



"THE WORLD OF SWALLOW FANCIERS" HAS LOST A VERY GOOD FRIEND

Frank Bailey

I was in California celebrating this past weekend of my soon to be wife's identical triplet daughters that were graduating Saturday afternoon from their college stay of four years at Vanguard University in southern California. My joy and celebration was cut short when on Sunday morning I was informed by phone of this tragedy from my friend Merle Starr.

I have just become an emotional mess since learning of this terrible situation. My heart is so full of sadness for his family and for our personal loss of our friend. Andreas and myself had become very good friends and communicated daily and sometimes two to three times a day about our Swallows and our common hobby. He and his lovely wife Monica, were scheduled to come to my home in September for five days. We were all so excited about our agenda and the celebration of their anniversary.

We have all lost a very wonderful man and a servant to the promoting of our hobby. Our friend was very dedicated to the hobby we have given our lives to. For myself, it will soon be 50 years.

Our friend spoke several languages with very good English speaking and writing skills. Many of us considered him as our European ambassador that worked very hard at international ties and helped shorten the distance between our nations with his personal hard working commitment. He took his responsibility as President very serious and was on a mission to be there for anyone reaching out. Our friend will never be forgotten as he has left us a legacy of love for our hobby. His contribution although his life was cut short will live on, providing a foundation for the next European Club President to build upon. Our friend will leave some very large shoes to fill, but thanks to him, he has made it easier by paving the way for our hobbies international future... My sincere condolences to the family and friends that hold his memory so precious!

I will miss my friend!!!

Andreas Meyer

by Nate Wayne

I am sad to inform you that one of our club members, Andreas Meyer of Drebach, Germany, has passed away. According to his son, Christian, he collapsed on the evening of Thursday, May 5, 2005 at home. He was rushed to the hospital, subsequently transferred to a larger hospital where he



Andreas Meyer while judging the Swallows & Color Pigeons at the Pagaent of Pigeons this past November 2004. Photo: Frank Bailey

passed away. My understanding is the cause was a cerebral hemorrhage. The funeral was held Friday, May 12, 2005 in Drebach and attended by family, friends and pigeon fanciers numbering well over 300 people.

Andreas was survived by his wife Monica, three sons and his parents Helmut and Hannelore.

He was very active in many local pigeon clubs, president of the Sondereverein der Züchter Sächsischer Flügel Schwalben und Schildtauben and served on the board of the VDT. Andreas was well respected as a breeder of red spangle fairy swallows and also as a judge of color pigeons. His friendly personality, willingness to help and knowledge of our hobby made him a popular and well-known fancier.

On a personal note, Elliot Yeske and myself through an introduction from Hans Schipper, had become close friends with Andreas Meyer and his family. In recent years there were several visits to his house, other pigeon fancier friends of his and long discussions about our hobby. I am sure our hobby will miss him. Elliot and I will miss a good friend.

More about Andreas on page 4

USC Annual Meet goes to Edmonton, Canada

By John Taupert

Fellow members, I would like to take this opportunity to officially thank you for voting to hold the Annual Meet in Edmonton Alberta, Canada. Let me point out some of the positive aspects of holding the meet in Edmonton.

1. We have a good nucleus of Swallow Fanciers in the area.
2. We can afford to bring in a top judge from Europe at no cost to the United Swallow Club.
3. There are several American fanciers that have committed to come to the show.
4. A first class facility of 6,500-sq. ft. and all coops single decked.
5. Historically, we have had meets of up to 200 birds.
6. This meet will be part of the 3,000 bird Canadian Classic show which would promote swallows in Canada and help bring more members to the United Swallow club.
7. Sets a trend for the club to promote itself and show other specialty clubs we are truly united in our club endeavors.
8. This would be a year where the Swallow Club could save money and improve their financial standing.

If you have any questions regarding getting your swallows into Canada you can contact Bill Griebel at 626 448-8565 or get his email address from the membership list. He has all the import documents necessary and can walk you through the process.

In closing, I sincerely thank the membership for voting the annual meet to Edmonton. Come up and show with us. In return, I can promise you good competition, fellowship and great deal of fun for all. Make it a holiday and bring your family. More info in the next bulletin.

Election results for annual meet location and judge for 2005: *Tim Starr*

Meet Location

*Edmonton – 14
Des Moines – 11
San Bernardino – 7

Judge

*Hans Schipper – 16
Mike Swanson – 4
Reiner Wolf – 4
Dave Harris – 3
Gloria Weisgram – 3
Perry Mueller – 1
Gary Romig – 1

A Tip From Your Central District Director

Bob Benson

Hello fellow swallow breeders.

