

UNITED Swallow Club



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Winners at the USC Annual Meet



Photo: George de la Nuez

Champion Swallow of the USC Annual Meet: Blue White Bar Crested Saxon Wing Pigeon (Fairy Swallow) YH#256 (E97) George de la Nuez. This same bird was also Champion Swallow at the Pageant of Pigeons, USC Western District Meet.



Photo: George de la Nuez

Best Silesian Swallow (Plainheaded Saxon Wing Pigeon) OH #66 (HS96) Black white bar, owner: Bill Griebel

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President's Message

Mike Swanson

2016 was a great year for the United Swallow Club. As a club, we accomplished many of our shared goals for our club through the hard work and dedication of our members.

Our annual show held in Des Moines proved to be a success as a result of the commitment and collaborative efforts of our Central District members. The advance preparation of Central District members Dave Averbeck, Gloria Weisgram and Chris Auer was clearly evident. The well-organized judging and auction areas, poster of the judging sequence, colorful skirting, as well as the USC banner (with an inventive stand) and decorative sign recognizing both Judine Nelson and Merle Starr created a festive show area. In fact the USC took third place and won \$20 from the Iowa State Pigeon Association for "Best Decorated Specialty Show Area"! Members in attendance were from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Minnesota, North Dakota, Wisconsin, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, Iowa, California and Colorado! A big thank you is extended to those members who attended our annual meet and brought their birds to show. A big thank you

is extended to judge Ron DeClement as well. Travelling to show our birds requires advance planning, lots of hard work, time and expense; so thank you to those members who went the distance travelling on icy roads, getting their birds in show condition and flying across the country!

Our annual show was dedicated to Judine Nelson and Merle Starr. Both Merle and Judine were members of the USC for many years and provided numerous quality swallows to breeders throughout the years. Additionally, they both provided leadership and worked to promote the goals of the USC. Both Judine and Merle are sorely missed.

The silent auction at the USC Annual Meet proved to be a success. Chris Auer contributed lots of time and hard work into making the auction a success. Approximately \$1200 was raised through the silent auction. Thank you to USC members who donated birds, books, and other items for the auction, your generosity sustains our organization!

Continued on next page

Club Officers for 2016 & 2017 (See more officers on page 3)

President: Swanson, Mike 4800 Road 23 Ft. Lupton, CO 80621 303-857-0985 cathybighorn@yahoo.com	Vice President: Gary Romig PO Box 152, 58 Sonoita Dr. Patagonia, AZ 85624 520-394-2174 gromig@unitedswallowclub.com	Secretary/Treasurer: Elliot Yeske 21649 State Hwy 108 Pelican Rapids, MN 56572 ejy@loretel.net	Western Dist. Director: Griebel, Bill Sr. 12032 Rio Hondo Pkwy. El Monte, CA 91732 626-448-8565 griebel@att.net	Central Dist. Director: Dave Averbeck 9432 Tiber Dr. St. Louis, MO 63123 314-260-9326 averbeck1979@gmail.com	Eastern Dist. Director: Ron DeClement 11179 Old Princess Anne Rd. Princess Anne, MD 21853 410-651-0256 declementr@verizon.net	Canada Dist. Director: Bernd Licht 54149 Range Rd. 205A Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, Canada T8L 3Z2 780-998-4876 alterkeiler@mcsnet.ca
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President's Message continued

Mike Swanson

Over and over again throughout this year, I've admired the collective leadership of our members. Every time I've asked someone to do something they've stepped up and exceeded my expectations. Together through our shared goals, hard work and commitment to our swallows we continue to sustain the goals of the United Swallow Club!

On Friday evening, after the day's judging was suspended, over twenty club members met at the hotel for our USC Annual Meeting. Gloria Weisgram arranged for pizza to be delivered and our annual meeting lasted almost three hours!! We accomplished a lot of important club business and it is not often we get to make club decisions and set new club goals while we are face-to-face. Everyone enjoyed the intermission of "share-n-tell". The pizza, beverages and camaraderie made the evening memorable and enjoyable. For more details refer to the annual meeting minutes. As the show came to an end, again everyone pitched in to tear down coops and in a flash the show was torn down and we said our good-byes. Many members faced icy roads and long hours of driving on their return trip home.

