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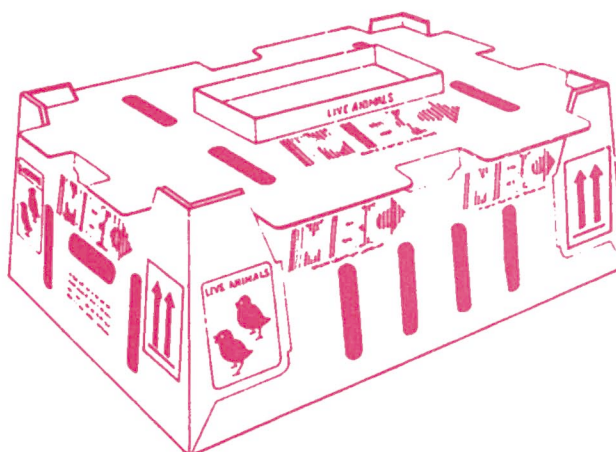
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American Pigeon Journal is published monthly at Warrenton, Mo. 63383. William L. Worley, Editor and Owner. Second class postage paid at Warrenton, Mo. Title registered at U.S. Patent Office. Trademark 527-340.

Subscription rate: — \$16 per year, \$28 for 2 years, \$42 for 3 years in U.S.A. To Canada and Foreign Countries, \$19 per year, \$34 for 2 years, \$51 for 3 years post-paid, payable in U.S. Funds drawn on a United States bank. Airmail rates upon request. Single copies \$3.00 each.

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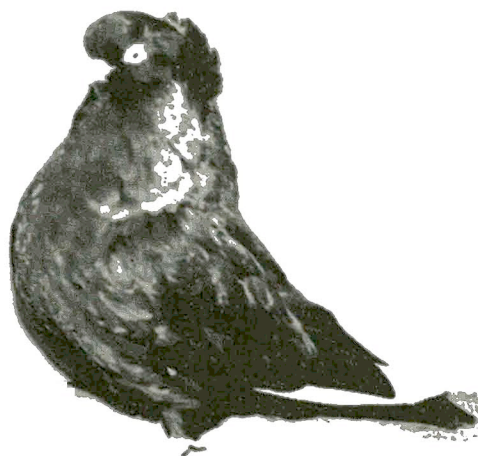


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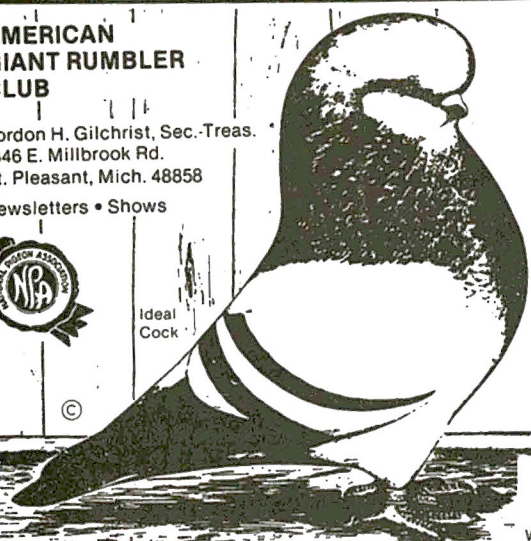
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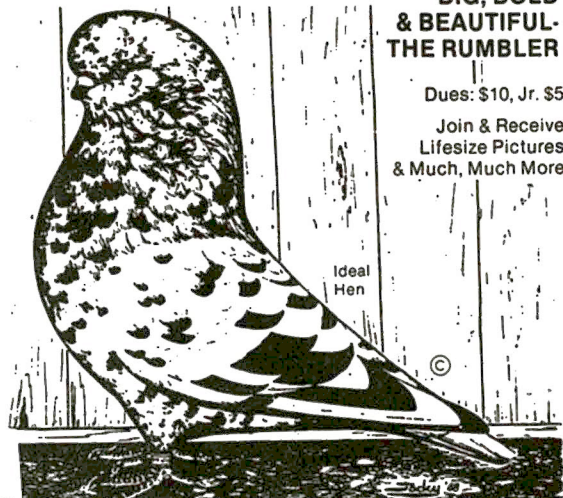
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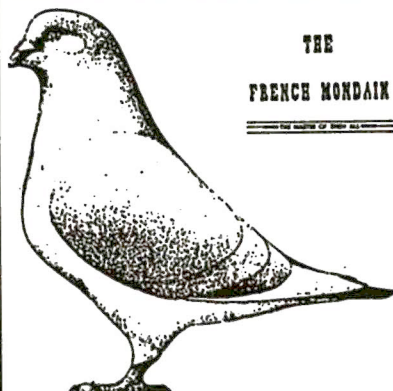
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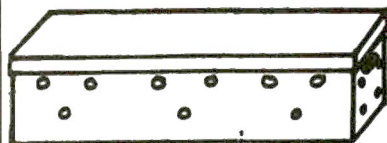
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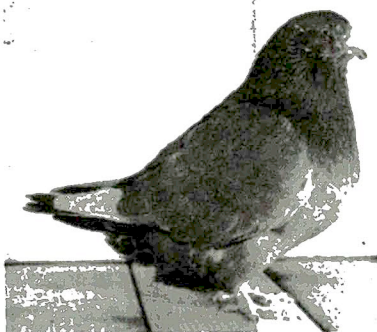
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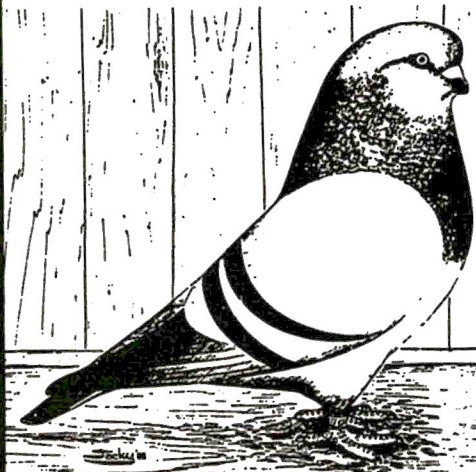
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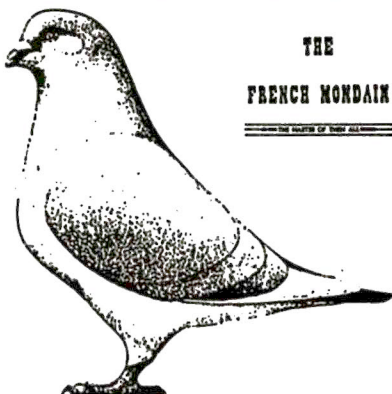
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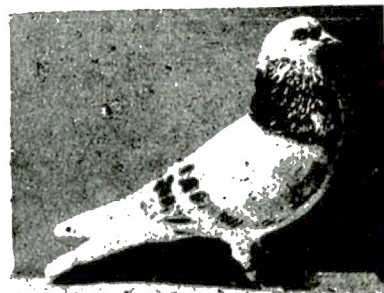
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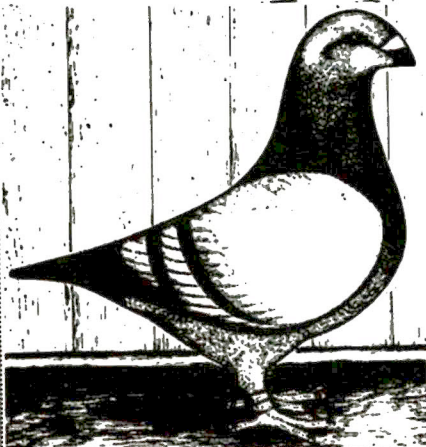
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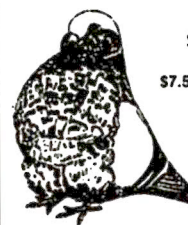


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1990 Grand National Site Announced

Pomona, California, will be the site of the 1990 NPA Grand National. The dates will be January 17 through 19, 1991 and the show will be held at the Los Angeles Co. Fairgrounds, site of the famous Pageant of Pigeons.

Host club is the Los Angeles Pigeon Club with Frank Barrachina serving as show secretary. His address is P.O. Box 1268, Yucaipa, California 92399.

Profile Of Pouters, Vol. 1

Another reminder that we have a few more copies of "Profile Of Pouters, Volume 1", authored by the world renowned Pouter and Cropper breeder Frank Barrachina. Volume 1 covers English, Pigmy, French, Norwich and Brunner's histories and standards. The book is 114 pages with 35 illustrations including 2 color plates. The cost is \$23.50 plus \$2.50 postage and handling.

Be sure to order your copy today by sending \$26.00 plus your name and address to American Pigeon Journal, P.O. Box 278, Warrenton, Mo. 63383

Price Increase On NPA Leg Bands

Leg bands for the National Pigeon Assn. will increase to 15 cents per band effective July 1, 1990. After 12 years and several absorbed price increases by the NPA, the raise was necessary, according to Jerry McCalmon, Secretary. The postage and handling will also go up to \$1.00. See the NPA's advertisement on the inside back cover.

May 1990 Roller Special

Look out for our May issue! The Roller fanciers have gone all out to make this special one of the most memorable in the history of the APJ. Be sure to order your copies early, as this is sure to be a collector's item.

July 1990 Domestic Flight Special

The Domestic Flight will be featured in our July number. The New York Combine is sponsor of this special. Flight Fanciers across America can be included by sending their material to the following people: Coordinator Peter Fratangelo, 300 East 3rd St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11218 or Assistant Coordinators John Pluchino, 480 N. Clinton Ave., Lindenhurst, N.Y. 11757 or Tom Serra, 86-08 Atlantic Ave., Ozone Park, N.Y. 11417. Deadline is May 1, 1990.

Moments With "Mike"

Charles Cichanowicz, Hatfield, Mass. 01038: "I really enjoy reading the APJ cover to cover. I like the Pigeonholes articles and especially the Dec. 88 Oriental Frill Special, a true classic. Keep up the fine work. Enclosed is my renewal."

Fran Trojanowski, East Detroit, Mich.: "Our family has been feeding a flock of pigeons for several years. We've become so interested in these beautiful birds that we recently built a coop and bought some Komorner Tumblers to raise, and a white Fantail. We want to learn as much as possible about raising pigeons and were happy to learn about your publication from the man who sold us the birds. Enclosed is a check for a one year subscription to APJ."

Rex E. Wilson, Hooperston, Ill.: "...I enjoy the Journal very much as I have kept pigeons of various breeds for over 40 years. I started breeding Rollers in 1961 for performance only. I also keep a few Doneks around for the pleasure they give. I was pleased to see another Roller Special for May of this year. I will be looking forward to receiving it. The last Roller Special was great and I still look through it quite often. Thanks for all your great work on the APJ. I am sure its enjoyed by many throughout the Pigeon World."

John B. Thomas, Wetaskiwin, Alberta, Canada: "...Keep up the good work, your magazine is the best. I really like the specials even if I don't have the breed they represent. I am breeding Rollers and American Show Racers."

Garth B. Porter, Logan, Utah: "I have recently moved and would like my subscription sent to my new address...The APJ is a wonderful magazine, I don't want to miss a single issue. Keep up the excellent work!"

Jim Cassettari, Coos Bay, Oregon: "...Since I have been out of the fancy for 22 years, your January issue was the only means of making contact with other pigeon people, and it served me well. I have already made some new wonderful friends and obtained a terrific start in Birmingham Rollers. Thanks to you and your most informative publication. Keep it coming."

Lin Jewell, Orland, Calif.: "I just noticed it's time to renew my subscription so I'm sending you my check for a couple more years. I've enjoyed your magazine for over 30 years and look forward to it each month. You and your staff do a great job with the magazine. Thank you and keep up the good work. I'm sure everyone in the Pigeon Fancy appreciates you."

Sam DaMommio, Arlington, Texas: "I wanted to write to convey my satisfaction at the response from a person that I met through the APJ. I am speaking of Alex Rawson. After talking with Alex, he found some beautiful Domestic Flights, flying type. This was after contacting a number of folks that couldn't help me find any decent birds. Therefore let me formally thank Mr. Rawson for his assistance and quick response."

The Essentials Of The English Trumpeter

by JOHN HEPPNER, Vista, Calif.

It has been quite a long time since I have felt inspired to write about English Trumpeters. What brings on the occasion now is I was able to capture on a photograph the basic elements of what we are striving to produce.

The article could well have been entitled: Standardizer is Challenged! The Red Y.C. #487 Best Young at the 89 Pageant has features that exceed the past two years Pageant Champion #317 Red Splash O.C.

The photo illustrates the shortness so desired in English Trumpeters. The width and depth of body and thickness of neck is also very evident. The back cover or lay of flights for the necessary style and type comes through readily as well. We always want a broad flat skull with an accompanying wide and high crest. If you can achieve the neat narrow tuft with substance you have an extra bonus although it actually is a necessity.

The name of the bird is Avalanche. Not my idea but so named by one of my competitors, John DeCarlo.

Avalanche is a break-through bird. He overwhelms you with his power. Several fanciers have dubbed him hen apparent to the Standardizer but only time will tell.



WINNING ENGLISH TRUMPETER

"Avalanche", Red English Trumpeter, YC #487, was Best Young at the 1989 Pageant of Pigeons, Pomona, Calif. Judge, Art Pamplona. — Photo by John Heppner, Vista, Calif.

Does Avalanche have faults? For sure he does, he is somewhat nervous, moults too slowly and does not travel well. So the quest goes on but it sure is nice to get a couple of rewards along the way. The big rewards are far and

few in between, especially when your standards are set high. You certainly must set your own standards high in the breeding program or you will never hit the mark. Good luck and remember, "The Journey Is The Reward." □

Domestic Show Flight Trivia

by ALEX RAWSON, Staten Island, N.Y.



BEST IN SHOW

This Red Teager Cap was Best in Show 1988. This is a proper specimen of a Domestic Flight. Bred by John Spahr, Astoria, N.Y. — Photo from Alex Rawson, Staten Island, N.Y.

After having written in APJ and other pigeon publications about our Domestic Show Flights since 1936 it took a great deal to come up with something of interest that I haven't written much about these past 52 years. I'm a great believer in type being as important as other features expressed in our standard. I also have certain hang ups that just won't go away when it comes to my personal preferences. One of these is the beauty I find in a show bird having short fingers or toes on his feet. Of course I have seen and I own many great birds that had long toed feet. I loved them, but still would prefer the short toed bird.

When considering good type we have to include a preference too if your show bird should stand on its toes and perform, or should it stand flat footed and rear back in a show stance? While the tippy toed bird is many times a great show off I personally like mine to

stand flat footed and throw their chests up when standing that way. I find too many of the tippy toed birds leaning towards a deformity of one or more toes and that's not nice.

The short thick legs we seek in our show bird don't look great if it's a belly crawler type. There should be some air space between the legs under the keel. Now mind you I mean not very much is greater because if your aim in your mating is for a high breast and low keel the type that will result is sure to attract the judges attention. That's important. Now considering our Domestic head, neck and breast points. These are truly a challenge to create, and hold features. I mean when you mate enough good headed birds together you surely can expect better results and you do get them. A great clue to good skull can be seen when the gullets are full and the feathering of the gullet travel up forward to halfway up the lower mandible. These will

usually have the front skull on top go back behind the wattle giving the proper head expression I seen since the head stop will show up beautifully this way.

Since our Domestic Show Flight is truly our contribution to the long faced tumblers of the world we should explain the term long faced. This term does not mean long beaked. What it means is that since the eye is center placed in the head, the distance to the lip is long. As compared to the term short faced here, we will see the eye being placed closer to the lip of the beak. Thus the term short faced.

The Domestic Show Flight fancy is at least 90 years old which is about as long as is the English L.F.C.L. Tumbler fancy has been in existence. The Domestic is made in America for sure by New York and New Jersey fanciers. It is by far the most competitive breed ever. At one time there were five different clubs in New York and two in New Jersey, all competing at the same time. Because of these clubs there were shows almost every weekend for months at a time. All with 250 to 500 Domestics being shown and all competing in the fever that gripped the fanciers of this beautiful breed.

In the beginning our Domestic was a

low legged, round headed breed with the cocks being shorter and thicker in beak though the hens which ran spindly and thinner. Around 1927 there came a different styled bird. This one was taller in legs and neck and the emphasis was on bright cherry wattles and extra white eyes. Around 1940 a cross was tried by John Hassel of Brooklyn, between a short faced Tumbler and a Flight and also a Long Faced English Tumbler and a Flight. These crosses were shown in the old Brooklyn Labor Lyceum Show blew the minds of all who saw these. Soon a new trend started towards these round headed, straight faced, short legged. Tumbler crossed Flights. The new development caught on and now all started to try to produce them. The Red and Yellow selfs came first in the Flight change. It took years before the mottle marked teagers in Red and Yellow overtook them. Blacks and Duns came very slowly. The first breakthrough came when I raised a Black Teager Cap hen that won 18 Best in Show Trophies over all the current Reds and Yellows. After that everyone got on the band wagon and many great Black and Dun Flights were raised and shown. A Black Pigeon with a pink beak is indeed attractive. Blues and Silvers in



ALEX RAWSON,
STATEN ISLAND, N. Y.

*Ambassador to all intense breeders
for 50 years.*

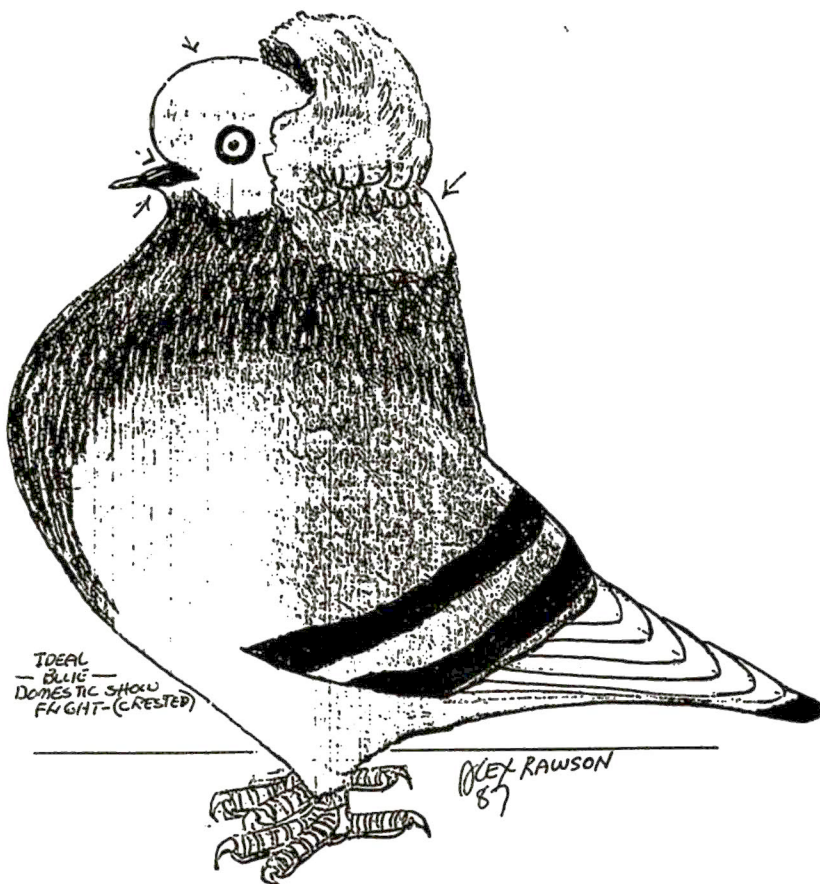
this variety had lain dormant for many, many years. It wasn't that none were around, rather these were old styled birds who didn't have a chance against the other colors in competition. To compete a Blue had to be created in the type of the Tumbler crossed Flights and still retain the pink beak required.

Three fanciers started to develop an improved Blue. The first winning Blue was raised by myself. She was called Ruby Blue. Young from her went to Eddie Quinn who had some blues started and with the four he got from me. He went to town and raised the greatest line up of Bar birds ever seen. Simunek, the other fancier, also came up with a nice product but no one produced the quality and quantity that Ed Quinn did. He truly produced the best typed Flights ever seen and in barred birds!

Today's fanciers are doing great with the creative products produced by Capek, Rosenbloom, DiBiasi, Rawson and Quinn. They have produced even better quality than the old timers presented so the magic and challenge of raising our American Domestic Flight still remains intact in 1988.

The classy type depicted by the sketch enclosed owes much to its foremost developer Ed Quinn. Special mention must be made of Benny Rosenbloom's Kelly strain and how DiBiasi and Schiavone went even further to improve these. Capek's Yellows are long to be remembered and their bloodlines are still around in the good yellows I'm sure today.

Tremendous strides today have been and are still being made by the members of the New York Flight Combine. The last show I attended I had to be helped to my car. I was stunned at how many great birds were shown. The judge sure had his hands full in every class. □



Ideal Blue Domestic Show Flight (Crested). Sketch by Alex Rawson, Staten Island, N. Y.



Champion Indian Fantail at 1989 Grand National, White YC #2094, bred and exhibited by Darrold Mueller, Besse, Oklahoma. — Photo from Garry Glissmeyer, Colorado Springs, Colo.

A Grand Indian Wins At The Grand National

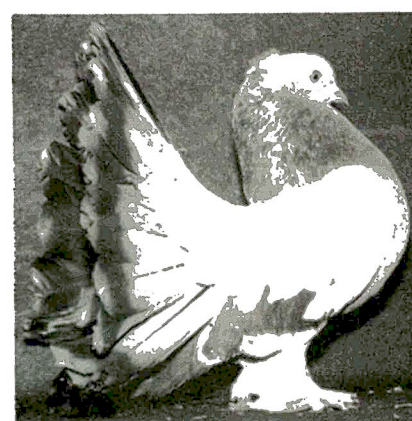
by GARRY GLISSMEYER, IFCA Pub. Dir., Colorado Springs, Colo.

Congrats to Darrold Mueller on nearly sweeping the Indian Fantail classes at the '89 Salt Lake City Grand National. Ken McCoy blocked Darrold's run at taking all the prizes with a Young Blue Bar Cock #1200 taking 2nd Reserve; otherwise, Mueller

garnered Champion with a solidly-stationed White Young Cock #2094; 1st Reserve with a full-tailed Yellow Ribbontail Old Cock #181; Best Red Ribbontail Y.C. #3245 and best of color in the Almond class with a Young Cock #2044 that had great



1st Reserve Indian Fantail '89 Grand National, Yellow Ribbontail OC #181, bred and exhibited by Darrold Mueller. — Photo from Garry Glissmeyer, Colorado Springs, Colo.



2nd Reserve Indian at '89 Grand National, Blue Bar YC #1200, bred and exhibited by Ken McCoy, San Saba, Texas. — Photo from Garry Glissmeyer, Colorado Springs, Colo.



IFCA members Chuck Martin, Ken McCoy and Darrold Mueller swapping stories at the SLC Grand National. — Photo from Garry Glissmeyer, Colorado Springs, Colo.

break and a very nice ground color.

Now, the above is not to say Mueller didn't have some competition. The white class was, as usual, a strong one. For three years Mueller's O.C. #23 was selected Best White or Show Champion virtually every time he was shown — but it wasn't to be this time. Jim Abbott's OH #764, was a favorite of many, but in the final showdown for Best White, Abbott's bird's tail had a weaker center than the winning bird (due to a late molt). So, Mueller's winning Young Cock finally beat out his "stable mate", old #23. As it should be; we want younger birds to show improvement over their ancestors.

The Almond class "color" has really improved over the past few years. In the past developmental years "near white" Almonds have won B.O.C., or birds with erratic or very little break. Today we have plenty of birds with fairly good, even break and appropriate "inside-of-the-almond-shell ground



IFCA certified judge Carl Rodegerdts, Woodland, Calif., judging and explaining points during the Ribbontail class final four birds. — Photo from Garry Glissmeyer, Colorado Springs, Colo.

color" and the Indian style. Ken McCoy had a very strong Almond that may have won a different day. (The photo of Mueller's winning Almond #2044 doesn't show the bird at its best for the photo session it was "spooked" and flattened out, wanting to fly up towards the lights, so in the photo it looks long-backed, which it didn't look like in the judging cages).

Dennis Briggs (if my memory serves me) had a strong, clean-ribbed red bird that made a strong run for B.O.C., but Mueller edged him with a larger, better balanced Red Ribbontail.

In future shows I'll bet the name of Chuck Martin will start surfacing in the winning circle. Chuck is from Sun Valley, Nevada and after a number of years away from pigeons, is back and is breeding the Indian. He is very interested and had good birds at the show ... give him time! Welcome, Chuck!

At the Pageant, in November, I saw my first Opal Indian Fantail, bred by Darlene Fox — a young cock that held a nice stance. The bird was a tad small and short on muffs, but as a genetic-project bird, it was very pleasing and won best "genetic project"; at the National, Mueller exhibited a fairly good Opal Y.C., too. I hope more breeders will become involved in these newer colors so we can improve their quality, extend the breed and broaden our membership — not everyone wants to breed just one color.

Now, back to the National; in a future article I'll feature the juniors, but we did have four juniors exhibiting and each won a trophy, with Rebecca Houser taking Jr. Champion with a nicely balanced "tailmark" (her young cock #3736 was too nice not to show, even if it was a mis-marked tailmark. For a Jr. Breeder, Rebecca should be proud of such a quality, balanced bird). Our exhibiting Jr. Breeders

were: Rebecca Houser, West Valley, UT; Jake Scott, Blackfoot, ID; Brent Pederson, Ogden, UT; and Micah Tordiff, Farmington, UT. And although she didn't exhibit, Amy Mueller was with her dad, having a great time. It was only a couple of years ago that Jim Abbott was one of our Juniors and now has aged into a senior and giving serious competition to some of our veteran breeders.

And now for a final "editorial" comment from me. Our IFCA USA membership now stands at 145 breeders; we are not a small club anymore. At many of our local, district - level shows we have 100-150-175 birds being shown. At one NYBS we had over 270 exhibited. Yet our Grand National shows (with the exception of the Houston Grand National) seem to draw mostly members from the immediate district, with Mueller and McCoy being the exceptions on a regular basis. Some Grand Nationals have had as few as 7 IFCA members exhibiting. Right next to our Indian exhibit was the Helmet Club, with seemingly 30-40 exhibitors, 200-300? birds (I didn't stop to count), a lively auction on the last day with hundreds of dollars going into the club, and a lot of laughter and good times going on. They had breeders from all over the country. We can do that too. It takes planning, saving money for the trip, getting birds ready and encouraging each other to show up and compete. I understand next year's Grand National will be in Los Angeles. Let's work towards a 300 bird show, with a Special Genetics trophy for new colors and marks being developed, as the Southern Indian Fantail club offers. If we plan, we can do it and have a great time.

Hope all of you are off to a great '90 breeding season. Adios from the Rockies. □

Dove Talk

by GEORGE SCHUTT,
Madison, Tenn.

Many people has asked the question about raising Mourning Doves. The question is can you keep and raise them in captivity? Also breeders want to know if they make a good aviary bird.

I have a good article on Mourning Doves. It was written by Dr. Naether. It is a reprint from APJ (February 1979). It will answer many questions asked about them. Remember one thing about keeping Mourning Doves, you must have a federal permit to house them.

MOURNING DOVE — ALMOST IDEAL FOR BEGINNING FANCIER by Prof. Carl Naether, Encino, California

Any genuine birdlover, man or woman, intent on becoming a dove fancier should consider the Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*) with a view to making this lovely native bird his first choice. Why? Because the mourning dove adjusts fairly quickly to life in a spacious aviary, provided, of course, that she is treated with patience and consideration — afforded ample space to fly about, not crowded with other doves or birds, fed regularly and properly, and housed comfortably. Once accustomed to her captive environment and especially to her keeper, this dove is quite likely to become tame and trusting in due course of time. Since this native dove, with its earthbrown protective plumage color, is considered a game-bird, and is as such legally protected in most states, any person wishing to keep this dove in confinement should apply to his or her state's wildlife department for an official permit, which can be renewed from time to time.

I shall always remember with pleasure my very first encounter with the mourning dove. It happened quite some years ago on a hot afternoon in July when I was vacationing at my brother's parsonage in Castle Grove, a rich farming hamlet about seven miles from Onticello, Iowa. All alone, a male of this species was perched on a telephone wire in front of the house, wafting his coah-coooo-coooo-coo enthusiastically again and again across the corn-growing countryside, perhaps to let his mate know that he was not far from the nest, the location of which I did not know. The dove's clarion call carried far in the sunny summer air and I listened to it eagerly since I had never heard it before. Not knowing the dove's name, its call sounded anything but doleful or mournful to me. Rather

(Continued On Next Page)

it seemed to suite the afternoon's hot air — it came relaxed and leisurly — the only avian voice audible in the spreading countryside. I can hear this distinctive song now as I write these lines.