How's your breeding season so far? In Minnesota February, and even March nights can be tough on your swallows of banding age!

I put my birds together the first of February, so the first hatchlings were arriving in early March.

This year each night was approximately 10° F. and would rise to approximately 20° F. in the heat of the day. I'm fortunate that most of the hens sit tight day and night. When the young are 8-9 days old, I put fresh bedding of cedar chips in each nest. This helps to keep the youngsters warm and dry.



I was forced to aid one hen that wasn't covering her chicks well. I used a size six child's cotton stocking. I cut a very small hole in the toe of the sock; the sock was then pulled over the squab with the head protruding from said hole. Next, I cut openings for the wings (where the wings meet the body), pull them through and repeat the process with the legs. The last step is to cut off excess stocking so the vent isn't covered.

The parents are not put off by the white covering; they feed the young as usual. After a week the squabs will have almost out grown their coat, so just cut off the wrapping and out pops a beautiful swallow.

What do you Canadians and other cold climate breeders do to protect early hatches at age 10 days to 17 days?

the answer is –anything to get the birds ready for the National Young Bird Show of October each year!

Secretaries Message

Elliot Yeske

Hello everyone by now everyone's breeding season is underway. I hope your birds are doing well. Here in the far north things are slow, we had real warm weather the first part of April and then later snow showers. My birds are not going gang busters but I do have a few banded. I talked to Nate Wayne and his birds are also off to a slow start. We still have some club bands to sell and it would sure be nice to get them all sold. We have 180 clean leg bands and 40 muffed bands. They are 30 cents each. I will be ordering club bands for next year now please remember to keep us in mind for your bands instead of buying them some where else. Take care everyone and I hope you raise a champion bird.

It sure is a shame what happened to Andreas. I was, and still am in shock over this. We were so looking forward to their visit this fall and were making plans already. I had hoped to have many more tauben adventures with Andreas and our friends in Germany and the Netherlands. He did so much for the swallow club here in the U.S. He was always there if I had any questions or there was something I needed. His family and friends always made Nate and I feel so welcome on our visits to Germany. Now that is gone. It so hard to believe. He was way to young to have something like this happen. He will surely be missed by all of us who knew him.

USC Membership Spring 2005

| | | | | | | | | | |
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| | | | | Pulley, David 912 NW Fremont St. Camas, WA 98607 360-834-0330 | 01/06 | | | | |

The United Swallow Club

*Still has 180 clean leg bands for sale and
40 muffed bands at 35 cents each
Contact: Sec. Elliot Yeske*

Swallow Club Treasure's Report

First Quarter May 4th, 2005

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Beginning Balance | 2,244.40 |
| Income: | |
| Dues, Bands & 1st place judging award | 941.00 |
| Expenses: | |
| Refund on band order | 6.50 |
| Service Charge for Feb, Mar, Apr | 9.00 |
| Newsletter & Awards | 200.00 |
| Ending Balance | 2,969.90 |

A Friend in Germany writes of Andreas

Mick Bassett

I too have been devastated by the death of Andreas.

I classed him as a very good Friend here in Germany, we conversed many times and of course met at the Shows and Social occasions here and nothing was ever too much trouble to explain, and like myself he was interested in the 'Histories' of Breeds, he was truly a 'Unique' Person.

This has caught me with my 'Guard Down' as after 35 years of Nursing and working in Cancer Hospice, I thought my defenses were a bit tougher than they appear to be, something to do no doubt with the fact that he was a very Special Person and will be so sorely missed on both a Personal and 'Hobby' Level throughout the World, unfortunately I don't have a Car and live in quite a remote village, so although I live in Germany, I will not have the opportunity to 'Pay' my last Respects as I would wish.

The infectious Enthusiasm and Energy that Andreas carried out anything to do with his Hobby and his willingness to 'Share', will live on as a Great Memento to a truly 'Ungewöhnlich', 'out of the Ordinary' Man.

"Latcho Baxetale",

A message from Andreas's son

Christian Meyer, Courtesy of Frank Bailey

I would like to write you and to continue my father's correspondence. First your questions: I'm 24 years old. My brothers are 19 and 16 years old.

