edge out a Red shown by Karl. All were very impressive birds.

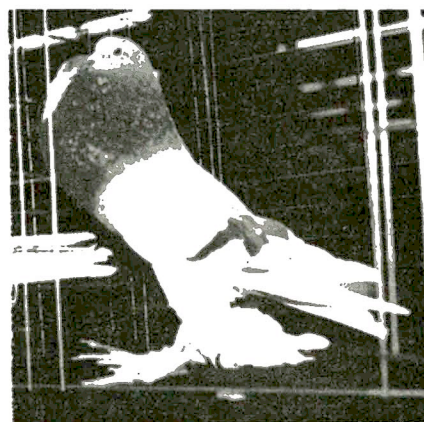
Tim Bueb ended up with four firsts, Best and Reserve in the Pomeranians. The Blue Pied young cock was best and went on to win Grand Champion Pouter repeated what it had done a couple weeks earlier at the Central Pouter and Cropper Club meet. Reserve Pomer-

(Continued On Next Page)



**RESERVE CHAMPION
POMERANIAN POUTER**

This Pomeranian Pouter was Reserve Champion Pomeranian Pouter at the Mid-Western District Meet of the Western Pouter and Cropper Club. This Mealy Old Cock was bred and exhibited by Tim Bueb. — Photo from Dr. Tim Burke, Iowa City, Iowa.



GRAND CHAMPION POUTER

This Pomeranian Pouter was Champion Pomeranian Pouter and Overall Grand Champion Pouter at the District Meet of the Western Pouter and Cropper Club December 1985. This Blue Bar Young Cock was bred and exhibited by Tim Bueb. — Photo by Dr. Tim Burke, Iowa City, Iowa.



MID-WESTERN DISTRICT WP&PC MEMBERS

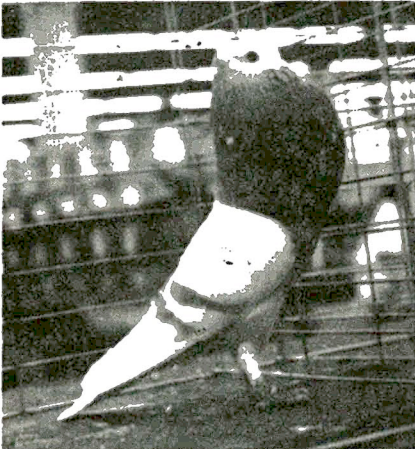
Some of the members of the Mid-Western District of the Western Pouter and Cropper Club. Back row, left to right: Ken Berns, Karl Teser, Tim Bueb, Mike Hughes. Middle row, Bob Kosek, Tim Burke, Jeff and Bob Bidroski. In front, junior member, John Hughes. — Photo from Dr. Tim Burke, Iowa City, Iowa.



CHAMPION

VOORBURG SHIELD CROPPER

This Voorburg Shield Cropper was the Champion Voorburg Shield Cropper and Overall Reserve Champion Pouter at the Mid-Western District Meet of the Western Pouter and Cropper Club December 1985. This Cream Bar Young Hen was bred and exhibited by Karl Teser. — Photo by Dr. Tim Burke, Iowa City, Iowa.



CHAMPION

THURINGER POUTER

This Thuringer Pouter was Champion Thuringer Pouter at the Mid-Western District Meet of the Western Pouter and Cropper Club December 1985. This Cream Bar Old Cock was bred by Joseph Wolf and exhibited by Dr. Tim Burke.

CHAMPION BY A JUNIOR

This Red Voorburg Shield Cropper, OC, was the Champion Pouter or Cropper by a Junior at the Mid-Western District Meet of the Western Pouter and Cropper Club December 1985. Bred and exhibited by John Hughes. — Photo by Dr. Tim Burke, Iowa City, Iowa.

anian was Tim's Mealy old cock.

Some outstanding Norwich were shown in blue, black, and red. Rudy Gendrikovs showed some very fine blacks as did Ken Berns and Bob and Jeff Bidroski. Champion Norwich went to Tim Duerr on a very fine Red Old Cock. This is another bird that has done its share of winning at other pouter and cropper club meets. Reserve champion Norwich went to Bob and Jeff Bidroski on a blue young cock. Junior member John Hughes had first old hen on a white and his father Mike had first young hen on a reduced.

Voorburg Shield Croppers with their lively disposition and lovely markings were again show stoppers. Karl Teser had best on a dandy cream bar young hen. This little flirt went on to win Reserve Champion Pouter. A well deserved win. Bob and Jeff Bidroski had reserve on a fine young red cock. Mike Hughes had first old cock on a mealy. His son John showed a red old cock that won the award for Champion Junior Pouter.

A number of fine swing pouters were shown with the champion being Bob Kosek's attractive yellow grizzle young cock. Reserve went to Bob's black old cock. Bob also had first old hen on an opal and Steve Hoagland won first yh on a blue check. Best Genetic project swing was also won by Steve Hoagland on an almond young hen.

The brunners had some very fierce competition with a number of very fine boned, good limbed, and well trained birds shown. There were two classes here also that the first and second place birds could have gone either way. In the young hens Tim Burke's white snuck by Bob and Jeff Bidroski's black while in the young cocks Bob and Jeff's black young cock beat Tim Burke's Red. Champion Brunner went to Tim Burke on an ash red spread white bar old cock while the reserve went to the white young hen. A blue white bar old hen shown by Tim was first OH.

A number of fine birds were shown in the other breeds. One of my favorites, the Old German

Croppers, attracted a lot of attention because of their huge globes, attractive color and massive size. Champion Old German was a young black tiger hen by Tim Burke. Reserve was a black old cock by Tim Burke.

Champion Reversewing went to Rich Mohler on a black OC, Res to Rich on a blue YC. Champion Pigmy went to Harlan Peterson on a mealy old cock. Champion and Reserve Champion English went to Ken Cran on a white old hen and cock. Best and Reserve Starwizers were both taken by Bob Kosek on Red grizzles, an old cock and young hen. Bob had best Bohemian on a dun old hen. Best and Reserve Thuringers were



CHAMPION NORWICH CROPPER

This Norwich Cropper was Champion Norwich Cropper at the Mid-Western District Meet of the Western Pouter and Cropper Club December 1985. This Red Old Cock bred and exhibited by Tim Burke. — Photo by Dr. Tim Burke, Iowa City, Iowa.



CHAMPION OLD GERMAN CROPPER

This Old German Cropper, Black Tigered Young Hen, was the Champion German Cropper at the Mid-Western District Meet of the Western Pouter and Cropper Club December 1985. — Bred and exhibited by Dr. Tim Burke, Iowa City, Iowa.



won on cream bars shown by Tim Burke and bred by Joseph Wolf.

This very successful meet has proven that there are many capable pouter and cropper breeders in the Midwest and it is hoped that many more will begin to show with us and

become active in club activities. With the high caliber of the people involved in this club we will be able to set and achieve some very high goals. Here is hoping that each of you raises just the bird you want this coming year. □



International Roller Association News

by DAVID KOWALSKI, Publicity Director
Duluth, Minnesota

Let me explain what I have discovered about true rolling pigeons and how they have to be built for maximum velocity. And let me preface these comments by saying that these conclusions are based on thoroughly examining the finest spinners in scores of lofts across the country. In many cases, the owners of these outstanding birds didn't see the small differences that set this excellent bird apart from its loft mates. They just considered themselves fortunate to have such a bird and hoped they could breed more like it.

True Rolling Type

It doesn't much matter how a bird is built if it's just a straight flyer where neither speed nor endurance is demanded. Then the breeder can tinker with frivolous changes of type, color and feather. But the fancier of true rolling pigeons cannot make any type or feather changes frivolously. Since every such change will affect performance, each change must be considered and tested in the air.

Once the performance fancier decides what type of performance is ideal, he or she must identify the essential physical features affecting performance and their optimum degree of development for the purpose.

If the Roller is to live up to its potential as a high velocity spinner, then fanciers must bury any notions they have that if they simply breed enough youngsters of a particular type they think is beautiful, they will eventually get a champion spinner that looks like their ideal. But if they pick an ideal type that coincides with the exacting physical demands of high velocity aerial acrobatics, then they are headed in the right direction.

The finest performing pigeons flirt with certain physical extremes. Unless you understand in which direction you must move the type of your birds to get close to your

performance goal, then you will simply accept the destructive standard pushed by the show pen breeders. And as you approach by degrees the type of bird they tell you is ideal, you get farther and farther away from the aerial champions you want.

Short Keels

True aerial champions, whether they are bred in Birmingham or Bismarck, Biloxi or Belmont, fall within a very narrow range of physical type. To show you how narrow that range is, let's look first at keel length.

For years fanciers have been baraged with bull dung about keel length. Some want it short. Some want it long. And the long lovers rationalize their choice by telling you a long-keeled hen won't blow her oviduct out during a tight spin. Or they tell you long keels would lessen the chance of birds developing excess fat in the vent area. Or they just ignore any practical or logical explanation and tell you long keels feel better in the hand.

In the past keel length has been rather stringently defined. If the keel ran into the vent bones, most fanciers called it long. If there was a gap between the end of the keel and the vent bones, the keel was thought to be short. But that was too imprecise for me. So was measuring keels with the digits on my index finger. I wanted to know just how long a bird's keel was. So I started measuring keels with a specially designed ruler. How long was long? And how short was short?

I have measured the keels of literally thousands of Rollers in the past five years. The longest keel I have found has been $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches. The shortest, $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches. Thus, there is only $\frac{1}{2}$ inch difference in keel length in the breed. Yet in that $\frac{1}{2}$ inch lies the major reason some birds are high velocity spinners and others are slow rollers. On my many trips to see the

kits of noted fanciers, I have always asked to handle the fastest spinners I have seen in the air. And the fastest spinners have been the shortest-keeled birds. I measured them. And I measured the slower Rollers. They had longer keels. That's why I consider the short keel the primary requirement of the high velocity spinner.

This is actually elementary physics and aerodynamics. And it's about time we applied a little science to Rollers. The performer's center of revolutions during the roll is effectively at the point of attachment of the wings to the body. In the long-keeled bird, there is more weight toward the back end of the bird. So when this long-keeled bird rolls, centrifugal force pulls the bird's body away from this center of revolution, slowing the roll and widening the circumference of the rolling circle formed by the body.

Conversely, the short-keeled pigeon has its center of gravity closer to the center of the revolutions. When this short-keeled bird rolls, its short body doesn't have to fight as much centrifugal force.

Although one-half inch doesn't seem like much to us, the longest-bodied bird in the breed is nearly 25 percent longer than our little $2\frac{1}{4}$ inch whirlwind. If you were a 5'6" gymnast, how well would you do if you were 25 percent taller? Could you still perform the same somersaults if you were now 6'10"? No way.

The ideal Roller body is short and compact. And when we use the terms "short" or "long", we can only do so in reference to the keel length. Keel length determines the basic configuration of the body, and even the ultimate, fully muscled weight. I consider a Roller short if it is from $2\frac{1}{4}$ - $2\frac{3}{8}$ inches in keel length. The medium-sized bird is from $2\frac{7}{16}$ - $2\frac{9}{16}$ inches. And the large bird is from $2\frac{5}{8}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

If you want to breed faster spinners, start by scrapping these long birds ... unless they have actually bred much shorter, high velocity spinners when bred to a short bird. And then realize that using such a long-keeled bird will still preserve those genes in your family of birds. Eventually all long-keeled birds must come out of the stock loft if you are to make any genuine progress. You don't want those long keels popping out in your family year after year; you want to eliminate them.

Sharply Pitched Keel

(Continued On Next Page)

In addition to being short, the keel should also pitch sharply toward the vent bones. Such a bird will feel rather hollow in the back. This pitched keel serves to further throw the bird's weight toward the front. That's why you will see medium-length birds with sharply pitched keels spinning as fast as the short-keeled birds. From the standpoint of aerodynamic balance, their center of gravity is at the same point.

Keel bones which nearly touch the vent bones are not necessarily longer than those which don't. Even a short, sharply pitched keel is very likely to meet the vent bones. So don't be led astray on keel length by whether the keel meets the vent bones. You have to actually measure the keel and grade the bird's keel on that basis.

Just to see if what I am telling you is correct, try this in the new breeding season. Take actual keel measurements of your stable performers. Make some experimental matings of short keeled birds. (You found out they were your fastest ones, didn't you?) And also put together your hit-or-miss pairs where you don't consider keel length. When the youngsters start rolling, measure the fastest ones and the slowest ones. You'll be convinced because you proved it to yourself.

Note: This material is partially reprinted from the author's book, **True Spinning Rollers**. It cannot be reprinted for publication without the written permission of David D. Kowalski.

Next month we'll look at why two birds with keels of equal length and pitch can still perform at different speeds. To keep up to date on what is happening with performing Rollers, join the IRA. Dues are \$10 per year. That'll bring you six top quality bulletins and the opportunity to buy IRA bands at the rate of 50 for \$5.00. Send your check to Larry Bremmer, 4027 West Burbank Blvd., Burbank, CA 91505.

February News

Once again it's time to plan those matings to breed new kit birds. Some pairs will be kept together because they have produced a high percentage of the kind of performers we like. We expect they will do the same in the future. And some birds are being given another chance with a new mate. Maybe this will be the year when they finally breed some champions and justify our faith in them.

All Roller breeders start the year with a measure of hope. In some cases, that's all they have. In other cases, the breeder has been doing his or her homework, studying last

year's birds, and other fancier's kits, and maybe even reading more about his favorites in anticipation of someone else revealing a critical detail that will advance his breeding program. Maybe he or she even has a breeding program directed at a particular goal.

Breeding good Rollers takes some study. Every bird is different from every other and it needs a certain type of mate to offset its less-than-ideal features. If mate selection has been good, we will breed some birds faster than the parents, some just as fast, and very few of lesser quality. If mate selection is ill-advised, we simply stay where we're at, quality wise, or at worst, our birds drift farther back toward the average for the breed.

On the other side of this hobby are the many fanciers out there who believe in myth and magic. That's fine if it goes no farther than one's loft. But those physical aspects of the Roller that will most certainly hurt rolling quality are being pushed most stridently. We still have performing Roller breeders telling us that birds with long keels are the answer to rolling velocity. I suspect they do this because they have not seen well muscled birds with short keels perform. Or they've never correctly analyzed the physiques of their best birds in detail. Or they've got big birds, so they try to justify them as ideal. Or they think years of frustration banging into brick walls must be the badge worn by the Roller breeder. They have been told for years that one bird is faster than another because it just is. Why? Just because. They're not inclined to clear up their lousy thinking; it's much easier to repeat what other fuzzy thinkers have said. That way they can't be accused of rocking the boat. They can blame their confusion, ultimately, on someone else.

But the beginner reading all these conflicting opinions must surely want to throw his hands in the air. The right answer to a scientific question will not be found simply by taking a poll of any present or former Roller keepers. Democracy is a great form of government but it's of no use for the solution of scientific questions. If all of us voted against gravity, we would still fall off the back of the turnip wagon.

Breeding good Rollers takes some study. Every bird is different from every other: a unique combination of mental inclinations and the body and feather to give form to those inclinations. Yet these mental qualities and physical qualities are genetically separate features. The breeder can select for whatever aspects he wants.

Each candidate for the stock loft needs a certain type of mate to offset its less-than-ideal features ... whatever they are. And we can't choose good mates until we understand what we're looking for.

I believe that there are many fanciers in this country who would be astounded at the breeding potential of their present stock ... if only they readjusted their mate selections. If fanciers would breed for short-keeled, yet strong pigeons, a whole new world of rolling quality would open up to them.

Next month I will explain the critical importance of short keels to high velocity spinning in more detail. □

Southern Jacobin Club

by JOE KORTUS, Okla. City, Okla.

Boy, oh boy, what a show the Southern Jacobin Club put on in Houston, Texas, at the Grand National Show. First of all thanks to all the Jacobin fanciers for showing with us. Second we had over 373 Jacobins shown and also congratulations to our Master Breeder in Jacobins, Louie Christener winning champion and John Manckia had reserve champion. Mr. Christener won his with a beautiful red cock and Mr. Manckia won his with a beautiful yellow cock. Third is for Ed Backmann for doing such a great job in judging and believe me he had his hands full. Thanks again for judging our show, Mr. Bachmann.

After the judging was all over we did elect new officers, Charles Pearson, President; Vice President, Matt Davis; Sec., none other than Roy Smith; yours truly, still Publicity Director. A vote was taken and the Southern Jacobin Club will hold their meet in Oklahoma City and LeRoy (Bud) Traub will be our judge so watch for more details in the APJ.

Ok all you Jacobin breeders, we are having a Jacobin Special and the coordinator is Tom Flamino, Route 2, Box 454A, Staunton, VA 24401 and the deadline is March 1, 1986. Come on you Jacobin fanciers and get those letters, pictures of your loft, birds or whatever you decide is ok. Let's fill the pages in the APJ. The last few years we did have very good Jacobin Specials so let's all keep up the good work and this will help all the Jacobin Clubs and also will help the membership. The deadline is March 1, 1986.

P.S. Mike you're doing a great job with the APJ, keep up the good work, enjoy reading the APJ, always something new and different. Thanks, Mike. □



National English Trumpeter Club News

by EDDIE LUJAN,
Publicity Director
Las Vegas, N. Mex.

First off, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Eddie Lujan, I live in Las Vegas, N.M., and I am 36 years old. I've bred English Trumpeters for about ten years now and I have enjoyed every minute of these ten years that I've been involved in the fancy. I have held several offices within the National English Trumpeter Club structure since its inception in 1979.

This year, 1986, I was elected publicity director for the club. I just hope you enjoy reading the articles I will write. I haven't taken pen-in-hand since I was secy./treas., three or four years ago for the club.

New officers for the N.E.T.C. were installed in January of 1986. Those taking new offices were: secy./treas., Wes Shores; vice president, Dianne Baker; publicity director, Eddie Lujan; retaining his post as president was Larry Rose. Please send your dues for 1986 to Wes Shores at 414 Wise St., Clinton, OK 73601.

Everyone's breeding season should be in full swing by now. If your breeding season is a tad on the slow side check those cut muffs and cut vent feathers to make sure fertilization is taking place correctly. Also, check your breeding pens to make sure you're not too overcrowded. Overcrowding of your pens will cause trouble in more ways than one. If possible, give your birds added vitamins now that the task of producing new young is at hand. Keeping muffs and vent feathers cut back will insure better fertility for your trumps.

On a parting note: watch your nesting material, if you do not have sufficient nesting material, you may end up with spread leg youngsters.

Breeding season is off to a good start regarding English Trumpeters. If you live in the warmer climates of the United States, count yourself lucky in that you don't have to heat your lofts. Here in the Southwest we usually have mild winters, but on occasion the temperature will drop considerably. Every morning I go out to the lofts hoping to find my-youngsters alive and well and not stiff as ice cubes.

The English Trumpeter in general

is a good parent, but sometimes it can be lax when it comes to staying on young E.T. and keeping them warm through the cold nights. I have found that by placing a 40 watt light bulb over the sitting hen, not too close to cause discomfort to the bird, but close enough to keep the bird warm, the hen will usually sit on her young. If by chance she gets off for any reason, the heat generated by the light bulb will be sufficient to keep the youngsters alive. By the same token, if the hen gets off at night, she can find her way back to her youngsters since the light bulb illuminates the loft. The only drawback here is that your electric bill takes a hike up especially if you've got light bulbs strung out like a Christmas tree.

I have also found that good sitting feeders are good to keep around. I myself use homers. These birds sit tight and don't even move a muscle when I check youngsters. They make excellent feeders and are very reliable, especially in the cold months.

I take care of my feeders as well as my trumpeters, maybe even better for they play a very important role in my loft. I've bred these birds for their parenting ability exclusively. I cull out the bad feeders and retain the good ones. Last spring I had one pair sit out and hatch four eggs. They also fed out these four until weaning time. There are probably other breeds that will more than likely do the same. Your best plan of action would be to experiment and decide for yourself which would be the best alternative to take.

Again, if you do decide to use feeders, treat them with the utmost respect, feed them the best you can afford, medicate them when needed, and give them comfortable quarters. The rewards in doing this will pay off in dividends in the show room when you have a bigger selection of English Trumpeters to decide the makeup of your show string for 86.

Homers or any feeders for that fact I feel are a breeders right hand in producing healthier young plus add numbers to the amount of young produced by our E.T. Homers seem

to live forever! They do their job well and are usually dependable in raising young E.T.

As the months go by, I will try and cover other aspects of breeding, showing, feeding, conditioning, etc., as it pertains to the beautiful English Trumpeter. If you have any concerns that you would like aired via this column, just drop me a line at 20 Grand Ave., Las Vegas, NM 87701, or call at 1/505-454-0760. I would be glad to hear from you. This column could be used as a sounding board to benefit all breeders in general especially the E.T. fancier.

On a parting note: Check your E.T. periodically for any crud that may build up on or between their toes, you will be surprised at how you can forget to do this small chore.

Until next month, good breeding to all. If you would like me to cover any topic of concern to us all just write me a note or call me at: Eddie Lujan, 20 Grand Ave., Las Vegas, NM 87701, phone number (505) 454-0760.□

United Oriental Roller Assn. News

by JIM GREEN, Sec.,
Salt Lake City, Utah

We in the United Oriental Roller Assn., would like to take this time to give our sympathies to the family of Teddy Hull, a man who spent most of his life in promoting the Oriental Roller. He was the first recipient of the U.O.R.A. Master Breeder Award and a great showman of Oriental Rollers at the Pageant of Pigeons. It was everyone's goal to try to beat this man in the show ring and this feat was almost impossible. We will miss him very much and the show won't be the same without him.

The U.O.R.A. will hold a Teddy Hull Memorial Show in Salt Lake City, Utah, on Dec. 5-7, 1986, and all of you are invited to come and join in with us to pay our respects to a great breeder of Oriental Rollers. For more information on this show or any other club matter contact: Jim Green, 64 West 3400 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84115, 801-485-1749.

We have only a few club bands left so get your order in now. They are 15 cents each plus 50 cents postage.

It looks like a good year for the U.O.R.A. We are trying to put a booklet on Oriental Rollers and we need your input and information you can give us. We also need all the pictures you can give us. Send to Dave Camomile, 1265 Okley St., Salt Lake City, Utah 84116.

Let's hear from you.□

News From The United Roller Club Of America

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

I'll bet everybody thinks, just because I promised a report from Ron Torrence of Oregon last time, that you'd be reading same this time ... well, you're right! Other than Ed Emerson's well documented sweep of both National Young Bird Shows (United and Pensom Roller Clubs) and the combined Grand National Roller Show in Hammond, Indiana, there's not all that much new.

We here at Nine Pines Roller Loft, have gone mad and mated more pairs together earlier than we ever have in the preceeding 20 years. My boys want an early jump on their show stock and I'm hoping for just a bit earlier enjoyment of rolling in my young bird kits. I'm still flying a holdover kit when the weather permits and sometimes even when it hasn't. One Sunday morning a forecasted "late afternoon chance of a blizzard" came at about 10:45 a.m. or more exactly, 35 minutes after I released my kit. Upon release, the weather consisted of light breeze, intermittent mist rain, cloudy, and 38 degrees. By 11:45 the winds were gusting to 35 mph. and there was an inch of snow on the ground and more coming. My poor kit couldn't get down to land. When a couple would get on the roof, the wind, a flock of crows, and once a hawk scared them back up again. We took turns most of the day standing out in the yard calling after the kit with a florescent orange coat on (so they could tell us from all the white of the blowing snow). We finally got them down at a few minutes before 5:00 p.m. and still had to work to coax them through the trap, they were ready to just huddle there and freeze. But all did return safely. Before the day was out, the temperature fell to minus 6 and we got a little over 3 inches of snow. Ahh, the fun and games of flying Rollers in Iowa ... believe it or not I wouldn't give it up for anything!!