As Cathy and I jumped in our van and found our way to Interstate-80 we discovered it had just re-opened after being closed for several hours due to numerous accidents. As we chatted excitedly about the events of the show we passed numerous cars and semis off in the ditch and we cautiously continued on our way. As we travelled west, thankfully road conditions improved. As we reflected on the show, we both agreed the show had many highlights. We both enjoyed renewing friendships, the opportunities to make new friends and the quality of both the birds and the people in attendance. As we continued on our ten-hour car trip home Cathy shared while she was at the concession stand a gentleman next to her fervently complained about the screams of a small child not far away. Cathy cheerfully indicated to the man that often there could be hidden reasons for screams from little ones. Then as Cathy made her way back to the judging area, she saw USC member Brian Goodwin kneeling beside the small screaming child in a stroller. Brian was reaching out to the unhappy child trying to understand what was upsetting him and to support the child's perplexed grandmother through his use of Spanish. Brian's compassion touched our hearts and his example is one both of us will remember. Later, Cathy had the opportunity to share with Brian how his example and compassion really touched her heart. Brian indicated he too had a little one at home that often could be equally upset. Brian indicated he quickly discovered the little boy's emotions were quickly resolved with a soda and French fries!! Brian's actions reminded us it is never the wrong time to do the right thing. Definitely, the United Swallow Club is comprised of quality people. Brian's actions raised our consciousness about what is important and put all the events of the show into perspective. For both of us, Brian's actions were a highlight of the show.

As we look ahead into 2017, nominations for officers and annual meet location and annual meet judge need to be taken. Be sure to submit your nominations for officers, annual meet judge and location to election commissioner, Chris Auer. Nominations will close thirty days after the USC Winter Bulletin. A reminder if you nominate someone for an office be sure to verify with them they are willing to accept the nomination and carry out the duties of the office. New officers will take office in JANUARY OF 2018 so realize current officers remain in office for 2017.

At this point in time I've made the decision to not run for re-election for USC President. I've totally enjoyed serving in this role and I am proud of the work we have done as an organization these past four years. I've appreciated the amazing support of the USC officers and collaborating with them. Also, I've benefitted

immensely from the support of USC members as well! I'm always astounded by our collective energy, our collective leadership for common goals. However, I feel now is the time to release the baton and pass the leadership role onto someone new, someone who will continue to lead the USC through an open-mind and collective leadership with the goal of sustaining the purpose and vision of our organization.

Meanwhile, I have several goals yet to accomplish with the help of our membership. One main priority is the USC swallow standard. We have a standard committee in place and it is my goal for this committee to have their work completed by the end of this year. So please contact these standard committee members: Nate Wayne, standards chairman, committee members; Ron DeClement, Bill Griebel, and Gary Romig with your input about the current USC swallow standard and any revisions you think need to be put into place. Our collective input, vision and perspectives are what gives our organization energy while sustaining our beloved breed, the swallow.

Don't forget to get your ads and articles to the Purebred Pigeon for our Swallow Special in the September/October 2017 issue. Ron DeClement declementr@verizon.net is the coordinator for the Swallow Special. Articles and ads can be submitted to them at advertising@purebredpigeon.com, larry@purebredpigeon.com and their website is www.purebredpigeon.com. I'm excited about the upcoming breeding season and the continued success of the United Swallow Club! I hope all of you have an amazing year with your birds!!

More USC Officers for 2016-2017

Publicity Director: Election Commissioner:

Frank Bailey 21506 E. Lost Lake Rd. Snohomish, WA 98296 360-668-1371 frankbailey@icloud.com	Chris Auer, 2603 Prairie Hollow Rd., Imperial, MO 63052 314-412-0308 auercg23@aol.com
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United Swallow Club Financial Report May 2016-Nov 2016

Beginning balance	\$4811.70
Deposits (dues, bands, rebates)	\$509.00
Expenses:	
Purebed Pigeon Ad	\$459.00
Dave Averbek (tables, Ad)	\$107.00
NPA (2nd ½ of bands)	\$437.50
Current checking balance:	\$4317.20

A Call for Nominations for USC Events and Officers

Nominations are open until 30 days after you receive this bulletin.
That should be around March 1, 2017.

Send nominations to our Election Commissioner:
**Chris Auer, 2603
Prairie Hollow Rd., Imperial, MO 63052,**

Click here to email Chris  auercg23@aol.com

Nominate the location and judge of our next Annual Meet.

The following nominations are in for USC Officers
Add more to this list. Restrict your nominee for your district
director to someone who resides in your district. And, contact
your nominee and insure they agree to the nomination.

