

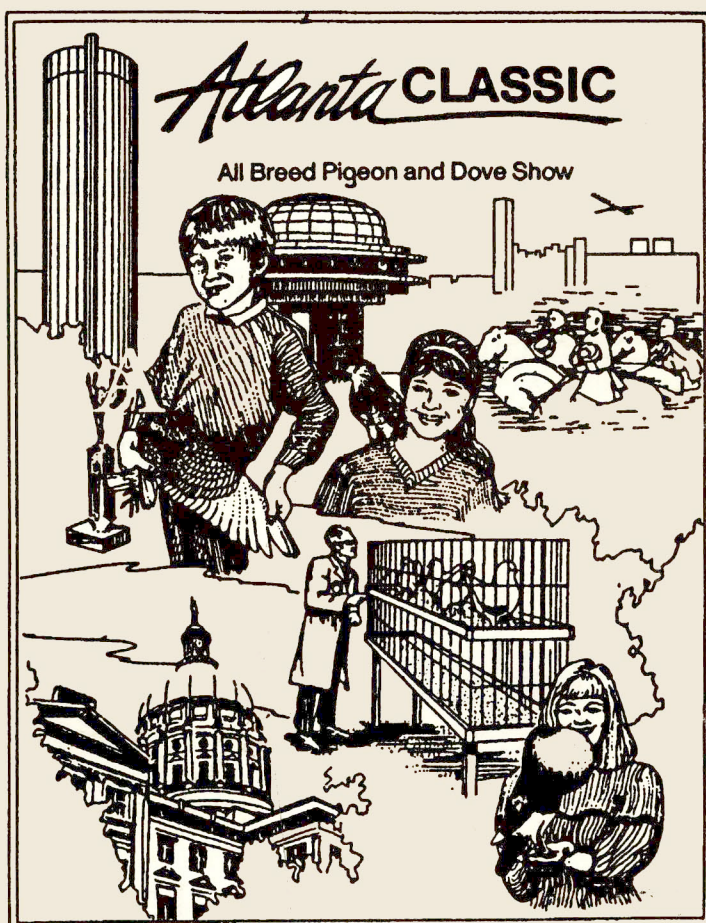
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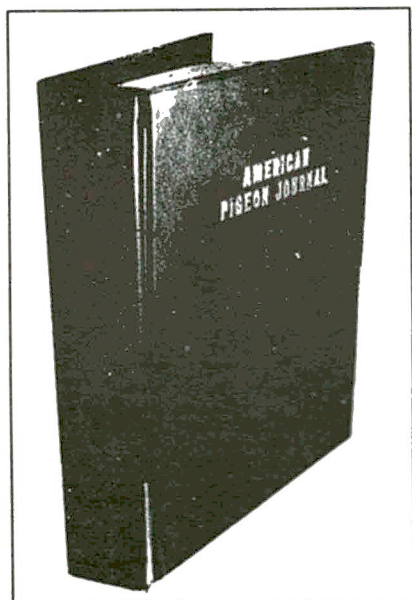
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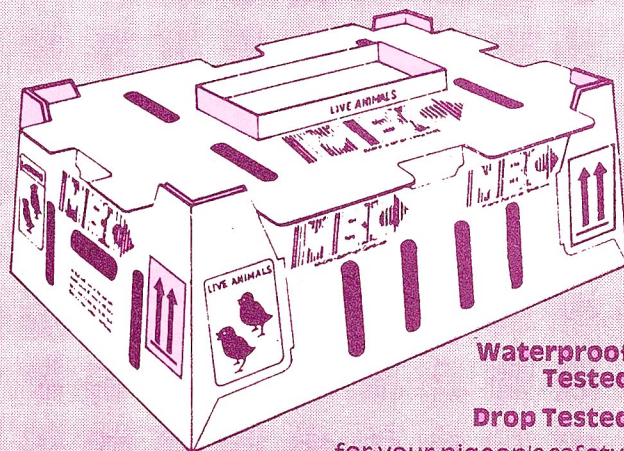
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Important Articles In This Issue

Tipplers: The Marathon Flyers	By Richard Seabridge	21
What's A Nuremberg Bagdette	By Rocky Williams	21
The Los Angeles Area Genetics Club	By Frank Mosca	22
Ribbontail	By Dal M. Stone	22
What Is Most Important In A Show Tumbler	By Jim Bush	23
Where Pigeons Go To Die	By James McKenzie	24
Rollers In Panama	By Rick Mee	24
Michigan State Fair Has AU Display	By Adolph Gittner	25
The Nun - To Beak Or Not To Beak	By Stan Ryan	25
An Observation	By Oscar C. Weber	25
Book Review	By Shannon Hiatt	26
The Man With The Derby Hat	By Malcolm Rowan	26
Believe It Or Note—A Black Whiteside	By Alex Rawson	27
A Cure For Pigeon Canker	By John A. Reynolds	27
Dove Talk	By George J. Schutt	28
The Beat Goes On	By H.J. Berg	30
Almond Flying Tipplers	By Joe Cussick III	31
Kelebecks - Fly Or Show?	By Willie English	31
Pigeonholes	.....	33
Information Please!	By Robert J. Mangile	34
Questions & Answers	By Clair Hetland	34
Bits & Pieces	By Joe Quinn	35
American Pigeon Fanciers' Council	By James Clark, Publicity	36
Organizations	.....	38
Come Along With Us, By Bob Fragoman	.....	48
Pouter Partisan, By Frank Barrachina	.....	50
C arneau Gleanings, By Victor Stoll	.....	52
Helmet Happenings, By Bruce Scott	.....	53
Tumbler Talk, By Robert H. Smith	.....	54
A Visit To Doncaster And Nurnberg	By Fred Drumm	54
Rumbler Rumbings, By Tony Cabral	.....	55
Classified Ad Section	.....	57
Pigeon Show Calendar	.....	62
King Trivia, By June Trone		64
Hungarian Giant House Pigeon Newsletter	By Tony Brancato	64

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69th NPA Grand National Pigeon Show

held in the Los Angeles Co. Fairgrounds, January 17 - 19, 1991
Entries Close Midnight, December 15, 1990

YOUNG COCK	BREED	COLOR/MARKING	BAND #	YOUNG HEN	BREED	COLOR/MARKING	BAND #
1.				1.			
2.				2.			
3.				3.			
4.				4.			
5.				5.			
6.				6.			
7.				7.			
8.				8.			
9.				9.			
10.				10.			
11.				11.			
12.				12.			

OLD COCK	BREED	COLOR/MARKING	BAND #	OLD HEN	BREED	COLOR/MARKING	BAND #
1.				1.			
2.				2.			
3.				3.			
4.				4.			
5.				5.			
6.				6.			
7.				7.			
8.				8.			
9.				9.			
10.				10.			
11.				11.			
12.				12.			

★ Junior Competition ★

BREED	COLOR/MARKING	AGE - SEX (YH, YC, OH, OC)	BAND #
1.			
2.			

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Sponsored by the Los Angeles Pigeon Club

January 17-19, 1990

Los Angeles County Fairgrounds, Pomona, Calif - Buildings 7 & 8

SHOW INFORMATION

N.P.A. HEADQUARTERS - The Ramada Inn, 840 So. Indian Hill Blvd., Claremont, Calif. (the exit is Indian Hill off the 10 Freeway). Rooms are \$49.00 per night plus tax. For reservations call toll free 800-322-6559 (and have your credit card ready). There will be shuttle service to and from the show and the Ramada Inn.

THE AIRPORT - All exhibitors are asked to please fly into Ontario International Airport, Ontario, Calif. When sending in your entry, etc., please advise the show secretary of your airline, flight number and arrival time and someone will meet you when your plane arrives. Also please remember, we **cannot pick you up at Los Angeles International Airport!**

BANQUET - The banquet will be held on Friday evening at the Ramada Inn. It's \$22.00 per person and there is limited seating so tickets are sold on a first come, first served basis.

TOURS - There are 3 different tours:

Thursday - 11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. - the one and only original Disneyland. Bus ticket is \$11.00 per person and admission is \$24.00 for adults, \$19.00 children.

Friday - 10:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. - Palm Springs - living museum and shopping tour of downtown Palm Springs. Museum ticket \$4.00 per adult/\$2.00 children. Bus ticket is \$11.25 per person.

Saturday - 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. - Universal Studios - Admission is \$21.00 for adults/\$15.50 for children and the bus ticket is \$17.00. See how movies and television shows are made at the most famous movie studio in the world!

No tour tickets will be sold at the show! To reserve your spot, please send a separate check that only includes the **bus fare** for each tour. **PLEASE SEND ALONG WITH ENTRY BLANK and ENTRY FEE CHECK.** ADVISE AS TO WHICH TOUR(S). Make all checks payable to National 91. **Deadline is Dec. 15.**

SHOW HOURS - Accepting entries on Wednesday from noon until 11:00 p.m.; Accepting entries until 10 a.m. on Thursday and hours on Thursday are 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.; Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; and on Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Birds are released at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday. Please remove your entries then.

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"You have brought up some terrific ways of looking at the breed, along with 'culling' many of the 'old wives' tales.' I learned a great deal from the book."

— Sam DaMommio, TX

"[I] am most impressed. You have cut through all the bull--- and got down to practical advice. Your photos of your birds look great — especially for type and expression."

— Kerry Muller, New Zealand

"Thanks for dispelling some foggy myths and some gospel truths. Your book, TRUE SPINNING ROLLERS, was a pleasure to read. It is thorough and yet specific. It should be a lasting contribution to the fancy."

— Bill Murphy, WA

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— Richard Sargent, FL

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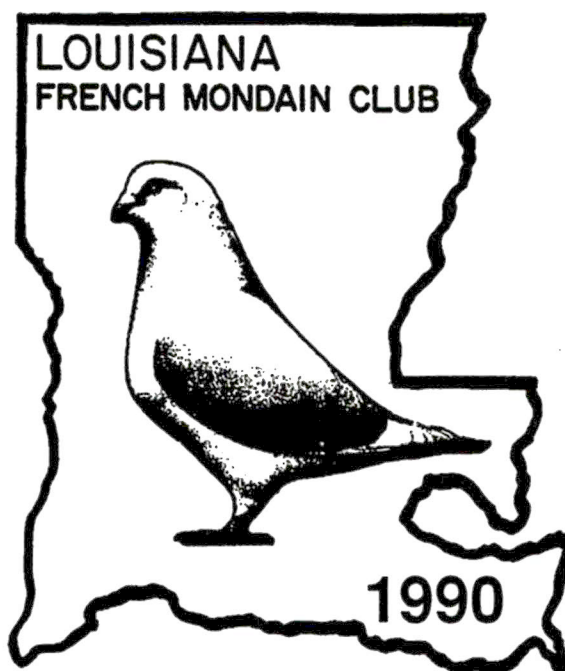
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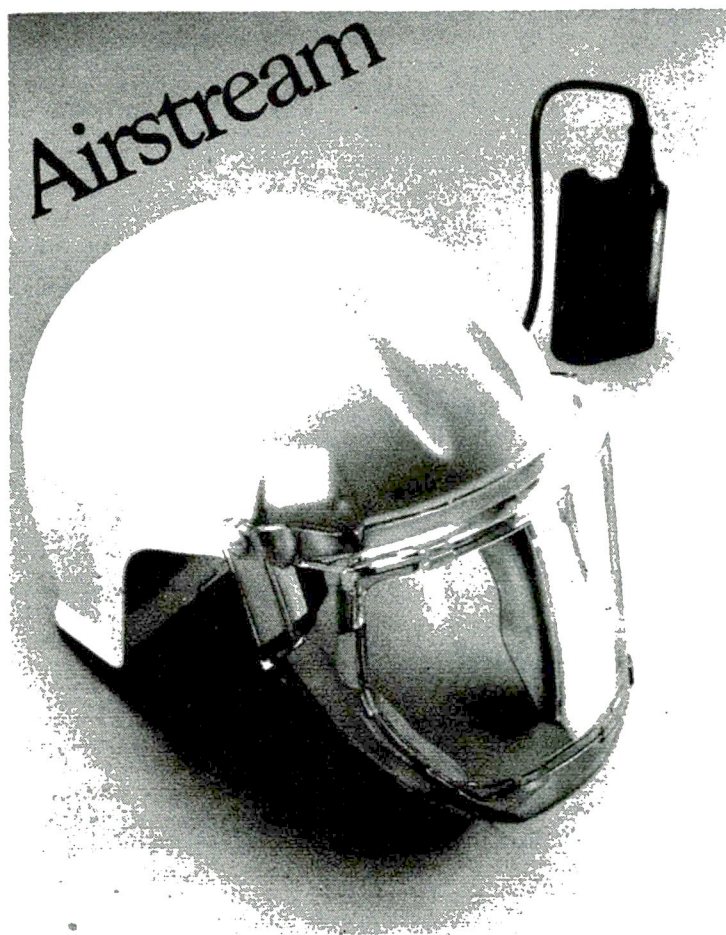
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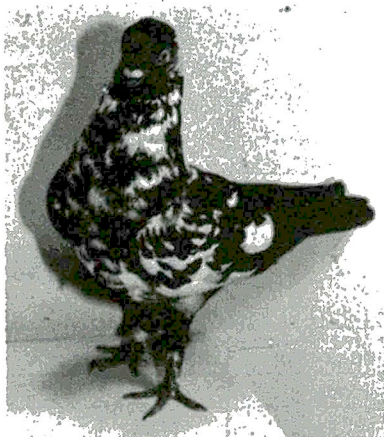
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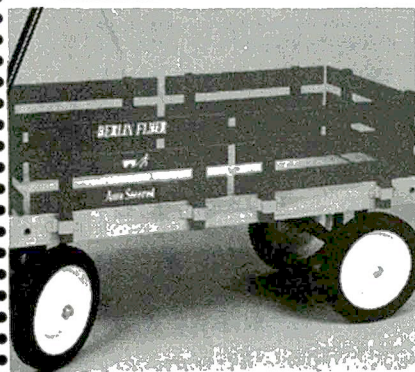
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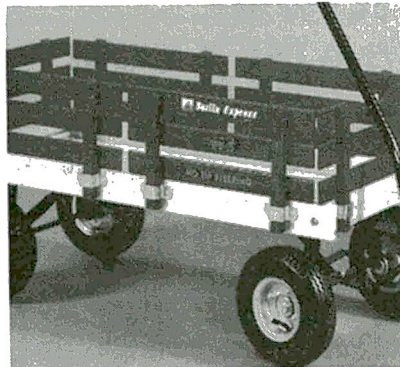
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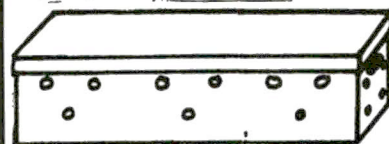
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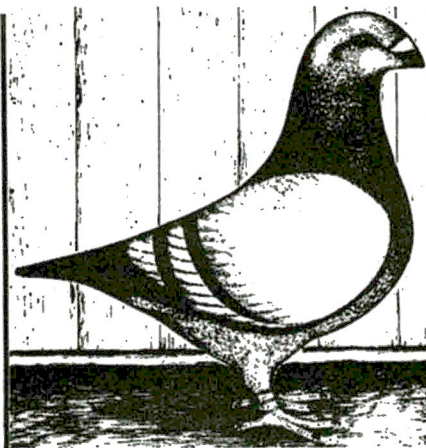
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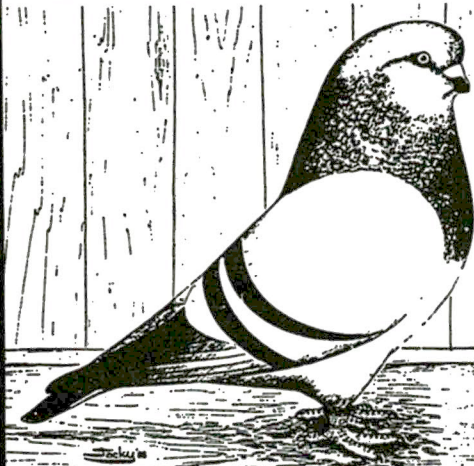


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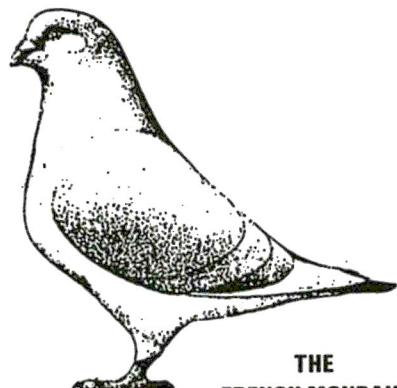
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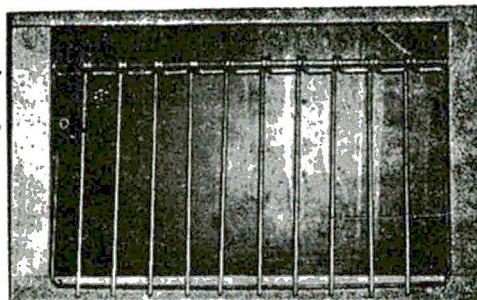
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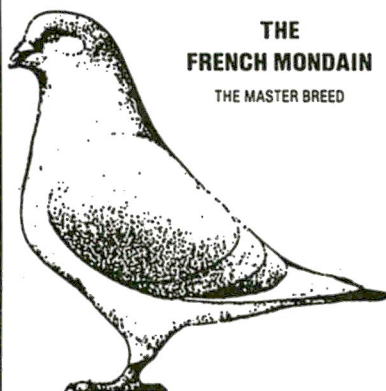
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WILLIAM L. "MIKE" WORLEY, Owner & Editor

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69th NPA Grand National

The 69th National Pigeon Association Grand National Pigeon show is set for January 17-19, 1991 in Pomona, Calif. Sponsored by the Los Angeles Pigeon Club, the Grand National will be held at the Los Angeles Co. Fairgrounds, Buildings 7 and 8.

The N.P.A. Headquarters will be the Ramada Inn, 840 So. Indian Hill Blvd., Claremont, Calif. For reservations call toll free 1-800-322-6559. According to show officials, there will be shuttle service to and from the show and the Ramada Inn.

When flying or shipping birds to the show, please use the Ontario International Airport, Ontario, Calif. Please inform the show secretary of your airline, flight number, arrival time and someone will meet you. Please note that you cannot be picked up from the Los Angeles International Airport.

The NPA Banquet will be held Friday evening, January 18. There is limited seating so tickets will be sold on a first come, first served basis.

There will be three different tours offered: Disneyland, Palm Springs and Universal Studios. Please see the ad on page 4 for more information concerning the tours.

Also listed on page 4 are the show hours and other pertinent information.

Featured on page 5 is the entry blank for the Grand National.

One important note: entries close December 15, 1990. Also tickets for the tours and bus tickets must be sent to the show secretary by December 15.

See the ad on page 4 for more details.

See you there!

NYBS A Success

The 19th Annual National Young Bird Show was another overwhelming success.

Held at the Kentucky State Fairgrounds, Louisville, Ky., there were 5841 pigeons shown by 681 exhibitors. The Modenas had the largest entry with 676. Rollers followed with 365, Giant Homers 349, Fantails 348, Chinese Owls 310, Helmets 283, Racing Homers 272, Doves 247, Oriental Frills 236, Pouters and Croppers 233, Komorner Tumblers 225, Tumblers 195, Indian Fantails 175, ABS Rollers 170, English Trumpeters 152, Jacobins 124, French Mondains 112, Rare Breeds 112, Domestic Flights 98, Dragoons 98, Shortface Breeds 77, African Owls 75, Rumblers 74, Runts 74, Beauty Homers 68, English Carriers 60, Swallows 60, Mookees 59, Parlor Rollers 56, Frillbacks 43, Tipplers 38, Russian Tumblers 34, Nuns 29, German Trumpeters 23 and Maltese 20.

We would like to thank everyone who stopped by our booth and visited with us. Your support and patronage is always appreciated.

Christmas Is Coming

Don't forget your favorite pigeon fancier at Christmas time. Remember them with a gift subscription to the APJ. Or, how about a book from our collection listed on pages 8 and 9. An attractive binder to hold those APJ copies would be another nice gift (see ad on inside front cover).

Any of the above items would be appreciated by any fancier. Order early to insure delivery by Christmas. It's only two months away.

1991 Specials

There are four specials scheduled for 1991. They are:

April 1991 – Komorner Tumblers. The coordinator is Allen Zitting, P.O. Box 766, Centennial Park, Ariz. 86021. Deadline: Feb. 1, 1991.

July – Domestic Flights. This will be sponsored by the Long Island Domestic Flight Assn. Contact: John Izzo, 1400 Thompson Drive, Bayshore, N.Y. 11706. Deadline: May 1, 1991.

Sept. – American Show Racer. John Johanness is the coordinator. His address is Box 131, Reutemann Rd., North Stonington, Conn. 06359. Deadline: July 1, 1991.

Nov. – Pouter & Cropper. The coordinator will be Frank Barrachina, 12376 Bryant St., Yucaipa, Calif. 92399. Deadline: Sept. 1, 1991.

Future Specials

We have several other specials scheduled in the upcoming years.

In 1992, September will feature Fantails with John Moppin as coordinator. December 1992 will feature with Rare Breeds/Color Pigeons with Mike Lerp as coordinator.

For 1993, Shortface Tumblers will start off the year in February. April will feature Oriental Frills, Dale Jett, coordinator. English Trumpeters will appear in the October issue. And last, but not least there will be a Flying Roller Special with Dan Ouellette as coordinator.

Group Subscriptions

Take advantage of our group subscription rate of 25% off. Just send in 10 or more one year subscriptions at a time and receive \$4.00 off the regular price of \$16.00. The discount rate applies to all clubs and to any group of ten or more subscriptions.

Please note that this rate applies to one year subscriptions only, not the two or three year rates.

Moments With "Mike"

Mike Ching, Salt Lake City, Utah: "It's time for me to renew my subscription for the APJ. I can't believe how fast time flies when you're having fun in the pigeon hobby. I am beginning my fifth year in this hobby; especially through the APJ. Linda Anderson, Wiota, Iowa, raises West of England Tumblers. Thanks to the APJ who printed her comments on this fine breed of pigeon. Keep up the fine publication. You have been a true asset to the hobby."

Gary Bronson, Delta, Ohio: "I just wanted to take the time to drop you a short note along with my three year renewal. Thanks for the space you have allotted my efforts in writing for the Great Lakes Fantail Club. Both the club and I really appreciate it. The APJ continues to improve and I look forward to each issue. There seems to be a great diversity in the articles and the breeds represented which only can lead to the betterment of the hobby. Thanks for being there for the hobby."

Tipplers – The Marathon Flyers

by RICHARD SEABRIDGE, Lawrenceville, N.J.

Many beginners fail because they won't patiently try the birds or they have started with too many birds. Forever changing the management is a curse of many lofts too. The loft which will keep and fly a limited number of birds will have much more success than the loft which always has a large number of birds to handle. With a small team, the fancier has a much better opportunity to know his birds well, than the fancier with the large team. There must be that constant selection in one's loft if he is going to rise to the top in Tippler flying, to breed, to maintain his high quality of pigeons. A knowledge of breeding must be had by the fancier who wants to remain in the top bracket year after year. Continued inbreeding is not the answer to success nor is constant out breeding the answer. There has to be both by the fancier who remains on top. He must retain his original blood that is the base of his loft, yet he must keep enough new blood in the birds to retain their strength. The fancier who is able to breed his birds in this manner is the man who will remain a serious contender year after year. The master breeder knows how to prepare his birds and how to blend birds to get the best from them. When they get in other hands, it is a different story.

Feed has a very important part in the success of a loft. Our recommendation is to always feed the best feed that you can secure. There is no substitute for good feed. This is another advantage of a small loft which keeps a limited number of birds, the feed bill is a lot less and the best feed can be fed with no regrets. When they are breeding and raising youngsters the food consumption will double. Introduction of special food and seeds must be done gradually, a sudden change of diet can be harmful. Seed eating birds in the wild will consume various kinds of seeds in different stages of a seed's development. Seed in the milky stage, seeds which have become soaked from rain and sprouting, plus seeds in the dry stage, all will be eaten at various times in a year. Soaked and sprouting seeds are one of the most valuable foods we have for our birds, young, feeding parents and birds of any age will all enjoy soaked seeds. If you are not presently feeding soaked seed, try supplying your birds with a portion everyday and watch them thrive and enjoy this addition to their diet. Soaking seed is easy and the following method will insure a daily supply for your birds. The following items are needed: two glass jars with lids and a strainer. On the first evening, place the desired amount of seeds in jars, cover with water up to one inch below the top, place lid on jar and let stand at room temperature. On the second evening repeat the process of adding seed and water to jar number two. On the second morning the seed in jar one, which has been soaking for about 36 hours is ready for use. Wash the seed in warm running water, in the strainer, to remove dust and small particles. Let drain and feed a teaspoonful to each bird. That same evening,

(third day) again fill jar one with seed and water which will be ready for feeding in two mornings. The next morning use seed from jar number two and repeat the process. Feeding soaked seed each morning and placing seed to soak each night will provide you with a daily supply. Never soak seed longer than 48 hours and not less than 24 hours. Pigeons will love soaked sprouting seed. As with all moist foods NEVER OVERFEED. A small amount each morning for non breeding birds will allow for all seed to be eaten before it becomes sour. Uneaten soaked seed must be removed before the end of the day. During the breeding season soaked seed should be available for the feeding parents. Small amounts supplied often is the rule. The parents will select dry grain and seed, greens, soaked seeds, etc., for the young, they know what to feed and when. Less waste will probably occur if soaked seed is supplied individually for parents with young. Discard uneaten food before giving the birds fresh food and never mix uneaten moist food with fresh. A good soak seed mix for Tipplers is made up of the following kinds of seed. Milo, wheat, buckwheat, canary, rape, millet and thistle. Try soak seed and watch your birds REALLY ENJOY it.

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What's A

Nuremberg Bagdette?

by ROCKY WILLIAMS,
Littlefield, Texas

What's a Nuremberg Bagdette? Well, it's very simple, it is more commonly known as a Scandaroon. Scandaroons do not look like most pigeons. They resemble a bird of prey. They are mean and ugly looking birds, but they are very gentle. They do well in the loft with smaller breeds of pigeons. They keep to themselves most of the time. They are good parents taking good care of their young. Scandaroons are large in size & do well in all weather.

When people visit your loft, the Scandaroons are the birds that steal the show. Everyone wants to know something about them right away.

The Scandaroon comes in pied, self, barred & checkered pattern colors. Pied is the most commonly bred pattern. It is believed to be a blood relation of the English Carriers.

Scandaroon is a name of a seaport in Syria. This is one place where some people believe the birds were first bred, but this may not be where they were bred. Iraq is another area that the Scandaroon could of first been bred. Germany is where the Scandaroon was developed to its present state. The Scandaroon is very popular in European breeds.

The markings of the pied are, tail colored, breast colored, cut just under the breast. The color should come from the breast, round and up the side of the neck, and end at the back of the skull. There should be a white bib down the front of the neck, while from the base of the beak, below the eye, runs a color spot about the size of an almond nut. This is called the whiskers. Now for the description.

The head is narrow with a very stout curved beak. In profile, the head and beak should be as near as possible to a half circle. The eyes are dark in whites and in the pied; all other colors, yellow and orange. The beak should be set downwards with mandibles closed tightly together. The color of the beak should be whitish-pink except in blue pids and selfs which can be horn color. The wattles should be heart shape divided in the middle. The size is from 24 to 27 ounces. It is clean-legged. It has a well developed eye cere and beak wattle. The show standard provides 37 points out of a 100 for the head.

Here in America, the pied is also the most bred pattern. There are not a lot of breeders of Scandaroons, but the ones that do breed them, stay very loyal to this breed.

The Los Angeles Area Genetic Club

by FRANK MOSCA, Montclair, Calif.

I know what a lot of you are thinking already. Admit it! You see the words 'genetic club' and you half tune out and sneer to yourself, "Another bunch of guys who 'play' with pigeons 'cause they can't breed good show birds." Oh, you listen politely enough but deep down you know that these genetic types are just talk. Get them into the show room and it would be another story. Right? Boy, do you have a wrong number!

For the last 15 years - count them, 15, we've had a group in the Los Angeles area that's met to discuss pigeon genetics. Every February through October for 15 years, we've gotten together with no dues, no officers, no meeting agenda, no club bulletin, no political or personal rivalries, in fact nothing except birds and talk to keep us coming back. And we do keep coming back!

Our particular group of guys who "can't breed good show birds" has, and still includes, more master breeders (and pigeon masters) than most pigeon people meet in

their lifetimes, let alone each month. Men like Cortus Koehler-S.F. Tumblers, Amos Hodson-Show Racers, Joe Frazier-Giant Homers, Tom McCaig-Frillbacks, Harry Alexander(deceased)-Jacobins, Drew Lobenstein-Jacobins and Fantails, Adair Allen-LFCL Tumblers and Dragoons, Bill Hawkins-Chinese Owls, Leon Stephens-Color Pigeons, Bill Griebel-Swallows, Rich Gerhart-Modenas.

Others who have bred winning pigeons for years include: Jack Hamilton, Jack Fix and Gene East - all Show Racer breeders, Stan and Monty Luden - SF Tumblers/Indian Fans, Layne Gardner - Old Dutch Capuchines, Walt Helms and Bob Eaton - Racing Homers, myself - Pouters and racers. Those are just the regulars. Often, we have others show up to chat. Occasionally, these others stop in from Australia, England, Denmark, Germany Canada, etc., when they're in the neighborhood.

Members of our group have taken some

of the more unusual color modifying factors: Faded, Indigo/Andalusian, Dominant Opal, reduced, recessive opal, pale, Toy Stencil, Ice and others from birds looking (if they've been lucky) like commies and placed them into their breed. Then they've upgraded their crosses to show winner status. They've mixed combinations others are only now beginning to explore. Take a look at Frazier's Dominant Opal T-pattern Dilute hen on page 148 of Levi's "Encyclopedia of Pigeon Breeds" - a book now almost 30 years old. Our racing men have flown and won to six hundred miles with birds in barless, Indigo, Faded, Almond and frosty.

I've seen people working on beak crest inheritance in Chinese Nasal Tufted and others explaining what's necessary to breed good, dark, show quality recessive reds. Patterns and colors have been added to breeds that never had them in their gene pool previously: Shield in Frillbacks, Ribbontail, barless, and Almond in Indian Fans, and Gazzi and "opalusian" (Indigo, Spread, Dominant Opal) in Giant Homers.

I will admit our meetings are unusual, and somewhat disconcerting, to those reared on more political types clubs. Since we don't have any agenda, we simply sit yakking or wander around staring at birds. We break into smaller groups that are fluid in their composition and have different discussions. We discuss color, form, body conformation, factor combinations and phenotypes. We munch donuts, sip coffee, talk about old shows, lie about old fun times, and then munch more donuts. We often go home with birds we didn't come with, and not once have I ever seen money change hands. These birds aren't all first generation crosses by any means, either.

That's unusual enough but there's something more. The something more that truly makes this group unique. You see, we wonder. We wonder what would happen if? We wonder what would this or that combination look like. And we wonder what would happen if we crossed this breed to that in order to get what we need. This wonder causes us to go home and put together the pairs we need to answer those questions. And we do question!