Now, let's hear from Ron Torrence. Ron's a good flying Roller-man, but also likes to keep a family of show rollers. Ron is currently the Secretary-Treasurer of the Pensom Roller Club. Ron served as one of the judges at the Hammond, Indiana, combined Grand National Roller Show in December of 1985. I give you Ron Torrence:

"Hi, Jim.

"After reading George Reeve's and Paul Vaughn's well written letters reflecting the events of their involvement in the Roller hobby, I am brave in attempting to put something together for your column in the

APJ.

"I am innocent in this madness men are driven by in cultivating, caring for and flying-exhibiting these birds we call Birmingham Rollers because I was born into them. My father had Rollers when I was born in Iowa some 40 yrs ago. He had other breeds of pigeons some of which would interest any young boy. But, because of their smaller size, their clean slick feathered appearance, their active personalities, beautiful coloration, and, of course their aerial abilities - I was drawn toward the Rollers.

"The first Rollers I remember were almonds and yellows. They were housed in the loft of our old barn and were allowed to fly at will. They used to sit on the roof of the barn when I would leave them alone long enough and at the command of a dirt clod would put on the amazing tumbling demonstration. My dad used to encourage me to avoid the dirt clods by threatening my life because each fly would leave several of these lovely birds lying in the dirt - rolldowns.

"Later we traded or sold the almonds and yellows and switched to birds of the Pensom colors. I later found out, when I understood what Pensom meant, that some of these birds were Pensoms.

"Most of the birds we had back then came from an interesting old gent in Des Moines by the name of Mike Yaro. Mike was an old man when I first started going to see him with my dad. His early birds were imported and he later brought in birds from J.L. Smith and Bob Evans I am told. Many of the Iowa breeders had birds from Mike. Mr. Yaro was generous with his stock especially to young enthusiasts.

"As I grew older our family moved into town and for lack of loft area all the birds had to go. I was away from the Rollers for several years and during this period I managed to survive the girl chasing, car racing, beer drinking and taking up issues with my dad.

"Finally, I met my wife, someone who could keep me home enough to realize I had an old chicken house behind our house and the wheels started turning. I remembered one of the truckers that worked with my dad coming to the house to look at the Rollers. I asked my dad about him and he directed me to John Shaffer of Des Moines. John gave me three or four pairs of Rollers and I was back at it. John and I spent a lot of time talking pigeons and his en-

thusiasm for the birds helped me to gain enough interest to launch a long time connection with Rollers.

"Still isolated from the show room, I maintained and flew a kit of Rollers for several years. By chance in 1974 I got wind of a pigeon show taking place close by so I thought I would check it out. Low and behold there were about .00 Rollers there. This was great! At this show I met Dave Trunnell. Dave was publicity director for the Iowa Roller Club and showed a string of Rollers that were slicker than any I had ever seen.

"Dave must have noticed that I had more than a passing interest in the birds. He cornered me at a show and questioned me about my birds. Dave encouraged me to get more involved with the birds. He stayed in touch with me the next year and educated me as to what the hobby had to offer. In other words, Dave hooked me good.

"Since then I have been very active in this hobby, spending more time and energy with the hobby than anything else. The hobby has been very rewarding to me. I have had some exciting moments both in my backyard watching my kits perform and in the show room but the most rewarding has been the many friends I've gained. I've traveled most of my adult life and I've never been in a area of this country where I couldn't open the club membership lists and find someone to enjoy the evening with sharing a common interest.

"I fly a kit each year and have almost every year since I first bred from the Shaffer birds. I also show birds across the country and have since Dave Trunnell convinced me it was the thing to do. I enjoy both facets of the hobby and have close friends in each.

"Had better cut this off before I out wind George. I truly enjoy what you are doing with your APJ column. I also have enjoyed your friendship these past few years. — Ron Torrence."

Thanks a bunch Ron! I hope you'll forgive me for taking so long to get your letter into this column. Ron's was the last report in answer to my questions I have available. So, dear reader, if you want this concept to continue, you must take the ball (or in this case a pen) and run with it. Just send your letter to me here at 2619 E. 46th Street, Davenport, IA 52807. Refer back to previous columns for the questions or just wing it - we'd all like to hear from you!

Until next time - Good Luck with the birds! Keep 'em Flying! □

American Pigeon Journal

The First Show Of The Central Short Face Tumbler Club A Huge Success

by WM. HETZEL, Pres., Peninsula, Ohio

Brand new club! First time at the National Young Bird Show for the Short Faces outside of the Rare Breed Section; first time turn-out of 71 beautiful Short Faces; and a record 5,300 plus total entry for the NYBS. Great job Rita Courtney and her staff. It's no wonder when this show is over, people are already anticipating October of the following year. As the T.V. commercial says: "fellas, it doesn't get any better than this."

The Short Face Club had exhibitors from all over: Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Indiana, Texas, Kentucky and Jim Zerbo from Florida. Jim won Champion Round Head English Short Face with #713, a beautiful young cock. Jutec Kasamon from Pittsburgh won Champion Square Head with #2097, a gorgeous young Budapest hen. A Stork hen I might add. Jutec's birds were simply outstanding and beautiful and I hope to take him up on his invitation to visit his loft. I won't list all the winners since I've included pictures to be printed with this article. I must apologize for the over all lack in quality, but this can be contributed to my severe case of NYBS fever at the time. To have 71 birds exhibited for the first show, I'm sure all of you agree, was a great turn-out. We urge any interested readers to join our club and exhibit with us at the NYBS next October.

We had our first club meeting which I was proud to chair, and allow me to provide some general details. Dues \$5.00 per year for Seniors, \$7.00 per year for husband and wife and \$3.00 per year for juniors (18 and under). It was decided to place an ad in the APJ (starting Dec. 85 issue) advertising our club under

"Tumblers" - look for it and join a great group of people - Alias "Pigeon Nuts". Club patches will become available in the near future. An ad will appear in next years' NYBS premium book -- thanks to our good member, Harry Carter. A publicity director will be elected next year. In the mean time, yours truly and our other officers will function in this capacity.

We plan on an All Age Show next year in addition to the NYBS. I suggested Fremont, Ohio, Jan. 1987. (Progressive, growing show 2,000 plus entries) as the first one only. But now some members feel January in general is too treacherous. Sid Earle, Pigmy Pouter Club Secretary, and C.A. Smith come all the way from Maryland along with fanciers from upper N.Y. state, Toronto, Canada, Michigan, Illinois and PA. -- So now, Hartford City, Indiana is being considered to the people that feel "we couldn't draw 20 entries at a Show in January". Hogwash -- Pigmy Pouters -- 200, Jacobin Meet in Fremont, 300-400. Ask Drew Lobenstein who came in from California.

By the way -- a big thank you to Wil Valentyn and Harold Strawniak for judging our meet. Wil has some of the most beautiful Reinaugens I've ever seen. Before I forget -- to join contact the driving force behind our club who by the way just put out a whale of a first bulletin -- our Secretary/Treasurer, Robert Harper, 608 E. Poplar Street, Scottsville, Ky. 42164. Phone (502) 237-3903.

Exhibitors list included: J. Kasamon, R. Harper, A. Knauer, W. Hetzel, C. Geralewski (Best Vienna), W. Hubbard (My crazy buddy from West Va.), J. Zerbo, J. Hannas, W. Valentyn, D. Lehner, R. Reszke, T.



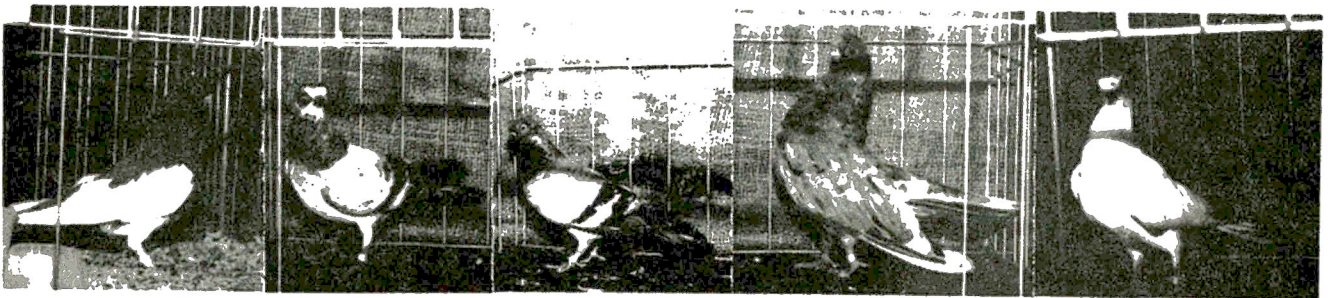
CHAMPION ENGLISH SHORT FACE

Jim Zerbo of Florida is shown holding his Champion Round Head English Short Face Young Cock, #713. — Photo from Wm. Hetzel, Peninsula, Pa.



CHAMPION BUDAPEST STORK

Jutec Kasamon of Pittsburgh, Pa., holding #2097 Champion Square Head Budapest Stork hen. — Photo from Wm. Hetzel, Peninsula, Ohio.



CHAMPIONS AND BEST OF BREEDS

These birds were Best of Breeds and Champions at the Central Shortface Tumbler Club's first show held at the National Young Bird Show, Louisville, Ky., 1985. From left to right: The first photo is Best Ancient, bred by Wil Valentyn. Second photo: #2002 Budapest, Champion Grizzle, bred by Jutec Kasamon. Third photo: Best Budapest Blue, #2010 Hen, bred by Jutec Kasamon. Fourth photo: Champion English Short Face bred by Jim Zerbo. Fifth photo is the Champion Stork Hen bred by Jutec Kasamon. — Photos from Wm. Hetzel, Peninsula, Ohio.



CHAMPION ENGLISH SHORTFACE

Jim Zerbo (left) receiving trophy from the Central Shortface Tumbler Club Secretary Bob Harper at the 1985 NYBS. — Photo from W. Hetzel, Peninsula, Pa.



CHAMPION REINAUGEN

Champion Reinaugen bred by Wil Valentyn. — Photo from Wm. Hetzel, Peninsula, Ohio.

Golka and W. English. We know all of you had a great time and look forward to next year's extravaganza. Breed represented: (To give your prospective members a better idea of breeds represented by our club) - Budapest (Stork, Grizzle and Blue), Vienna Short Face, English Short Face, Ancients (Plainhead and Crested), Reinaugen (Plainhead and Crested), Vienna Whitesides, Berliners, Hungarian Short Beakers, etc. The Empire Club's Book of Standards is also a great guideline. I would be great to have some of their great breeders at the NYBS next Oct. 1986. (Hint! Hint!)

Keep our secretary informed folks and who knows maybe our club will get a corner in the APJ for news someday soon. Should you care to contact me I'll include my address and phone number. Wm. Hetzel, 2061 Stine Rd., Peninsula, Ohio 44264, (216) 467-6649.

We look forward to 1986 NYBS and an entry of 100 plus. Great Show. Great facility, only one day. Keeps your pocketbook and birds healthy; what more could you ask for? □

National Birmingham Roller Club News



Dedicated to the preservation and further development of the Birmingham Roller in the air.

by W. CARL HARDESTY,
Public Relations Director
Rt. 2, Box 606, Lewisport, Ky. 42351
1-502-264-1690

11-10-85

Well we are about to get underway with another breeding and good weather flying season. I was really blessed this past winter or at least as of this writing, I have had little or no hawk problems this year. I have really enjoyed flying my kit birds and not having to worry about them being eaten.

At present I am flying about 44 birds in two kits. I really haven't had time to work both kits like I would like to but have been working the youngest kit the hardest. If the hawks stay away and no more overfls (had one small one and lost four out of my top kit), I should have a really nice holdover kit for the spring fls.

I just received my bands the other day and it is the second year in a row for colored bands and I am impressed. The NBRC is taking one giant step after another in becoming a better and better club. I think it is the best flying club around today. George Valiska, 7985 Cross Creek Dr., Glen Burnie, MD 21061, is our club Sec.-Treas., as well as Editor. He has done a great job of making the NBRC what it is today. If you would like to become a member of the NBRC family and receive our bulletin six times a year, buy plain or colored bands, join in fly contests, certified spinner programs, pedigree forms and loft patches then just send \$7.00 to George and join, that is all you need to do! As I started before with the special edition of answers from some of the leading fanciers in the hobby today here is the next part and followed by an article by yours truly.

Who would you single out as having a large impact on you in the roller sport?

John Castro ... I would have to say several gentlemen have. Joe Stayer for helping me get started back after leaving the hobby for a year and a half. He let me use his breeders for a round of youngsters. Frankie Reece who has shared much of his knowledge and breeders with me. Last but not least, Gilly Simmons, Don Simpson and Tony Roberts for being competitive and making me want to keep improving my stock so I would win some flying contests. Herb Sparks ... Bill Pensom. Tim

Payne ... Carl Hardesty. Don Simpson ... Harold Laboone taught me much about rollers in the beginning. Mr. Laboone was a renowned Pigmy Pouter breeder and judge, but kept other breeds also. He pounded into my head what a good performing roller should and feel like according to the early standard. Harold Laboone always had time for youngsters and usually had some birds for them also.

Ron Kumro ... Mr. Joe Houghton of Vancouver, Wn., on a personal level and Mr. Bill Pensom through his books and writings. Tony Roberts ... Don Simpson. Leo Armstrong ... besides this gentleman whose name was Rudy Lorenzin was Bill Anderson, both of Atlantic, Iowa and Frank Foy of Clinton, Iowa. Bill Anderson kept a large variety of birds besides rollers. Most oldtimers will remember Frank Foy's poultry and pigeon farm. Rick Schoening ... Hugo A. Blaas of Salt Lake City, Utah. John (Jack) Clark of Rockford, Ill., now deceased. My first pair came from Mr. Clark. Tony Dasaro ... Carl Hardesty - "hard core" - he has given me the drive to ascertain the best rollers. He also has been willing to share some of his good birds with me.

Roger Baker ... Mr. Russ Harter. He got me started in the roller fancy when I was 12 years old. And using his goal for my goals ... I stuck with it. Terry Rhodes ... Don and Donald Ouellette are two great roller men. Interested in the flying aspect of the roller sport. Paul Bradford ... many pigeon fanciers in Utah had an effect on me. Ray E. Gilbert, past president of the N.P.A., Dale L. Husband, Ted E. Smith and Wayne Myers had pigeons in the early 30's. Larry Hubbard ... Bill Pensom. Joe Stayer ... Dick Orr from Norfolk, VA. I correspond with him every other week because nobody lived near me within 150 miles. Carl Hardesty ... Anyone who has taken the time to set down and write an article. My favorite book was by Bill Pensom and others (a hard book to get today). I don't believe a lot of what I have read but it has given me a lot of food for thought. I have been learning from the birds themselves for years, they are the best teachers, they tell

you if what you are doing is right or wrong by their performance. "The bottom line"! Joe Houghton made the best statement for me when he said, "Simple things for simple people."

THE HOLDOVER KIT, HOW IMPORTANT IS IT?

by W. Carl Hardesty

In our local club, it has taken the sacrifice of some of the more established roller lofts in order to establish quality rollers for the club as a whole. While I still believe in the same basic concept I also have found it very disappointing for myself as a fancier. While others in the hobby have prospered it has been yours truly each year without a good holdover kit. Reason being they have gone into others lofts to establish their stock on solid ground.

There comes a time when you have to say no and put together what your goals has been all along — the best possible kit that can come out of your loft. I still continue to raise a few young birds for fanciers and even give eggs away, but I have said no to the holdover kit for purchase or loan of whatever. I guess the point is that I don't mind helping others but I also am in the hobby for the pleasure it brings. It is not much fun having out of state people come and see your young birds fly. Now by fall there is a real show going on but the best show is after the birds are over a year old and have been culled and selected to put up the best kit possible. Young birds can give a good account of themselves if they are indeed good spinners but the holdover kit should be dependable and in general, quality throughout.

The holdover kit, at least in my case, shows better controlled spinning. What I mean by that is that you shouldn't have much of what I call "oops I didn't mean to roll" then action. The holdover kit seems to work together better as a team and as if to say let's all spin NOW! I hope I didn't lose anybody then. It is only in the second year of flying that we can really say just what we think of a kit of birds.

I decided to put out one of my breed cocks the other day and fly him since he wasn't breeding for me then and as I had flown him before after being in individual breeding cages I just tossed him right up to the kit already in the air. Right up the cock went and started spinning as though he had been in the kit all along. He did come down a little early but put in a good fly and a good show. I don't like birds that have to be babied to get back in the kit safely, coming out, rolling down and so forth. A good holdover kit can

be locked up for a few days and still come out smokin! You shouldn't have to fly the holdover kit every day, they are mature birds. When company comes, the holdover kit is

ready to show just how good your birds are. I had to get a little mean and say no to several fanciers but hey, it's a hobby for me too, that's how important a holdover kit is!!□

American Oriental Frill Club News

by J.G. LISKA, New Canaan, Conn.

With the show season over for another year by now we should all be engrossed in our new breeding program. Hope it's a winner for you. The recent show season saw some good shows and some even better meetings. Show report from the WFOC indicates entries were down but believe that was true nationwide at most all shows. Champion Oriental went to Brick Eldredge with blue lace Sat. OC #3. Best Young Oriental Frill was a black lace Blond, hen #124 from the loft of Jack Forney. The Eastern meet in Baltimore had 117 Orientals entered. Champion was won by Joe Liska with a blue lace OC also #254 with Best Young Frill going to Tom Berich with a nice blue lace Blond #46. There were many other well deserving winners too numerous to list here. For more details I refer you to the various club show reports. On behalf of all the members allow me to congratulate all of the various winners. It's not easy sometimes even getting a class win at one of these meets, believe me I know. With the new Zone meeting concept we will need to insure we support the one in our Zone and guard against fractionating our shows too extensively. Seems our western group had shows in Salt Lake City, the Pageant, and Phoenix. You should show as often as possible but be sure to support the Zone meet. Only one show in a Zone qualifies as an AOFC meet. It is up to the Zone members to select their show site, and then see that they have a good turnout.

We had what I considered a good meeting in Baltimore. Do not have the figures handy but had a fairly good representation of members including Don Chevalier and Chuck McAlpin from Michigan and now AOFC member Martin Van Esch from Holland. Also present but not showing were "Mr. Frill" John Costa, Frank Pilitowski Sr. and Harold Taggart. Quite an array of Master Breeders. Martin promised to be back with us for the 50th Anniversary Show of the Eastern Oriental Frill Club in 1987. The minutes of the Mid Western Zone meeting were read and discussed. The proposed revised color Standard was discussed and the Secretary was requested to get a mail ballot out to all members

along with the minutes of the meeting covering our discussions. I can't stress enough the importance of all members casting their ballots of this issue. With a light balloting one or two votes either way may well decide this new Standard which will be with us henceforth. To focus attention on this issue and to illustrate what can occur some smart aleck entered a real black lace Sat. as a black white bar Satinette and it was judged accordingly. To insure the results of the balloting being above reproach we are having Henry Schmahl as the Teller.

Other items passed which will be covered in the Secretary's report were that for the present, the AOFC would supply three trophies or plaques to each of the three Zone meets. Additional awards would be offered by the host club. The meet sites would be selected by the Zone members and they would be responsible for supplying and compensating their own qualified judge. To obtain AOFC Master Breeder points the judge, to be qualified, must be a member in good standing of the AOFC. The official annual meeting of the AOFC will rotate between the Zones as has been the practice in the past.

We also were very pleased to bestow the honor by unanimous vote of Master Breeder upon Tracy Parks and Jay McGehee. It is quite unusual that two members would have achieved this prestigious award in the same year. This recognition represents many years of diligent breeding and successful showmanship. The collective hats of the Frill fancy are off to these two outstanding breeders. Congratulations gentlemen!

If you haven't already done so or if you have just sort of been thinking about it -- stop -- right now -- and send in that \$7.00 check to Hubie Rieth, 32 Reeds Road, Tinton Falls, N.J. 07724 and become a 1986 Frill Booster.□



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Join the Progressive
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the Pigeon Fancy". Quarterly
bulletins. Write
HUBERT RIETH, SEC.
32 Reeds Rd.
Tinton Falls, N.J. 07724

Eastern Hungarian Pigeon Club

by HERB SIMPSON, Pres., Monkton, Md.

It has been sometime since anyone has written about our beautiful show bird. If the APJ has space for us, we promise you, that we will have an article every few months.

Now to start with a little background on the Hungarian. It has been stated that they were first developed in Northern Austria, by crossing Florentines, Swallows, and the Kalpotia from India and later breeding some Kings and Maltese into them. There were other breeds, but not known by this writer. I will always be grateful to the developers of this magnificent pigeon.

I am proud to be the current President of the Eastern Hungarian Pigeon Club. My personal experience with the breed, dates back over 30 years. In the past, I've bred Kings, Racing Homers and Carneaux and this should give you enough background information to analyze my present prejudiced preference for the Hungarian.

At the present time we have 60 loyal members from 15 states and one from British Columbia. Many of our members reside in Maryland and we are well represented in Pennsylvania and Michigan.

On November 17, our 1985 Annual Winter Show was held in Boonsboro, MD. It was a big success with 142 Hungarians exhibited in 11 different colors. When Judge Meredith Kline finished his work, a Yearling Blue hen #5 was proclaimed as the Champion of Show. This beautiful bird was raised and exhibited by our past President Harry Bowser of Chambersburg, PA. The Champion Opposite Sex was a nice old Black Cock raised by Atlee Shifler of Boonsboro, MD. On this day he not only had the Champion Opposite Sex, but it was his 58th Wedding Anniversary. To highlight the show, there was a club presentation of an Orchid Bouquet to Atlee and Zella, the "Dean and Queen" of all Hungarian Breeders. This wonderful couple are charter members of our club, which was organized in 1948. He has been breeding Hungarians for almost 60 years now. He has served as President, Secretary and Treasurer and other offices for many years. He also received the Master Breeders award in 1967. I do not know how many Hungarians roost in Atlee's loft and I doubt if he has more than a good guess. The exact number I guess will never be determined, unless we challenge him. The only thing we can be sure of, that he is the biggest and most professional Hungarian breeder in the country.

I can assure you that the breed is thriving in the lofts of many devoted breeders. If you are curious about Hungarians, don't hesitate to drop our Secretary a line. His name and address is in the classified section of

Indiana Pigeon Club Winter Show

by Bev Hoover, Pub. Dir., New Castle, Ind.

Our Winter Show held November 30 was quite a show. We had 117 exhibitors with 1139 birds. The IPC Show pulls in people from all states around as it is centrally located in the Midwest. We even have people there not necessarily showing but sometimes they are looking for certain breeds of pigeons to buy. They may be looking for exhibitors with the breeds they are seeking out to maybe get into later on. We do have a nice room off from the show area just for the sale of pigeons and doves. There is a lot of good quality birds for sale at reasonable prices.

