

Andy Terracciano of Waterford, Conn., writes: "I have been enjoying the APJ ever since I received it eight years ago when I started to raise pigeons for show purposes. The APJ has linked me with all the fine people I have met in the hobby here and abroad. The specials have been a great boost to the hobby and the larger issues that have been published lately."

Joseph P. Phillips of Hobart, Ind., Sec.-Treas. of the Hammond Pigeon Fanciers Association, writes: "We of the Hammond Pigeon Fanciers Association wish to congratulate you and your staff for the fine Journal that you are publishing. It means so much to all the members of our club and the Specials are simply wonderful and very enlightening to us all."

W. H. Rockman of San Antonio, Texas, writes: "Have been taking the APJ for several years and wouldn't be without it. Am a breeder of utility birds, Swiss Mondaines, Texan Pioneers, all white except auto-sexed. Enjoy articles and letters of other breeders on their experience and care of their birds, feed, etc. I think the APJ is the best pigeon magazine of all, so keep up the good work."

J. Paul Mattson of Hunter, Utah, writes: "Keep up the great work on a great magazine. It gets bigger and better every issue. It has increased about one-fourth in size and information during the past year. I don't think I could raise my birds and do a good job without some of the informative information I have received from your magazine. Once again, keep up the good work."

Art R. Modler of Dayton, Ohio, (whose article appears on page 16 of this issue) made the following comment at the time he sent the article: "Had planned to make another journey but of longer or greater extent through the Near East this by-gone spring, but the war situation was not conducive to what I wanted to do. Maybe next Spring things might look better, at least I hope so. The Near East is terrifically fascinating, especially when it comes to pigeons. Seems as if the love of pigeons is an 'open sesame' to any place by anyone who professes this love. Of course no travel bureaus nor the State Dept. takes such a view. Nevertheless no gendarme, nor Arab guerilla, Egyptian felah, el-Fatah member took a potshot at me, even when I got as close to the border that I could spit across. I even walked 6½ miles through the streets of old Jerusalem, (I had a pedometer with me,) and never once did anyone give me a second look. In my search for pigeons I got to see twice as much as any of the others in the party, most of whom were more interested in sitting in the lobby of the hotel. I guess I confirmed the idea that most people have about pigeon fanciers, — 'they must be nuts.' Anyhow I never had such a grand time."

R. L. ("Hap") Beattie of Tulsa, Okla., writes: "I'm glad to note that the A.G.H.A. fellows are getting lined up on the Giant Homer issue. I will attempt to write a small article for the issue. Do you remember many years ago when I wrote an article for the Journal concerning Boy Scouts and Merit Badges in connection with raising squabs or pigeons? It came out and later on you sent me a copy of a pigeon publication in England that had reprinted it over there. I really got a 'bang' out of that one. I attended the Texas State Fair Pigeon Show. I think they had about 1700 birds. Sure a great French Mondain show. I think Nerry Comeaux took about two days judging it. We had a nice Giant Homer 5th District Meet, and I thoroughly enjoyed it, especially after being away from the shows so long. It doesn't seem possible that I have been breeding Giant Homers steadily since 1933. Didn't get to raise any youngsters to speak of this past season as I didn't get my new loft built and birds in it before real hot weather. We moved from our old homestead and don't have as much ground as we did have. I must take time out one of these evenings and write to Harry Baldwin. We had him down here in Tulsa one time to judge one of our shows and I always used to see him at the National. He was quite a little guy, and I always liked him. I found some of my real old issues of the Journal the other day and going through them brought back a lot of fond memories, and the realization of what a wonderful job you have done for so many years. Also how much better a job you are doing now. I hope you can keep the good work up for another 25 years." Thanks Mr. Beattie!

Roy Hendricks of Grand Rapids, Minn., writes: "I am enclosing \$3 for you to renew my subscription to the APJ. I think it is the greatest thing for the pigeon hobby. I am 18 years old and have had pigeons for about six to eight years. I currently have Strassers, Ringneck Doves, Fantails, and White Swiss Mondaines. I am trying to promote pigeons in my area but haven't had much luck. Most people laugh at me for having them. Keep up with the good work and keep them coming out ahead of time."

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