We want to keep my father's pigeons and to carry on with breeding. But it's not easy. I'm a student in Dresden, a bigger city approx. 100 km away from Drebach. So I can only use the weekend to look after the birds. I hope my brothers will support me. We don't have nearly as much knowledge as my father had about breeding birds. We watched him sometimes and helped him a little with his hobby, but when it comes to making pairs, we are almost lost. We have to figure everything out from the beginning. We are lucky our grandfather (my father's dad) is also a huge pigeon friend. For the time being he now has control over my Dad's birds and step by step me and my brothers will continue to raise my father's birds. I hope everything will go fine to keep my father's legacy alive.

My mother is doing well under the given circumstances. Though she can speak a little bit English, I have to translate every Mail from America. She is always happy to hear from you and she is sending her regards.



Notes and photos from emails Andreas sent to Frank Bailey: "Last weekend I visited Josef Roth together with 3 other Breeders of Saxon Color Pigeons. Josef has now more than 140 young birds banded."



This photo was grouped with several others on Andreas's visit to Joseph Roth's loft.

Left & below: "attached are some fotos I took today in the evening with me and my new (not finished) young birds loft".





"My birds are now in the fourth round. This is the last round for this year. I have now banded a little bit more than 90 young birds. Over 70 of this birds are Swallows. This is really enough and I have no bands for more young birds. The birds from the first and the second round are moulting and it seems as there will come up some real nice young birds. It seems as I will get some nice red spangled Silesians and also Fairys. I don't know if I



told you in spring that I like to try to breed more spangled birds as in the years before. In the years before I mated together more barred pairs. In this year I had only one pair Silesians and one pair Fairys red white bar. The other pairs were spangle/spangle or red white bar/spangle. Now it seems as I had some good luck. Attached are a few fotos I took a couple of days ago, so you can see how they are looking".



"Attached are a few fotos I took last week with some of my young birds. The spangled bird is a hen from one of my best pairs. This pigeon I also like to show next weekend".



Andreas's favorite swallows. Red spangle & white barred fairy swallows. Red & yellow checker (Reisserflugels). Art by Gary Romig



Andreas judging the USC meet at the Pageant of Pigeons Nov. 2004. Photo by Frank Bailey.



**United Swallow Club
P.O. Box 152
Patagonia, AZ 85624**

**Be sure to make your nominations for club officers by July 31. Send to: Tim Starr at timstarr@comcast.net
8804 Ft. Loudon Rd., Mercersburg, PA 17236 • 717-328-9751**

•President •Vice President •Secretary/Treasurer •Western District Dir. •Central District Dir. Eastern District Dir. •Canadian District Dir.

Message from the President *Merle Starr*

Spring at last, spring at last. I hope all members have started their breeding season. I have quite a few young banded already.

We had a very good turn out for the voting for the annual site and for the annual judge this time. Close to 50 percent of the membership voted.

This will be a first in several ways for the site and for the judge. This will be the first time that the USC will have their annual show in Canada (Edmonton) and the first time that I am aware of for having a foreign judge (Hans Schipper) judging two years in a row at our annual show. Having Hans judge for the second year in a row is possible in that the Edmonton Pigeon Club will be picking up all the cost for Hans trip.

We had several members that were uncertain as to how to vote with two foreign judges on the ballot. I admit that I could have made it a lot clearer in that Hans could only be voted for the Edmonton show and that Reiner Wolf could only be voted to judge at the NPA national in San Bernardino. This is again due to both foreign judges were already asked to judge these two sites prior to our (USC) election for the site and for the judge. Both of the judges costs will be paid by other clubs, and not by the USC.

Our by-laws state that we should rotate our judge and our site for our annual show on a yearly basis, but if there are extenuating circumstances we can go to club officers and make an excep-

tion. Since we had clubs other than the USC paying for all cost to bring in foreign judges, we felt that this would be alright this time. While all officers of the club had no objections to this ballot, some said that they may or may not vote for Edmonton or San Bernardino or for either foreign judge. There were several members saying that they intended showing some birds at the Edmonton show.

This is our year for election of officers for the next two years. If you have some one in mind for any office I suggest you contact them to see if they would accept any position in the club before nominating them. I have talked with most officers about staying on in their official position. They have agreed to accept this position for the next two years. You can either nominate the current officer or you may nominate some one else of your choice. Mike Swanson has requested to have someone replace him as chairman of the judging committee. This can be nominated with the rest of your nominations but the nominators must be from the list of current official USC judges.

Send all your nominations to Tim Starr at timstarr@comcast.net by the 31st of July. This will give us ample time to have the ballot ready for our summer bulletin.

It is with my deepest sympathy for the family of Andreas Meyer in his unexpected passing away several weeks ago. He was a true friend to all pigeon people, and will really be missed.