IPC Show is held in the Hartford City, Indiana, National Guard Armory on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Our club has had this date every year since it started and is one of the oldest clubs still going strong. We were the start of the NPA and later the SPA branched off and went their own way. IPC was the first Club that held the first NPA Show in Indianapolis. Later NPA branched off and that was when the IPC was formed in this state. At present this is our present club.

As to our show this year we had nine judging areas going all at once. There were five specialty clubs here such as Russian Tumblers, Indian Fantails, English Trumpeters, Helmets and of course, the Pouter and Cropper Club. Our club furnishes four judges -- one each for rollers, racing homers, modenas and fancies and utilities. That way our show is pretty well done by 4:00 p.m. so everybody can be on their way home in good time.

IPC does have a good location, good facilities in the armory and plenty of good parking. No steps to climb either.

Now to the show results as follows: Racing Homers (Show) -- Robert Larcher; Racing Homers (Flyers) -- Ray Troyer; Indian Fantails -- Rick Leimann; English Trumpeters -- Bob Baker; Russian Tumblers -- Mark Newby; Rollers -- Mark Booth; Fantails -- Wm. Warner; Jacobins -- Kevin Porter; Nuns -- Bill McKinley; Komorner Tumblers -- Robin Ash; Parlor Rollers -- Dusty Cramer; La-

the APJ.

Of particular interest to us is the identity of Hungarian breeders, who are not members of our club. We welcome applications for club membership and inquiries regarding our breed and club activities.

We'll be looking forward to hearing from you. You'll be hearing more from us! □

hovers -- Bob Green; Chinese Owls -- John Hoffman; Dragoons -- Tom Barnhart; English Carriers -- James Dayton; L.F.C.L. Tumblers -- Mike Mignery; Rare Breeds -- James Dayton; Frillbacks -- John F. Swascigroh; Muff Tumblers -- Travis Sheets; German Double Crested Trumpeters -- Kevin Hayes; Oriental Frills -- L.T. Brown; African Owl -- A.J. Gutilla; Champ. A.O.B., French Mondain -- Fred TerHaar; American Show Racers -- Wm. Taylor; German Beauty Homers -- Kay McElroy; Oriental Rollers -- Alan Smith; Kings -- L.T. Brown; Giant Homers -- Harold Maeach; Runts -- Kevin Hayes; Rumlbers -- Kevin Hayes; Modenas -- Alice Shonk; Champ. Pouter, Brunner -- Steve Shonk; Juniors -- Best Fancy, David Miller, Helmet; Junior -- Best Utility, Kevin Hayes, Kings; Junior -- Best Sporting, Connie Kaiser, Show Racing Homer.

IPC had a lot of Champions and wishing all of you a big congratulations to everyone. Also a big congratulations to all junior winners and also to junior exhibitors for showing. We had a nice turnout of juniors. Remember the juniors are our future in the hobby and they need a lot of encouragement.

We'll be back again September 27 with our all-breed Fall Show and then on November 29 with our all-breed winter show. See you then!! □

UNITED ROLLER CLUB OF AMERICA

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For Information Contact:

GERALD RUSSELL, Sec.-Treas.
R.D. 1, 22 Ithaca Rd.
Candor, New York 13743



FLORIDA FANTAIL CLUB MEMBERS

Florida Fantail Club Members, left to right, back row: Sandy and David Smith, Roy Winkles, Bob Roberts, Harry Little, John Wachtler and Jeff Bradford. Front row, left to right: Scott Saltee and Earl Clark. — Photo from Roland Racey, Orlando, Fla.

Florida Fantail Club News

by ROLAND RACEY, Orlando, Fla.

The Florida Fantail club held its annual show November 23, 1985, at the Ramada Inn in Ocala, Florida. Harry Little did a fine job of judging and we put Earl Clark to work as show coordinator. We had nine exhibitors and a total of 120 Fantails. Scott Saltee, Joe Collins and Roy Winkles were out of state breeders who made the trip and the club really appreciates their support.

Roy Winkles produced the show Champion white old cock 548 and Earl Clark had show reserve Champion with white old cock 287. Both of these birds were of equal quality and looked good from any angle. Best young bird went to Sandy and David Smith with a young white hen 452. David and Sandy are new to Fantail breeding and they are off to a great start. Their first smart move was to get breeding stock from Bob Roberts and that's a plus for club members because we have a good base of Fantail breeders who are willing to help anyone who wants to get started in Fantails. I acted as show secretary and did not show any of my birds but I did get a pair of stock birds from Earl Clark and that's another plus for a speciality club because it is there that you will find the best competition and best stock available. Bob Roberts made this club possible and now the club has some real workers as members and our future shows will show what teamwork can do.

I also would like to announce our club's first honorary member and that is Doug Boyce of Sarasota, Florida. At every Fantail gathering I am asked about Doug. I received a letter from Doug and now at the age of 94 he is no longer an active breeder but he likes to keep up on Fantail events. He would love to hear from any breeder. His address, E.D. Boyce, 8400 Vamo Road 506, Sarasota, Florida 33581.

To the Club members, thanks again for a great show and we may not be able to do it better next time but we

can strive to do it bigger. If you breed Fantails then join the Florida Fantail Club and enjoy the hobby with a dedicated club for your special interest. Have a great breeding season and write to me for Florida Fantail information.

Florida Fantail Clubs

1985 Annual Show Results

Show Champion, white old cock 548, Roy Winkles.

Show Reserve Champion, white old cock 287, Earl Clark.

Show Best Young Bird, white young hen 452, Sandy and David Smith.

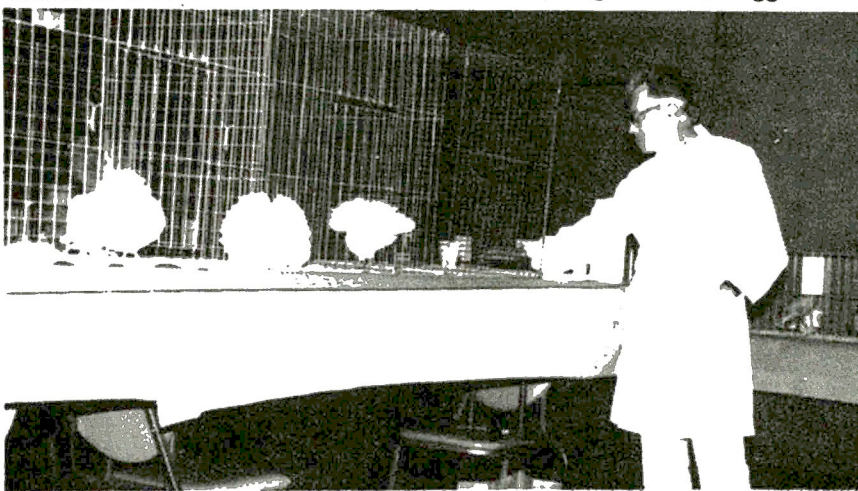
Champion white, old cock 548, Roy Winkles. Best White, old cock, 548 Winkles. Best White, old hen, 445, Clark. Best White, young cock 407, Roberts. Best White, young hen, 452, Smith.

Champion Black, old cock 405, Jeff Bradford. Best Black, old cock, 405, Bradford. Best Black, old hen 5701, Wachtler. Best Black, young cock 47, Bradford. Best Black, young hen 817, Roberts.

Champion Blue, young hen 842, Bob Roberts. Best Blue, old cock 158, Saltee. Best Blue, old hen 277, Saltee. Best Blue, young cock 131, Collins. Best Blue, young hen 842, Roberts.

Champion Powder Blue, old hen 240, Bob Roberts. Best Powder Blue, old cock 903, Saltee. Best Powder Blue, old hen 240, Roberts. Best Powder Blue, young cock 400, Roberts. Best Powder Blue, young hen 4, Saltee.

Best Silver, old cock 287, Roberts. Best Red, old hen 287, Bradford. Best Dun, old hen 4901, Wachtler. Best Grizzle, young cock 684, Wachtler. Best Mealy, young cock 459, Roberts. Best Blue Check, young hen 927, Hogg. Best Red Grizzle, young hen 986, Hogg. □



JUDGING FANTAILS

Harry Little judging Fantails at the 1985 Florida Fantail Club Annual Show. — Photo from Roland Racey, Orlando, Fla.

Rochester Pigeon Fanciers Assn. News

by JOHN BOWER, Pub. Dir., Hilton, N.Y.

The Rochester Pigeon Fanciers Assn., held their annual all-variety winter show on November 10, 1985 at the Monroe County Fairgrounds. The show was a great success, with over 40 exhibitors showing over 600 pigeons. Many thanks to the pigeon fanciers who travelled long distances to our show, as well as the exhibitors from local areas who made this year's show a great one.

Volunteers are the backbone of a well-run show, and we have some wonderful volunteers. To the kitchen staff consisting of Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Zimmer goes a hearty thank you for feeding a hungry crowd. To Mr. Bill Hart and Mr. Bob Burk - we did it again! These gentlemen, our show secretary and assistant show secretary respectively, worked diligently to make sure our show ran smoothly and efficiently. Mr. Hart also worked for many a night on the entries before the actual show, and sent out a top-notch show report after the show to members and exhibitors.

Champion and Reserve Champion in the following breeds were as follows: Champ. Fantail to Clark, Reserve to Bartlett; Champ. Schietti Modena to Kornacki, Reserve to Shott; Champ. and Reserve Gazzi Modena to Dion; Champ. Pigmy Pouter to Staveckis, Reserve to Schoeck; Champ. and Reserve Flying Tippler to Grimes; Champ. English Carrier to Curtis, Reserve to Bower; Champ. English Trumpeter to Wood, Reserve to Kornacki; Champ. Roller to Hellwig, Reserve to Gardner; Champ. Saddle Muffed Tumbler to Galek; Champ. Nun to Enders, Reserve to Woodworth; Champ. Helmet to Podufalski, Reserve to Burns; Champ. Jacobin to Burns, Reserve to Bower; Champ. and Reserve Komorner Tumbler to Conway; Champ. and Reserve L.F.C.L. Tumbler to Thompson; Champ. and Reserve L.F.C.L. Tumbler Bald to Thompson; Champ. Muffed Tumbler to Curtis, Reserve to Silvis; Champ. Chinese Owl to Piper, Reserve to Curtis; Champ. and Reserve Racing Homer to Woodworth; Champ. Indian Fantail to Woodworth, Reserve to Clark; Champ. and Reserve Antwerp to Bower; Champ. Parlor Tumbler to Zimmer, Reserve to Hellwig.

Champions in the following breeds were: Stargard Zitterhal to Schneller, Hungarian to Mark, African Owl to Curtis, Archangel to Curtis, Reverse-wing Pouter to Bower, Macedonia Turbit to Mikolevski, Satinette to Mikolevski, Voorburg Cropper to Schneller, Barb to Curtis, Berliner to

Schneller, Donek to Mikolevski, Damescene to Schneller, Frillback to Miller, Ice Pigeon to Digaspari, Monk to Digaspari, Moorehead to Curtis, Old Dutch Turbit to

Southern Ohio Pigeon Association 1985 Buckeye Classic

by ANTHONY WEST, Morrow, Ohio

The 1985 Buckeye Classic All Breeds Show was held in Hamilton, Ohio, on December 7, 1985. There were 40 exhibitors from three states, representing 38 different breeds.

Our judges this year were: Bob Booth for "All Breeds" and Mike Brown for the Homers. Both did a great job. "Thanks" guys. The Indian Fantail Club of America held their District 3 meet again with us this year. I.F.C.A. judge this year was Frank German. Frank is a former I.F.C.A. District Director and President.

At this time, I would like to say "Thanks" to everyone who helped on this show. Special thanks goes to Tom Barnhart for helping out on some judging at the last minute.

The Best Junior trophy was won by Connie Kaiser with a beautiful black Schietti Modena young hen. Best of show as a Flying Type Racing Homer owned by Ron Leckey. Best Fancy was a Red Check Dragon owned by Tom Barnhart. I have never seen any bird stand so perfect, so long. That Dragon stood like a rock! Best Utility was a Grizzle Giant Homer, also owned by Tom Barnhart.

Other Best of Breed winners were: Barb West, Jacobin; Bev Hoover, Norwich Cropper; James Dayton, English Pouter; Charles Horn, Reversewing Pouter; Anthony Gutilla, Brunner Pouter; Ray Hoover, Voorburg Shield Cropper; Leroy Weese, Pigmy Pouter; Best Pouter/Cropper, Ray Hoover's Voorburg; Tom Barnhart, Giant Homer; L.T. Brown, King;

William Brownfield, French Mondain; Leroy Weese, Runt; Barb West, English Trumpeter; George Roose, Gazzi Modena; Connie Kaiser, Schietti Modena; Connie Kaiser, Best Over All Modena; Steve West, Russian Tumbler; Leroy Weese, Flying Roller; Micky Adams, Show Roller; James Dayton, English Carrier; Anthony Gutilla, African Owl; Charles Horn, M/F Helmet;

Alan Smith, Oriental Roller; Anthony West, Blondinette Oriental Frill; Steve West, Satinette Oriental Frill; Loralie Denlinger, Fantail;

Schneller, Saxon Spot to Digaspari, Suabian to Piper, Capuchine to Curtis, Champ. Rare breed to Digaspari, Reserve to Schneller.

Our club would like to extend a special thanks to the judges, Bill Athey, Stanley Wood and Bill Hart. We hope you all had a good time and that we will see you next year. □

Jerry Kaiser, American Show Racer; William Washington, Flying Tippler; Best Rare Breed, Art West, Budapest Tumbler; Best Jr. Rare Breed, Travis Kaiser, German Beauty Homer; Art West, Schmalkaldenen Moorhead; George Parsley, Danzig Highflyer; Anthony West, Old Dutch Capuchine;

William Washington, Polish L.F.; Art West, Bernburg Trumpeter; Charles Horn, Archangel; Sherry Shartle, Frillback; Sherry Shartle, Magpie; Dusty Cramer, Parlor Roller, 40 ft., 8 in.

In the Homer Section, awards went like this:

Champion Show Type, Paula McDougal; Best O.C., Anthony Gutilla; Best O.H., Ron Leckey; Best Y.C., Paula McDougal; Best Y.H., Paula McDougal.

In the I.F.C.A. District 3 Meet, there were 75 exceptional Indians shown. Champion went to a beautiful Saddle owned by Dana Anderson. Best A.O.C. was won by Cheryl Smith. The following classes were all won by Rick Leimann: Best White, Best Black, Best Opposite Sex, Black and Best Silver. Reserve Champion Indian was Rick's White.

We had our regular raffle for feed, feeders, nest bowls, etc. Our 50/50 money raffle went over big again with the winner going to William Brownfield.

Again "Thanks" to everyone who made this year's Buckeye Classic bigger and better than ever. □



North Central Pigeon Club News

by JOE HERTZLER, Elkhart, Ind.

Our annual pigeon show was a success due to the teamwork and commitment of club members. The rainy, wintery day did not seem to dampen the spirits of the participants although we were certainly pleased with the space and conveniences of the fairground building we rented in Goshen, Indiana, for the occasion.

Organizing and setting up the show cages went smoothly under the supervision of our president Mike Mignery. Thanks also to Ray Hoover for providing the extra show cages needed. Hourly raffles created a festive atmosphere. The lucky

winners (I was not one) received a variety of prizes such as: pigeon feed and grit, bluebird houses, wild bird feeders, pigeons and a handcrafted rack for pigeon bands.

Show entries came from three states: Michigan, Illinois and of course, Indiana. We divided the show into three sections: homers, rollers and all breeds with judges Bill Taylor, Mike Anderson and John Rice respectively.

Murray Strawder from Michigan almost decided to stay home because of four inches of new snow. He came anyway and won best of show with American Show Racer 8-YC. Ray Hoover won show reserve with Voorburg Shield 398-OH. George Compton won best overall Roller champion with 1827-YC. Mike Mignery received best tumbler with Clean-leg Tumbler with 223.

The other champions were: Bill Taylor, Flying Roller 628-YC; Stephen Zimmerman, Show Racer 347-OH; Ray Troyer, Flying Racing Homer 1425; Beve Hoover, Norwich Cropper 547-YH; Kevin Porter, Fan-

tail 523-OH and Jacobin 810-YC; Kurt Kuiper, Modena 818-OC; Gary Goodman, English Trumpeter 871-OC; Russell Porter, Indian Fantail 794-YC and John Rice, Muff Tumbler 607-OH.

Congratulations to all winners and those who were runner-ups. It isn't too soon to begin to prepare for next year's show. □

Metro Pigeon Club News

by ELMER F.T. UHRICH,
National City, Calif.

The Metro Pigeon Club held its first show of the year Sunday, January 5, 1986 with a very beautiful day. No doubt, this was the largest January show we have ever had. There were a total of 166 birds entered with 88 West of Englands. Joe Colesanti, our main judge for the West of England breeds, had his hands full. Many outstanding Wests entered really in fine feather and best of condition this time of year in this cooler weather. There was a champion judged for each class of the breed. Don Martin won the Champion to go on the perpetual trophy for the month of January. A beautiful cream bar young hen. Don Martin also won Champion young cock. Pete Engle won the trophies with the champion old hen and the champion old cock both red and white mottles.

Miscellaneous breeds with 28 birds, this trophy was won by a cropper owned by James Warren. The judging was done by Bill Crochietiere and Edward Smith. Stanley Gentz won a trophy with a champion Runt. Richard Gentz judged the Birmingham Rollers.

Don Klatt took care of the raffle, which went the highest ever. The four bags of feed were won by the following names: Calvin Perez, John Oakes, Robert Hays and Esteban Medal. A pair of Modenas donated by Brent Croxford won by Richard Smith.

Many pigeon fanciers came from far and near. They had a wonderful afternoon visiting. The weather was beautiful. Stanley Gentz, with many cool drinks in the Clubs deep cooler, ran out again. The crowds keep turning up and the cool drinks really help the visiting along.

Three more members joined the club today. Congratulations to the following names: James Warren, Larry McKinney, Seniors, and Mariano Medal, a junior. A total of 32 paid up members for 1986 at this time. □



BEST TUMBLER OF SHOW

This Black Self OC Clean Leg Tumbler, #223, was Best Clean Leg Tumbler and Best Tumbler of Show at the North Central Pigeon Club Annual Pigeon Show. — Bred and owned by Mike Mignery.



MIKE MIGNERY

Mike Mignery, President of the North Central Pigeon Club.



BEST MODENA

This OC Modena, #818, was Best Modena at the North Central Pigeon Club Annual Pigeon Show. — Bred and owned by Kurt Kuiper.



BEST ROLLER

This YC Roller, #1827, was Best Overall Roller Champion at the North Central Pigeon Club Annual Show. — Bred and owned by George Compton.

Central Oriental Frill Club News

by DALE A. JETT, Pub. Dir., Litchfield, Ill.

A warm hello to "all" Frill fanciers. Thought you would like to know a few things that are happening in the Frill world.

Looks like 1986 is going to be a busy year for the Central Oriental Frill Club. After a little retrogression in 1985, we are well on our way to a progressive year.

Just a little reminder, the C.O.F.C. is sitting in the middle of the frill country, and we serve east, west, north, and south. We do not limit our membership just to one region. Everyone is welcome to join, and share in the fun of breeding and exhibiting the "Flower of the Fancy," the beautiful Oriental Frill. Anyone wishing to join: please contact our sec.-treas., Henry Schmahl, 931 S. Lexington, Springmill Rd., Mansfield, Ohio 44903. Dues are \$10.00.

The passwords this year will be dedication and recognition. The C.O.F.C. will proudly sponsor the 1986 N.Y.B.S., "Grant Daniels Classic." Yes, that's right Grant, we are dedicating the young bird frill show to be held in your honor.

Grant has been one of the founding fathers and true building blocks of the C.O.F.C. The C.O.F.C. in the infancy of 1963 would not have survived if it had not been for the dedicated spirit of Grant Daniels and other frill fanciers like him.

We all know that no one person builds and holds a club together, but Grant has served the club faithfully as past President, Vice President, and Sec.-Treas., and has applied his expert judging abilities on many occasions.

Grant has enjoyed a climb to the top of the C.O.F.C. and remains a highly respected authority on the Oriental Frill. Grant has shown his preference for the beautiful blondinette, and has specialized in the red and yellow colors. And just to prove his dedication, last years C.O.F.C. annual meet in Atlanta, Georgia, was won by a well balanced and powerful red blond cock. Congratulations on that champion, Grant, belated as they may be. After 23 years, and still on top. Hats off! More about the "Grant Daniels Classic" later.

In November, had the pleasure of attending the Great Lakes Turbit, Frill, and Owl Club Show held in conjunction with the A.O.F.C. Central District Meet in Chicago. 128 high quality frills shown.

Champion Frill and Best Old Cock went to Jay McGehee. Jay also won Best Young Frill Cock. Best Old Hen

went to Dale Jett, and Best Young Frill Hen went to Chuck McCalpin.

Henry Schmahl performed his usual magic with the Satinettes, accompanied by Dave Forsberg who expertly placed the Blondinette Class.

Don Chevalier even got in the act on two tie breaker discussions. Hadn't seen Don for quite sometime, since the old Central Frill Club days. The years have been kind to Don, as Don and his Blondinettes still looked fantastic. Also got to meet Jay McGehee from Tulsa, Oklahoma. I met Jay several years ago, he dropped by one day while enroute visiting fellow frill breeders. I was quite impressed with the shoe box of baby frills Jay had with him. Beautiful little box beak squeakers, that Jay was hand feeding, "now that's dedication."

It must have all paid off, because Jay picked up enough Master Breeder Points in Chicago to qualify for an A.O.F.C. M.B. Certificate.

American Dove Assn. News

by GEORGE SCHUTT, Madison, Tenn.

This is the last call for membership dues. Not the last call to join. You can join anytime of the year that you want to. Time is running out to get your name in the breeders directory. Our Secretary should be getting it in order to go to the printers. So if you have not mailed your dues, you need to do it now. I know it's easy to forget, I do this myself. You start to do it, then put it off, and forget. Also you need to get your bands ordered for 1986.

I have been in contact with several members of Doves of Texas. Looks like they have a good program going. They joined in with the National at Houston with a nice Dove display. Roger Baker went down and judged the show. Roger always does a good job judging.

John Pire has been doing a research of color mutations of Diamond Doves. He sent me a list of which I will include.

UPDATE: COLOR MUTATIONS OF DIAMOND DOVES

Normal Blue - original wild type. Blue-gray dove. Dominate to most other color mutations.

Silver - a dilute silvery gray coloration. Recessive to normal blue diamonds.

Brilliant - often called white, young are white but develop gray cast when older. Lighter than silver, recessive trait

Blue White-Tail - white lower

Congratulations Jay!

And I take pride in welcoming Jay into the C.O.F.C. as a new member.

After the show we had a lively meeting with vice-president, Jay McGehee, presiding. Many things were discussed, among them, a future Oriental Frill Special with the A.P.J. It seems our last one was in November 1975. Now is the time, my fellow fanciers, to start thinking about an Oriental Frill Special promoting the "Gem of the Orient."

This will take a special effort on the part of all O. Frill Fanciers nationwide, but something we are all looking forward to I'm sure.

It seems there are always frill breeders out there just sitting on a mountain of information and knowledge that could be of tremendous help to the young novice and the old pro alike.