Since the mourning dove is the common wild dove of the West, if not of all America hence well known to most birdlovers, I will dispense with a detailed description of it, except to say that this olive or earthbrown dove is slimmer than most domestic pigeons. Its tail, unlike that of any other wild dove, is pointed, tipped white and crossed by a white subterminal band. On the upper side of the neck, glittering, purplish-red feathers "light up" when the sun's rays strike them. In the female, which is slightly smaller than the male, this iridescence is much less conspicuous. Young mourning doves lack the colorful neck feathers entirely.

Since mourning doves are daily and very welcome visitors in our garden, where they find ample food and drink the whole year through, I have ample opportunity to observe their comings and goings from my study window. Last year a pair nested about 15 feet high in the dense foliage of one of our sycamore trees, where it raised two gentle youngsters successfully. During their mating season I saw the old birds varying their usual whistling flight by sailing in graceful curves on stiffened wings noiselessly high above their nesting tree. The nest they built was truly a model of frailty! It consisted of some twigs and sticks which the male carried to his nest-mate at the site, where she took them and arranged them roundabout her. In states subject to sudden severe wind and rainstorms, these flimsy nest-platforms are frequently blown into obscurity. Here in California, nests are built also in old thrashers', brewer blackbirds' and blue jays' nests, on tree stumps, brush piles, and even on the bare ground; as in the treeless desert. Male and female mourning doves "work" from a few days to a week on the nest construction.

Mourning doves are known to be prolific breeders, their laying season usually running from March to September. Surprisingly, an observer in central Ohio has found mourning doves sitting on fresh eggs in every month of the year, excepting December and January. In California and some Western states, the breeding season, usually involving two or more broods, run from March to July, and from August to December. Two white eggs, rarely three or four, constitute the usual clutch. Incubation starts with the egg laid first, which means that the squab hatching first, usually on the 14th day, gets a headstart on its mate, which hatches also on the 14th day af-

ter the egg was laid. During incubation, in which both male and female share, the latter is relieved by the male between 9 and 10 o'clock in the morning until between 4 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon. The tiny nestlings, which grow fast, are fed so-called pigeon milk, a soft, mushy substance for several days, later to be followed by small seeds, and finally by whole grains of various sorts. Sometimes when feeding, both squabs will insert their soft little bills at the same time into the parent's bill, to be fed by regurgitation. When the youngsters have reached the age of from 12 to 14 days, their parents will coax them out of the nest, feeding them more or less sparingly for several days. Soon after, they learn to fly with their elders to favorite feeding and drinking stations, where they meet other young birds. According to a research study, each pair of squabs hatched is of the same sex, i.e. either two males or two females, which when later joining other youngsters at feeding and watering places, are likely to find suitable mates among them, thus preventing nestlings mating with each other and perhaps inbreeding. With domestic pigeons the situation is entirely different; usually two squabs hatching turn out to be a true pair, but there are exceptions to this rule. Generally, young mourning doves require from three to five months to attain adult plumage.

The Mourning Dove is a very hardy and durable bird, which very desirable characteristic recommends it again to beginning fanciers. It appears to be immune to most serious diseases and infections. When winter approaches it will migrate to warmer climates, even as far as Mexico and South America. In captivity, it will readily survive mildly cold temperatures, especially if the aviary is supplied with well-protected shelters, as is customary. This very dexterous, swift flyer tolerates temperatures exceeding hun-

dred degrees Fahrenheit. Astonishingly, it has been found nesting on the desert floor in Arizona, brooding its two white eggs in the blazing sun, often standing over them with wings spread to protect them from scorching rays. Quite often, the nest is miles and miles from the nearest watering place, subjecting the bird to growing thirst. What remarkable endurance this ubiquitous American dove shows, and so patiently! No wonder, it is America's favorite, breeding in practically every state of the Union, even in Alaska. Owing to favorable climatic conditions, it is generally found in larger numbers in Southern and Western states than in Eastern and Northern.

Changes in farming methods may greatly affect its numbers. It likes fairly open fields offering wasted grains are much to its likings.

In captivity, Mourning Doves thrive on a diet of clean, mixed grains, such as milo, millet, niger, and various grass seeds. Mineral grit and fresh water should be available always. The soft food I give my foreign doves, such as diced longhorn cheese or hardboiled egg, is relished also by mourning doves. I feed it in small quantities twice a week. For nest-sites, my mourning doves used open-top boxes hung five or six feet high in both the flight and the shelter of the aviary. In the nest-box I place a layer of soft hay or straw, to which the doves usually add a few twigs and sticks. Even though I kept my breeding pair with other doves, it proved to be companionable. A single male mated with a white ring neck dove produced a youngster boasting an attractive silver-gray plumage, which bird was later stolen from my aviary. On rare occasions, white specimens have appeared among the offspring of mourning doves in captivity. Some fanciers have utilized the mourning dove to foster the young of various foreign doves usually with satisfactory results. □

Danish Brander Tumblers

by WILLIE ENGLISH, Jacksonville, Texas

Where is this breed of pigeon to be found in the U.S.A. in 1990?

Several years back when I was a young man there was a fancier of this breed in some Western state that really promoted them. Back then I could not afford every breed of pigeon I desired, so I just keep different breeds that I could afford.

Today, now that I'm retired I'm able to keep several breeds and some breeds I keep a large number. For instance I have 27 pair breeders in White Belgian Homers, 15 pairs of Rollers and about

25 pairs of the Mid East performers plus other breeds in lesser amounts. If anyone has the Danish brander please contact me as I'm ready to buy quality breeders. Prefer at least 6 pair.

Along the line of Rare breed pigeons, I recently met the fancier who imported the first Hungarian House Pigeons into the U.S.A. and Canada. He lives about 100 miles from me and I usually stop to visit as I go right by his house on my way to pick up pigeon feed. So it's really a small world. □

The American Mookee Assn.—A Reality

by ANDREA BIEBERICH, Clinton, Okla.

After having to travel over five states to gather Mookee breeding stock, I realized how much this wonderful little breed needed a national organization to promote and support it, and to make the Mookee more available and once again a popular breed.

About 50 years ago, Mookees were imported into the United States. In the mid-1940's, there was a large group of fanciers in the western part of the United States. For some reason though, the popularity of the Mookee began to dwindle and you no longer saw them in shows.

Now the tide has turned and Mookees are on the move again. In the fall of 1988, the first issue of the American Mookee Association Bulletin was published and sent free of charge to everyone I knew or had heard of who had Mookees. Since then, the American Mookee Association has really been in full swing. We have developed and adopted a Mookee standard of perfection and a constitution and by-laws. We have worked with Diane Jacky and developed a Mookee Drawing. This last fall we held our first elections and at the National Young Bird Show at Louisville in October we had our first annual young bird show. We've built our membership up to about 30 people. We are affiliated with the NPA and hope to have our standard printed in the next NPA Book of Standards. The AMA sends out four quarterly bulletins and dues are \$5.00 dollars a year. The American Mookee Association is going great and I really expect to see huge strides made in the near future.

The Mookee is a very docile breed with many challenging characteristics to breed for. They're a wonderful breed and deserve support from everyone. If anyone has Mookees or is interested in getting some please contact our President, Larry Pridmore, 602 Knighton Chapel Rd., Fountain Inn, S.C. 29644, (803) 862-1315, Vice President, Royce Perry, 2101 A Gary Lane, Hobbs, NM 88240, (505) 397-4280, or Secretary/Treasurer, Andrea Bieberich, Rt. 3, Box 2, Clinton, OK 73601, (405) 323-6259, and join us in the realization of a dream.

MOOKEE STANDARD OF PERFECTION

Head and Neck - 15 Points

HEAD - Rather flat, narrow and somewhat long.

SKULL - Merging with the peak to form a letter "S" when viewed profile; slender width.

EYE - Bull, placed centrally between point of peak and wattle.

CERE - Small as possible, fine textured and according to color of bird.

NECK - Medium length, broad at base, tapering gradually to throat, well arched, with extreme

tremulous motion.

Beak and Wattle - 10 Points

BEAK - Straight set, close fitting, length in proportion with the head; line between mandibles if extended to pass iris of eye. Upper mandible white, lower black in blue, black and mealy marked birds. All brown, red and dilute marked birds to have the lower mandible horn colored.

WATTLE - Small, neat, fine in texture, close fitting.

Body - 15 Points

BODY - Slender, wing butts concealed, well rounded breast, small, cocks to weigh 13 oz. to 14 oz., hens 12 oz. to 13 oz.

Carriage - 15 Points

CARRIAGE - Sprightly, bold and jaunty. Body carried upright with neck well arched. Bird to walk on toes, not flat footed. Should stand so the backline forms between a 35 and 45 degree angle with the ground.

Peak - 5 Points

PEAK - Pointed, with tip of peak higher than head, with length of feather to form chain resulting depth to head and upper part of nose.

Markings - 15 Points

MARKINGS - Head cut, from mouth to top of peak, passing even with bottom of eye cere.

Color - 10 Points

COLOR - All colors recognized, marked or solid. Color to be sound, rich and lustrous throughout. In mixed classes marked birds to be

given extra considerations for markings, according to quality.

Flights - 10 Points

FLIGHTS - Two outer flights to be white except in solid colored birds. 2x2 - 10 points. 2x1 or 3x2 - 8 points. 1x1, 3x3, 3x1, 2x4, and 2x0 - 6 points. 3x0, 4x1, and 4x3 - 2 points. All others - 0 points.

Tail - 3 Points

TAIL - Narrow in width and extended approximately one half inch from the end of the flight feathers when bird is walking. Tail carried about one half inch off ground.

Feet and Legs - 2 Points

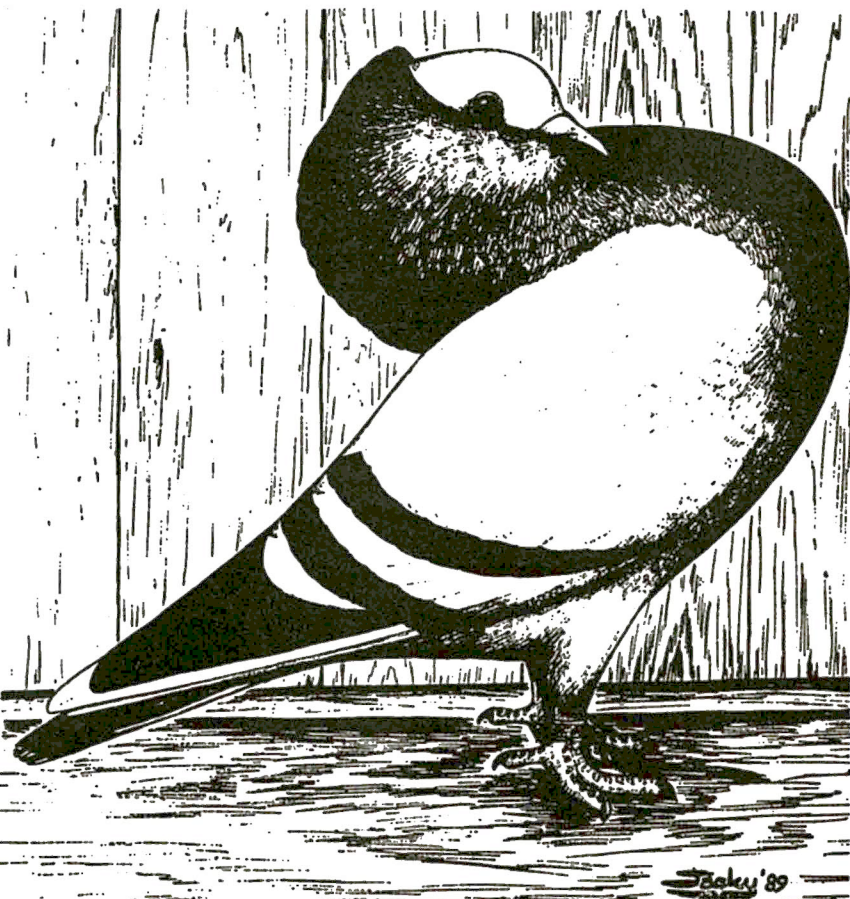
FEET - Small.

LEGS - Medium braced for action, clean legged.

Scale of Points - Total 100

Head and Neck	15
Beak and Wattle	10
Body	15
Carriage	15
Peak	5
Markings	15
Color	10
Flights*	10
Tail	3
Feet and Legs	2
Total Points	100

*2x2	10
2x1, 3x2	8
1x1, 3x3, 2x1, 2x4, 2x0	6
3x0, 4x1, 4x3	2
All Others	0



Standard sketch of the Mookee.

Where Pigeons Go To Film

by DONN DOC RICHARDSON, Basehor, Kansas

When I last wrote I mentioned the T.V. movie "Where Pigeons Go To Die." I've obtained much more information about the film locations, etc.

As most of you pigeon fans may already know, the movie starring Art Carney and Michael Landon was aired Monday, Jan. 29th.

My story might be of interest to some of you. It goes like this.

My good friend and pigeon pursuing buddy, Merlin Thomas, and I were paying a visit to some pigeon enthusiasts, the Dimicks, near Lawrence, Kansas. After visiting with them and viewing their birds we moved on into Lawrence to visit another gentleman that Merlin knew. This fellow also had some pigeons, but due to his poor health and an owl that was plaguing him, his pigeons were becoming few in number! We visited with him a short while and in talking with him, he stated to us that a movie company had shot some scenes near by. He said they released many pigeons, supposedly, Racing Homers for footage in the film. He went on to say, that many, due to the atmospheric conditions, when released, became disoriented and didn't home, but remained in the general area. Some of the local farmers were upset with the pigeons roosting on their barns! Many of the farmers were trying different methods of getting rid of them!

He gave us directions to the release site, stating that he thought some of the birds and or cages might still be in the area.

When we drove up to the farm house, release site, we were very surprised to realize that the house and adjacent pigeon loft was the film site of the Michael Landon movie, "Where Pigeons Go To Die".

When we approached the house for a close look, we were warmly welcomed by the residents Melissa and Greg Frost. We identified ourselves and told them how we happened at their doorstep. We asked if we could take some pictures of the house and loft, they agreed and then showed us around.

The house was Gov. Robinson's home, the first governor of Kansas. It was originally set on approximately 30 acres of land, now only about 10 acres remain. Much of the film was shot inside and out of the home.

One scene where Art Carney and the grandson release the boy's bird, Dickens, was shot just across the valley, east of the house and loft.

The loft was built by the movie company next to the house, to fit with the story which was adapted from

R.W. Campbell's novel "Where Pigeons Go To Die." By the way the book is out in print, for those of you who wish to read it.

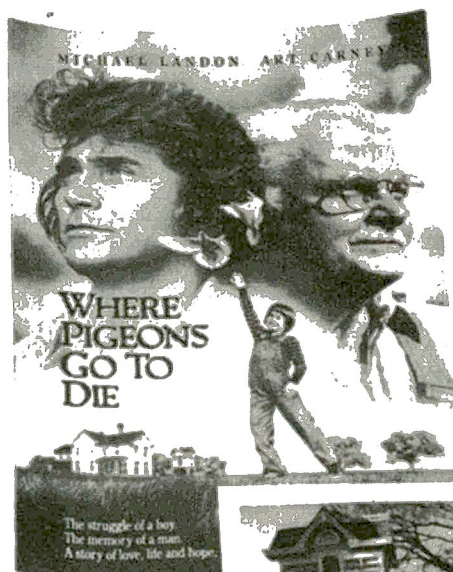
I was told by the Frosts that the pigeon loft cost approximately \$6,000.00 to build. Two lofts were built, one at the Robinson site and another duplicated at the site in Overland Park, Kansas.

The front of the Robinson home was also duplicated on the in town site.

To get back to the beginning of my story Mrs. Frost showed Merlin and I inside the house and told us about the different rooms and areas which were used in the film. Mr. Frost told us about some of the different techniques employed by the animal trainer in filming, such as the use of many white homers in the filming, even though, there was just one white pigeon star, Dickens. They also used large fans (air machines) with the pigeon to assimilate



Actual movie site near Gov. Robinson (Frost home) where Art Carney and grandson release bird, "Dickens" in a scene from the movie, "Where Pigeons Go To Die".



Cover picture from the Movie "Where Pigeons Go To Die" with stars Michael Landon and Art Carney. Also, insert of movie prop, pigeon loft with Doc Richardson standing below.

flight and landing.

In our talks with the Frosts, Mrs. Frost said that she thought that one of the white homers, which was brought from California, for the filming had gotten loose. She thought that the California handler left after the filming without the bird! Mrs. Frost believed that the homer had taken up with some common barn pigeons that roost near by.

Needless to say we returned, with the permission of the Frosts, to attempt a capture. We waited until dusk and with our nets, lights and great stalking ability, we pursued the elusive white homer. That night we caught 4-5 pigeons including the white one. The white and a blue bar commie were both caught simultaneously. Guess which one got away? It wasn't held long enough to see if it had a band or even to look closely enough to see if it was a homer! We looked quite a while for the elusive bird, to no avail.

We know the second hiding place of the bird and possibly one day we will return to make the capture!

I hope the story has interested you. We were very pleased, to have found the movie site and the nice people which live there!

Possibly at a future date I could write more about the film, people or about the birds which I thoroughly enjoy!

May you all accept the many blessings of God!

If anyone wishes to correspond please write or call: Donn Doc. Richardson, 15310 S. Circle Dr., Basehor, Kansas 66007, 913-724-1601. □

Talk On Tipplers

by MICHAEL BEAT, Downey, Calif.

Across the Los Angeles shipyards in early morning there runs a freeway passing over allowing many commuters to travel to downtown each day. What may catch your eye in the early hours is the countless thousands of pigeons flying over the freeways in an almost endless stream. They glide, soar, and beat their wings for attention as they seem to spew out of an endless source. The result is a cloud of birds without limits or boundaries. Nevertheless, the supply does seem finite in that the cloud appears to resemble a definite shape as if the birds were following a leader. Your mind might be inspired while watching such sights as it certainly has been for me. Such aspirations did much to keep my love for pigeons alive during the few years I was unable to keep them. No doubt most people have experienced a similar situation.

Man's intrigue of the air has certainly spanned the centuries. Man's desire has been to be where only the bird can go — high amongst the clouds. Airplanes, balloons, spaceships, gliders, etc., are all manifestations of such a yearning. Could it be the same for you? Could it be actually that man's friend the pigeon is actually a form of longing to fly in limitless capacity, undeterred direction, and boundless area high amid the skies? There is no doubt the tippler pigeon is such a manifestation. Tipplers are not just flying pigeons who glide effortlessly over shipyards for a while. They display and carry out

a continuous desire to fly high and far about the sky in a perpetual fashion. Any other pigeon will soon settle about, looking for its home — the ground below. Yet, on the other hand, the tippler's home is assuredly the sky. Notice how pigeons are not the most adept creature on the ground. They were not designed for such. A quick study or observation of their wings, tail, structure, etc., obviously indicates a natural inclination towards effortless flight. Such qualities enthrall a tippler enthusiast because he sees the birds in their natural habitat — the air.

Of course, with every source of energy there is a limited supply. We should never impose our ideal of limitless energy upon our birds, for tipplers do expend energy, in fact, the energy of which we as trainers have supplied in the form of food to each individual bird. But, could the challenge be quenched? Not if the tippler man can help it! The quest for a better bird, a longer flyer, and a more controllable bird will never wane so long as the tippler man is around. Such individuals enjoy the challenge of creating the ideal.

Other pigeons are just as adept at flight so, why tipplers? For some, the excitement aroused from racing pigeons from afar is enough for them. But could it be that they miss out of the true excitement? The pigeon who flies from afar is actually not seen until the end of the race. Therefore the enjoyment or excitement arises from the ANTICIPATION of their arrival. Not so with tipplers! They create a style uniquely their own, raking back and forth, appearing and reappearing as if to say, "See me," "Look at me," or "Watch me fly!" Of course, in such a manner those birds who find themselves in trouble will find relief when the auspicious eyes of the trainer identifies the fatigue. Not so with the racing bird whose trouble signs go unnoticed to the demise not only of the race but also of the bird at times.

Could rollers be a suitable flying bird? Whereas their short-lived excitement is surely thrilling, where is the interaction of bird with trainer? Tippler flyers indeed know their birds well. In fact, the more a trainer has in-depth knowledge of his birds, the better will be results be. His intimacy teaches him the signs to watch for. At times when tipplers learn the routine, their behavior changes from "trainee" to "trainer". They sometimes approach the loft (though not tired) with the idea that by spreading the tail,

(Continued On Next Page)

Looking For The Valencian Giant Tenant Pigeons

by BOB RYAN, Staten Island, N.Y.

I am writing this letter to anybody who wants to write to someone who will write back about pigeons. Hopefully a few fellow breeders of some strange birds on the East Coast, really fancy ones, will write to me. The last letter I had in the Journal was quite some time ago. Since then I have gotten married to someone I love, that's my lovely wife Renee. Renee and I are awaiting our first baby in late April, early May. I can't wait to start my son or daughter with pigeons!! It's a great hobby for anyone. I would like to ask one question in my letter. I have been breeding birds for about 15 years.

I hope there is somebody who can help me in one way or another out there with the one and only, Valencian Giant Tenant Pigeon located on page

415 of the Encyclopedia of Pigeon Breeds. Is there anyone that knows of anybody who had these birds or anybody out there that can help me? Please, please write to me please! I have a couple of kids who like pigeons and show a great interest in them, but I really can't spare any at this time and these kids really can't afford to buy birds so my plea to you for these kids is that before you cull through your birds, write to me. These are only kids so if you don't like the birds because it's mismarked or whatever to kill it drop me a letter and let's try and keep our great hobby alive. I'm trying for kids, maybe more people should too!! Thanks guys and gals. — Bob Ryan, 37 Egbert Pl., Staten Island, N.Y. 10305. □

going into a partial stall, and knocking that water out of their ears, THEY can induce the droppers to appear. Of course, they're right at times because we as trainers fall for it! A trainer can in this way be trained if he does not carefully watch for the bluff. Hence, we might identify the tippler man as the individual who keenly examines his birds (not one who merely watches his birds). Or another way plainly said: tipplers are up because the trainer hasn't said "enough" and the rollers are up because the birds haven't said "enough".

Regardless, individuals must decide for themselves as to what motivates him to keep on flying tipplers or whatever else. Yet, could there ever be anything as rewarding as the final results of painful, extensive, and laborious training of their birds? Tipplers may at times prove to be quite a formidable challenge. Many times there are heartaches, disappointments, losses, and let-downs. These contribute to a true sense of challenge because in just about every case the fault lies not in the birds but to some mistake of the trainer. To discern the error and correct the situation indeed takes time and much effort. But, who can say the pay-off is not large? No, not monetary pay-off but satisfaction pay-off. To achieve a well-trained flying kit that will fly from dawn to dusk is a marvelous feeling of accomplishment. Why? Because not all will achieve such a feat. Yet, for those brave enough to classify themselves as the most dedicated — to them belong the skies.

So if ever asked "Why Tipplers?" then plainly state the truth — the expected results of hard work and perseverance are all the reward one needs. Somehow, there is the elated thrills that come with each generation of youngsters. Each round of youngsters sometimes brings expected results and sometimes not. However, guaranteed is the aspiration we behold in hoping that in every case we will breed that fine set of young birds that will do a better job than the set before. Even though some birds will be eliminated because of inherently not being able to "make-the-grade," there is a bright future ahead for those that can. We keep on our rigorous program for the hope that somehow our efforts will be rewarded, but isn't it interesting to note how our efforts always seem to be rewarded regardless?

For those interested in getting a start in tipplers, try looking in the classified section of this magazine for assistance in finding a fancier near to you. □



EAST COAST

East Coast and West Coast fanciers taking a time out for lunch, from left to right, Marty Cameli, Corky Packard, Tony Olszewski and Ron Bordee. — Photo by Marty Cameli, Centereach, N. Y.

East Meets West

by MARTY CAMELI, Centereach, N.Y.

After many years of reading and viewing photo's of the California Pageant of Pigeons show in the American Pigeon Journal, I finally attended the show. I'll tell you how my trip to California came about. It was in early September on a very warm Sunday afternoon, sitting with my friend Tony Olszewski and his wife Eleanor in their backyard drinking ice tea discussing pigeons and everything in general. Tony then asked me if I would like to attend the Pageant in California, in November. "Gee", I said, "That's a great idea, but let me give it some thought." It didn't take me long to decide, and in a few days we were making plans on how many birds we would show, flight reservations, motel reservations, etc. We left from LaGuardia airport on Nov. 15 late in the afternoon, we had a beautiful flight to Denver, there we made another switch to a plane going to Ontario, California. From Ontario, it was

a short bus ride to the rent a car, where we rented a car, and in 15 minutes we were at the San Dimas Inn. I had never been to California before, but I'll tell you it's a beautiful state, photography being one of my other hobbies, I fell in love with the place. Our motel window at the San Dimas Inn overlooked the beautiful San Gabriel mountains. A real photographer's paradise. The show was held at the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds about 10 minutes by car from the San Dimas Inn. The show hall was very huge with plenty of excellent lighting. There were about 6,000 pigeons of all varieties. Approximately 366 Tumblers were exhibited. I witnessed some excellent Muff Tumblers at this show. The best I ever observed at a show. The baldheads also had a nice class, as did the white selfs. Bud Lunney of Canada, did a fine job of judging all Tumblers. The Pacific Tumbler Club



Tony Olszewski of Yonkers, N.Y. (left) receiving the E.S. McSweeney Award from Corky Packard of California (right) for Best Young Barred Baldhead at the 1989 Pageant of Pigeons, Pomona, Calif.



Bud Lunney judging Baldhead Tumblers at the Pageant of Pigeons, Pomona, Calif. — Photo by Marty Cameli, Centereach, N.Y.

hosted the Tumbler portion of the show. My friend Tony did real well taking best barred young bald taking the E.S. McSweeney Trophy. I won best old white hen in selfs, but Tony topped me with an old white cock bird. I don't have all the show results, at this time but I'm sure Bret Rice, Secretary of the Pacific Tumbler Club will submit them to the American Pigeon Journal shortly. On a scale of one to ten I'd give this show a ten. The West Coast fanciers were warm, friendly and treated Tony and I real nice. It was a pleasure to meet Lynn Watson, Frank Mosca, and Frank Barrachina, just to mention a few, plus most of the members of the Pacific Tumbler Club, many of whom I read about and some whom I had correspondence with on occasions. We had lots of fun and a lot of good memories. The banquet on Saturday was beautiful and the food delicious. The views and ideas and the camaraderie among the fanciers had to be heard and witnessed. Just great!

Tony and I left Sunday and our flight home was an enjoyable one. If anyone hasn't been to the Pageant, it's well worth the trip. Tony and I plan to return again in 1990. □

English Long Face Tumbler Clubs Merge

by ROBERT WOOD, Bethany, Okla.

At the 1989 National Championship Tumbler Show the birth of the National Tumbler Club became a reality as the three national clubs united in an effort to consolidate their efforts in supporting and promoting the breeding and exhibiting of English Long Face Tumbler Pigeons. This is the result of several years of discussion in developing a working constitution to be adopted and used to guide the new National Club.

Since the majority of the membership of each of the three national clubs voted for the merger, those clubs (the Muffed Tumbler Club of America, the American Beard and Bald Tumbler Club, and the United Barred and Self Tumbler Club) no longer exist as the completion of the National Championship Tumbler Show hosted by the Eastern Tumbler Club at Reading, Pennsylvania. Each national club is to contribute \$739.00 to the new United Club with the balance remaining, if any, to be spent as the original club membership desires. It is my understanding that at the last annual meeting of the American Beard and Bald Club and the Muffed Tumbler Club that the members present voted to place their balance in savings with the annual earned income to be spent for cash awards at the national show in additional support and promotion of that particular variety of L.F. Tumblers.

A subject that provokes more arguments and debates than any other among fanciers, has been the lifetime's work of Brian May ATMH Dip. and his views and knowledge can now be shared in an exciting Video now available through Golden Video (see advertisement in this and other issues of the APJ).

Over the past 22 years he has been working in Special Care and Mental Handicapped Units which has given him a unique opportunity of studying the relationship between eyes and the mental capabilities that a human possesses. This study has also been expanded into the eye-signs of pigeons and he has put forward his own views on this controversial subject.