We question everyone and everything including those absolutely known "facts" which everyone agrees on. Even Doc Hollander, the man who taught our teachers and us and who is the father of pigeon genetics as we know it, has come in for his share of questioning. I know he'd approve of that too. Questioning is basic to science and it must be to our hobby if it is to grow.

Let me give you an idea of some of the stuff that shows up at a meeting: Just last month we had Dominant Opal Modenas, reduced blue Show Racers, Frosty Ash-red Show Racers, recessive white Show Racers, Homo Grizzle Ash-red white Show Racers, Homo Grizzle hetero Faded Check Giant Homers and Indigo reduced Giant Homers. There were white tail marked "almost" Indian Fans. There were Exhibition Homers in Indigo and racers in reduced blue check,

Ribbontail

by DAL M. STONE, Lake Elsinore, Calif.

Ribbontail is a coloration and pattern, which when on a heavy check or "T" pattern ash red bird, is a deep red - almost a blood red - all over except for the tail bar or band and the tips of the primary and secondary flight feathers which are a white or a gray color. Then at the very outside of the white margin there is usually a red tip.

This same coloration can occur on a barred bird, in which case the wing shield is neither clear like that of a normal barred bird nor so intense a red as on the heavy check or "T" pattern.

In Arabic the breed carrying this coloration is known as the Shikli Ahmar. "Ahmar" means red and "Shikli" means "flashy" or "gaudy" (the origin of this bird has been traced as far back as the Arabic nation of Syria.)

The French name for this breed is Miroite de Damas. "Miroite" means "mirrored," "glistening," or "shiny." Certainly when seen in flight with its white outline or halo illuminated by the sunlight, one can understand why these Arabic and French names were given to it.

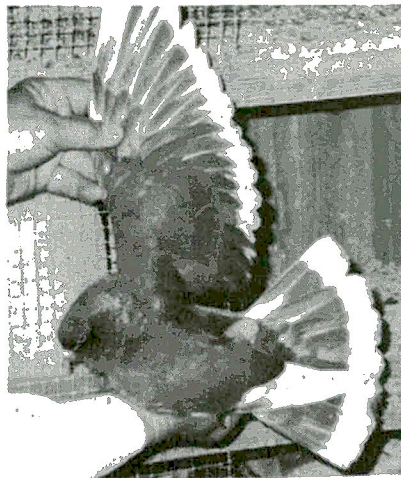
As mentioned above, the base color is ash red and only on ash red will it manifest itself, although homozygous Indigo over a basically blue check or "T" pattern will sometimes imitate ribbontail.

Ribbontail coloration may be produced by crossing an ash red pigeon onto an Archangel, a bronze Show Tippler or other pigeon with strong bronzing, however, few of the resultant offspring are of high quality ribbontail coloration.

The bronzing factor evidently brightens and intensifies the otherwise rather dull ash red color. (The bronzing factor could very well be the one known among the genetics

group as "Brander.") Perhaps the bronze in combination with other factors not yet identified - maybe "sooty" - causes the red coloration to extend into the tail feathers (retrices) all the way to the tail band and farther into the flights. Normally the ash red bird has retrices that are completely gray and flight feathers that are mostly gray. Many ribbontails also have grease quills and this adds to their luster.

Ribbontail is a coloration produced some time back in history, but is quite rare in the United States and many people have not seen it yet, at least not in high quality specimens. (Many of our ash red birds exhibit traces of it.) Those who have seen high quality ribbontail agree that it rivals any bird for sheer beauty.



The ribbontail pattern by A. G. Stone.

Faded Ash-red, Homozygous indigo spread, and one we weren't sure about.

Then, best of all, there were the "wonder birds." Drew was kind enough to bring in one of his birds which showed a combination, Indigo and Ice, I'd wondered about the month before. The bird, a nasal tufted Tung Koon Paak, was unusual to say the least. Drew, Layne, and some of the others love the pastel look of the Indigo on Ice. I don't. I much prefer the contrast of black bar unwashed by Indigo but that's part of what makes this time together interesting.

Oh, if you're interested this is the same Drew who sometimes brings bronze series birds he's working on. Birds crossed onto Saxon Whitetails and other bronze factor birds. Birds so beautiful that given the chance, and the loft space, I'd snag them just to stare at them in the coop. He's also the same Drew who once brought and shared the early crosses that went on to become startling beautiful Andalusian Jacobins. He's even the same Drew who's presently working on milky Jacs.

Harry did the same with his proto-Almond Jacs. Those same Almond Jacs that are now winning in shows around the continent. Just weeks before his death, Harry, also brought in a bird I'd kill for now. It was a blue check that showed NO bars. For years, he'd been breeding toward a bird which showed only minimal bar and he'd finally made it. When you opened the bird's wing, you could see that the spots which combine to produce the bar when the wing is closed were reduced to mere lines. What you saw on the standing bird was a pigeon checkerboard from wing tip to shoulder. It was a truly unique domestic pigeon.

The conversation groups I wandered to last meeting ranged from the useful: How best to splint a bird's broken leg. - Monty raises exotic finches and splits a small swizzle-stick type plastic drinking straw lengthwise down the middle then slips it around the leg like a full cast. A better method, I think, than trying to bend a bobby pin or other wire as I've done in the past and an idea I fully intend to use, upgrading straw size of course, if I need it in the future - to the mundane: I wondered if 18th and 19th century British breeder used Egyptian Swifts to give added feather length to Jacobins. Someday given the time, I may cross Old Dutch Capuchines onto Swifts and see if I can reinvent the wheel. On the other hand, maybe I'll just borrow copies of the literature of that period from some of our collectors and read up on the crosses used.

I also heard someone wonder why if so many of our birds show traces of third bar, we don't simply breed for it and standardize it. It would give factors such as Toy Stencil something more to work on. I can't promise it, but knowing these guys, you just might see a three bar breed in the show room sometime in the fairly near future.

Some nights, there are few birds and we simply yak. One of those nights turned out to be the one in which I learned more about Opal and its various interactions with other

factors than I'd known in my life. Some nights we get hooked into projects because of something someone says.

Right now, I've got an Ash-red Show Racer cock in my loft that may be carrying a new color modifying mutation. Amos bred its grandfather a few years ago and we've watched that bird and its descendants closely since. Ash-red birds, cocks and hens, in this line change color dramatically from juvenile to adult plumage. Each molt sees the birds getting lighter. Blue phase birds produced

also show some of the lightening effect but it is not as dramatic as that seen in the Ash-red. My cock started life as a dark brick red T-pattern. It's now an ashy grizzle color over almost its whole body.

It may be nothing at all. It may be something new. It may be something already known which is reacting differently because of another factor Amos has in the birds. Only time will tell. Then between bites of donut, I will too, at the L.A. Genetics Club meeting.

What Is Most Important In A Show Tumbler?

by JIM BUSH, Vista, Calif.

There seems to be a lot of different thinking on what is the most important feature on a Long Faced Tumbler: length of face, size of the bird, head, beak power, style and outlook - just to name a few.

Well at this point I'm going to set myself up as an expert on the subject of L.F. Tumblers and tell you just which points are the most important features of this breed. THEY ALL ARE! Every feature and characteristic is of equal importance to me and should be to all serious Tumbler breeders.

What is a Long Faced Tumbler? It's a medium sized pigeon, 9-10 inches high and long with good width of chest and body size. The bird is to stand upright and jaunty with style. The head is held back with the chest well forward and the eye is held directly over the ball of the foot. Tail is held off the floor.



TUMBLER

Young Black Self Tumbler Hen - 1990 bred - #3670. Best Self, Pacific Tumbler Club Young Bird Show held Aug. 12, 1990, Pomona, LAPC Club Meet. - Bred and owned by Jim Bush, Vista, Calif.

Now the head is to be round when viewed from all angles and supported by a large full neck with a short well shaped deep set beak.

I could go on and on with the standard but I just want to give a general idea.

Now I would like to address a few points of some confusion amongst some Tumbler fanciers. These birds are to be of medium size approximately 9 to 10 inches in height and length. But they are to be full and rounded in body with a large, full chest and deep keel. We want that full cobby appearance, not the long lanky look. Way too many birds that are tall are too long in body and neck with no fullness of body and neck.

Now another point of confusion is this real short beak on many of our show tumblers. Yes, the beak is to be short but should be in balance with the overall bird. And the beak is to be as long as it is wide. Now this is the important part that seems to be overlooked - shape of the beak. It is to be box shaped and rounded at the end of the beak and the mandibles are to be of equal shape and size with a VERY small and fine nostril and wattle.

Another thing that disturbs me is the total lack of style in today's Tumblers. Many breeders are just breeding for that short beak with a large head and forgetting about the best of the bird. Just because a bird has a big head and short beak does not make that a good Tumbler. The roundness of the skull, is most important. The eye placement, the beak setting and the expression and outlook of the bird are all very important. But all this is nothing without that full short neck and body with good style to support the head. And let's not forget color markings. Muffs. What about FEATHER? Very important. This all can make or break a basically good Tumbler. Conditioning. You see, it is ALL important on this breed. Every feature.

Two of the basic key points with L.F. Tumblers is BALANCE and ROUNDNESS of the individual features and the overall features of the bird.

With the forming of the new United English Tumbler Club and the new revised show standard and with all Tumbler fanciers working together, we can produce a more pleasing and balanced show Tumbler.

I wish you all the best. See you at the shows. Yours in the fancy, Jim Bush.

Where Pigeons Go To Die

by JAMES MCKENZIE, Norman, Okla.

Yesterday turned out to be a good day for me, even though it was a Monday. My son John left for the U.S. Army in Colorado and it started out to be just another day at the office. I did finally get some pictures of my White Giant Homers mailed off to Ed Blaine. He asked for them a while back to use in an article he wanted to write on whites, and it seemed like it took me a long time to get it done, but finally it happened. Things got better in the evening when Hugh Reynolds and also another friend at church, Paul Sawyer, called to remind me about the pigeon movie on TV at 8 o'clock. Also, I ran into my brother, Coy Harlan McKenzie, over by Mom and Dad's old house on Villa Drive where the boy was staying. Harlan said the boy got off in good shape on his drive back to Colorado, after coming to the office to say goodbye. Harlan also reminded me to watch the pigeon movie. Then, when I went out to feed and water the birds, one of the young

Giant Homer hens had laid recently, a light blue check mated to a yearling blue bar cock. I checked one of the eggs, and it was fertile! I believe it was her first eggs she laid.

At 8 o'clock Art Carney and Michael Landon and a little boy named Hugh starred in a delightful story about racing homers (one little white one was named "Dickens" in particular), and a dad and mom and grandpa. The movie had me crying before it was over. It was made even better because I also got out our recent APJ Giant Homer Special and read through most of it during the course of the evening, and a lot of fond memories came back across my mind and brought a few more tears to my eyes, mostly tears of happiness and joy of remembering. That's mostly what the movie was about — memories, and how precious they are. The title suggested that Grandpa didn't want to die anywhere but at home. The Grandson took it on himself to honor that request after Grandpa had a stroke

Rollers In Panama?

by RICK MEE

All of us have been bitten by the pigeon bug at least once in our lives right? Most of us started at a very young age with the pigeon that you see wandering around in the city streets and/or in the rafters of a farmer's barn. Yet, some of us pigeon freaks started somewhere down the road later in life.

To those of you who pertain to my first statement and began your pigeon passion at an early age, I feel for your parents. They are the people who should get a pigeon trophy or plaque for putting up with you during those first few years that you started this wonderful hobby. They are the poor souls who waited up late at night terrified that their child would come home with a broken arm or leg because they are climbing around in some farmer's barn or on top of some city building looking for that beauty that you had your eye on for quite some time. From doing this we brought a bunch of blue checked and barred pigeons home with us in a box or a sack. Usually the one that we risked our life for got away before we got close enough to net him. On those rare occasions we would find a bird with an odd shape or odd feathering that would lead us to believe that there were more to pigeons than the ordinary person knew. To those of us who got really lucky, we would occasionally find a very rare and prized bird, one with a band.

I started raising pigeons at the age of nine. I started in the ways that I have already mentioned above and from those earliest times I draw my fondest memories. I remember finally finding out in a book at the local library about the different kinds of pigeons and how my fascination grew for these birds who graced the pages that I read over and over when I should have been doing my homework. I remember meeting my first pigeon acquaintance, the late Jim Wagoner.

Most of all I remember seeing my first roller in the air.

A short time after starting in pigeons I was introduced to rollers. Ever since then I have flown and shown rollers. Now that I am in the Army and can't have my birds down here in Panama, I keep in touch with the roller world by way of books, bulletins, tapes, and I keep in touch with the fancy aspect of pigeon raising by way of the APJ.

From being in the Army the last two and a half years I have done a great bit of traveling around the world and in the states. From these travels, I have seen evidence of many different cultures raising our little feathered friends. Now that I am in Panama, I would like to contact some roller people to visit. I have mentioned pigeons to some of the local Panamanians and they aren't much help. I would like to meet some roller breeders down here if at all possible. If you know of anyone raising rollers in Panama please write me and send me their address. I would very much like to meet these people. I wrote to the roller clubs which I belong and haven't got any feedback as of yet.

Anyway if any of you out there know of any roller breeders in Panama please write me and I will contact them. Then I will report back to you by way of a letter or I might even send another letter in to the APJ to get printed. Until then I hope all of you are having a good time raising your different varieties of pigeons and that you raise a real champion this year whether it be in the air or in the show coop. I wish you the best of luck. I envy all of you and can't wait to get back to the states and raise my first round of baby Birmingham Rollers.

Send your letters and suggestions on how to contact roller people in Panama to: Rick Mee, HHC LEA, Box 493, APO, MI 34004.

and was in the hospital. Their little white racing homer also wanted to die at home, and he survived attacks by a hawk, cat, and a B-B gun. Even though he didn't win the race, he did get back home. It sort of made the point that winning, and even financial success from selling the old home place at a big profit, is not always as important as sharing love with each other, and building pleasant memories.

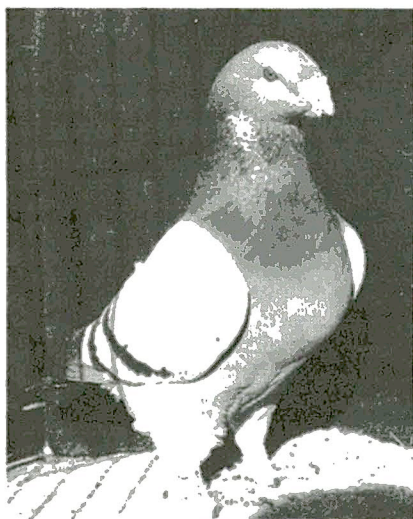
The whole story made me think of old Noah and the Ark, after the rains had stopped and the ark came to rest on Mt. Ararat. He first released a raven; the raven left the ark and didn't come back. Then he released a dove. The dove came back. He released the dove again; the dove came back with an olive branch. He released the dove a third time, and it didn't come back. I wondered what happened to it. It must have found a home and started our hobby.

Anyway, it turned out to be a pleasant evening. Even my wife liked the movie. She did point out, however, that many of the mundane tasks of raising pigeons, such as the daily chores and the cleaning out, culling out, etc., etc., were not mentioned in the movie. One thing I did do recently which improved the loft situation at my place was to have a good cleaning out and put in fresh alfalfa hay for litter. It smells good and even my wife liked it for a few days. One thing I noticed last Summer in my visit to San Francisco, when I was fortunate enough to visit with Howard Kerrigan, Bill Schliepper, Ed Blaine, and Joe Pellettieri, was the difference between the Show Racer Lofts and the Giant Homer Lofts. The Show Racer Lofts had CLEAN floors. No litter, just clean floors. The same was true of the Racing Homer lofts in Europe my wife and I visited last Fall — clean wood or wire floors with no litter. Giant Homers are just a little bit too heavy for that in my experience, and some sort of cushion or sand or litter is needed on the floor. If the Giants are left on a clean wood floor, they will get "bumblefoot," or bruises on the bottom of their feet. Ed Blaine was using alfalfa hay in his garage-turned-pigeon loft, and it made a nice cushion and also



CHAMPION GIANT HOMER

This white cock, NPA86AGH459, was Best White and Champion Giant Homer at the Oklahoma Giant Homer Club Show Dec. 1987, Shawnee, Okla. — Bred and owned by James McKenzie, Norman, Okla.



GIANT HOMER

This Blue Bar Cock, NPA 88 AGH 320, was 1st place and 2nd Reserve Champion at the 1988 American Giant Homer Assn. Futurity, El Reno, Okla. - Bred and owned by James McKenzie, Norman, Okla.

smelled good; plus it is a little warmer on the birds in the Winter. Pine needles work good too, and have a little pine odor. A pleasant smell in the loft definitely makes for more pleasant memories!

Michigan State Fair Has A.U. Display

by ADOLPH (AL) GITTNER
Michigan State Fair Employee

This year was the first time that we had a display and video films on racing homers at the Michigan State Fair. The films showed how the birds are counter marked before shipping at the club. It also showed the birds being released for the race back home. The films were very interesting to watch and good quality. Many people stopped to watch, and were amazed at the ability of the racing homer to return home. Tracts were also available on the racing homer, and who to contact for those that wanted more information.

We are looking forward to next year for an even bigger display from the AU. I would like to encourage everyone to set up a display at the shows, and swap meets to increase peoples' knowledge on pigeons.

In closing I would like to thank Dwain Read and his helpers from the AU racing organization for a job well done. Good luck to all and keep 'em flying.

The Nun - To Beak Or Not To Beak

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

With the new standard adopted by the membership of the United Nun Club last summer, we are in a period of transition. When any standard is updated or changed, there is a period of time when you move from one to the other. At that time, it is most important that you judges are clear on all points.

One of the changes the United Nun Club made was the number of points allowed for the beak. It was increased from three points to five points. As many of you know a Nun is supposed to have a short, straight beak. In the majority of today's Nuns, this is not the case. Over the last 20 years or so the importance of straightness of beak was somehow forgotten. This is the United Nun Club's reasoning behind increasing the point value.

To put these five points in perspective I would like to point out a few observations. Eight by eight on colored primaries is worth five points. The complete shell is worth 26

points but is broken down further. The height of the shell is worth nine points, the breadth and the thickness are each worth six points and the shape is worth five. Now when the beak is compared to the broken-down crest, we find that it is worth the same point value as the shape of the crest which is worth almost as much as the breadth and thickness. Now I'm not trying to minimize the importance of the crest. What I'm trying to show is the importance of the beak. Let's say, for instance, two birds are left in the show pen. Both Nuns are equal on all points except one bird is downfaced and has poor height to its crest and the other bird has a straight face and average height on its crest. Which would you pick? Without a second thought it should be the straight faced Nun.

I think it is also important for anyone judging Nuns in the future to keep in mind the directions that we are moving.

An Observation

by OSCAR WEBER, Peoria, Ill.

While reading an outdoor magazine, one article dealt with the "Animal Rights" extremists. This subject has been touched on occasionally in the pigeon publications, but as with the ordinance threat I'm sure the large majority of pigeon fanciers figure "it won't happen to us."

In August 1989, in of all places, on land belonging to the Illinois Conservation Dept., I had obtained a bow hunting permit for a deer hunt on this state park, and stopped in to get a map and general information. I was immediately verbally castigated for "killing deer" etc., by a woman wearing an Illinois Conservation Dept., uniform. I said nothing, but wrote a letter to the Conservation Director and he wrote a reply that the woman would no longer work there. In March 1990, I was at the Illinois Deer Classic in Decatur, Ill., and was talking to the President of the Illinois Bow Hunters Association, who happens to hunt this very state park. He told me things were getting really ugly with the "Animal Rightists". They've used every legal means to try to stop the hunts, with no success so far. Now they've publicly said they will damage and destroy the hunters cars when they leave them. It became necessary to have guards watch the hunters' cars.

Now the above is not a defense of hunting, but read on. It concerns what the "Animal Rightists" are up to.

In the magazine article it was pointed out that in California there is a Proposition 117 upcoming in the June 5th elections. California's Attorney General is for this Prop. 117, to gain more publicity in his bid for Governor. This sides him with People For The Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) fund for animals, defenders of Wildlife and the Humane Society of the United States, who are all supporters of Prop. 117. Now the

point of this article. These well-known extremists have been responsible for the harassment of legitimate hunters in the field, destruction of medical research facilities, and physical assault and sabotage of law-abiding citizens and property. Here's one of their principles, "ending all medical research if it involves animals, regardless of the number of people who would suffer or die without the knowledge derived from the research." In fact, PETA believes that "Human use of animals - whether for food, clothing, sport, companionship, or experimentation - is "Speciesism," the moral equivalent of Racism." One PETA Director has publicly stated that animal rights extremists regard meat-eating as "Primitive, barbaric and arrogant" and pet ownership as "Fascism."

Another means they like to use is attack the smallest organizations numbers wise. Like they have with the trappers and of farmers that raise veal calves since they are few in number. If you saw on National T.V. news, the physical attack on hunters who were legally hunting buffalo in Montana, you know the above is true, get their brochures.

I don't know if California has gotten their pigeon state law yet or not, but could the Attorney General have been working against you in light of the above? - Oscar C. Weber, 1021 W. Raven Rd., Peoria, Ill. 61615.

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Man With The Derby Hat

by MALCOLM ROWAN

The man with the derby hat, Bert Peterson, was the most unforgettable person I have met in the pigeon hobby. Bert was a pigeon judge trained in the European tradition. When he judged, he wore a frock coat, ascot tie and a derby "Bowler" hat. He would draw attention of an audience immediately, but it soon became apparent that this man was a serious and dedicated judge of pigeons. He dressed as if it was an important event. For Bert, nothing was as important as pigeons; judging them was a special honor.

Bert came to Akron, Ohio, by way of Philadelphia to manage the squab farm for O.C. Barber, founder of the Diamond Match Company. Not much is left now of the legendary Barber Farms except a few cut stone dairy barns. O.C. Barber and Bert Peterson are part of history. Barberton, Ohio, reminds us of O.C.; pigeons remind us of Bert.

A judge for "all breeds" is a rare person. Though Bert specialized in eastern breeds, he was adept at judging any specialty breed. Like many of the old guard, there was a lot of mystery about his breeding methods. He was very successful as an exhibitor in Modenas and Show Racers. When you would visit his loft, you never really did. Nobody was allowed in the loft. He would make many trips to the loft to bring pigeons to the show coops attached to his house for you to observe, but you never ever were asked inside the coop. Considering his excellent show record, I always imagined there were breeders in the loft with heads so massive they had trouble lifting them.

It finally happened. After 30 years of friendship, I was invited inside the loft. I was honored... then shocked! It was just a small breeding loft like thousands of others. It was also apparent that all the important birds in the strain were being shown regularly to all visitors. I asked, "Bert, why all the secrecy?" He answered as if he were stating a law, "My breeding plans for each season are just that! My - like in MINE!" When I mate up my birds each year, I often think of Bert's strange attitude. My breeding plans are very personal to me. I no longer find fault with the idea of keeping this personal information to myself and only showing to the outside world the beautiful results of my breeding.

The NEOB&FA Pigeon Club of Akron, Ohio, was more or less founded on the basis of Carl Graefe arguing with Bert Peterson. Our club, now beyond its fiftieth year, just formed around the heat generated by two determined and stubborn pigeon men. Through Graefe, the group enlarged to include visitors from all over the country. Dr. Hollander, Lee Tharp, Bob Pettit and others became both visitors and correspondents to become the hub of pigeon genetics study.

Modenas in this area showed a marked improvement when Art Maria joined the club. Art had purchased and developed one of the best studs of Modenas in the country at that time. Our pigeon meetings switched for a time to Maria's spacious pigeon loft. The

loft, incidentally, was converted later into a beautiful home.

My own training with Modenas really began many years ago when I was taken aside by Bob Hancock at the Atlantic City NPA National. He was sincerely interested in passing on judging information and experience to a young man with similar interests. At the Milwaukee National John Jensen added personal impact to my education. I assisted in judging at that show and working with a real professional was a thrill I will always remember.

The history of our club, starting with Graefe and Peterson, includes many well known breeders. Frank Dallas, Frank Nuzzo, Al Sommerside and myself led the Modena contingent. Dick Curry brought Joe Quinn into the club at age 10. Both men made contributions to the fancy by adding the use of genetics to breeder's options. A Friday evening always meant a trip to Graefe's office for pigeon talk. Yes, every Friday for over 30 years someone was arguing about

pigeons far into the night.

As I review my lifetime with Modenas, I believe the list of major contributors to the development of the modern Modena would have to include: Al Joslyn, L.F. Rue, Russ Sapp, Wayne Rife, John Jensen, Bob Hancock, Carl Ewert, Jim Laimore, Stu Webster, Bob Pettit, Bob Lentz, and finally the man with the derby hat, Bert Peterson. When we view our standard, can we forget the importance of a quarter-century of art by Eric Buri? I think not.

The Los Angeles competition scheduled for this year will probably include the names of the truly great present breeders. I am sure Willi Richert, Manfred Ecker and Ed Loomis and hundreds of others will join the competition to show the finest Modenas bred this year. I just wanted to remind myself of what we all know. The breeders of the past are represented in each new show. We stood on their shoulders to see the champion Modena of today. For me, one of the bases of our hobby was a derby hat once worn by a stubborn, but dedicated, Modena judge: Bert Peterson. "GOD BLESS YOU BERT - WHEREVER YOU ARE."

Book Review

by SHANNON HIATT, Canutillo, Texas

ALOFT: A MEDITATION ON PIGEONS AND PIGEON FLYING by Stephen J. Bodio. 120 pages. Lyons & Burford, publishers, New York. 1990. \$15.95 cloth.

Steve Bodio's intensely personal meditations deserve a prominent spot on every pigeon fancier's bookshelf. True, he shares no secrets; he outlines no health or training regimens; he does not tell us how to breed champions. What he does share is his life with racing homers, Catalonian tumblers (Cats as he calls them), and Spanish thief Pouters. In his sharing, we recognize ourselves and, just maybe, come to view our hobby with something it often lacks: pride.

His meditations range from a cogent discussion of current homing theories - which he has distilled so the layman can easily understand them - to a near "Where Pigeons Go To Die" version of his early days as a racing fancier. There are brief histories of the Cats and their kin, the Modenas; great stories about Spanish thief Pouters, Charles Darwin, and pigeon culture covering a wide range of topics. Bodio tells tales that many of us wished we had told! He just does it better than anyone in the fancy ever has. This is the first book on the subject that reads like good literature because it IS good literature.

Bodio provides fresh, new insights for old, familiar events. We often view our hobby, and each other, in a typically jaundice fashion. For instance, who among us can forget the first time we viewed a new breed in the shipping box; a breed, typically, we've only seen in photos in some pigeon magazine. Bodio shares his first glimpse of the beautiful Catalonian tumblers.

"They arrived by air a week later. Betsy took the wheel for the hundred-mile drive

back from Albuquerque while I balanced the unwieldy cardboard box on my knees and peered through the air holes. I was a bird-obsessed child again, and the little I could see told me I would not be disappointed. When we got back I practically ran into the porch to decant the eleven birds into our new loft. They bustled about, drank, and bathed. I just stood there grinning. 'Look at them. Did you ever see ANYTHING like that?'"

This child-like enthusiasm never leaves us does it? I know. And so does Bodio. He proffers a view of my passion for pigeons that even I was unaware of; a view of our hobby which we need to share with those who don't understand why we spend hours breeding, training, flying and showing our performing birds. Let them read this book, and we, as pigeon fanciers, will never have to attempt to articulate what has already been brilliantly articulated for us by Bodio. - S.T. Hiatt.

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Black Whitesides bred by John Tidwell Sr., Reseda, Calif.

Believe It Or Not

by ALEX RAWSON, Staten Island, N.Y.

I'm writing this article for two purposes. One is to thank the nine fanciers who wrote me the encouraging letters supporting my Black Whiteside creation efforts that were derided by a couple of not so nice critics. Two in particular asked me to ignore and not to answer my critics which I'm sure you know kills me. The second reason for this article is that in the face of no proof, I had to withhold a most unique happening in my breeding pens.

One day I found in one nest a perfectly marked Black Whiteside English Black Tumbler. I must tell you I spent sleepless nights withholding this information until I had that youngster out in the screen. It goes without saying but Whitesides are usually born solid red or yellow, some are slightly rosewinged but in breeding the Vienna Black Whitesides which I imported I raised Red Whitesides already marked with the white shields in the nest! I tried crossing these to the English Tumbler types I was working with but had little or no success in getting anything close to what I wanted in type.

From a mishmash of possibly hundreds of youngsters from various matings, I did manage to produce five Black Mottles that with some plucking were encouraged to remain with the white shields. Their secondaries stayed white.

Now to suddenly find I had the finished product in the nest became almost too much for me to handle. My wife and children were staying in a summer home I'd rented in Liberty, N.Y., which is 100 miles from home. Every Friday afternoon found me driving there to spend the weekend with my family.

Now I ask you was I going to leave that youngster unattended by me for three days each week? Of course not. I put it in a shoe box and took it with me. I brought it back on Monday and returned it to its nest mate and all went well.

The following weekend I took it up again. It was as big as and looked like the photo accompanying this article. I was ecstatic, I still couldn't believe my eyes. While upstate, I got a phone call that my mother-in-law was coming into LaGuardia Airport, so I prepared to go pick her up. Did I leave my precious Black Whiteside? I did not. I took it along to LaGuardia. Arriving on time I left the bird in the car and ran to pick up Mom. Her plane was delayed so I had to wait. When she arrived I got her and we walked down to my car in the parking lot.

The sad part now comes. The bird had smothered in the hot car and was dead. I was very sad and heart broken about this bit of hard luck but what could I do? It was too late. No, I never raised another like it. But John Tidwell in California did! Raising loads of crosses and attempts to breed a true Whiteside, John recently came into his loft and spotted a similar happening there. He took a photo and sent it to me. Now I can tell my story and be believed.

Thanks to Tidwell, there is evidence of such a bird being bred. I can only say that what drives me up a wall is, is what would be had mine lived, been of the opposite sex to Tidwells' bird and should they be brought together and mated? Es la vida, Cest la vie, que pase?

A Cure For Pigeon Canker

by JOHN D. REYNOLDS,
Topping, Va.

SPARTRIX (carnidazole) is a single-tablet dose/treatment for canker in pigeons. Canker (trichomoniasis) is a highly infectious disease caused by the parasitic protozoan, *Trichomonas columbae*. The protozoan lives in the sinuses, mouth, throat, esophagus and the crop. The infection first appears as small, yellowish lesions on the oral (mouth) mucosa. These come together to form masses that block the throat and prevent closing of the mouth. Since the disease is highly contagious and can spread rapidly throughout the loft, it is important to treat it immediately.

Canker can be transmitted in the following ways: (a) by pigeons drinking from gutters, pools and communal drinking containers which may contain the parasite, (b) during billing, (c) diseased and healthy birds eating from common food containers, (d) from infected adults to offspring by way of the crop milk, and (e) healthy birds eating regurgitated grain from diseased birds.

Of course, prevention is the best policy. Canker can be prevented through good sanitation, i.e., keeping loft floors and nesting areas clean; daily sterilization of all drinking containers; sterilizing common eating containers on a routine schedule; and inspecting and keeping separate from all other birds in the loft those birds returning from a race or training flight.