A special always has something for everyone. Let's face it, an Oriental Frill Special will build great influence for the O. Frill, and bring with it an influx of new frill breeders. All for now.

Remember, be a Frill Special Booster! □

back, rump and tail, wing diamond spots 3x larger. Dominate to blue and silver. One bird needed to reproduce this color mutation.

Silver White-Tail - head and breast are white; shoulders show some silver color. Dominate to silver diamonds.

Rufous [Cinnamon] - the red diamond dove. Lighter than normal blue; darker than silver, with a obvious but irregular rusty red/brown coloration on back, wings, rump and tail. Recessive to blue and silver. Young in the nest similar in coloration to the fawn zebra finch.

Yellow - not a canary yellow, but a distinctly different shade of cream-buff coloration throughout the body. Sexually dimorphic. Males retain blue cast to head and breast, females are cream-buff colored. Recessive to other colors; genetics still uncertain.

Blue-Big Spot - nice size diamond dove/typical wild type coloration. Prominent feature is the unusually large wing spots. Several times the size of normal diamond wing spots.

Blue White Tail - no dark feathers in the tail.

Blue White Rump - possible dark feathers or coloring in the tail feathers.

Silver White Tail - no dark feathers or coloring in the tail feathers.

Silver White Rump - possible dark feathers or coloring in the tail feathers. □

American Pigeon Journal

King Comments

by PEGGY HORN,
Fort Worth, Texas
Publicity Director
American King Club

The big news this month concerns our trip to Denmark. We returned home on December 22 after a very tiring and frustrating flight from Copenhagen. The flight over was just fine, but the return evidently caught up with the Christmas rush and winter weather and the flight leaving Copenhagen for London was late and in New York we were forced to lay over an extra night in New York City. We arrived home Sunday afternoon (17 hours late), but even the frustrations of the flight home could not dim the memories of a wonderful trip and our gracious hosts. After a few days of getting the jet lag out of our systems, we were back in the rush of Christmas and catching up with the adventures of our Cowboys.

Show Statistics

Denmark is an amazing little country and could be compared with one of our smaller states in total area. It has a population of over 4,000,000 people and Copenhagen is a large, beautiful metropolis of 1,500,000. The pigeon fanciers are all over the islands, but many of them are concentrated around the city of Herning where the exposition was held.

The name of the show was Europaskue, and it is similar to our National Pigeon Association Grand National Show in that it is rotated from city to city. In the case of Europaskue it is held in West Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark and France. I'm not sure but it might also go to Italy. In addition to the pigeons, the show features chickens and rabbits. The total entry of all three was 19,000, and the number of people viewing the beautiful exhibits over a three day period must have been in excess of 30,000. Each day thousands milled around the aisles just looking at the rare and beautiful rabbits, pigeons and chickens. The exhibits were all housed in an enormous complex of buildings all connected and very similar to our better convention centers. The complex was well lighted, heated, tastefully decorated with Viking ships full of Poinsettias (the Danish call them the Christmas Flower), plenty of rest rooms, eating facilities and meeting rooms. The pigeon show totaled 8,000 exhibits and were housed in four separate buildings. They were all decorated

with flowers and Christmas trees with the tables holding the exhibition coops covered with a white material that draped to the floor. There were no carrying coops visible anywhere and the place was spotlessly clean at all times. The aisles were wide and none of the pigeons were double decked. The show committee used a course sand from Denmark's beaches in the exhibition coops instead of sawdust, and it makes for a much cleaner exhibit. All in all the show was very professional, and it was evident that their people go to greater lengths to present their hobby in a very pleasing manner. It seems that our shows are for the exhibitors while theirs is for the public. They charged an admission price of around \$7.00 per person and with the huge crowds they have a lot of money to return to the treasury.

Modenas and King Popular

The most popular of the breeds exhibited was the Modena with 460 entries followed by the Strassers with 366. Of course the Modenas are usually the most popular in our country, also, but the Strasser is relatively unknown in this country. The Kings were a close third with 365 entries while the other American utility breeds did not make a good showing and evidently are not too popular with our European friends.

The Carneau totaled just eight birds while the Mondains had 10, the Giant Homers numbered 16 and the Texans had seven. Other European breeds that are popular are the Coburg Larks with an entry of 221, the Luchodue - 295, Tysk Modeneser - 266 and Dansk Enstarvede - 242. In all there were over 190 breeds and most of them were unknown to me.

The German Toy breeds were numerous and the colors were just beautiful. In fact, color seems to be more important than type or station in most European popular breeds.

Judging the Kings

All of the judges for all breeds met on Tuesday evening for a detailed explanation of the score card method of judging. This is the method that is used on the pigeons as well as the rabbits and chickens. The judging of the pigeons officially began on Wednesday the 11th, and Doc and Fred began around 9 a.m. Herluf Pedersen asked if I would serve as Secretary to Doc while he judged and he assisted Labati in the same capacity. All Kings were taken out of the coops and carefully examined on all points of the standard. After the examination was completed, each King was given a point assignment on the score cards. All faults were carefully listed on the same card so that the exhibitor would know why his bird was cut. Those Kings scoring 96 points were awarded the European gold medal. The birds are not judged against each other, and it is possible for several birds to be awarded this honor. The awarding of 95 points is good enough for a silver medal. This method of judging is much slower than the American system, and it is difficult to judge over 100 Kings a day. While the judging is in progress, no exhibitors are allowed in the showroom. The judging was all finished on Thursday afternoon around 5 p.m., and the exhibitors could view the results of the judging on Friday morning.

Opening of the Show

(Continued On Next Page)



WORKING AT THE EUROPASKE SHOW

At work in Herning, Denmark, at the Europaske Show are (l.-r.): Fred Labati, Frede Jensen, Dr. Jack Horn and Herluf Pedersen. — Photo from Peggy Horn, Fort Worth, Texas.

The show officially opened on Friday morning at 10 a.m. with a very impressive ceremony. Prince Henrik was scheduled to open the show but was unable to attend. The mayor of Herning and officials of the Europaskue conducted the ceremonies which featured the presentation of flags of all the participating nations. A fanfare of horns used by the early vikings some 1,000 years previously, ushered in the presentation of each flag. The opening ceremonies were over around 11 a.m., and the crowd dispersed to the show rooms to view the 19,000 exhibits and look for the 96 point entries.

For the next three days the aisles were crowded with visitors and exhibitors. The judges were called on frequently to explain their remarks on the score cards and to show these faults on the birds. Many of the breeders were confused on the standard, and this opportunity to show the faults is an excellent method of teaching. It was evident that the Danish exhibitors had a lot of respect for Doc and Fred as they both are master breeders and master judges with a combined experience of 74 years in the King hobby.

King Hobby in Denmark

The King pigeon was introduced into Denmark around 20 years ago and has attained universal popularity during the last decade. The Danish King Club is about 20 years old and today has over 200 members. They meet regularly and host two or three shows each year. The Club published a bulletin similar to our sectional club bulletins. The President for the past ten years is Herluf Pedersen. Herluf has been the dominant figure

in the growth of the club and the popularity of the breed. He is a school teacher by profession and is a skilled breeder and a knowledgeable judge. We visited in his home and observed his excellent Kings and beautiful loft. In fact, all of the Danish breeders take pride in their lofts and construct them similar to their homes. They have good breeding stock and the Blue, Silvers and Blacks are very close to ours. The Whites are not as good as the American Whites but have some good breeding stock imported in the past two years.

Judges and Exhibitors Dinners

The Danish Pigeon Club really loves to have banquets and meetings, and we attended two while in Herning. After the judging was finished on Thursday evening at 5 p.m. the judges met at 6:30 p.m. for dinner and a get acquainted party. There were a total of 152 judges and they came from all over Europe.

We enjoyed talking Kings with the German judges but had a difficult time finding interpreters. Most of the Danish fanciers spoke good English, and we had very little trouble communicating with them.

On Saturday evening there was the party for the exhibitors, and it was attended by 2,000 people in two large halls. The food was served buffet style and was a typical delicious Danish meal. Later in the evening we all danced to two different bands - a rock band in one hall and a German Polka Band dressed in Bavarian costumes in the other. It was strange to be 6,000 miles from home, yet hear music very similar to our music and to see



IT'S A SMALL WORLD

Who should we run into at the Europaski Show in Denmark but NPA District Director Terry Cockrum of Hapeville, Ga. (right) with his Danish Modena friend on the left and Peggy Horn in the middle.

people dance in about the same fashion. The more you travel, the more you realize that people are really about the same all over the world.

Our Danish Friends

The Danish people are wonderful hosts and go to great lengths to entertain you. We were overnight guests in three homes and were the guest of honor at four dinner parties.

Herluf Pedersen and Chris Kjeldgaard met our flight in Karup, Denmark and took us to the Kjeldgaard's lovely home overlooking a beautiful lake. We met Chris' beautiful wife, Connie and two sons - Fleming, 17 years old and Michael who is 21. Pedersen's wife Ase was also there and is one of the most charming persons. Connie had prepared a wonderful Danish luncheon for us, and it was quite an experience to have so quickly all of the Danish delicacies. It was only a day or so that Chris began saying, "You do it this way or you eat it like this!" Their customs were very different, but we were beginners and willing to learn and every experience was pleasant. We stayed with Chris and Connie until Tuesday which gave us plenty of time to look at the loft and birds. Chris has a very nice loft and has imported some good breeding stock from America. His favorite color in Kings is Black and has the best in Denmark. Chris is a member of the Black King Club for two years now. His Blacks compare favorably with the better Blacks at the BKC Classic in Highland, and Fred awarded the gold medal to Chris' young Black cock by scoring him 96 points.

While at the Kjeldgaards, Connie took off from work to show us around and we had nice shopping trips in Herning and saw some unusual art museums.



CHRISTMAS DINNER IN DENMARK

A Christmas Yule Dinner Party in Holstebro, Denmark, at the home of Herluf Pedersen. Seated on left: Dr. Jack Horn and Sv. E. Bruun. Standing, l.-r.: Fred Labati, Gitte Pedersen, Connie Nielsen, Chris Kjeldgaard, Doreta Pedersen, Age Pedersen, Herluf Pedersen, Erick Kristensen and Ase Pedersen. — Photo by Peggy Horn, Fort Worth, Texas.

On Tuesday we were taken to Herning to stay at the Corona Hotel during the judging of the show. All of the judges stayed in this same hotel, and it was a real pleasure to meet them and have a personal visit with Eric Mueller of Frankfort, Germany, who has visited in the good old U.S.A., as guest of Rip Schroeder. We met up with Fred here at the Corona and took in the city of Herning that evening by celebrating over dinner and wine. We always have so much fun with our wonderful friend, Fred!

We returned to Chris and Connie's on Thursday evening following the judges special dinner party and was entertained by them until Sunday evening. They kept us busy. Fred went home again with Herluf where we met again the next evening for a Yule Dinner Party prepared by Ase and Herluf and their precious 16 year old daughter, Gitte. This little blue-eyed blond captured our hearts. The dinner was superb - truly Danish yule holiday meal with ten courses. By this time we were eating the pickled herring, pate, etc., like native Danes and loving it! The Pedersens presented their American friends with gifts of royal crown porcelain which were just beautiful, and we shall always treasure them. Saturday we were back at the show during the day. It was the first time we had had the opportunity to take in the rabbits and chickens so took advantage of that. What a show that was!

Sunday was the last day of the show and the Danish King Club Meeting. I was a little under the weather and stayed home with Connie. I was not aware that all of the presentations were to be made at this meeting and missed all of the kind words directed toward Fred,

Doc and me. We were presented gold medals and gifts of beer mugs engraved in gold commemorating the Europaske Show. Doc and Fred were presented beautiful medallions for attending to their judging assignments. The following is a copy of the speech which Herluf Pedersen made at the presentation. I shall print it as he wrote it because his English translation is so sincere and warm as is his personality:

All the present members of D.K.C. know, that our Kings has been judged by two real capacities here at this European pigeon show.

In the native country-the home land-of the Kings I know that both of you are recognised as some of the finest judges Amerika ever had. Mr. Horn and Mr. Labati: I want to say thank to you-thank you very much for comming to Denmark to judges our Kings - and thank you very much for well done job.

It was a great experience to see, how you judged the Kings - and I do say that Torben M. and I were glad to see with what security both of you did the job.

Mr. Labati - Mr. Horn you are good ambassadors both for the A.K.C. and for your country, U.S.A.

And Peggy Horn: Before you came to Denmark, I knew a lot about you. I knew that you are a real King-fancier, that you have done a great job both for the A.K.C. and Black King Club. You publish some fine bulletins and for many years you always help all you can at the King shows in America.

Mrs. Horn: We all like you very much and we are all glad to see you here in Denmark. Mrs. Horn, Mr. Horn and Mrs. Labati: As an indication on our satisfaction I want to honour you as we do with our best Kings: We give a goldmedal to this

birds. As a greating from D.K.C. for a well done job I want to give you a goldmedal - and another little present.

There was a real treat in store for us on Sunday evening as we met the Pedersens' again and attended a Christmas concert at Fleming's church where he sings in the boys choir. It was a beautiful service in this 100 year old Protestant church. Fleming has been singing with the choir since he was eight years old. Following the service we went back to the Kjeldgaards for a Christmas party and was served hot Danish punch with a small roll you dipped in perserves and powdered sugar. They tasted a lot like our potatoe cakes and were delicious. The party ended with Danish coffee and Christmas cookies and we said goodbye to these friends whom we had been with for a week. We went home with Herluf, Ase and Gitte in Holstebro, Denmark and Fred stayed on with the Kjeldgaards. The Pedersens have a lovely three bedroom home and it was very pleasant to be in their home, see pictures of all of their family and talk about the United States. They are so eager to -know more about our country as we were to learn of theirs. While Herluf was at his school teaching and Gitte learning, Ase, Doc and I took in the quaint and lovely city of Holstebro. I just loved this city surrounded by the lakes with the old and new blending together. We met Herluf and Gitte in the city mall as we were buying some marble and brass lamps to take home to our family and friends. We drove around looking at all the special places and returned home to a Danish cake and coffee at 4 p.m. These people eat every three hours, yet we never saw one - not one - overweight person! I just knew I would weigh ten pounds more when we got home, but I didn't. Must be the diet!

Time passed too quickly at the Pedersen's and we bid farewell to Ase and Gitte with tears streaming down the pretty face of this 16 year old and watched her wave goodbye as far as she could see us. We were enroute for the Seminar in Herning with the Club. There were 23 members present to hear Doc and Fred explain the American Standard of Perfection (of which the club has adopted) and make remarks on birds brought to the meeting. Doc's interpreter was a delightful young man named Claus Johansen who lived on the far east side of Jutland. Claus did a good job of interpretation as he spoke English fluently. After a very



DANISH FANCIERS

A group of Danish fanciers with Fred Labati in the showroom. — Photo from Peggy Horn, Fort Worth, Texas.

(Continued On Next Page)

warm reception to the meeting we left with Claus to his home in Ebeltoft close to the sea. Here we met his pretty young wife and eighteen month old baby.

We were up early to look at Claus' newly constructed loft and to go over his Blues and Silvers. He, also, has some very fine colored birds as do several of the Danish breeders. After a typical Danish breakfast we were off to the seaport to take the ferry that goes across to Saeland. This was a very delightful trip of two hours. Since Claus was an executive of the ferry company, we were able to go in and meet the captain of the ship and watch them operate the very large ship. While crossing we dined in the spacious dining room on delicate seafoods including caviar and the likes. These people do know how to eat! After docking in Saeland we journeyed to Soro through the beautiful farm country where we spent the afternoon and evening as guests of Age and Dorete Pedersen. Their home was a 200 year old farm house with a thatch roof and we just charming. Their daughter-in-law and son was there with their two children and by having Age's lovely Secretary, Dorete Poulsen, to interpret, we had a wonderful conversation over coffee and Christmas cookies again. We spent over two hours looking at Age's good white Kings which are from John Schroeder's bloodlines. That evening dinner was served for us and Danish friends and we had to leave too soon for the Seminar to be held in Soro for the fanciers in Saeland. This seminar had 32 breeders present and a good friend of Mr. Pedersen's by the name of Bjorn Sonderstrup who served as the interpreter. Bjorn had had considerable experience in the export business of Ostermann's dealing with the United Nations and was an expert. After the meeting we said goodbye to all of our Danish friends and Bjorn took us to Copenhagen where we spent the last four days in Denmark.

This trip to Denmark was very rewarding in that we saw a beautiful little country and met some wonderful people. We were treated with love and affection everywhere we went. We shall always treasure the friendships which we made and shall always remember the good times. We look forward at a future date of returning to Denmark in their Summer months where we can enjoy the Scandinavian countryside in all of its beauty.

Next month we will have the highlights of the National Show in Houston and the show results. In the meantime if you have not sent your

1986 dues in to Stu for your AKC membership, please do so now. You certainly will not want to miss the next edition of the AKC Bulletin which will contain all of the district and national show results. Send your dues of \$10.00 to: Stu Austin, Secretary AKC, 7671 E. Wood Dr., Scottsdale, AZ 85260.

Happy New Year to each of you! □



This month's column is devoted to Al Grace, who passed away at Christmas time. Al was the man who brought the Marked Muffed Tumbler Association into Modern times, by his tireless efforts in promoting Marked Muffs.

I first met Al in the mid-60's and through the years we have stayed in touch. He was the man who unleashed my writing upon the Muffed Tumbler Fancy.

In one letter to Al several years ago, I mentioned the M.M.T.A. and asked how he was coming along with its reorganization. I told him that I was not interested in joining another club, but I would help him with his column in the APJ once in a while. In his return letter, he asked me to write a column for him, which I did. The following letter from Al said thank you for the column and you only have a few more days to get your next one into the APJ. I've been writing ever since.

I salute Al and the work that he has done to promote our hobby.

On a brighter note, we have started a new year. Let us all make a few resolutions to promote our favorite pigeon, the Muffed Tumbler, throughout the year. Everyone should try to bring a new person into our hobby and plan to show more Muffs. On top of the two mentioned resolutions, everyone should plan to write at least one letter to your club secretary and of course to me, to use in this column. Come on Muffed Tumbler Breeders, we need your help if you want to continue to receive your bulletins and be able to read this column.

When you do write, please do not expect immediate answers to your letters. You all know how hard it is to write that one letter, now put yourself in our place. Besides writing for our bulletins and column, we

answer letters and have to take care of our personal lives.

I try to answer every letter that I receive, but it may take me some time to get to them all.

Unfortunately, I missed the Baltimore National Championship Tumbler Show. At the time the entries were due, we were not sure that we could afford to go. In the end things worked out, but it was too late to send in an entry. We decided to go anyway to spend some time with all our friends in the Tumbler fancy. When the weekend of the show arrived, I had the flu. Denise missed steak and eggs with Harold Spence and I missed all the Tumbler talk.

A call from the Muffed Tumbler Club of America's new secretary, Tom Evans, filled me in on most of the events and winners at Baltimore.

Congratulations are in order for Carl and Jerry Wissler and their Dutch loft. They took the top honors with a Red O.C. and then went on to win the Best Tumbler of the show, over all the Clean Legs and the Muffs. Quite an impressive win. I've been telling the C.L. Breeders they should add a few Muffs to their lofts, maybe this will convince them.

Dutch Lofts also took the Best Barred Award with a Blue Y.C.

Tom Evans had the Best Marked Muffed Tumbler with a Black beard O.C. #905.

I will announce the class winners when I receive them all.

I understand there were around 130 Muffs shown at Baltimore.

Tom passed on the news that the National Championship Tumbler Show will be held in Bay City, Michigan, next year and in Las Vegas the following year.

The people in Bay City really know how to make a person feel at home and they put on a great show, but before you make your final plans, please keep in mind those of us who have to travel, whether by car, or plane.

I know first hand how conditions can be, as I had the privilege of attending one of your shows. Please try to hold the show closer to Detroit, so we can cut down on the expense and traveling time for those coming from out of state.

The N.C.T.S. that will be held in Las Vegas, will mark the first 50 years of the M.T.C.A. and our host club, the Pacific Tumbler Club, will be 70 years old. Both clubs are in the process of putting together a commemorative booklet for the event.

On the down side, the show will be held with the National Pigeon Association and that means a week long show. Come on N.P.A., not everyone can afford that kind of an expense.

Those who belong to the N.P.A. should work to get the length of the show cut down to where more people can afford to attend.

Those who want to join the M.T.C.A., or inquire about advertising in one of the commemorative booklets, can contact Tom Evans at: 15803 Ocean Ave., Whittier, California 90604.

While I am on the subject of the Pacific Tumbler Club, I want to remind everyone who is interested, that they can join the P.T.C. by contacting their faithful secretary, Dick Krueger. Besides the fellowship you will have in the P.T.C., Dick puts out a great bulletin. Dick's address is: 1461 N. Grand St., Orange, California 92667.

The results of the P.T.C.'s Pageant of Pigeons were: Best Muffed Tumbler and Best Self to the Dutch Lofts, with a young Andalusian #71. Best Marked Muff also went to the Dutch Lofts, with a young Black Baldhead #55. Bud and Sue Weichers had the Best Barred Muff.

Edgar Petty has decided to step down from his duties as Secretary/Treasurer of the Central Tumbler Club. I hope those of you in the C.T.C. have appreciated Edgar's hard work and the time he has put into promoting your club. Thank you Edgar, for sending me copies of your bulletin, it makes my task a little easier. I understand that he will continue to contribute to the bulletin in the future.

The new officers in the C.T.C. are: President-Harlan Petter, V.P.-Bob Baruth and Sec./Treas.-Bob Wood.

The C.T.C.'s Shawnee, Oklahoma Show results are: Best Muffed Tumbler and Best Self Muffs, Harlan Petter, with a Yellow O.C. #14, the Best Barred Muff went to Gary Gammel with a Grizzle Y.H. #946 and the Best Marked to Bob Wood's Baldhead O.H. #74.

Those interested in the C.T.C. should contact their new Secretary, Bob Wood at: 8209 N.W. 31st St., Bethany, Oklahoma 73008.

The Muffed Tumbler Club of America thanks its outgoing Secretary, Bob Baruth for his work in promoting the club and we hope that he will still contribute to the club bulletin and to this column.

I would like to welcome the following new members to the M.T.C.A. Doug Gilbertson of Minnesota, Marie C. Leavitt of Virginia and David G. Meyers of Kansas. How about a letter from each of you, so we can all get to know you better.

It looks like the M.T.C.A. is going to adapt another long and confusing standard. I know that there is a lot of

work involved in writing such a piece and I appreciate the committees work, but how many of you can repeat the points break down from memory? I was hoping that the M.T.C.A. would take the lead in simplifying our standard.

Joseph W. Dupuis III has contacted me a few times over the past months in search of a breed of pigeons he would like to keep. I am happy to report that he has chosen the Saddle Muff and plans to get started in the spring.

Joe is from Massachusetts and plans to fly his saddles. Thank you for choosing Muffed Tumblers Joe and I am looking forward to meeting you in person.

The Paddock's of Illinois, dropped me a line to let me know they are off to a good start this year and they are looking forward to competing at the Louisville Young Bird Show. Glad to hear you are doing so well gentlemen.

Harold Spence of Michigan, wrote to tell me that a White he got from me turned out to be a cock, when he threw it into the hen pen. Well, Harold, the young White that I kept as a cock, is a hen, and I don't have a cock for it. Too bad we don't live closer, maybe we could get together and breed some Whites.