It is the study of the whole eye and not just the eye-sign that will help a fancier upgrade his family of pigeons. One must remember that work done by biologists and veterinary ophthalmologists have rarely mentioned it, or have come to grips with it, and eyes are their business. If one dissects an

It is assumed that breeders of muffed tumblers, marked tumblers, and C.L. non-marked tumblers will continue to hold unofficial meetings at each annual show to provide continuity in the support and promotion of their variety of tumbler.

Jim Stehr, Sr., and Ron Des Lauriers volunteered to accept the responsibility of the office of Secretary/Treasurer for one year only. Bob Wood was the only nomination for membership secretary and so has been elected. Other offices had multiple nominations so will be elected by official ballots later this spring.

Since the agreement concerning dues was that if anyone had already paid their 1990 dues before the official merger at the 1989 show at Reading, their dues were paid and would be given credit for payment of dues for 1990. Any dues paid after this date should be sent to the new membership secretary of the national club.

There was some misunderstanding by some breeders, but each regional tumbler club (ETC, CTC, WTC, PTC) is independent of the new national club. Therefore, each club sets and collects their own individual club dues.

Send 1990 dues to Robert D. Wood, 8209 NW 31st Street, Bethany, Okla. 73008. □

Eye-Sign

by G.J. DOWSE (Of Golden Video), Southampton, England

eye, one can get a piece of lens, Iris, pecten, fovea, etc., etc., but one cannot get a piece of the "eye-sign", the eye must be studied as a complete entity.

The "Eye-Theory" is therefore the visual indication of the mental capabilities that either a pigeon or a human possesses. However whether or not the pigeon can use their mental capabilities to the utmost use or potential one can never know, because it is the part that he can never see.

All the evidence points to the fact that birds with good eyes do far better than birds lacking in this area, but ultimately the birds with guts and drive and determination are the ones which go on to become great birds. The eye-theory is a vital factor in the selection of birds which will be the winners of tomorrow.

What to Look For

Racing characteristics, Breeding characteristics, Distance lines, Speed lines, inbreeding, out-crosses, the sphincter pupillae muscle, heart and circulation. The eye cere and condition, the third eye-lid and infection. Each of these have different eye patterns and all are illustrated with diagrams in the booklet accompanying the Video, but remember that nature is constantly improving the species all the time.

The Eye of A Pigeon

The Iris — from a fanciers point of views, this is the most interesting part of the eye. The Iris is a muscular sheet with a hole in the centre called the pupil. It is made up in two layers, the back one is the pigment layer and the front one is the muscular layer which again is made up of two types of fibres, Radical Fibres which are like spikes in a wheel which make the pupil open wide and the circular ones which cause the pupil to close. These circular muscles also carry the pigmentation known as "eye-sign" which is of an iridic metallic pigmentation carried in sausage like cells coming in many colours and hues.

The Optic Nerve this leads from the back of the eye to the optic lobe of the brain, both meet and cross, which means that the left hand nerve enters the optic lobe on the right side of the brain and the right hand nerve enters on the left side of the brain.

The Fovea is more pronounced in birds than in a man, but the ultimate function of this organ is not fully understood. One theory is that it creates a stronger image on the rods and cones which the sensitive nerve endings in the retina, and are light sensitive. In divine

(Continued On Next Page)

birds there are two which probably tolerate the changing image and stop blurring at speed.

The Pecten is situated at the point where the optic nerve enters the eyeball, and is a large pleated muscle, and is thought to be a fixing point in navigation.

The Third Eye-lid (the Mictating Membrane) is located in front of the eye and is transparent. It can be extended over the exposed eye when the bird is flying through rain, dust, or just scratching about in the grass. It protects the eye from damage and is kept moist by the lacrymal glands.

The Sclerotic Coat is commonly known as the white of the eye and is of strong opaque tissue.

The Cornea is the window of the eye and has no blood supply of its own, but is served with nerve ends and pain receptors.

Lacrymal Sacs are the tear sacs in the corner of the eye which are used when there is an infection to the eye or injury.

The Conjunctiva is a thin sheet of tissue covering the eye-ball and if damage results it is open for infection; conjunctivitis, and is one of the areas so damaged by mycoplasmosis. This skin or tissue also covers the eyelids.

The Choroid is the middle layer of the eye and consists of a vascular layer and a pigment layer.

The Ciliary Body is the structure surrounding the Iris and has muscle fibres which run in three directions - Radial - Circular - Sphincter.

The Retina is the light sensitive portion of the eye and is a complex structure which consists of three layers of nerve cells. On the external surface lay the rods and cones, the next layer is the stimulus cells and the last layer goes on to form the optic nerve which relays the visual messages to the brain.

All these features and more are described in "Thru' The Looking Glass" Video and booklet distributed

by Golden Video, England and in addition there is an extensive feature on the throat of a pigeon and on the aerodynamic features in the wing formation and the shape of its head.

The selection of a breeding and a racing pigeon is an art now practiced by many enthusiastic fanciers and it is the ones with the additional knowledge which are able to select the champions. □

The World's Largest Pigeon Market (Buy-Sell-Trade)

by MELVIN ZIEHL

Every year about this time in Wasserburg, Germany, there is an event that has the attention of the whole of Europe. It is the Buy-Sell-Trade that is put on by the local Smallstock club in conjunction with their annual show.

People come from all directions to this little southeast German town located on the INN river. It's less than a one day drive to several other countries: Austria, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, to name a few of the major pigeon raising nations in the air. There were even a dozen buses from France.

I guess the best way to tell this tale is to make it sort of a narrative. For me the excitement started to build two years ago when I first heard about this "World's Largest Pigeon Market". There were several of us that had plan-

ned to go ... but as luck would have it, we didn't make it that year. My second exposure, and impulse to go, was received when one of the largest Smallstock magazines in Germany had a cover picture showing the mass of people and cages on the "Hauptstrasse" or main street of Wasserburg during the height of the day's activity in 1989.

This year at the Great German National Show at Nuernberg, my friend Gottfried Ernst invited me to go with the local club out of Rodgau, a suburb of Frankfurt. This invitation was impossible to turn down! Even though I was only a new member in their group, the general benefits and privileges of the club applied to me as well as any long time member. To my surprise that included both the round trip charter bus fare to Wasserburg and hotel costs while we were there!

For me the trip started about four o'clock on Friday afternoon, when I left Bitburg to drive to Gottfried's house in Rodgau. This is normally about a two and one half hour drive. Traffic conditions are usually "hectic" that time of day, so I allowed an extra thirty minutes to compensate and put me there at seven as agreed. Frau (Mrs.) Ernst had prepared the usual German evening meal of cold cuts, cheeses, several kinds of bread, and beer or wine to drink. Nothing in the line of cold cuts can beat the variety and taste of German sausages, sliced meats and cheeses. Simply outstanding.

Anyway, after looking at the house expansion Gottfried was working on (most Germans have their aged parents living with them) and partaking of that platter of cold "goodies", we left for the local Charter Bus garage. On the way we stopped by to pick up Manfred Kraft, one of the many Pigmy Pouter enthusiasts here in Germany. Manfred is also the "Director" of the Rodgau Smallstock Keepers Area. An area of several quarter acre plots set aside specifically for raising birds and small animals. I had imagined some sort of

Showing Pigeons: "Bought Birds" Or "Your Own"?

by RICK CASE, Eugene, Ore.

I spoke with a friend the other day about people showing birds they have acquired from someone else and I thought I would jot down a few of my ideas. I have been known to change my mind, but as of this time these are my ideas about showing birds.

It would seem that a newcomer to the fancy would have no choice but to show the birds he has bought if he wants to compete. It's not like he would have a large reservoir of birds he has raised in his first year. And most newcomers want to be involved in all aspects of the fancy. I think it's a good idea anyway for him to see how good his stock is and to learn about winning and losing at a show, which is an art in itself.

The more seasoned breeder who has just bought an expensive bird may want to show it just once, so his friends (that he would not ordinarily see except at shows) can see it, and of course just to show it off.

These reasons for showing "bought birds" are reasonable and human, and in my opinion, totally acceptable. It is the individual who continually buys from master breeders (or "TOP GUNS" as I like to call them) year after year and shows those birds as his own that seems to be the problem. He wins with those and not the ones he raised. This individual is doing himself a great injustice. It's like cheating on a test. "I'll just do it for a while and when I catch up I can go it on my own." Well, in pigeon breeding as on a test: you aren't going to come up with the winning birds without first learning the equation to get the solution.

It is much more gratifying to go to the winner's circle for your awards when you know you bred the bird. It takes at least four generations of breeding before it's **your** win, 100 percent, but even first through third generation winners make you feel pretty good. □

school bus type of vehicle ... was it ever a surprise to see one of the big commercial tour buses complete with bar, toilets, "story and a half" seating, and piped in music/public address system.

After a short circle of nearby suburbs to pick up about 40 other pigeon guys and I emphasize **guys**, (no women on this trip!), we were on our way to Wasserburg! What a trip. There was the usual story telling that takes place when you get any group of fellows together and something more. In Germany people have absolutely no inhibitions about singing. Not only in a situation like this, on a bus, but at parties or most anywhere the occasion calls for song!

Since this was Friday, most of the fellows had worked during the day. After an hour or two on the road and a snack on liverwurst sandwiches someone had thoughtfully provided, things quieted down and most of us got a little sleep before our arrival in Wasserburg; at three thirty in the morning. There have been some times we've left Minnesota at three in the morning to go to shows or BST's but to arrive at three thirty!!! The first stop was at the home of a local Maltese breeder. Here it is, 3:33 a.m. and the good Gentleman and Frau are waiting to greet us with bottles of locally made schnapps which we all had to sample with a short "snort" to start the day.

I kind of figured we were too early to expect much in the way of traders in the "down town" area this early in the morning; was I mistaken! There were literally hundreds in place already. Many of them had been there the whole night in order to secure and hold the best street corners for the sale the forthcoming day.

It was cold! I've been cold before, ice fishing, and even though the temperature was in the "teens" it felt like being out on a Minnesota lake in the middle of winter. It is now about 4:30 a.m. and I've finally figured out why we needed flashlights; it was to see the crates and cages of birds that were there in the dark. Crates on crates, cages on cages, and seemingly no end to it all. Not only that, there were more being added every minute.

The part of the Hauptstrasse in use for the sale was about a mile long. From the main street, eight or ten side streets were also cordoned off for a block or two deep; all of them packed with people and birds. If you have ever seen "crate peekers" at Pecantonica or Kankakee you can begin to get the picture of what we looked like, along with hundreds of others, shining our flashlights into every little box and cage! More fun!!

The sun doesn't get up too early in this part of the world. Three hours

later and after one complete trip through everything we finally were forced by cold feet and ears, to seek the comfort of a coffee shop and some warm chocolate. That had to be absolutely the best chocolate I've ever had! Of course I don't expect my mother to be reading this ... We sat and nursed several cupfuls until eight thirty or so ... then back on the "road" again.

By now it was daylight and what a spectacle! The crowd had grown to thousands and it was next to impossible to move. Somehow, around corners people were packed thicker and one didn't really have to move their feet to get carried along with the crowd ... whether you liked it or not. On to the birds.

The first thing that caught my eye were the numbers of Reversewing Pouters for sale. A conservative number would be in the range of about 200. This is Bavaria, and not only that, it is close to Czechoslovakia, both of which are known as Pouter areas. Lots of everything. Every breed of pigeon I've ever seen and more, all for sale at reasonable prices and of surprisingly good quality. We used to speak of not buying much at American Buy-Sell-Trades because "we didn't see anything we couldn't live without". That wasn't the case here. Certainly, were I not returning to the "states" this summer I would have been sorely tempted! Good quality, good quantity and good prices. Can't beat that!

About noon there was a notice over the public address system asking for those that were from some distance away to meet at the BST office. The purpose being that the person from the farthest distance away wins the "Weitpreis" or distance prize. You guessed it .. the short, fat, (although handsome) hometown boy from Minnesota won it. Nice decorative plate to hang on the wall.

That evening, in the same Hotel that we were in, the Pigeon club had their annual party. Super supper, beer, music and conversation. I mentioned before the spontaneity of people singing, we had one gentleman (76 years young) that in conjunction with the fellow playing the accordion got up from our table and in the most beautifully mellow, tenor voice, favored us with some old German folksong. Ah yes, some of us saw 3 a.m. on the clock Saturday night also.

The troop had the good sense to make our departure time 10:00 on Sunday morning, sort of gave us a little time to catch up on our sleep. Into the bus, on the road, and out of Wasserburg. The town is situated in the German low lands before you get to the Austrian border. The air is clear and in the distance we could see the snow capped peaks of the Austrian/German Alps. Good times and beautiful scenery. The each his own, but, "it don't get much better than that!" — Melvin Ziehl, Box 2834, APO New York 09132. □



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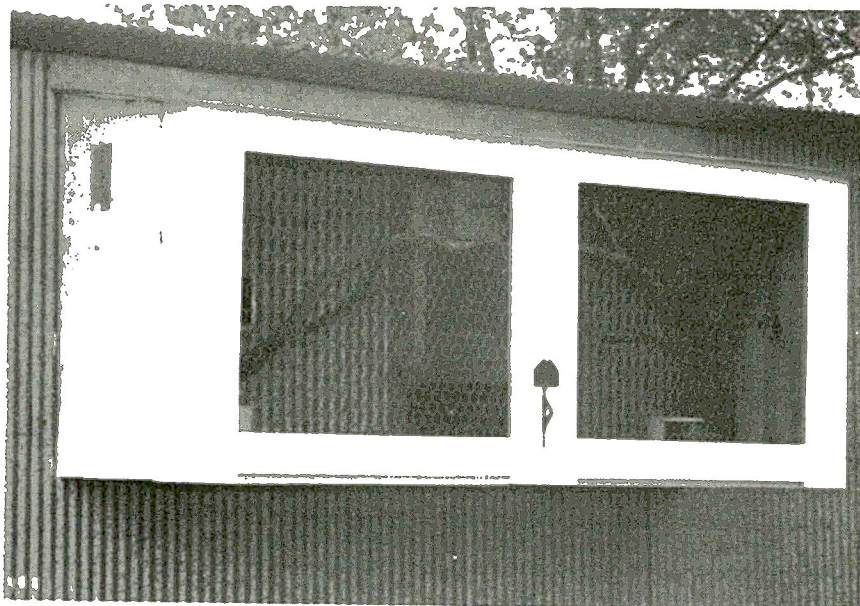
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Pigeonholes Loft Ideas For You

These photos are from the collection of Robert Mangile, Pittsburg, Kansas. Bob writes the "Information Please" column.

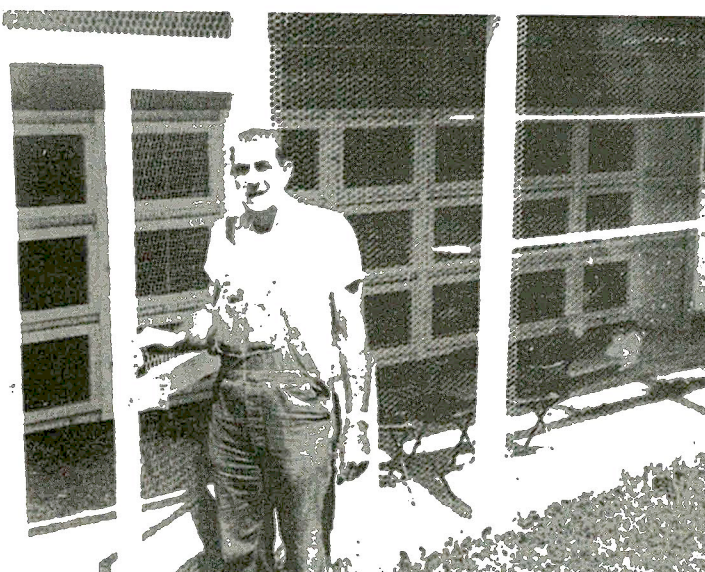


DOVE PEN

Dove pen built April-May 1987. It has a sliding door bottom - center. Nest inspection doors - upper left and right (side). Both sections have openings to inside building. Space board floor in flypen. Four foot off ground - usable for pigeons, especially small flying breeds.

JOHN EPPERSON & HIS LOFT

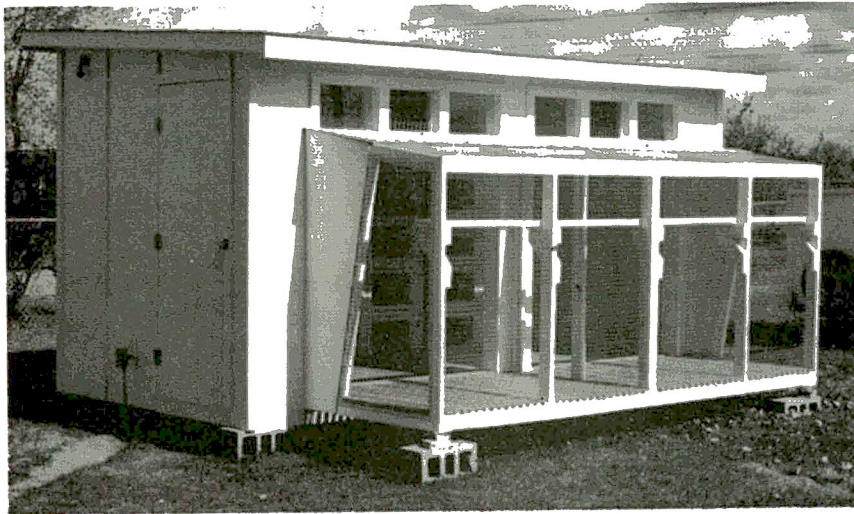
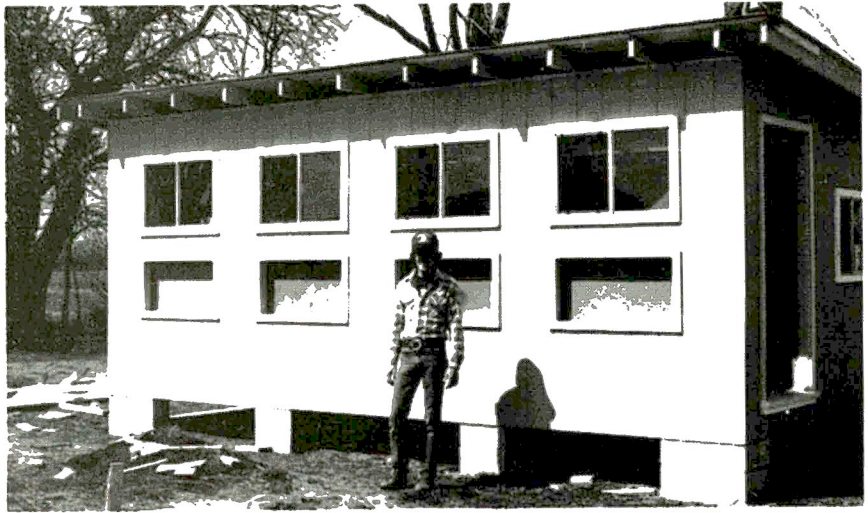
John Epperson of Alba, Missouri, in 1983, standing in front of his main loft. The door opens to an aisle between large sections on each side of building. Note the sign over the door made for John by a friend.



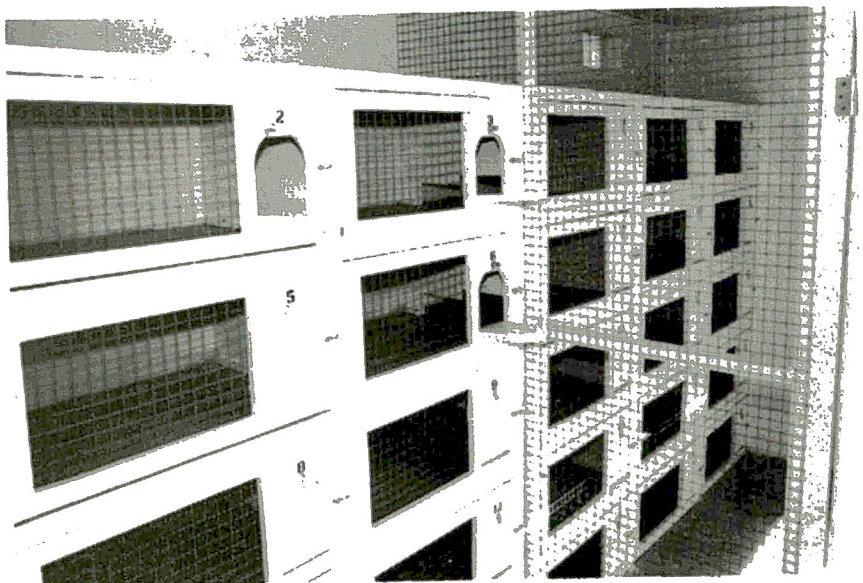
John Epperson of Alba, Missouri, in front of his enclosed breeding loft. Each pair can be released in the enclosure. Note chairs used by John to observe his birds.

GIANT HOMER LOFT •

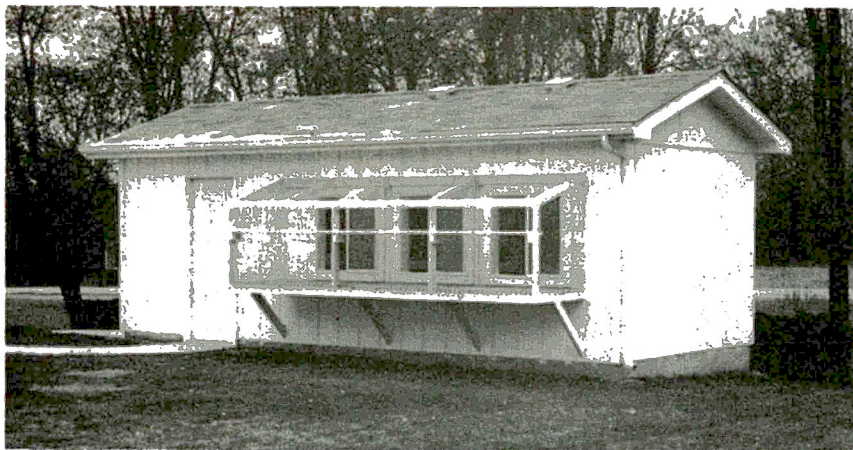
The Giant Homer and Racing Homer loft of Frank Kermashek, Girard, Kansas, in March 1984. Frank had not completed the loft at that time (needed fly pen). Birds use the boarded up openings beneath the windows.



KERRY HENDRICKS LOFT
The loft of Kerry Hendricks, built in Fall 1976, when he resided in Brighton, Michigan.



The loft interior and nesting compartments of Kerry Hendricks when he resided in Brighton, Michigan. (Photo taken Fall 1976.)



NEW KERRY HENDRICKS LOFT
This is the new loft and supply shed of Kerry Hendricks when he moved to West Bloomfield, Michigan (Photo taken in Fall 1984.)

RACING HOMER LOFT

The loft on the right is completely under one roof with two compartments. Racing Homers use trap in upper middle of front to enter loft. An entry cage is used to direct birds from one side or the other. A view of the interior back wall of nests is featured in another photo. Ron Mangile of Capaldo, Kansas, is owner of the loft.



Ron Mangile of Capaldo, Kansas, in front of his Racing Homer loft with one of his birds.

RACING PIGEON LOFT

An interior view of Ron Magnile's Racing Pigeon loft. This shows the back wall of nest boxes in one section. Ron is shown in another photo holding a pigeon in front of his loft. Ron, Robert Mangile's uncle, designed and built his loft.

THE RARE BREEDS PIGEON CLUB

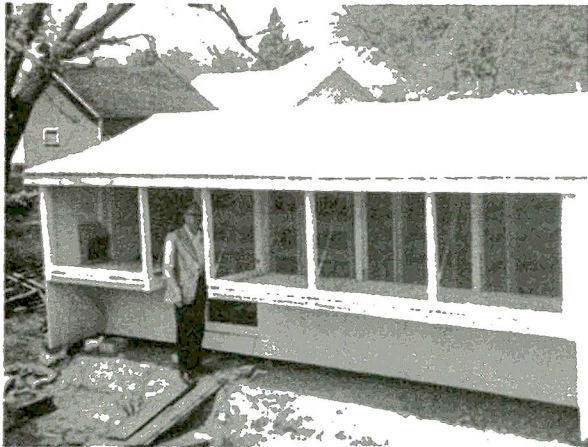
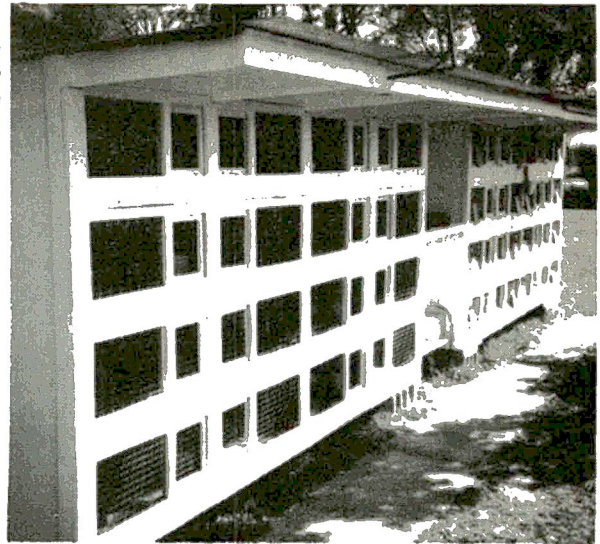
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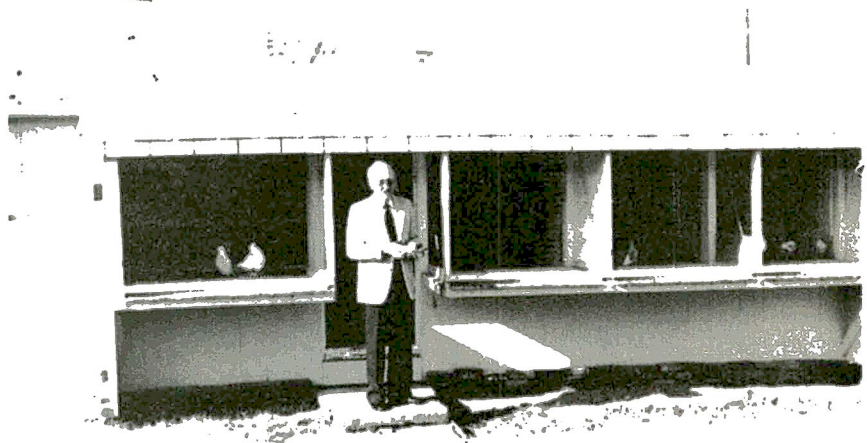


Robert J. Mangile's loft has 32 mating coops with office in the middle and new section on left. Built and owned by Robert Mangile, Pittsburg, Kansas.



The loft of Max Cartmill in April 1973. This photo was taken before birds were stocked. Built and owned by Max Cartmill, Ottawa, Kansas.

Ten years later (January 1983), Max Cartmill in front of his loft at a new address. Modenas and Chinese Owls are his breeds.



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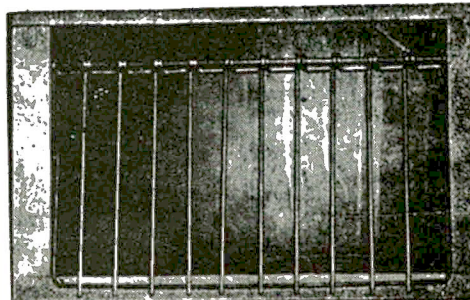
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by **ROBERT J. MANGILE,**
816 E. Atkinson,
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"Why the 'Hallux' ... Like That?!"

During 1984-85 a gift pair (#770) of blue barred Chinese Owls produced eight (8) squabs; of which three (3) were missing toenails from both rear toes. The hen displayed the 'wobbly' trait; (see Jan. 1988, APJ p. 61); otherwise, both were normal Chinese Owls and all toes displayed toenails.

The clawless rear toed progeny seemed to suggest that this characteristic had a genetic basis and it appeared to be 'recessive'. A descriptive name was needed for this condition to facilitate simple entry in my notebook. The first toe on the hind limb in all terrestrial animals is called the 'hallux', (p. halluces). The name 'clawless hallux' seemed to be appropriate. It means clawless first toe. (The counting order of avian toes are: rear = 1st, inner = 2nd, middle = 3rd, and outer = 4th).