SPARTRIX should be given to all returning birds prior to their being placed in the main loft with other birds. This insures that there is no possibility that an infected bird will infect the loft if it has picked up a trichomonad while it has stopped to drink during a flight. Prevention far outweighs the small cost of treatment.

SPARTRIX should also be given: when the first indications of lesions about the mouth are noted (in this instance all birds in the loft should be treated); before coupling; during the first half of each breeding period; to all birds at the beginning of the breeding season; and to young birds at the time of weaning.

The single-tablet treatment consists of giving one ten (10) milligram (mg) scored tablet to each bird in the loft. Very young birds are given one-half of a scored tablet. Treatment should include all birds, diseased and healthy. This treatment provides confidence (used worldwide), safety (exact dosage for a specific condition — canker), economy (no wastage) and convenience (allows treatment of a single bird or an entire loft).

SPARTRIX is distributed through Scientific Testing Associates, Ltd., Star Route, Box 124, Topping, VA 23169. (804) 758-5728. See our classified ad under "Supplies".

Dove Talk

by GEORGE J. SCHUTT, Madison, Tenn.

From all of the Dove breeders I've been in contact with, it looks like a great season. Many have had to re-order bands. I have about a month to go and I will stop for this season.

I am always talking about predators getting into doves. I hate to hear about it happening. If you recall I wrote an article on a mink getting Dr. Wilmer Miller's doves. Last month I called a breeder on some other business. While we were talking I asked how his doves were. He said he only had one dove left. A mink got into his birds and killed 30 of 31. All in a very short time. Minks are very bad about this. If you have any in your area always be on the look out. It doesn't have to be mink, any predator will get them.

I ran across a good article that I found in a copy of a APJ. I thought it would be good for our dove breeders who want to try something different.

You can write to me at Box 482, Madison, Tenn. 37116.

TEN VARIETIES OF DOVES MOST INTERESTING by DON ADAMS, Victoria, B.C., Canada

Doves and pigeons are plump, fast flying birds with small heads and cooing voices. The terms "Pigeon" and "Dove" are sometimes loosely used and often interchangeable, but most often "Pigeon" refers to the larger members and "Dove" to the smaller members of the Columbidae family.

There are ten members of this family that are either domestic or introduced into North America, plus one in Hawaii. I will try to give a run-down on each of these. Some of the species I mention, I raise in captivity in my native Province of British Columbia, Canada. When I first started raising doves, I limited myself to the "domestic" and the "introduced."

Two types occur in North America: those with fan-like tails, such as you would find on the domestic pigeons, and the smaller, brownish-color type with rounded or pointed tails, such as the Mourning Doves. The sexes are similar. Their food consists of seeds, waste grain, fruit and insects.

Just as a point of interest, the dove and pigeon range is world-wide in tropical and temperate regions. There are 289 species in the world.

The "Band-tailed Pigeon" (*Columba fasciata*) is the largest of the ten North American species, measuring from 14 to 16 inches long on the average. They are a very shy bird and they require a lot of time to domesticate, even after a considerable time they will panic if strangers come too close. Their field marks are as follows: a pale, broad band across the end of the fan-like tail. Being a heavily built pigeon, they might be mistaken for the Rock Dove, except for its woodland or mountain habitat and its greater tendency to alight in trees. At close range, it shows a white crescent on the back of its

neck. Overall, it is bluish-grey above, with a single dark band preceding the broad, pale tail tip. Below, it is pink in color with white under-tail coverts. The sides and back of the neck carry iridescent feathers that shine beautifully when seen in the proper light.

The Band-tail's range is confined chiefly to the western side of the Cascade Range. It occasionally wanders north to the valley of the Skeena River during the summer months, but the bulk of the population stays along the southern coast of the province. Small flocks sometimes winter locally, where they frequent the Oak Madrona groves. In April, Band-tails appear in large flocks along the southern coastal mainland and locally, where they feed to a large extent in the fields, often damaging crops that are just coming up. Within a few days however, the flocks disperse to nest and the Band-tails are then seen only in singles or pairs.

Like most pigeons, they build very skimpy nests of sticks in the branches of trees; often, you can see daylight through the nest. They lay one egg, white in color. They nest three and sometimes four times a year. I found a squab in the nest, too young to fly in the early part of September of 1971 on Ash Road in Saanich, which seems to indicate that they will nest very late in the season. When the last of the young are on the wing, the Band-tails congregate again in large flocks. During September and October they are seen feeding in the grain fields, in the oak groves, and where stands of Cascara and Dogwoods provide ripened fruits.

The Band-tail is a game bird. As a matter of fact, it and the Mourning Dove are the only non-water fowl migratory game birds found in British Columbia. As a table bird, those taken in the early Fall while they are still feeding in the grain fields, make a fine eating bird; but the flesh of those feeding on the Cascara is very bitter and quite unpalatable. This accounts for the fact that some hunters have little enthusiasm for Band-tail hunting in the late fall.

Band-tail pigeons are swift flyers, and have a habit of perching high on dead trees before descending to the feeding grounds. Their descent is often a swift swoop, reminding one of a hawk making a strike. On the wintering grounds in California where these birds often feed in the fields, their alleged destruction of crops as well as their renewed palatability has led to great slaughter in the past. So much was this bird hunted and slaughtered, that at one time it was thought to be on the road to extinction, quite similar to its eastern cousin the ill-fated Passenger Pigeon. Fortunately, it was placed on the migratory game bird list and coupled with stiff Federal Regulations by the government, an increase is now apparent in its numbers and the Band-tails are beginning to return to British Columbia in greater numbers each year to nest. It might be interesting to state, I now have eight Band-tails in my flock, four

of which were hatched and raised in the aviary here at home. A special permit is required to keep Band-tails in captivity.

A similar species, the Rock Dove (much like a domestic blue bar pigeon) has a white rump and black band on its tail. The feet are red. It seldom sits in trees. Its breeding range (believe it or not) from S.W. British Columbia, Utah, north and central Colorado through the Pacific states, the Rockies, to Central America. It winters from Puget Sound through the Pacific states and from center Arizona and New Mexico, south. It is casually found in Idaho and Nevada. It is usually found in oak canyons, foothills, chaparral and mountain forests. It spreads in winter. Like the Band-tail, it builds a flimsy stick-like platform for a nest on a branch. It also lays only one white egg. At the present time I do not have any of this species in my aviary, nor have I had any in the past.

The Red-billed Pigeon (*Columba flavirostris*) is found in North America mostly along the Rio Grande Valley and is distinguished from all other pigeons in that area by its uniform dark appearance. It is a rather large, dark pigeon. (13 to 14 inches) with a broad, fan-like tail and a small, red bill. In a favorable light it shows a deep maroon color on its fore parts. It is found from Costa Rica up to southern Texas. It is a resident of the lower Rio Grande Valley, up river to Falcon Dam, and North, near the Coast to Norias. Its habitats are river woodlands and tall brush. Its nest is usually a flimsy platform in a thicket or low tree and usually lays only one egg. I have had no experience with this bird.

The White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) is the only North American dove to have a large, white patch on its wing. Its appearance is similar to the Mourning Dove, but heavier—its tail is rounded, tipped with broad, white corners. Its cooing is different than most doves, sounding vaguely like the crowing of a young cockerel.

The White-winged dove is found from the Southwestern United States to Northern Chile. It breeds from Southeast California, South Nevada, Central Arizona, South New Mexico, Texas and the Rio Grande South. It is occasionally seen in British Columbia, Washington, Utah, Wyoming and Colorado. Its habitat is river woods, mesquite, groves, saguaros, desert oasis and in towns. Its nest is a flimsy twig platform, usually built in a tree or thicket. It lays two pale buff-colored eggs. At present, I have two adult pairs in my aviaries. I find that in captivity they prefer to nest on a ledge or nest box, rather than in bushes. I also find the male White-wing is a poor parent compared to other doves. He only takes his turn at incubating occasionally and reluctantly. This may account for the fact that these doves seem to have poor success in raising their young, and usually only one survives.

The Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*) is a beautiful streamlined creature, the most widespread wild dove in the West. It is smaller and slenderer than the domestic pigeon, measuring 11 to 13 inches in length. It is colored below in a soft pinkish-buff

above in a bluish-grey. Fine black markings are present on the shoulders and on the tail. The tail is long, with short outer feathers marked largely in white, while the long central feathers are colored like the back.

This dove seems to prefer the drier sections of British Columbia; are plentiful in the Southern interior, the Okanogan and Osoyoos Lake areas, but are quite uncommon on the coast and in the Northern interior. However, they are found from Southeast Alaska to Panama when migrating. It winters mainly from Northern California, Arizona, Colorado and south. Locally, they occur in the Puget Sound area and I'm often told that they are seen on the drier gulf islands in the Strait of Georgia and at the south end of Vancouver Island. They have been recorded as nesting here as early as 1937 at New Westminster. The first recorded nestling on Vancouver Island was in June, 1953, in Oak-madrone habitat at the base of the Saanich Peninsula near Deep Cove. The nest is once more flimsy, composed of a few sticks which always seem to be precariously balanced and their two white eggs appear ready to fall out at any moment. However, the apparent inadequacies of the nest don't seem to bother the population as they are plentiful enough in the USA. The Mourning Dove, like the Band-tailed pigeon is considered as a "Migratory Game Bird" in Canada, thus giving it federal protection. There are several mutations of the Mourning Dove, known as the Eastern, Western, Southwestern, etc. Size and habits are the same, but the colors may differ slightly. This dove feeds on small fruits, mast and grains. They seldom travel in large flocks, being seen more often as singles, pairs or in the Fall as family groups.

I have four Mourning Doves in my aviary, one pair of Western and the other a pair of Eastern. They seem to breed readily in captivity and have raised a number of them. They are devoted parents and some breeders use them as foster parents. A federal permit is required to keep them in captivity.

The Spotted Dove (*Streptopelia chinensis*) is an Asian dove (also known as the Lace Neck Dove), and was recently introduced in Los Angeles, California, and is already strongly established. It has spread radially to Santa Barbara, Bakersfield, and Oceanside, California. They have more recently been introduced to Hawaii, but as yet I have not had a progress report on them.

The Spotted Dove is generally slightly larger than the Mourning Dove. It is best identified by the broad collar of black and white spots behind the neck and a rounded or blunt-tipped tail with much white in the corners. This dove does well in captivity and will produce well. Because they belong to the "Turtle Dove" family, they have a pleasant voice and "coo" long and often. They usually are very good parents.

The Ringed Turtle Dove (*Streptopelia risoria*) commonly called the "Ringneck Dove" or "Indian Ringneck Dove," is one of the doves that is widely domesticated, and very popular. It takes well to captivity and reproduces easily and often.

This dove is about the same size as the Mourning Dove, but much paler in color with a narrow black ring, bordered by a very thin white border on the back of the neck. The tail is moderately long, rounded, with a lot of white in the corners. In flight the dark primaries contrast boldly with the pale peach coloration. The origin of this dove is unknown. It is well established in the vicinity of Los Angeles. The bird is very prolific and I believe it will spread rapidly like the Spotted Dove has spread. I have raised quite a few and have quite a few for anyone wishing them.

The Ground Dove (*Columbigallina passerina*) is one of the smallest doves, probably the smallest found in North America. It is not much larger than a sparrow. Some of its identification marks are a stubby tail, black in color, rounded wings, that flash rufous in flight. It has yellow feet and legs and usually nods its head when it walks. This dove is similar to the "Inca Dove" (*Scardafella inca*) except that the Inca Dove has a pale scaly appearance and a comparatively long square tail (it looks pointed when folded, shows white sides when spread). Like the Ground Dove, the Inca also shows rufous when in flight. The Ground Dove has black spots on

its wings, whereas, the Inca has "scaly" wings.

The Inca and the Ground Doves range from Southern Arizona, Southern New Mexico, to West and South Texas, and further South to Costa Rica. It is casually seen in Southern California and South Nevada, and rarely in Western Kansas. Their habitat is around towns, gardens, chicken pens, parks and farms. Their nest are real beauties by dove standards, being saucer-shaped, made of twigs, straw, etc., in a bush, low tree or even a shed. Both the Inca and the Ground Doves adjust to captivity and will produce with a minimum on the Aviculturist's part. I have raised young to maturity from both kinds. The Inca has a pleasant "coo" and can often be heard, but the Ground Doves do not call often and are seldom heard. The Ground Doves are pleasant to observe as they scurry along the ground with their little heads bobbing.

I find that raising doves, domestic or otherwise is both a challenging and rewarding hobby. I spend many happy hours about my aviary, listening to and observing the birds. Without them, I would have a empty spot in my life.

(From September 1974 American Pigeon Journal).

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The Beat Goes On

by HERB BERG, Austin, Minn.

This article has been written, rewritten, discarded and then started over again. Of course it was all done in the deep, and some would say empty, void that passes for my brain. The problem seemed to be what direction to take it in to be of interest to you, the reader. So I've decided to just wing it and try to bear with me as topics may change from time to time.

Interest in the Bohemian Pouter seems to be on the move. We offered last year to send out copies of standards with drawings to all that requested them. A great idea that met with much enthusiasm. Requests came in from Vermont to California and Louisiana to Canada. With the exception of a fancier in New Jersey all requests have been filled. If he'd write again I'll take care to see he gets his and not lose the address like I did last time. One small suggestion to anyone contemplating to do the same thing for their favorite breed. Check out your costs FIRST. Although everyone sent a 25 cent stamp it still cost an additional 40 cents on average to handle each request.

The number of exhibitors and entries climbed in 1989. The Kinsley Family Loft once again took top honors at the NYBS. But they did it the old fashioned way, "they earned it." Howie and family had competition and pulled off the win with a beautiful blue cock whose picture is shown. Bob Kosek, one of his rivals, said it was a valid win. The



BOHEMIAN POUTER

A 1989 blue cock bred and owned by the Kinsley family loft. A beautiful example of what the excellent Bohemian Pouter should look like. Just one of many champions bred by this outstanding loft. See text for his wins. — Photo from Herb Berg, Austin, Minn.

blue was the best there. He was also Best of Breed at the Meet in Reading, Pa., and Allentown. A true champion and a bird to be proud to own. Howard sent me other photos for this article but the blue shows the quality best. I thank him for taking the time and effort to help out.

Picture #2 is of my WPCC District champ and his mate. He is standing slightly behind her and their size is equal. He too, placed

with very good competition from at least four other lofts. His win has to be credited as much to Merle Frank as myself. Merle took care of my birds over the fall and winter so the red's show training and preparation was handled by Merle. At Des Moines he beat out a black cock of Merle's that he'd placed second to at three earlier shows. Talk about peaking at the right time! Our birds are basically one family starting with Dick Bedrosky's back in the early 80's with a dash of Vince Bednar for a true Bohemian flavor. The two strains have blended well.

I was surprised by the number of people who wrote and said they had never seen a Bohemian Pouter except in photos. We sure plan to change that. A fancier asked how a bird bred to the German standard would do against the American standard. Just fine. We did not add another head or pair of wings to the breed. What we did attempt to do was remove confusion by setting point totals, defining body parts and markings and probably most controversial in the long haul will be recognizing the Plainhead as a Bohemian Pouter and not a separate breed by itself.

I've been asked the most difficult item to breed for. Today I would say it's the markings. Station, since attained, seems fairly easy to maintain if you don't go crazy with radical matings. The marking aspect will have you talking to yourself and getting answers. A red cock in 1989 mated to a red hen, both with good head spots, threw six youngsters. Five had no spot at all. Number six was fine. In 1990 mated to a new hen has nine young and they range from no spot to double spots. What happened? I've never had any trouble with fouling on the thighs. A few have popped up this year. Same thing with colored wing shields. Now the question becomes what do you do with them? If you want to be really sneaky you trash can them as soon as you see their faults. Then no one else will ever know and you come off look-



Dan and Todd Berg, unsung heroes of the Berg loft, in front of the YB pens. When not helping Dad, they are involved in Special Olympics and active in social affairs. — Photo from Herb Berg, Austin, Minn.

ing like every bird you raise is perfect. Of course when you sell breeding stock and they appear later you can throw up your hands in shock. Or if you have 50 pair to breed out of you can eliminate them with assurance you'll raise enough good ones so these won't be missed. Or you can do as I do and a few others. Recognize the cold fact that not all are going to be show birds but may contribute to the loft in other ways. I will say without any reservation I have never seen a perfectly marked Bohemian Pouter and don't ever expect to. There aren't any out there for sale either or I'd have one for myself. My top stock cock for two years was a black with a black flight and a glob of black on top of his head. But he had station to burn, blew well, threw good colored blacks and fed like a trooper. Besides the obvious, he carried a gene for recessive red and if a red was thrown, it usually had lousy color. But then his sire was Merle Frank's big Red as he's affectionately known. A terrifically structured bird in every way but with a long way to go in color. In 1988 at Des Moines he was beaten by a black loft mate, his son. So what do you do with these mismarks? My friend, you use them to your best advantage. Try to determine their strong and weak points and breed accordingly. My black cock was never used with the intention to breed reds. His function was to produce blacks with good station and color. Oh, by the way, his young were all well marked in the long run in 1988. One son inherited his head marking. Used in 1989 he raised the Reserve Champion of our large fall show.

By no stretch of imagination do I put myself in the company of Bill Diemer or John Heppner. But I will bet they'd agree you raise ten times as many birds in the stock class as you do show birds. Recognize that and be ready to deal with it mentally and the Bohemian Pouter may be waiting for you to discover the joy many of us have found breeding this beautiful member of the Pouter family.

The Bohemian Pouter breeders would also like to thank the Western Pouter and Cropper Club for their acceptance of the new standard at the last Pageant. Any comments please contact: Herb Berg, 1705 2nd Ave. SE, Austin, Minn. 55912.



BOHEMIAN POUTERS

1988 red cock and mate for 1990. WPCC District Champion in 1989. Bred and shown by Herb Berg, now owned by Rick Duckett, Tulsa, Okla. — Photo from Herb Berg, Austin, Minn.

Almond Flying Tiplers

by JOE CUSSICK III, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

My name is Joseph Cussick and I'm 26 years old. I've been breeding pigeons for about 14 years now. For the last four years or so, I've been experimenting with almond. I've tried many color combinations with almond and have been able to differentiate between a well mated pair and a bad one.

All along I've known that you should mate an almond to a "Kite" but I've never bred one out of my Almond Tiplers. I've gotten them out of my Almond Rollers, but not out of my Tiplers. Until now that is. I've finally bred two Kites out of two different pairs. Now I'm ready to breed some real Almonds.

I recently invested \$14.00 in a book called "An Introduction to Pigeon Science" by Joseph W. Quinn. This book is incredible. At first it's very confusing, but eventually bits and pieces start to slowly fit together. I have learned a great deal from this book. I would strongly recommend it to anyone interested in Genetics. Many thanks to Mr. Quinn.

Now, back to Kites. Kite is like a black checker with red or bronze shaded into the flights and neck area and it's usually laced with bronze in the shields.

Now that I have bred two Kites, I'll be able to start some interesting breeding this spring, or hopefully sooner.

My original pair was an Almond cock and a Blue Bar hen. Being that all birds come from blue, I thought this mating to be very interesting. As a result of this mating, I've bred exceptional dark checkers, very deep rich reds (recessive red), a few DeRoys; which is an odd color falling somewhere between recessive red and recessive yellow and almonds. Also I found that when an almond is mated to a blue it washes some of the richness out of the almonds resulting in a yellowish colored almond. Luckily I have kites to work with now.

Breeding the kites to almond should greatly enhance the richness of the color and bring back some of the reddish ground color that they're lacking.

I've found that mating almond to black self or red self is a pretty good mating when

kite is not available.

Out of the many color patterns, such as checkers, bars, Grizzles, prints and selfs in my Flying Tiplers, the almonds have been the most enjoyable. The same goes for my Flying Rollers and West of England Tumblers.

I would love hearing from anyone who has real Almond Flying Tiplers. I haven't been able to find anyone else who has them.

My Almonds usually do O.K. in the show cage and they almost always catch the eye of a Tippler breeder. They're a good conversation piece.

The only almonds I've seen have been very faint in color and I wouldn't consider them to be true almonds. And from time to time I hear someone say "I used to have them," but I have yet to see any other than my own.

If there are any others with almonds out there, somewhere, please drop a note. I would love to hear from you. — Joe Cussick III, 12 Corlies Ave., Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12601.

Kelebebs — Fly Or Show?

by WILLIE ENGLISH, Jacksonville, Texas

Recently I read in the APJ an article by my friend of several years, Mike Lerp. This article was in regards to needing standards for Doneks and other Middle East flying breeds so they could be judged in a show.

Heaven Forbid! Mike or anyone else that favors a standard and showing of these breeds should be voted down by all true blue Middle East flying pigeon fanciers. Don't let these breeds go the way of the Birmingham Roller! These breeds have no place in a showroom, except in the For Sale Section. They belong in the air to do their thing — whether it be: flying, diving, turning flips and just plain ole enjoying themselves.

The title says Kelebebs but there are many other Middle East breeds. In my backyard one can find at present: Kelebebs; Asiatic Crack Tumblers; Shakhsharli Tumblers; Qet Rollers and Iran Rollers. Other varieties in the USA are the Doneks; Bursa Rollers; Wutas; Galatzer Rollers; Lebanons; Dewlaps and a few more I'm not familiar with.

All are exciting breeds, most of them fairly new to our country. Let's don't spoil them by drawing up standards to enter them in shows. If you want to take them to shows — just put them in the For Sale Section and they will go like hot cakes — because there are a lot of folks like me that are retired and need some action and excitement in our backyard and believe you me these Middle East flying breeds from Iran, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, and other Mid East countries "fit the bill."

Pigeonholes Loft Ideas For You

The Pigeon Loft Of Jerald J. Kitchens, Decatur, Ill.

by JERALD J. KITCHENS,
Decatur, Ill.

I've been asked by several to write about my pigeon lofts, so I hope you can pick up some useful ideas.

Picture one is of my three lofts. The loft to the right is 12x38, it has four separate lofts to house nine pair of Modenas, five pair of Kings, five pair of Giant Homers and five pair of Indian Fantails. The loft on the far left is also 12x38 and it too has four separate lofts which house six pair of Domestic Flights, ten pair of Jacobins, 18 pair of American Fantails (hope to cut the Fantails to 10 pair for next year), four pair Rollers, two pair Chinese Owls and two pair of Ice pigeons. The loft in the center is 10x16. It has two separate lofts which house the young Jacobins, Indian Fantails and American Fantails.

As you can see all three lofts have fly pens off the ground and outlined with lattice work that keeps anything from getting under the fly pen. The fly pens are covered with green fiberglass and each loft has several wind turbines on the roof making for great ventilation. The windows are only on the front at the fly pens and the doors are on the ends. The lofts are surrounded by several hundred acres of timber, a creek and nearby cornfields. I had a lot of trouble with coons, so I enclosed the loft areas to be within my dog kennel as you can see photo 2, the dog kennel. I also raise Walker coon dogs. My pups run loose in this loft area and this did away with my coon problem right away.

Photo 3 is another young bird loft which is 12x16 with large 8x16 fly pens which you can walk in to and sit down and watch the birds. This has two separate lofts which houses young Kings, Modenas, Giant Homers in one and Rollers, Flights, Chinese Owls and Ice pigeons in the other. The pen on the far right is for the turkeys I raise.

Photo 4 is of my mating up or breeding compartments. They're built on the back side of a spare garage. They are 24 feet long and four feet high and three feet off the ground. There are 12 compartments of real nice size. The feeders and waterers are on the outside and are five liter plastic pop bottles. This way I can see for sure what special pairs are raising. It also helps me to get my pairs mated up easier. By the way, they're two feet deep and the doors swing up for easy cleaning.

Photo 5 is the nesting boxes. They are 9"x9"x3" high. These are too small. Next year I'll put up 12"x12"x5" high. I've already got them made. Each pair has two nest boxes and they are divided and the youngsters can't cross over. This is the way the

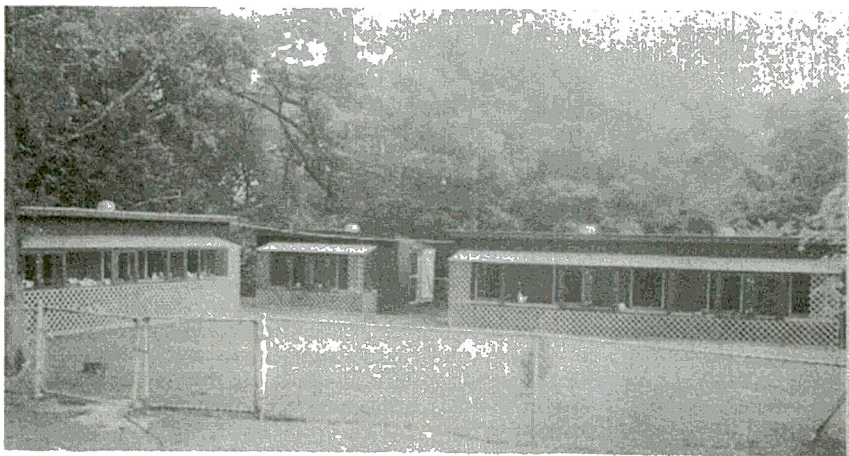


Photo 1 - Lofts.

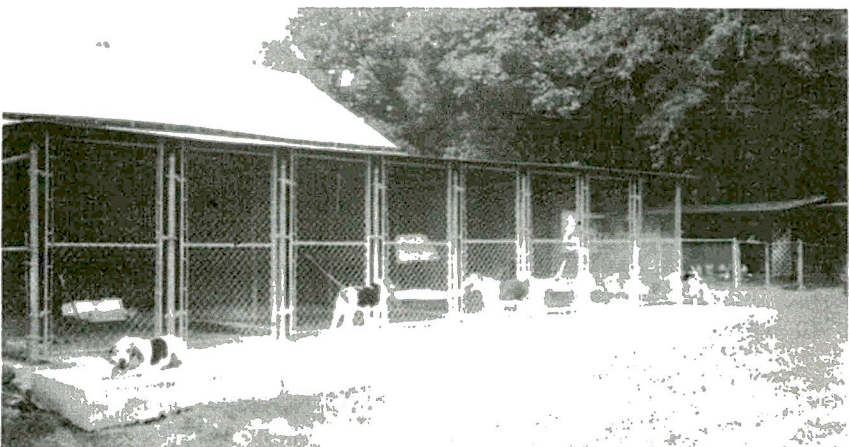


Photo 2 - Dog Kennel.

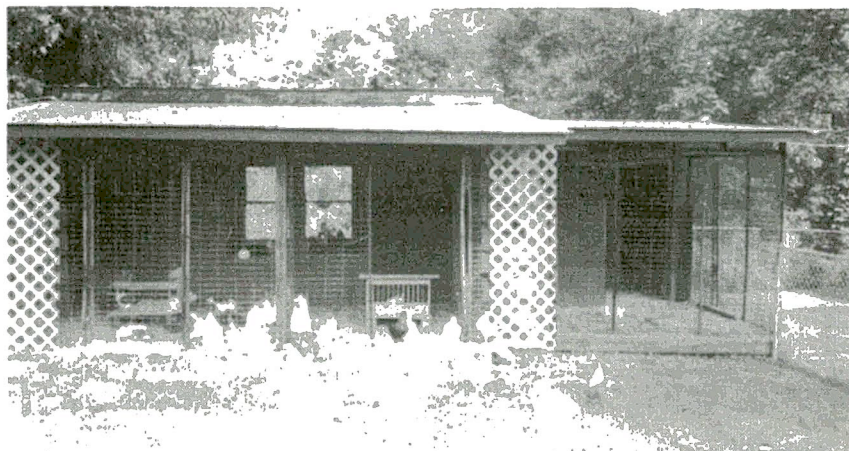


Photo 3 - Young Bird Loft

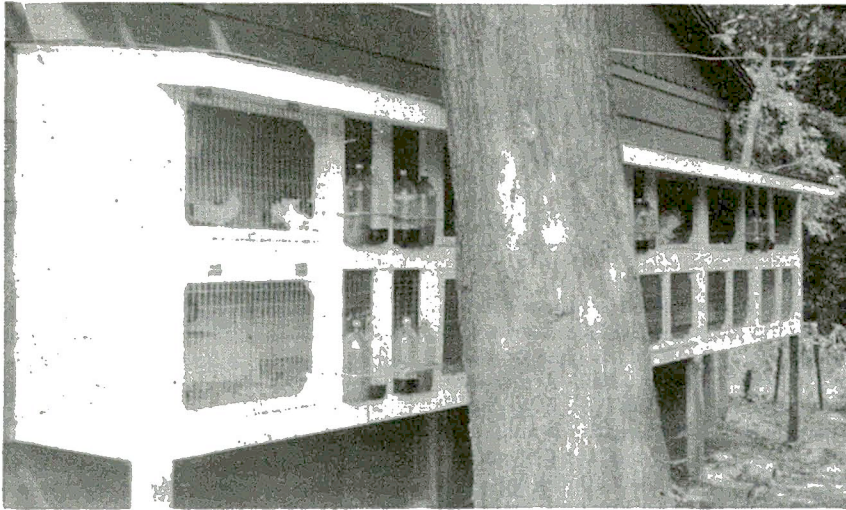


Photo 4 – Breeding or Mating Compartments



Photo 5 – Double nest boxes on the walls.



Photo 6 – King on her own nest.

nesting boxes are in all my lofts and it's easy to clean.

You would think with all these nice clean nest boxes **Photo 6** would not come about, but there she is on the floor with her 6" high pigeon made nest, but you know this is what it's all about, isn't she pretty there, she is the king on her throne.

I make my dowel rod wooden feeders and use 1 1/2 gal. double water fountains. I feed straight pellets, no more corn or grain for me and no more grit. No more uncooked feed. I put one teaspoon of clorox in each gallon of water, I worm three times a year with Invermectin cattle wormer. I give every bird over five weeks old two drops each by mouth. This works, I've had stools checked several times and they have no worms or eggs in them of any kind. I vaccinate all my birds once a year. I use sevin dust for lice, but have had very little trouble with lice or mites since I've used Invermectin. They say it will keep the lice and mites off your birds as well as worm them and I think it does.

Photo 7 (on page 34) is inside my dog kennel. On a wall I have holding coops for getting the birds ready for the shows. The coops will hold 36 birds and it works real good when I have my own pigeon show with my own birds. It's a lot of fun and I get to really know my birds better.

If you want to write feel free to or come for a visit. The pop or coffee is always on and I'll talk any kind of pigeons with anyone or we will go tree a coon if it gets dark. Thanks for reading this and enjoy your birds. – Jerald Kitchens, 1290 Moffet Lane, Decatur, Ill. 62522.

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



[The following was something I received several months ago in a letter from Dr. Willard F. Hollander. It received my approval for this column. I hope it meets yours.]

POOR EGG-SHELLS

Some Racing Homer guys are unhappy about the project at Cornell University for re-establishing wild falcons around the country. After all, falcons are about the pigeon's worst menace (except for hunters, PMV, etc.).