Ron Costa from Ga., wrote a very nice letter asking about which color Tumblers are on top and which were the closest to the standard. I tried to answer his letter the best that I could, by saying that no popular marking, or color is way ahead of any other. I told him the Black Sells are winning most of the shows, but their days are numbered. I think this month's column proves the point. The Black Self did not win one show that I reported on.

I hope to see you in Tumbler alley this year Ron.

Mr. Henri from Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada, wrote to inquire about the Louisville Young Bird Show. I must apologize to him for mis-laying his letter and taking so long to answer him. I hope to hear from you again Mr. Henri.

The Marked Muffed Tumbler Association, in the hands of Leon Ginenthal, has made great strides in the past year. Let's keep this group of dedicated Tumbler Breeders going, it's the best deal in the fancy. Send your \$3.00 to Leon at: 310 Dey St., Ithaca, N.Y. 14850, today. As of January there were 22 members and the interest in the Marked Muffs is growing.

The M.M.T.C. held its first show at Faircount, Connecticut and I am sorry to announce it was not a real success. Due to my work and

company from out of town, I was unable to attend. I think the Thanksgiving Weekend show date makes it hard for anyone outside of that area to make the show. Leon was able to make the show and reports that Dr. Paul Ambross did show several Saddles, Badges, a Red Baldhead and a Black Bellneck.

Leon said that Paul's birds are approaching the level of some Sells. Congratulations Paul and keep up the good work.

Paul sent me some photos of his birds and reported that the Best Muffed Tumbler at Faircount, went to a Red Self owned by Herb Santos of Massachusetts. Judging was done by Tony Olzewski. There were 20 Muffs shown including the Sells and asked.

The M.M.T.C. is going ahead with its plans to use the 110 point standard for Marked Muffs, allowing 30 points each for head, body and muffs and the remaining 20 points for color and markings. The extra 10 points is allowed for the work involved in breeding the markings on our Tumblers.

I would like to welcome Mark Newby to the M.M.T.C. Mark breeds Saddles in his home state of Indiana and likes to watch them fly and tumble.

Don't forget Les Ungvary wants to put together a Special issue of "The Link" just for Muffed Tumblers. If you are interested, drop Les a note at: 22 Hurlingham Road, South Perth, Western Australia, 6151. Do it today before you forget.

I am going to try to get John Kerscher to contribute to this column, about the muffed Tumbler history as he knows it and maybe we can get him to share some of his breeding tips with us. How about it John?

[Note: I asked Bob Witte, of Muff Tumbler News, to be guest columnist this month. Bob took a leave of absence from raising muffed tumblers and is now back into black muffs. Thanks for the vacation Bob I will be back next month - Bob Fragonman.]

It is an honor to be asked as a guest writer for the muffed news. Bob Fragonman has been doing an excellent job with this column. In fact the Western Tumbler Club recently presented Bob with the Presidents' Award for outstanding achievement and progress in supporting the muffed tumbler fancy. A well deserved award. Congratulations M. Fragonman.

Three years have passed since I wrote this column and I know Bob needs a rest from time to time. As I

(Continued On Next Page)

see it now the muff tumbler fancy has more serious breeders than ever before. These people are striving to improve their own stock with the addition of new quality muffs from year to year. It is imperative that a muff tumbler breeder attend a specialty meet to see how the standard has risen to the present. Our economy has prevented most of us from attending distant shows and is preventing us from feeding vast numbers of muffs; and likewise keeps show entries down. I know myself these are factors of showing 15 or 4 muffs. With the forementioned drawbacks there are still top quality muffs being shown each year.

While attending the National Young Bird Show in Louisville, Kentucky, I met two new faces to the muff fancy. First is Barry Wilson of Zion., Illinois. Barry is not exactly new to muffs, but has started showing his barred muffs with remarkable improvements. He has obtained the remainder of Rick Peters stock of barred muffs. Rick will be back in muffed tumblers as soon as he can find a place to keep his pigeons. Barry is introducing bars with more top skulls and boxed beaks.

The second new breeder is Dan DeBryne of Denver, Colorado. Dan is raising black muffs that can compete and win at any large tumbler meet. This first year exhibitor understands what it takes to breed a champion and is working towards just that. These two muff breeders without doubt will be an asset to our fancy.

It is hard to mention and comment on all the muff exhibitors during the year, but a couple of consistent breeders that support most major shows and would have to be ranked at the top are Carl and Jerry Wissler. These brothers have outstanding muffs in all colors. Champion grizzle, blue barred, black baldheads, red, yellow and black



MUFF TUMBLER

A 1984 Mealy Barred Muff Tumbler, bred and owned by Sue Weichers of California.

roost in their loft. Quit trying to dominate all the gold fellows.

Muff Shorts

Bud Schwab of Iowa City is working with barred muffs. Rich Rutledge is relocating in Las Vegas and is looking for a trailer for his black muffs and English trumpeters. Tom Evans had one of his best years and raised an outstanding black cock. Tom is looking forward to the Pageant and Baltimore shows. John Kerscher is stable and hopes to start with a couple pairs of blacks this next season. Gary Pack has true bellneck muffs. Gary enjoys his birds and is improving them each year. These bellnecks are coming with pearl eyes. Keep up the good work. Harlan Petter of Eureka Springs, Arkansas, has some very typy yellows. With some fuller muffs, Harlan's yellows will take the blacks. Jim Heywood has recovered from a back injury; got his muffs back and is crossing black cleanlegs into them to make his own strain. Jim will have some top pigeons in the near future. Jimmy Stehr, Jr., is a very intense barred muff breeder. He is a hard worker and already has some of the top bars in the country. Jim Wilson did a terrific job judging all the muffed tumblers at the National Young Bird Show in Louisville, Kentucky, last October. But you never pick my bird, Jim. Barry Felker is getting into self muffs, but will keep a couple pair of his prize-winning bald muffs. Frank Brienzi raised a beautiful almond muff cock with the best color I have ever seen in an almond muff. When JoAnne Twynan gets the color into her classy almond muff hen the almonds will be as good as the selfs if not already. There were six almonds shown by three exhibitors at the NYBS which must be a record. The Upper Mid-

west Tumbler Club is alive and well, taking members from Minnesota, Michigan, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, or anyone from anywhere interested in joining the club that raises tumblers. Contact Jim Stehr Jr., for details.

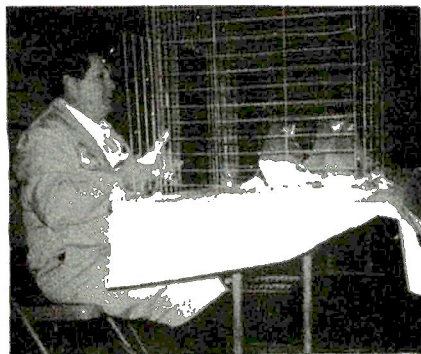
Show Winners

NYBS Louisville: Best Self, Frank Brienze, Black YC; Best Marked, Barry Felker, Black Bald YH; Best Barred, Dutch Lofts, Blue YH. Central Tumbler Club Young Bird Show in Salina, Kansas, was won by Bob Baruth with a young yellow self cock. UMTC in Austin, Minnesota, Best Self, Bob Witte, Yellow YH; Best Barred Cream OH, Jim Stehr Jr.; Best Marked, Lloyd Baurer, Mealy Bald YH. Pacific Tumbler Club Young Bird Show (Oct.) Best Muff Black YC, Tom Evans.

A few things I have noticed the past couple years are the muffed tumblers need larger judging cages at shows. The last four tumbler shows I have attended have single or small pens. Some judges allow the muffs to calm down before they start looking them over. Also we are looking for the muffed tumbler with the full spread of muff that blends in with the hocks. Dan Raposa had a yellow hen about five years back and Bob Baruth had an 84 red cock with this quality. If any of you readers saw these birds you would definitely know what we are looking for in a full spread of muffs. We tried to get the standard to recognize this for 30 points, but are the judges around the country honoring the larger muffs or strictly head hunting? Also down-faced tumblers are a no no in the show room.

Please drop Bob Fragoman a line and let him know how your breeding program is progressing. It will keep this column up-to-date and you will be surprised at the better reading the American Pigeon Journal will be.

Thanks, Bob and good luck to the muff breeders in 1986. Hope to see you at a tumbler show. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Sincerely, Bob Witte. □



JUDGING MUFFED TUMBLER

Tony Olzewski judging the Best Muffed Tumbler at the Faircount '85 Annual Show, Faircount, Conn. — Photo by Dr. Paul Ambrose, Easton, Conn.

NATIONAL Modena Club

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Giant Homers Today



by SAM PEAVEY,
Louisville, Ky.

An exciting new chapter in the history of the American Giant Homer began recently with the welcome and happy announcement from Andrew Webster of Somerset, England. He writes:

"Just a few lines to give you news of the safe arrival of the first American Giant Homers ever to land in the United Kingdom! These pioneering Giants are big, beautiful and the best!! You have my sincere gratitude for the best Christmas present I've had in years. Thank you.

The Giants appeared as birds of great strength and power, from beak to tail, with the smart finish of well defined outline. What is most important is that they are all soundly made and in tip top condition. My vet examined them and passed them 100% fit as well as vaccinated them. When the birds are released from quarantine, I shall take some photos to send you to commemorate their arrival home. The pioneer Giants have landed thank you."

This is surprising that these four pairs of imports will provide the first opportunity for English fanciers to observe American Giant Homers in the flesh. Most of us regard England as the world center for the development of all types of Homers. Let us hope that our American Giants will catch the interest of English fanciers. There is no doubt that they do have the breeding genius to develop them successfully.

This transaction is one more example of the international outreach of the American Pigeon Journal in bringing the pigeon fanciers of the world together. Andrew Webster states that his interest in Giants was particularly aroused by the articles and photos in our March 1984 APJ Giant Homer Special. Thank you APJ.

Hungary appears to have the largest concentration of Giant Homers in Europe. Janos Balogh states that the first Giant Homers arrived in Hungary in 1966-67. In 1972 they formed the American Giant Homer Club of Hungary which has 50-60 members. They have received birds from U.S.

fanciers, Ted Grulke, Jack Anderson, Roy Lindert, Walter Klann, R.L. Beattie and Jerome Kemp. He says that Hungary is the leading center of Giant Homers in Europe but that other neighboring countries are showing interest in them. Giants are among the most popular breeds in the Great European Pigeon Show in Budapest according to Balogh. Let us hope that Hungary will become the center for promoting Giant Homers in all of Europe.

A breeder from Czechoslovakia writes, "In your American Pigeon Journal for November 1977 (Giant Homer Special Issue) I read many interesting articles about American Giant Homers I am a keeper of this breed in my country. I got six pairs from the exchange in Hungary this year." Again, thanks to APJ and our Hungarian friends.

Our American Giant Homer Association needs to do more to introduce European fanciers to the real pleasure of raising Giants. We need to let them know that we are ready to cooperate in sending them some of our best birds to get them started. The American Pigeon Journal is one of our best means of communication with European fanciers. Let's let them know that we are ready and willing to share Giant Homers with them.

Dr. W.F. Hollander has told us that we need to do a better job of introducing and promoting Giant Homers in Europe. He says, "Germany is Homer-crazy. They have just not been introduced to our Giant Homers. They rave about blocky Kings, and they rapture about the box beak of the German Beauty Homer. But once they see the nice harmonious balance of these features in Giant Homers, they will fall all over themselves importing them from the U.S.

American Giant Homers are a truly fascinating creation of this nation and of this century. Who knows what the future may bring for our wonderful creation in countries abroad? It should make us all feel good to hear Andrew Webster say as he did, "These pioneering Giants are big, beautiful and the best." Let us hope that Andrew will soon be known throughout the United Kingdom as a successful breeder, exhibitor and promoter of Giants.

The best way to get acquainted with Giant Homers and with the wonderful group of Giant fanciers is to join the American Giant Homer Association and get a copy of the official standard, a list of members, a regular outstanding bulletin and news and information on breeding and showing. See classified ad in this issue of the APJ. □



Rare Breeds Pigeon Club

by MIKE LERP,
Manchester, Md.

During our club meeting at the last N.Y.B.S., there were a couple of fanciers who mentioned a problem they were having. These fanciers were rare pouter/cropper breeders and they voiced their dissatisfaction with the P & C clubs that were meeting at the N.Y.B.S. Their problem is not unlike what most rare breed fanciers experienced before the formation of the R.B.P.C. - lack of recognition among the more popular Pouter and Cropper breeds and the lack of judges who have the knowledge needed to properly grade the rare varieties. This year, these fanciers will not exhibit these varieties at the N.Y.B.S. unless they are included in our R.B.P.C. meet (if one is held). In the past, the R.B.P.C. has contacted the various P & C clubs so that a solution could be found in order to get this worked out. Because there are many P & C clubs, a universal solution agreeable to both the P & C clubs and to the R.B.P.C. hasn't been reached. The R.B.P.C. will try again and your opinions are most welcome, all you need do is write to Bob Kosek, Route 1, Morgan, MN 56266. Bob and another P & C breeder whose name and address I misplaced, informed the R.B.P.C. that they were willing to try to work this issue out. So, with the blessing of the R.B.P.C., Bob and his friend will take your suggestions under consideration. I don't think it would do any harm if you were to write your P & C club in order to express your concern.

We are looking for someone to handle our meet at this year's N.Y.B.S. Members of the R.B.P.C. might have read about it in our bulletin, but in case they missed it, I'm repeating our request. The "regular coordinators" might not be going and even if they do I'm sure they'd enjoy a "break". So, if you can avail yourself, please contact me right away! Remember, our meet is at stake.

The Young Bird Show held by the Reading Pigeon Assn., (Reading, PA) will be the sight of a R.B.P.C. meet in October. As always, a large

(Continued On Next Page)

rare breed turnout is expected at this one. Our meet at the all-age Winter Show attracted nearly 100 birds with more than a dozen breeds represented. Champion Syrian was Bob McNalis' Dewlap and Terry Fick's Zitterhall was both the Champion Performing entry and the reserve to the Grand Champion Rare entry. Terry also entered the Champion Utility entry which was a Coburg. The Grand Champion of our meet was a Muffed Ice that I brought to the show.

As part of the R.B.P.C.'s effort to promote the rare ones in the United States, we are going to offer a brief written introduction to the rare breeds to any all-breed club that would like to include it in their bulletins. I've often heard that club bulletin editors are always in need of material for their bulletins, so we're offering to supply it. Editors can write to me - include a S.A.S.E. and I'll get this information to them.

Schmalkalden fanciers might want to contact W.C. Kile at R-2, Sweetwater, TN 37874, to find out about the group of fanciers who have banded together to support this breed. Mr. Kile puts out a brief newsletter and it appears that these fancier are out to exchange ideas, breeding stock, and experiences, and they are also out to promote the Mane pigeon. According to Mr. Kile, this group of fanciers still recognizes the breed to be rare and they will continue to exhibit them in R.B.P.C. meets.

The R.B.P.C. has a new President and he is Bob Fiester. Bob will serve a two year term and I believe that under his leadership, the club will continue to prosper. One of Bob's first moves was to organize our meet with the NPA's Grand National and I'm sure those of you who attended appreciated his efforts. Bob has also re-established a standards committee and we'd like to ask you to mail us any standards that you might have. We do have some on hand but what with all the rare breeds in America, it's impossible to mention the standards we don't have.

The mention of standards brings me to a problem we've experienced at some of our meets. Very often, our meet coordinators discover that there's a breed entered that has no standard. This more often than not occurs when a performing breed is shown and we've been running into this problem ever since we reorganized the R.B.P.C. in 1979. Looking back, I think we first experienced the problem when fanciers started showing Doneks, but fortunately, quite a bit of information on what one was supposed to look like was

available. We have been able to rely on written material when dealing with many performing breeds, but it would go much easier on a judge if a standard was available. Heck, to go one step further, I should point out that even a standard or a written description can't tell a judge a pigeon's performance quality and if a fancier starts breeding to the standard, the performance ability could be affected. Standards can be sent directly to me.

In closing this month, I'd like to remind you that the R.B.P.C. will gladly give you some help if you want to get started in one of the rare breeds. I'd like to say that we've helped out everyone who contacted us, but unfortunately, we have struck out from time to time. In many cases, some fanciers simply don't want to buy birds sight unseen and pay shipping costs, and I can see their point. But, we are dealing with rare breeds and we can't always hop in the car and drive over to someone's house to buy what we want. So, keep this in mind when you start looking for some rare ones to add to your loft. You can get some help by either contacting me at Box 221, Manchester, MD 21102 and please include a S.A.S.E., or by calling me at 301-374-1008 (5 p.m. - 9 p.m. EST). □

King Trivia

BY JUNE TRONE,
AKC 2nd Dist. Dir.,
Meredosia, Ill.

Lloyd and I went to the Houston National on Jan. 22 and came home Jan. 26, what a great trip! I so much wanted to meet the Worley family, (The APJ Specialist), but it seemed like every time I would see them, one of us got to talking to someone else, so I was one step behind them all the time, at the NPA meeting and etc., too, so maybe next year. The APJ is the best pigeon magazine in the world and I'm happy to say we get it each month.

We had 340 Kings entered for the National and Joe Nethercot of Kansas was our judge, and John Schroeder won the Grand Champion King with #2156 Young White Hen, congratulations, John. At the 5th Dist. Show, John was beat by Paolo DiCandia, with #226 a beautiful YWC which came in 2nd in its class and Maurice Richards got 1st with #115, they are of the John Schroeder bloodlines. They all have extra nice Kings. Joe said the quality of the birds was excellent and it was hard

to place one first.

On our plane back to St. Louis, we visited with Gene Springer, the Modena expert and I felt like I learned more about how to mate our colors from Gene. Gene also told me about the pigeon clocks that he makes, said he had one at the show, which I never saw, but ordered a King one for our next MKC Raffle at Highland, anyway as I'm sure anything that Gene sells is worth it as anything he does is to perfection.

We had a terrific time with Jack and LuCinda Butler going to the Galleria, it was a thrill just to say that we went shopping at Nieman Marcus and to see the prices of things we would like to have someday. It was a beautiful place with all sorts of shops to enjoy, you name it, someone had it. LuCinda and I shopped all the floors while the men rested, it was truly a wonderful time to remember, then we went to Angelios where there were all sorts of fish tanks full of different kinds of fish and also walls of pictures of stars who had been there, I remember Willie Nelson and Frank Sinatra were a couple of them. Like they say, "Everything is bigger and better in Texas."

The NPA Banquet was great as always and Wayne Rife with his humor and jokes just sets the pace, we all enjoy him so much. Like Wayne said, "We all missed Rip Schroeder," as Rip could speak so beautiful about everyone and everything. We sure missed you Rip. I was doing some paper work in our room so I was lucky to get to the Banquet a few minutes before it started, good thing Jack and LuCinda and Lloyd went down early and got us a good table. Since each table holds 10 people, it was nice to be joined by some breeders we had not met before, I can't remember the names of the people, but one and he had an unusual name, Orrie Moore, that's all I remember about him, the couple next to me, her name was Pauletta, a beautiful name and they had Ice Pigeons and were from the state of Washington. They said there were very few Utility Breeds raised in their area, consequently not many King people. There was a nice couple John and I think Janet Schaeffer on the other side and a man named Bob with his last name starting with a P. I should have written it all down as I met so many people this trip, it's so good to meet so many wonderful people, no matter what breed of bird they raise. We can all learn from each other. LuCinda also showed us some pictures of their latest trip to India, they even brought us each an elephant

key chain from Bangkok, can you imagine anyone so thoughtful! If any of you people who were at our table read this, please write to me. Thanks. At the banquets, I think it would be so nice to have each person get up and say their name, state and what breed of pigeon they raise so we can all meet each other easier. We are so fortunate in the Kings in that both Doc and Peggy Horn hold offices in the NPA as well as the AKC and other clubs too, they are pretty much the backbone of the King fancy and we are very proud to have them a part of us. Peggy was voted "Queen of Feathers" in the 60's, long before a lot of us were King people and back then, that was a bigger feat than now as there were not many women doing things, it was mostly a man's world, so it goes to show that the pigeon men are not worried about women taking over their domain, to share with each other as a family is the best.

At the banquet we were pleased to say that we knew several of the people who got Master Breeder Awards, for one George O'Hara Jr., got his on Kings, really, his Dad should have gotten one too as they are one and the same loft, it doesn't seem fair for some to get it and not everyone from the same loft through the years. Maybe no one put his name in, but it seems like an oversight to me. Lloyd Moreau got his Master Breeder Award on Modenas, he also raises extra good Kings.

Bob Pettit, a well known Modena breeder in Illinois, also won the Master Breeder Award, only he wasn't there to claim it, too bad too, as he usually goes to most of the Nationals. We had a great time visiting with Bob and Fred Smith on the bus back to Burlington from the Lincoln National. It just seems like so much more fun when you are busy visiting with other people, the time just flies. Bob is considered the number one geneticist in Modenas.

At the National, we had all seven of our AKC Districts represented, that is truly great, we have almost all of them each year at our 2nd Dist. Show at Highland too. If we could get the 6th Dist. from Hawaii to come visit us in Nov., we would have them all, but they don't want to leave their nice warm climate, really if I was one of them, I'd probably enjoy staying in the nice warm climate. It's too bad that we can't have a National in Hawaii as I'm sure there would be more people than usual to attend. I wonder if anyone thought of having the National in the state closest to Hawaii so people could take tours to Hawaii while at the National! Just like

everyone is anxious for the National to be at Las Vegas, I'm sure that will be the largest one in History when it goes there as it is a dream for many people.

At the National the AKC 7 Districts were all represented, from the 1st - Geo O'Hara Jr., he got the NPA Master Breeder Award. Fred Labati the one who goes to more Nationals than anyone I know of, and I was told just turned 80 years old, terrific, indeed. Robert Budden, a very quiet, nice person shagged more birds than anyone. I met his cute little wife, Nancy, just as they were leaving for home.

Second District - Lloyd and June Trone, we went to the meetings and tours and enjoyed ourselves immensely, memories for years to come. Bob Gabriel enjoyed the show and tour and people as usual, he was pleased the way his birds placed. We didn't take any. Loe Swiney and Kay Caldwell make a nice long vacation out of the trip and were on their way to Oklahoma from Houston. Mary and Harv Felbiger flew in on Thursday. Harv was our judge at Highland with 863 Kings present, he never got excited a bit.

Third District - Dr. Charles Bacon always makes a trip worthwhile, we enjoy his stories so much. Paul and Ernie Miller are so cute to listen to, she just gets cuter and younger looking each time we see her, the South is the place to be, it seems. I like to hear Paul laugh, he sounds like Jimmy Carter.

Fourth District - Our AKC President Maurice Richards and his very pretty wife LaVerne, I didn't even know her, she really looks super and even walks two miles a day, what a gal. Joe Nethercot, our National judge and his cute little wife, Louella, Joe sounds and looks like George Hamilton to me, just Geo. had blacker hair. They both love to joke around. Dr. Jack and Peggy Horn, our King backbone, they know the AKC Constitution forward and backwards, which is great. They brought some medals and things to our AKC meeting and Peggy gave a nice talk about their recent trip to Denmark where Doc and Fred Labati judged Kings. I enjoyed meeting Harold Martin as I've heard about him so much through Joe Calloura who is also in the 4th, it was good to meet Joe and Sylvia Calloura as well as Mr. and Mrs. Tirreto. I saw Lloyd Moreau at the banquet but never got to talk to him, he got the Master Breeder Award on the Modena, he has raised both Kings and Modenas for years. I enjoyed visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Bajat, they have traveled extensively and still are enjoying it.