Eventually, in related stock, squabs were produced with one hallux clawless and one hallux having a claw (example, Fig. 1). Some halluces appeared clawless in new hatchlings but later developed degenerate, blunt claws. Others had thin, twisted claws that failed to culminate into a pointed tip as does a normal claw. Individual expressions were mixed; with their halluces being both clawless; one clawless and one clawed or both clawed. Specimens having both halluces clawed, occasionally had one or both claws twisted or degenerate in appearance.

Early on, it seemed that the variations observed were likely a range of expressions produced by the gene(s) controlling this trait. Later, birds from this line were produced which lacked claws on the inner, middle or outer toes (example: Fig. 2 and 4). And, still others had 'extra' toe-stumps between the normal toe positions (example: Fig. 3); some with toes 'missing' to the ball of the foot (example: Fig. 4) and one specimen had a foot with all clawless stumps (not shown). These extreme examples seemed to appear after the assumed infusion of polydactyly, sideburns and porcupine.

Last Summer (1989), the hen (908-D) in Figure 4, hatched a squab on her own in an open loft (sire unknown) that completely lacked rear toes. Not even stumps! Toes two, three and four on both feet were normal and clawed. One leg of squab had a extremely

shortened tibiotarsus (the bones connecting the thigh bone to the heel; or, the 'drumstick'). The bird was fostered to another pair and was fed to weaning time; and at 39 days of age, was killed. The feet had grown in a twisted, upside-down (palms-up) position making it nearly impossible for the bird to get around. Autopsy revealed its sex to be a hen with healthy internal organs. Her legs were saved for study.

The term "clawless hallux" may seem to be inappropriate; but ...

perhaps not!? Consider, for example: hen 908-D, (shown in Figure 4), is heterozygous for polydactyly (py//+), sideburns (Sb//+) and wobbly (wo//+). Perhaps the combination effects of sideburns or polydactyly with clawless hallux may be giving rise to the extreme cases observed. The genes controlling the excessively whorled plumage of the Chinese Owl may also be a contributing factor. It seems there is much to learn?

The blunt or twisted claws on the halluces of either one or both feet; and, the clawless halluces, might be considered as a variation in the expression of the 'clawless hallux' trait. Perhaps we can speculate that the earlier examples were produced from one mutant gene and the other extreme expressions are due to the combined affect of clawless hallux with polydactyly and/or sideburns. Agreed,



FIGURE 1

This cock (970-B) displays clawless hallux on its left foot and a twisted claw on hallux of its right foot.



FIGURE 2

This hen (970-D) displays a clawless outer or 4th toe on its right foot. All other toes have claws.

there seems to be confusion but we must start somewhere! The genetic symbol of 'ch' for clawless hallux is

presently being used in my notebook. □



FIGURE 3

This hen (970-H) displays a normally clawed right rear toe, which is webbed to the inner or 2nd toe. The 2nd toe is fused to the middle or 3rd to over half its length. The outer or 4th toe is shortened and clawless; and, between it and the middle or 3rd toe is a clawless stump-like toe. The left foot is normally toed and clawed.

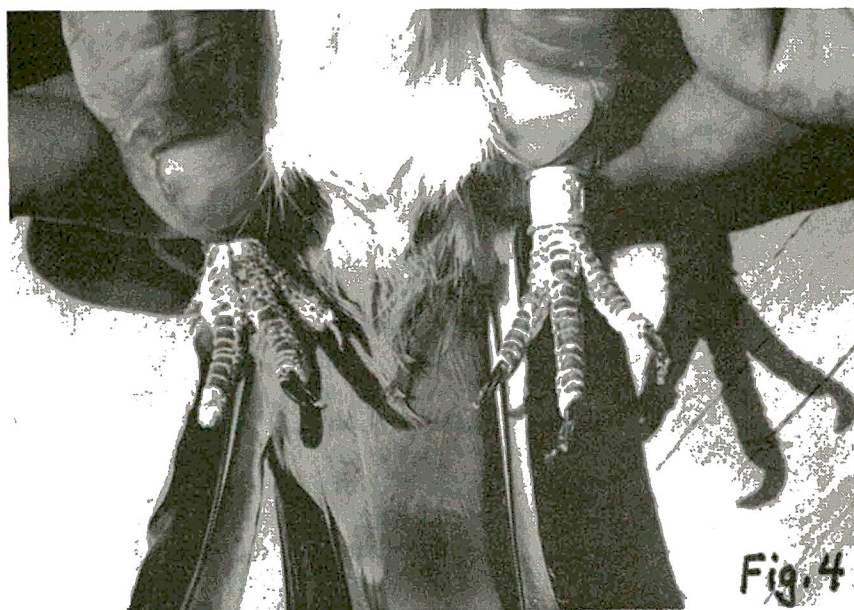


FIGURE 4

This hen (908-B) displays a normally clawed rear toe on its right foot. The inner or 2nd toe is normally clawed; but, the middle or 3rd toe is clawless. The outer or 4th toe is completely missing to the ball of the foot. The left foot is normally toed and clawed. Also note the outer right tail feather (R-1) grows at an angle from the other 11 rectrices. Its total width is about half that of its normal counterpart (L-1) and the webbing of the vane is about equal width on both sides of the feather shaft or rachis. The narrow, lightened, outer tail vane, present in the outer left (L-1) rectrix, is not present in this rectrix. This hen and the original Chinese Owl Cock, from Pair No. 770, produced the birds in Figures 1, 2 and 3. Her genotype includes ...Sb//+, py//+ and wo//+.

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Squab Producer's Forum

SYED A. BOKHARI
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The author, a poultry farm advisor with the University of California Cooperative Extension, invites your questions. He may be contacted at 733 County Center 3, Modesto, Calif. 95355. Telephone: 209-525-6654.

Squab Production In California

Squab production in California has reached the state of a small scale industry, with the majority of producers keeping a loft of 600 or more pairs of squabbing pigeons. A typical pigeon loft is a small unit, supplemental to some other enterprise and/or source of income. Surplus family labor is used in the loft since much of the work required can be planned around "off farm" work schedules or on holidays and weekends.

Squab farming in the San Joaquin Valley is a way of life for several families who prefer to stay in touch with the American agrarian heritage without giving up the comforts of urban living. Most of the producers have an off-farm income to finance their chosen lifestyle. Apparently, the squab producers prefer farm life with emphasis being placed on the quality of living that farming provides them, through independence and participation of the whole family in making decisions and performing husbandry chores.

Women on squab farms play a very important role and are very actively involved in working, managing and making decisions. The proportion of work done by women, however, depends largely on the nature of chore involved. In some cases, both husband and wife have jobs outside and take care of the farming chores before and after their working schedules. Over half of the women living on squab farms have at least occasionally taken care of the pigeons. Involvement of children in farm tasks largely depends on their age and willingness to spare some time from their own schedules.

Squab farms meet all the necessary criteria for the success of a small scale farming operation:

1. It is highly compatible with other farming ventures and its components provide a regular family income.
2. The unique taste and texture of squab makes it a high value commodity, thus it provides better return per acre.
3. The squab farm can provide more effective use of capital investment through diversification and greater efficiency of cash input.
4. It has the potential to shift the

balance in the system towards greater return on labor than on capital.

A squab farm may look less efficient when the labor of the operator is valued at opportunity cost alone. The question may be asked, "How can farms not only co-exist with large farms but increase in numbers?" The answer lies in the low return required for labor by part-time producers and their families, the higher value placed on on-the-farm living, availability of local (non-farm) jobs as well as special tax and public benefits available to such farms.

Off-farm jobs substantially reduce squab producers' reliance on the farm income and provide them with the cash flow to cover costs for living as well as farming. Many squab producers generally make management decisions that increase their security and certainty of lifestyle, rather than maximize their profit potentials.

As a matter of fact, squab producers are highly efficient when their returns are properly adjusted to reflect the subjective value of farming as a way of life. For them, profits are usually considered to be those returns over "out-of-pocket" expenses. In most cases, the labor, housing and equipment costs, or interest on investment, are not considered as out-of-pocket costs.

The nature of the squab industry poses some unique problems for the producers, including marketing limitations, lack of volume to dilute fixed costs, time constraints and lack of new technology. In addition, squab producers are confronted with issues that may eventually affect the business along with their own lifestyle. Some of those critical issues are employment opportunities, fuel costs, interest rates, land prices and government regulations.

Squab producers can often offset their disadvantages by not being dependent on their farming enterprise

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for a major source of family income, using it as an investment to receive a tax advantage and most of all, a place to live. They are also in a better position to optimize management practices because of their keen interest and devotion to squab raising as a way of life, their size and the specialized nature of the enterprise.

They seem to be more insulated from the wide price fluctuations of their commodity and, hence, can be more flexible by taking advantage of any lower costs of feed and supplies and by making their marketing program as prices change.

By maximizing these advantages, coupled with adopting new technology, supporting research and improving production efficiency, the squab producers of California can ensure their success and future growth. □

Pacific Fantail Assn. News

by DON KLATT, San Diego, Calif.

The Pacific Fantail Assn's 1989 annual show at the Pageant of Pigeons was a super success with 21 exhibitors and over 230 quality Fantails shown. Louis Christener of Bay City, MI., expertly judged 15 very competitive color classes. When all the feathers were settled, Dennis Soares' mealy O.C. #642 emerged as show champion. Dennis also received the L.A.P.C. Champion of Breed award. This was Dennis' second Pageant win with a mealy.

Larry Rosales "walked away" with Reserve Champion, B.O.S. and CH. Young with a darling little Blue check Y.H., #696.

Miss Jaime Petey won the Junior Champion trophy with her Blue O.C. #607.

She had best blue and best almond in the show. I am always happy to see the junior members in the winner's circle. The future of our hobby is with our junior members.

A special election was held and Ray Mathewson was elected Publicity Photographer and Don Klatt, Publicity Writer for 1990. We thank all the members for their vote of confidence.

I would like to add that in 1988 the P.F.A. revived its annual Y.B.S., held the second Sat. in Oct., and continues to sponsor the Queen of the Fancy at the Pageant of Pigeons. Please contact our Sec.-Treas., Jose Montoya for membership and show information. His address is 9685 Almond St., Alta Loma, CA 91701. □

Organizations



Canadian Fantail Club News

by MICHAEL BOYD, Terra Cotta, Ont., Canada

The Canadian Fantail Club's annual show was a great success this year. The show was held in Paris, Ontario, on November 25. In all, 233 top Fantails were shown with the judging being done by John Moppin of Kansas City. We hope to have a report from John about the show for our next article.

Champion Fantail was won by John Ferber on a wonderfully round old checker hen. Reserve Champion was won by Bob Phillippo with an outstanding young black hen. Second reserve was by Bob Phillippo with a young white hen. In the order of judging the following were our colour class winners:

Tailmark - M. Boyd, Grizzle - J. Ferber, Ash Red - B. Pogue, Cream - J. Ferber, Andalusian - B. Phillippo, Yellow - B. Pogue, Saddle - F. Koops, Black - B. Phillippo, Powdered Blue - J. Ferber, Almond - B. Phillippo, Silver - J. Ferber, Indigo - P. McColeman, Red - F. Koops, Blue - G. Stephenson, Dun - W. Fieghen, White - B. Phillippo, Bronze - P. McColeman, Powdered Silver - J. Ferber, Checker - J. Ferber, Opal - B. Phillippo and Pied - B. Phillippo.



RESERVE CHAMPION FANTAIL

This Black Young Fantail Hen was Best Black and Reserve Champion Fantail at the Canadian Fantail Club Annual Meet and Best Black at the Central Fantail Club Annual Meet. — Bred by Bob Phillippo.

We had a breeder's auction at the show where seven pair of top quality Fantails were sold. The top price was paid by Robert Stephens at \$260.00 for a great pair of whites donated to the club by John Moppin. Congratulations to Robert and thank you John. The average price per pair was about \$125 and we hope to have an even better auction at the next annual meet.

The quality of our Fantails in Canada has improved greatly over the last few years and we can now claim that the calibre of our Fans can match that of those shown anywhere.

On January 13 and 14, the Central Fantail Club held its annual meet in Ottumwa, Iowa, with almost 500 Fantails being shown and judged by Bill Diemer. Seven Canadians made the long trek to this show and really made our presence known. Attending were: Mike Boyd, Gerry Macerollo, Jim Martin, Bob Phillippo, Brian Pogue along with his father and son, Stan Racho and Domenic Zarlenga. Wayne Fieghen showed with his Fans being brought by Brian Pogue.

In short the Canadians cleaned up! In all, Canadian Fans won Grand Champion of the show, eight colour class Champions and five colour class reserve champions. Congratulations go to Domenic Zarlenga who won Grand Champion at the Central for the second year in a row! Domenic won with a Blue old hen that really was the class of the competition. As well, Domenic was awarded the Central's Breeder of the Year Award. Domenic is the youngest Fantail breeder to receive this coveted award. Well done Domenic, and to top it off the last day of the show was Domenic's birthday.

Colour class winners were: Andalusian - B. Phillippo, Black - B. Phillippo, Dominant Opal - B. Phillippo, Dun - W. Fieghen, Blue - D. Zarlenga, Ash Red - B. Pogue, Red - B. Pogue and Yellow - B. Pogue.

Reserve colour winners were: Andalusian - B. Phillippo, Black - J. Martin, Blue - G. Macerollo, Silver - G. Macerollo and Grizzle - G. Macerollo. Other notable wins were old white hens where Stan Racho had 4th and



GRAND CHAMPION FANTAIL

This Blue Fantail Hen, #CPF87CH27, was Grand Champion Fantail at the 1989 Central Fantail Club Annual Show, Ottumwa, Iowa. — Bred and owned by Domenic Zarlenga, North York, Ontario, Canada.

yearling white hens where Stan had 5th. In black young hens Canadians had 1, 2, 3 with Phillippo, Martin and Racho. Stan Racho also had 1st yearling black hen. In Blues Domenic Zarlenga had 1st young cock and in the young hens Canadians again went 1, 2, 3, with Gerry Macerollo placing first and second and Zarlenga third.

In all this was quite a show and those who attended really enjoyed the warm hospitality shown to us.

We are anticipating that a landmark development will occur in the Canadian Fantail fancy this year. The Canadian Fantail Club and the National Fantail Club of Canada have approved in principle a merger of the two clubs under the new name, The Canadian National Fantail Association. The executives of each club have met and committees have been struck to work out the details of the merger. A meeting has been scheduled for June 3, 1990 and the members of each club will be notified well in advance should they wish to attend and vote at this meeting. □

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Old Dutch Capuchine News

by LAYNE GARDNER, Colton, Calif.

As I looked over the shows this past year I was pleased to note that the overall quality of Old Dutch Capuchines has gotten considerably better. More attention is being paid to type and to tight feathering. However, every once in a while I saw a bird or two that I do not consider to be representative of an Old Dutch Capuchine. In fact, at some of the smaller shows these birds are winning. Certainly it is ignorance on the part of the judge, so in order to show what we want and what we don't want in a good O.D.C. I've included a photograph of a very poor Capuchine. This is the type I consider to be inferior — that is, not truly representative of an Old Dutch Capuchine.

The photo of the yellow depicts a bird that is obviously of Jacobin ancestry. The ornamental feathering is too long and if I had taken a profile view the eye would be hidden by the feather length. As a further result, the tail is far, far too long and drags on the ground. As frequently happens with loose-feathered birds the flights are carried below the tail. The legs are also inferior in that they are way too short and not even close to being straight.

In the past this is the kind of Capuchine that was shown at the shows. And it's no wonder that the breed failed to gain popularity. Such birds merely appear to be very poor Jacobins.

There is another photograph included which gives a good contrast to compare with the yellow.

The photo is a spread yellow hen bred by Bob Salwey. This is one of my favorite O.D.C. type-wise. We immediately notice a much shorter feather length. This is especially apparent in the tail. The carriage of the tail, i.e., horizontal station, gives a showy look to the bird. Finally, notice the legs. One of the legs is not in proper position but the other one shows good length and is straight. A beautiful bird.

Well, we've just finished our 101st Pigeon Show (Jan. 12 and 13, 1990) and it was a big success again. It was held at The Inn at Reading.

The Motel told us that they rented 14 rooms out Thursday, 124 rooms Friday and 178 rooms Saturday. That's a lot of people, it's hard to figure how many visitors, plus there were 285 exhibitors.

We had approximately 2800 show birds and approximately 1200-1300 birds for sale. There were 17 specialty clubs at our show and over 50 different breeds.

This show has gotten so big that we are at our limit for the hall, any more birds and we'll have to set limits on entries or something. The motel said they are thinking about building a new hall which would help us a lot. But until then we are at our limit.

We had a buffet on Saturday night that 225 people attended. It was very good, we had pork and sauerkraut,

Those of us who breed and show Old Dutch Capuchines generally know what we are looking for. It is up to us to help those who judge our birds gain a clearer understanding of the breed. For further information regarding the Old Dutch Capuchine my address is: 1434 Miller Drive, Colton, CA 92324.

You should be aware that there is a club specifically devoted to the promotion, development, and exhibition of the Old Dutch Capuchine; the North American Capuchine Club. For information contact: Lyle C. Wells, 19 Daniel Ave. NE, Atlanta, GA 30317. □

Reading Expo

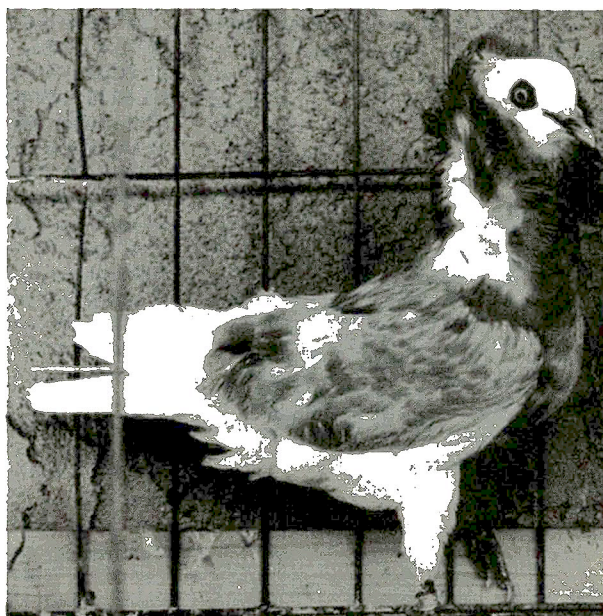
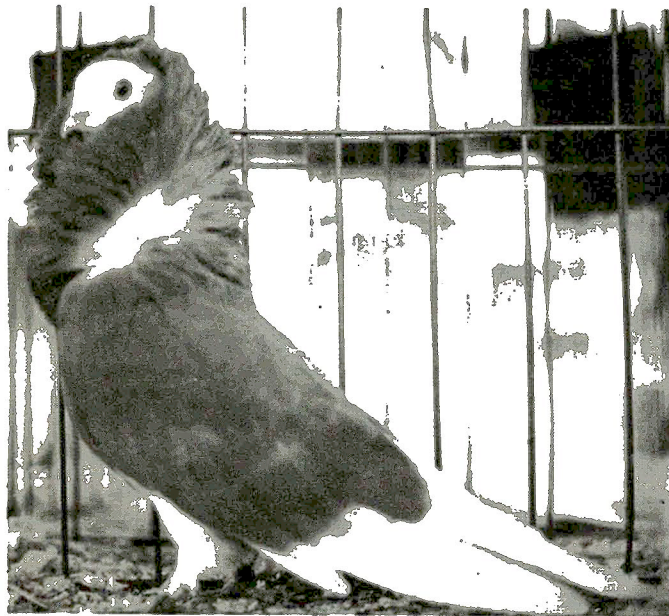
by SCOTT W. FISHER, Reading, Pa.

turkey, salisbury steak and some other good foods.

Judging started on Friday by some of the specialty clubs. All birds had to be in by 9:00 a.m. Saturday morning unless stated differently by specialty clubs. All the birds were done being judged approximately 8:00 p.m. Saturday night. You can see it was a long day, but it was all worth it. Birds were pulled Sunday morning at approximately 7:00 a.m.

I'd like to thank Muard Naugle, President of Reading Pigeon Assn., who also did some judging, Jerre Price who was show secretary, Terry Fick for judging, and Bob Eveland who made sure everyone's rooms and whatever problems there were, was taken care of. Without guys like this there wouldn't be a successful show.

If you haven't seen our show stop by and visit us, our show has lots of good birds to buy. Well until next year... □



OLD DUTCH CAPUCHINES

On the left is a yellow Old Dutch Capuchine which is not truly representative of the breed. On the right is a spread yellow Old Dutch Capuchine, bred and owned by Bob Salwey, LaQuinta, Calif., which is truly representative of the breed.



Guest Writer of the month, Freddie Dowling, President of the Australian Show Racer Union.

I was very pleased and happy to receive this letter from our friends from down under. I am sure that all members of the ASRA will enjoy reading what Freddie has to say.

Australian Show Racer Union

We formed the club only 18 months ago and now have 30 members, who are spread all over Australia. Most of us have had Show Racers just about all of our lives, but they were called working homers in the old days, then, Show Pen Homers. But now that we use the American Standard which we all agree is "Perfection Personified", to show that a bird can look so powerful yet be a perfectly balanced and graceful. I don't think that the Standard should ever be tampered with for it is perfect now and I hope it stays that way. So, when we formed the club we decided to call our birds Show Racers and give them their proper

name. There are three Show Racer Clubs in Australia at present: our club, the West Australian Show Racer Club, and the Queensland Show Racer Club. We are all united and correspond together, and all use the American Standard. Our birds over here all started as good looking Racing Pigeons. Yet with the skill and patience of some really dedicated breeders we now have them looking like the Standard. It's hard to tell with photos for they rarely turn out lifelike, but I would say that our very best birds would be on a part with yours over there, but only our very best. At a big show over here last year with over 2,000 pigeons of all breeds a show Racer was "Best Bird in Show" and picked by a panel of eight Judges. There were some really top fancy pigeons there so it was good to see the Show Racer get up and beat them.

Last show season our club held three very successful shows in different locations to enable all members to

exhibit. We had 250 to 300 birds at each show. So our members are very keen in the short time we have been going, we have made good headway. We even have our own photo copier which was purchased by all members contributing to it. You sure can do almost anything if everyone sticks together. We are now using 8.6mm rings on our birds as opposed to 8.00mm we were using before. Not that our birds are larger, but like Amos Hodson explained in one of his articles, in the quest for more powerful bone structure the legs are a bit thicker and it is only in the interest of the birds comfort. We have almost all the colors over here that you have there. Only we have classes for peds, for many of our members like them and a nice pied looks quite flashy especially, if, a good quality one. We still have a bit of a problem at some shows as yet, where our birds are called "Show Homers" and we have to enter them as such. But our members have the best birds and we always win anyway. Some shows have now begun to call them "Show Racers", so I suppose it is only a matter of time.

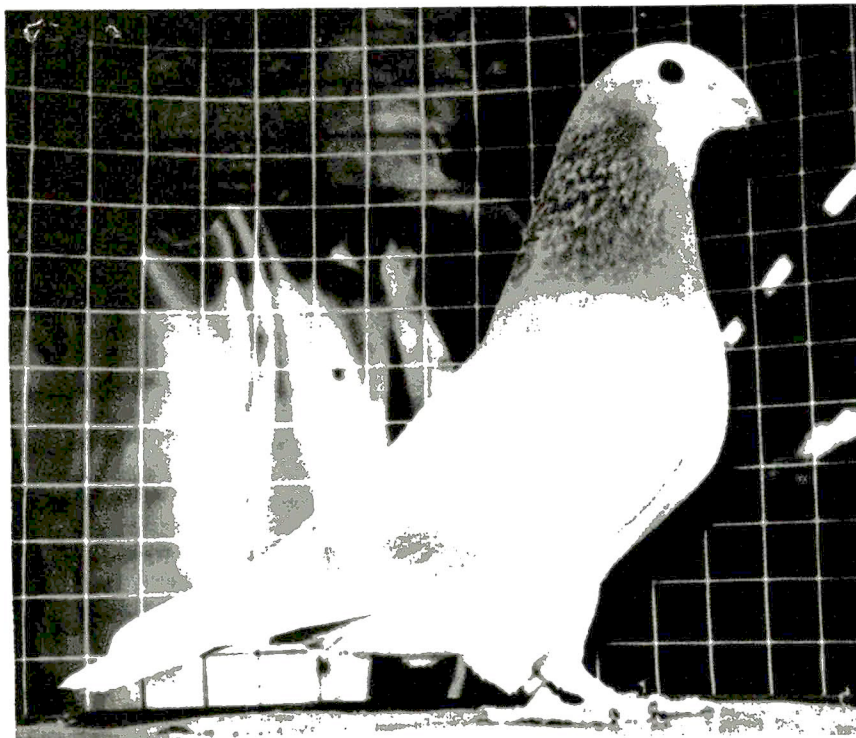
We have our own cloth badges and if we all wear them to shows we should finally educate them.

Well Mate, I could go on forever but my hand is getting tired. I haven't got many photos on hand at the moment. So I will send you some later. As our show season is just starting, I will photograph the Champion of each show and send you them, in the meantime here is a photo of "Blue", a Red Check Cock taken when he was a young bird. However, we have them even better now and he wouldn't win today. Our birds are very good bodied with strong backs and rumps and firm handling. We don't like them "mushy", and they must be well balanced and station correctly with good strong head and beak or they can't win. Most of our birds are right feathered. So I think we are getting there. Well Bill that's about all I can think of at the moment. Hope to hear from you anytime. P.S. We are members of the ASRA now also.

A Personal Note

In receiving this fine article I sat right down and wrote Freddie a letter thanking him for his article and encouraging him and fellow fanciers down under to also write articles and submit them.

I have received several letters expressing appreciation for the column and I want to thank these members for their approval. □



"BLUE"

A red checker young American Show Racer cock belonging to Graham Jowett was the Champion Show Racer at this show in 1985. "We have better ones now, but he was a good bird in his day and has left some nice youngsters for Graham," says Freddie Dowling, President of the Australia Show Racer Union.

National Modena Club News

by K.W. "CHUCK" LAMBOOY, Lakewood, Colo.
Publicity Director



I really did not expect to start out MY new year by getting phone calls that we are losing our friends. I realize that death comes to us all, but hearing about it is not pleasant, except for where they are going when they leave us behind. I am speaking about the loss of friends in the National Modena Club, namely J.W. Springer of Morton, Illinois, who lived a tremendous life, lived, as I have said to a Victorious age of 95, and left a legacy that will not soon be matched. I say this in a little bit of haste forgetting to mention the rest of the Springer family that Joe leaves behind; I know they will carry on that great tradition. Also, to mourn the sudden and untimely death of Elmer Nelson. Elmer and his wife Sharon were beginning to scare people when they came into the show room, because of the tremendous strides made in the Bronze Gazzi breeding. I was one of the fortunate people to know this man, and will miss him. Though he was a strong competition, he had passed on many good birds of his stock, to a great many people. Sharon, please accept our prayers for you and your family in this time of loss.

Well, OK, March! So, why aren't there 50 birds banded and through the first moult? Oh, I guess to do that, I would have to start in September. And if I did who would I get the bands from? Never mind, I didn't answer these questions, and I guess I will just have to settle with the two that are about to the floor. I get nervous about the breeding, and started early this year, almost as early as the lucky people in the south and west. Hope you are all planning on a good year, because that is what I wish for everyone!

Since I do not have very much on my agenda this month, I will get right to the interview for this month. Our person in the spotlight is Doyle Conner, of Belle Plaine, Kansas. For those who know Doyle, he is a fun loving guy, who really likes breeding the Modenas. I suppose anyone who has a loft the size of a 6-car garage would enjoy breeding anything! Seriously, I have watched as Doyle has jumped into the front lines of the Modena game to become a watched breeder. So, now that he has retired from 40 years at the Boeing plant in Wichita, will he become stronger, or will he dump it all and move to Jamaica with Flo? Let's

see what he says in this interview!

Q.: Please tell our readers about your family, occupation, and "life after the Modenas."

A.: I am now retired and taking every advantage of being a senior citizen! My wife for almost 40 years now, Flo, and I have two daughters and four grandchildren. (Who you have probably heard me talk about almost as much as the Modenas).

Q.: Looking back, how old were you when you first discovered pigeons?

A.: Among a number of other pets, I also raised pigeons when I was 8-10 years old, and through the teen years. Of course, they were "barn" pigeons, that my brother and I would catch from my Uncle's farm.

Q.: What types or breeds were the first that you had?