Well, why have the falcons been in trouble? It was poor egg-shells. Most of the eggs got broken before they could hatch. And what brought on such a problem? The mystery was solved when research found that the birds' bodies had accumulated DDT and related pesticides (chlorinated hydrocarbons) which interfere with liver enzymes necessary for mobilization of calcium. Eagles and other species were also endangered, so use of such "agricultural chemicals" has been banned or greatly restricted by law, in the U.S.A., and the birds have been slowly making a come-back.

Pigeons also have had some occasional trouble with poor egg-shells over the years. Could DDT, etc., be responsible? Possibly, in some cases. Some breeders thought the birds were not getting enough calcium, but providing more oyster shell or other lime source didn't cure the trouble. Anyway, DDT wasn't likely to accumulate in grain-eating birds as compared with predators at the top of

the food chain.

Well, what else could be responsible for the trouble in pigeons? Maybe some liver disease? Paratyphoid can damage the liver, for example. Or maybe infection in the oviduct? (A venereal disease?) Or maybe some genetic defect in the female's system? Females of the recessive opal and the reduced colors have seemed rather prone to lay poor-shelled eggs. Anyway, if a hen is found to produce poor-shelled eggs once, she will generally do it thereafter, and be worthless for breeding.

Recent studies on laying hens (chickens) in Australia have shown that simply adding salt (sodium chloride) in the drinking water, say a tablespoonful per gallon, resulted in most of the birds laying poor-shelled eggs, and stopping the salt did not stop the trouble. (Reference: British Poultry Science vol. 30 pages 273-281). Just how salt could induce such a result was not figured out, but maybe that chloride does something like DDT?

My birds have not been given salty grit for several years; the only salt they get is in pellet feed supplement to grain. I have had practically no new cases of poor egg-shell layers in this period. Coincidence? Anyway, it looks to me as if fanciers can safely cut down on intake of salt. And it would be interesting to experiment with salt in the drinking water as in the Australian chicken tests, to see how our pigeons respond.

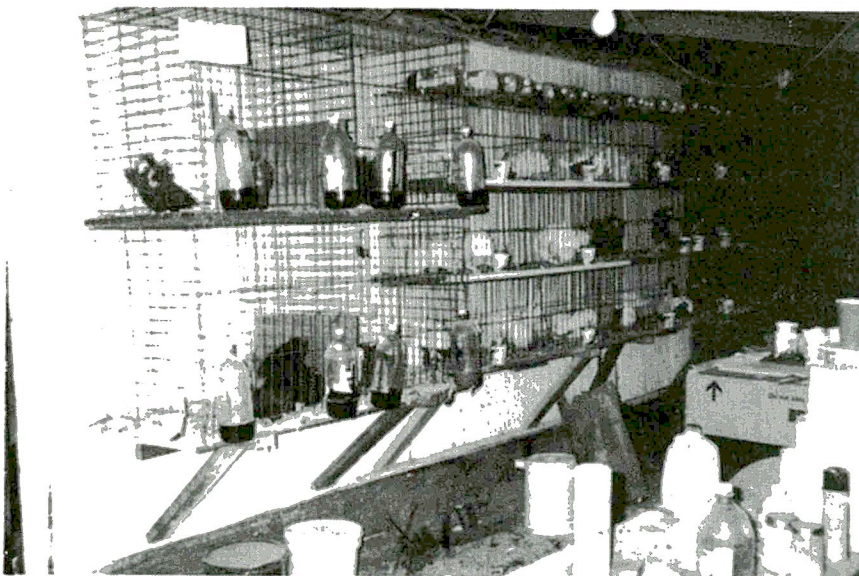


Photo 7 - Conditioning Coops of Jerald Kitchens, Decatur, Ill.

Questions & Answers

by **CLAIR HETLAND**,
Golden Valley, Minn.

DEAR CLAIR:

I have a question for you to answer if possible. My birds have had colds since the winter, I tried Tylan for five days and had no results, should I try giving Tylan for more than five days or try something else stronger? If there is something stronger, could you please tell me what I could use. The birds have a hacking type of cough and swollen eyelids. Your answer would very much be appreciated. - Yours Truly, Canada.

DEAR FANCIER:

With Tylan it is important that you use the correct dose. If it's the Tylan Plus vitamins you must use two tablespoonfuls per gallon. If its Tylan Concentrate use just one teaspoonful per gallon. Five days should tell you if it's going to work. You might want to try Gallimycin or L/S 50. In either case it is important to use them strong enough and long enough.

DEAR CLAIR:

My birds seem ok but from time to time a bird will get skinny and die off. Lately it is happening more often than before and more often than I can put up with. I keep the birds on deep litter. The droppings aren't as firm as I would like. I use a little Aureomycin from time to time and that's about it.

DEAR FANCIER:

It would be nice if you could have your birds' droppings checked. You could have that done at your Veterinarians office where you live. Just take in a fresh sample. If you can't do that, you can just go ahead and worm the birds. I suggest that you use Tramisol every three weeks for five or six wormings. It is very difficult to eliminate worms or worm eggs from deep litter. So you might have to scrape the loft clean twice a day.

I would also give each bird a spartrix tablet. All on the same day. I would disinfect the drinking fountains using Novasan Solution at the same time so that the birds don't just pick up the Canker from the fountain after treatment.

Then I would treat the birds with Sulfadimethoxine for seven to nine days.

It is a good idea to use the Novasan to disinfect the water fountains daily.

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Bits & Pieces

from the research notes of
Joe Quinn

Bath? "peel a few potatoes, boil the peelings and use the water to put in the pigeon bath. This will give you the best pigeon soap I know of. Water so treated is poisonous to insect life and will quickly relieve your birds of all deplumming mites, etc." — E.R.B. Chapman, 1915

(I've never had the courage to try this one; know of nothing in potato peels to make it work. Yet, E.R.B. is one of the founding fathers of our hobby.) JWQ

"In general, hens begin the molt earlier and finish more rapidly than cocks." — after Onishi et. al., 1954

"The Modena Standard for height measured in Jackrabbit ears is 'ONE.'" — Quinn, 1984

Observation: The influence of alcohol, in addition to causing highway tragedies also produces a few beautiful Pigeon Tattoos in unusual places.

"Polar bears swim only with their forelegs, dragging the hind legs behind." — Wolfgang Wickley, 1977 (I knew you wanted to know!) JWQ

"Not all of us are artists, capable, by the use of brush and palette, of catching for a moment . . . great canvases; but those of us who love pigeons have an opportunity to create something satisfying through the infinite variety in which their colors may be blended." — Elisha Hanson, National Geographic, 1926

"With the demonstration of the sun compass (in pigeons) the first step has been taken to analyze the factors guiding birds on their journey (home)." — Klaus Hoffman, 1960

Question: Why did the chicken cross the road? "To show the Opossum it could be done!" — Dave Rinehart, 1990

"Pigeons and doves belong to the family COLUMBIDAE and number 285 species living in all zoogeographical realms." — Hanebrink, 1971

A pigeon can live a billion heartbeats; man possibly 4 1/2. — JWQ

"Gregor Mendel, the founder of the sci-

ence of Genetics (1866) smoked as many as 20 cigars a day in an effort to overcome his increasing weight." — L. Snyder, 1929

"Tumblers are one of the oldest varieties of pigeons. They originated in the East - Darwin says they were in India before 1600 and quotes Belon that they were in Turkey in 1555." — G.L. Clark, New Zealand, 1965

"Melanin, the substance of which pigeon

colorations are made, is an extremely stable substance. It is often stated, 'If you dissolve a horse, what will be left in the petri dish is melanin.' Melanin found in the ink-sac of a fossil cephalopod (150 million years old) was essentially unchanged." — Whitear, 1956

"The older a cock pigeon grows, the more fatherly he becomes." — Lewis Wright, 1901

"Pigeon Fanciers do not and will not admire a medium standard, but like extremes." — Charles Darwin, 1887

"The pattern series is poorly expressed in Ash-red pigeons. Apparently some washing occurs in the course spread areas. A less distinct delineation of bars and checkers is noted when comparisons are made with blues or browns of the same family." — Quinn, 1971

"Common pigeons have an Edifice Complex—a thing about buildings." — The Peter Principal



Squab Producer's Forum

SYED A. BOKHARI
B.V.Sc., M.Sc., M.P.V.M.

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.

(Editor's Note: This is a continuation from the April 1990 issue.)

What Is The Breeding Cycle Of Pigeons?

Pigeons usually lay two eggs, whereby the second egg is deposited precisely 40 hours after the first. They generally lay the first egg of a clutch at 5 p.m. Three hours later at 8 p.m., a new ovulation occurs and the sperm penetrate the eggs at about the same time.

Pigeon eggs generally hatch on day 17 of incubation. The nestling period lasts about 21-35 days. The squabs undergo a period of fast growth as a result of being fed crop milk by both parents.

The juvenile pigeons are rather timid and inactive. The first aggressive behavior appears just prior to the breaking of the voice. At the age of seven to eight weeks, the vocal break occurs while the pitch drops and the peeping/begging calls transform into the adult "who" calls. Immediately after the breaking of the voice, the display coo begins to appear, but it is rarely heard. Both sexes undergo the vocal break.

What Does A Squab Producer Need To Do During The Breeding Period?

Pine needles or other nesting material should be kept in the breeding pens at all times and the birds will soon learn to make their nests and get to work. The pair usually has two eggs— one day elapsing between eggs. The cock sits on the eggs in the day and

the hen sits on the eggs at night. It takes 17 days to hatch, at which time they are helpless and blind.

Both parents begin nursing their young squab about three or four hours after hatching. The squab are fed crop milk for the first 7-10 days & predigested food until they are able to digest their own food. Fresh water & a balanced diet must be provided for the parents at all times during the breeding season.

They grow slowly until about the fourth day. Then they become stronger, and gain very fast. By the seventh day, the pinfeathers will appear and the yellow down disappears. Often after ten days they are quite large and the pinfeathers partially broken. By four weeks, the youngsters are able to stand up.

At this age, the squab is very fat; this is a good time to ship them to the market. Some take them out early (25-26 days) while others leave them until five weeks (30-32 days). Some breeders produce squabs at four weeks that weigh well over one pound. Do not keep ready-to-market squab unnecessarily in your loft.

Sometimes squab are fat but not feathered out properly under the wings and on the sides of the body under the wings. These squabs are not ready for the market and should be kept for a few days. If killed in this condition, they will be very hard to dress. Always keep records of squab growth, especially days to market. Keep records of all the

(Continued On Next Page)

squabbing pigeons producing the slow-growing squabs and plan to phase them out.

There are lots of things a producer must do, which will be discussed in the squab newsletter from time to time.

How To Distinguish Between A Young Male and A Young Female Before They Coo?

It is impossible to distinguish between the sexes when they are young. The males are usually larger and more coarse looking, with broader skulls, thicker neck, etc., but even then, the best of pigeon producers will make mistakes at times, for there are masculine appearing hens and feminine looking cocks.

What Are the Breeding and Mating Seasons For Pigeons?

There is no one season of breeding and mating for pigeons. They will raise young squabs every month of the year. There will be birds in one's flock that will have young at all times, although all birds at times will take a short rest while going through molt (shedding of the feathers).

What Should Be The Stocking Density of the Breeding Pigeons?

About 5 square feet of floor space is necessary for each pair of birds in order not to crowd them too much. Four square feet can be gotten by on but not less than that.

What Should A Pair Of Squabbing Pigeons Produce Under Proper Management?

With good birds, one can safely count on marketing 12 squabs per pair yearly. Many will go over that amount, but with a few unfertile eggs to be expected and some youngsters dropping off before marketing age, it is not safe to estimate one's profit above that figure.

What Is The Best Marketing Age For Squabs?

From 25 to 30 days of age, or when under normal growth, the feathers beneath the wings have become long enough to be easily plucked with the aid of a knife.

How Much Should A Dressed Squab Weigh?

There are different sizes of squab but exceedingly large size squabs are not very desirable. Dressed weight from 14 to 16 ounces is about right for the market. That means they should weigh about 1.25 to 1.40 pounds alive at market time.

How Much Should A Squabbing Pigeon Weigh?

Old birds should weigh from 26 to 30 ounces and young birds should weigh from 24 to 26 ounces (both sexes).



American Pigeon Fanciers' Council

JAMES A. CLARK
Publicity

Box 244,
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The following was a discussion given by Joseph Quinn. A teacher and father of fourteen, Joe gives his views on a pigeon museum, pigeon towers, Greenpeace, and many other topics centered around our humble feathered friend. Unfortunately, the cassette tape ended before Joe did, so the last five minutes was lost. This is the first part of two installments.

The people in the hallway are the lucky ones. You will now begin at least a degree of suffering. Before I begin with the things that interest me, which, because of my peculiarities, most of which you already know, I will not discuss. I am an authority in one field - human behavior. In every other field I am just an amateur. But, if you translate that into its proper language, that means lover, and lover of things, and lover of beauty. All amateurs are like that. And, you are hobbyists.

Well, I had started studying pigeons a long time ago. I was lucky. I ran into some very wonderful folks. They were patient with me and I spent 52 years playing with those birds. Not just to fly them and to look at them, but I began studying them. So, I am not sure I can explain to you what I would like, but I have a couple of ideas because I represent the old folk - the wet old folk, if you prefer. I represent the senile. The senility syndrome starts somewhere after you are 17 and gradually progresses to where you are out of it. I'm on that last leg. I've probably painted all the pictures that I ever planned to paint. I'm getting phone calls all day, "What are you going to do in your retirement?" I'm getting university pressure and all kinds of things about what they think Joe Quinn ought to do. Joe Quinn is considering cutting a hole in that barn and backing a tractor and trailer of Heineken up to it and sitting out there for several years just to see if I can't put my life all together as to where I'd like to go. That may not be the answer.

If we looked at the human element in the pigeon hobby, I like the young man from the NPA who said they were going to have a National even if there weren't that many people, because it doesn't really take a lot of human beings. It doesn't take a lot of people to move mountains. Just someone who cares, who are willing, and who have the courage to make a commitment to something. In my brilliant Irish code, that's the first thing a child learns. When you nod "yes," that's yes. And there's no amount of time ever going to

erase that yes. It doesn't convert to a "no" when it's convenient. When you become a big child and you are able to say "yes" in the standard way . . . If you ever go to an auction and they're offering something for sale, you'll see brilliant law work, because the practices at auctions are Irish. When you nod "yes," you just bought the moose. Don't tell me you were just scratching your face, or this doesn't count, or this was for funnies. We're very either/or. We're kind of fish or cut bait kind of folk. Now you don't ever have to say "yes, I'll do it." Now I'll make a remark about a pigeon museum.

In my club, in two years, we are 25 percent smaller due to death or incapacitating illnesses. Twenty-five percent smaller. I am not the oldest in the club. According to my mathematical perimeters, which will probably go through the actuary computers and at least be sound, within the next three years, we could lose somewhere in that range of the workers, the older people, and they're not being replaced. So, we have a critical situation.

Let's talk about dreams. We dream very big. I don't have many slides, but on one slide, I wanted to show you my dream pigeon coop. (A picture of the Taj Mahal is displayed). Now, I had to get DeVere, the director of the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History, to go all the way to India to get that. Then, when he brought it back to me for my own file - it's probably one of the most beautiful pictures of the Taj Mahal that I have ever seen - I said, "DeVere, where are all the pigeons?" Because that particular pigeon house has little nooks and crannies all the way around it for almost a thousand white pigeons. It really is a love temple, because right below, where you see the lower arch, is buried a girl. A 25 year old girl whom somebody very important loved very much. He had 62 other wives, but they didn't count. When she died, he built the thing you see as a pigeon house so it would be a constant memory of something that happened a long time ago. I'm very sympathetic with that man. No matter how long the Earth is here, the memory of what he wanted to say is a statement. I like his statement. I'd like to have it in my backyard in miniature. It doesn't have to be done in the finest of stone. Ordinary Vermont Marble will do.

Now you've got the notion that we're dreamers. Let's take a look at where we're headed. There has been talk of a pigeon museum since I was a boy. A lot of people

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have taken up that cause and there are programs or dreams or plans on paper in a lot of organizations. There are organizations that are no longer in existence that have plans . . . in that direction. Sometime, somewhere, as these people die, as my people die – our club meetings are not as frequent as our trips to the funeral home. We only meet about eight times a year. If, in fact, these people had their wish and I could express it to you, “Joe, would you take care of my stuff? I’ve collected it all my life. I’ve got this and that. I’ve got the APJ’s back to forever. I’ve got these kinds of things and they’re important and a value to me. Will you take care of them?” Well, the basements of pigeon people are becoming filled. Stored properly, wrapped neatly, but sitting around the world are all the memorabilia, all the art, all the beauty, and all the history of this fancy. I don’t think of a museum as a dead thing. I think of it as a place where we place in custody, in trust, the things we don’t want to see lost. It’s just an important issue. If Abringham looks at it, he says that sometime somebody has to go out in the middle of nowhere and drive a stake in the ground and say “This is it.” Another person has to come along with a single sack of cement, and dig a hole for a footer for one cement block. And, if the rest of the world doesn’t come to help, then that’s just too damn bad. It’ll take us a lot longer. So, if you, in your organizations, go back home, that custody, or trust, that dying people are giving us is something that he hasn’t even addressed. Somewhere along the line, it has to happen. In my mathematical, scientific perimeters, something will happen that is made out of wood, concrete, land lease, or something within three years or it probably won’t matter whatever your plans are or however you fund it.

You’ll be losing the people who care enough, because the funding will not come from clubs, the funding won’t. It will come from our dying brethren who will say, “In all my life, there’s one thing that has given me a constant pleasure. Without it, I probably would not have made it through the depression. Or lived with my wife and children. Or have been able to work at the company I work at – where I’m nothing. It gave me so much value that, maybe as I drift out, walking into the sunset, you might have a little piece of what I acquired.” The museum will be funded by the bequests of dying pigeon breeders. And you can’t let all of those things of all of that money go to waste. But they’re tired of talking dreams. If you don’t put a cement block on a cement block, it’s not real. If somebody doesn’t drive a nail in it, it doesn’t count. They’ve heard talk since they were eight or ten years old. I’ll pass on that. I’d just like to say that it would please me very much if it happened before I drifted away.

We had a study in science. I’d like to come back some day and give you a picture of my house. We had some problems with feral pigeons and all the bad news and you know the politics, the fengling, the university complexities that we used to SHUT

down the pest control industries. They have not printed a nasty word about pigeons in five years. Now they did that because they love us. They did. They did it because it wasn’t a good idea? They were probably offered a deal that they couldn’t refuse. We won’t talk about what they could not refuse, but they have not done it, which is nice, because it gets them off our backs. But the feral pigeon population . . . is there science, or knowledge, or ideas that will work? Yes, you’re looking at one. (a slide of a pigeon tower in Quebec). We’re looking at Quebec. That particular pigeon tower is maintained to be the place for 60 percent of the feral pigeons in that domain. And by locking out with wire or netting all of the best nesting places picked by pigeon breeders, they were forced into an ideal nesting situation built on the lines of ancient pigeon towers that they used to raise pigeons by the thousands for centuries. And it’s attractive. It’s in a park. And, it doesn’t defecate on anything. Now, the little advantage of that tower is – I wouldn’t do it without a big mask – you can pull a crank that shuts all those pigeons in. You can go in one night and select them and take out those you need and reduce the population and do a lot of things with them. The world does not know. And they don’t have pigeons sitting on public buildings that are kind of awkward, they have created, on buildings, small nesting lofts to move them away from where they’re a problem.

Now let us say that we can find a way to use those. We already do. Dave Rinehart has it sitting on his desk. We already have the computer layout. It wouldn’t take me two days to put together a program to use pigeon towers to evaluate the pollution of any city quickly. We don’t have to kill birds. We can wash feathers. We know the moult. We can give you a graded time scale on how much of the heavy metals they’re pickin’ up because we have easy technology to analyze them. On the other hand, that pigeon walks in the domain of children. And many of our more caustic pollutants have a density gradient, so you’re breathing good air and your child is dying. The whole notion that our bird, as ugly as it may be, is walking in the space of children . . . I don’t think I would have a hard time selling that to the city council and have them actually develop a program for using this nuisance in a manner that would protect human life. If it ever got going. There’s a lot of places that are out of pigeons today. They’re gone. PMV did part of it and their poisons did the other. I would think that some of those – I told a mayor once, “Be careful you don’t get rid of them all. They’re going to be very expensive to replace.” I’m not suggesting that that’s the answer, but it’s an idea. And there’s really no need for it not to be tried soon. The Canadians have already told us that it works for a good cause, which is to get a nuisance out of their area. And only add to it the science of already simple technology – first year chemistry students could handle it. We could give you evaluations of pollution, in terms of air pollution. And, by the way, where do they drink? From the water avail-

able to them in that city. They’re livers, if you actually killed a couple or checked their eggs, their essay work is not complicated, but – I’m a mathematician – you give me six of those pigeon towers in a city, at least five miles apart, and I’ll draw vectors to who’s polluting. Then the EPA won’t have to look so hard as to who’s doing these things. We’ll put it on a map. Well, it’s an idea. It’s not mine. It’s Rinehart’s. Somewhere along the line, we have to make real, ideas. Ideas of museums are fine. Ideas of this are fine, but that’s brick. You don’t argue with that. That’s there. If it isn’t working, go ask them. You got to deal in the real world – the things that are actually there.

Now this (photo of Dr. William Keeton) is backwards. I had a friend put it in because I was afraid I’d get it backwards. The only thing I want to mention there is that I came to a meeting in 1972 here and I was in a room arguing and doing what I do best, which is talk too much. Well, when you get older and you get senile, you talk too much. Some people talk too much because they’re senile. Others talk too much because they know too much. And I’m trying to use that to rationalize what I do. I don’t know whether it’s so or not. You all know the young man there, Dr. William Keeton. He had a heart valve transplant in 1962 or 1964. He was probably the most brilliant biologist in the history of biology. I rank him up with the best. If he hadn’t died in 1980, he probably would have chaired the international symposium in Prague, Yugoslavia, for the entire world’s biology. His bio-science book, which he wrote, was used by 90 percent of the students who studied biology in universities for over ten years. Probably one of the most magnificent minds we’ve ever met. He came here every year and, as we sat and talked at the bar, in the room, at the conferences, I had the privilege, as some of you did, to enjoy a great mind and a great person, but the heart with the poorly functioning valve was the strength of the man. I could care less for his book. I like to know him as a person and he was powerful. And you can tell he was powerful because his graduate students – to this day – are working with pigeons. And his graduate students – to this day – are creating new knowledge using the pigeon. They’re all over the world. A teacher of rank teaches teachers. He’s a teacher of rank. As some of you know, I wrote his obituary. So, in effect, as I sort of fade into the distance, he’s gone a long way ahead. We can’t lose Bill Keeton either and we can’t lose the Cornell projects. And we can’t lose other things that are politically sound. Some of them will probably cost money. Forgive me for Bill Keeton.

Alright, I’ve already given you the idea that action is what thrills me. My family is action oriented today. As Lisa walks out the door – I planned for all their (Quinn’s children) educations – she was headed for Vanderbilt in September. Vanderbilt came along and gave her a scholarship that I’d never heard of. Megabucks! Now I’m shaken up. I

(Continued On Next Page)

wanted to spend that \$83,000 and now I'll have to spend it on Heineken and other things. I live in an old farm house. I mean it's a . . . I have it designed so that the front looks so bad—as my grandfather would say, "That's the rouse."—a lot of people won't turn into your driveway that you don't want to see anyways. It accomplished its feat. She's on her way. Fourteen people off to major universities on a school teacher's income in a one income family . . . You don't think I know about money management? Some of you who think you're pretty good couldn't

handle my Adidas and panties clothes bills. You're talking about ten daughters over that length of time. The fact is, my other daughter whose going now, Ohio State offered her a full grant for a doctorate that I never heard of. I've been on Ohio States' advisory board for eight years and I never heard of one that big. It's nice! So, all of a sudden, maybe I'll have a few dollars that I hadn't planned on and maybe I'll get reckless and do something positive. I might even donate some things.

(Part Two next month)

News From The National Oriental Frill, Turbit & Owl Family by CHUCK HARTER, Pub. Dir., Tahlequah, Okla.

There is an organization that has not received the attention that it justly deserves. The National Oriental Frill, Turbit and Owl Family. The people that are involved with this unique group are more than just members, they are in a sense "FAMILY." I know, with my own personal experience with this group, that you will never find any better people anywhere. They have been a real lifesaver as my breeding program developed. Among them you will find an absolute bank of knowledge with years experience divided amongst them. I have never been refused any help that I needed or a word of encouragement that I might also have needed, (those of you with shortfaced, know what I mean here). A lot of our members have all three breeds. A club such as this will serve you twofold or should I say threefold!

Here is a little information about our club. Our dues are \$10.00 per year. We have a club patch, newsletters, a master breeders award for those who qualify, a wealth of information on the breeding and care for any of the three breeds and last, but not least, a whole lot of fun!!

Our Annual Meet is always held in conjunction with the NPA Grand National. This way no one gets left out, as it is with some clubs. We also have a yearly young bird and yearling meet held in Tulsa, Ok. This is a good central location, with access from anywhere. Just as a clue to the kind of support we get from our members we have had in the past members come in from: Utah, Washington, North Dakota, Nebraska, Illinois, Kansas, Texas and of course, Oklahoma. There are some specialty clubs that could only wish for this kind of participation from their members. So we must be doing something right for these people to continue to keep coming back year after year. The states mentioned above are just to name a few, as we anticipate the future shows to keep growing.

This year's elections were held and the winners are as follows:

President - Jay McGehee from Claremore, OK; Vice-President - Tom Johnson of Nebraska; Secretary-Treasurer - Roy Skog of Utah; Publicity Director - Chuck Harter of Oklahoma.

It was also voted on and passed that a memorial trophy be awarded in the honor and memory of Ken Phipps each Annual Meet.

For any information about this fine organization or if you would like to become a member, write to: Roy Skog, 6869 Running Spring Dr., West Jordan, Utah 84084.

Organizations



United Roller Club Of America

by ART R. KEHL, Director-At-Large, Hillpoint, Wisc.

Show Report

In my last report I tried to bring you up-to-date on the world of what we call Show Rollers in this day and age. I spoke about the influence of the fanciers from the southwest on our modern style of bird. I sort of conjectured that the next decade would be up for grabs with a dozen or more top fanciers all in the running.

As I sat down to type up another article, it seems a real struggle as to just what to say next. The impact of the 70's and 80's remains and the outcome of the 90's has yet to unfold. Sure we have had a few small shows, mostly young bird shows, already this year but the strength of the show season remains ahead of us. Over the next four months, 120 days of intense activity, we will begin to see what the 90's will bring. Have you ever looked at it that way, I mean our entire show season in just 120 days? Think about it. We have often eluded to the season as being short but when you put that number on it somehow it seems even shorter. Now we all know that the month of September does not count for much so actually we should shorten the number down to just 90 days and that is even less time and has the effect of making the intensity even greater.

I don't have an actual number but there are probably 2000 fanciers across the country that raise Rollers, either partially or exclusively for Show. Let's speculate that each fancier keeps an average of 10 pairs, that's 40,000 old birds in production. Let's also speculate that each pair averages five young birds, or that each fancier bands near 50 young birds for a total of 100,000 young Rollers across the country available for show. Numbers are always fun to play with so let's take this a little bit further. We now have

140,000 young and old birds floating around the country. What happens next?

Well, first off we know that many breeders are kept which are not of a competitive nature. They had an exceptional quality or were past show prime but at any rate we could cut the old bird number in half and reduce the total available for show to 120,000 birds. O.K., let's back up to the first number that impressed me, the short 120 day show season, yeah, let's include September as many young birds will get tested the first month. All of a sudden these numbers fall together just like pieces in a puzzle. Our Show Roller hobby is going to start out with a collection of 120,000 birds from coast to coast, we are going to present these birds to judges at lawn shows, County and State Fairs, all variety shows and specialty meets. Eventually it will get down to district meets and then national meets and in the very end we will crown one single Roller the National Champion.

Easy numbers, 120,000 birds divided by 120 days means that on an average we must eliminate 1,000 Rollers per day, each day of the show season and that on the final day there would be 1000 birds left for the National meet and 999 would be eliminated on that final day so as to have just that one final bird left. Talk about intense, there it is!

We can throw out the past and the future. We don't have to point out the side benefits of travel, friendships and prizes. All I want to say is that if you want a challenge, a hobby with intensity, then the place to be is Showing Rollers. If you think you are up to it, join us, the United Roller Club of America, we are the leader in offering this challenge. Check out the numbers, it doesn't get any better than this!!



Performing Roller Assn. News

by DAN OUELLETTE,
Publicity Director,

1008 Reddy Ave., Medford, Ore. 97504

and buy N.P.A. bands. The N.P.A. dues are \$10.00 a year and they provide a nice quarterly review bulletin. The P.R.A. is also offering a monthly article in the American Pigeon Journal with all of the information needed to promote our Flying Performing Roller Pigeon. We welcome all interested fanciers who have something positive to express to send their articles to Dan Ouellette. He will surely appreciate your input and thoughts.

The P.R.A. will feature its first PRA Verified Performer class in the National Pigeon Association's Grand National Show and Convention on January 17-19, 1991. We are proud to announce that Richard Jaconette will be our Display judge. Richard is one of our Roller hobby's top roller men. His family of rollers are enjoyed by many across this nation. We are very fortunate to have such an experienced roller man give us his opinions on what he thinks constitutes an attractive roller pigeon.

This P.R.A. Verified Performer Meet will
(Continued On Next Page)

Loyal P.R.A. Members

The P.R.A. has recently affiliated with the National Pigeon Association which we are very excited about. We also have a close relationship with the American Pigeon Journal. In fact, in December 1993, the American Pigeon Journal is featuring its first Flying Performing Roller Special. This Flying Performing Roller Special will be dedicated solely to the Flying Performing Roller. The Flying Performing Roller is a separate breed and should be recognized as such alongside all of the other breeds of pigeons. This Flying Performing Roller Special welcomes ALL

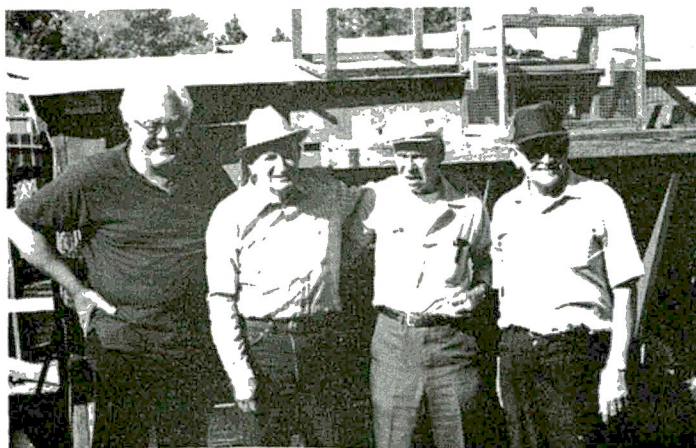
FLYING ROLLER MEN WHETHER THEY BELONG TO A CLUB OR NOT. Dan Ouellette will be the coordinator of this special task. He encourages anyone who would like to participate or help coordinate in this First Flying Performing Roller Special to contact him at 1008 Reddy Ave., Medford, Oregon (503) 770-5528.