I'm sure one of these days, I will go to the door and find them there. Howard Masden is a lifetime King member although he doesn't have Kings anymore. Donald Boyd moved from Virginia to Houston recently, Donald did an extra amount of shagging too, he had a cute little daughter with him too, and I never got to talk to her, I bet she loves Kings too. Kenneth Wakefield and Wayne Gore are relatively new King breeders, but they are good workers as they were tearing down the show while the rest of us enjoyed the banquet.

Fifth District - Our AKC National winner John Schroeder has won at more shows than any other King person in History, a great feat indeed. Ed Robertson, our past president, gave me a hen from his 20 time winner 801 Blue Cock, so I have named her Mamie, what a nice gesture. It just shows that there is so much good in each person and it comes out in different ways. Stu Austin, our extra nice Secretary who goes more than the norm to make it easy for us all to understand the rules and etc., his wife Marilyn does the computer work and a wonderful job she does indeed as our AKC Bulletin is like any other magazine, only Kings. Jim Torrao flew in at the last minute, I didn't recognize him without his mustache, but he still has that nice smile. Joe LoPresti, the life of all the parties, konked out after the banquet so the party broke up early, we missed you, Joe. Richard Gerhart also raises Modenas, so he spent lots of time in that area. Juan Gomez, a young man with a good King record, it was our first meeting. Seldon Perry and his wife, I don't think Seldon has ever missed going to a National, he is a dedicated breeder of several breeds, a real promoter. Bill and Jan Harrison, I don't remember ever seeing Bill without a big smile and a joke, Jan seems so sweet too. Richard Serventi goes to a lot of the shows and has extra good Kings and can tell you about some of the little extras he does to make them look better. Egon and Margaret Thiel go to most shows together, in fact I think she only missed not going to one with him last year, a good record, indeed. Joe and Alice Abreu go to a lot of shows and he judged at a lot of them too. Joe was so good about not smoking around me as I am so allergic to smoke and I so much appreciated it, too. Paolo DiCandia, a very warm, genteel, magnanimous, genial, handsome, sovereign like magnetic personality with abundant knowledge

(Continued On Next Page)

of breeding Kings. A late Happy Birthday on Jan. 25, to Paolo. Jack and LuCinda Butler flew in on Thursday night and on Friday, Lloyd and I went with them all over shopping and eating and etc., a wonderful time indeed. They raise a few Show Kings as well as the utility squabs, two extra busy people.

Sixth District - Richard Cabanayan, an exceptionally nice and talkative person on about any subject, especially cooking, he makes mine sound very bland. H.S. Hew, a very nice, quiet man, they travel together. They are both so interesting to talk to too. We had an extra good time visiting with them on the tour bus.

Seventh District - Av Spais, my number 1 son came with a bunch of other breeders from his area, he always seems to enjoy himself at the shows. Marge and Mike Friedman, he is persevering the Black King diligently and one day the Black will be Grand Champion at a show, and Mike just might be the owner. Marge is just so little and cute, I bet people think that Angie is her sister instead of her daughter. Maurice Durkee is a new King breeder, he has Homers yet too and spent his time going back and forth to both breeds.

I'm sure there were other King breeders present, but to my knowledge, I don't think I got to meet any others, if I missed anyone, please let me know as I enjoy visiting with all of the people.

We are a little disappointed in that the next National is going to Pittsburgh instead of Las Vegas.

On March 9, our Midwest King Club will be having their meeting and discussing things about the next show to be at Highland, Ill., on Nov. 15 and 16, 1986. From all of the people I have been talking to, it looks like we could have 1000 Kings, I'm sure we can get the basement hall too and that would help immensely. We will have to discuss this more at our meeting.

A number of people have their birds mated up and lots have babies already, I don't have ours mated yet, but the hens are busy laying eggs, so it's scrambled egg time again. From the way things are going on our new building, it will be a couple of months before we get to put any birds in there, but then there is always next year for an early start.

Many thanks everyone for your nice cards, letters and calls and comments, they are all appreciated so very much. Your 2nd Dist. Dir., AKC, June Trone, R. 1, Box 129, Meredosia, Ill. 62665. Thanks,

A Happy Birthday on Feb. 15 to Jack Butler and all of the other

people celebrating birthdays in February. Happy Valentines Day too.

Calendar of Events

Nov. 15 and 16 - Highland, Ill., AKC 2nd Dist. Show, MKC Show, Black King Club. Come one, Come all. Sec. and Show Sec., June Trone, R. 1, Box 129, Meredosia, Ill. 62665. Call 217-997-5970.

Midwest King Club Picnic - Sept. 7, 1986 - held at the home of Lloyd and June Trone, R. 1, Box 129, Meredosia, Ill. 62665. Call 217-997-5970. □

Carneau Keepers

by STEVE COOK
St. James, Mo.

I hope you Carneau breeders have been doing your homework, and planned your breeding program for spring. While I am writing this article some of you are getting ready to go to Houston this weekend. I hope the best to all of you.

I have some pictures and information about the young bird show. The pictures were taken by Richard Gauch.

Richard is building a new loft at his home. Of course the weather has put a stop to it until spring.

One picture shows Mr. C.A. Smith during the judging. He is a long time breeder of Carneau and has judged many shows.

Also a picture of the bird he picked as Champion, owned by W.E. Jackson, and the trophy.

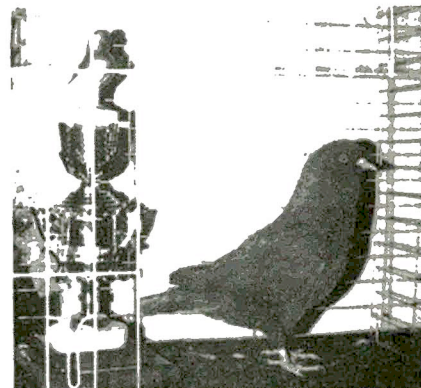
Jackson is our new President and was President about 50 years ago, so he has been in the fancy for many years.

And the picture with Curtis Richrath and his black cock #585 the best



NYBS WINNERS

Curtis Richrath (left) is holding his #585 1st Black Carneau Cock and Victor Stoll (right) is holding his #60 1st White Carneau Cock. These birds won at the 1985 National Young Bird Show Oct. 26, 1985, Louisville, Ky.



CHAMPION CARNEAU

This Carneau #207 YRH was Champion Carneau at the 1985 National Young Bird Show held Oct. 26, 1985, in Louisville, Ky. Judge - C.A. Smith.

black cock and Victor Stoll holding his white Cock #60 who was the best white in the show. Richard Gauch said that he was a super bird. I will have more pictures of the young bird show next month.

I might say this has been a very enjoyable month. I had a phone call from Curtis Richrath and we talked about pigeons for some time, his birds are doing real well. It was sure nice to get to talk to Curtis, he is a credit to the fancy.

Also my wife, Goldie, and I enjoyed a visit with Victor Stoll and his wife, and their two year old daughter LaRose.

Victor and I talked pigeons all day and I have a few of his fine birds, the day went too fast as both Goldie and I did enjoy their visit.

In talking to Victor, I learned he has had Carneau for many years, since the early 40's, he has been working real hard to improve his birds and it really shows. Also Victor, as I stated before, is a truck farmer who has really done well. He has his "Stoll's Sorghum Mill" and many of you may have eaten it. Also



C.A. SMITH

C.A. Smith with #207 Young Red Carneau Hen which was Champion Carneau at the 1985 National Young Bird Show, Oct. 26, 1985, Louisville, Ky. Mr. Smith was the judge.

Victor has a family of 12 children, seven girls and five boys. We only had the pleasure of seeing the youngest as I stated she is a beautiful young lady.

Also early in the month we had a surprise visit by our friends Alva and Ocie Stewart and Bill and Fran O'Rear, from the Ozarks, and sure enjoyed the visit. Alva has had Kings and Carneau plus a few other breeds, while Bill raises Tumblers and has some fine birds.

We are thankful for such a wonderful month. □

Runt Rumbblings

by CHARLIE BROWN
Newton, Kansas

This month's column is always the one I like to write the best because it is about the National.

We had almost 300 Giant Runts and a bunch of breeders. There were breeders from Rhode Island, Iowa, Mississippi, Texas, Arizona, Kansas, Oklahoma, that I know of, and there were some new breeders that I didn't have time to meet. I will mention some of those that I saw or I read their name tags on the coops. John Travassos, Charlie Benevive, Carl Ewert, Dr. Bob Pennington, Ike Orsak, David Buck, Joe Stewart, Wallace Scalf, Ruby Scalf, Charland Homod, Dr. Roger Harlin, John Delahoussaye, Charlie Brown. There were some Junior breeders whose birds were judged first by John Delahoussaye.

Don Scalf was the judge and he did a good job. He judged by the Standard and Type comes first just like the Standard says.

There were a lot of pretty birds there. There is really some quality in a lot of those birds and I'm not talking about mine. I'm talking about other breeders' birds. It's there and in the next few years it will all be out front.

It was special to have Charlie Benevive and John Travassos there from Rhode Island. We had a good time. They brought me some clams and Sharese (sp). I love the New England guys. They are a blast to be with. The New England guys are a powerful force in the Giant Runt Club of America. Another highlight of the show was the awarding of the cherished Giant Runt Club of America Master Breeder Award to John Delahoussaye of Mississippi, and Dr. Bob Pennington of Iowa. These fellows have both won a Grand National.

Carl Ewert was tentatively chosen to judge 4th District show in Dallas in 1986, and Les Heiserman was chosen to judge Des Moines also for 1986.

It was good to see Les Heiserman and Elwood Hemmet from New Jersey along with all the other French Mondain breeders who I enjoy talking to so much.

I talked to Mike Worley of the APJ, his wife and daughter Joan, about a Runt Special.

Talked to John Schroeder in the King area. He was fortunate enough to win his 10th National.

The NPA will put out a complete marked catalog of the National.

There's nothing like a Grand National. I could rattle on and on about that.

Business

The GRCA will be working on challenge certificates for the year 86. There will be an article on this later in the bulletin.

The 2nd District owed the GRCA \$100.00 for trophies and this was paid to Jack Osterman by C. Brown at the annual meeting.

Our shows are getting larger all the time. I think we may break the 400 mark pretty soon. Let's all try to sign up a new member this year. We have a lot of new members as of late. It was passed to raise the dues for 1987 to \$10.00.

Helpful Hints

When mating your birds study the Standard and don't put two birds together with the same fault. It takes time to put certain things on your birds. Don't try to put it all on at once.

As to the National. I don't have a show report but the secretary will put out a show report in the Giant Runt Club Bulletin.

If you belong to a club that is full of promises but doesn't deliver, join the Giant Runt Club of America. I'm sure you will find what you're looking for with us. We have the best bunch of breeders of all.

History

Judge at the San Diego National was Carl Ewert of Litchfield, Arizona.

For a breed with a future, breed the Giant Runt. □

Tips In The Sport Of Flying Rollers

by MICHAEL CURTIS,
Redlands, Calif.

I received a question from Alan of Northridge.

Question: I recently obtained three pair of Birmingham Rollers which I intend to mate this spring. With a little luck, I will have six young birds to begin flying. At what age should I allow them to walk around the loft roof and at what age should I let them up to fly? Please keep in mind that I have no older birds to fly with the new young. My concern is that I might lose some or all of the birds if not done properly.

Yes, settling in young birds is a nervous time for all of us fly guys. I have known roller men who consistently lose their birds when homing them in, but would say, "that's part of the game." Basically they wait too long to train the young rollers. With time, working on a good system your losses will be minimal. With a small number of birds or a special roller you can't afford to lose one, so start very young.

(Continued On Next Page)



GIANT RUNT CLUB MEMBERS

Second District Giant Runt Club members at the Des Moines, Iowa, Dec. 1985 Meet. Pictured left to right are: Kearns, Osterman, Estes, Cooke, Weaver, Pennington, Brown, ???, Delahoussaye, Homod. Also in attendance but not pictured were Mike Albert, Gary Edwardson and Garth Edwardson. — Photo by Jack Osterman.

When your birds are about 2½ weeks old, as long as it's not too cold, put the babies on the floor so the parents can still feed them. The young will become more independent this way. Then you can borrow the babies from their parents and guide them through the traps. They are not yet old enough to fly. They have pin feathers under their wings. When these feathers are three quarters open they are ready to go on their own with a little attention from you. This would happen at about three weeks. At first, always stay with your babies so your neighbors cats don't get too friendly. Another reason you should stay close to your birds is so they associate you with the kit box. Never put your birds out when they have feed in their crops. Have them chase the grain when you feed them.

After they are in their new kit box a couple of days and you've fed them through the traps, you can teach them to land, which is very important. Since they are still not able to fly, this can be done by tossing them a few feet onto the top of the kit box. This distance can be increased daily. Be sure to scan your youngsters the first few days in the kit box. If you see a bird with sleepy eyes, he probably has not found the water. You may have to dip his beak in the water a couple of times before he learns.

If you follow the above system, you don't have to use a wire training cage on top of your kit box for trap training. The cage should be used if the birds are too old or your time is limited. You probably wouldn't want to use the cage over ten days. The older your Birminghams get the harder they take to new ideas, and the stronger on the wing the easier they get lost.

One other point worth mentioning, don't continually keep adding young birds to your kit. Two rounds are sufficient. That way your kit will mature faster and become a unit.

Question from Randy from Riverside: In what way does the keel change from bird to bird and how does it influence their performance?

There are different types, and combinations of types, of keel. First let's talk about the keel bone itself on the squabs. It starts out very soft and small in comparison to the back. The inherited trait will show itself with maturity. Length is one of the first things we notice. It plays a big part in body to wing ratio. The curve, or lack of it in the keel bone is another family trait. The depth of the keel plays a part in the curve of the keel bone. The setting of the keel should not be confused with the

shape of it. The setting of the keel seems to really follow the better performing birds. The muscle on the keel is what makes the bird feel good or not so good to your hand. The muscular keel also helps that good back setting with prominent wing butts. Of course, the keel is just one indicator for the whole body type.

One influence I have seen is when the keel dives in too far towards the back, the majority of birds have stability problems, even though the roll is impressive. This is a physical fault, so the bird in question could still be used in the stock loft, but mated to the opposite type. The old timers through birds like this could not breed while performing, and I for one would not argue that point with them. My studies of this show that the keel sucks in while the birds are performing, thus creating internal pressure. Also, I have noticed keel flexibility in some rollers. Some of this sounds a little alien or far out, but when you put time into knowing your family of rollers these things and many more become defined. Just like when someone you show your rollers to for the first time says, "How do you tell them apart, they all look alike?"

Well, it's always nice hearing from everyone, so send in your questions and I'll try my best to answer them. — Michael Curtis, RR 2, Box 670, Redlands, CA 92373.□

Helmet Happenings

by BRUCE SCOTT,
Richardson, Texas

After nearly 25 years of breeding and showing Helmets and enjoying Helmet Happenings in the APJ, I find myself on the other end so to speak. I will endeavor to provide some insight on what's happening in the Helmet fancy each month. I have several topics I'll be touching on from one month to the next, such as news about Helmet Meets, news about new and older members of the American Helmet Association, etc. I can't promise on more than I can deliver, but be it a small or big article, I will endeavor to have something in this column each month. In addition to what I come up with each month, I welcome input from any of you Helmet fanciers that read this column. My address for any correspondence relating to Helmet Happenings is as follows: Bruce Scott, 2211 Eastwood Drive, Richardson, Texas 75090.

This month, I naturally want to

report on the successful Annual Helmet Meet held January 23-25 in conjunction with the NPA Grand National in Houston. There were 248 Helmets entered. I had the privilege of attending with 19 of my Helmets. It was a sight to behold with so many outstanding Helmets from all over the country. I have been to quite a few Nationals in my lifetime, but I never get over the excitement generated each time I go. Seeing all those Helmets and renewing old friendships with fanciers that I have competed with for so long is a thrill. Also making new friends with those freshmen fanciers attending for the first time is something. Believe me, it gets in your blood and you have to be a "pigeon nut" to fully appreciate that certain something that takes hold of you. In many ways it's like a kid anticipating Christmas. You hate to see the show end, but there's always next year. Both the NPA and the AHA will be publishing a complete show report. However, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the winners of the major awards. First of all, Mike Butcher won Champion M/F. His win was remarkable after his loft fire last year that destroyed many of his birds. Luckily, the old black cock that won Champion was on loan to a fellow fancier in Oklahoma at the time of the fire. Jim Jensen won Reserve Champion and Bob Davis won Second Reserve Champion. Robert Renschler of Pasadena, Texas, was our AHA photographer. He took a series of 36 black and white photos that will be available for our APJ Helmet Special in August. I'll be reviewing these pictures and sending the good ones on to Tony Patti.

Speaking of the Helmet Special for the APJ in August, everyone of the members attending the National agreed to contributing to ads. They were reminded at the Annual Meeting, held in conjunction with the National, to get their ads into Tony Patti as soon as possible. Tony is the coordinator for the Helmet Special and his is no small task. Therefore, the sooner Tony receives your ads and articles the easier it will be for him. I have written two articles for the Special and I urge all of you Helmet fanciers to contribute something. Especially, you veteran AHA members should be able to compose some stimulating articles that will be of interest to Helmet fanciers worldwide. As a reminder, the following is Tony's address and phone number. If you don't have your ad or article finished, at least let Tony Patti know what you plan to send him so he can start reserving space. Tony Patti, RFD 6, Norwich, CT 06360, phone

(203) 889-0497.

This month I would like to welcome the following new members to the ranks of the AHA. Don Ray of Baldwin Park, Calif., Harold Stott of Norwich, Conn., and Mark Ford of Denver, Colorado. Several new members were signed up at the National and I'll be listing them next month.

One of the topics of discussion at the Annual Meeting was the supply of AHA bands. With the growth of Helmet fanciers, the demand of AHA bands has exceeded the supply the past couple of years. This growth is a good sign, but it has been a challenge for Lloyd Larghe, the AHA Secretary, to predict the number to order each year from the NPA. Already, over half of the 1987 bands has been ordered. Based on this demand Lloyd will undoubtedly have to up the total number of bands from what was ordered for 1986. As many of you know, those 1986 bands went like hot cakes and some of you were disappointed that ordered too late. The sooner you get your order in for 1987, the easier it will be for Lloyd to predict the total number. I believe his deadline is March for ordering additional 1987 bands from the NPA, so let Lloyd know before then.

It is only fitting I conclude my first article in *Helmet Happenings* by reminding any of you Helmet fanciers out there, that don't belong to the AHA, to seriously consider joining this great club. Our Secretary's name and address is as follows — Lloyd L. Larghe, 907 E. 115th Ave., North Glenn, Colo. 80233.

Lloyd is a great Secretary and he will immediately respond to any letters about the AHA. You will double your enjoyment of Helmets when you become a member by receiving a copy of the Standard and our excellent monthly bulletin put out by Al Flinn. That's it for this month. The best to all of you as you start your 1986 breeding season. □

Frillback Frillies

by **DARRELL D. MARTIN**,
NFC President
Yamhill, Ore.

Hello Fanciers!

It looks like it's time again to get an article out. Unfortunately I've not heard from Kevin McDaniels about Louisville YB show reports yet, so I cannot include it in this month's article.

If any of you did not understand the first part of the column last month concerning the standard business in there, I would let you

know it basically was an excerpt from a letter I wrote answering a question. Thanks APJ for the editing - I truly appreciated it.

As for this month's column, I should like to say I received a very nice letter from Tom McCaig, and A.J. Istre Sr. Mr. Istre wrote requesting information of the stud of FB's, as for mention in the December column. They are really nice ones, so if anyone is interested you should not hesitate, they won't last long.

Tom tells me he is working with 21 pairs of FB's this upcoming breeding season. I only have around 15 pairs, but would like to increase to 25 pairs in the spring. I've always dreamed of having 5 pairs of each color in: Black, Blue, Red, White and a few in Silver and Yellow.

I've got a program going now to develop some outstanding silvers and a project for crested in these colors as well. I now have foundation birds in red and blue crested, as well as white and blacks that carry crests. So we'll see what things look like this time next year.

Boy! Has the weather been crazy here for this time of the year. The last week of November brought us 8-10 inches of snow, freezing rain and below 0 temperatures with the wind chill factor counted. We broke many 50 year records for cold. My pigeons survived it but didn't care for the snow blowing in the fly pens. I didn't care for it a lot, because it rendered my automatic waterers rather useless; froze solid as you might guess.

I think in future columns, I'll try and run some information on color modifiers and effects on Frillback Grizzle and Sells. These experiments were conducted by Gary Young; a High School Genetics Teacher, who kept 50 pairs or more in a controlled environment loft. These color modifiers and the effect they have on some basic colors, have made some interesting reading for me and I hope for you as well.

Well, I'm finally feeling well enough to attend a pigeon show, so I think I'll attend one in Portland, Ore., this coming Saturday.

One final note: I wrote Tom McCaig a letter discussing the possibility of a commemorative FB Show in conjunction with the Pageant. The goal would be to have 100 top Frillbacks show up. I think this project would be a fitting tribute to Tom.

Anyone that wishes to express their views, please write me. — Darrel Martin, NFC Pres., 3605 Hemlock, Yamhill, Ore. 97148. Keep 'em coming! □

Chinese Owl Chatter

by **JOHN COE**
Turlock, Calif.

If I were to award Master Breeder Points for a job well done, I certainly would look closely at the Modena breeders. Someone along the way through the years has certainly excelled in three major areas. They have neared perfection in the areas of show temperament, body conformation and color development. This gives me all the more reason to raise Chinese Owls. They are not perfected as a breed in any one of these three major areas. There is plenty of work to be done. Don't you need a challenge with a really neat little breed?

How do you get an excellent pigeon? You can raise it or you can buy it. If you raise it, you are probably doing it for someone else -- perhaps a future generation who probably won't want it or who might be zoned out by silly or inconsistent zoning laws. All you will get to do will be to peek down through the clouds or up through the sulfur fumes and see how things are going. Or maybe you are raising it for the here and now. Perhaps an hours sit in the loft after work is an ideal escape from the daily vocational trauma. In this way you may recoup enough sanity to brave the next day's run. If this is better than the soap opera to you, then you may want to set some goals and try to help perfect a breed. You may even want to go to a show occasionally and develop a few traditional friend and enemies. It is fun.

If your space is limited and your pockets are neither full nor green, I recommend Chinese Owls. They are saucy little fluffs which do not demand much space and they are light eaters. Pigeon feed bills can be a consideration. And above all, there is plenty of work to be done with the breed.

The other approach to having the ideal pigeon is to grit your teeth, shorten your patience, and decide to win irregardless of the dollars involved. Go out and buy the best pigeon there is, show it until it becomes obsolete and then start all over again -- second verse same as the first.

I was at the N.P.A. National Show years ago when I thought the depression was still on. I was a college grad of a few years working on

(Continued On Next Page)

contract for \$2700 a year. A breeder of Modenas had won four major classes. A gentleman walked up to the winner and offered him \$400 each for the four winners. The deal was accepted without emotion. The purchaser simply wrote a \$1600 check, thanked the seller, and went on his way. That was well over a half years wages to me! Well, I thought, there is more than one way to win. There is nothing wrong with this. Each person has some madness in his methods and some methods in his madness and he has a right to both.