A.: In the late 60's I again obtained a few pairs of show homers for a short while. It wasn't until about 1978 that I started "collecting" the different breeds. I had English Trumpeters, Fantails, Nuns, Helmets, Show Homers, and Kings, but it was not until the Kansas Pigeon Association Show in 1980 that I saw the beauty of the Modena.

Q.: How long have you been raising Modenas, and when did you first acquire an interest in them?

A.: I purchased a pair of Black Schietti from Charlie Horner and a pair of Red Schietti from J.D. Davidson. My first pair of Gazzi came from Carl Glidewell, along with another pair that was given to Flo by Charlie Horner.

Q.: When you first started in the Modena breed, from whom did you receive the most help?

A.: Mostly the local breeders who would listen to my endless questions.

Q.: As an established Modena breeder, do you make your own birds by YOUR breeding program alone, and/or does it become necessary to outcross to other strains?

A.: I have been fortunate to obtain good birds from a variety of breeders. Right now because of the different bloodlines, I am able to line-breed from my own stock.

Q.: What is your favorite color for breeding?

A.: Blue and Bronze-Tri Gazzi, followed by Silver and Sulphur-Tri Gazzi.

Q.: Are you currently working on any color variations or developments

other than your specific color choice?

A.: No.

Q.: If you have held an office or currently hold an office in the National Modena Club, is there any other position that you would like to hold?

A.: Not at this time.

Q.: We now have our new, long awaited model which has been adopted at the National meeting, awaiting acceptance by the club membership. What importance will its presence hold as a force for future judging and the development of our breed?

A.: This will give everyone a definite goal to breed to and should, in years to come, make the competition to win a show even tougher than it is now, not just locally, but on the national level; wherever once chooses to show.

Q.: What EFFECTIVE changes would you personally make in the current standard of the Modena that would TRULY strengthen the system?

A.: No comment on this.

Q.: During the annual meeting, a proposal was made where-by the current certificate system would change to read: "When a bird is awarded a certificate, it should go to whomever the BREEDER was." Since this proposal was defeated, will you please comment on where the integrity of our system might be headed?

A.: Let your conscience be your guide, also fellow exhibitors!

Q.: During your career with the Modena, if you have experienced any set-backs, would you please describe them?

A.: In 1981 my birds contracted paratyphoid and I lost some good birds.

Q.: In following with the previous question on the positive side, in what areas do you feel that you have excelled, and please elaborate on them?

A.: I feel I have improved the Blue and Bronze-Tri Gazzi particularly in the last few years, just in an all-around manner.

Q.: Please describe for our readers the breeding program you are using with the following: 1. Loft setup. 2. Loft management. 3. Medications - how used and how often. 4. Breeding: start, maintenance, break-up. 5. Training and show preparation.

A.: Please refer to the 1989 July issue of the American Pigeon Journal, Modena Special. I wrote an article that covers this question for the most part.

Q.: What advice would you be willing to share with the beginner who might be reading this article?

A.: Don't diversify too much. Choose your color and concentrate in that area. Buy the best birds that you can to start with, and attend the shows so you can see what you need to improve your line.

Q.: What is your personal attitude

toward a new individual who comes to you by reputation and wants to know "ALL ABOUT THE MODENA" and "CAN YOU HELP ME START OUT?"

A.: I am always willing to help and to give encouragement.

Q.: When someone approaches you about the purchase of birds in your color they might purchase, what do you feel is a fair price for a pair you CAN sell?

A.: This really isn't a fair question, because each breeder has a different value on their birds. If you need a particular feature in a bird to improve your stock, the buyer has to determine how much that bird is worth to him. I do feel that some of the prices I've heard of are out of reason, and may be a discouragement to the beginner.

Q.: Do you have any comments you would like to make in behalf of yourself or the Modena, or share any other informational tips?

A.: I'm glad I chose Modenas as the breed to specialize in, but more than that, I really look forward to seeing all of **YOU** at the shows, and wish you good breeding seasons!

I hope that you all enjoyed this interview. Next month I am hoping to be able to bring you a "double" interview, this being from the partnership of Dick Cook and Ray Coursey: time will only tell. Until next month, good luck and good health. □

American Turbit Club News

by CHARLIE CICHANOWICZ, Pub. Dir., Hatfield, Mass.

The American Turbit Club held its 91st annual meeting January 11-13, 1990, in Reading, PA.

For those who are not familiar with the Reading Show, it is held at the Inn at Reading in Reading, Pa. It is all held under one roof, the show hall, meeting rooms, guest rooms, restaurant, lounge and gift shop. The show hall is elegant with excellent lighting and room for 3,000 pigeons. There is also a lot of local shopping for the ladies. All in all a wonderful place to spend three leisurely days talking with old friends and making new ones.



Al Inkowich and George Polochi at the 1990 American Turbit Club Meet at Reading, Pa. — Photo by Charlie Cichanowicz, Hatfield, Mass.

Maurd Naugle of Penn., handled the difficult job of judging with Dick Schnieder keeping the records. George Polochi and Charlie Cichanowicz did the stewarding of the birds.

Champion Turbit went to a strong black cock of Dick Schnieder with reserve going to Charlie Cichanowicz's young red cock. Al Inkowich cleaned up most of the blue and silver classes, while George Polochi shared the red and yellows, with Reed Kinzer squeezing in wherever he could.

It was real good to see all the new interest in turbits. Many quality birds changed hands before and after the judging, including the champion. It was real nice to see all these quality birds going to new breeders. I hope that this is some sort of indication that the AMERICAN TURBIT CLUB is starting a new growing cycle. This new interest should create some keen competition.

The show was over much too soon, with us all leaving on a pleasant note. With a new breeding season just around the corner and a promise to do it all over again next year.

The AMERICAN TURBIT CLUB urges all fanciers who are genuinely interested in promoting the Turbit to join our friendly club.

1990 AMERICAN TURBIT CLUB show results:

Champion Turbit, black cock #53, Schnieder; Reserve Champion, red cock #509, Cichanowicz; Best Old Turbit, black cock #53, Schnieder (1st win for Schaefer Memorial Trophy); Best Old Cock, #53, Schnieder (black); Best Old Hen, #925, Inkowich (dun); Best Young Red or Yellow, #509, Cichanowicz (1st win for Heptig Memorial Trophy); Best Young Turbit, #509, Cichanowicz.

OLD COCKS: Best Yellow, #139, Polochi; Best Red, #416, Cichanowicz; Best Black, #53, Schnieder; Best Blue, #111, Inkowich; Best Silver, #270, Inkowich.

OLD HENS: Best Yellow, #14, Polochi; Best Red, #41, Polochi; Best Black, #150, Inkowich; Best Blue, #280, Inkowich; Best Silver, #144, Inkowich; Best Dun, #925, Inkowich.

YOUNG COCKS: Best Yellow, #302, Polochi; Best Red, #509, Cichanowicz; Best Black, #526, Inkowich; Best Blue, #524, Inkowich; Best Silver, #529, Inkowich; Best Mealy, #106, Polochi; Best A.O.C., #414, Cichanowicz.

YOUNG HENS: Best Red, #511, Cichanowicz; Best Black, #1098, Kinzer; Best Blue, #507, Cichanowicz. □



American Turbit Club Members at the 1990 A.T.C. meeting at Reading, Pa. (l.-r.): Jay Curtis, Reed Kinzer, Charlie Cichanowicz, George Polochi, Buddy Schall, Dick Schneider and Al Inkowich. — Photo by Charlie Cichanowicz, Hatfield, Mass.



NATIONAL BIRMINGHAM ROLLER CLUB NEWS

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

by **VAUGHN J. SUHLING**

Public Relations Director

RR 1, Box 107, Chapin, Ill. 62628
(217) 457-2218



The warmth of spring is beginning to show itself here in the Midwest, but so are the cold, rainy, windy days of March. This is a bad time of year for the breeders in a loft in the central U.S. One day it is sunny and 60 degrees, and the next it is cloudy and 18 degrees. This irregularity could be part of the reason for the infertile eggs and strung out rounds we often have this time of year.

The response to the hawk survey has been good so far. There seems to be a lot of support for the project, but everyone realizes that the battle has not even begun yet! I will keep the hobby informed on the progress of the project as developments occur. If any non-NBRC members would like to know more about the above mentioned project/hawk survey, just drop me a line.

Three major NBRC sanctioned events have been scheduled for 1990. The Los Angeles area will play host to the William Pensom Memorial. The dates for this event are April 21 and 22, 1990. I'm glad to see the West Coast host an NBRC convention. For further details watch the Roller publications or contact NBRC Director, Jerry Higgins, 8981 Arroyo Dr., Colton, CA 92324.

June 23 and 24, 1990, will see the Carolina Flying Roller Club, the Foothills Competition Roller Club and the Piedmont Flying Roller Club sponsoring the NBRC sanctioned 1990 Carolina Roller Convention. This is the second annual Carolina extravaganza and if this year's event is anything like the last one, it will be quite an event. The three clubs all contribute a lot to the hobby and are made up of some great guys. The Carolinas are definitely a Performing Roller Hotbed! For info contact Bob Simpson, P.O. Box 1539, Skyland, NC 28776, John Castro, Rt. 7, Marmac Acres, Anderson, SC 29624, or James Turner, 200 Pinsonville Road, Greenwood, SC 29646.

The Southern Indiana Roller Club will ramrod the NBRC Louisville Convention in conjunction with the National Young Bird Show. The annual Louisville gathering will take place October 27 and 28, 1990. As usual this convention will feature kit exhibitions by the fanciers in the Louisville and Southern Indiana area. For more details and/or motel reser-

vation information contact Joseph Marlett, Rt. 1, Marysville, IN 47141.

Sam DaMommio of Texas, was the first to answer my invitation to guest author this column. The following article is the fruit of his labor. It is a good outline of his feeding program. There are as many different ideas on feeding as there are rollermen, and I believe all of them have something of value in them whether they are along the same lines as our programs or not. Every family of birds is different and requires a different feeding program for optimum performance, but by reading and understanding other feeding regimens we may learn something that will help us in our own programs. I'd like to say a special "thank you" to Sam for his time and effort.

INFORMATION SHARING FROM AN AVID EATER

**Sam DaMommio,
Pasta Eater Par Excellence
Feeding:**

The **amount** is more important than the type of feed.

*Young, minimum of 1 yr. old, or through the first full moult. Take care to feed enough protein, as any deficiencies caused at this time cannot be corrected. Suggest use of a light feed, such as millet or milo to bring them in, and your primary feed afterwards.

*Yearlings, holdover - with these birds you can experiment more, short feed to see how they react, short feed and do not fly for a day, then don't feed at all the next day and observe and **record** their performance, etc., etc. Sometimes when you don't fly is as important as when you do. + + + with

your kit birds you should develop a "feel" for the amount by the way they react.

*Breeders - About 18 years ago I did a 6 month study to compare the feeding of grain vs. pellets. The pellets came out to be the best as far as letting me get the young out of the nest quicker, plus getting a balanced diet. One main point I learned was the major impact of "timed amount" feeding to the breeders vs. free choice. Only as much as they will clean up in about 20 to 30 min. Result was better fed young, and healthier parents (much like humans). If this concerns you, you can feed them twice a day if you have the time, however I did not find this mandatory.

Actual Practice Now

Using Purina "green nuggets" 18 percent for my primary feed, use millet and milo as my drop feed, and as treat to the breeders. Always put a bit of CLOROX in the drinking water. I do fly out of three kit boxes, (two hold up to 68 birds each the other 44) and all my kit boxes along with my holding pen has an expanded metal floor therefore the loose droppings are not a problem. Although the nuggets are not bad in this area.

Summary

Observe your birds, **record** what you see and re-read what you put down three days to 30 years later. Learn from your own observations as to what gets you where you want to go with the rollers. If at all possible try to see as many kits in the air as you can. And above all if you are in my area, give me a call as the birds will be flyable - spinning I hope - the PASTA is on. Oh yeah, I do use some wheat now and then.

If anyone would like more information about the NBRC, or would like to become a member, contact George Valiska, RD #2, Box 437, Delta, PA 17314. Dues are \$9.00 for 12 months membership. □

Los Angeles Pigeon Club

Organized in 1911

115 SOUTH TAYLOR AVENUE, MONTEBELLO, CALIFORNIA
Visitors Welcome

MEETS - SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH - 7:30 P.M.
CITY OF MONTEBELLO SENIOR CITIZENS BLDG. (REAR)

Sponsoring The Great Annual 'Pageant Of Pigeons' Show

Eastern Jacobin News

by DONALD O'CONNOR, Pub. Dir., Copake Falls, N.Y.

January 17, 1990. The Reading Show is over for another year. It was a great success as usual. The Reading Pigeon Club is a gracious host and the members should be praised for all their hard work in setting up the show hall, three days to set up all the show cages, that's a lot of work and after the show, it all has to be taken down and the hall cleaned up. That is something to think about.

There were fanciers at the show from Canada to California. The Eastern Jacobin Club had four visitors to check out how our Jacobins in the United States stack up to the European Jacobins. Two of the visitors came from Germany, Fr. Jos. Dillman from Limburg, Germany and Dieter Bernges from Seeheim-Fugenheim, Germany. From England, Barry Deacon from Leeds - UK and his friend from Scotland, George Milne from Aberdeen. It was great to meet these gentlemen. I'm sure they enjoyed their visit and we enjoyed their company. I didn't get a chance to talk to them after the show to get their opinion as to what they thought of our Jacobins. I think George and Barry might be back to visit again at Reading and hopefully I'll have more time to talk to them. I'm really surprised that no one tried to get them to join the Eastern Jacobin Club. Next time guys!

I also met a gentleman that I'm going to try to catch up with in the future and talk about getting information on the wonderful pictures he gave me of members of the E.J.A. back in the 50's and 60's. I hope to use

some of these in the future articles, so as to share with all. So once again, many thanks to John F. Freiburg Jr., of Freehold, N.J. John told me he used to do this job for the E.J.A., Pub. Dir., and from what he said it hasn't changed much from then till now. It's still like pulling teeth to try to generate some news for the articles. I guess some things never change, John. When I get down to New Jersey, I'll try to catch up with you.

I received a call from Paul Zodarlik, Paul had some good luck at the New York State Fair Show, his Jacobin was picked Best of Show. Nice job, Paul. Congratulations!

The members of the Eastern Jacobin Club as well as myself are very sorry to hear of the passing of Harry Alexander. I understand he was only 39 years old. I have written back and forth to Harry, but never got to meet him in person. He was a very knowledgeable man on genetics. He wrote many articles for the A.P.J. on this subject which I enjoyed and acquired a lot of information. He surely will be missed. Our prayers and condolences to his family.

I have had a phone call from one of our new members Adel Al-Askar of Kuwait. He informed me he has quite a few young birds out and banded, from the breeding stock of Jacobins he brought back with him to Kuwait. He tells me that the breeding season in Kuwait will end in May, just about the time I get started up here! Boy! Would I like to get a couple of young birds banded and out of the nest on their

own in January! Maybe we'll see some of Adel's youngsters in Louisville next year?

I would like to ask once again for club members and just Jacobin breeders in general to share any news they might have or ideas you think could be useful to other breeders. Let's hear from you all. It would give much credit to the Eastern Jacobin Club. Drop a line? Don O'Connor, P.O. Box 62, Copake Falls, N.Y. 12517.

I want to add in some old news from back in November 1989 at the York Young Bird Show. We had a yearling class which was won by Bob Muszanski of Conn. He won with a Red Cock and Red Hen as shown in the picture of these two birds and standing behind the birds is the proud owner Bob Muszanski.

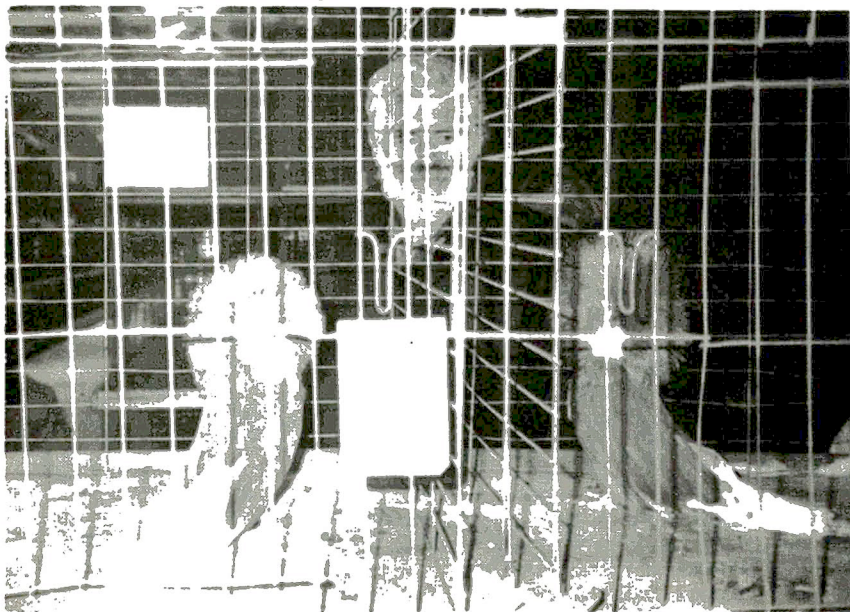
So with that, I will close this month. I will have all the show results next month. All the best to all, for the new year. □

The National Oriental Frill, Turbit & Owl Family

by DAVID WORKMAN,
Corpus Christi, Texas

Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls, welcome to the greatest show on Earth. That is the only way to describe the NPA Grand National in Salt Lake City, Utah. Due to the great support of three of the finest clubs in the country, Western Turbit, Frill and Owl Club, Western Owl Club and N.O.F.T.O.F., there were over 300 of the best Turbits, Frills and Owls on display. I want to take time to thank all of the members of all three clubs for the support. Congratulations to each of the Champions of each breed: Turbit Charlie Smith, Frills Jay McGehee, Owls Vern Sorenson. Also thank you to the judges for a job well done.

While we are the subject of judging, it has been my pleasure to watch Bill Fobin judge on a number of different occasions and I can tell you that he is a master at it. Bill goes over every bird and when everything is over, the best bird will be on top. Hope to see all of you at the next show in California and at the young/yearling show at Jay's, until then good luck with your breeding season and don't forget to support your local club as well as the National Club. □



Bob Muszanski with his Red Jacobin Cock and Red Jacobin Hen that won their yearling classes at the York Young Bird Show. — Photo from Don O'Connor, Copake Falls, N.Y.

American Lahore Club News

by STEVE BIEBERICH, Clinton, Okla.

Another show season has come and gone. Now our thoughts have turned to raising a champion for 1990. I mated my Lahores the last week of December. I now have 24 pairs on babies and eggs. I'm really looking forward to what I can raise this season. I am breeding barred Lahores in mealy, cream, brown, khaki, blue, silver and dun bar. I also have blacks, lavenders and blue grizzles.

I visited recently with Guy Marlar of Arkansas City, Kansas. Guy has built a new loft and from what I understand it's all state of the art. I've seen his old loft and it was really nice, so I can just

imagine what the new one is like. Guy was going to pair up his birds in January.

Last week I helped our American Lahore Club Southern District Director, Bob Bond of Clinton, Oklahoma, build a new section onto his loft. Bob and his boys are breeding Lahores mostly in red and yellow.

No news from the West Coast. I hope to hear from Selden Perry or Mike Garcia about the Lahore section at the National in Salt Lake City, Utah. Anyone else having news or information about Lahores, please let me know so I can give "The Bird of Beauty" the publicity it deserves.

Here are the show results from the National Young Bird Show, our Judge was Roscoe Harbaugh.

Champion Best Black, #234 Y.C., Steve Bieberich. Res. Champion and Best A.O.C. #238, Guy Marlar. Best Red #250 Y.H., Guy Marlar. Best Yellow #110 Y.H., Guy Marlar. Best Bar #258 Y.C., Steve Bieberich. Best Lavender #237 Y.H., Guy Marlar.

Results for Southern District Meet of the American Lahore Club held with the Oklahoma Pigeon Association in Shawnee, Oklahoma, December 9, 1989. There were 38 Lahores shown by four exhibitors. Our judge was Jay D. Stone.

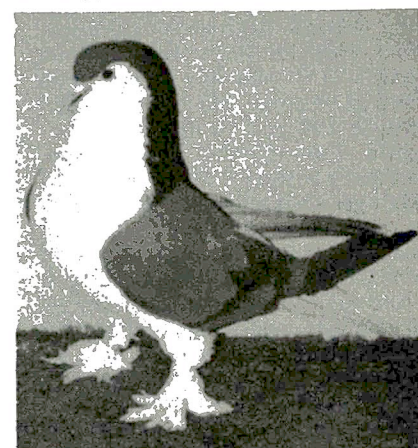
Champion #675 Black O.H., Guy Marlar. Res. Champion Black #810 O.H., Guy Marlar.

Steve Bieberich, Publicity Director, American Lahore Club, Rt. 3, Box 2, Clinton, Oklahoma. □



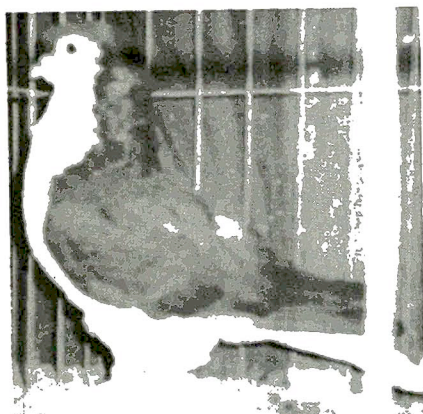
CHAMPION LAHORE

This Black Lahore, OH #675, was Champion Lahore at Shawnee, Okla., 1989. — Bred by Guy Marlar, Arkansas City, Kans.



RESERVE CHAMPION LAHORE

This Blue Bar Lahore, OH #810, was Reserve Champion at Shawnee, Okla., 1989. — Bred by Guy Marlar, Arkansas City, Kansas.



CHAMPION LAHORE

This Black Lahore, YC #234, was Champion Lahore at the 1989 National Young Bird Show. — Bred and owned by Steve Bieberich, Clinton, Okla.



RESERVE CHAMPION LAHORE

This Blue Check Lahore, YC #221, was Reserve Champion Lahore at the 1989 National Young Bird Show, Louisville, KY. — Bred by Guy Marlar, Arkansas City, Kansas.

Metro Pigeon Club

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

The Metro Pigeon Club met at the Perez home on Sunday, Feb. 11, 1990. This was one of the most ideal perfect days you will ever see in Calif. A very nice crowd turned out from all parts of San Diego County. We also had an old time pigeon fancier visiting with Fred Lipoufski. He use to live here in Poway, Ca., and now resides in Annapolis, Maryland. Very happy to have an old timer pigeon fancier pay us a welcome visit. Fred Lipoufski is the Superintendent of the Del Mar Fair Pigeon Show held in conjunction with the fair in the month of June. Mr. Lipoufski gave the audience a run-down on the Del Mar Fair and several important changes taking place. The first one is money. How about that! Pay attention and keep on reading. The payback on first place pigeons will be \$6.00, second place \$5.00, third

place \$4.00, fourth place \$3.00. This should make it much more interesting. The premium booklet will be coming out in another six to eight weeks.

There are several changes coming up that I have been pushing for some time. First one is making two classes for Rollers — Flying Rollers and Show Rollers. This will bring back lots of Rollers. The Flying Roller does not have any chance at all in the show pen. Many of them can now show their birds. The Del Mar Fair was having 400 to 500 Rollers at the Fair. The Show Rollers came along and dwindled down to 17 Rollers a year ago. The West of Englands have never had a class for black selfs. They still do not have a class for Andalusians. Fred mentioned some others that I missed. They will have a class for the Oriental Frills. The Judges set up for this year are Joseph

Colesanti, John Heppner and Mickey McSurdy. They are all outstanding Judges and capable of judging anywhere in this world. I have been pushing for several of these items and now they are official in the premium booklet. Fred Lipoufski has been fighting city hall for some time now. Fred has tried to help us win our battles. We're always happy to see him attend some of our shows.

Several other prominent pigeon fanciers with the Metro Pigeon Club, to name a few, Paul Platz, Bill Mackey, John Roszell, Gene East, Gene Lund, Don Klatt, John Metz and Tom Malone. I have left out several others that come by occasionally and enjoy the shows.

I picked up 12 fast subscriptions for the American Pigeon Journal today, while I was resting. Everyone had a

very enjoyable day visiting. Enjoying and renewing their friendship and acquaintances with others. □

Mountain West Pouter Club NPA National Meet

by JIM BROWN, Molalla, Ore.

I must congratulate the Utah Pigeon Club, and the NPA for a great show, with lots of help in all areas from the time we got off the plane till we checked in our birds at the airport to go home. A big Thanks to Mountain West Pouter Club member Kent Wright and crew.

The Mountain West Pigmy Meet was a great success. Much thanks goes

to Dick Bohman for all the work, and thought that makes for such a meet. I congratulate all members, and friends who took part.

Our fine judge Tally Mezzanatto did a super job, our champion #204 Young Red Cock, bred and owned by Ray Crumbie and reserve Champion #207 true Silver Check old hen, bred and owned by Kent Wright. Two super pigmy pouters. Congratulations to both members as well as all the color, and class winners, our meet was well represented with lots of fine pigmies.

The Mountain West Pouter Club presented Tally with the Mountain West Master Breeder's Award. Tally — congratulations from us all.

Start planning for the N.P.A. Grand National for January 1991 at Pomona, California. This will prove to be a great show and if you like pouters there should be 500-700 total, just in the blower breeds. Kent Wright has agreed to judge the pigmies, thanks Kent.

I urge each of us to support our hobby by belonging to your local club, specialty club and the N.P.A. Along with us they are the caretakers of the pigeon fancy today. Subscribe and share your APJ, there's a world of information to learn, and keep being the good example that you are. □



GREAT DINNER, GREAT FRIENDS!

Pictured left to right are Mr. and Mrs. Dick Bohman, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Spann, Stan Staveckis, Jim Brown, Keith Casteel, John Harrison at the Salt Lake City Grand National Banquet. — Photo by Jim Brown, Molalla, Ore.



MOUNTAIN WEST POUTER CLUB

Front row - Dick Bohman, Tally Mezzanatto, Ray Crumbie, Jim Brown. Back row - Curtis Chatelain, Bob Gabriel, Jack Spann, Kent Wright, John Harrison, Stan Staveckis at the Salt Lake City Grand National January 1990. — Photo by John Harrison.

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by
Conrad A. Mahr

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Performing Roller Assn. News

by JACK MEYERS
Publicity Director

3112 McGerry Ave., Modesto, Calif. 95355

When Donald Ouellette notified me that I had been elected Publicity Director for the P.R.A., I was a little frightened. I wasn't sure if I was the right man for the job or not, but, I've come to the conclusion, all I can do is give it my best shot.

Area Directors, if you have any material or information that you feel would be of interest to our members, get that information to Randy Lewis or myself. All material would be greatly appreciated.

"5th Annual PRA Fly and Display Convention" Held June 9-10, Boise, Idaho Judge George Mason, England

It's time to get ready for this year's convention and it looks like it will be one of the best yet. Last year's convention in L.A., was a very good experience for many who attended. We seem to experience something new at each convention which keeps the interest going. We learn from each convention and it helps us prepare for the next convention. As times goes on we hope the conventions can be more organized and comfortable. This year we are hosted by some very fine rollermen and gentlemen. Brent Martindale and Doc Reimann will be the coordinators. Anyone interested in attending or participating please contact: Brent Martindale, 4221 North Pennifield Pl., Boise, Idaho 83704. We're looking forward in meeting all of the good rollermen in Idaho. We will have one of the best rollermen as our Display judge. George Mason is from England and flies some of the best birds and kits you'll see anywhere. I have met him personally two times and he is without doubt one of the most knowledgeable rollermen I have had the privilege in meeting. John Huntington also from England will be accompanying George on this trip. Some of us met John through Rick Schoening's video and you'll see that John is also a fine rollerman with the practical knowledge to breed and fly performing rollers to their best. This will be a good chance in meeting some of the best fanciers in the hobby! Save your money and vacation time and join us in Boise. **Start verifying your top rollers for the display!** Let's share some nice birds with George and John. See you in Boise, Idaho, June 9-10 (PRA Officers).