As of January 1, 1991 the P.R.A. WILL NOT require membership dues. We encourage all Loyal P.R.A. members to join the National Pigeon Association and subscribe to the American Pigeon Journal. We also encourage our members to support the N.P.A.



FIRST ANNUAL PERFORMING ROLLER ASSN. FLYING & DISPLAY CONVENTION

The photo on the left pictures Roger O. Baker judging PRA Display with many PRA members enjoying the whole event. The PRA thanks Roger Baker for his endorsement and his time to help the PRA become one of the best associations available. The right hand photo shows (l.-r.) Dick Rickner, Portland, Oregon; Bob Lavandowski, San Jose, Calif.; Ron Dent, Los Angeles, Calif., and Roger O. Baker, 1986 Performing Roller Association Display Judge.



FIRST ANNUAL PERFORMING ROLLER ASSN. FLY & DISPLAY CONVENTION

The first photo shows (l.-r.) Paul Bradford, Salt Lake City, Utah; Jim Johnston (whose mentor was Bob Evans), Roger O. Baker (whose mentor was Russ Harter) and Chan Grover (whose mentor was Les Manz) 1986. The photo on the right shows (l.-r.) PRA Debut judge Chandler B. Grover and 1986 PRA Display judge Roger O. Baker, displaying PRA Honorary Life Member plaque.

be the first step towards officially recognizing the Flying Performing Roller Pigeon as a breed of its own. We need the support of all flying performing rollermen regardless of club affiliations to participate. The P.R.A. programs are open to all flying rollermen.

Anyone who is interested in participating and wants to know how to apply contact: Dan Ouellette, 1008 Reddy Ave., Medford, Oregon 97504, (503) 770-5528. We are also open to new Area Directors nationwide and internationally.



National Pigeon Assn. Insights

by MIKE LERP

Publicity Chairman

P.O. Box 221, Manchester, MD 21102

While most, if not all, of you know that the granddaddy of all the NPA's get together - the Grand National will be held in Pomona, California, on January 17th through the 19th, I've been asked to remind readers of the APJ that our organization will also be holding District meets throughout the United States this year. Before highlighting these meets, I'd like to briefly mention the Pomona National and Convention. This event will be hosted by the Los Angeles Pigeon Club, and the L.A. club as you might know is the club that is responsible for the well known Pageant of Pigeons. Official Headquarters for the Convention is the Ramada Inn in Claremont, CA, and the very capable Frank Barrachina is the Show Secretary. Frank has informed the NPA that tours of both Disneyland and the Universal Studios will be offered to fanciers and their families (although tearing fanciers away from the show might prove difficult) in attendance. Look for more Grand National details as the event grows closer.

DISTRICT ONE - The Little Rhody Pigeon Club's Winter Show will be the site of the District One meet this year on November 17-18. Information is available through John Harrison, 410 Marion Rd., Middleboro, Mass. 02346.

DISTRICT THREE - The District Meet will be hosted by the Indiana Pigeon Club on Nov. 24. Their show Secretary is Ray Hoover

and he can be contacted at Rt. 3, Box 224, New Castle, Ind. 47362.

DISTRICT FOUR - Our meet for this district will be held in Greenville, South Carolina, on December 1. Our host will be the Carolina Pigeon Club and you may contact Richard Georgina at 207 Ripple View Dr., Clemson, S.C. 29631 for entry information.

DISTRICT SIX - The Sixth District Meet is going to be held with the Oklahoma Pigeon Club. Their annual show will take place on December 8, in Shawnee, Oklahoma, and if you'd like additional details contact Don Phy at 12901 N. Western, Oklahoma City, OK 73114.

DISTRICT SEVEN - The Utah Pigeon Club will be the host club for the NPA's meet in this district. Ed Bills is their very capable show superintendent and he'll supply you with the needed show information if you write to him at 8389 Powell Ave., Magna, Utah 84044.

Current members of the NPA have already learned of these District Meets via our Quarterly Review and we're reprinting them here for the benefit of those of you who aren't members. I shouldn't neglect to mention a word about our State Meets; we will be holding quite a few of them during this year's show season, but because these get together will be listed in future editions of the Quarterly Review and the Journal's Show Calen-

dar I won't note them here. As I mentioned in a previous Insight column, the NPA supplied nearly 40,000 coop cards to clubs that sponsored NPA meets during last year's show season. In addition, we supplied Breed Champion certificates at these shows and I'm quite positive that there were more than just a few non-NPA members who returned home with one or more of these certificates in hand. We don't lock out non-members when it comes to awarding these certificates, but we'd sure like to see every fancier who exhibits pigeons become members. Your dues helps make all of our projects possible and many of these projects benefit each and every pigeon fancier in North America. For example we have actively supported the American Pigeon Fanciers Council. In the past, the NPA's support of the Council has helped make possible some of the research that is being done by the Association of Pigeon Veterinarians. Their findings have taken much of the guesswork out of the recognition, treatment and prevention of pigeon related health problems. (As I've previously mentioned I'll be most happy to supply you with the name and address of a APV member nearest to you if you're having a health problem with your birds. All you need to do is drop me a line, include a SASE and I'll get back to you just as soon as I can. This is another service your NPA provides to members and non-members alike). This year, the NPA's participation within the Council focused on the work being done by James Armstrong Ph.D. Jim is very actively involved with avian predation (predators) in relationship to our pigeons and we're looking forward to hearing more about Jim's findings in the near future. Your \$10.00 has also helped us to launch our Youth Program, as well as the work that we're currently doing to improve the image held by the public about our hobby and pigeons in general. As noted, later on in the column, your NPA, thanks to the efforts of one of our members Kent Wright, has located a travel agency whose agents will make your travel arrangements to the NPA shows that you might like to attend. So please don't feel that your dues only provides you with our Review and a membership button, your money is doing quite a bit more. So while this paragraph is still fresh in your mind, send your \$10.00 off to Jerry, you'll find his address on the inside back cover of this month's Journal.

Due to a highly probably 32% cut in the Smithsonian Institutes' budget, it appears that their domestic pigeon display at the Natural History Museum will remain unchanged. If you have ever visited the museum in Washington D.C., you might have noticed that the current display of specimens is sadly out of date. The NPA offered to supply a consultant in order to assist museum officials to update their display, but as explained to me, such a change is at this time impossible due to operating expenses. Even with the assistance of an unpaid consultant the cost of mounting and classifying donated specimens, replacing glass, closing and guarding the area in the museum that's in-



John Marshall in uniform (left) promoting our hobby at the 1990 Brooklyn, N.Y. Boy Scout Expo. - Photo by Pete Fratangelo, Brooklyn, N.Y.

volved simply isn't within reach at this time. Oh well, you can't say that we didn't try and neither we nor the staff of the Natural History Museum have given up hope on this project. On the other hand the editors of National Geographic Magazine have turned over our suggestion of publishing an article about domestic pigeons to their research staff. Patricia Reuther, a correspondence in the research department of this magazine, told me that they are pleased to receive ideas for articles and here's where you can step in to help see our idea turn into reality. Pigeon fanciers who are readers of the National Geographic Magazine should write to her at the National Geographic Society, Washington D.C., 20036, in order to express their desire to see an article about pigeons and our worldwide hobby. If you do so, it's very important that (1) your letter be brief, and (2) simply state your support for this idea. DON'T fill your letter with either pigeon facts or information about yourself and your own involvement with the hobby, we'll leave the subject matter and research up to the Geographic staff. And speaking of magazines, the NPA will be mentioned in the December issue of Bird Talk Magazine. This paragraph just about sums up the steps that the NPA has already taken towards brightening the public's image of our pigeons on the national level. And my friends we aren't finished doing our part yet.

In the previous Insights column I said that I'd pass along a few ideas about what we can do in order to entice young people into entering our hobby. That column dealt with what we can do and what the NPA is already doing for young fanciers who are already raising pigeons, but what can we do in order to attract more of these young people to the hobby of raising pigeons?

Not too very long ago the Boy Scouts of America offered a Merit Badge to Scouts who raised pigeons. There are quite a few of us who earned this Merit Badge as youngsters, but as you might know that Merit Badge is no longer being offered. But that doesn't mean that a pigeon fancier can't contact a Scout troop and offer to attend a meeting in order to talk to the Scouts about our hobby. An adult fancier who either has a youngsters in the BSA, or if they know of a Troop in their area can approach the Scout leaders about setting up a display of birds at a meeting. This display of birds should consist of unusual pigeons meaning those breeds that in no way resemble the common street pigeons. Fantails, Trumpeters, Pouters, Jacs, and any of the larger breeds are attention getters. And I've seen kids go absolutely wild over parlor rollers and tumbler.

A willing group of fanciers can also set their sights on something bigger than a Troop meeting, they can also attempt to get some space at a BSA Expo. My friends in the New York Combine which as you might know is a Domestic Flight Club hosted a display of Flights at the '89 Scout Expo that was held in Brooklyn. This year they went a step better by showing off a number of different breeds in hopes of both sparking a young person's

interest in pigeons and improving the attending public's image of our hobby. I attended this year's Expo and it's my feeling that they did both.

On hand to greet the Scouts, their leaders and their families were Tony Mondafferi, Dominic DiFiglia, Pete Fratangelo, and John Marshall. All of these fanciers brought along some birds to show off and Tommy Serra loaned us a few from his bird store, all in all we had a very nice display of pigeons. John is the driving force behind the Combine's involvement with their local Scouting groups and he's presently drawing up a petition asking National Scouting officials to reinstate the Pigeon Raising Merit Badge. More details about this event will be published in an upcoming NPA Quarterly Review. Of course we needn't limit these displays to Boy Scout Events, there are 4-H organizations, police youth clubs and other youth groups that we can focus our attentions on. A fancier can also pay a visit to the local school in order to introduce our pigeons to young people. As an example I "taught" four Biology classes at our local High School and used some pigeons as a visual display in the subject of selective breeding. I didn't manage to attract a new fancier to our hobby, but I firmly believe that the students gained a new insight into the study of genetics and I think that they also left school that day with a more positive view of pigeons. Your NPA knows the importance of both attracting youngsters to and retaining them in our hobby, but we do need adult fanciers who are willing to go the extra mile to help us out. Your comments on this subject are most welcome, contact our Youth Committee Chairperson Allen Zitting at P.O. Box 766, Centennial Park, AZ 86021, he'll be pleased to hear from you.

Are you planning on boarding an airplane to attend a show this season? If you are, perhaps in the back of your mind you're harboring thoughts about this scenario. You make your airline reservations for both yourself and your pigeons and on the day of your flight you step up to the airline's desk only to hear these dreaded words "we don't know nothin' 'bout no pigeons." This is one of those times when your heart feels like it's stuck somewhere between your adam's apple and your tonsils and you're about ready to experience an anxiety attack. If you've ever found yourself in either this situation or if you're even caught up in a minor problem with an airline, you'll agree that it can be both a bothersome and frustrating experience. While problems with your reservations can usually be straightened out, it's up to you to work with the airline personnel to resolve them. But if you like to avoid these kinds of situations you can elect to have a travel agency handle all the details for you.

Those of you who utilized the services of the Morris Travel Agency in order to fly into Salt Lake City for the Grand National might be happy to learn that the Morris people will again be serving pigeon fanciers who'd like to attend a number of shows this year. Kent Wright called to tell me a little about this and if you'd like your show added to the list of

events, that the Morris agency will be handling the travel arrangements for you, should contact either your local or district NPA representative. Delta Airlines will be our official carrier for these shows and it's my understanding that they did a fine job of getting fanciers and their birds into Salt Lake City. The phone number for the Morris agency is 800-777-2877 and when you call ask for Ger (pronounced Hare).

By the way, Delta has established a maximum carrying box size limitation of 40" long, 30" high and 28" wide. Delta also requests that you affix a permanent I.D. to your carrying box. (Experienced travelers have found that removing old airline destination tags from both their luggage and pigeon carrying boxes can help insure that these items will reach their proper destination especially if plane changes are involved).

If you use a carrying container which Delta feels won't survive the trip, i.e. flimsy cardboard, small wire cages and so forth you may be asked to purchase an approved kennel container to place your carrying box inside of. Depending on the size, these airline approved kennel containers range in cost from \$35 to \$75. These guidelines that have been established by Delta are for your protection and they'll be an aid in expediting both you and your pigeons to your destination.

Remember that if you elect to fly Delta and have the Morris people make your travel arrangements, your pigeons won't be a surprise to the airline employees, instead they'll be expecting them. And if you do find yourself facing a problem with your reservations you can rely on the Morris people to solve them for you.

You might also be pleased to discover that the travel rates offered by this agency are very competitive which is another reason to consider giving Ger a call. It's a toll free number, so you have nothing to lose by making an inquiry and you certainly might be doing yourself a favor by calling!!

BOHEMIAN POUTERS

I have good blacks & duns. I will sell reasonable or exchange for a couple of Voorburg cream, mealy or blue hens. I also would like Homers in good blacks, yellow bars, yellow checks. Polish Lynx, laced.

Am Always A & A Loft Come Any
Home Time
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DISTRICT MEETS
NATIONAL SHOWS
QUARTERLY BULLETINS

INDIAN FANTAIL CLUB OF AMERICA

\$10.00 Adults • \$15.00 Family • \$3.00 Juniors
CHARLOTTE WEICHE, SEC.-TREAS.
123 DeBorde Ct. • Red Oak, Texas 75154-9151



Long Island Domestic Flight Club

by JOHN IZZO

1400 Thompson Drive
Bay Shore, New York 11706

Here it is the end of July and boy am I glad the breeding season is over, at least for me it's over. I've just about had it. With 200 banded already and between youngsters in the bowl not landed yet and eggs due to hatch, I'm sure I'll band around 250. A lot of work, but I feel it was more than worth the time, trouble and effort put into it.

I'm not the only guy working hard in the Long Island Domestic Flight Club, Angelo Cavallo broke his up about a month ago and he banded about 125. Not as many as last year, but he used less breeding pairs this year. Angelo has a few he likes which is good to hear. Dave Mikes has about 100 banded and is still going strong. He just bought another 50 bands, so you figure it out. John Schwanof also raised a load of youngsters. On the more practical side of things (bred less than a 100), Frankie Braccia is doing pretty good and you can always count on Frankie for competition. The same goes for Jerry Peretti and his yellow teager caps. Sal DeCaro is amongst them as well as Tony (T.T.) Trincellito and Patty Catalano. Our Sergeant of Arms, Paul Rotondo, is in this category and has a few nice youngsters this year. Bill Cusack raised about 45 youngsters this year and his last round of youngsters seem to be the most promising. Billy only used eight cocks this year, almost half his usual number and raised about 50 percent more youngsters. Bill usually keeps one cock mated to one hen and might switch to a different hen at the end of the season. Next year he plans on using six cocks on 12 hens. I predict that within two breeding seasons, Bill Cusack will be a force to be reckoned with.

Steve LaSala has been kind of quiet lately but I'm sure as always he has a few competitive pigeons. The same goes for John Cisco. John Willi didn't raise too many, but you know he is always competitive. Pete O'Patovsky is in the same boat, a late start with only a few youngsters, but definitely a competitor and always tough to beat. Marty Soyka is moving along and has a few, so does Phil Block. Anthony Marino might have some by now, and I know Dom Difiglia has a few. Haven't heard from Tom Casoria, Joseph Thorton or Frank and Mary Zitto. The same goes for the boys from Connecticut, Mike Plessner and Andy Terraccino.

All our members are very competitive and I'm sure we're going to have some top quality pigeons at our shows this year as we have had in the past. Speaking of members, we just picked up three more. Eddie Meehan from Massachusetts, welcome to our club Eddie, and the team of Tommy Serra and Warren Ryder. For those of you who don't know it, Serra and Ryder are the owners of "S and R" Pet Shop located on Islip Avenue.

This is our Wednesday night hang out and just about every flight guy at one time or another comes to this store. I can't wait for our shows just to compete against these two guys and get into the action with them for not only are they very competitive, they are "ACTION." Welcome aboard Tommy Serra and Warren Ryder. Enough info about our members, how about talking some pigeons.

Let's get into production. Maybe you don't have the time, loft space, the will, desire or patience to raise 100 or 200 youngsters. Maybe you just want to increase your production a little or get a few extra youngsters from that certain cock or hen or that certain pair. There are many ways of doing this and many variations of each way. I'm going to describe a few for you. You can pick them apart, turn them all around, use some of one or a piece of another. What I'm saying is, use what you like and don't use what you don't like.

A simple way to increase production is to use more pumpers. Three pairs of pumpers for every pair of breeders is a good rule of thumb. Naturally more is better. In a way this is what Bill Cusack did. He reduced his breeding pairs by approximately one third and added in a couple of pairs of pumpers. This gave him less eggs to switch and most times his pumpers were ready for them. I remember last year some of his show birds were sitting on their own. For him, this was a complete loss. One third less breeders, a few more pumpers and about a 50 percent increase in production!

How about putting a cock on two hens? Some fellows lock a cock in a nest box or a breeding pen with a hen for ten days, then take the cock away whether she lays her eggs or not. This should give you two fertile eggs. Meantime, the cock gets locked in with another hen for ten days, and two more fertile eggs. After this, you put him back with the first hen or you can put him on a third hen. I've never used this system, but some fellows say they use it and it works for them. Another way to run two hens on one cock is to let the cock take possession of a nest box. Mate him to hen number one and as soon as she lays her second egg, remove her to another section and put the eggs under a pair of pumpers. Wait one full day and then give the cock the second hen and follow the same routine. It may take some time for the cock to get use to this and his two hens, but with a little patience you can make it work. What I like to do with the hens is to give them the nest box. That's right, the hen owns the nest box. Once my two hens are use to their own nest box, I introduce the cock. He stays locked in one day with one hen, the next day with the other hen. Once the cock is mated to both hens, or at the latest when the hens have

eggs, you can open the nest boxes, the hens will go to their own box and the cock will go back and forth to both boxes on his own. Once you feel you have enough youngsters from one hen, you can remove her and introduce another hen into her nest box and lock the cock in with her every other day until they're mated. This would be the cocks third hen for the season, you can even go some more and end up with four of five hens on one cock in one season. So, if you have that exceptional cock and you want to see what he can do, this is the route to follow. There are so many more ways to use these systems, and there are so many more systems to use, I just can't get into it.

A little bit about stealing eggs. By stealing eggs, I mean taking them from your breeders and giving them to a pair of pumpers. The one and only way of doing this is to let your breeders sit on dummy eggs for nine days (nine days after the second egg is laid) and then take them away. This gives your hen a good rest. You can get from six to eight rounds of eggs from a hen within the breeding season without any problems. Some fellows wait from five to seven days to steal the eggs. Other fellows steal the eggs away immediately and put the hens in an egg laying cycle. The hens will lay every seven to twelve days and the more you steal, the more they lay. Putting a couple of hens on a cock and stealing eggs like this will give you the most production, but I believe you will eventually wreck your hens. By the end of the breeding season, your cocks have had it, all they want to do is sit on eggs, no more hens! The hens are wacked out, sometime they'll only lay one egg, skip a couple of days and then lay the other. They go looking for different nest boxes, lay on the floor, sit on empty nest, they're just as wacked out as the cocks. This system is tough on your pigeons. Again the best system is to let your breeders sit on dummy eggs for nine days. Well enough of this breeding dung for now, let me go out there and band a few more!!!

October News

Here it is the end of September and show season is just around the corner. Our Baby Show is October 28 and I can't wait. We're expecting a good turnout of pigeons and I know it will be one heck of a show. At our last meeting, we nominated judges. They are Grasso, Willi, Bracia and Cantalino. We're only looking for two, so we'll have to see who gets the most votes. These fellows have judged for us in the past so the voting should be interesting. We'll find out at our next meeting who the lucky two are. Our new judging cages have just arrived from Keiper Cooping and these cages plus the show cage lights donated by Sal DeCaro will make a nice upgrading to our judging system. Speaking of upgrading, we have just put Sal DeCaro and Bill Cusack on our Executive Board. Two better fellows you couldn't find, and hard workers to boot. We also established a new position, that of Executive Vice President. This position is an appointed one, appointed by the President and the first person to hold the position of Executive Vice

President in the Long Island Domestic Flight Club is Bill Cusack. Bill really deserves this job since he shows great interest, concern and dedication for our club and our breed. Congratulations Bill and welcome aboard.

Let's talk pigeons a little. I hope all of you have your pumpers straightened out for next breeding season. If not, you better get yourself moving and get that pumper section squared away. A little work now will save you plenty of aggravation later. I've described in some of my past articles some of the things you should be doing with your pumpers in order to make them a better work team. I'm sure some of you guys are saying to yourself, he's always talking about pumpers. That's right! I am. I'm hoping if you fellows see it enough you'll realize how important your pumpers really are. Work on your pumpers and get a good team of pumpers working for you. The rewards are more than worth the effort.

If you haven't done so already, now is a good time to go through your birds, young and old, and select who is going to be next year's breeders. If you look at my article in the June American Pigeon Journal, page 58, under May News, you will get a few ideas. The main thing is be very, very strict in your selection. You can put all the youngsters raised from one pair in a show cage and see if this was a producing pair. When I say producing, I don't mean quantity, I mean quality. If you had a cock on two or three hens and all his youngsters are bums, he goes. If on the other hand he raised you some good ones on different hens, maybe he gets another year in the breeding coop, the same with the hens. Go down the line, see who bred your best youngsters and keep only the best proven breeders from last year. Your old breeders along with your very best youngsters are your next year's breeding team. One other thing I would like to bring to your attention, your best breeders may not be your best show birds. You do not select by outer appearance alone, you also use bloodline. Go back and see not only who the parents are, see who the grandparents were. Certain pigeons throw certain traits, and they carry it from generation to generation. Sometimes they may skip a generation, but it will come back for sure. Make sure your breeders are healthy and hardy, you don't want to keep sickly pigeons as breeders. Make sure the hens you keep are good layers and that they lay a good sized egg. Don't keep those little hens that lay those sparrow sized eggs.

In a nutshell: you want your breeders to be healthy, vigorous type pigeons with good breeding characteristics and bloodlines. The pairing together part the selection of the mate, the outcome is up to you. Please, be very, very selective of your breeders, next years show team will come from these matings.

During this past year, I've received many phone calls and letters from men all over the country and Europe complimenting me on this monthly article. Frill breeders, Long Face and Short Face Tumbler breeders,

African Owl breeders, Pouter breeders, Flying Tippler breeders, Flying Flight breeders, etc., even Domestic Show Flight breeders in and around the city have given me compliments. I would just like to take a moment to thank you all for your encouragement and support.

SEPTEMBER NEWS

Here it is the end of August and what a fast month it has been. I think most, if not all, of our members have stopped breeding. You will find a youngster in the bowl here and there, but that's it. A few guys are buzzing about that good one they have, but not too much yet. We'll get to see some of their youngsters at our shows and so can you. All our shows are held at the Islip Homer Club on Richard Street. The dates are as follows: Baby Show, October 28, 1990; Open Show, where all Domestic Flight breeders, members and non-members alike are welcome to show with us, December 9, 1990 and our Futurity Show, January 13, 1991. We put on three good shows last year and we plan on doing even better this year.

This year, unlike last year, I don't have to write about the shows we are going to have or how we're going to run them. It's bragging time, listen to the rumbling, "We're the HEARTBEAT of the DOMESTIC FLIGHT" and our shows speak for themselves! Everyone is welcome to our shows. Come on down for a nice relaxing day with some of your fellow flight breeders and see what I mean.

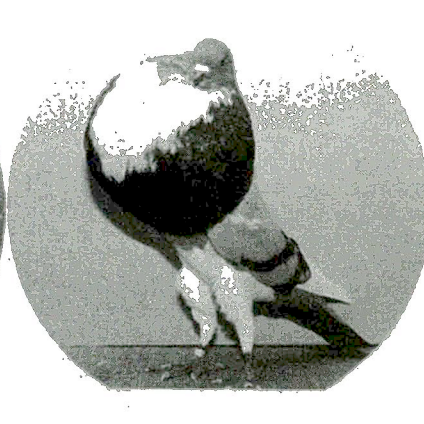
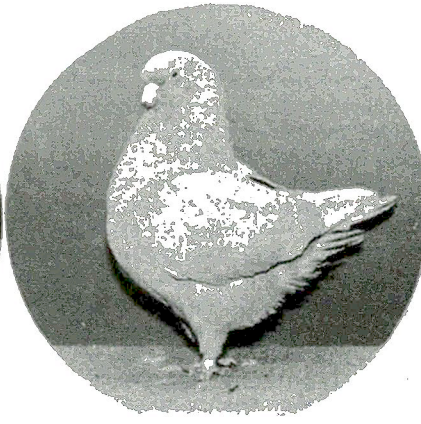
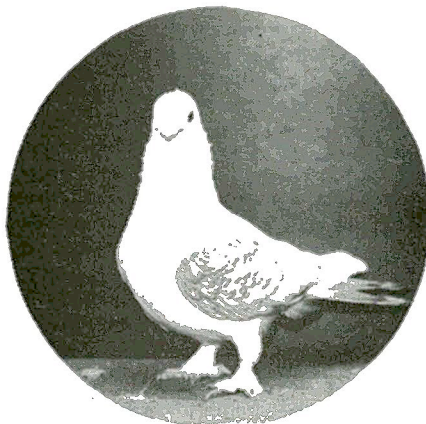
Enough about the shows, let's talk pigeons. I'm sure all of you have seen or heard of "Cartwheels, Pinwheels or Straddle Leg" (call it what you like) in pigeons. This is not a disease, but a condition caused by the lack of proper nesting materials. Using a nest bowl isn't enough. We must use hay, straw, tobacco stems, etc. Just a bowl will not do. The bowl has more or less a flat surface in the center, but with some nesting material the shape becomes more concave and gives the youngsters something to push against, thus preventing this condition. Without proper nesting material, a pigeon's leg or legs bow out from under them at right angles to the body. The pigeon cannot stand up and has to rest on its keel. If the bird is not a very good one, cull it. The sooner you notice this condition, the easier to correct it. Cartwheels, etc., usually occur at approximately two weeks of age. If you feel it may be a good producer or show bird, you can correct this condition. Simply double band the youngster and tie both legs together with a string. Tie it tight enough that the legs are approximately one inch apart and that's it. After two weeks, remove the string and the bird should be able to stand on its own. If you catch it early enough, this cartwheel or straddle leg condition would be corrected nearly 100%.

Another item worth discussing is the "Helicopter or Bat Mobile" type of wing. I'm using these names for lack of a better one. What seems to happen is when the youngster is growing, his primary flight feathers overlap his secondary flight feathers. This usually happens where the primary and secondary feathers meet, or at the first or second secondary feather. It's just an overlap, but instead

of the secondaries overlapping the primaries, it's the primaries overlapping the secondaries. I must have seen a dozen youngsters with this condition during the breeding season. I've also noticed its occurrence at other lofts. So it seems fairly common in the Domestic Show Flight, why I don't know. It happened to me with the African Owls and I've seen it in other breeds, but not as many occurrences. I guess it happens in most breeds, maybe just a little more in flights. Angelo Cavallo showed me a quick cure for this. Make sure all the wing feathers are in their proper position, then get some masking tape and tape the birds wing closed. Use three quarter inch masking tape using a single width, twice around. Put the date on the tape and remove it in four days. Most times four days is enough, if the condition still exists, tape it again for another three or four days. I think what's happening there is the bird's primaries are longer and stronger than its secondaries and they push their way up or around the secondaries. By taping the wing, I think we're giving the secondaries a chance to strengthen and grow to fill in that gap. Whatever happens, the tape works!

From now until February is the ideal time to work on your pumpers. I'm sure we all raised some pumpers this year to replace those old or troublesome pumpers that haven't been working exactly the way we want them to. I only keep my pumpers until they are six years old. If you mate two youngsters together as a pair for next year's pumpers, what you are doing is mating two inexperienced breeders together. Neither one knows exactly what to do, they both have to learn together. It is best to mate a young pumper to one a few years old this way one has the experience to teach the other and you usually wind up with a better pair of pumpers. You may not be able to do this all the time, but when you can, you should. After you have them mated, your next step is to teach the new pumpers the nest box. If you have two youngsters together, a new pair, this can give you some aggravation. Some pairs learn the box right away, others take weeks. For that stubborn pair that's mated, but just can't find that nest box, you might want to try leaving the hen locked in by herself and letting the cock find her. With a young mated to an old, the old bird already knows the box and once the pair is mated, it only takes a day or two for that new, young pumper to know his box. There are plenty of other ways to introduce young pumpers to your pumper loft, use whatever works best for you. The one and only way to introduce good healthy pumpers that will work hard for you is to raise your own from your very best pairs of pumpers. Don't forget, your pumpers are the work force of your breeding team. Pay attention to them, raise them by hand if you can and get them all mated and settled to their nest boxes before next year's breeding season begins.

Enough pigeon talk for now. Don't forget if you want to see what I mean about the "HEARTBEAT of the DOMESTIC FLIGHT," come visit us at one of our shows and you'll see what I mean!



CHAMPIONS IN NEW ENGLAND

The following were winners at the 1989 Faircount Show held Nov. 25, 1989: 1st photo, Champion Oriental Frill, #540, Brunette YH, Tony Sodoski; 2nd photo, Champion Schietti Modena, #32 Yellow OH, Gene Lussier; 3rd photo, Champion Norwich Cropper, #850, Blue OC, John Harrison. — Photos by Gregory M. Cap, Milford, Conn.

Faircount 1989 Report – NPA District No. 1 Show

by GREGORY M. CAP, Milford, Conn.

#!@% it's cold outside! That's what we were all saying November 25, 1989. Autumn in New England is always a spectacular time of the year. People travel thousands of miles just to look at our Early American heritage displayed in a annual showcase of color. This year mother nature gave us a bit of a twist. Instead of our annual fall classic we were treated to a winter parade. What should have been a crisp and colorful New England morning turned out to be a bone chilling winter day. With Mother Nature working

against us, the pigeon fanciers of New England exhibited not only their birds but their pride and dedication to the hobby.

FAIRCOUNT is the longtime home of the NPA District No. 1 show. This show is held annually the Saturday after Thanksgiving. It's the largest all breed pigeon show in New England.

This year's show featured over 30 different breeds. The judges did an outstanding job of selecting the Champions of New England. The following list is a summary of each

breeds finest:

CHINESE OWLS - Judge: Gary Cable
Best of Breed - M. Lufkin, griz ck O.C., #208; 1st Reserve, M. Lufkin, blue ck OC, #270; 2nd Reserve, K. Phillips, mealy OC #1525; 3rd Reserve, M. Lufkin, blue ck. YC #889; 4th Reserve, M. Lufkin, tort. OC #266; Color Class, M. Lufkin, BB OC #4702; Color Class, D. Kesier, white OC #296; Best Junior, K. Phillips, mealy OC #1525.

PIGMY POUTERS - Judge: John Harrison

Best of Breed, M. Cocchia, mealy OC #705; Best Blue, M. Cocchia, blue OC #919; Best Red & OS, M. Cocchia, red OH #693; Best Yellow, M. Cocchia, yellow OC #899.

NORWICH CROPPERS - Judge: Bud Curran

Best of Breed, J. Harrison, blue OC #850; Best Red, B. Boltrek, red OH #268; Best Mealy, F. Oliveira, mealy YC #851; Best Kite, J. Harrison, kite YC #199.