- President:
Dave Averbek
- Vice-President:
Gary Romig
- Secretary-Treasurer:
Elliot Yeske
- Western District Director
Bill Griebel Sr.
- Central District Director:

- Eastern District Director:

- Canadian District Director:

UNITED SWALLOW CLUB meets on the IOWA PRAIRIE

By: Chris Auer



Photo: George de la Nuez

Best Thuringer Wing Pigeon S95, Perry Mueller



Photo: George de la Nuez

Best Thuringer Swallow, HS96, Brian Goodwin



Photo: George de la Nuez

Best Black White Bar Saxon Wing Pigeon, E97, Bill Griebel



Photo: George de la Nuez

Best Saxon Swallow, HS96, Perry Mueller

The United Swallow Club members elected to hold their 2016 annual show in conjunction with the Iowa State Pigeon Association Show being held in Des Moines, Iowa on December 8 & 9. This show was held in memory of 2 long time USC members and past officers Judine Nelson and Merle Starr who passed away in the recent past. Ron Declement from Maryland had the honor of being judge at this meet.

At this event 157 Swallows/Wing Pigeons were entered with 135 exhibited. There were 15 exhibitors and another 5 USC members present from all across the US. States represented were California, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Colorado, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

Overall 30 varieties of Swallows/Wing pigeons were exhibited with Blue White bar fairies being the largest class with 21 birds shown. All varieties were of high quality and showed the

dedication of the Swallow breeders here in the United States.

On Friday evening the club's Annual Meeting was held at the Best Western Hotel. The meeting focused on recent club accomplishments and future actions such as revising the Swallow Standard which will drive the direction of the club forward. Several "newer" members were present and were welcomed to the group. Saturday at noon the USC silent auction concluded. Many High quality birds, paintings and other items were donated by club members and resulted in almost \$1200 being collected for the club treasury to help defer future cost for judging and club expenses.

As the show came to a close everyone shook hands and said their goodbye's and discussions began about how to make the 2017 show season an even greater success.

Champion, Best Young, Best Fairy Swallow***

YH#256 (E97) Blue white bar George dela Nuez

Reserve Champion**

OC #3067 (E97)Blue wb Fairy George dela Nuez

Best Silesian Swallow¹

OH #66 (HS96) Black wb Bill Griebel

Best Fullhead Swallow²

YH #354 (HS96) Blue wb Perry Mueller

Best Thuringer Swallow³

OC #222 (HS96) Black barless Brian Goodwin

Best Thuringer Wing⁴

YH #168 (S95) Black white bar Perry Mueller

Best Black Spangle Fairy Swallow⁵

YH #338 (HS96) YH Perry Mueller

E Rated Black wb Fairy Swallow⁶

YH #482 YH Bill Griebel

Fairy Swallow

Black spangle

S-95 YH 321 Mueller
HS-96 YH 338 Mueller⁵
HS-96 YC 360 Mueller
S-94 YC 433 Mueller
S-94 YC 382 Mueller
S-94 YC 392 Mueller

Black white bar

S-95 YH 760 Auer
E-97 YH 482 Greibel⁶
S-93 YC 752 Auer
S-95 OH 597 Averbek
HS-96 OH 3 Greibel
S-95 OH 1161 Auer
S-95 OH 874 Auer
HS-96 OC 856 Auer
S-94 OC 1537 Averbek II
HS-96 OC 760 Bill Greibel

Blue barless

HS-96 YH 341 Mueller

Blue white bar

E-97 YH 256 de la Nuez ***
S-95 YH 3317 Kooker
S-95 YH 3318 Kooker
HS-96 YH 267 de la Nuez
S-95 YH 181 Swanson
S-95 YH 152 Swanson
S-95 YH 3309 Kooker
HS-96 YC 252 de la Nuez
HS-96 YC 281 de la Nuez
S-95 YC 78 Swanson
HS-96 YC 57 Swanson
S-95 YC 63 Swanson
HS-96 OH 2480 de la Nuez
HS-96 OH 238 Swanson
S-95 OH 11 Swanson
S-95 OH 434 Swanson
HS-96 OC 2472 de la Nuez
HS-96 OC 235 Swanson
S-95 OC 454 Swanson
HS-96 OC 178 Swanson
E-97 OC 3067 de la Nuez**

Red spangle

S-93 OC 3882 Parrott

Red white bar

G-92 OH 1231 Averbek
S-93 OC 78 Rolly Parrott

Silver barless

S-95 YC 55 Swanson

Yellow spangle

S-94 YH 1475 Wayne
S-93 YC 1413 Wayne
S-95 OH 1017 Wayne
S-94 OC 804 Parrott

Yellow white bar

S-93 OC 817 Parrott

Saxon Fullhead

Black spangle

S-95 YC 754 Auer
S-94 YC 1432 Wayne
S-94 OH 727 Wayne

Blue white bar

HS-96 YH 354 Mueller²
S-94 YH 200 Mueller
S-95 YC 319 Mueller
S-95 YC 368 Mueller