In October of this year we will have the debut of the PRA West Coast Invitational Money Fly. It's time to put our money where our mouths are. If you are a PRA member and are willing to put up \$100.00 you are invited. We are covering the states of Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Idaho, and Utah. This fly will start Oct. 7 and will finish when we get done. We have some very good prospects to judge this competition fly. We are in the process of selecting the judge at the present time. We will inform you of our decision in the near future. It's an exciting time in the roller hobby so let's get involved and enjoy it. We have a situation where there are more than a few fanciers that have the ability to put up a kit. Any number of fanciers could win on any given Sunday. We now have confident experienced rollermen who are willing to put their money where their mouths are. We have some exciting times ahead of us in the 1990's. The best is yet to come!

Anyone interested in participating in this Money fly please contact Dan Ouellette, 1008 Reddy Ave., Medford, Oregon, 97504, phone: (503) 770-5528. We are in the process of reviewing competition rules in regards to this fly. If you have any competition rules that you would like to share and have us review please send them to Dan Ouellette. We will select three different rules and submit them to the judge for him to make the final decision of what rules we will use. We want the judge to be as comfortable with the rules as he can be. We all will accept whatever the judge decides. There shouldn't be any discrepancies as we all will be in the same situation. We will inform you of all the facts as they present themselves. See you in Boise June 9-10. (PRA OFFICERS).

P.R.A. AREA SEVEN REPORT by Donald C. Ouellette

As area director for area seven (Santa Clara County, CA.) it is my responsibility to report what our area has been doing. I strongly suggest to all area Directors to please contribute something for the bulletin. Let's work together and communicate. The P.R.A. presently has 16 area Directors. If each one sent something, we would have plenty of material.

Area seven has 11 members Flying Kits. Six of them are active in local

competition. There are two flying clubs: The Santa Clara Valley Performing Roller Association (The Mother Club of P.R.A.) started in 1985 and the Santa Clara Flying Roller Club which started in 1986. Both held four mixed Kit Flies and four Young Kit Flies in 1989. The members competing in the P.R.A. Santa Clara Valley were: Don Marshall, Art Solorio, Doug Stuedeman, Donald Ouellette.

The P.R.A. Santa Clara Valley is continuing to fly Mix Kit and Young Kit competitions. It is a comfortable, friendly group and it is nice to see everyone's Kit periodically (prevents loft blindness). We are also slated to "knock heads" with three other areas for a combined P.R.A. fly tentatively scheduled for sometime in April. It should be a competitive fly with the likes of Rich Nafzgar and Harry Meadows (area five), Jack Meyers and Ken Billings (area four) Michael Kelly and Pepe Carrera (area thirteen) vying for the best kit. Details are being ironed out.

The Santa Clara Valley Flying Roller Club (founded by Ruben Solorio) consists of: Ruben Solorio, Art Solorio, Don Marshall, Paul Daniels, Donald Ouellette.

I joined for the Young Kit flies, I didn't have Saturdays free for Mix Kit. Area seven is alive flying. We hope to hear from all other areas. Send reports to Randy Lewis, 3906 NE 114th St., Portland, Ore. 97220.

Be active and contribute to the P.R.A. dedicated to the positive promotion of Flying Rollers.

VERIFICATION IS ESSENTIAL

It's time for all of us to show our support for the P.R.A. verification program and start verifying our good sound air tested rollers for the Idaho PRA Fly and Display convention. The P.R.A. verification program is very important for the hobby right now. We are starting to see interest in showing open class pigeons. We have stressed in many of our bulletins how important it is to understand just what our Verification Program is all about. First of all the verification program is designed to promote our first class pigeons out of the air. The Display at our PRA conventions is not a show, it is a forum to socialize and share our first class pigeons that were verified out of the air with all who attends the convention. We have a experienced rollerman select his personal favorite out of the rollers entered. The plaque that is awarded is just a token of our appreciation for displaying and supporting the convention. The four criteria for our Display was constituted to avoid the dual-purpose controversy of the 1960's and 1970's. The P.R.A. believes in these safeguards and we as an organization will not endorse **OPEN SHOWS**. Anyone can enter a

American Pigeon Journal

non flown pigeon just for its cosmetic appearance. The PRA displays our special air tested, sound, fast tight, stylist rollers regardless of what they look like on the ground. There are many different types of pigeons that can roll correctly and those are the pigeons we want to be featured in the PRA display. If your bird rolls correctly and it was verified under PRA verification program then your roller will have a place at our Display portion of our conventions. Remember the four criteria and we will not have a dual-purpose controversy ever again in our Roller Hobby. 1. We will not have a written standard. 2. We will always have experienced flying rollermen as our judges. 3. We will not present large trophies or money for the display choices. 4. All P.R.A. display performing rollers will be **VERIFIED UNDER PRA VERIFICATION PROGRAM!** The P.R.A. encourages all of its **Area Directors** to start verifying their good air tested flying performing rollers and display them at the **5th ANNUAL PRA FLY AND DISPLAY CONVENTION IN BOISE, IDAHO, ON JUNE 9-10, 1990.** We hope to see a top class of air tested rollers for George Mason of England to handle. Let's give George a chance to handle some of our best rollers we selected out of the air! I plan on displaying ten of my own verified rollers and hope George Mason enjoys them as much as I do. It's time for all loyal PRA members to support the verification program.

The P.R.A. is opening the door for all members who are located in the EAST and SOUTH to participate in the verification program. We need Area Directors for all areas that want to participate in our Fly and Display conventions. We are hoping to have a PRA Fly and Display convention East of the Mississippi in the near future. All of you PRA members in the East are welcome to put in a bid and we are open for negotiations concerning a big PRA-NBRC-IRA convention. Anyone interested in being an Area Director please contact: Don Ouellette, 1003-Hellyer Ave., San Jose, Ca., Phone (408) 227-8728. Anyone interested in possibly having a PRA Fly and Display convention please contact: Dan Ouellette, 1008 Reddy Ave., Medford, Oregon. Phone: (503) 770-5528. Anyone interested in a video-tape of our PRA conventions please contact: Doug Ouellette, 235 Surge St., Reno, Nevada. (702) 677-SPIN.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR AREA DIRECTOR:

1. Must have at least two years experience in flying performing rollers.
2. Must presently be flying kits on a regular basis.
3. Must be acquainted with other

roller fanciers in his/her area.

4. Must be willing to put forth the effort to direct new fanciers in a positive manner, and supply information concerning the performing roller pigeon.

5. Must be an active member and through example, encourage others to also be active.

Central Fantail Club News

by TOM PRITCHETT, Pub. Dir., Fairmont, Okla.

Wow! What a Fantail meet. If you missed the annual meet of the Central Fantail Club you missed one of the finest Fantail shows ever staged, short of one of the great Fantail Classics. More than 500 Fantails were paraded before Master Breeder, Bill Diemer of Brighton, Michigan, who served as judge. Bill did a magnificent job, and with his professional and meticulous manner selected the winning Fantails.

Ottumwa, Iowa, was the site for this great show, and more perfect weather in Iowa in January would be unheard of. The very capable team of Bill, Marge and Steve O'Dell organized this great show with the same professionalism they do everything. The show room, facilities and accommodations were excellent; these are important factors when fanciers must travel great distances to a show.

Some 17 states and Canada were represented with some of the finest Fantail fanciers in the world displaying their breeding expertise. I served as steward for Bill when he selected the Grand Champion Fantail; the quality was excellent. He could have made several choices and all have been correct. Bill chose an old blue hen belonging to Domenic Zarlenga for Grand Champion and a Pied young cock belonging to young Corey O'Dell as Reserve Champion. Certainly great wins for both these young men.

The winners of the color classes were: Best Blue, Grand Champion, Domenic Zarlenga; Best Pied, Reserve Champion, Best Young of Show, Corey O'Dell; Best Qualmond, Troy DeWitt; Best Dominant Opal, Bob Phillip; Best Almond, Jeff Clark; Best Ash Red, Brian Pogue; Best Checker, Arnie Schroeder; Best Grizzle, Gary Summers; Best Powdered Blue, Michael McAtee; Best Red, Brian Pogue; Best Saddle, Jim Schneider; Best Silver, Bob Roberts; Best Tailmark, Arnie Schroeder; Best White, Darrel Fowler; Best Yellow, Brian Pogue; Reserve White, Bill O'Dell; Reserve Black, James Martin; Reserve Blue, Jerry Macerollo. Congratulations to all the winners.

At the annual meet a period of silence was observed to commemorate the passing of two great Fantail fanciers, Ray LaFleur and Earl Clark. These

6. **Must not** be an Officer or Area Director in any other club or association. This will prevent having any conflict of interest problems. Effective 3-1-90.

P.R.A. officers and area directors will be appointed for the first two-year term. We will have our first elections by membership in 1989. □

two gentlemen were two of the finest men and most capable fanciers the Fantail fancy has ever embraced. They are greatly missed.

The membership established the 1990 Central meet as the Earl Clark Memorial Fantail Classic. I will have more on this great Fantail Meet as plans, dates and locations are finalized. Make plans now to attend this great show; as it may be the Fantail Meet of the decade.

New officers were chosen for 1990-1991. They are: President, Bill Diemer; Secretary/Treasurer, Ed Karnish; 1st Vice-President, Bill O'Dell; 2nd Vice-President, Gordon Larson; Publicity Director, Tom Pritchett. The members of the Central Fantail Club wish to thank their outgoing officers for their untiring efforts on behalf of the organization. Thank you, your efforts are greatly appreciated.

John Moppin is again coordinating a Fantail Special for the American Pigeon Journal. As yet, the dates haven't been established, but I know the Fantail fancy will support it as they have all past efforts. All the previous Fantail Specials have become collectors' items; and I'm sure this one will be no exception.

Attending this meet was very exciting for me, because it was my first for about five years. Due to a lot of circumstances, some beyond my control, I hadn't been able to attend a Central Meet for some time, and I really enjoyed visiting with my old friends and the pleasures of meeting new and interested fanciers. It's great to know that the Fantail fancy is in such healthy condition.

Central Fantail Club members, I'm your Publicity Director; if I can be of any assistance to you in any way, please contact me: Tom Pritchett, Fairmont, Okla. 73736, phone (405) 358-2202. □

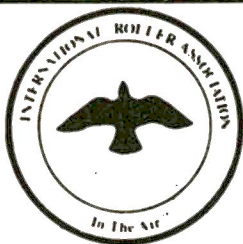
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International Roller Association News

by RICHARD MILLER, Pub. Dir.
Attica, Ohio

By the time you read this, the warm weather has started to set in for us Northern boys, and the breeding season is in full swing. This has to be one of the most enjoyable times of the year. Here is where we find out if all the hours that were spent burning the midnight oil, working and planning the matings are going to pay off. I spend a lot of time going over my records and then going over them again to make sure I have the best matings possible, to start the new season. What better way to spend the cold miserable winter nights. In all reality, this is the only way to improve our family of Rollers, provided our culling is very rigid to start with. A lot of planning must go into our breeding program, to obtain the maximum results. After they are mated on paper, I spend several more hours in the loft with each pair in their separate mating pens to see if they are uniform, and to make sure they do not have the same faults. When the weather warms up, the birds are mated.

Now is when we start to enjoy the fruits of our labor. This is where the men are separated from the boys, the top notch flyers from the so-so flyers. It is in to one of these categories we will end up. This is your choice and no one can make it for you. I would like to be in the top category, but this does not always happen the way we want it. If not, we must work harder, trying to improve our methods, and set new realistic goals. We only get out what we put in. Consistency is the name of the game, whether it be the breeding program, feeding, flying or last but not least, our culling.

Let's try and make 1990 the best ever for the Performing Roller. One way is to join the IRA for an educational and enjoyable newsletter. To do this contact Bruce Perrault, 151 Roberts Road, Yakima, Wash. 98908, the Secretary/Treasurer of the International Roller Association. The dues are \$10.00 a year for the bi-monthly bulletin. □

Mondain Matters

by EARL GOLDING,
Waco, Texas

If you are a veteran French Mondain breeder, you know all about this big breed of pigeon. If you are a newcomer, there are probably a lot of questions you have, especially if you happen to be considering French as a breed.

Since a lot of people are, the column for this issue mostly addresses some of those questions. In recent months, there's been a dramatic growth among French Mondain breeders. Participation is on the increase, and the birds are spreading throughout the country ... and outside the country.

To begin with, French Mondains have been around a long time ... long enough to be rather inaptly named. The breed began in France many years ago. French Gros Mondains in French was translated as French Ground Pigeons, according to early historians of the breed. Perhaps you have seen photographs of some of the early

Mondains in Wendell Levi's book, *The Pigeon*. If so, you understand that the bird of today and the bird which was representative of early day French Mondains are worlds apart. Those birds back then were very large, as are our modern French. But there's little resemblance otherwise. The original Mondains were duck-like in body build, flat-standing birds. By contrast, the modern Mondains are upright birds, standing at a 45-degree angle, and beautiful to behold in show station.

The improvement, over the years, has been dramatic and there's no doubt that in recent years the overall quality has soared across the country.

These big, blocky, powerful birds are certainly deserving of the description often attached to them: the Master Breed.

Mondains come in a wide variety of colors, including ash reds, blues, blacks, browns, whites, AOC's (white and any other color), recessive reds, recessive yellows, indigos and silvers.

Mondains are among the largest of all pigeons. Mature cocks in ideal condition can weigh 44 ounces. I have seen mature hens weigh 42 ounces. One of my all-time great champions, a white hen named The Duchess, has always

gone on the scales at 42 ounces when hitting full-bloom condition in the fall. The Duchess, by the way, is now owned by Earl Thibideaux of Houston. Paul Cook and I once weighed a young ash cock of his named El Supremo at 42 ounces, although the bird was less than three months old! And these are accurate weights. The birds were weighed on certified digital scales.

These birds are also very compact, with ideal specimens being no more than 10½ inches in length. They are extremely wide of breast. They have big shoulders, thick beaks, broad head frontals, and flowing, full necks. They make for striking pictures.

In spite of their great size, they are prolific breeders when you give them proper care. It isn't unusual for a pair of good producers to raise from eight to 12 youngsters per breeding season, which in much of the country is from February to late summer or fall.

Some pairs of birds produce for years. W.L. Hutchison had a yellow cock which was still fertilizing eggs when he was eight years old. The parents of my champion hen Cleo are both wearing 1982 bands. They were among my best producers in the 1989 season. Most breeders mate birds at the age of about six months.

How much does it cost to get into the hobby of Mondain pigeons?

It varies greatly. It isn't unusual for top show birds and top brood birds to bring \$100 each or more. Offers of \$100 per bird are often turned down. I remember in the early 60's James Hastings sold his great black champion cock for \$465 if I remember correctly. At the recent Marvin Koenig promotional show at Breeders Arena, 23 birds donated for the auction averaged \$111 per bird. The top bid went for a yearling ash cock raised and donated by Paul Cook. Earl Thibideaux bought the bird after very spirited bidding. The next highest bid was \$375, which Curly Montet paid for a bird donated by David Hurt. Breeders came from several states to take part in the buying and several sent in bids on certain birds.

It should be pointed out that those interested in getting into the French Mondain hobby, or any other pigeon breed for that matter, should not be discouraged by the costs of good birds. Breeding and showing pigeons at a top-level effort is much cheaper than the hobbies of most folks today. There are also many cases of quality Mondains selling for extremely reasonable prices. Also Mondain breeders are very anxious to see their breed grow, and there are many cases of established breeders being very helpful in getting serious newcomers into the hobby.

There are some things would-be

Mondain breeders need to know before getting into the hobby. Actually, this applies to all breeds, not just French Mondains. To start with, as is the case in most endeavors, what you put into a project is usually reflected in what you get out of it. Pigeons require good attention. They require regular, committed care and attention if they are to do well. They should be fed at least once a day, and preferably twice for maximum results. When I have time, approaching the fall shows, I actually feed three times a day. I did that in the fall of 1988 and had a great show year. In the fall of 1989 I was so busy with my job as a hunting and fishing editor, I didn't give my birds the attention I had the previous year. I only fed once a day and that was on an irregular basis. Consequently, my show season was down. The point is that those who succeed in this hobby put a lot into it. All of the great breeders and show men I have known in Mondains have been thoroughly committed, including Howard Hardin, Marvin Koenig, Buster Davis, W.L. Hutchison and now Paul Cook, have been tremendously committed.

Pigeons must be provided clean, fresh water daily and they must be kept in a clean environment. Paul Cook's innovative switching of all birds to 1 by 1 welded wire floors in my opinion is one of the greatest contributions anybody has ever made to the pigeon hobby. It is 10 times better for the birds and 10 times easier on the loft owner.

If you make up your mind this is a hobby you want to try, visit as many lofts as you can. Ask questions. Observe. Go to the shows. Make it a point to find out who the breeders are who do more than their share of winning, and find out how they achieve success. They'll be happy to share their suc-



FRENCH MONDAIN

This black cock, #88-2887, was third in the NFMA's first-ever Futurity held in Louisiana. Bred and owned by Raymond Rodrigue of Louisiana. — Photo by Earl Golding, Waco, Texas.

cess secrets with you. Space does not permit listing all of the major breeders of these birds here, but there are many of them in many parts of the country.

Clubs and shows play a big part in the enjoyment of the hobby. Join the nearest regional club to your area, and become a member of the National French Mondain Club. Check the American Pigeon Journal for ads placed by regional clubs and the national club.

We'd like to welcome all newcomers to the world of the French Mondain hobby.

Note

To report news on French Mondains, write Earl Golding, 525 N. 35th, Waco, Texas 76710. Or call 817-752-2388. □

Helmet Happenings

by **BRUCE SCOTT**,
Richardson, Texas

Publicity Director
American Helmet
Association



It should be the latter part of March by the time you read this. I am writing this just after having returned home from the Salt Lake City national (see details about the show later in this column). Naturally, I am all fired up about getting my Helmet pairs started. I obtained a couple of good birds at the show that will help me round out my breeding team. By March they'll hopefully be at full tilt on their first round.

I'm going back to my traditional date of February 14, Valentine's Day, for mating up my pairs. It has been tempting to start earlier, but my luck hasn't been too good starting in January. It only takes one cold snap to wipe out a complete round of young. My wife hates it when I come in the house with that dark look on my face after discovering a frozen youngster in the nest. It's a downer I don't need. I'm sure many of you have experienced the same thing when you've jumped the gun by starting too soon.

We all love this hobby or else we wouldn't be in it by putting up with all the frustrations that can occur, especially during breeding season. By delaying my starting date, it means one less thing to handle. I hope the month of March is a good one for you and your birds.

NATIONAL

Salt Lake City, Utah, was the site of the 1989 NPA National, held January 10-13, 1990. Remember that location

and date, as that show had a record 630 Helmets! of that total, another record was set with 135 M/F Plain Heads. I couldn't believe my eyes when I walked into the Expo Mart Show Hall and saw the huge section of cages reserved for Helmets. Helmets were the number one breed at the show.

At this writing, a complete show report is being prepared. However, I do want to list the top winners as they deserve mentioning for their outstanding wins. First of all, Don Phy of Oklahoma City won Champion M/F Crested with his beautiful blue old cock. Don also won Reserve with a very nice blue young hen. Second Reserve went to James Jensen of Salt Lake City with his real sharp red old hen.

Roy McClung of Seymour, Texas, won Champion M/F Plain Head and Elmer Walker of Longmont, Colorado, had reserve. In the S/F Crested class, Jeff Berger of Spokane, Washington won Champion and Reserve and Don Phy had second Reserve. Finally, in the S/F Plain Head variety, Roy McClung had Champion.

Congratulations to these exhibitors, as well as all the color class winners. It was a sight to behold all those fine Helmets. At the conclusion of the judging, a very successful auction was held by the AHA. I didn't get an exact count, but I would estimate that there were approximately 100 Helmets put up for sale. Nearly every bird was sold and this made Lloyd Larghe, our Secretary, very happy as this provided some very welcome income to the club fund. This was a great idea and I hope we continue doing this at future Nationals.

Words can't describe the friendly atmosphere extended to all of us by the Salt Lake Members. The handling of the birds to and from the airport was excellent. Our nice rooms at the Red Lion Hotel and the closeness to the show hall couldn't have been improved upon.

Last but not least, the NPA banquet Saturday night with the awarding of the Master Breeder Awards to Tony Patti, Kaye and Lloyd Larghe and myself was very gratifying. The AHA really made its mark at this great National.

Here are a couple of pictures taken at the National (see photos). Several cameras were in use by the exhibitors and if anyone has a particularly good photo, please feel free to send me one for a future issue. I'll be talking and writing about this show for the next several months, I'm sure.

James Jensen, Steve Mitchell and all the other District #8 members were indeed excellent hosts. We appreciate all

(Continued On Next Page)

the time and effort that went into making this record show such a success. I hope that some year in the not too distant future, we can make a return visit to beautiful Salt Lake City. District #8, you came through as promised; congratulations!

DON'T BURN YOUR BRIDGES

Over the years, in my breeding program, I have tried to be careful to avoid going down a blind alley, so to speak. However, that's easier said than done as you never know for sure what a new pair will produce. I have taken the precaution to retain the parents of a new pair at least one more breeding season until I see the results of their offsprings breeding results. Sometimes it is necessary to back up and go to the old parents again to try another combination. Now, if I had culled the old parents, I would have "burned my bridges" and then I would really be in a mess.

Normally, they say if the young are better than the parents, keep the young for next season's breeding. That sounds logical and usually you can get away with it, but should the young pair be sterile, poor feeders or breed culls,

you'll have to go back to the old birds. Examine your breeding records and try something different with the old birds as obviously their offspring were losers. You'll have to take the old birds on a different path with new mates. If you hadn't taken the precaution of keeping with old birds, you would have "burned your bridges" with your breeding program.

For most of you, this is only good common sense. However, you'd be surprised how many breeders, in their eagerness to prevent overcrowding in their loft, will prematurely move out old birds that they should have kept around for back-up insurance. At any rate, good luck in your 1990 breeding program and keep in mind about not "burning your bridges"

NEW MEMBERS

I hope you veteran members have been taking my advice about contacting a new member that lives near you. The best way to keep new members in the club is by your personal contact by phone or mail. Here are the latest AHA recruits: Jeff Edds, West Salem, OH; Alan Easterday, Wadsworth, OH; Danny Collins, Mesquite, TX;

Russel Hoogerwerf, Orange City, FL; Perry Laws, Oregon City, OR; Paul Brown, E. Wenatchee, WA; Bill Reid, Wyoming, Ontario, Canada; Don Smith, Waterford, Ontario, Canada; Courtney Shriver, Chariton, IA; Roger Brant, Glidden, IA; Howard Hart, Lanesboro, IA; Casey Atkins, Baird, TX; Narcissa Boulware, Montgomery, TX.

FRIENDSHIP

I would like to conclude this months Helmet Happenings by saying that I wouldn't trade anything for all the long-standing friendships I've made over all these years in the AHA. All the old friends I saw recently at the Salt Lake City National, as well as the new ones I made, reinforced what I've been saying over the years. Our club's success is due in great measure to our ability to attract pigeon fanciers that look for this quality in a club. If that combination of a very friendly club and the popularity of our Helmets interest you, contact:

Lloyd L. Larghe, AHA Secretary, 44121 Rodeo Court, Elizabeth, CO 80107. □



SALT LAKE CITY NATIONAL

American Helmet Assn. members watching the judging. — Photo by Bruce Scott, Richardson, Texas.



SALT LAKE CITY NATIONAL

Don Phy with his Champion M/F Crested Helmet. — Photo by Bruce Scott, Richardson, Texas.

Come Along With Us

by
**ROBERT L.
FRAGOMAN,**
Memphis, N.Y..



R.I.P. Muffed Tumbler Club of America, after 50 plus years, you no longer represent the people who breed this beautiful pigeon. At the Reading show the current officers disbanded the club, as it was, to merge with the new United English Tumbler Club. This new club is made up of the M.T.C.A., plus the Bald and Beard and Self and Barred C.L. Clubs.

Several of us tried to save the M.T.C.A., at least until we were sure that the merger was good for the Muff Tumbler Club. A vote in early 1989 was in favor of the merger and the current officers felt that they should abide by that vote, instead of dragging things on longer. I feel that the majority did not want the merger, but unfortunately, not enough of these people exercised their right to vote.

I have heard from a few who said they did not receive a ballot to vote on this merger. If you did not receive a ballot, please drop me a line and if you do write, please indicate if I can use your name in the column.

Our past Secretary, Jim Stehr, Jr., has been asked to send me any of the old club's paperwork, so that I might save it for future generations of Muffed Tumbler Fanciers. As of Jan. 20, I

have not received anything, much less have I heard if he plans to send it to me.

At this time, I plan to continue to write this column for Muffed Tumbler Breeders, whether they belong to a club, or not. The only connection between this column and the M.T.C.A. in the past, was that I was a member of the club. In order for me to continue writing, I must receive information from the rest of you. I was asked to serve in the new club, but I declined, so that I would have time to write the column. If I do not receive enough support in the future, I will assume that there is not enough interest in the Muffed Tumbler and I will move onto other things.

Winners at Reading were the Dutch Loft with a Red Self as Champion, John Rice had the Best Marked Muff with an Ash Yellow Baldhead and Gary Gammel had the Best Barred Muff with a Blue. I will try to have more on the show in a future column. I was there, but I did not come home with all the information I needed for the column.

Next year's National Championship Tumbler Show will return to Bay City, Michigan. I have asked the Michigan Tumbler Club to provide me with all the information on the show as early as possible to help fanciers make plans to attend.

If you are interested in joining the new United English Tumbler Club, the dues are \$10.00 and you should send them to: Robert Wood, 8209 NW 31st Street, Bethany, OK 73008.

For those of you who are interested in a Club for Muffed Tumbler Breeders, I was informed that if there is enough interest, there are some fanciers willing to try to get things rolling again. If a new club is formed, I hope that the failures of the M.T.C.A. are kept in mind, along with the fact that many Muffed Tumbler Breeders do not show at the "Big" Shows and something must be done to make them feel that they are wanted in the club, more than just for their dues. A provision must also be made for those breeding the Old Style Saddle Muffs.

I would like to announce the addition of Barbara Ellison as a new Muffed Tumbler breeder. Barbara is from Central Square, N.Y., and the interest in Muffs was passed down from her father who had Muffed Tumblers in the 1930's. With the help of her father, Barbara hopes to breed a few to show locally this year. In the future, maybe we can talk her into showing at some of the larger shows. If you would like to contact Barbara, her address is: RD 4, Central Square, N.Y. 13036. (Good Luck in 1990, Barbara).

CLUB NEWS

William E. Smith Jr., sent me the American Pigeon Clubs Bulletin and in it is a reminder to order your 1990 bands. Look in your A.P.J. for the American Pigeon Club's ad and the band distributor nearest you. If you would like to join the A.P.C., send \$6.00 first year's dues to Bill at: Rt. 1, Box 559, Pilot Mountain, N.C. 27041.

Bret Rice sent me the Pacific Tumbler Club's Annual Bulletin, but I think this one should fall under the category of a magazine. Some of my old A.P.J.'s were not this thick. The big news of interest was the results at the Pageant of Pigeons. There were 121 Muffs shown and the judge was Bud Lunney from Canada. Champion Tumbler of the Show was a Young Black Muffed Tumbler Hen #324, shown by Tom Evans. Naturally this was the Best Muffed Tumbler and Best Young Muff. Richard Lujan took the Best Old Marked Muff with an Indigo O.C. #351 and also the Best Young Marked with a Young Indigo Hen #515. These were both Baldheads. Charlie Piehler took the Best Barred Trophy, with a Cream O.H. #81.

(Congratulations to all the winners at both Reading and the Pageant of Pigeons).

Before I close this month's edition, I want to say that it was good to see all our friends at the Reading Show. I will not try to name everyone in fear of leaving someone out. Those of you who have never made it to a National Championship Show, owe it to yourself to take one in. Denise and I have made some good friends over the years and, whether we have won or lost, the most enjoyment that we get from these shows are renewing these friendships.