This must be boring. My dog is starting to snore.

For the benefit of Chinese Owl breeders, let's look in on show temperament for a few minutes. You can tie up a dog and tease him until he gets mean. He is subject to some training. But the true temperament of a good hunting dog or a good cow dog or a good watch dog comes from hundreds and sometimes thousands of years of genetic selection. Then the training is much easier or perhaps even automatic -- a part of his genetic gear train. The same is true of a pigeon. If you want a pigeon to climb the showcase bars, cross him with a monkey -- or perhaps another pigeon that is an expert at climbing the showcase bars. If you want a pigeon that will strut and show in the show cage, select it from a pigeon that has the genetic gear train of these show characteristics. Many a good holstein has earned a quick passport to the slaughter yard because she inherited an expertise at winding up with a foot in the bucket and not because she didn't give enough milk. Dairy breeders realize the value of genetic temperament and pigeon breeders ought to come to the same realization -- even me. Chinese Owl breeders generally need to pay more attention to genetic temperament. Think it over and consider it in your culling program. Is your exhibit a show bird or a caged acrobat in a show cage? Try culling for show temperament. Chinese Owls are America's number one breed. Let's be sure that they really are. □

Dragoon Doings

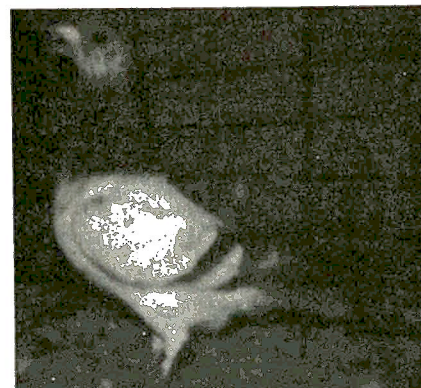
by ROBERT W. TAUSCHER, Jr.
Palisades Park, N.J.

The American Dragoon Club held the Annual Winter Meet in conjunction with the Baltimore Pigeon Show, January 3-4, 1986, in Odenton, Maryland. 114 Dragoons were entered by nine exhibitors and a few people who attended joined the club. Champion Dragoon was won by Tom Barnhart with his Grizzle YC 50 and Best Opposite Sex was won by Leon Fialkewicz's YH 518. The Rocky Ault Award for best show team was won by Clair Wright. Each show team is made up of Old Cock, Old Hen, Young Cock, and Young Hen in any color. Congratulations to these winners and the winners of the color classes: Blue Bar - YH 639 - Leon Fialkewicz; Blue Check - OC 701 - Clair Wright; Silver Bar - OH 641 - Tom Barnhart; Silver Check - OC 576 - William J. Schmidt; Mealy - YC 449 - Walter Skotnicki; Red Check - OH 307 - Clair Wright; Yellow Check - YH 559 - Joe DiToto; Grizzle - YC 50 (Champion) - Tom Barnhart; Black - YC 69 - Tom Barnhart; White - YC 461 - Walter Skotnicki; Yellow - OH 455 - Tom Barnhart; and A.O.C. - Cream Bar OC 447 - Tom Barnhart. The judging was done by A.D.C. members in attendance.

This was only the fifth show I had ever attended and the second time I had entered birds in a show. I really enjoyed myself - the friendships made and renewed are great. A special thanks to the fine work done by those who put on the show.

I was really shocked when Walt Skotnicki and I were asked to judge the Best Opposite Sex together. We were the only exhibitors who didn't have any birds in the class. Neither of us had judged before. We looked at each other and with the encouragement of other members we got started. I guess we did alright because no one complained (that I heard of) and I haven't received any threatening letters or phone calls. I don't think Walt has either.

It was great riding home from the show with the occasional sounds of cooing, feathers being ruffled, and claws scratching in the back of my station wagon. By comparison, the four hour trip from my home in Palisades Park, New Jersey, to the show was too quiet - especially behind me. Since I moved from Ridgeville Corners, Ohio, this past November there has been a definite lack of pigeon sounds around me because I had to leave them behind.



CHAMPION DRAGON

This Blue Grizzle Dragoon was Champion Dragoon at the ADC Annual Winter Meet, Baltimore Pigeon Show. Blue Grizzle YC #50 bred and shown by Tom Barnhart, Lima, Ohio. — Photo by Tom Barnhart.

I just got started with Dragoons in August, 1984, with the help of Harold Groll of Holgate, Ohio. With an ordinance problem in Palisades Park ahead of me and no idea where I could keep my birds I couldn't take them with me. The week before I moved I returned two very fine pair of Dragoons to Harold and one fine pair to Tom Barnhart, Lima, Ohio, along with the young I raised in 1985. Harold's and Tom's friendship, help, encouragement, and gifts of good birds had been a tremendous start for me.

You might be asking why would I move if it meant giving up pigeons. My moving was brought about by my acceptance of a call to be the next pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, Palisades Park, New Jersey. I left my birds behind hoping that I would soon have them back again - if I could find a friendly loft in a neighboring town where I could house a few pair of Dragoons - hopefully in time for the 1986 breeding season.

After I had been in my new home for about four days, the Chairman of the congregation drove me past a house in the next town, pointed to the loft beside it, and suggested that I stop and ask whether I could keep birds there. His help was soon surpassed when I stopped and met Frank Zumpano, a Racing Homer man. His response to my inquiries was, "Sure, and you can build a small loft for your birds behind my house and keep them there as long as you like." You can imagine my response. Within a few days I had arranged for Tom Barnhart to transport five pair of Dragoons to the Baltimore Show. (My wife is still talking about the phone bill). My thanks to Harold Grill, Tom Barnhart and George Roose of Lima, Ohio, for

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the birds to get me going again.

By the time the Baltimore Pigeon Show was over and my birds were crated, my five pair had grown to six pair thanks to Joe DiToto and Clair Wright. Breeding season will be here soon and I have most of the birds mated up. Now, if the weather will hold for a few weeks and I can get the new loft built. (Where did I pack that hammer?)

By the way, if you have a little extra space in your loft and you're looking for an interesting breed to add, pick up some Dragoons and join our fun. To join the A.D.C. just send \$5.00 (\$7.00 foreign) to Wm. J. Schmidt, 3606 Hamilton, Baltimore, MD 21214. You will receive in return the quarterly Bulletin which offers news and timely tips on our favorite pigeons.

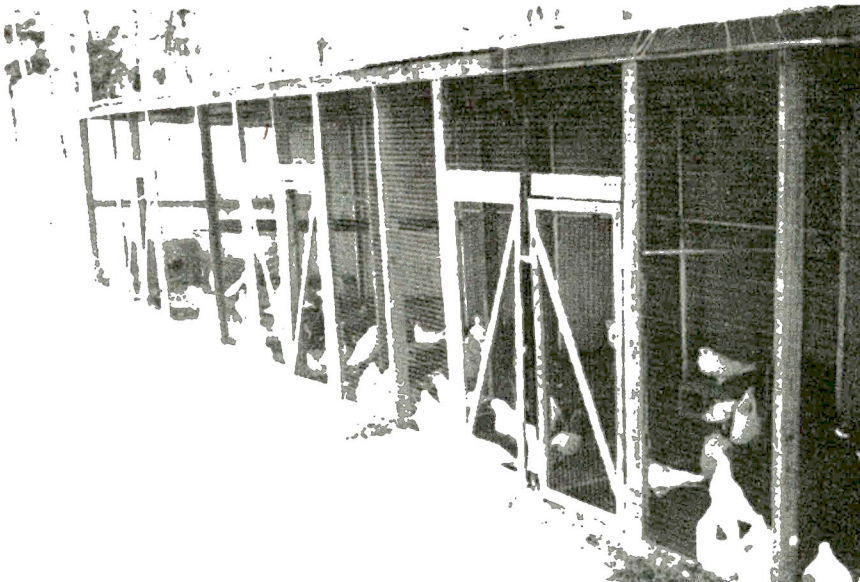
If you have a moment to write send your complaints, corrections, and rebuttles and I'll include them in the next column. Please write to: Bob Tauscher, 9 E. Homestead Ave., Palisades Park, N.J. 07650. □

American Giant Rumbler Facts

by TONY CABRAL,
London, Ont., Canada

By now most of you should have all your birds mated and working. I'm going with 15 pair this year. This is the most I breed from. I have two show reports this month. The first is the 2nd District show held on Nov. 16, 1985, with the Canadian Giant Rumbler Club Annual. A few exhibitors did not make it to the show room due to the freezing rain storm we had in the morning. One of our members was involved in an accident on the way to the show - no one was hurt. We had an entry of 88 birds by six exhibitors but only 38 birds and three exhibitors made it to the show room. The judge, Morley Barber, did make it so we went ahead and judged the birds, next year we will try to pick a better weekend I hope. The show results were: Best White: John Medeiros, Best Bellow: Scott Hamilton, Best Red: Scott Hamilton, Best Black, Blue, Siviler, Rare, A.C. and A.O.C.: Tony Cabral, Best Young Hen: John Medeiros, Best Young Cock, Best Old Hen, Best Old Cock, Reserve Champion and Grand Champion: Tony Cabral.

The 3rd District show was held with the Atlanta Pigeon Classic on Nov. 30 - Dec. 1, 1985. Don Little did the judging. No one can judge the Giant Rumbler like Don can. 36



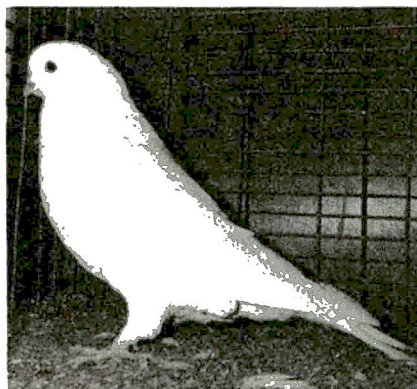
CHARLES & MARIE CLEGG'S LOFTS

Each pen, 4x12, has eight birds. Behind this row is another row of pens built for the Clegg's Oriental Frills. This is how the Clegg's raise their birds out in the open, summer and winter. The Cleggs live in Fort Mitchell, Ala. — Photo from Tony Cabral, London, Ont., Canada.

entries by four exhibitors. Best Silver: Collins, Best Red, A.O.C. and Best Young Hen, Reserve Champion: Scott Saltee, Best White, Dun, Black, Blue, Rare A.C., Best Young Cock, Best Old Hen, Best Old Cock and Grand Champion: Charles and Marie Clegg.

New members this month Armando Bernardo, Tony Cardoza, Manny Franco, Abel Sousa and Manny Negalha. Renewals by Carl Wistuba and George Estes. Membership is \$10.00 for 12 months from month of payment.

Keep breeding "The Bird With A Beautiful Face" — Tony Cabral, 411 Hudson Drive, London, Ont., Canada N5V 1E7. □



WHITE RUMBLER HEN

A beautiful white Rumbler hen, bred and owned by John Medeiros, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. — Photo from Tony Cabral, London, Ont., Canada.

The World of Jacobins

by LEROY A. TRAUB,
South Elgin, Ill.

In view of the upcoming Jacobin Special in May of 1986 and since no one seemed to want to continue the World of Jacobin column after I retired, I will again assume the reporting of happenings in the World of Jacobins. I can't promise an article every month but will try.

Due to the recent death of two outstanding East Coast breeders, Ray Stepknowski and Ken Walling, and the abandonment of our hobby by some of our Southern and Western fanciers, we need new people in the Jacobin Fancy. Anyone out there in the Pigeon World interested in Jacobins and who needs a real challenge, contact this writer, and I will put you in touch with an established Jacobin club secretary in your area or you may contact the Jacobin clubs through ads in the Pigeon Journal.

We presently have five major Jacobin Clubs in the U.S.A. - Eastern, Central, Southern and the Western and Pacific Clubs on the West Coast, and we also have a Canadian Jacobin Club.

Jacobins are really no more difficult to breed successfully than some other pigeon breeds. They can and

(Continued On Next Page)

do feed their own young and with vent trimming for fertility and chain trimming for feeding, any pigeon fancier can successfully raise Jacobins.

As in any other breed you must, however, get acquainted with the standard, you must get the best stud birds you can, you must pair up your birds correctly, and above all you should attend club meet shows as often as you can. Most every year one of the five clubs in the U.S.A. will host their club meet with the Grand National and you can on most years see 250 to 300 Jacobins on display plus upwards of 4,000 other pigeons of all breeds.

Some of the newer colors in the Jacobin Fancy are cream, mealy, almond, andalusian and most clubs have a class for them. In fact just recently the Central Jacobin Club established an Almond Class for next year's club meet.

I hope in the ensuing articles in the World of Jacobins column to deal with among other items - color, station, feather length, balance, head feather arrangement (which some fanciers allude to as the hood), and I hope many more interesting subjects. If any of you reading this article would like a certain subject addressed, please write and let me know.

Until next time, continue to breed and show the Chrysanthemum of the Fancy - the Aristocratic Jacobin. — L.A. Traub, 262 Kane Street, South Elgin, Ill. 60177. □

Shortface Gleanings

by WARREN MAURER
Franklin Square, N.Y.

Took a ride to Staten Island with John Ferrara to visit Tony Montella and see his birds. Well he had Reingaens, English Short Face Tumblers and Ancients, both self and magpied. He also had much too many birds and now his one and only job at the present time is to weed out the birds not necessary to keep for the breeding season. This is the fault of many of us, me included, we keep too many birds on the whim that this one has good beak setting, this one has good color, that one has beautiful stance, etc. In the meantime the loft is crowded and not enough room for the pairs to mate without being chased by nearby birds. Also providing the inducement of disease. Had a very pleasant visit by Brian Coulson of England, he is the sec-

retary of the English Short Face Tumbler Club back home. We had a nice time discussing the good and bad points of the birds I placed before him, also he pointed out things that we have that they don't in England and vice versa. It was too bad that he was on such a very tight schedule, there was no time to take him around to some of the local short face men and see their birds.

I had a letter from my German friend, Hans Rosenbecker, advising me that the weather was snowy and recommending I postpone my trip to Germany until the shows start in October, November. This I will do and possibly visit England at the same time as their shows are about the same time. Last night at the Empire Short Face Club monthly meeting, Dave Fhagen gave a short talk on Mites, Lice, and Ticks that attack our birds and the powder and medicines to eliminate them. Then Dave brought some Viennas to illustrate the difference between a Vienna and Short Beaker Vienna cross. There are things the average fancier doesn't see unless he is a Vienna breeder. Then Richie Polanish brought a few Ancients for us to view and he had two magpies that had most everyone wishing they had, including me. Keep knocking them out like that Rich and you will be very hard to beat. Also saw about a half dozen birds either given or loaned at the meeting, this is what makes Empire such a great club to belong to. The last show of the year in the New York Metropolitan area will be Sunday, February 2, the Nassau-Suffolk Futurity show. A lot of fanciers will be there as this is the kick-off to the breeding season. Good Luck!

Drop a line to Warren Maurer, 966 Oaks Drive, Franklin Square, N.Y. 11010 or to those that don't write, call 516-352-6230. □

Tippler Topics

by HEINZ H. KAUPSCHAEFER
Dorsten, West Germany

Flying Tippler Record Times

England: young: 19.06 hrs. (Hulse and Till, Bentley West, 85); old: 20.46 hrs. (Pilot, Manchester, 84).

These times are the current world records!

N. Ireland: young: 18.18 hrs. (Shannon, Lisburn, 83); old: 20.02 hrs. (Rosbotham, Belfast, 85).

Wales: young: 18.08 hrs. (Williams, Swansea, 85); old: 20.20 hrs. (Coughlin, Mayhill, 74).

Scotland: young: 13.10 hrs.

(Byrne, Abronhill, 81); old: 18.04 hrs. (Byrne, Abronhill, 81).

Netherlands: young: 17.45 hrs. (Bronstring, Haarlem, 84); old: 19.45 hrs. (van der Werf, Oosterbierum, 84).

Belgium: young: 16.02 hrs. (van Ouwkerk, Brassehaat, 84); old: 19.17 hrs. (van Ouwkerk, Brassehaat, 84).

West Germany: young: 17.46 hrs. (Arndt, Hamburg, 67); old: 19.20 hrs. (Liemen, Dorsten, 85).

East Germany: young: 14.50 hrs. (Stutzner, Hennigsdorf, 83); old: 18.46 hrs. (Porsche, Hoyerswerda, 82).

CSSR: young: 15.14 hrs. (Hotovy, Prague, 83); old: 17.11 hrs. (Joza, Liberec, 82).

France: young: 8.20 hrs. (Knaub, Eckbolsheim, 81); old: 6.57 hrs. (Knaub, Eckbolsheim, 82).

Switzerland: young: 17.16 hrs. (Werfeli, Schönenwerd, 83); old: 18.07 hrs. (Dr. Krnja, Aarau, 80).

Roumania: young: 15.18 hrs. (Sofronia, Satu Mare, 83); old: 16.38 hrs. (Sasu, Satu Mare, 85).

Yugoslavia: young: 16.24 hrs. (Dubac, Zagreb, 85); old: 17.23 hrs. (Sljivac, Osijek, 85).

Hungary: old: 16.15 hrs. (Banyai, 85, 24 birds!).

Canada: young: 16.02 hrs. (Cahter, Mississauga, 85); old: 17.29 hrs. (Vertolli, Toronto, 66).

USA: young: 13.59 hrs. (Mead, East Keansburg, N.J., 84); old: 17.18 hrs. (Ehrbach, New York, 37).

In several other countries we have had record times, for instance in Brazil, New Zealand, Australia, etc.

The last years have brought us to a very high standard of world records both with young and old birds. For example the OLD bird world records: 1908: 18.15 hrs. (Ward, Sheffield); 1911: 18.30 hrs. (Cockayne, Sheffield); 1922: 19.35 hrs. (Cockayne, Sheffield); 1957: 19.42 hrs. (Lovatt, Hanley); 1959: 19.45 hrs. (Marlow, Sheffield); 1971: 20.02 hrs. (Burrows, Llansamlet/Wales); 1972: 20.07 hrs. (Newton, Leicester); 1973: 20.20 hrs. (Boden, Handsworth); 1975: 20.40 hrs. (Boden, Handsworth); 1984: 20.46 hrs. (Pilot, Manchester).

Young Birds: 1902: 13.32 hrs. (Hall, Stockport); 1903: 14.55 hrs. (Hall, Stockport); 1916: 16.31 hrs. (Eagle, Sheffield); 1920: 16.40 hrs. (Hollingworth, Sheffield); 1923: 16.54 hrs. (Garner and Clark, Leicester); 1927: 16.56 hrs. (Holland, Sheffield); 1932: 17.00 hrs. (Holland, Sheffield); 1959: 17.20 hrs. (Heaton, Sheffield); 1961: 17.30 hrs. (Lovatt, Hanley); 1971: 17.50 hrs. (Georges, Llansamlet/Wales); 1975: 17.52 hrs. (Phelps, Swansea/Wales); 1976: 18.07 hrs. (Hughes, Derby); 1982: 18.10 hrs.

(Wilson, Norwich); 1983: 18.18 hrs. (Shannon, Lisburn/N. Ireland); 1984: 18.26 hrs. (Plester, Birmingham); 1985: 19.06 hrs. (Hulse and Till, Bentley West).

We exchange the club bulletins between several National Flying Tippler Associations all over the world. Naturally, also with the FTA in U.S. William Kahlert, Hazlet, N.J., is the new active secretary there.

I have read there are now two new societies, namely the "Bayshore Flying Tippler Club" and the "California Flying Tippler Club". Good Luck!

Keep 'em flying, our charming little Flying Tippler the "King of the Clouds." □

Obituaries

AL GRACE

It is sad that I must report to the pigeon fancy, the loss of one of the greatest members, Al Grace of Lackawanna, N.Y. Mr. Grace died at age 77, after a long illness.

Al was always active in his local club, The Buffalo Fancy Pigeon Club. He also served as a director of the American Pigeon Club. And was awarded the Hall of Fame award in 1980.

His two loves in the pigeon world were the Bokhara Trumpeter and the Marked Saddle Muff Tumbler. He promoted both breeds and helped many fanciers get started in both.

Al was a charter member of the International Russian Trumpeter Club and was very instrumental in the club changing the name to Bokhara instead of Russian during the early 1950's during the McCarthy era. He also wrote much of the first standard in 1950. He served in all posts of the club and wrote a column in APJ during 1970's. However, Al "the shell" Grace was most known in Bokhara circles for his outcrosses to Jacobins to further the beautiful shell of the Bokhara. The I.B.T.C. voted Al, "honary life membership" in 1970. And in 1980, the American Pigeon Club gave Al the coveted award, "Master Breeder" for his life work on the Bokhara Trumpeter.

Al was also active in the World Marked Saddle Club and for a time wrote a column in APJ on the beautiful Saddle Tumbler. — by Mike Jenkins, Secretary, I.B.T.C., Massillon, Ohio. □

TEDDY HULL

Teddy Hull of Los Angeles, California, was the undisputed King of the Oriental Roller. Teddy spent 60+ years perfecting his strain of the Oriental Roller. His Oriental Rollers were sought after by all who knew about Oriental Rollers. Teddy had spent a lifetime getting the exact beak, color, body style and other characteristics in his birds. Most of us who have seen his loft feel that he achieved it.

Teddy shipped birds all over the world. His fame spread far and near. Even those who did not like Teddy, did like his birds.

Teddy was the envy of all with his Blacks. The white beak and sleek black stood out among the other blacks. His other colors were always in the winning circles.

It is sad to see 60+ years of dedicated breeding on a line come to an end. A lot of knowledge went with Teddy.

Teddy Hull passed away December 15, 1985, in an L.A. Hospital at the age of 74.

A dream came true for Teddy in Sept. 1985, when he was able to go back to Sarajevo, Yugoslavia and visit some of his old friends. He got to see and talk about the original Oriental Rollers in his native land with his old and new friends.

I will miss this dear man. I will miss being able to visit him and his lovely wife, Tosca, at his home. I will miss seeing his pigeons in his loft. I will miss the man who loved his birds. Goodbye to the King. — by Ed Colbert, 4709 Delta Park Cr., West Valley, Utah 84120. □

WALTER SLACK

I'm sorry to have to report the passing of a true pigeon man.

Walter Slack, age 89, passed away last fall and at that age he still had his pigeons.

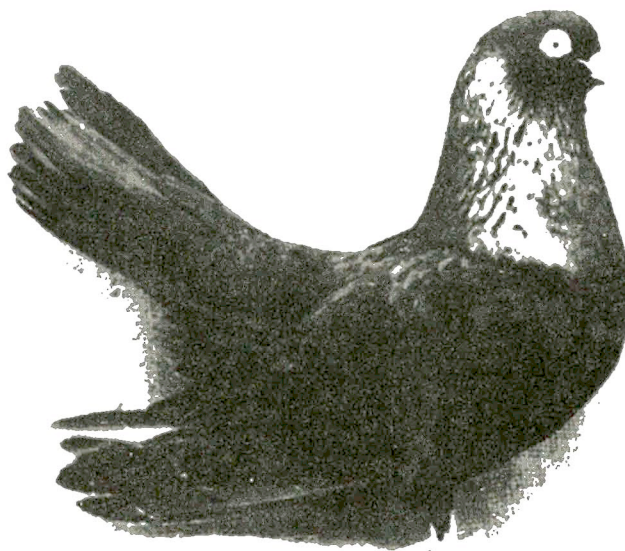
Walter had pigeons for over 80 years. His main breed was the show king, but he loved all breeds of pigeons and in the short 25 years I knew him, he also raised Modenas, Mondains, English Carriers, Dragoons and Homers.