Black white bar

S-95 YC 451 Auer
S-94 OH 871 Auer
S-95 OC 1023 Wayne

Silesian

Black barless

S-93 YC xxx Ripper
S-95 OH 1050 Weisgram
S-95 OH 1029 Weisgram
S-95 OC 1113 Weisgram
S-95 OC 1223 Weisgram

Black white bar

S-95 YH 480 Griebel
HS-96 YH 1910 Grober
S-95 YH 1930 Grober
S-95 YC 1931 Grober
S-93 YC 523 Griebel
S-95 OH 987 Averbek
S-93 OH 1103 Averbek
HS-96 OH 66 Griebel¹

Blue barless

S-95 YH 342 Mueller
S-95 YH 380 Mueller
S-95 YC 371 Mueller
HS-96 YC 312 Mueller
HS-96 OH 695 Mueller
HS-96 OC 684 Mueller

Blue black bar

S-94 YH 1929 Grober
HS-96 YC 3330 Griebel
S-94 YC 1901 Grober
HS-96 YC 1902 Grober
HS-96 OH 227 Griebel

Blue check

S-95 YH 82 Swanson
S-95 YH 234 Swanson
HS-96 YH 216 Swanson
HS-96 YH 177 Swanson
S-95 YC 158 Swanson
S-95 YC 180 Swanson
HS-96 OH 307 Swanson

Cream Bar

S-93 YH xxx Ripper
S-93 YC xxx Ripper

Silver barless

S-95 YH 130 Swanson
S-95 YH 85 Swanson
HS-96 YC 39 Swanson

HS-96 YC 24 Swanson
S-94 OH 131 Swanson
HS-96 OH 39 Swanson
S-95 OH 512 Swanson
HS-96 OC 350 Swanson
HS-96 OC 23 Swanson
HS-96 OC 55 Swanson

Silver check

S-95 YH 174 Swanson
S-95 YH 17 Swanson
S-94 YH 72 Swanson
HS-96 YH 173 Swanson
S-95 YH 109 Swanson
S-94 YH 47 Swanson
S-95 YC 101 Swanson
S-95 OH 135 Swanson
S-95 OH 649 Swanson
S-94 OC 108 Swanson
S-95 OC 104 Swanson
S-95 OC 118 Swanson
S-95 OC 46 Swanson

Thuringer Swallow

Black barless

S-94 YH 380 Goodwin
S-95 YH 482 Goodwin
S-93 YH 381 Goodwin
S-94 YH 9 Yeske
HS-96 OC 222 Goodwin³

Blue barless

S-95 YH 451 Kooker
S-93 YH 379 Goodwin
S-93 YC 2612 Goodwin
S-95 OH 384 Kooker

Red barless

S-94 YH 3 Yeske

Blue white bar

S-93 YC 24 Yeske

Thuringer wing

Black white bar

S-95 YH 168 Mueller⁴
S-95 YC 155 Mueller

Black Spangle

S-94 YH 90 Yeske
G-92 YH 22 Yeske

Silver barless

S-94 YH 464 Kooker

Red white bar

S-94 YH 203 Mueller

Yellow white bar

S-94 YH 260 Mueller

Blue barless

S-93 YC 469 Kooker

Red white bar

S-95 YC 272 Mueller

Yellow white bar

S-94 YC 240 Mueller

PHOTOS- UNITED SWALLOW CLUB ANNUAL MEET



Left to right: Brad Stuckey, Mike Swanson, Rachel Stuckey, George De La Nuez, Jim Grober, Chris Auer, Steve Ripper, Perry Mueller, David Averbeck, Brian Goodwin, Kaylee Skistimas, Ron Declement, Bill Griebel, Rolly Parrott, Elliot Yeske, Nate Wayne



A general view of the showroom and Ron DeClement looking over some blue fairy swallows Kaylee Skistimas stands as scribe nearby. The inset is a picture of the hand made dedication banner for Merle and Judine done by Gloria Weisgram

UNITED SWALLOW CLUB ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Des Moines, IA December 9, 2016