REVERSEWING POUTERS - Judge: Fred Oliveira

Best of Breed, B. Curley, red YH #342; Best Blue, B. Curley, blue YC #360; Best Black, B. Curley, black YH #863; Best Yellow, A. Six, yellow OH #183.

POMERANIAN POUTERS - Judge: Frank Frisch

Best of Breed, A. Six, mealy YC #579; 1st Reserve - A. Six, silver YH #590.

ENGLISH POUTERS - Judge: Frank Frisch

Best of Breed, B. Curley, YH #60; 1st Reserve, B. Curley, YH #134.

ROLLERS - FLYING - Judge: Maud Naugle

Best of Breed, E. Lamper, almond OH #118; Best OC, E. Lamper, white OC #107; Best YC, E. Lamper, red ck YC #840; Best YH, E. Lanaro, yellow YH, #232.

ROLLERS - SHOW - Judge: Dick Percheco

Best of Breed, J. Carragi, tort. OH #2695; Best OC, W. Sullivan, red ck OC #480; Best

Central Canada Fantail Club Breeders' Auction At Annual Show

by MICHAEL M. BOYD, Terra Cotta, Ontario, Canada

The Canadian Fantail Club and the National Fantail Club of Canada have now amalgamated to form the Central Canada Fantail Club. This new Club is having its Annual Meet on December 1, 1990, in Cameron, Ontario, and this show promises to be one of the biggest Fantail shows in Canada or the U.S. this year. As well, the Club is having a Yearling and Young Bird Show in Nottawa, Ontario, on January 26, 1991. Both of these will be one day shows. The Annual Meet will be judged by Gary Bronson of Delta, Ohio, and the Yearling and Young Bird Show will be judged by John Ferber of Harrow, Ontario.

For information and an entry form for the Annual Meet, contact Paul McColeman, R.R. 2, Box 212, Cameron, Ontario, Canada K0M 1G0, (705) 887-6244.

At the Annual Meet on December 1, we will be having an auction sale of Fantails consigned by some of our most notable breeders. These Fantails will be among the best to be sold by each of these breeders this year.

The following is a list of breeders who have agreed to put up one (or in some cases two) pair for this sale: John Ferber, a pair of his barred colors; Fred Coops, a pair of Reds;

Gerry Macerollo, a pair of barreds or grizzles; Paul McColeman, color undecided; Brian Pogue, a pair of Blacks, Reds or Yellows; Bob Phillip, two pair of Blacks, Indigos or Andalusians; Paul Polly, a pair of Whites or Almonds; Bob Pommer, a pair of Saddles or Opals; Stan Racho, a pair of Blacks; Domenic Zarlanga, a pair of barred or grizzles.

As well we hope there will be one or two other prominent breeders who will have birds in the auction. Be assured that whatever colors and birds these breeders decide to put up for this auction these Fantails will be among the best in North America to be sold this year.

The sale will begin about 1:00 p.m., after the lunch break from judging is over. If anyone is unable to attend in person, bids by proxy may be made and these bids giving the maximum amount authorized to bid on a given pair should be telephoned or mailed to Mr. Michael Boyd, R.R. 1, Terra Cotta, Ontario, Canada L0P 1N0, (416) 873-0927.

Any pairs that are bought by American breeders can be delivered to the Central Fantail Club's annual meet on January 11-13, 1991, by members of the Central Canada Fantail Club who will be attending this show.

YC, W. Sullivan, tort. YC #89; Best YH, J. Carragi, blue ck. YH #820.

TIPPLERS - SHOW -Judge: Maud Naugle

Best of Breed, L. Bozyday, bronze Y.H.

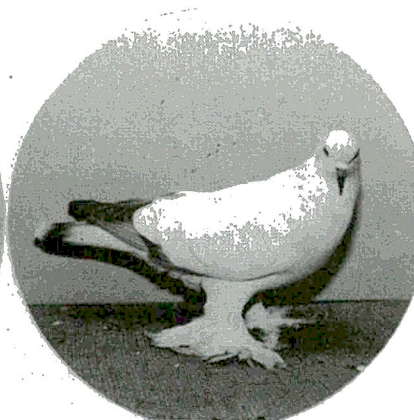
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TIPPLERS - FLYING -Judge: Maud Naugle

Best of Breed, E. Buraczewski, bl grz O.C. #447; Best O.H., E. Buraczewski, bl

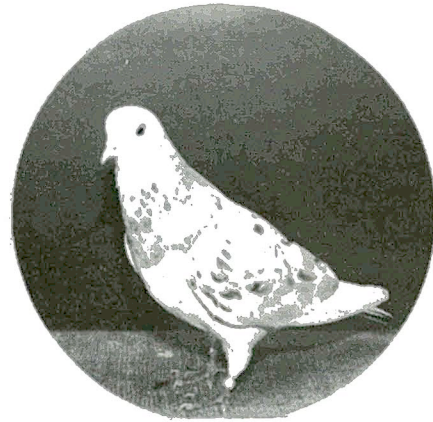
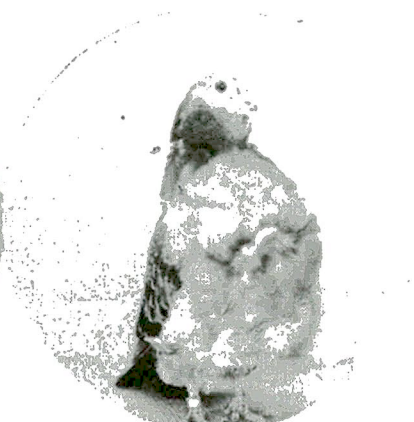
grz O.H. #153; Best Y.C., Concepci/Muniz, bl grz Y.C. #2353; Best Y.H., E. Buraczewski, bl grz Y.H. #105.

(Continued On Next Page)



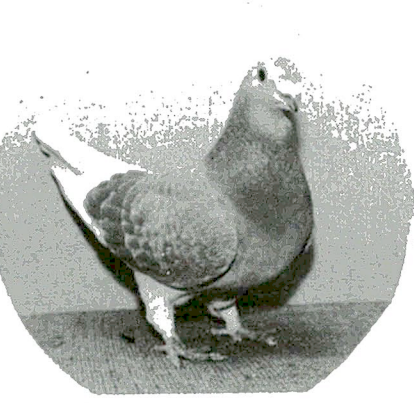
CHAMPIONS IN NEW ENGLAND

The following were winners at the 1989 Faircount Show held Nov. 25, 1989: 1st photo, Champion Pigmy Pouter, #705 Mealy OC, Mike Cocchia; 2nd photo, Champion Ice Pigeon, #857, Muffed Bar OC, Leo Bozyday; 3rd photo, Champion LFCL Tumbler, #972, White OH, Edward Steinmann. - Photos by Gregory M. Cap, Milford, Conn.



CHAMPIONS IN NEW ENGLAND

The following were winners at the 1989 Faircount Show held Nov. 25, 1989: 1st photo, Champion Show Roller, #2695 Tortoise OH, Joe Carragi; 2nd photo, Champion Chinese Owl, #208 Grizzle Check OC, Mark Lufkin; 3rd photo, Champion Flying Roller, #118, Almond Baldhead OH, Edward Lamper. - Photos by Gregory M. Cap, Milford, Conn.



CHAMPIONS IN NEW ENGLAND

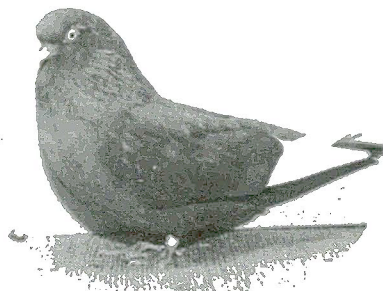
The following were winners at the 1989 Faircount Show held Nov. 25, 1989: 1st photo, Champion Turbit, #414, Strawberry OC, Charlie Cichanowicz; 2nd photo, Champion Show Racer, #949, Red OH, John Lamp; 3rd photo, Champion African Owl, #8340, Black Pied OH, Edward Steinmann. - Photos by Gregory M. Cap, Milford, Conn.

MODENA - SCHIETTI - Judge: Bud Curran

Best of Breed, G. Lussier, yellow O.H. #32; Best O.C., G. Lussier, red O.C. #821; Best Y.C., G. Lussier, yellow Y.C. #342; Best Y.H., G. Lussier, yellow Y.H. #309.



MODENA - GAZZI - Judge: Bud Curran
Best of Breed, M. Pringle, blue Y.C. #144; Best O.C., M. Pringle, blue O.C. #700; Best O.H., M. Pringle, blue O.H. #703; Best Y.H., M. Pringle, bronze Y.H. #101.



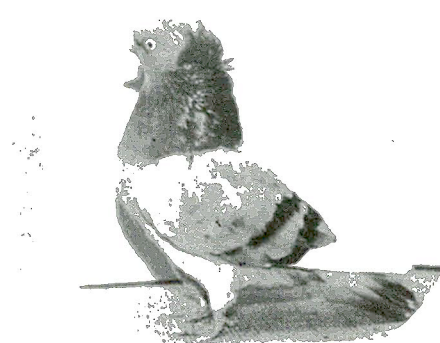
ORIENTAL FRILLS - Judge: Felix Sablack

Best of Breed, T. Sodoski, brunette Y.H. #540; Best O.C., T. Sodoski, brunette O.C. #487; Best O.H., T. Sodoski, blue lc O.H. #937; Best Y.C., C. Cichancwicz, yl blnd



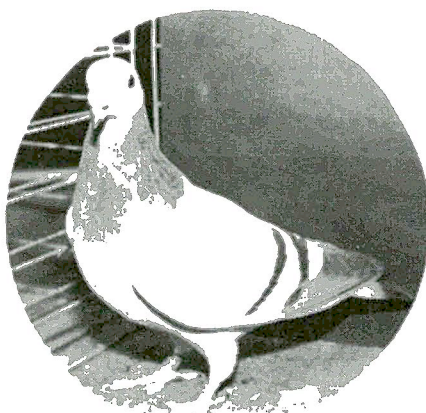
CHAMPIONS IN NEW ENGLAND

The following were winners at the 1989 Faircount Show held Nov. 25, 1989: 1st photo, Champion MF Helmet, #958, Yellow OC, Joyce Cap; 2nd photo, Champion PH Flight, #52, Red OH, Michael LaManna; 3rd photo, Champion SF Helmet, #741, Black OC, Roger Gravel. - Photos by Gregory M. Cap, Milford, Conn.



CHAMPIONS IN NEW ENGLAND

The following were winners at the 1989 Faircount Show held Nov. 25, 1989: 1st photo, Champion Junior, #24, Komorner Tumbler, OC, Jeffery Cap; 2nd photo, Champion Capped Flight, #830, Blue YH, Michael LaManna; 3rd photo, Champion Komorner Tumbler, #2612, Black Magpie Marked OC, Ed Lorme. - Photos by Gregory M. Cap, Milford, Conn.



CHAMPIONS IN NEW ENGLAND

The following were winners at the 1989 Faircount Show held Nov. 25, 1989: 1st photo, Champion Frillback, #704, Red Grizzle OC, D & R Lofts; 2nd photo, Champion Racing Homer, #4415, Blue Bar YC, Anthony Bernat; 3rd photo, Champion Nun, #930, Black OC, LeRoy Woodworth. - Photos by Gregory M. Cap, Milford, Conn.

Y.C. #475.

AFRICAN OWLS - Judge: Felix Sablack

Best of Breed, E. Steinmann, black O.H. #8340; Best O.C., J. Ashton, blue O.C. #527; Best Y.C., J. Ashton, white Y.C. #675; Best YH, J. Ashton, dunn Y.H. #685.

TURBITS - Judge: Felix Sablack

Best of Breed, C. Cichanowicz, straw. O.C. #414; Best Y.H., C. Cichanowicz, red Y.H. #509.

L.F.C.L. TUMBLERS - Judge: Tony Olezowski

Best of Breed, E. Steinmann, white O.H. #972; Best Barred, W. McConnell, red bar O.C. #621; Best Black, E. Steinmann, black O.C. #620; Best Marked, R. & S. Teixeira, black Y.C. #333.

KOMORNER TUMBLERS - Judge: Maurd Naugle

Best of Breed, E. Lorme, blk mag O.C. #2612; Best O.H., E. Lorme, red mag O.H. #2764; Best Y.C., E. Lorme, blk mag Y.C. #3909; Best Y.H., E. Lorme, blk mag Y.H. #3915.

FLIGHTS - Judge: Tony Olezowski

Best of Breed, M. LaManna, red PH O.C. #52; Best Y.H., J. Maytan, yel PH O.H. #510; Best O.C., J. Maytan, red PH O.C. #197; Best Y.C., J. Maytan, yel PH Y.C. #505; Best Cap, M. LaManna, blue Y.H. #830.

SHORT FACE HELMET - Judge: Bob Powell

Best of Breed, R. Gravel, black O.C. #741; Best O.H., R. Gravel, black O.H. #744; Best Y.C., R. Gravel, yellow Y.C. #3618; Best Y.H., R. Gravel, red Y.H. #3608.

MEDIUM FACE HELMETS - Judge: Bob Powell

Best of Breed, Joyce Cap, yellow O.C. #958.

NUNS - Judge: Maurd Naugle

Best of Breed, L. Woodworth, black O.C. #930; Best O.H., L. Woodworth, brown O.H. #116; Best Y.C., L. Woodworth, black Y.C. #444; Best Y.H., L. Woodworth, black Y.H. #415.

JACOBINS - Judge: Maurd Naugle

Best of Breed, D. O'Connor, white O.C.

#78; Best O.H., D. O'Connor, red O.H. #209; Best Y.C., R. Muszynski, almond Y.C. #217; Best Y.H., R. Muszynski, almond Y.H. #216.

FRILLBACKS - Judge: Maurd Naugle
Best of Breed, D+R Lofts, red grz O.C. #704.

ICE PIGEONS - Judge: Maurd Naugle
Best of Breed, L. Bozyday, muffed O.C. #857.

FANTAILS - Judge: Maurd Naugle
Best of Breed, Janice Cap, white Y.H. #187.

INDIAN FANTAILS - Judge: Maurd Naugle
Best of Breed, L. Woodworth, AOC Y.C. #67.

SHOWRACERS - Judge: Frank Zielinski
Best of Breed, J. Lamp, red OH #949; Best OC, J. Lamp, blk ck OC #001; Best YC, J. Lamp, red YC #312; Best YH, W. Sullivan, BB YH #303.

RACING HOMERS - Judge: Frank Zielinski

Best of Breed, A. Bernat, bl br YC #4415; Best OC, F. Bauer, bl ck OC #1811; Best OH, A. Bernat, bl BR OH, #1521; Best YH, G. Cap, bl br YH #873.

JUNIOR AWARDS - Judge: Maurd Naugle

Champion of Show - Jeff Cap, *Komorner Tumbler*; Reserve Champion - K. Phillips, *Chinese Owl*; 2nd Reserve - R. Phillips, *Indian Fantail*.

I would like to congratulate all the winners of the 1989 FAIRCOUNT SHOW, you truly had a fine group of birds. Also, a job well done is in order to the great exhibitors we had and those that helped us put the show together.

The success of every show is directly related to the people behind the scenes. Many thankless hours and even days are spent getting things ready because "The Show Must Go On." I would like to take a moment to thank a few hard working people. Bob Johnston, our show supt., again lead us to a successful show. Joyce Cap, our show secretary, did a great job of recording all the entries. Our ground crew of M. Cocchia, Jeff Cap, Janice Cap, A. Dritenbas, V. Duntz, R.

Gravel, E. Lanaro, J. Liska, E. Lorme, T. Lorme, W. Lourigan, P. Meade, H. Mitchell, A. Samperi, A. Sodoski, E. Tomasko, made setting up a pleasure.

A special note to all exhibitors, the 1990 show is the 25th anniversary of FAIRCOUNT. A gala event to commemorate this occasion is planned. The show is set for Saturday, November 24 at the Ansonia Armory, 5 State Street, Ansonia, Conn. See our ad in the August 1990 issue of APJ.

CCRC News

by JAY VENTRESS, Turlock, Calif.

Well, it's fly time in the C.C.R.C. We take three months off during the heat of the summer and start back in Oct. The birds are coming out of the moult, the weather is turning cool and the kits are getting sharp on performance.

In Nov., the C.C.R.C. will be sponsoring a P.R.A. Fly and Mini Convention. So you guys get the birds ready for the display. If you are interested contact Jack Myers at 209-521-6812.

I have been questioning some of our club members about a puzzling aspect of the roll and I want to put this question to the roller fancy in general and if you think you have an answer I would appreciate it for our bulletin.

We all are wanting to breed the high velocity spinner. The bird that will spin 40 times in 20 ft. rather than the bird who will roll 20 times in 40 ft. The question is why do some birds fall faster than others? Example: two high velocity pigeons start spinning at the same time. Both drop 20 ft., but one bird gets there a lot quicker. Why?

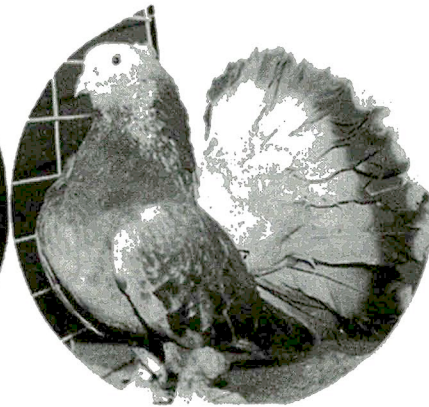
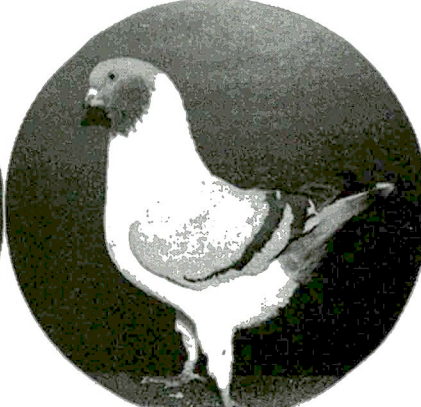
I have also seen birds spin for a long time that did not fall very far at all. Why?

I have heard many answers for the three birds, all being interchangeable depending on who I was talking to. Some talk about efficiency, primaries, secondaries, aerodynamics, etc.

Is it wing position in the spin?

If you have an idea, let's hear it.

Contact: Jay Ventress, 920 8th, Turlock, CA 95380, 209-634-2409.



CHAMPIONS IN NEW ENGLAND

The following were winners at the 1989 Faircount Show held Nov. 25, 1989: 1st photo, Champion Fantail, #187, Marked White YH, Janice Cap; 2nd photo, Champion Gazzi Modena, #144, Blue YC, Mark Pringle; 3rd photo, Champion Indian Fantail, #67, AOC YC, LeRoy Woodworth. - Photos by Gregory M. Cap, Milford, Conn.

Come Along With Us

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



Today is September 25 and we have started the count down for this years National Young Bird Show in Louisville, Kentucky. By the time you read this, the show will be history and the Tumbler Fancy will be looking forward to our next big show, the National Championship Tumbler Show. This year's "Big One," will be held in Bay City, Michigan and hosted by the Michigan Tumbler Show.

The Michigan people are going all out again to show us a good time. I have received calls from Dave Emmrich, John Rice and Paul Budnik, all making sure that I am kept up on the latest information about the show. As reported a few month ago, it will be on January 24, 25, and 26. The Bay Valley Inn will be the sight and they will provide free transportation to and from the airport. Room rates are \$55.00 for one or two people and they have a heated pool for our use. Airlines serving Bay City are: Continental, Northwest and Delta. Make your airline and room reservations now! The phone number of the Inn is: (517) 686-3500. I just got off the phone with the Bay Valley Inn and besides the limo service and pool, they also have indoor tennis courts, a nautilus room and I am told by John Rice that the restaurant and lounge are first class.

For those who want to drive through Canada, you need a registered vet to fill out forms VS-17-6 and Interstate Health Certificates. This must be done within 30 days of the show, but you must allow yourself enough time for the forms to be processed. Do not wait until the last minute. A young lady by the name of Jymmi, at the Vet Services Bureau helped me compile this information. If you need help, her number is: (518) 472-4477.

Another way to consider is to ship your birds via the U.S. Postal Service, instead of the red tape involved in transporting your bird through Canada. For information on shipping your birds, or any questions you have about the show, call Tim Stajkowski at: (517) 893-9642.

I think that I have covered all the information you will need about the Bay City Show. I want to thank the members who contacted me with this information, now it is up to the APJ to print it in time, so you can make use of it.

A very unpleasant subject for some is the loss of birds from an old disease that has been hitting hard lately. Paratyphoid has been taking its toll making some think that the Paramyxovaccine did not do its job. The Paratyphoid vaccine is expensive, \$69.00 for 100 doses, but so is buying new birds to replace the ones you lost. I have been using

it for three years and swear by it. I banded over 100 young Muffs this year and only put down, or lost 14 after they were banded. There is a down side to this success, the feed bill is higher.

I attended the Rochester Pigeon Show in September and after having good turnouts of Muffed Tumblers at past shows, I was the only one showing Modern Muffs. I did meet a nice lady who was showing Saddles and I think with a little push, she will become more interested in the Muffed Tumbler Fancy. Her name is Pat Wilcox and she is from Phelps, N.Y. It was a pleasure to meet you Pat and I look forward to seeing you at more of the shows.

Barry Wilson has advised me that he is stepping down as the Secretary of the Western Tumbler Club. I hate to see you go Barry, but you have served your tenure and are entitled to a rest. If anyone is interested in trying to fill Barry's shoes, you can contact him at: 4101 Salem Rd., Salem, Wisc. 53168.

Gary Gammel sent the Upper Midwest Tumbler Club's Bulletin and told of his problems with Paratyphoid this past year. If you are interested in joining the U.M.T.C. you can send \$3.00 to Gary at: 3945 E. 32nd St., Des Moines, Ia. 50317. The U.M.T.C. and the Central Tumbler Club will have their annual meet in Des Moines on Dec. 8.

Larry Larock sent the Eastern Tumbler Club of Canada's Bulletin with an entry for their Lawn Show. This year's show will have been Oct. 13 at the home of Bill Boyle. If you would like to join you can contact Larry at 2700 Saratoga Place, Apt. #715, Gloucester, Ontario K1T 1W4.

I received the United English Tumbler Club Bulletin from Ron Des Lauriers and Jim Stehr Sr., in time for last month's article, but I thought that I should congratulate them again for a job well done with the bulletin and it will be a shame if we do not convince them to stay on and continue the work they started so well. (Even if you do ignore my letters). If you would like to join the club, send your \$10.00 dues to Robert Wood, 8209 NW 31st St., Bethany, OK 73008.

It is that time in the article when I sign off and beg for some news. How about it folks, even a postcard would help out. Send those cards and letters to: Box 157, Memphis, N.Y. 13112.

SEPTEMBER NEWS

By the time you read this, we should be heading for the National Young Bird Show, held in Louisville, Kentucky. Denise and I look forward to getting together with our friends in the Tumbler Fancy each Fall and this year is no exception. We hear from many of these people by mail, or phone at times,

but it is not the same as sitting down and enjoying each others company, face to face.

Before I get started, does anyone have a current address for Robert Bennion? My last letter was returned.

I want to finish up Jim Bush's comments on the Reading Show and then I will cover the current news. This month we'll start off with the Red Self Muffs. O.C., 1st, also Best Red and Champion Muffed Tumbler of the Show, shown by Carl Wissler. A fabulous bird, excellent beak, skull, neck and body type. Beautiful bird to handle and look at. 2nd, shown by Carl also. O.H. 1, 2, 3 all shown by Carl. Top quality, well balanced Tumblers. Y.H., 1st again to Carl, probably the best beaked and skulled Muffed Tumbler in the Show. Short on muffs and very poor color. 2nd and 3rd to Tom Evans. Y.C., 1st to Ron and Sue Teixeira, also the Best Young Red. Very powerful Cock bird, excellent muffs and hocks. Only Muff in the show with good hocks. Color poor, but easy winner. 2nd, Carl Wissler.

Except for the O.H. class, the Yellows were weak and small in numbers. Y.C., only one entered, to Tom Evans. This was best Young Yellow. Y.C. only one, to Carl Wissler. No O.C.s shown. O.H., seven entered and a real good class of birds. Good beaked and skulled, nice in body and type. Top four all very nice birds. The winning O.H. was an outstanding bird. She was my choice for Best Yellow. Shown by Carl Wissler. 2nd to Tom Evans. 3 and 4 to Carl.

The following are some comments by Jim on the Muff Sells in general: Although the Muff breeders have made great progress in producing the short boxed beak that we all are obsessed with, the Muff Tumbler is losing its type and style that it has been long known for, plus the loss of its full muffs and hocks. They are also getting too elongated in body. We have to get our priorities straight. The Tumbler is not a beaked pigeon. (That is 100 points for the beak only. What about the short thick, neck and body, with good full muffs and hocks. Also some style and the head with its eye held over the ball of the foot). Anyway, just my opinion of the group shown at Reading as a whole.

I want to thank Jim for his report and I personally would like to hear from all the judges with their thoughts on the birds shown at the various shows.

In a return letter to Jim, I commented that I felt the judges are the ones who pick the large headed, short muffed birds over the well balanced birds with the good foot feathering. I also stated that the criticism was not leveled at just him. It has taken years and many a judge's decision to mold what we now call the Muffed Tumbler. Maybe it is time we all take another look at the standard and either judge to it, or change it. Jim's answer to my comments was "damned if you do, damned if you don't." (Please, don't anyone try to read anything into these comments. Jim and I have been friends for years and both agree that something should be done to bring the Muffed Tumbler back to the bird it originally was. A MUFFED

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Tumbler).

Jim also told me that he has started to breed Black Baldhead Muffs, with help from Jerry Wissler.

Bob Kirchner, from Illinois, wrote to say he has been very busy with work, but he did get to visit his daughter in Texas and make a side trip to a man who raises Show Homers and a few Baldheads. Bob said he wished the man had more Tumblers and was going to try to help him get a few more. Bob had about 20 Reds banded and a few Yellows, along with four Barred Muffs. He is looking forward to Louisville also. (Thanks for the kind words on the column).

Keith Lee, from the Republic of South Africa, wrote. He is still looking for some help on his Almond C.L.s. Keith's address is: P.O. Box 848, Kloof 3640 Natal, Republic of South Africa. If anyone can help him out, drop the man a line. Keith also informed me that Steward Patterson from his homeland, will be visiting here in the U.S.A.

Frank Garcia, from New York State, wrote to ask for some help on Ash Red Baldheads. He wants to know if he should breed his Ash Reds to Black, or Red Balts? How about it folks, who wants to field this one? Frank's address is: RR 1, Box 297, Kerhonkson, N.Y. 12446. By the way, Frank breeds C.L.s, but maybe if we treat him right, we can get him to add a few Muffs to his loft.

John Tidwell, from California, wrote to tell me that a nice thing happened to him, the P.T.C. gave him an Honorary Life Membership in their Club. (Congratulations John!) John sent me a picture of himself seated next to a very attractive young lady, who is a pigeon fancier in England. (Some guys have all the luck). John stated that he thought the colored tails on the Bearded Muffs were easier to breed, that is why they are preferred. (Johnnie Blaine once said the same thing to me, but my experience to date, has been the colored is harder to breed and hold, because the white seems to spread. Once you have one white tail feather in one parent, the chances of having more than one white feather in the young is greater. Due to this, I now have white tailed Beards and colored tailed Beards and I try not to breed any bird with a white tail feather into the colored tailed birds).

Ron Teixeira, from Massachusetts, called to say he and his wife Sue were doing well and they had a few young banded. Ron said he visited with some breeders in California while there on business. He has written an article for the APJ on the trip. (Thanks for the call Ron, I'll be looking forward to the article).

Samuel Pino, from New Mexico, wrote a nice letter, (they are all nice, especially when they compliment me on the column) saying that he has had pigeons on and off for over 24 years, belongs to six clubs and is raising over 20 breeds. Included is the rare Catalonian Tumbler (I don't think I have ever seen one) and the West of England Tumbler. He is mostly into the "Fancy" for the many friends he has made and the shows. As a teenager, Samuel had Red Self Muffs and says that he might get back into Muffs someday. He

keeps over 350 birds and has four lofts. (Thank you Samuel for the nice letter, I'll look forward to the day when you re-join our ranks).

Bill Henderson, from Tennessee, wrote to tell me he still has a love for the Muffed Tumbler, but he is limited in the size of his loft and his travel for work prohibit keeping them. (Bill is concerned with having to have feeders for the Muffs). He set up with Bob Baruth at a Kansas Modena show and commented that he was about the nicest fellow he has met. (I can only think of one thing that would make Bob nicer, if he would write a nice long letter to me about himself, his Muffs and his theories on breeding Muffs). Bill did say that Bob gave him one pair of Muffs to work with. (Thanks for the letter Bill and the kind words, and I look forward to seeing you in Louisville).

Dave Paddick Jr., from Indiana, wrote to give me the good news that he has finished school and is looking forward to a new house and getting back into Muffed Tumblers. When he wrote, he and his wife were still in an apartment, but they hoped to be in their house by September. (I will be looking forward to our visit at Louisville and naturally I am glad to have you back in the hobby).

CLUB NEWS!!

The Pigeon Fanciers of Rochester will have had their Young Bird Show at the Genesee Country Museum on September 9. I will have a write-up on the Muffed Tumbler entries in a future column. The Rochester Shows have been drawing several Muffs in the past few years and I look forward to another good show.

William E. Smith Jr., Secretary of the American Pigeon Club, sent along their bulletin. If you are interested in joining an all breed club, you can contact Bill at: Route 1, Box 824, Thurmond, NC 28683. First year's dues are \$6.00.

Bret Rice sent in the P.T.C. Bulletin and some encouraging words to keep writing the column. (Thanks Bret). The following is the run down of the Muffed Tumblers at their June Young Bird Show. Judge Tom Evans. Unfortunately there were only nine Muffs shown. There were three Black Baldhead Muffs shown and Richard Lujan had the Best. Larry Deckert had the Best Self and Best Muffed Tumbler with a White Y.H. (Congratulations Gentlemen). If you would like to join the P.T.C., you can contact Bret at: 2210 E. 25th St., Yuma, AZ 85365.

The Eastern Tumbler Club of Canada's, Larry Larock sent along their Bulletin. If you are interested, contact Larry at: 2700 Saratoga Place, Apt. #715, Gloucester, Ontario K1T 1W4. The only Muff breeder that Larry mentioned was Bud Lunney and there was no mention how his year was going. The Muffed Tumbler breeders in Canada should be more active in this club, so that Larry and I have something to write about.