Walter got hundreds of young people started in pigeons, including myself.

I know Walter has his pigeons with him in heaven and I know he is missed here. — Submitted by J.J. Kitchens, Decatur, Ill. □



TEDDY HULL 1911-1985



ORIENTAL ROLLER

A Black Oriental Roller Hen owned by the late Teddy Hull.

Eastern African Owl Club News

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

Here it is winter time and the start of another breeding season coming up quickly.

Be careful not to start breeding too soon so our young do not get that chill when the parents leave them to go eat. It does not take too long for the young to get cold and die. I always start as soon as possible and lose a few young because of the freezing cold. Like a lot of other fanciers I try to raise as many as possible but believe me, it doesn't pay when they die, because all you did is wasted time. Also out the ones that do die at first, could have been the one we all have been waiting for to be in the winning cage at show time. So let's all wait a few extra weeks before breeding.

Is everyone ready for breeding season? Do you worm your birds before breeding? How about vitamins? I use headstart for my birds and it has eliminated a lot of one eye colds in my loft. I mix the headstart (powder) with a couple of capfuls of wheat germ oil and mix it with their grain so they get a full dose. I give them this every two weeks all year long. Believe me, it works. If anyone uses anything else for their bird please let me know and I'll pass it on to everyone else through my column.

Are your pumpers ready? By ready I mean are they friendly enough? Do you have enough room in your loft? Remember overcrowding is bad, it means fighting which only ends up with broken eggs. Also more chance of your birds getting sick. Avoid these conditions by eliminating birds. I know we all hate to part with some of them, but we can't keep them all. So go through them before breeding and keep only the very best.

I heard from Wayne Diviney and he tells me Brad Atwood is cutting down on his Africans. I know he has some real quality Owls, and hates to part with them but I guess he doesn't have the room. Haven't heard from the American Owl Club or Bill Meyer. How about the African Owl breeders outside the U.S.A.? Come on fellows let me know what is going on so I can pass it on. Remember the APJ is worldwide so let's share your news worldwide. From what I see beings I get no response from any other owl club, the E.A.O.C. must be the only African Club around, so don't be cheated fanciers, join up with the EAOC by sending \$5.00 to our Secretary-Treasurer, Howard Kogan, 17 Anchor Court, Huntington, New York 11746. You will not be disappointed

after you see the quality Africans our members have, not forgetting the quality of members we have raising Africans.

Any information concerning Africans can be obtained by dropping me a line at 1095 Sheepshead Bay Road, Brooklyn, New York 11229. I will answer all mail and print any news in my column. How is everyone doing with the Paramyxovirus? Any new outbreaks in any area? Did everyone vaccinate their birds? It is very important to vaccinate and it is easy to do. Using a syringe (20 gauge) with a dose of one half cc (ml) just under the skin in the back of the neck. Be careful not to go too deep or into the neck muscle or you will cause permanent damage. If you're not sure how to inject your birds, ask someone who has done it to show you and you'll see how easy it is. It is very important so let's all do it and prevent this deadly disease from going any further. A special thanks to all concerned in making up this vaccine for paramyxovirus.

One more request fanciers please send me some news so we can keep the column going. Well till next month best of luck to all on the upcoming breeding season. □

National Sectional Meet

by HOWARD KINSLEY JR., Bangor, Bangor, Pa.

Our Sectional Meet in Watertown, Wisconsin, on November 30, 1985, was a very good show regardless of the five inches of snow.

There were 85 Pouters and Croppers. The largest breed was Norwich Croppers with 44 shown. Nancy Kehl had Champion with a Red Cock and Charles Schulz, Junior Member, had Best Reserve and Best Opposite Sex.

Michael LeGrand had the Best Dutch Cropper. Martin Bayer had the Best English Pouter. Michael LeGrand had the Best Hana Pouter.

Nancy Kehl had the Best Pigmy Pouter. Mike LeGrand had the Best Pomeranian Pouter and the Best Opposite Sex. Nancy Kehl had the Best Reversewing Pouter. Helmut Raer had the Best Voorburg Shield Cropper.

I would like to thank everyone for supporting the show. □



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Eastern Jacobin Assn. Winter Show Report

by JOHN MANCKIA, Sec.-Treas., Mechanicsville, Va.

A special pat on the back is due for the competitors at our big show. We had been on the ropes for a while, but as usual, the EJA is the twinkle in the Jacobin's eye.

The Annual Show, held at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Reading, Pa., drew 14 exhibitors and put 205 quality Jacobins in front of one of America's top breeders and showmen, Dennis Soares. Everyone, novice breeder and those with a few years were kept on the edge of their seat and picked up valuable information. Our newest showman, Jim Burns, seems to have done well. He did win a color class his first time out. Anyway, thanks Dennis for a thorough and professional job. In fact, when judging the finals, the entire front row of seats was occupied by Fantail breeders who had come to take a look see. And we had three past showmen on hand, two now being back on the roster.

Our classes were real eye catchers, showing a lot of hard work and dedication on the exhibitor's part. Yellows led the way with 37 shown, followed by reds and whites, each hosting 39. Congratulations to Rick and Dave Clinton on a super young yellow, winning both Reserve Champion and Best Young. I was fortunate to take home Grand Champion and Best Opposite Sex awards, both on yellows. I'm very proud of my #844 yellow because of last year's Champion win here too. He virtually keeps himself in shape, I just have to take him to the shows!

This Band Business

I called the Gey Band Co., on January 6, inquiring as to the whereabouts of our Club bands. They were mailed via first class mail on Decem-

ber 30, but haven't been seen since. I've had my fingers crossed for the last three days! Hopefully, each of you requesting them will have bands in hand by the time you read this. If not, the easiest way out for me is to leave the country! We still have a few rolls left at 11 cents a piece, 25 band minimum. For those wishing to reserve 1987 series, let me know. To reserve, you must buy the entire string of 100.

A great idea this year was the EJA auction. Tom put up two creams and I donated two reds, boosting the club ante by \$170. I've seen the Western Club do this, it's a great way to strengthen the treasury and put good birds into new lofts. For a one year trial, we will be raffling off quality birds at our winter show of 1987. More on this will be noted throughout the year, including histories, etc., of the birds.

Eastern Jacobin Association Annual Meeting, Jan. 4, 1986

The Annual meeting of the Eastern Jacobin Association was brought to order at 9 p.m. by President Tom Flamino.

A special thanks to all participating members and to super judge Dennis Soares.

The club was presented by Tom with our new perpetual award in honor of Ken Walling's achievement for the hobby. A very beautiful award, going for Best Young at our yearly shows.

Color class awards were presented, see our show results for particulars ... good job guys!

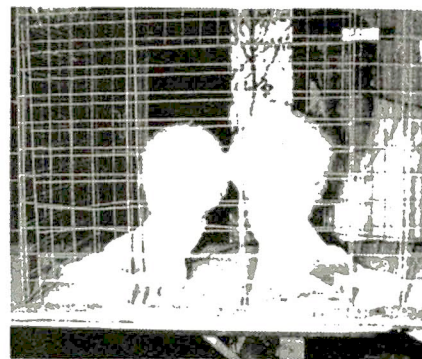
By vote, our auction of Jacobins has been put on a one year trial. Next year, we will sell raffle tickets and benefit the club with one half of the proceeds. The donors of the Jacobins will be compensated the other half. They will be of the highest caliber, as asset to any newcomer or old timer. We will keep as is our 50/50 raffle, it's going great.

Our slate of officers has been regrouped for another year, with one newcomer: Publicity, Ken Ey.

For next year's show, we've been put on hold. If the east is awarded the NPA Grand National, we will gladly host the Jacobin show. If they go elsewhere, we will show again at Reading. Personally, I'd like to see the Nationals here, keep an ear open.

On the financial side, we have, for 1987, decided to buy 1200 Club bands. We had been losing our shirt in the past, this should help.

Lastly, our APJ Special is soon to



CHOOSING CHAMPION

Judge Dennis Soares just prior to choosing yellow Jacobin Cock #844 as EJA Champion. #844 (center of cage) was 1984 and 1985 EJA Champion. — Bred and owned by John Manckia, Mechanicsville, Va.

be published. However, you need to send in your ad and article soon. I've spent all weekend preparing mine, please send one in. Our hobby needs to show the rest of the world that we have a great sport, great people and great times. More breeders taking advantage of the Special will only make it better.

Eastern Jacobin Association Winter Show Reading, Penn., January 3-4, 1986

As Judged by Dennis Soares
#844, Grand Champion, Yellow OC, John Manckia; #760, Reserve Champ., Yellow YC, Rick/Dave Clinton; #760, Best Young, Yellow YC, Rick/Dave Clinton; #1224, BOS, Yellow OH, John Manckia.

Scotty Hemphill Trophy for Best Young White won by Wayne Killiam, #649 White YH.

Ken Walling Perpetual for Best Young won by C & C Loft, Rick/Dave Clinton, #760.

Stepnowski Cup for Grand Champion won by John Manckia, #844, Yellow OC.

Yellow: 47 shown/Best by John Manckia, #844.

Red: 39 Shown/Best by John Manckia, #1129.

White: 39 shown/Best by Wayne Killian, #319.

AOC: 32 shown/Best by John Manckia, #710.

Blue: 15 Shown; Best by Tom Flamino, #217.

Black: 12 shown/Best by Tom Flamino, #325.

Cream/Mealy: 11 shown/Best by Tom Flamino, #350.

Silver: 10 shown/Best by Jim Burns, #987. □

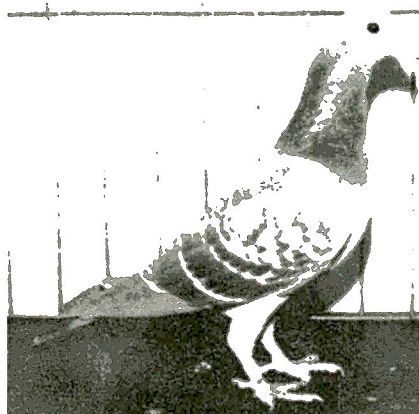


DENNIS SOARES
& JOHN MANCKIA

Dennis Soares (left) congratulates John Manckia after winning the Eastern Jacobin Assn. Meet held Jan. 3-4, 1986, in Reading, Pa.

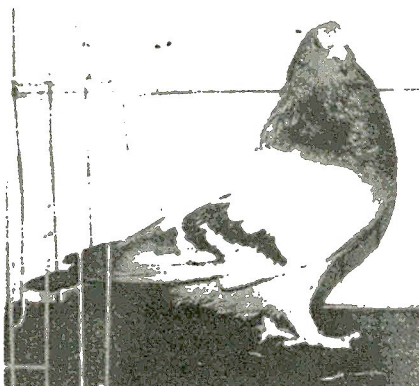
Colorado State Pigeon Assn. Winter Show 1985

by CECIL RATLEY, Arvada, Colo.



**CHAMPION FLYING
RACING HOMER**

This Blue Check YC Racing Homer was Champion Flying Racing Homer at the Colorado State Pigeon Assn.'s 35th Annual Winter Show. — Bred and owned by Ron Miller.



CHAMPION RUNT

This Blue YH Runt was Champion Runt at the Colorado State Pigeon Assn.'s 35th Annual Show. — Bred and owned by George Karsting.



RESERVE CHAMPION HELMET

This Dun YC Helmet was Reserve Champion Helmet at the Colorado State Pigeon Assn.'s 35th Annual Winter Show. — Bred and owned by Michael DeHart.

The C.S.P.A. 35th annual Winter Show was held in Dec. with 65 exhibitors showing 807 birds from four states. We want to thank the following judges for a job well done: Racing homers, Klass Mulder, Tim Mistepy and Johnny Resendez; for L.F.C.L. Tumblers, Frank Brienzi, and our all breed judge from Washington Myron Berger. We want to also thank the following clubs that held meets with us: The Frontier Tumbler Club, High Plains Racers Club, Rare Breeds Club District Meet and the American Helmet Club District 11 Meet.

Some of the winners in the show: Ch. Color Class Racing Homer, F. White; Ch. Flying Racing Homer, R. Miller; Ch. Runt and Utility, G. Kersting; Ch. Helmet, Tri-L Lofts, Res. Ch. Helmet, Michael DeHart; Ch. German Toy and Rare Breed, G. Volzke; Ch. L.F.C.L. Tumbler, Lee



CHAMPION HELMET

This Red YC Helmet was Champion Helmet at the Colorado State Pigeon Assn.'s 35th Annual Winter Show. — Bred and owned by Tri-L Lofts.

Sirota; Ch. Roller, Show, R. Holley; Ch. Flying Roller, C. Calerich; Ch. Jacobin, F. Seibel; Ch. Pheasant, G. McCoy; Ch. Am. Show Racer, Chiquito Loft, and Res. Ch. Am. Show Racer, M. Ratley.

We want to thank all who showed and helped with the show. □

National Young Bird Show

by HOWARD KINSLEY JR., Bangor, Pa.

On October 25, 1985, the National Pouter and Cropper Club held its annual Young Bird Show in Louisville at the beautiful Kentucky State Fairgrounds with the National Young Bird Show. After a very good dinner Friday night at the Executive Inn, provided by the National Pouter and Cropper Club, we all had a good nights sleep. At 9:30 a.m. the very competent Guenter Wenzel started the judging.

There were a total of 131 Pouters and Croppers exhibited. The largest breed was the Norwich Croppers with 42. Champion went to a Black YH shown by Steve Zientek. Reserve Champion to a AOC OC shown by Charles Small.

The next largest breed was the Pomeranian Pouters with 29. Champion went to a Blue YC shown by junior member, Amy Kinsley. Reserve to a Black YC shown by Ron Wideman. BOS to Red YH shown by D. Healy.

The Dutch Croppers had 17. Champion to a Blue YH shown by Amy Kinsley. Reserve and BOS to a Black YC shown by Amy Kinsley.

Pigmy Pouters had 14. Champion went to a AOC YH shown by A. Graham. Reserve to a AOC YC shown by A. Graham. The Pigmy Pouters were judged by Martin Bayer.

The Voorburg Shield Croppers had 13. Champion was a Blue YH shown by Howard Kinsley Sr. Reserve and BOS went to a Red YC also shown by

Howard Kinsley Sr.

Reversewing Pouters had 11. Champion went to a Yellow YH. Reserve went to a Blue YC. Both shown by Howard Kinsley Jr.

In Hana Pouters with two shown, Best went to a Blue YC shown by Steve Zientek.

In Swing Pouters with two shown, Best went to a Black YC shown by Amy Kinsley.

In Bohemian Pouters with two shown, Best went to a Red OC shown by Howard Kinsley Jr.

In English Pouters with five shown, Best went to a AOC YH shown by Martin Bayer.

In Saxon Pouters with two shown, Best went to a Black YC shown by Junior member, Cody Berns.

There was one Holle Cropper. Champion was a White YC shown by Ken Berns.

Best Junior was the Black YC Swing Pouter shown by Amy Kinsley.

Best Pouter and Cropper went to the Black YH Norwich shown by Steve Zientek. Reserve Champion and BOS went to Blue YC Pomeranian Pouter shown by Amy Kinsley. □

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Pigeon Show Calendar

April 5 & 6 — Virginia Pigeon and Dove Assn. All Age Show, Virginia State Fairgrounds, Richmond, Va. For info: Pigeons - Jo Ryan, 3028 Bowling Green Drive, Virginia Beach, Va. 23452. 1-804-340-0162. Doves - Ed Brooks, 1609 Adams Dr. West, Suffolk, Va. 1-804-238-2931.

April 6 — Southern Minnesota Pigeon Assn. Swap 'N Sell, Mower County Fairgrounds, Austin, Minn. For information, contact Ted J. Conradt, P.O. Box 171, Rose Creek, Minn. 55970. 507-437-2337.

April 12 — North Central Pigeon Club Spring Swap, Green Township Community Center, Albion, Indiana. Gary Davis, RR 1, Box 50, Churubusco, Indiana 46723. 219-693-6431.

April 20 — Lincoln Hill Pigeon Club Swap and Trade Day. Dane G. Dougan, Sec., RR 2, Huntingburg, Ind. 47542.

May 17 — United Oriental Roller Assn. Yearling Show. Judge: Jim Green. 3686 So. 4310 W. Don Evans' Home. Sec. Jim Green, 64 W. 3400 So., Salt Lake City, Utah 84115.

May 18 — High Point Pigeon Club Annual All Breed, All Age Spring Pigeon and Dove Show, Oak View Recreation Center, High Point, N. Car. Thurmond Michael, Sec., 813 Mark St., High Point, N. Car. 27260. Ph. 919-882-3273.

June 22 — Lincoln Hill Pigeon Club Summer Show. Dane G. Dougan, Sec., RR 2, Huntingburg, Ind. 47542.

Aug. 6-10 — Southern Minnesota Pigeon Assn. Mower County Fair Pigeon Show, Mower County Fairgrounds, Austin, Minn. For information, contact Ted J. Conradt, P.O. Box 171, Rose Creek, Minn. 55970. 507-437-2337.

Sept. 27 — Indiana Pigeon Club's Annual Yearling and Young Bird Show, National Guard Armory, Hartford City, Ind. Ray Hoover, Show Sec., RR 3, New Castle, Ind. 47362.

Oct. 4 — Lincoln Hill Pigeon Club Fall Show. Dane G. Dougan, Sec., RR 2, Huntingburg, Ind. 47542.

Oct. 5 — Southern Minnesota Pigeon Assn. Bill Tyrer Memorial Fall Pigeon Show, Mower County Fairgrounds, Austin, Minn. For information, contact Ted J. Conradt, P.O. Box 171, Rose Creek, Minn. 55970. 507-437-2337.

Oct. 11 — United Oriental Roller Assn. Young Bird Show. Judge: Jerry Ohrn. Utah State Fairgrounds, Sec., Jim Green, 64 W. 3400 So., Salt Lake City, Utah 84115.

Oct. 12 — Central Pa. Avian Club Pigeon Show, location unknown as of now. Show Sec., Tom Thompson, RD 2, Box 726, Jersey Shore, Pa. 17740.

Nov. 1 — Midwest Showmans Association, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, entry blank, Dave Tobisch, 4172 Tower Drive, Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703.

Nov. 15 — Midwest Showmans Association, Pipestone Invitational, Pipestone, Minnesota, entry blank, Dave Tobisch, 4172 Tower Drive, Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703.

Nov. 15 — Tennessee Pigeon and Dove Club All Age Show. Speciality Clubs Welcome. For information, write: Harris Ferguson, Rt. 5, Box 302, Portland, Tenn. 37148.

Nov. 15-16 — Minnesota Classic sponsored by the Minnesota State Pigeon Assn. at Hutchinson Fairgrounds, Hutchinson, Minn. Show Supt. Harlan Peterson, 9009 40½ Ave. N., New Hope, Minn. 55427. Show Sec., Gary D. Swanson, RR 3, Rockford, Minn. 55373.

Nov. 16 — High Point Pigeon Club Annual All Breed, All Age Fall Pigeon and Dove Show,

Oak View Recreation Center, High Point, N. Car. Write: Thurmond Michael, 813 Mark St., High Point, N. Car. 27260. Ph. 919-882-3273.

Nov. 29 — Indiana Pigeon Club's 60th All Breed Winter Show, National Guard Armory, Hartford City, Ind. Ray Hoover, Show Sec., RR 3, New Castle, Ind. 47362.

Nov. 29 — Midwest Showmans Association, U.S. Open, LaCrosse, Wisconsin, entry blank, Dave Tobisch, 4172 Tower Drive, Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703.

Dec. 5-7 — United Oriental Roller Assn. Teddy Hull Memorial Show. Judge: John Fife. Utah State Fairgrounds, Sec., Jim Green, 64 W. 3400 So., Salt Lake City, Utah 84115. 801-485-1749.

Dec. 6 — Mid-Michigan Pigeon Fanciers All-Breed Winter Show, Demonstration Hall, Michigan State University, Lansing, Michigan. For more information, contact Judy Smith, 1040 Echo Beach, Jackson, Mich. 49203. Phone 517-782-0909.

Dec. 13 — Midwest Showmans Association, Eau Claire Classic, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, entry blank, Dave Tobisch, 4172 Tower Drive, Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703.

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Germex Disinfectant

2 Quarts \$10.00

Tamed Iodine Disinfectant

1 Quart \$7.95

(Plus Shipping)

Eye Preparations

Terramycin Eye Ointment \$2.25

Tylan-Neomycin Eye Powder

Good for eye colds and any cuts or scrapes a bird gets. Speeds healing.

New Large Size \$5.45

Tonics & Vitamins

Hetland Loft Pigeon Builder

Helps during stress of molt and races. Contains antibiotic plus vitamins. Similar to old Myzon formula.

1 lb. \$6.00 2 lbs. \$10.00 5 lbs. \$18.50

Wins-More 1 Pkg. - \$4.25

Old Dutch No Light Pills

A mild laxative and conditioner for pigeons going light, off feed, etc.

1 - \$1.95 2 - \$3.50

Vitapol (Vitamins Plus Electrolytes)

Improved product. Probably the best vitamin bargain on the market. Newly formulated.

1 Pkg. - \$4.95 2 Pkgs. - \$7.75

5 Pkgs. - \$17.00

Vita-Preen

The best water soluble vitamin product on the market (also has iodine)

1 pound \$9.95

Mega-Min

The best complete mineral product on the market. Goes in grit.

1 lb. - \$9.95 26 oz. - \$15.95

Brewer's Yeast Powder 14 oz. \$2.95

Brewer's Yeast & Garlic Tablets

100 at \$3.95

Brewer's Yeast & Garlic Powder

14 Oz. \$5.95

Vionate 8 Oz. - \$3.50

2 Lbs. - \$7.95

10 Lbs. - \$29.00

Salisbury Vitamins & Electrolytes

1 Lb. \$4.50

For Fancier's Health

6413-2100 DUST/MIST RESPIRATOR

Recently there has been reports of an allergic condition caused by a protein found in pigeon droppings. This protein is the cause of the "Pigeon Breeders Disease". Not many become allergic but when they do, it is a very serious disease. This mask is capable of filtering out this protein and any other harmful particles found in pigeon droppings. Yes, it is expensive, but isn't it worth it?

One Mask \$25.00

Refills \$9.00

Large orders sent UPS if you give your address and/or phone number. For small drug items, add \$1.00 per item, if you would like them sent FIRST CLASS. Otherwise, we will have to send them parcel post and we hate to do that because it is slow. Phone orders sent COD by UPS. Phone number: 612-537-4242 normal business hours. For price information, call or write. Rest assured that we will just bill you or write to you if you are short or we will be fair if you send too much. COMPLETE SUPPLY CATALOG 25 cents PLUS STAMP.

ORDERS TO HAWAII, ALASKA, PUERTO RICO OR FOREIGN ARE NOT POSTPAID

FOY'S PIGEON SUPPLIES

CLAIR HETLAND, Druggist

Master Breeder: Bokhara Trumpeters

Recognized By: NPA & APC

P.O. BOX 27166, GOLDEN VALLEY, MINN. 55427