I will close this month the same way I close most of my columns, with a plea to the rest of you to drop me a line with some information I can use. My address is: Box 157, Memphis, N.Y. 13112. □

New York Combine News



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

On Saturday and Sunday, December 9 and 10, the New York Combine held their annual Fall Show at Polish National Hall, 6160-56th Road, Maspeth, N.Y. At the Combine we bill our show as "the Greatest Show on Earth." As always, you will see top quality domestic flights in each class. Come to one or all of our shows and see for yourself, seeing is believing. Our domestics have to be seen to be appreciated. See for yourself the thin long beaks, blood red in color, their beaks that are set deep and parallel to the floor, their eye ceres the same blood red color as the beak, white iris and a black dot for its pupil, looking at their eyes and you see that they sparkle, nice roll in the head, birds with expression, good thick neck that arches back, birds that are short in tip and tail, cobby birds with short legs, colors, deep and brilliant. All this is what makes the domestic show flight one of the most attractive breeds today. Not only are there beautiful domestic flights, you see a show that is decorated by a master, our brother member Johnny Pluchino. He makes our show hall sparkle, he dresses up the show hall and ties it in with the seasons, he has the right touch for the occasion. Also the cooperation and dedication by our brother members, enthusiastic members in helping make our show the success they are each and

(Continued On Next Page)



The hard working men who help set up the show hall for the New York Combine's Annual Fall Show held Dec. 9 and 10, 1989.

every time, more and more members are pitching in. I'd like to thank our President Sal Gigante, his Board of Directors and brother members for the cooperation shown this past year, a special thanks to Ange Mangino, our show super, Vinnie Montanino for working with the show cards, Mike Christiano Jr., our photographer, and the men who come early to help set up the show headed by brother member Johnny Pluchino, R.W.P. Johnston, Pete Fratangelo Sr., and Jr., Vinnie Montanino, John Marshall, John Grasso, Jerry Peretti, Tony Modafferri, Jimmy Devito Sr., and Jr. In addition the stewards that help our judges to obtain the birds were John Thornton, Tony Modafferri, Joe Cacamese, Paul Derogatis, Bobby Alvarado and Dom Difiglia. This is an organization that will not be topped.

Our affiliated club, the Southern Domestic Flight Association had some of their members exhibit at this Fall Show. They were President Don Little, Robert Fisher and Mike Lerp. They showed over a dozen domestic which were real good quality. Also Mike Lerp is the President of the newly formed club, the Mason-Dixon Domestic Flight Association, in Manchester, Maryland. Also in attendance were a couple from Poland to see our show, they came to see their Uncle George Mikulski who lives in New Britain, CT. He drove his nephew down to see our

show first hand. They were Mr. and Mrs. Edward Rakowski of Warszawa, Poland.

Now onto the show report. The judging was done by our senior judges, Senior Vice President Louie Brenner, Johnny Pluchino and John Spahr, a superb job done by all three judges placing the right birds first. There were over 285 domestics at this show for all to see and admire the most beautiful Domestic Flights in existence were shown. For Breeder of the Year points, Executive Vice President Louis Massucci is leading the way with 55 points and looks like a good bet to become this year's Breeder of the Year, followed by the partnership of Gigante and Monteleone with 44 points with no one else close enough to give them a tumble. The Best Old Birds and Young Birds went to the partnership of Gigante and Monteleone, the Best Old Cap was a yellow teager and Best Old Bird in show was a red plainhead. The Best Young plainhead was a yellow and the Best Young Cap and Best in Show and the Grand Champion was a Yellow teager cap, the same bird that won Best in Show at our Baby Show held on October 22, 1989. In my Baby Show article I said this was probably the best domestic flight ever seen. This yellow teager cap has expression written all over it, a thin beak, good roll in her head, nice marking, short and cobby with a thick cobby neck that arches

back, with good short legs, this is one unbelievable bird. I think this will be the First Jewel of the Flight World. The first Triple Crown Winner in the Combine's 14 year history. The achievements of the partnerships of Gigante and Monteleone are uncomparable to anyone in the Domestic Flight game today. Congratulations to Gigante and Monteleone for breeding outstanding Domestic Flights.



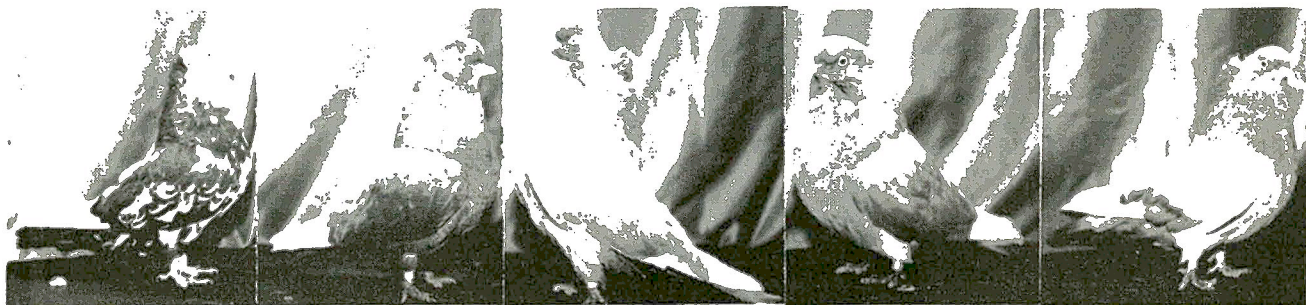
GRAND CHAMPION FLIGHT

This Domestic Flight was Best Young Bird in Show and Grand Champion 1989 at the New York Combine's Annual Fall Show. — Bred by Gigante and Monteleone.



WINNERS AT THE NYC ANNUAL FALL SHOW

These Domestic Flights were winners at the New York Combine's Annual Fall Show: 1st photo, best Young Plainhead, bred by Gigante and Monteleone; 2nd photo, bred by Louis Massucci; 3rd photo, bred by John Spahr; 4th photo, bred by Frank Braccia; 5th photo, bred by Louis Massucci.



WINNERS AT THE NYC FALL SHOW

These Domestic Flights were winners at the New York Combine's Annual Fall Show: 1st photo, bred by Louis Massucci; 2nd photo, bred by Gigante and Monteleone; 3rd photo, bred by DiFiglia; 4th photo, bred by Louie Massucci; 5th photo, bred by Pete O'Patovski.

Congratulations are in order for all brother members for placing their beautiful domestic and for the losers as well, for there are no losers at the New York Domestic Flight Combine. Remember to be part of the top competition is winning in itself. The following results are another record for these beautiful Domestic Flights being shown by all our brother members.

Young Plainheads

Red and Yellow: 1. Gigante and Monteleone, 2. Gigante and Monteleone, 3. Gigante and Monteleone. Red and Yellow Teager: 1. Massucci, 2. Massucci, 3. Christianos. Black and Dun: 1. Spahr, 2. Mikes, 3. Serra and Ryder. Black and Dun Teager: 1. Braccia, 2. Massucci, 3. Serra and Ryder. Ed Quinn: 1. Massucci, 2. Thorntons, 3.

Massucci. Stock: 1. Massucci, 2. Izzo, 3. Serra and Ryder.

*Best Young Plainhead, Yellow #1, Gigante and Monteleone.

Young Caps

Red and Yellow: 1. Gigante and Monteleone, 2. Massucci, 3. Massucci. Red and Yellow Teager: 1. Gigante and Monteleone, 2. Gigante and Monteleone, 3. Massucci. Black and Dun: 1. DiFiglia, 2. Montanino, 3. Massucci. Black and Dun Teager: 1. Massucci, 2. Massucci, 3. Massucci. Ed Quinn: 1. O'Patovsky, 2. Thorntons, 2. Thorntons. Stock: 1. Gigante and Monteleone, 2. Izzo, 3. Montanino.

*Best Young Cap, Yellow Teager #14, Gigante and Monteleone.

***Best Young Bird in Show and Grand Champion 1989, Yellow Teager Cap Hen #14, Gigante and Monteleone.

Old Plainheads

Red and Yellow: 1. Gigante and Monteleone, 2.

Gigante and Monteleone, 3. Izzo. Red and Yellow Teager: 1. Gigante and Monteleone, 2. Gigante and Monteleone, 3. Pluchino. Black and Dun: 1. Montanino, 2. Kleiss, 3. Trincelito. Black and Dun Teager: 1. Fratangelo, 2. Trincelito, 3. Kleiss. Ed Quinn: 1. Thorntons, 2. Thorntons, 3. Spahr. Stock: 1. Gigante and Monteleone, 2. Gigante and Monteleone, 3. Christianos.

*Best Old Plainhead, Red #6, Gigante and Monteleone.

Old Caps

Red and Yellow: 1. Izzo, 2. Izzo, 3. Zeale. Red and Yellow Teager: 1. Gigante and Monteleone, 2. Gigante and Monteleone, 3. Perretti. Black and Dun: 1. Izzo, 2. O'Patovsky, 3. Izzo. Black and Dun Teager: 1. Mikes, 2. Napoli, 3. Braccia. Ed Quinn: 1. Thorntons, 2. Thorntons, 3. Thorntons. Stock: 1. Napoli, 2. Gigante and Monteleone, 3. Calti.

*Best Old Cap, Yellow Teager #5, Gigante and Monteleone.



WINNERS AT THE NYC FALL SHOW

These Domestic Flights were winners at the New York Combine's Annual Fall Show: 1st photo, bred by Gigante and Monteleone; 2nd photo, Best Old Plainhead, bred by Gigante and Monteleone; 3rd photo, bred by Gigante and Monteleone; 4th photo, bred by Vinnie Montanino; 5th photo, bred by the Fratangelos.



WINNERS AT THE NYC FALL SHOW

These Domestic Flights were winners at the New York Combine's Annual Fall Show: 1st photo, bred by the Thorntons; 2nd photo, bred by Gigante and Monteleone; 3rd photo, bred by John Izzo; 4th photo, Best Old Cap, bred by Gigante and Monteleone.



WINNERS AT THE NYC FALL SHOW

These Domestic Flights were winners at the New York Combine's Annual Fall show: 1st photo, bred by John Izzo, 2nd photo, bred by David Mikes; 3rd photo bred by the Thorntons; 4th photo, bred by Napoli.

***Best Old Bird in Show, Red Plainhead Hen #6, Gigante and Monteleone.
Flights Across America

The New York Domestic Flight Club is enthusiastic over the newly formed Western Domestic Flight Association for becoming affiliated with the finest specialty club in the land. From the President Sal Gigante, his fine Board of Directors, all of our members and our affiliated Club the Southern Domestic Flight Association all wish the Western Domestic Flight Association Good Luck and much success for becoming our second affiliated club member. For me to go on would be foolish because President Bill Mackey's letter of February 8, 1990, says it all:

I would like to thank you for all the consideration and help that you have unselfishly given to me and the Western Domestic Flight Assn.

The Domestic Flights you sent are greatly appreciated and will be a great help in getting us started in the right direction. You and Sal have a dream - of **Flights Across America**.

Now your dream is being fulfilled. I, and the membership of the W.D.F.A., are more than happy to help make that dream a reality. Now that the West has spanned across America and joined hands with the East.

It is now a firm sincere working relationship. Bound together, with a strong commitment to breed, show and promote the Domestic Show Flight until it is the #1 breed in America.

The Domestic Flight is a pigeon of American origin. Then it should be a number one breed in America. And we'll do all we can to make that happen. The N.Y. Combine has extended their helping hand in friendship and we accept it in friendship.

As of Jan. 10, 1990, "Flights Across America" became a working, committed, reality. Once again on behalf of the membership of the W.D.F.A., thank you. — Bill Mackey.

THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES by John Marshall

Hi, all you Scouts, Scouters and Pigeon Fanciers. I hope you remember me. I'm the Domestic Show Flight, who wrote in the A.P.J., about my Touching Experience, at the Boy Scout Show in April, 1989. I overheard my breeder, John Marshall, talking to his wife Mary Ann and his daughter Terry about another Boy Scout Show in June, 1990.

The show will be held at Fort Hamilton Army Base, Brooklyn, New York, on Saturday and Sunday, June 2 and 3. I'm going even if I have to sit on the roof of the car. I had a great time in April 1989. This show should be even better, it's being held outdoors and hopefully sunshine and good fellowship.

John, he doesn't mind me calling him that, said that the New York Combine will be there with some of the best Domestic Show Flights in America. My cousins from the Islands will be there also, you know, Staten and Long.

When John asked for the Combine's support for this event Mr. Flights Across America, Pete Fratangelo, said "You can count me in." Dom DiFiglia said he would bring some of his Tumblers, Dave Mikes said he would bring some Bronzes. Tony Modafferi said that he would ask some of the members of the Empire Short Face Club, if they would like to bring some birds too. John, Tommy Serra and Joe Cacamese attended the Long Island Domestic Flight Club's futurity show Sunday, Feb. 11 and Jimmy Price asked him for more information on the Scout Show.

If you are interested in helping to bring some new, young blood into your clubs and you need it, please contact John Marshall, 3706 Clarendon Rd., Brooklyn, N.Y. Who knows you may be able to save a young and promising life. You may get a YES! to Raising Pigeons and a NOOOOOOO! to drugs.

Domestic Flight **Telephone Directory**

Keep the postcards and letters coming in, so far we have Domestic Flight Breeders in the following States: Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, California and Washington. All Domestic Flight Breeders send me your names, address, telephone, how many pairs of Flights you breed, where did you obtain the Domestic — to: Pete Fratangelo, 300 East 3rd St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11218.

Each and everyone who sends their name in for the Domestic Flight Directory will receive one free of charge compliments of the New York Combine. □

King Trivia

by JUNE TRONE,
American King Club
Publicity Director
Meredosia, Ill.

The National is over and I have been fortunate to get a nice letter from our AKC Sec. Stu Austin telling about the events of the National in King Alley. I'm sure everyone will be interested in reading about it.

Lloyd and I didn't attend the show due to health reasons. There is always next year.

Thank you everyone for all the nice cards and letters and phone calls, they are so very much appreciated.

We are so very sorry to hear about the death of Gene Springer's father from Morton, Ill. He was a judge and breeder of Modenas and Kings for many years.

Here is Stu's report:

Congratulations, Utah Pigeon Club! I just returned from the National in Salt Lake City. It ranked at the top of all Nationals in having full control of everything the King breeders experienced. First we were met at the airport with someone to answer any questions that we had. They took our bird boxes to the showroom for us. This is a first, what a great feeling, you did not have to worry how to get those boxes from baggage to bus to show hall. Last year at the Peoria Show they delivered from show room to airport and so did the Utah Pigeon Club. The King Alley was set-up well and anytime we asked for anything, they were right there. This was the best set-up without a local King Club handling it. The local Modena Club crowded us a little bit, but did not interfere with our judging. The weather was good, a lot warmer than I expected. The walk from the hotel to showroom was a block and a half and there were restaurants on the way. The price for a cab was the cheapest ever. It was raining on Saturday when we left the showroom so we called two cabs for six people. We loaded four in the first and the cost was \$1.50 and the one with two was \$1.25. Unbelievable, isn't it.

We only had 282 Kings entered, with Juan Gomez not being able to get off from his job and other breeders that didn't bring every bird they entered, we judged 252 Kings. The Judge was Bill Harrison and he did as good a job as any show that I have been to. He almost gave the champion to a young check hen Egon Thiel had. John Schroeder won Grand Champion with a young white hen, Band number 558. This was a great young hen and the third place in the parade was an excellent young white cock of John's. Most of the exhibitors watching thought that when the young white cock went out that Egon's red check had it, but that's when John's hen said to herself, I better really strut my stuff or I'm going to get beat, and that is when Bill made up his mind. John is not lucky, he's good. Other class winners were best AOC, Egon Thiel's young hen; best Blue, Vince DeLillo's young cock; best Black, Jack and Peggy Horn's young cock; best Silver, Vince DeLillo's old hen; best Ash Red Bar, Egon Thiel's young hen. These were in the top 12 birds of the 47 that were in the parade.

The annual meetings went well and you were missed. The highlight was we all got to see the new three view standard painting done by Diane Jackey. I

will now get the prints made and all the members will get to see it.

The show report and minutes will be printed in upcoming American King Bulletins.

Thanks, Stu Austin, Secretary, American King Club, 7671 E. Wood Dr., Scottsdale, AZ 85260.

A.K.C. Dues - \$20.00 per year. Have New Membership Kit. □

Auto-Sexed Texan Pioneer News

by WILLIS O. MAHAFFEY
Cleveland, Texas

In my February '90 newsletter I wrote about the purpose Del James had in mind of the Texas Pioneer breed and some of the early history in the actual development of the breed.

In this article I will take up the colors of the breed, some of the Texas Pioneer breeders production reports, and close with the organizing of the Texan Pioneer Association and our growth as a club over these 27 years.

Texan Pioneer Colors

There are two separate color lines in the Texas Pioneer breed: (1) Ash Red & (2) Recessive Red.

In the Ash Red color, the cock is white with color flecking about the neck and body. Some cocks will come out nearly pure white, but still have a few of the colored feathers. The hens have a wider range of colors: Ash Red, Blue, Black, Lavender, and 'T' pattern ash red. The Ash Red color will make up over 90 percent of the hen colors today. There are less and less black, blue, and lavender. It has been several years since I have seen a 'T' pattern in any loft. This Ash Red color looks similar to the silver king except the wing bars are ash red.

The Recessive Red color came out of the Ash Red birds. The first ones carried lots of white feathers but this has been taken care of over the years by very close selection of breeding stock. Many are without any white feathers today. To maintain good production, birds carrying the white feathers had to be used. But with production of 14 to 18 young per pair a year, it has not been too big of a job removing those 'whites'.

In the Recessive Red color, the cock is a Salmon color and the hens are Red. Being Auto-Sex these colors are all faded but still very pretty.

Where this top squab producing breed is shown, there are weight limits. Young birds have a weight limit of 26 ounces to 30 ounces. Yearling and Old birds have a weight limit of 26 ounces to 32 ounces.

March 1990

In the very early development of the breed, a goal was set to produce a 16 ounce oven ready squab 30 to 32 days old. It was decided that to produce a 16 ounce squab it would be necessary to have 28 to 30 ounce parents. (And this has proven out) I have several pair of breeders that have produced 15 or more young in a year. One pair has averaged 17 a year over a three year period. These breeding birds all weigh 30 ounces or more in full production. Many of their youngsters weigh 26/27 ounces live at 30 days. A 26 ounce squab that will dress out 65 percent will give that 16 ounce dressed squab, which was the goal set in the very beginning for this breed. The Recessive Red squab is light skin and very beautiful.

We have only one member of the Texan Pioneer Association who raises and sells squabs commercially. He has Texan Pioneers only and recently he told me he could not supply all the requirements he has, so he is now building on to his present loft room enough for two more pens that will hold 20 pair each. He says his oven dressed squabs are weighing in the range of 14 to 17 ounces again. His present loft production per pair is near 16 young per pair. This breeder has been four years selecting his foundation breeders to achieve this weight of squab and per pair production. He has not brought a bird in from the outside. This has all been done using offspring from the original 10 pair he purchased.

The Texan Pioneer Association, Intl.

Our club was organized in 1963 with eight charter members. Ever since that time the APJ has done an exceptional job of carrying our articles about the breed and the club. At the close of the first year we had 24 members. In the years since then we have had a nice growth. We lose some but gain new ones each year. Today we have had over 400 to join our club and in 1990 we will be mailing more quarterly bulletins than in any year in the history of our club.

Soon after organizing our club, we held our first young bird show. It was attended by 4 or 5 breeders showing 19 birds. In one of our recent shows there were over 350 Texan Pioneer birds shown. The Ash Red and the Recessive Red were just about split equal in entries in that show. Most of our Texan Pioneer breeders and club members do not show their birds, they have them for their own use and enjoyment. However, our show standard is drawn up to exemplify the squabbing breed. It is gratifying to see that so many birds entered in these shows are coming so close to the breed standard.

I hope to have another article later in

the year highlighting other breeders, their production, and something about some of the more successful type lofts being used today by Texan Pioneer breeders. If you want more particular information about this breed or our club please write to me and I will do my best to get you a satisfactory answer. — Willis O. Mahaffey, Rt. 4, Box 1297, Cleveland, Texas 77327. □

Hungarian Giant House Pigeon Newsletter

by TONY BRANCATO,
Santa Maria, Calif.

Dear Fancier,

One of our readers, Gil Nash of Penn Valley, California, called me not too many months ago. I told Gil about our monthly column, and he said, "tell the readers about the balance of the H.G.H.P."

Gil you are so right, the H.G.H.P. isn't a huge, sloppy bird. Rather it is a very large, well balanced bird.

The crest is very full, rounded and exists with rosettes. The neck is full, massive and powerful; body large, wide, well rounded, not thin or long. Muffs are full, long (3 inches to 5 inches), legs are strong, to support a well proportioned body. The bird is not squatty like German field pigeons, when the H.G.H.P. stands, he is tall, impressive and elegant. Feathering is neither very loose nor very tight. When picking up the bird, it should feel heavy, sleek and even slippery! Two hands are needed to comfortably hold one of these beauties. The most important aspect is that the appearance is stately, demanding, and incredibly regal. That, my friends, is the true Hungarian Giant House Pigeon! — Tony Brancato, 653 Glen Cairn Dr., Santa Maria, Calif. 93455. □



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This month John Jones is writing for the AGHA:

TYPES OF GIANT HOMER BREEDERS by John Jones

Having been involved with Giant Homers since 1978 I believe I might have collected a few thoughts and ideas about, not only the birds, but the people who raise them. Most of us do not have a happy medium but we usually go from extreme to extreme. Let's look at a few of these extremes that are rather obvious, but still probably catch each of us in some way or another. Most AGHA members are somewhere in between these extremes but you probably know of someone from years back or possibly who is into another breed that fits one of the following groups.

One extreme is the person who sees only Giants. He cannot even discuss another breed of pigeon, let alone visit with someone about a different sport or hobby. This type of breeder may raise good birds, show well, and be very supportive of the AGHA but is, with rare exception, a real pain to be around. He seems to know all the answers but seldom leave room for the questions.

On the other hand we see the individual who has simply added the Giant Homer to an already long list of breeds kept. Now this guy is usually the all-around authority. Since he breeds from 20 or 30 different breeds, and every one of them a champion strain, all your unanswered breed questions should be directed his way. This type of breeder usually is either a part of so many clubs that he consumes all finances and energies in joining the specialty clubs and has little time for the birds, or is a part of no club. After all, he has enough drain on the old wallet just banding and feeding his birds. Although some success may be obtained, the Giant Homer becomes just one of the many. Of course the AGHA gets little benefit as he is far too busy to get involved — his hands are already full.

Another type of breeder is the guy who thinks this is a high paying hobby so he spends big bucks for some top-

name birds and anticipates selling the offspring for equally high dollars and have all the feed, travel, entries, and a host of other costs paid for with the fun and fame tossed in for good measure. His counterpart over on the other end of the scale spends little or no money for stock and expects nothing out of them. Of course he seldom wins and does not seem to ever care to win. After all, who wants to spend good money for feed, entries, travel, etc., when this is just a cheap hobby anyway. Obviously, the AGHA will get only short term help from either of these as they probably will be just short term members.

Yet another type is the person who really gets bitten by the Giant Homer bug and builds a quick loft (or a dozen of them) and fills it with all colors of Giants plus a few color projects. This guy really gets involved with helping at shows, donating to the club, talking up the breed and working in any and every way possible in the AGHA. The problem with this guy is that his engine is bigger than his gas tank and after a few years he is out of gas and we see and hear no more from him. I suppose his counterpart is the one who starts with Giant Homers and becomes a member but never does anything with his birds nor does he help with the club or its shows.

If you have followed me this far, my guess is that you can identify, at least in part, with some of these characteristics. You at least know of someone like those mentioned above, right? Every area of life is blessed with these types of people so there are several around to observe.

What then is the type of breeder that fits in best into the AGHA? Glad you asked! I just happen to have a thought or two to share. The person who makes the best breeder and club member accepts the challenge of breeding a good Giant Homer and then focuses in on the goals of his breeding program to do so. He is dedicated to the breed but never frowns on the one who has other breeds or hobby interests, nor seeks to master all breeds at one time. He identifies and evaluates a bird on the basis of the Standard rather than the price. He understands his own capabilities and makes himself available to help the club and other breeders in the best way he can. He enjoys the birds, the shows, and the people, and in return he is enjoyed by those who are around him. He uses the common sense approach to the Giant Homer fancy and is a good club member. I am not advocating a person who is perfect but one who does his best to maintain integrity for himself, the AGHA and the Giant Homer.

The Giant Homer is a very fine breed of pigeon, but I believe all of you who raise them would agree that the

fellow breeders have a lot to do with you remaining in the hobby. You may not agree with all of the above thoughts. However, I believe you will agree that a little bit of kindness and common courtesy go a long way in adding to the enjoying of the breed. I have found very few persons who make the raising of Giant Homers disagreeable, and with those I simply tried to overlook our differences. In fact, I have never seen an AGHA member that I wished would quit Giant Homers! They are a pretty great bunch of people, don't you agree? □

Carneau Gleanings

by VICTOR STOLL
Finger, Tenn.

Here we are already going into the spring season with fruit trees starting to bloom. The lovely purple martins are back again singing and chirping.

I am glad to report that my Carneaus are off to a very good start this year with a lot of young in the nest. Had a phone call from Denby Williams. Also had a good phone conversation with Steve Cook.

I am making a deal for two pair of his best birds. Then Sat. Chuck Jackson called and wants several birds in Black and White which I have some very good birds for sale at present, especially in Red Carneaus.

Here are the show reports for 1990 Salt Lake City National.

Congratulations to David Camomile for winning Champion Carneau with



BEST YOUNG

This Red Carneau Cock, #504, was Best Young Carneau at the Peoria NPA Grand National. Bred by Earl Wayne Rutledge. — Photo from Don Scalf, Van Alstyne, Tex.

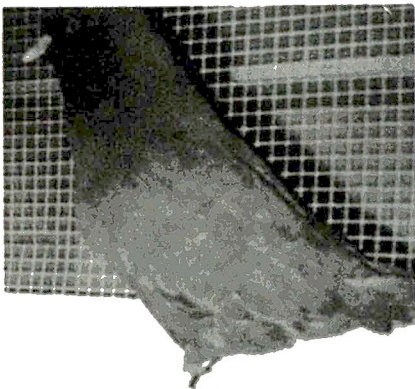
old Red Cock 620. He also won Reserve Champion with old white cock 379. David also won Best Black with old black cock #80 and had the Best Display in the Carneau section. Denby Williamson won Best Old Red hen and Best Opposite Sex in his very good hen 512. Ryan McCalmon won Best Young in red cock 554 and Best Yellow in young hen 558.

I noticed an article in Pigeon Journal on how to take care of a hen that is egg bound. I have found an easy way to take the egg from her without breaking the egg. I agree that you should never attempt to break the egg. This is a terrible thing to do.

But rather place your fingers firmly behind the egg and force it on out and it can easily be taken from her without any breakage or harm to the bird. I have taken dozens of eggs without ever having any break or cause a problem afterwards. I have often wondered why a hen becomes egg bound??

I hope you breeders send me some good photos and especially the winners for future articles. But they must be good birds. Take a look at these two Red Carneau. They are excellent birds.

I hope you Carneau breeders are all putting forth effort to make 1990 a very good year for Carneau. — Sincerely, Victor Stoll, Rt. 1, Box 664, Finger, Tenn. 38334, phone 901-934-4831. □



BEST OPPOSITE SEX

This Old Red Carneau Hen, #512, was Best Old Hen and Best Opposite Sex at the NPA Grand National, Salt Lake City, Utah, January 1990. Bred and owned by Denby Williamson, Casper, Wyo. — Photo by Victor Stoll, Finger, Tenn.

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By the time that this column appears RBPC members will have either received their first bulletin of the year or will be receiving it in the very near future. Our club is alive and well, but it's just taken us a bit longer than expected to get rolling again after Terry Fick resigned.

There has been much discussion lately about two subjects that I'd like to touch upon this month. First of all it's been suggested that we revise our list of rare breed pigeons and there are two schools of thought about this subject. Some members feel that this list should include only those breeds that can be found in the United States, and others have suggested that we keep our current listing and drop the names of breeds that aren't considered to be rare anymore. Both schools of thought have merit and these ideas should be taken into consideration if we want to update the listing. I should point out that a listing of rare ones in the U.S. would require a national survey and it would be up to each and every rare breeds fancier — both RBPC members and non-members to make sure that their breed gets on this list. (This listing would of course be updated to include new imports). So if this route is chosen we'll have to depend on this input in order to get the job done and we all know that apathy very often stands in the way of getting something fully accomplished. As far as revising our current listing is concerned we're also looking at quite an undertaking, and the best way to take this on might just be by a committee. So there you have it, which way do we go? Or do we simply keep the current list? Hopefully after our club elections are held, our new slate of officers will take some action on this matter. I've also heard from a number of members who would like to see the RBPC establish both a Master Breeder program and a Master Judge program. I'm 100 percent in favor of these programs, but again it'll be up to our new officers to begin these two programs.