The United English Tumbler Club sent along their Bulletin from Ron Des Lauriers and Jim Stehr, Sr. These men have done a first class job putting out the new club's bulletin, but they plan to step down after their

tenure ends in December. Show dates mentioned in the Bulletin are: National Young Bird Show, Louisville, KY, Oct. 27. Upper Midwest Tumbler Club Annual Meet, plus the C.T.C. annual, Des Moines, Iowa, Dec. 7. The National Championship Tumbler Show, Bay City, Michigan, January 25-27, 1991. Muff Judges at Bay City are: Self - John Rice, Alt. Gary Gammel, Barred - Jim Stehr Sr., Alt. Gary Pack and all Marked Muffs - Carl Wissler, Alt. Bob Witte. If you are interested in joining this club, send your dues to: Robert Wood, 8209 NW 31st St., Bethany, OK 73008. (I find it odd that I have probably written more letters to Robert Smith and Jim Stehr, Sr., than any other person, still my name has not been mentioned in the Bulletin. We are all working for the same goals, I am just trying to make sure when we get there, we are all equal. I feel that my opinions should be heard and reported on the same as those who agree with you.

From the Central Tumbler Club and Bob Wood, comes the C.T.C. Bulletin. A couple of show dates not mentioned earlier and reported in the bulletin are: C.T.C. Sectional, Hutchinson, KS, Nov. 3, 1990. C.T.C. Sectional, Shawnee, OK, Dec. 8, 1990. If you are interested in joining, or showing with the C.T.C., contact Bob at the previously mentioned address.

I want to thank everyone who took the time to write and send me their club bulletins. Outside news makes writing this column so much easier. I know I say it every month, but if each of you would write to me at least once a year, I would have plenty of news to report. My address is: Box 157, Memphis, N.Y. 13112.

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Pouter Partisan



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

THE FUN POUTER

I know that you're thinking, Jeez this Barrachina must be nuts, here he has told us what fun all Pouters are, and he starts by writing about one Pouter being fun.

Well, if you must know the truth, all of the Pouters are fun, but one in particular seems to stand out as unbelievably tame from the time it leaves the nest. This breed is the Marchenero Pouter.

The Marchenero is one of the oldest Pouter breeds. In fact, it could very well be the ancestor to many Pouter breeds. This pigeon has been bred in Europe for approximately one thousand years. It was brought to that continent during the Moorish conquest of Spain. Originally, it was referred to as the "Colitejo" or tile tail Pouter. The Spanish pigeon fancy had not been documented to the extent that the pigeon fancy had been written about in such countries as Germany, Holland and England, and so a great deal of information regarding the history and development of breeds was known only through the oral

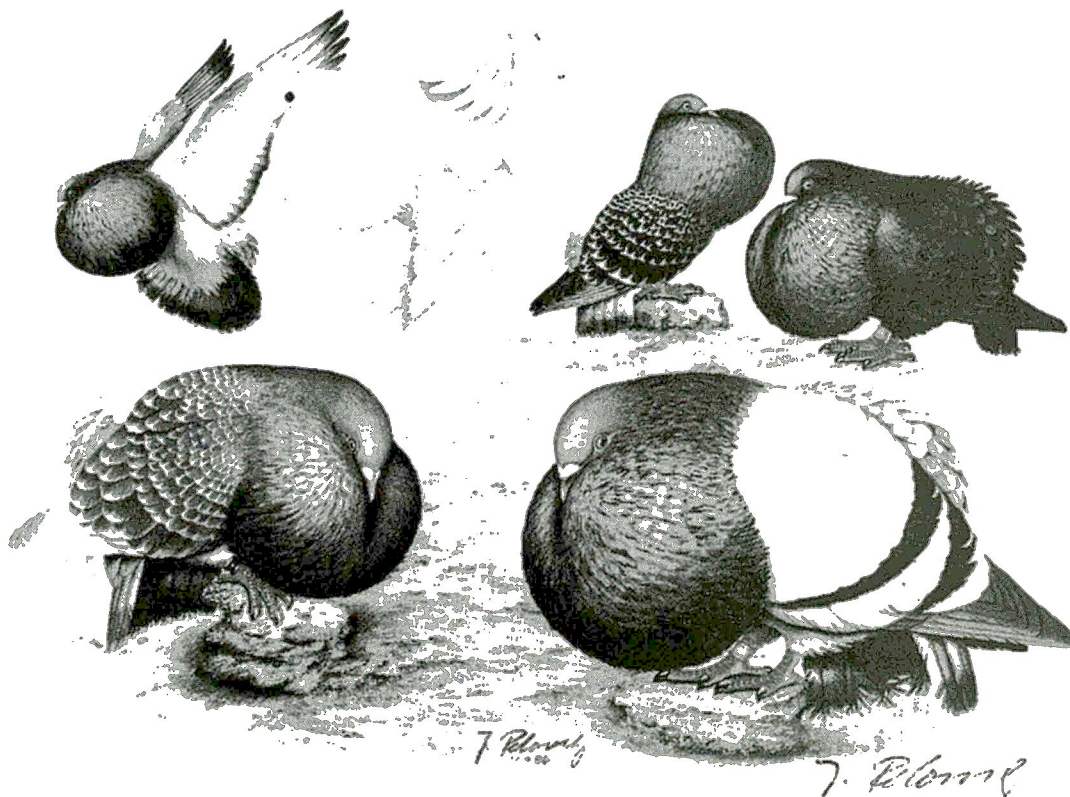
tradition of story telling. To substantiate the origin and study of this and several other breeds, one can also rely on ancient manuscripts. This breed was written about in 1150 by Dr. Abul Zacaria Iahia ebn el Awam of Sevilla, Spain, in his book, Libro de Agricultura. Unfortunately for pigeon book collec-

tors, this priceless handwritten manuscript is not available. It is in the Spanish Royal Library archives, and anyway, it's written in Arabic and not illustrated. It was translated in 1802 by Josef Banqueri and so we at least know something of that bygone era's Pouters.



MARCHENERO POUTERS

*An excellent Marchenero Pouter cock bred by Manuel Rodriguez, Aguilar, Seville, Spain.
— Photo by Yuste.*



MARCHENERO POUTERS

Watercolor painting of Marchenero Pouters by Jakob Relovsky of Sindelfingen, West Germany. The original is in the collection of Lynn Watson, San Clemente, Calif.



A pair of blue check Marchenero Pouters bred and owned by Frank Barrachina, Yucaipa, Calif.

This breed has been developed over the years by fanciers from the Seville area in the south of Spain. There are two versions as to how it got its name. It either took its name from a city or else it got its name from a priest who bred it.

Before we go any further with the discussion of the breed, I'd like to "clear the air" so to speak about how the name is pronounced. Many Pouter fanciers in the south and Midwest have a heck of a time pronouncing the name, well think of it as, "marchin-air-o." It's that easy!

What makes a good Marchenero? We can safely say that it's a breed of distinct form and style. It's a remarkably small and light bodied pigeon that gives the impression of being bigger because of its globe and also unique ability to ruffle its feathers.

It is also a bird of fine features: a medium length fine beak, small smooth eye ceres, and even small fine boned feet.

The Marchenero's globe is well inflated, however, it isn't distended to the point of being over inflated, or of having significant back globe. According to the Spanish standard, the ideal globe would have a vertical crease.

The bird's body is relatively short, and special emphasis is placed on a short keel. In the hand, the bird should feel light.

Emphasizing the short body is the bird's unique rumping ability and the short scoop shaped tail. The bird's back is wide and loosely feathered. The rump feathers form a hackle which is called the rabadilla (pronounced with a soft a, ra-ba-deel-ya. Say it fast and you've got it.) When the bird is strutting or cooing or flying, the rump feathers will hackle.

The tail is amazing in that unlike other pigeons, the Marchenero's is scooped downward like a lobster. This is especially evident when the bird is strutting or flying. When it

flies, the tail is often scooped under the body. Super active birds often break their tail feathers, and so any fancier who might desire to show his birds would have to pull the broken tail feathers and keep the bird in a pen where it couldn't fly with a good litter of shavings. Additionally, it would be best to coop the show bird so that it couldn't see other pigeons. Why?

If there ever was an active Pouter, the Marchenero is it. It is constantly looking for a mate, for a new conquest, or even for a battle with a rival cock. When it's shown in Europe, the sides and back of its show pen are covered so that the birds won't break their feathers trying to get through the wires to their neighbors. Like all of the Spanish Pouter breeds, the Marchenero is a "thief" Pouter. Remember, it's been bred for more than a millenia for its ability to bring other pigeons to its home loft. Despite the fact that the Marchenero is being bred as a purely show bird, it can still live up to the flying thief Pouter fame. In this breed, you can and must have the dual qualities, however, as previously stated, showing requires good feather condition.

American fanciers first learned about the Marchenero through the pages of the APJ. Almost 30 years ago, Marvin Emery of Missouri, wrote about some of the unique Spanish Pouter breeds. His articles were illustrated with photos of birds owned by the noted authority on Spanish pigeons, Ralph Buch Brage, then of Havana, Cuba. Mr. Brage collaborated with the late Wendell Levi when the masterpiece, "The Pigeon" was revised and also for "The Encyclopedia of Pigeons." This was the beginning of the interest. I'd like to mention that Ralph Brage (pronounced with a soft a and e, Bra-he) is still alive and well and lives in Pensicola, Spain.

Interest in the Marchenero grew in the

late 70's when Dutch immigrant breeders in Canada imported them and Valenciano Pouters from the Netherlands. Some of the Canadian bred birds found their way into lofts here in the states in the 80's. My interest in the Pouters from my parents' homeland was awakened in the pages of the 1981 APJ Pouter Special. Jose Morales, a Spanish gentleman living then in Albuquerque, wrote some superb articles about the Spanish Pouters, and he also included the Spanish standards. This was a great help for me, and even though I didn't have Marcheneros at the time, I had good current information.

Four years ago while in Germany at the Dortmund National Show, I was able to purchase Marcheneros from my friend, Peter Jenner who is one of the great breeders of Old German Croppers. I also bought a pair from Peter's friend, Herbert Schlappner, for my friend Frank Mosca of Montclair, Calif.

The first year after getting the birds out of USDA quarantine was a disaster. Just for the record, I don't know what it is, but sometimes after the long trip from Europe to America, and after 30 stressful days in quarantine, pigeons that were prolific and healthy in Europe aren't the same here. It doesn't always happen, but it happens often enough to make a person wonder what the exact cause is. Anyway - that is what happened to our birds. What eggs were laid that weren't soft weren't fertile, and during the entire breeding season only one egg was fertilized. Frank Mosca decided to make an outcross onto a gold Steiger Pouter. Believe it or not, the Marchenero's type was dominant, although the F-1's were too big. Frank managed to breed several very useful birds, and all I might add with the rabadilla and scooped tail.

Year two was a lot better, my birds began laying normal eggs and the cocks began filling eggs. We also crossed the new hybrids back into pure Marcheneros, and you can't tell the difference between a lot of the 3/4 bred Marcheneros and pure ones. The only exception are a few that came out bigger.

Last year I traveled to Germany to see the gigantic Nurnberg National. Earlier, my friend Pedro Toro of Nurnberg, but formerly of Spain, did me a great favor by getting me several pairs of Marcheneros from one of the top breeders in Spain. This time after the quarantine the Marcheneros bred well (but some others didn't) and so I was pleased with this past breeding season.

Maybe you are wondering what kind of parents the Marcheneros are. Well some are great parents and will successfully raise their young, but some of the super aggressive cocks would rather spend their time cooing, strutting, and generally forgetting their family obligations. For some of these, feeders are required.

The most amazing thing about the Marchenero is how very tame it is, and without much effort on my part. Babies leave the nest and it isn't much later that they'll start to coo and strut and even come to you. With a minimal amount of gentle handling, the

(Continued On Next Page)

Marchenero will become the tamest pigeon you've ever had.

This past year I showed Marcheneros at the Salt Lake City National. I took them out of their pens and just let them perch on my hand. They cooed and acted like it was no big deal. Believe me, a lot of people said they had never seen pigeons so wonderfully tame. I tend to believe that had the Marchenero been around American shows since the turn of the century, that today it would be called the world's greatest show bird. No put down to any other Pouter breed, but none can match the Marchenero for personality.

Maybe you've been thinking about getting a new breed - something that could bring you countless hours of fun and enjoyment at home and at pigeon shows too. Look no further, the world's tamest Pouter, the Marchenero, is what you've been looking for!

Carneau Gleanings

by VICTOR STOLL
Finger, Tenn.

The hot August weather is reaching into September.

The Carneau are slowing up and some are taking a vacation as they molt and develop new feathers.

I am glad for the response on the June drawings although I would be glad for more. I decided to let you in on a sample of the letters.

Dear Mr. Stoll: I do not have any Carneau just now, but had them some years back. In fact, I still have the bound volume of ACA

bulletins that Adolph Besche left at his death. As regards your drawings in the June APJ, I prefer drawing no. 2 because it has a trim vent area and nice stout legs together with a smooth head. The spindley legs, baggy vent and snippy head on the present drawing are not to my liking. Drawing number 2 gives the impression of massiveness, both in body and head that I liked. — As ever, Richard C. Strain, Ohio.

Excerpt from a letter from Tony Cabral, Ont., Canada.

Dear Mr. Stoll: Just a few words on the proposed new Carneau Standard. The old ideal just will not do for the 1990's. I am glad the Carneau Club is doing something about it. I like the no. 1-A drawing. The No. 1-A should get the Carneau back on track. I have one pair of Red Carneau that I bought at the last National in Salt Lake City in Jan. They have only raised one young so far. That is all for now. If I was a member of the A.C.A. I would vote for No. 1-A ideal. Yours for the hobby — Tony Cabral.

A letter from Washington by Bill Murphy. I am not a Carneau Breeder. The standard drawings in the June APJ are enough to make me one though. I would like to see one of these drawings adopted as part of a new standard. I can see that the drawings are different, but I can't tell you what makes them different. I like all three, but Drawing No. 1-B probably strikes a balance between the other two. If you have time to answer a couple of questions. I will appreciate hearing from you: 1) How much are Club dues? 2)

What color is likely to make the fastest progress toward the new standard? 3) When will a decision be made on a new standard? Thanks for your time and response. — Bill Murphy, 601 Jefferson Ave., Toppenish, WA 98948.

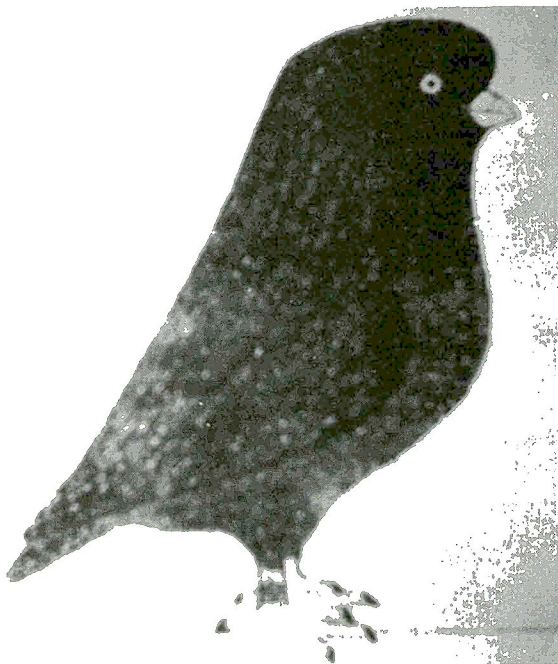
Excerpts from a letter by John Delahousaye, Miss.

Dear Friend Victor: I am glad for the work you are doing on the beautiful Carneau breed. I know you are on the right track and see the Carneau as a great utility breed, that is not only beautiful with the best colors, but also good producers of heavy young squabs. The idea you have in short wing flights, back angles and massive head and neck and generally the same look but a more powerful bird has got to work for you. It may take a while but stay with it as it is worthwhile. The progressive breeders will go for the new standard. Sincerely — John.

So much for the letters of support. This month I am featuring two more drawings of beautiful Carneau. I have increased the back skull which is a must as all Carneau breeders like back skull on these beautiful Carneau.

We are getting closer in perfecting a bird that is in every respect a Carneau. We like the intense color and wide breasts and larger birds.

Please study these two drawings and let's hear more response either negative or positive. Please call 901-934-4831 or write to Victor Stoll, R. 1, Box 664, Finger, Tenn. 38334.



DRAWING 2-A

The first presentation of this drawing. A Carneau all the way.



DRAWING NO. 1-A

This drawing has zoomed to the No. 1 position. Notice features of more back skull on this Carneau.

Helmet Happenings

by **BRUCE SCOTT**,
Richardson, Texas

Publicity Director
American Helmet
Association



Fall is an exciting time for all show pigeon fanciers. It wasn't long ago when we were busy raising young birds to get ready for the Fall Shows. Now it's here and we must get our young Helmets trained for that first show. For a number of us, that first show is the National Young Bird Show in Louisville, Ky., Oct. 27. That's quite an experience for a young bird to have its first show be a National, along with several thousand other young birds. It is a good proving ground because if your young Helmet does good at Louisville, it stands a good chance at the District, Sectional & National Shows later on.

VISITOR

Had a surprise visit back in August from my old friend West Pfadenhauer of West Burlington, Iowa. It was good to see Wes again as we normally only get together at one of the AHA Meets if we're lucky (see photo). I showed Wes my humble loft arrangement. Living in the city like I do, my set-up is pretty restricted as compared to the country environment Wes is used to. We discussed several club matters, as well as looking over my Helmets. Wes is a dedicated AHA Member and Officer, so his input is appreciated.

One thing that was evident in our conversation was the differences between our districts on how our shows are run and scheduled. Wes has his District #3 problems just like we do in District #4. He hopes to discuss some matters with Districts #5, #6, and #7, when we all get together at the National Young Bird Show in Louisville. There have been some misunderstandings in the past,

especially when there is more than one district attending a show, via a Sectional Meet.

Wes was visiting some of his family in Allen, Texas, just north of Dallas. He planned to drive home by way of Oklahoma City to visit our mutual friend Don Phy. With the outstanding Helmets Don has been showing at Louisville and then at Salt Lake City, Helmet fanciers are beating a path to his door to learn the secret of his success.

Wes and I both predict another record Helmet Meet at the National Young Bird Show, October 27. We hope many of you can make it this year.

COMPENSATION

Over the years that I have attended pigeon shows, I have either been involved with or heard of various ways to pay for the services of a judge. Believe you me, it can be pretty frustrating for the fanciers putting on the show as well as the judge. There is no set pattern to go by. This is due in part to some clubs having sufficient funds to cover the cost of a show judge and on the other hand, there are clubs struggling to just pay their bills for the hall, awards, etc.

I don't see this situation changing much in the future, as there will always be the haves and have nots. However, let me say that regardless of the compensation, the arrangements should be made in advance of the show date. Tell the judge up front what your club can afford to pay. With the high cost of gas, food and lodging, the judge will have to decide if it's worth it or not. More than once I've seen the judge donate his time for the sake of the club. It all depends on the circumstances, so don't get mad if the judge accepts a fee as he may really need the money to make the trip.

I could go on about this, but every show has its own financial problems and we can't outline how somebody else should conduct their business. The bottom line to compensating judges is to air it out well in advance of the show date. If the judge can't afford the expense of coming to your show, it will be up to both parties to iron it out. Don't wait till the day of the show to tell the judge, sorry, but we can't pay you. Put yourself in the judge's shoes. In fact, you may be called upon your-

self to judge some day and you'll remember back on this.

CATS

I have been raising pigeons since 1939 and over the years I have lost birds due to a hunter, a hawk or a varmint of one kind or another. However, let me say I never saw such destruction as I experienced in August of this year from a neighbor's cat getting into my loft. I have a sheet metal roof over my loft with a fiberglass panel over each of my three sections to let in daylight. This seemed like a good idea and worked fine for several years, but I overlooked the fact that this material gets brittle from the weather over a period of time. I had thought about this and had planned to replace the fiberglass in the fall when the weather was cooler for such a project. Well, you guessed it, I waited too long as that neighbor's cat found a weak spot and crashed down in my loft during the night. The section it landed in housed my old red hens as well as my old black hens. The next morning I discovered a bloody mess with every hen dead except for one terrified red hen and another black hen up on the top perch. The cat was gone of course, so my son and I had to clean up the carnage. I've never been so mad or upset! I was both upset at myself for letting this happen as well as that killer cat.

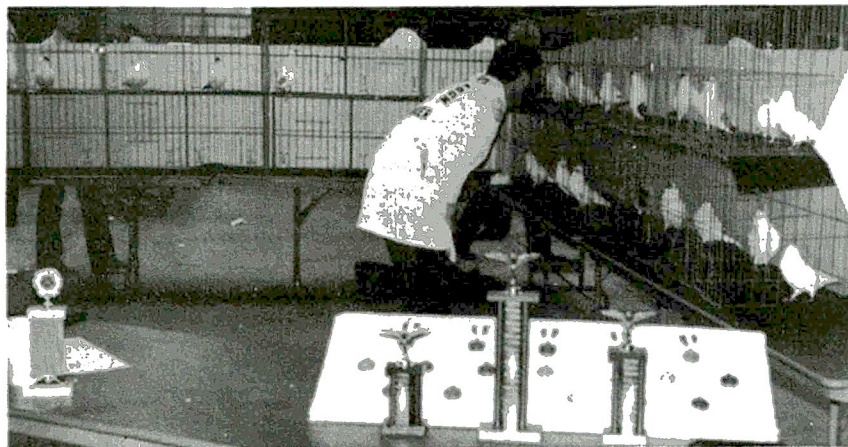
I believe in live and let live, but when this happens it pushes you to the boiling point. Needless to say, I've taken corrective measures to prevent this from happening again. I have contacted a couple of my good fancier friends here in Texas to replace my stock birds from bloodlines that they have from me. It may take a while to recover from this, but I'm sure it will work out. Many of us have had our ups and downs with our hobby, but if you love Helmets like I do, you always seem to find the time and resources. Just remember my experience and be sure to check your loft periodically for any weak links in your housing.

NEW MEMBERS

I don't believe there is a month that we don't sign up a new member. October is no exception, I'm happy to report. These new members are joining at this exciting time of the year with our AHA Meets scheduled around the country. I hope they will take the opportunity to attend a meet in their district. That's when you really get bitten by the bug to breed and show your Helmets. A big welcome to the following: Larry Samperi, West Haven, Conn.; Bill McKay, Wyoming, Ontario, Canada; Weston Smith, Morgan, Utah; Lynn Chamberlain, Toquerville, Utah and Paul Lutsehko, Vernon, B.C., Canada.

NEXT MONTH

Next month will be November and we'll really be into the show season. I'm scheduled to judge a District #4 Meet in Blackwell, Oklahoma, the middle of November. The members in northern Okla. and Kan. have been after us to have a Helmet meet in their neck of the woods, so Gerald Butler has come through for them. I hope to see a good turn out and if you happen to be in that part of the country the weekend of November 17th, come on by for some Helmet fun!



CENTRAL SECTIONAL 1985

Wes Pfadenhauer judging at Shawnee, Oklahoma. - Photo from Bruce Scott.

THE UNITED ENGLISH
TUMBLER CLUB

Tumbler Talk

by ROBERT H. SMITH,
Manchester, Calif.

Now that the breeding season is completed, we are all anticipating the Moulting. It is always fascinating for Tumbler breeders, since the change is so dramatic. The Long Faced Tumbler is blessed with a long, cupped feather, particularly on the head. This cupped feather leads to the tremendous width and top of the head properties in our breed. Since these are one of the most important in our Standard, it's no wonder why we wait with so much anticipation.

From my correspondence this year, it seems that the breeders in the Midwest, particularly, have experienced a poor year, while the breeders in the West have generally experienced a record year. The Eastern section of the country seems to have had mixed results, some good, some not so good. We are also anticipating the upcoming shows, including the National Young Bird Show in Louisville, the E.T.C. Annual Show in Reading, the Central T/C and Upper Midwest T/C Show in Des Moines, the Pageant in Pomona, plus the big one, the NCTS in Bay City, MI.

I plan on showing at the Pageant and at the NCTS in Bay City. Both should be very good shows for the Tumbler breeders.

I think the new United English Tumbler Club is off to a solid start. We now have over 115 members and new ones coming regularly. At Bay City, we will have both a great place to hold the Show, an important annual meeting, and a very good Tumbler Show. We have a great slate of judges elected and plenty of Specials, cash and otherwise. We have retained all the Young Bird Cup Funds from the three previous clubs, so all of these are up for grabs, also.

I expect we will see some of our friends and members from Canada and also from England at Bay City, at least Mike Knaggs will show up as he has been elected to judge the Barred C.L.s at the Show. Mike tells me that both he and son, Richard, a Muff breeder, plan to attend. I've tried to convince Les Williams that he also should come along with the Knaggs.

We expect to hear from the various Committees, appointed earlier this year, at the Annual Meeting. These Committees were appointed to address various areas of interest to the Club and I, for one, am interested in what they have to say. One area of concern is that we have not been able to find a Secretary to replace Ron Des Lauriers and Jim Stehr Sr., who jointly volunteered to handle this important job for this year only. Ron and Jim have done an outstanding job this year, and I have really appreciated their work. I also

wish to thank them both for assisting us in getting our new club off the ground. While I'm at it, I also want to express my thanks and appreciation to Bob Wood, who has done yeoman work as Membership Secretary.

We are still working on trying to line up an outstanding breeder to take over the Secretary's position and have high expectations that one may be in the offing. We probably won't know for sure until the Bay City Show. Keep tuned in for late breaking news!!

I was shocked to hear that our long time friend, Joe Pozorski of Manitowoc, Wisc.,

suffered a stroke earlier this year and we all hope that Joe is recovering by now. I'm sure Joe would love to hear from you, so why not drop him a line, Joe's address is 2520 Division St., Manitowoc, Wisc., 54220.

I'm not going to attempt to pass along all the loft notes at this time, but later on will try to summarize some of the Show Reports as they develop.

I'd like to hear from you at any time, so don't hesitate to take pen in hand and make a few XX's.

Good luck at the Shows!

A Visit To Doncaster And Nurnberg

by FRED DRUMM, Valley Center, Calif.

Last December, I had the opportunity to travel to England and West Germany with my good friend Roland Teed. Since we had been invited to judge the Long Face Tumblers at both Doncaster and Nurnberg we were really looking forward to our visit. We planned the 16 day trip around the two shows which were being held only one week apart. The extra time allowed us several days in each country to visit friends and see a few of the sights.

The English Show held at the Doncaster Race Course had entries of 270 Tumblers. The best specimens were in black, white and yellow selfs, as well as splashed colors which seem to be very popular there at this time. The eventual winner was an old black cock that would be welcomed in my loft anytime. Best Young went to a black & white splashed cock. The show was well lit and all exhibits were single tiered with plenty of room for the judging areas. There was a separate area for unentered birds that were for sale & a large upstairs area for food and drink.

One week later we flew to the Nurnberg show. What an eye opener! I would compare it to going to a pro football game here in the U.S. With snow falling, the spectators lined up by the hundreds at the ticket gates. Yes, in Germany you pay to see the pigeons on exhibit. Even as early as 7 a.m. a crowd was already waiting to get in to see the 52,000 feathered exhibits, 36,000 of which were pigeons. The birds were housed in a total of seven buildings, each as large as a football field. It's really hard to imagine! All the exhibits were judged the day prior to any spectator admission. A German judge had been assigned to work with Roland and I. Each entry receives a positive and negative review that is written on their individual coop tag. Imagine trying to say something positive about the last place bird in a large class. Because of this requirement, and even though there were only 72 Long Face entered, it took us over four hours to finish. Then another certified German judge had to concur with our top picks before our decisions could stand. Champion Tumbler went to a black old hen with Best Young going to a black young hen. There were also some very nice birds present in red and white self.

Roland and I were really well taken care of during our entire trip. In England we had three great days with Les and Audrey Wil-

liams in Martley. Les has one of the best studs of Tumblers anywhere and is strongest in black, white and mottles.

Then two days with Mike Knaggs and family. Mike has the largest Tumbler loft that I have ever seen. His two sons David and Richard both breed pigeons, Owls and Muffed Tumblers respectively. Mike seemed to have his main interest in white self, splashed colors and baldheads. Next we spent two days with Jim Mullan and a visit with Kevin Sparkes. Both have Tumblers as well as several other breeds of pigeons.

In West Germany we were looked after by Ralf Prawitz, his son Robert and Ralf's girlfriend Karin. Ralf has quality Tumblers in black, barred and barred baldheads. We then spent our final two days in the small town of Spenge where we visited with Wilfried Brakensiek who won Champion and Best Young at Nurnberg. He has great quality in black, red and yellow. We were also able to see the lofts of Bernt Bitter and Siegfried Grosser, both breeders of black and white self Clean Legs.

A few of the things that stand out most in my mind were the beautiful English countryside, the quaint old towns, their pubs and the beer. The overwhelming size show at Nurnberg, the crowds of spectators, the Christmas marts held in the small town squares mobbed with shoppers even in the cold and snow, and I can't forget the beer! And then there was our adventure on the autobahn with Bernt Bitter. A four hour drive at unbelievable speeds in his new Mercedes sportscar. I will never be afraid of flying again!

It was great to meet with so many Long Face breeders overseas. I should also mention some of the American fanciers that we met up with along the way. John Tidwell, John Heppner, Frank Barrachina, Warren Maurer and several others. What a small world!

I was pleasantly surprised at the interest in our breed and at the quality of the winning birds. Ours is truly an international breed.

I would recommend both of these shows to anyone with the desire and energy to go. And don't forget to try the beer!

A special thanks to everyone along the way who put up with us and helped to make our visit so enjoyable. Hope to do it all again sometime.



AMERICAN GIANT RUMBLER CLUB

by TONY CABRAL,
London, Ontario, Canada

By now all the breeding should be over, it's time to look towards the show season. About two and a half years ago President Wesley Conover formed a Standard of Perfection Committee and what you are about to see is the result.

Standard of Perfection For The American Rumbler Pigeon

Head - 10 points

Big, powerful, massive look, long full oval. No flatness at the top of skull. Top skull must be well developed as well as back skull. Massive frontal with good forward sweep. Good width between eyes. From the front the eyes should not be visible. Very full, soft cheeks desirable. The feathering should be very plush and full.

Beak - 2 points

Medium in length, wide and thick, the upper mandible being slightly longer than lower. The beak setting of the Rumbler is slightly below horizontal.

Wattle - 2 points

Good texture, neat and of equal size. Free of coarseness. Close fitting so as to appear an integral part of the beak.

Eyes - 2 points

Bright and clear, showing health. Set well in head, fully feathered all around. Cut one point for off colored eyes.

Eye Cere - 2 points

Neat and of good texture. Free of coarseness. Ideally hidden among the skull and cheek feathers.

Neck - 10 points

Full towards the breast, appearing powerful. Throat full but free from gullet. Neck feathers to cover wing butts and well down the back. Neck creases add to the beauty of the Rumbler and are required. Should show slight arch in the back of the neck. Cut two points for absent neck creases.

Breast - 10 points

Broad, powerful, chesty appearance. Firm, deep and fully developed. The breast is carried a little high as though proud. Breast feathers to cover wing butts.

Body and Keel - 10 points

Body - deep, solid and extra full, strong and powerfully built. Wedge shaped from the top view. Keel - to be straight, long and very deep with muscular flesh to cover it well. Crooked keel - cut in points depending on severity.

Wings - 8 points

In proportion to size, and deep to follow

depth of the body. Held close to body. Feathers to meet and cover over the back. Wing butts to be covered by neck and breast feathers. Dragging and cross wings to be disqualified. Cut in points for sails.

Back - 5 points

Wedge shaped from top view, medium, very broad at the shoulders. Shall show strength throughout and carry that strength through the rump and tail coverts. Cut in points for open back.