In reference to our listing of rare breeds it's been suggested that we exclude rare Pouters and Croppers from the list. Those fanciers who favor this move point out that there are enough Pouter and Cropper clubs in the

United States to provide ample sponsorship of these breeds. Your opinion matters on this subject and if you have one please contact our Secretary Stephen Ripper at RD #4, Box 330, Quakertown, PA 18951. I'm sure that Steve will publish your thoughts concerning this subject as well as your thoughts about a Master Breeder and Judges program in an upcoming bulletin. Steve will also be extremely happy to either renew your membership or sign you up as a new member. RBPC dues are \$10.00 a year.

As many of you know there was an attempt to establish a club for Srebrniaks, but it fell by the wayside. Well the interest in a club is still there and Alex Stolarow is all for giving it another try. Alex is, as you might know, the top Srebrniak breeder in this country and he can be contacted at 316 N. Fir St., Jenks, OK 74037. He also expressed some thoughts about establishing a club not only for the Srebrniaks, but for other European Tumblers (i.e. Berliner Lange, Magpies, Brunswicks, etc.) as well. If this idea becomes a reality the club will be closely bonded to the RBPC so that these breeds will have continued official sponsorship if they aren't meeting at shows where the rare breeds club is present.

Until next time - Mike, P.O. Box 21, Manchester, MD 21102. □

Shortface Gleanings

by WARREN MAURER
Franklin Square, N.Y. •

The first thing I'd like to do is stop the word going around that I am getting rid of all my Ancients and going back into the English Short Face Tumblers. What I did do is cut down my baldhead short face to one cock and two hens. As a matter of fact, I may import a few more Ancients but will have to wait for the mail (which takes a long time to get here from Germany) to see if the ones I want are available as the breeding season is starting there and the matings may be completed.

Wil Huebel of Little Ferry, N.J., is going with six pair of Budapests and about 12 pair of English S.F. this season. He has some very nice Budapests as well as English. Had a call from Alex Rawson the all-around pigeon man and we chatted for quite a while. Although he is not at the present raising short face, he keeps abreast of things going on in our circle. Alex is well known and has a lot of friends.

(Continued On Next Page)

Received a very nice letter from John Van Der Walt of South Africa saying that the breeding season is about to start and he is all set with his English S.F. Tumblers and has high hopes of quantity and quality.

Condolences to Bill Auger on the loss of his wife, Irene, it was very sudden. Bill is one of the charter members of the Nassau-Suffolk Club and has been in short face for many, many years. At the Futurity Show of Nassau-Suffolk there were not too many short face but the birds that won in their class and were outstanding were a Black Ancient owned by Artie Rosen and a Red Helmet owned by Bob Powell. These two birds stand out in my mind but I didn't mean to offend the other winners. Dave Fhagan who breeds Budapests, Viennas, Short Beakers and Helmets, seems to have his birds in excellent condition and should have a banner year this breeding season.

Haven't heard from my friend Bill Mackey of California lately, but I hear he is forming a flight club affiliated with the Combine. Bill, I hope this doesn't mean you're giving up the short face that you have had all these years! Saw the amiable and congenial John Sabotka at a show and he is all set for the breeding season with his Ancients and Moorheads. Where John lives in S. Jamesport, the temperature does not rise until about two to three weeks after where I live, yet he always has a good season. Ron Lebrecht of Levittown now has two pair of E.S.F. Baldheads and will get his feet wet this year, good luck!

At this time I wish all you people a very good breeding season and hope mine is better than last year. Write or call Warren Maurer, 966 Oaks Dr., Franklin Square, N.Y. 11010, 516-352-6230. □

Tumbler Talk

by ROBERT H. SMITH,
Manchester, Calif.

This month I would like to give you a report on the National Championship Tumbler Show staged in Reading, Pa., in mid-January and sponsored by the **Eastern Tumbler Club**.

This was a wonderful show from any viewpoint. There were plenty of excellent Tumblers, plenty of tumbler breeders from the U.S., Canada, and England, and most interesting, the formation of the new "United English Tumbler Club." This new club will be the single National Club devoted to the breeding and showing of all varieties of the English Tumbler. The idea for such a Club was germinated in 1969 and the

vehicle which carried the idea along and enabled it to finally become a reality was the National Championship Tumbler Show.

For the past 20 years, an amalgamation of the various Tumbler Clubs in the country have jointly sponsored the National Championship Tumbler Show. During that span the show has rotated across the U.S. within four zones, thus allowing all tumbler breeders the opportunity of participating in this National Show reasonably close to their homes. This show also enabled the members of the three former National Tumbler Clubs, namely, the Muff Tumbler Club of America, the American Bald and Beard Club, and the United Self and Barred C/L Tumbler Club, to become a closely knitted group all dedicated to breeding one or more of the several variations of the English Tumbler. It became obvious to all, that a stronger, more viable Club would result from the merger of the three clubs, and by vote of the members of all the clubs, this was accomplished at Reading, Pa.

The new set of By-Laws was presented by the Committee Chairman, Johnnie Blaine at the combined annual meeting, and after some discussion these were adopted as the basis for a start. Our thanks go to that Committee, whose other members were Jim Wilson, Bob Fragoman and Fred Drumm for a job well done. The members in attendance then nominated a slate of proposed officers, to guide the club for the next two years. This ballot will be mailed by the two-voluntary Secretaries, Ron Des Lauriers and Jim Stehr, Sr., in the near future.

The new Club is now taking dues for 1990 and these should be mailed to membership Secretary, **Bob Wood, 8209 NW 31st St., Bethany, Okla. 73008**. The annual dues are \$10.00. If you have already paid your 1990 dues to any of the Muff Tumbler Club of Am., the Am. Bald and Beard Club or the United Self and Barred C/L T/C, you will not be expected to pay again for the new Club, but will be given credit for 1990 dues in the new Club. If you have not yet paid your 1990 dues to any of the three merged clubs, then mail your 1990 dues to **Bob Wood**.

You can expect to receive a Bulletin soon from our new twin secretaries. You will also be kept abreast of the developments as they occur in this column. As you can imagine that we will have a great deal of work to do with this consolidation and I know that those officers elected will make every effort to get the job done. If you have any questions about the new Club which I have not addressed, please let either Ron Des Lauriers, Jim Stehr, Sr., or me know of your concerns, and we will be in touch with you. I am not

going to try to give a show report on the winners at Reading, as we won't have the show report for sometime. In the next column, I'll cover the major winners.

Just received a copy of the minutes of the Joint meeting from Secretary, Ron Des Lauriers so will give a **preview** of the nominations for officers and judges at the next NCTS in Bay City, MI.

For President - Robert H. Smith; For V-President Muffed - Bob Witte, Carl Wissler; For V-President C.L. - Henry Jaeger, Bill Blair, Fred Drumm; Election Commissioner - Johnnie Blaine.

JUDGES (NCTS, Bay City, MI.):

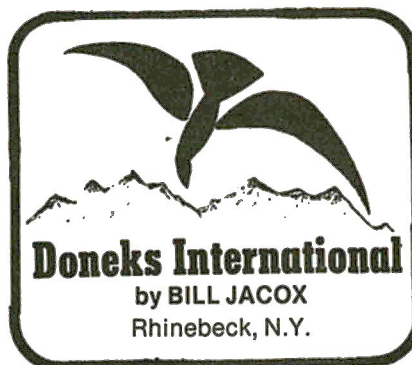
All Muffed (vote for two) - John Mahaffay, Jim Bush, Lee Sirotta, Gene Pardini, Carl Wissler, Ron Haddleton.

Marked C.L. - Gene Pardini, Ron Haddleton, Lee Sirotta.

Barred C.L. - Mike Knaggs, Ron Des Lauriers.

Red and Yellow C.L. - Bill Blair, Lee Sirotta.

Black and White C.L. - Johnnie Blaine, Gil Ricci, Bob Smith. □



This month I am happy to report to all my friends about my trip to New Jersey. I am very excited about this trip because I had the pleasure of seeing about 50 Doneks do their stuff. Not all at the same time mind you. But, I saw singles, doubles, triples climb to a good height. And on command by their owner-trainer Stojce Trajonowski they did indeed put on an excellent show that would satisfy any Donek enthusiast or bystander. On this trip Jim Williams and I took our wives along and they commented on how well the birds worked and how they responded to their owners commands. It just goes to show, you get out of Doneks what you put into them. Mr. Trajonowski puts as much time into his Doneks as he can. And he feels that it's not enough. Well, he had us convinced it was enough!

To tell you a little bit about the birds themselves. Most were black and white splashes or blue and white splashes. There were some reds in there too. They had orange eyes and were grouse

legged right to the end of their toes. Their chests were broad and strong, with powerful wings. Stojce flew these Doneks from the flat roof of his parent's house which rose three stories up. We were fortunate enough to have a clear and sunny day, nice and cool. The birds were anxious to perform, and they did!!!

Thank you Mr. Trajonowski for a nice time, your hospitality was greatly appreciated. You are both kind and generous.

Well, I am getting ready for the oncoming breeding season. I have inoculated all my pigeons with Ivomec. I have purchased nest bowls and

acquired a bail of straw, I also have added some new pairs from my 1989 birds. Now, we have to wait for it to get a little bit warmer and leave the rest up to birds (and the bees) so to speak. I hope to use up all my bands again like I did last year. I think it's going to be a good breeding season and a better year than 1989. I am starting out the new training season with more performers than last year, so I hope these older birds will help me train the younger ones just a little quicker.

If you care to write and would like a response, just send a stamp and I will supply the envelope. Bill Jacox, 12 Ackert Hook Road, Rhinebeck, N.Y. 12572. □

Obituaries

SAM SAUNDERS

When the sun had set in Calais, Maine, on February 25, 1990, the Pigeon Fancy in the Eastern United States had lost one of its elder Statesmen. Sam Saunders had passed away.

Sammy as he was known to most, was a long time Roller man having 50 plus years of continuous involvement in the hobby.

Although he kept other breeds of pigeons from time to time, the Rollers were his true love. Sammy knew Rollers from the word go and always had some outstanding birds in his loft. He could really tell a good one when he saw it.

Sammy was always generous with his birds and was almost single handedly responsible for keeping the hobby alive in this area at times.

Everyone who knew Sammy personally, will remember that he always had a funny story to tell and a wealth of information that he was willing to share.

Sammy Saunders we miss you. Keep 'em flying. — Submitted by Dan Brown, Calais, Maine.

ERWIN LERCHE

It is with great regret and sadness that I must announce the passing of Erwin Lerche of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Erv passed away on Friday, February 3, 1990. He was 68 years old and has left behind his wife Ethel and two daughters, Mrs. Arthur (Carol) Schwark of Ripon, Wisconsin and Mrs. Tim (Nancy) Pierce of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Both Carol and Nancy, when growing up, can tell anyone how much Erv loved his pigeons and the hobby itself!

Erv was born in Hanover, Germany, and at the age of four moved to the U.S. He spent many of his earlier years in Manitowoc, Wisc., and in 1961 moved to Fond du Lac. In 1962 Erv, along with a couple others, formed the Fond du Lac All Variety Pigeon Club Inc. He was very instrumental in getting the very 1st Swappers Day set up here in Wisconsin which was been extremely popular for so many years. Erv was a veteran and served in WW II in Panama in the Army Air Force.

Over the years Erv was also Sec. of the Wisconsin State Association and Sec. of the Milwaukee Pigeon Club. He also served every office in the Fond

(Continued On Next Page)



Pictured left to right are Bill Jacox, Stojce Trajonowski and Jim Williams in front of Stojce's Donek loft. — Photo from Bill Jacox, Rhinebeck, N. Y.



Stojce Trajonowski holding one of his Doneks in front of his loft. — Photo from Bill Jacox, Rhinebeck, N. Y.

du Lac Pigeon Club.

He was a breeder of Oriental Frills and became very competitive with them. When I first entered the hobby Erv was very helpful and showed me how to enter birds colors, classes, etc. It didn't take me very long to see this guy was a perfectionist in every way. He would point out some good points and bad on my birds and was very helpful in getting me on the right track. I always admired his leadership and he was a doer for sure.

In his later years troubled with asthma and was forced to get rid of his birds, but continued to be active for as long as he could. On several occasions I recall him being the MC speaker at special events and he handled that with flying colors always sure to include a joke or two. He will be greatly missed by all those in whom he touched in one way or another but I'm sure we will all meet again at another time. Thank you Erv for all that you have done to make those clubs better organized and in improving this wonderful hobby of ours so that others may enjoy for many years to come. — Submitted by Wm. Murkley, Ripon, Wisc.

LARRY PENNACHIO

After a long illness, on Dec. 2, 1989, I lost a good friend. Larry would have been 74 this Feb. 16. Larry and I go back a long way since we were in our teens. We both flew pigeons in Corona, N.Y.

When WW II came, Larry joined the Navy and served four years and was in several major battles in the Pacific.

Larry knew more about breeding pigeons than any other pigeon breeder I know. He started showing around the 50's. At that time he was breeding English Short Face Tumblers. He would only keep three of his best cock and six or seven of his best hens. He would rotate these cocks and breed 40 or more birds each year. He was a great believer in line and inbreeding. Larry always kept about 50 pairs of pumpers and if a pair failed to bring up a pair of youngsters, he would cull them. He won many best of show with his short face birds.

Sometime in the 60's he started raising White English Long Face Tumblers. He bred his birds the same way he did his Short Face birds, using two or three cocks and five or six hens. Again he raised several champion birds. A couple of his birds went on to take best of show throughout the country.

In the late 60's, Larry decided to get into the show flight game. He grew to love the show flights. That is all he wanted to talk about. He would call me up about four times a week, around 9:30 p.m. and talk a half hour or more about show flights.

He raised some good black and dark teagers. That's when he joined the New York Combine Domestic Flight Club.

He also was a member of the Long Island Flight Club and at one time was a member of Nassau-Suffolk Club and the Empire Short Face Club and at one time was the president.

Larry always wanted the company of flight men around him, no matter what time of the day. It could be 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning at a local diner, after a meeting or any Wednesday night, after a bull session at our local pigeon supply store where all the flight men meet every Wednesday night.

Many times after a pigeon show Larry would invite five or six of his close friends over to his house for a great meal his lovely wife Theresa would have prepared. He never wanted us to leave even though it would be 3 o'clock in the morning and some of us would have to go to work.

His famous saying was "One more cup of coffee and we can all go". He also coined the word "hooskie", meaning a bird of poor quality.

I for one will miss him, especially around 9:30 p.m. Sometimes when the phone rings I think it's Larry.

My deepest sympathy goes to his wonderful wife Theresa and family members. — Submitted by John Pluchino and the New York Combine Club. □

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Pigeon Show Calendar

May 5 — Delmarva Pigeon Club Spring Show, Messick Community Building, Delaware Route 14 West, Harrington, Delaware. Show Secretary: Walt Studte, 1004 Dogwood Ave./Wood Haven, Millford, Delaware 19963. Phone 302-422-9385.

May 6 — Tradin' Days, Buy - Sell - Trade, Pigeons, Exotic Birds and Animals, Waterfowl, Rabbits, Small Cage Animals, All types of livestock, Montgomery Co. Fairgrounds, Conroe Texas. For more information contact: C.W. Strickland, 409-588-3205.

May 6 — High Plains Pigeon Club Spring Swap Meet, Ellis Co. Fairgrounds, Hays, Kans. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info: Dr. Bob Pokorny, Rt. 1, Hays, Kans. 67601. 913-625-6243.

May 20 — Anthracite Concourse YB Auction, Summit Station Fire Co., Summit Station, Pa. Starts 1 p.m. For info, Dave Thoams, 26 S. Balliet St., Frackville, Pa. 17931. 717-874-2659.

May 20 — High Point Pigeon Club Annual All Breed, All Age Spring Pigeon and Dove Show, Oak View Recreation Center, High Point, N.C. 27260. Write: Thurmond Michael, 813 Mark St., High Point, N.C. 27260. 919-882-3273.

June 2 — Carolina Pigeon Club, Greenville, S.C., Summer Picnic and Mini-Show. Call Larry Primore, 803-862-1315.

June 8-10 — Idaho Roller Club hosting the PRA Convention in Boise, Idaho. Open show for "flying type" rollers. For info, Doc Reimann, 3322 Mtn. View Dr., Boise, Idaho 83704.

June 24 — Palmetto State Pigeon Club All Breed, All Age Show, Poultry Building, State Fairgrounds, Columbia, S.C. Carroll Elmer, Sec., 129 Laverne St., Sumter, S.C. 29150. 803-773-8181.

June 24 — Lincoln Hills Pigeon Club Summer Show. Sec. Dave Dougan, Route 2, Hungtingburg, Ind. 47542.

July 7-8 — Piedmont Homing Pigeon Club, Greenville, S.C., Summer Show, Auction (trophies, ribbons), Greenville Inn, on 85 and 276. All invited. Call Edna Scifres, 803-277-5405.

July 14-15 — Chattanooga Racing Pigeon Club, Chattanooga, Tenn., Summer Show, Auction. Prizes. Call Robert Harmon, 615-745-3138.

Aug. 11 — Central Indiana Pigeon Club All Breed Open Class Pigeon Show, Marion County Fair, Indianapolis, Ind. Show Sec.: L.T. Brown, 1942 Heather Court North, Indianapolis, Ind. 46229.

August 25 — Valley Pigeon Club Annual Young Bird Show, Christ Lutheran Hall, 223 W. Parkway Ave., Oshkosh, Wisc. Contact: Mike Dorman, 667 Frederick St., Oshkosh, Wisc. 54901.

Aug. 26 — High Plains Pigeon Club Fall Swap Meet, Ellis Co., Fairgrounds, Hays, Kans. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info: Dr. Bob Pokorny, Rt. 1, Hays, Kans. 67601. 913-625-6243.

Sept. 2 — Mid-American Fantail Club Lawn Show, Rockford, Illinois. Contact person: Don Vaughn, 1204 33rd St., West Des Moines, Iowa 50265. 515-223-7454.

Sept. 8 — Cairo Variety Pigeon Club Young Bird Show, St. Johns Hall, Greenville, N.Y. Show Sec. John T. Rao, P.O. Box 47, So. Westerlo, N.Y. 12163. 518-966-8484.

Sept. 8 — Big Country Pigeon Fanciers Annual Fair Show held at West Texas Fair and Rodeo, West Texas Fairgrounds, Abilene, Texas. For more information contact: Joretta Haas, Rt. 3, 134 Bryant Rd., Clyde, Texas 79510. 915-893-5004.

Sept. 16 — Bay City Pigeon Fanciers Young Bird Show, Bay County Community Center.

Show Sec. Tim Stajowski, 1413 S. Raymond St., Bay City, Mich. 48706. 517-893-9642.

Sept. 16 — Fremont Pigeon Club Annual Young Bird Show, Sandusky Co. Fairgrounds, Fremont, Ohio. Jim Feasel, Show Sec., 2373 County Road 181, Clyde, Ohio 43410. 419-639-2935.

Sept. 20-30 — Virginia State Fair, open to the world. All breeds. Held at Richmond, Va. Show Sec.: Ed Brooks, 1609 Adams Drive W., Suffolk, Va. 23436. Ph. 804-238-2931.

Oct. 6 — Southeast Iowa Pigeon Club Pigeon Show held at Southeastern Community College Grounds, Hwys. 34 and 406, Gear Avenue, West Burlington, Iowa. Info: Wes Pfadenhauer, RR 4, West Burlington, Iowa 52655. 319-392-8177.

Oct. 6 — West Central Wisconsin Pigeon and Poultry Club All Variety Show, Dunn County Fairgrounds, Menomonie, Wisc. Contact: Larry LaGessee, Rt. 1, Box 137, Bloomer, Wisc. 54724 or Ron Bien, Rt. 6, Box 61, Menomonie, Wisc. 54751.

Oct. 6 — Lincoln Hills Pigeon Club Fall Show. Sec. Dave Dougan, Route 2, Hungtingburg, Ind. 47542.

Oct. 7 — Nassau-Suffolk Pigeon Fanciers Club Annual Baby Show, Knights of Columbus Hall, Carleton Ave., Central Islip, N.Y. for entry blanks and information: Barbara Beer, 194 Lido Prom. West, Lindenhurst, N.Y. 11757. (516-226-3534) or Pete Valentine, 8 Andrew Ave., Islip Terrace, N.Y. 11752 (516-277-1087).

Oct. 13 — "Double Crown" Show, Monroe Grange Hall, Southeast, Troy, Ohio. Judge, Shawn Anderson, Piqua, Ohio. Entry fee \$1.50. Send entries to: Doug Branson, 1111 Marwood Dr., Piqua, Ohio 45356.

Oct. 14 — New York Combine Domestic Show Flight Club, 15th Annual Young Bird Show, Polish National Hall, 64th Street and 56th Road, Maspeth, N.Y.

Oct. 14 — Port Huron and Michigan Pigeon Associations Annual Young Bird Show, Perch Point Conservation Club Marine City, Michigan. Jim Palmer, 2905 N. Range Rd., Port Huron, Mich. 48060.

Oct. 20 — Cairo Variety Pigeon Club 18th Annual Fall Classic for young and old birds, St. Johns Hall, Greenville, New York. Show Sec.: John T. Rao, P.O. Box 47, So. Westerlo, N.Y. 12163. 518-966-8484.

Oct. 21 — Southern Minnesota Pigeon Assn. Inc. Bill Tyler Memorial Fall Classic, Austin National Guard Armory, Austin, Minn. Contact: Ted J. Conradt, RR 1, Box 32, Lyle, Minn. 55453. 507-325-4507.

Oct. 27 — National Young Bird Show, sponsored by the Louisville Pigeon Club. Show Secretary: Rita M. Courtney, P.O. Box 21, Milton, KY 40045.

Oct. 28 — Empire Short Face Pigeon Club Baby Show, Polish National Hall, 61-60 56th Road, Maspeth, N.Y. 10:30 a.m. Show Secretary: David Fhagen, 154 Oak St., Medford, N.Y. 11763. 516-289-5047.

Oct. 28 — Long Island Domestic Flight Club "Baby Show", Richard Street, Islip, New York. Show Sec.: Angelo Cavallo, 60 Martin Road North, Bethpage, N.Y. 11714.

Nov. 2-4 — Southern Racing Pigeon Assn., Charlotte, N.C. Convention, Show, Auction, Seminar, Awards. Biggest and best show in the South. Holiday Inn North. Call David Yarn, 704-563-1364.

Nov. 3 — "All Ohio" Show, Sidney, Ohio, Fairgrounds. Judges: Mike Carroll, George Petro. Entry fee \$1.50. Send entries to: Ken Paxton, 6100 Clover Valley Rd., Johnstown, Ohio 43031.

Nov. 3-4 — Nassau-Suffolk Pigeon Fanciers Club Annual Open Show, "The Long Island Classic", Knights of Columbus Hall, Carleton Avenue, Central Islip, N.Y. For entry blanks and information: Barbara Beer, 194 Lido Prom. West, Lindenhurst, N.Y. 11757. (516-226-3534) or Pete Valentine, 8 Andrew Lane, Islip Terrace, N.Y. 11752. (516-277-1087).

Nov. 10-11 — 59th NSRPA Show, Civic Center, White Plains, New York.

Nov. 10 — Fond du Lac All Variety Pigeon Club, Inc., Annual All Age Show, Fond du Lac Co. Fairgrounds, Fond du Lac, Wisc. For info, contact: William Murkley, Show Sec. 414-748-7147.

Nov. 10 — The Tennessee Pigeon and Dove Club Annual All Age-All Breed Pigeon and Dove Show, National Guard Armory, Columbia, Tenn. Contact: James Burns, Rt. 1, Box 181, Santa Fe, Tenn. 38482. 615-682-2905.

Nov. 11 — High Point Pigeon Club Annual All Breed, All Age Fall Pigeon and Dove Show, Oak View Recreation Center, High Point, N.C. 27260. Write: Thurmond Michael, 813 Mark St., High Point, N.C. 27260. 919-882-3273.

Nov. 17-18 — Virginia Pigeon and Dove Assn., Annual Fall Show, in conjunction with the Virginia Poultry Breeders Assn., held in Richmond, Va. Show Secretary Mrs. Jo Ryan, 3028 Bowling Green Drive, Virginia Beach, Va. 23452. Ph. 804-340-0162.

Nov. 18 — Bayshore Variety Pigeon Club Annual Show. Contact: Jerry Miraglia, 62 Charleston Spring Rd., Freehold, N.J. 07728. 201-462-3379.

Nov. 24 — Indiana Pigeon Club's 71st Annual All Breed Winter Show, NPA District Meet, Memorial Building at Lions Delaware Co. Fairgrounds, Muncie, Indiana. Ray Hoover, Show Sec. RR 3, Box 224, New Castle, Ind. 47362. Ph. 317-332-2541.

Nov. 24-25 — New York Combine Domestic Show Flight Club 15th Annual Young and Old Bird Show, Polish National Hall, 64th Street and 56th Road, Maspeth, N.Y.

Nov. 24-25 — Mid-America Fantail Club Annual Meet, Austin, Minnesota. Contact person: Don Vaughn, 1204 33rd St., West Des Moines, Iowa 50265. 515-223-7454.

Dec. 1 — "Buckeye Classic" All Breeds Show, Butler Co. Fairgrounds, Hamilton, Ohio. Presented by Southern Ohio Pigeon Assn. Show Chairman, Joe Grau, 605 Middleboro Rd., Oregonia, Ohio 45054.

Dec. 1 — Delmarva Pigeon Club Winter Show, Messick Community Building, Delaware Route 14 West, Harrington, Delaware. Show Sec.: Walt Studte, 1004 Dogwood Ave./Wood Haven, Millford, Delaware 19963. Ph. 302-422-9385.

Dec. 1-2 — Carolina Pigeon Club Annual All Breeds Show, Greenville, S.C., Cleveland Park Gym. Cash prizes and trophies. Write: Richard Georgiana, 207 Ripple View Dr., Clemson, S.C. 29631, for entry and info.

Dec. 2 — Anthracite Concourse Old Bird Auction, Summit Station Fire Co., Summit Station, Pa. Starts 1 p.m. More info, Dave Thomas, 26 S. Balliet St., Frackville, Pa. 17931. 717-874-2659.

Dec. 2 — Empire Short Face Pigeon Club Open Show (any age), Polish National Hall, 61-60 56th Road, Maspeth, N.Y. 10:30 a.m. Show Secretary: David Fhagen, 154 Oak St., Medford, N.Y. 11763. 516-289-5047.

Dec. 9 — Mohawk Valley Variety Pigeon Club 2nd Annual Fall Show for old and young birds to be held at the Town Hall, Town of Florida (3 miles south of Amsterdam, N.Y.). For entry blanks, info, contact: Tom Metallo, 20 Clinton St., Amsterdam, N.Y. 12010. (518) 842-5263.

Dec. 9 — Michigan and Port Huron Pigeon Associations Annual All Age Show, Perch Point Conservation Club, Marine City, Mich. L.K. Zienert, 53150 Sula Dr., Utica, Mich. 48087.

Dec. 9 — Long Island Domestic Flight Club "Open Show", Richard Street, Islip, New York. Show Sec.: Angelo Cavallo, 68 Martin Road North, Bethpage, N.Y. 11714.

Dec. 9 — Palmetto State Pigeon Club All Breed, All Age Show, Poultry Building, State Fairgrounds, Columbia, S.C. Carroll Elmore, Sec., 129 Laverne St., Sumter, S.C. 29150. 803-773-8181.

Dec. 16 — Anthracite Concourse Annual Show, Summit Station Fire Co., Summit Station, Pa. Entries: 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Show starts 1 p.m. For more info, Dave Thomas, 26 S. Balliet St., Frackville, Pa. 17931. 717-874-2659.

1991

Jan. 5 — Midwest International Pigeon Show, Fremont Pigeon Club 47th Annual Winter Show, Sandusky Co. Fairgrounds, Fremont, Ohio. Jim Feasel, Show Sec., 2373 Co. Rd. 181, Clyde, Ohio 43410. 419-639-2935.

Jan. 5 — Valley Pigeon Club Annual Winter Show, Christ Lutheran Hall, 223 W. Parkway Ave., Oshkosh, Wisc. Contact: Mike Dorman, 667 Frederick St., Oshkosh, Wisc. 54901.

Jan. 6 — Empire Short Face Pigeon Club Futurity Show, Polish National Hall, 61-60 56th Road, Maspeth, N.Y. 10:30 a.m.

Jan. 20 — New York Combine Domestic Show Flight Club Futurity Show, "The Golden Futurity", Polish National Hall, 64th St. and 56th Rd., Maspeth, N.Y.

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