Tail - 5 points

Carried in line with back. Length to be in proportion to size. Wedge shape of Rumbler to govern width. Tail should be 1 1/2 to 2 feathers wide, not a whip tail. Standing in a natural position the tail should be carried just above floor. If tail held more than two inches high (5 centimetres) it is a disqualification. However the judge must allow the Rumbler a period of time to settle down as many Rumlbers will drop the tail to the proper position after they settle down.

Legs and Feet - 4 points

Should be thick, very muscular and showing great strength. Set well apart and straight. Feet well spread and straight, free of any feathers. Thighs to be well feathered, these feathers to carry back and blend well with undercarriage feathers.

Size - 15 points

Rumlbers should be as large as possible and well proportioned. Type and proportion to be more important than size alone. Rumlbers will show variations in size, it will be up to the judge's discretion if a Rumbler should be disqualified for being too small.

Type - 15 points

Type is the combination of the Rumbler's conformation, station, carriage, and profile. Should station at an upright angle with eye almost directly above the ball of the foot.

Itemized points

- Head 10 points
- Beak 2 points
- Wattle 2 points
- Eyes 2 points
- Eye Cere 2 points
- Neck 10 points
- Breast 10 points
- Body and Keel 10 points
- Wings 8 points
- Back 5 points
- Tail 5 points
- Legs and Feet 4 points
- Size 15 points
- Type 15 points
- Total 100 points

Color - 10 points

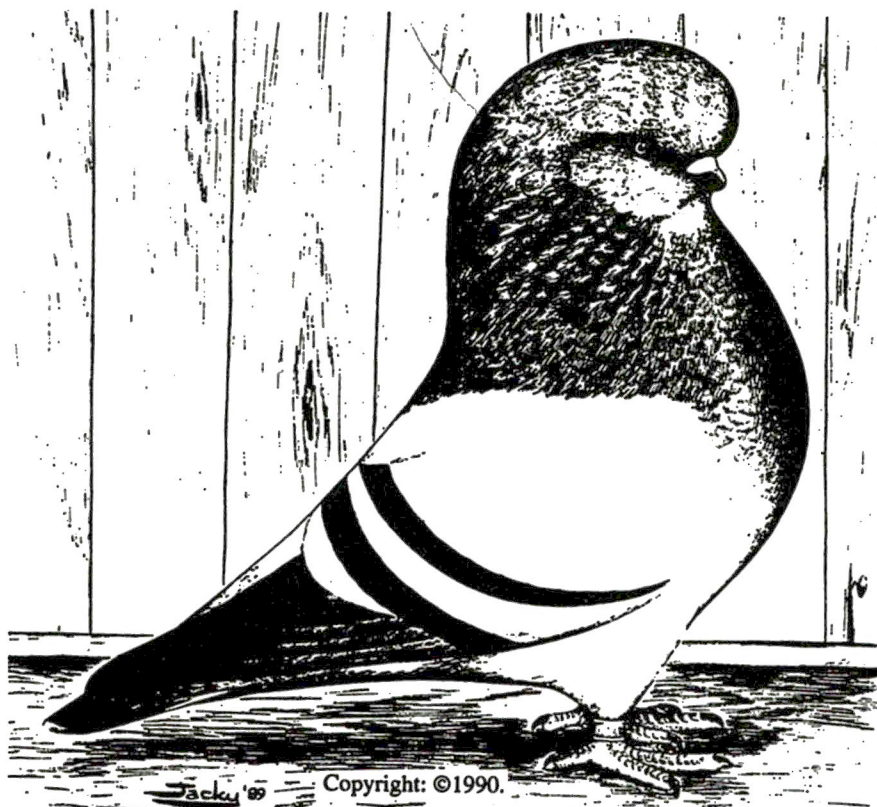
Standard colored Rumlbers to be cut one to ten points for color when judged in their color classes. These ten points to be floating and not upset the original 100 point total. Color to reach as deeply as possible down the feather on all colored feathers.

White: Pure white, bull eye, beet red eye cere, pinkish white beak and toenails. May show refractive sheen on neck.

Black: Deep solid black with a beetle green sheen, orange eyes, gray eye cere, black beak and toenails.

Dun: Good even shade of Dun, orange eyes, horn color eye cere, beak and toenails.

(Continued On Next Page)



Standard of Perfection of the American Giant Rumbler Pigeon.

Red: Rich deep even shade of Mahogany red throughout. Neck color should show more sheen and pinkish lustre. Orange eyes, red eye cere, light horn beak and toenails.

Yellow: Deep rich yellow throughout, neck showing opalescent blending with golden hues. Orange eyes, red eye cere, light horn beak and toenails.

Blue: Good even shade of blue, neck feathers to be a darker shade with a beetle green sheen. Wings to show two well defined black bars. The tail should be tipped with a single bar to match those on the wings. Rump powder blue, orange eyes, gray eye cere, black beak and toenails.

Silver (Brown Bar): Silvery blue tending to a fawn color in all sections of the body. The neck feathers to be a darker shade with a brilliant metallic lustre. Wings to show two dark brown well defined bars. The tail should be tipped with a single bar to match those on the wings. Soft fawn color on rump. Pearl eyes, light gray eye cere, light horn beak and toenails.

Rare A.C. (Any Color): This class is for rare colors in Rumlbers such as Grizzles, Ash Reds, Mealies, Browns, and Checks of any color. Any other rare color not mentioned must be shown in this class. When entering Rumlbers in a show, state color. (Example: Rare A.C. Grizzle or Rare A.C. Ash Red). If eight or more of a rare color are shown, a separate class will be made.

A.O.C. (Any Other Color): This class is for standard colored Rumlbers with white on them anywhere. Mismarks, splashes, and

Rumlbers with white flights must be shown in this class. (Example: whites with stained beak and toenails or eye other than bull).

Age: This standard of perfection is written to cover the adult Rumbler. The Rumbler does not fully mature until the age of three years and allowance should be made for young Rumlbers.

Ideal Drawing: The ideal drawing of the Rumbler should be displayed at all shows at time of judging. Plumage: Clean, neat, full, well developed, smooth textured feathers. Hard feathering such as the flying homer is not wanted in the Rumbler. Plumage to be especially plush on the head and neck.

Classification: Classes will be provided for Old Cocks, Old Hens, Young Cocks, and Young Hens in each color class.

Judging: When Rumlbers are being carried to the judging area, the judge must leave the area. When the class is ready to be judged, he/she will be notified.

Band Size: The "Rumbler" band put out by the National Pigeon Association (U.S.A.) and sold by the American Rumbler Club is the correct band for all Rumlbers.

Disqualification: Dragging and cross wings, tail held more than two inches (5 centimetres) high, more than one band, sickness, disease, generally poor condition, or deformity. Excessive Plucking-Removing so many feathers as to leave a bald spot or the impression of one on a bird that otherwise finished the moult. Any means used to attempt to deceive the judge. Too small (judge's discretion). Any colored band other than

plain aluminum "z" size and the Rumbler is automatically disqualified from show.

Origin: The American Rumbler Pigeon was created by H. Eric Buri and Wesley L. Conover of the U.S.A. in the early 50's and 60's. Both men are National Pigeon Association Inc. (U.S.A.) Master Breeders and Hall of Famers. On June 3, 1984, the Canadian Pigeon Fanciers Association recognized the Rumbler as a breed of Pigeon. The National Pigeon Association Inc. (U.S.A.) recognized the Rumbler as a breed on January 19, 1985, at the Portland, Oregon National Show.

Approved: January 6, 1990, by membership vote of the American Rumbler Club.

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As you can see we have taken a big step with this Standard.

That is all for this month.

Keep breeding "The Bird With a Beautiful Face" and "Show Your Best and Leave The Rest." - Tony Cabral, 96 Speight Crescent, London, Ont., Canada. N5V 3W8.

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NATIONAL ENGLISH TRUMPETER CLUB— Supporting the NPA Grand National and National Young Bird Show. Members receive: Membership Card, By-Laws, Club Bulletins. Dues: Sr. \$10.00, Jr. \$5.00 (under 18) Contact: William W. Shores, 414 Wise St., Clinton, Okla. 73601. (1289-1190)

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SWALLOWS, ENGLISH TRUMPETERS— Owls, Flying Rollers, Homers and others. — Roger McVay, 805 Guam, Wake Village, Texas 75501. Phone 214-838-5973. (1090-991)

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CARRIERS, JACOBINS, White Homers, S.A. Black Eagles. — Bobby Loudermilk, Box 265, Seymour, Texas 76380. 817-888-5817, 817-888-2087. (890-1090)

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NATIONAL WEST OF ENGLAND TUMBLER CLUB - Supporting the NPA Grand National, National Young Bird Show and Pageant of Pigeons. Dues: Seniors \$5.00, Juniors \$3.00 (under 18). Members receive: By-Laws, Standard and Bi-monthly Bulletins. Contact: - James Krebaum Jr. (treasurer), 11509 Leland, Whittier, Calif. 90605, or Bob Christman (secretary), 715 Harold Date, Palmdale, Calif. 93550. (790-691)

PIGEON SHOW CALENDAR

Nov. 15-17 - Pageant of Pigeons, Pomona, Calif. Sponsored by the Los Angeles Pigeon Club. Contact: Frank Barachina, 12376 Bryant St., Yucaipa, Calif. 92399.

Nov. 15-17 - Western Turbit, Frill & Owl Club sectional all-age show held in conjunction with the Pageant of Pigeons, Pomona, Calif. Contact: Vickie Casey, P.O. Box 1142, San Martin, Calif. 95046. 408-683-4384.

Nov. 16 - North Dakota Pigeon Assn. All Breeds - All Age Pigeon Show. Show Sec. David Knittel.

Nov. 17 - Albuquerque Pigeon Fanciers 16th Classic Pigeon Show. For information, contact: Mel Dayringer, 2720 Lucca Rd. S.W., Albuquerque, N.M. 87105 or Jim Bean, 10225 Keeping Drive N.W., Albuquerque, N.M. 87114.

Nov. 17 - Hammond Pigeon Fanciers Assn. 27th Annual All Breed Show, Hammond National Guard Armory, 2530 173rd St., Hammond, Indiana. Also hosting: Indiana State Meet of NPA, Annual Meet Midwest Roller Club, Annual Meet Midwest French Mondain Club; Annual Meet American Pouter & Cropper Club, Annual Meet National German Trumpeter Club. Joseph Phillips, Sec., 1105 Garfield St., Hobart, Ind. 46342, 219-942-3704.

Nov. 17 - Big Country Pigeon Fanciers All Breed Show at the Breeders Arena, Stephenville, Texas. For more information, contact: Joretta Haas, Rt. 3, 134 Bryant Rd., Clyde, Texas 79510. 915-893-5004.

Nov. 17 - New England American Show Racer Assn. held in conjunction with Little Rhody Pigeon Fanciers Assn. 1st District Meet of American Show Racer Assn. Judge: Amos Hodson. For information contact: Mike Conway, 17 Julio Drive, Shrewsbury, Mass. 01545.

Nov. 17-18 - 59th NSRPA Show, held at Yonkers Raceway, Yonkers, N.Y.

Nov. 17-18 - Little Rhody Pigeon Fanciers Assn. 27th Annual Winter Classic, NPA State Meet, District 1, R.I. Racing Club Hall, Kenyon Ave., and Julian St., Pawtucket, R.I. Show Sec. John Harrison, 410 Marion Rd., Middleboro, Mass. 02346.

Nov. 17-18 - Virginia Pigeon and Dove Assn. Fall Show, NPA State Meet, held in conjunction with the Virginia Poultry Breeds Assn., Virginia State Fairgrounds, Richmond, Va. Show information, Mrs. Jo Ryan, 3028 Bowling Green Drive, Virginia Beach, Va. 23452. 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. 23-24 - 55th Annual Winter Show, Turner Hall, All Variety, Watertown Pigeon Club. Contact: Nancy Kehl, N570 Cty. Trk. M, Watertown, Wisc. 53094. 414-261-1741.

Nov. 23-25 - Indian Fantail Club of America 100 Point Meet with Northwest Winter Classic, Tacoma, Wash. Contact: Paul Clow, 12500 NE 81st St., Vancouver, Wash. 98682. 206-256-2948.

Nov. 24 - Greater Atlanta Pigeon and Dove Club, NPA State Meet, District 4, Atlanta, GA. Gary Duncan/Barry Magnusson, Sec's., 4600 Suwanee Dam Rd., Suwanee, GA. 30174.

Nov. 24 - Conroe Classic, All Age Pigeon Show, sponsored by Houston Pigeon Club. For information: Mike Melvin, 7810 Garden St., Houston, Texas 77012 or Willie English, 1321 No. Bolton, Jacksonville, TX 75766.

Nov. 24 - Central Iowa Pigeon Club All Breed Show, hosting District Indian Fantail Club Meet. Contact: Pam McCullough, Show Sec., 2501 West Main, Marshalltown, Iowa 50158. 515-752-7575.

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 - National Modena Club 4th District Show, Austin, Minnesota. For information and entry blank, contact: Del Clausen, Rt. 1, Box 46, St. Ansgar, Iowa 50472. 515-326-4719.

Nov. 24 - FAIRCOURT 1990 - 25th Anniversary Show sponsored by the Fairfield Co. Pigeon Fanciers Assn. Specialty Clubs welcomed. Additional information can be obtained from club secretary, Joyce Cap, 36 Wendy Rd., Milford, Conn. 06460, or telephone 203-877-6600.

Nov. 24-25 - New York Combine Domestic Show Flight Club 15th Annual Young and Old Bird Show, Polish National Hall, 64th St. and 56th Rd., 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.

Nov. 25 - Long Island Show Homer Assn. Annual Show, held at Islip Terrace, Long Island, N.Y. Show Racer Judge, Jack Fix. Non-Flown Judge, Frank Grumka. For info, Joseph Ognibene, 1735 W. 8 St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11223.

Nov. 25 - The Long Island Show Homer Assn. Annual Old Bird Show, Islip Homing Pigeon Club. Special classes for race birds. Jack Fix of Calif., will judge Show Racer classes. For information, contact: Thomas Zarek, 1397 Penatquit Ave., Bayshore, N.Y. 11007. 516-665-9509.

Nov. 29-Dec. 2 - Premier Show, Utah Pigeon Club, State Fairgrounds. For entry blanks or information contact: Ed Bills, 8389 W. Powell Ave., Magna, Utah 84044. 801-250-0634.

Nov. 30 & Dec. 1-2 - Utah Pigeon Club, NPA State District 7 Meet, Salt Lake City, Utah. Ed Bills, Superintendent, 8389 W. Powell Ave., Magna, Utah 84044.

Dec. 1 - North West Oklahoma Pigeon Breeders Assn. All Breeds Pigeon Show, Garfield County Fairgrounds, Enid, Okla. Club Pres. Robert Lee, 1913 No. 20th Pl., Enid, Okla. 73701, 405-234-6271.

Dec. 1 - Central Fantail Club 5th District Winter Show, Enid, Okla. Eugene Altpeter, Judge. Contact person: Tom Pritchett, Box 34, Fairmont, Okla. 73736.

Dec. 1 - Mid-Michigan Pigeon Fanciers Winter Show, Demonstration Hall, M.S.U. Campus, East Lansing, Mich. Linda Chavez, Sec./Treas., 517-641-6461.

Dec. 1 - Worcester County Pigeon Assn. Inc., 31st Annual Winter Classic All Breed Show NPA District 1 Meet. Contact: Mark Pringle, 1148 North Road, Dayville, Conn. 06241, 203-774-2197.

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 - Saginaw Pigeon Assn. Winter Show, Bay Co. Fairgrounds, Canteen Building, Livingston St., Bay City, Mich. Sec., Jerry Weiler, 270 So. Lincoln Rd., Bay City, Mich. 48708. 517-892-6249.

Dec. 1 - Delmarva Pigeon Club Winter Show, Messick Community Building, Delaware Route 14 West, Harrington, Delaware. Show Sec.: Walt Studte, 1004 Dogwood Ave., Woodhaven, 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 - Southwest Pigeon Fanciers Assn. All Age, All Breed Show at YMCA San Pedro, Calif., 1:30 p.m. Pot Luck Lunch. Visitors and Juniors welcome to show. For info: 213-549-1090.

Dec. 2 - Anthracite Concourse Old Bird Auction, Summit Station Fire Co., Summit Station, Pa. Starts 1 p.m. More info, Dave Thomas, 26 S. Belliet 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. 7-8 - NOFTOF Regional Meet held in conjunction with the 65th Annual Show of the Iowa State Pigeon Assn. Blondinettes judged Friday, Dec. 7. Satinettes, Turbits, Owls judged Sat., Dec. 8. Contact: Howard Hart, P.O. Box 38, Lanesboro, Iowa 51451 or Tom Johnson, 402-879-4339.

Dec. 8 - Greater Baltimore Area Pigeon Club Show, Old Arundel Firehouse, Rts. 450 and 424, Crofton, Maryland. Show Sec. Bob DeAdder, 308 Constant Ave., Severn, MD 21144. 301-674-2459.

Dec. 8-9 - English Trumpeter Club of America Annual All Age Meet in conjunction with the ISPA, Des Moines, Iowa, Veterans Auditorium. Contact person: Orin DuChien, 751 Park Ave. E., Big Lake, Minn. 55309.

Dec. 8-4th District Meet, National Chinese Owl Club, Des Moines, Iowa, with the Iowa State Pigeon Association's Annual Show. Judge: Jim VanNatta, Amboy, Ill. Contact: Howard Hart, P.O. Box 38, Lanesboro, Iowa 51451.

Dec. 8 - The Iowa Flying Roller Club All Age Show with Certified Spinners class at the Iowa State Pigeon Association Show in Des Moines, Iowa, held at Veterans Auditorium. For more details contact:

John R. Hawxby, Box 91, Hartford, Iowa 50118.

Dec. 8 - Oklahoma Pigeon Association Annual All-Age, All-Breed Pigeon Show, NPA District 6 Meet, Heart of Oklahoma Exposition Center, Shawnee, OK. Specialty clubs showing: Helmet - District Four; Central Tumbler Club - Sectional; National English Trumpeter - State Meet; Oklahoma Giant Homer - State Meet; Indian Fantail - 100 Point Meet; Mookee - State Show; Racing Homer - Big Red Combine 3rd Annual Show; Southern Jacobin - Annual District Meet; American Show Racer - Oklahoma State Meet; Okla. Roller Club will be showing in the OPA Open Show; American Lahore Club - Southern District Show. Contact: Wayne L. Haws, 16505 SE 44 St., Choctaw, OK 73020, (405) 391-3678.

Dec. 8 - Portland, Or., NWPFA Winter Show, All Breed, All Age. Contact: Keith Casteel, 24506 NE 53rd St., Vancouver, Wash. 98682. 206-256-9264.

Dec. 8 - Indian Fantail Club of America 100 Point Meet with NWPFA, Portland, Ore. Contact: Paul Clow, 12500 NE 81st St., Vancouver, Wash. 98682. 206-256-2948.

Dec. 8 - Garden State Variety Pigeon Fanciers Assn. Annual Open Show, American Legion Hall, 540 Shaler Blvd., Ridgefield, N.J. Show Secretary, Chester Grimes, 6800 Columbia Ave., 4Q, North Bergen, N.J. 07047.

Dec. 8 - Sheboygan Lakeshore Pigeon Club Annual All Age Show, Sheboygan Falls, Wisc. Contact: Ron Hass for more details, 529 David Ave., Sheboygan Falls, Wisc. 53085. 414-467-2343.

Dec. 8 - National English Carrier Club Annual Meet held in conjunction with the Iowa Pigeon Assn., Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Robin Neil, 106 Elk Dr., Great Falls, Mont. 59404. 406-761-3679.

Dec. 8 - Iowa State Pigeon Assn. 65th Annual All Age, All Breed Show. Specialty Clubs invited. Veterans Memorial Auditorium, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Howard Hart, Show Secretary, P.O. Box 38, Lanesboro, Iowa 51451. 712-656-2253.

Dec. 9 - Florida Gulf Coast Pigeon Club Open All Breed, All Age Show, Knights of Pythias Hall, 2522 - 30th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Fla. Contact: Thomas, Vivinette, Show Sec., 3275 - 57th St. North, St. Petersburg, Fla. 33710. 343-9750.

Dec. 9 - Maryland Show Racer Winter Show, Hamilton Pigeon Club, Baltimore, Maryland Show Racers, Inflight, Record and Diploma Classes. Charles Bullock, 314 N. Marilyn Ave., Baltimore, Maryland, 301-687-7254.

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, NPA State District 4 Meet, Poultry Building, State Fairgrounds, Columbia, S.C. Carroll Elmore, Sec., 129 Laverne St., Sumter, S.C. 29150. 803-773-8181.

Dec. 14-15 - Colorado State Pigeon Assn., Annual All Breeds Winter Show, NPA State District 7 Meet, Adams Co. Fairgrounds, 9755 Henderson Rd., Brighton, Colo. For information, contact Jim Hagan, 10714 Moore Circle, Broomfield, Colo. 80021. 303-469-6173.

Dec. 14-16 - St. Louis Metropolitan Pigeon Fanciers Assn., Winter Show. Show Sec., Keith Wamhoff, 1517 Doris Dr., St. Louis, Mo. 63138.

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 - Fremont Fancy Pigeon Club presents the Midwest International Pigeon Show, Sandusky Co. Fairgrounds, Fremont, Ohio. Hosting American Pigmy Pouter Club Annual Meet, American Komorner Tumbler Club 3rd Dist. Meet, American German Beauty Homer Club Annual Meet, Michigan-Ohio Modena Club Annual Meet, Central Cropper and Pouter Club Annual Meet, Midwest Parlor Roller Club Annual Meet, Central Oriental Frill Club Annual Meet, American Helmet Assn. 6th Dist. Meet. Contact: Jim Feasel, Show Sec., 2373 Co. Rd. 181, Clyde, Ohio 43410, 419-639-2935 or John Hoffman, 2342 W. McPherson Hwy., Fremont, Ohio 43420. 419-332-9446.

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. 11-13 - Reading All Age Show held at The Inn at Reading in Reading, Pa. More information, contact: Terry Fick, RD 3, Box 4126, Pine Grove, Pa. 17963.

Jan. 11-13 - Eastern Jacobin Club Winter All Age Show held at The Inn at Reading, Reading, Pa. Info, contact: Vernard Duntz Sr., 85 N. Mountain Rd., Canton, Conn. 06019.

Jan. 11-13 - Eastern Fantail Club Annual Show, "The Bob Kinginger Classic" to be held with the Reading Expo, Reading, Pa. Judge Michael Soda. For info, contact: Terry Fick, RD 3, Box 4126, Pine Grove, Pa. 17963.

Jan. 11-13 - Central Fantail Club Annual Meet, Earl Clark Fantail Classic, Omaha, Nebr. Contact: Ed Karnish, 3532 Vinton St., Omaha, Nebr. 68105.

Jan. 12-13 - 1st District Meet, National Chinese Owl Club with the Reading Winter Expo, Reading, Pa. Judge: Jim Moyer.

Jan. 13 - Long Island Domestic flight Club "Futurity Show," Richard Street, Islip, New York. Show Sec.: Angelo Cavallo, 68 Martin Road North, Bethpage, N.Y. 11714.

Jan. 17-19 - National Chinese Owl Club Annual Meet at the NPA Grand National Show, Pomona, California.

Jan. 17-19 - "California Shortface Classic" held in conjunction with the NPA Grand National, Pomona, Calif. Contact: Vickie Casey, P.O. Box 1142, San Martin, Calif. 95046. 408-683-4384.

Jan. 17-19 - National English Carrier Club Western District Meet held at the NPA Grand National, Pomona, Calif. Contact: Robin Neil, 106 Elk Dr., Great Falls, Mont. 59404. 406-761-3679.

Jan. 17-19 - NPA Grand National, Los Angeles Co. Fairgrounds, Pomona, Calif. For additional information, contact show secretary Frank Barrachina, P.O. Box 1268, Yucaipa, Calif. 92399.

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.

Jan. 25-26 - Central Jacobin Club Annual Winter Show pending at Bay Valley Inn. Show Sec., Tim Stajowski, 1413 S. Raymond St., Bay City, Mich. 48706.

Jan. 25-26 - Bay City Pigeon Fanciers 54th Annual Winter Show, Bay Valley Hotel, Show Sec.: Tim Stajowski, 1413 S. Raymond St., Bay City, Mich. 48706. 517-893-9642.

Jan. 27 - New York Combine Golden Futurity Show, Polish National Hall, 64th St., and 56th Rd., Maspeth, N.Y.

Feb. 3 - Nassau-Suffolk Pigeon Fanciers Club Futurity Show, Knights of Columbus Hall, Carleton Ave., Central Islip, N.Y. For entry blanks and info: 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).

Feb. 18 - Nassau-Suffolk Pigeon Fanciers Club Futurity Show, American Legion Hall, Carleton Ave., Central Islip, N.Y. Specialty clubs welcome. Contact: Pete Valentine, President, 516-277-1087 or Barbara Beer, 2nd Vice Pres., 194 Lido Prom., Lindenhurst, N.Y. 11757. 516-226-3534.

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King Trivia

by JUNE TRONE,
Publicity Director,
Meredosia, Ill.

It is the end of August and the weather is rather hot today, but it will cool off soon. We had a Picnic at our new shelter house this past Sunday with 72 people attending and lots of good music from men in different cities, they sure can get it together when it comes time to play. A neighbor cooked the fish, potatoes, hot dogs and okra, naturally, everything was delicious.

On Sept. 9, we had the Midwest King Club Picnic and Lawn Show at our shelter house, it is 24'x24' and seems to be plenty of room for everyone and everything. Dick Voss and Roland Blanchette brought lots of birds, and several others are too. We had a good young bird show.

On Aug. 17, Jack Stansberry, East Alton, Ill., died. Jack and Rita were new MKC members but have gone to pigeon meetings for several years with Dick and Helen Voss. Jack and Rita did everything together, they both loved to fish and entered many contests and won too. Jack will be missed by all his friends and relatives. While I went down to visitation for Jack, I visited with Dick and Helen Voss and Winnie and Harry Foley. Harry was 95 on Aug. 26, Harry is a Lifetime Member of the AKC. I think Howard Masden is the only other Lifetime AKC Member left. Sometimes I wonder if that would help a lot of other clubs to make a Lifetime Membership again?

I got an extra nice letter and article from the Kankakee, Ill., Daily Journal. As soon as I can get the original picture, I will send in the article, it is very good. Roland Blanchette, Momence, Ill., is judging ALL BREED SHOWS, which is very good news as we always can use more of them. Maybe we can have him in two years for our Jacksonville Show. We will have Jim Murphy for our King section of the Jacksonville Show on Nov. 3, while our AKC 2nd Dist. Show is Nov. 10 and 11 at New Berlin, Ill., at the Sangamon County Fairgrounds, a really nice show hall and lots of room for everything.

I was so very pleased to get a phone call the other day from Bill Harrison, CA. He said he is coming to our AKC 2nd Dist. Show and that he might get Ron Zotnick to come with him. They will fly to Peoria as there is a good deal on United Air, and will drive from Peoria to New Berlin, a nice drive for them. We don't have any King breeders in Peoria.

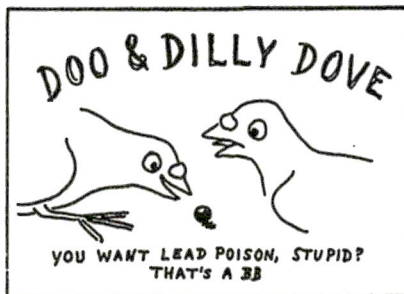
I have gotten a number of calls and letters from Jack and Lucinda Butler, CA. They called from Hawaii the last time and said the weather was so great there, this is on Kona Coast, the Big Island where their Condo's are. It looks like we won't be going to ours this year as Lloyd is still in the hospital, this time since July 29. They say it takes time for the pills to do their job. In Lloyd's absence, our very nice neighbor, who takes care of our

birds and etc., while we travel. This time, I took care of his dogs and cats while he went on a big fishing trip in Minn., almost to Canada. He said they went by canoe for two miles to their cabin.

Billy and Karen Cunningham, KY, our 3rd Dist. Directors sent a nice letter full of information about the members in their district. Paul Miller, Tenn., Charles Bacon, GA, Robert Budden, Fla., Billy Cunningham, KY, and Cosby Burton, KY, had pretty good luck with their birds this year. We will see them at our AKC 2nd Dist. Show on Nov. 10 and 11. Bill Doebbling, Ind., and Mark Schenk, Ind., plan on being at the show too. Bill has bred Kings for many years, but Mark and Erin are fairly new at it. His father, Joe, was a dedicated breeder for many years.

I visited with Cory Kircher one night last week, on my way home from the hospital at Springfield to visit Lloyd. We are going to have him transferred to another hospital for a second opinion. Cory has the most beautiful cacti in the house. I told her, I would decorate them for Christmas instead of having a tree. They have a cockatiel, Rosie, a male, he whistles at Cory all the time, at least he knows the difference between male and female humans, pretty good huh!! Some people can't tell the difference. They still have one horse, one rabbit, three cats, two dogs, four ducks and 12 geese. Frank is once again taking a summer course at Sangamon State University at Springfield, Ill. I went to Real Estate School last year, but didn't take my finals as I wanted to do more studying, and that was when Lloyd got sick, so I haven't gotten around to it yet, but I still have one more year to take my tests. The way they are changing the laws, some of the papers I have now are obsolete already.

The combined 3rd and 4th District Show will be Nov. 24 and 25, in Rayne, La., with Juan Gomez as judge.



Hungarian Giant House Pigeon Newsletter

by TONY BRANCATO,
Santa Maria, Calif.

After work today, I went out to take care of my birds, and unfortunately found a two week old H.G.H.P. baby dead. This is not an uncommon occurrence with this breed.

H.G.H.P. are good parents once they get the hang of it, they incubate without problems but for some unknown reason they just don't brood the young well.

As a fancier you can do a couple of things. If you have same age babies and they are singles, put them together. Two babies stand a better chance than a single baby surviving a period of no brooding.

Besides using foster parents which I'm opposed to, and I'll tell you why later, the next best thing is to mate up your birds in late spring so there is a minimum of chilling and baby loss.

Someday this trait can be improved. At the present there are too few birds to only select for this trait.

In the meantime, expect to lose 20 to 25% of single babies to chilling.

If the youngster is discovered in time and placed in an incubator or under a brooding hen of any breed, then its life can be saved. Unfortunately in my climate the morning can be quite chilly and that's when most babies are left unattended. Seldom do parents leave young unbrooded overnight.

As for foster feeders, my philosophy is that pigeons should be able to feed and raise their own.

Horrors upon horrors is the H.G.H.P. breed becomes like short beaked breeds or even kings and lose their ability to rear young. We should try and select better breeders and yes, someday develop strains that brood their young. My Bernberg Trumpeters seldom, if ever, lose a baby to chilling. Ole mom & dad Bernberg sometimes keep the babies warm until they are nearly as large as they are!

Those are parenting skills we want to preserve and someday breed into our beautiful H.G.H.P.

Well I guess you just can't be perfect, but the Hungarian Giant House Pigeons just about are in other ways!

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