Respectfully submitted by Cathy Swanson Dec. 18, 2016

USC President, Mike Swanson brought the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Twenty people were in attendance: Jim Grober, Stephen Ripper, Chris Auer, Perry Mueller, Brad and Rachel Stuckey, Ron DeClement, Kaylee Skistimas, George de la Nuez, David Averbeck, Elliot Yeske, Bill Griebel, Richard Albrecht, Cathy & Mike Swanson, Gloria Weisgram, and Greg Volzke. In Old Business, President, Mike Swanson thanked the membership for their collective leadership in putting together another successful annual show. Mike thanked members for their willingness to go the distance and work together to sustain our club, our annual show and our beloved swallows. Copies of the minutes from our previous annual meeting in California held at the Pageant of Pigeons, were available for review by those in attendance. Bill Griebel motioned to accept the minutes and the motion was seconded by Chris Auer. The motion passed. USC Secretary-Treasurer, Elliot Yeske, shared the treasury report. The USC treasury balance is \$4,317.20, this total includes the expense of the band order for next year. Elliot clarified for those in attendance \$437.00 is the cost for half of the band order. President, Mike Swanson, called for discussion on the treasury report. A motion to accept the report was made by Chris Auer and seconded by Dave Averbeck. The motion passed. USC Secretary-Treasurer, Elliot Yeske, indicated he was set-up to take membership renewal and new memberships as well as band orders for next year during the show. Elliot indicated membership for the United Swallow Club is \$10 per year.

President Mike Swanson asked Gloria Weisgram to elaborate on the status of the E-patches for those birds receiving an E rating in the show. Gloria indicated she would have those awards prepared and ready to distribute. Gloria indicated the banners assembled and on display were special and she felt honored to be part of this opportunity. She went on to acknowledge Chris Auer and Dave Averbeck for their effort and ingenuity in creating the display stand for the banners and for their ingenuity in raising the show coops with PVC pipe to an appropriate eye-level for the judge to review the birds.

Under New Business, those in attendance thanked Gary Romig for his continued efforts to create awards for our annual meet and to create banners for our district and annual show. President, Mike Swanson, thanked Ron DeClement for judging our annual meet and those in attendance thanked him with a round of applause. Bill Griebel brought up the possibility that future awards could be similar to those awards Gary Romig created for the Southern California Color Pigeon Club. Bill Griebel shared the images from his phone for those in attendance.

In other new business the swallow special for the September/October 2017 issue of the Purebred Pigeon Magazine was discussed. (Ron DeClement will serve as coordinator). Contributions from any and all members and those interested individuals were encouraged as sources to make the special a success and representative of multiple perspectives and as a potential to encourage new members and to sustain our breed. The deadline for submissions would be two months prior to the special and preferably by June 1, 2017. Submit directly to the Purebred Pigeon. The Purebred Pigeon staff, Larry and Doratha work very well with individuals wishing to make contributions. In fact they will work with you to create ads and work with you on articles and supporting photos. Contact them at advertising@purebredpigeon.com for advertising questions and submission or larry@purebredpigeon.com for subscriptions and back issues. Their website is www.purebredpigeon.com

Additionally it was discussed the Purebred Pigeon provides the opportunity to support our breed through articles and advertising. The Purebred magazine promotes our breed through articles

in their magazine at no-cost. Nate Wayne encouraged those in attendance to contribute and the earlier the better.

In other related new business, Chris Auer indicated he would write up our USC Annual show and encouraged those in attendance to contribute their thoughts and ideas and he would compile them into an article to contribute to the Jan/Feb. 2017 issue of the Purebred Pigeon. Chris Auer went on to elaborate the Purebred Pigeon Magazine would support a "USC Column" two-three times a year. Chris encouraged those in attendance to consider the possibility of taking-on this responsibility. Chris indicated this would be "free" advertising for the USC while promoting swallows!

Nate Wayne brought the discussion back to a possible theme for the Purebred Pigeon swallow special in September/October, 2017. Nate suggested the possibilities for a theme. President Mike Swanson directed the discussion back to Ron DeClement and Ron indicated it was his hope the front cover could be a double panel of Frank Cook's painting along with Wendell Levi's letter about this particular painting perhaps on the inside cover. Ron DeClement indicated this particular painting was considered to be Cook's best by the artist himself. President, Mike Swanson indicated the front cover for our swallow special would cost the club approximately \$350.00 and encouraged those in attendance to consider what might be on the cover. Ron DeClement indicated he was judging the show at no-cost to the club and this would supplant the cost of the cover.

It was further discussed to have a USC membership list included in the special with the breeds they raise so other members and potential new members could access this resource. Additionally, reaching out to future members would create the potential to sustain the resource of our current birds and those birds we've worked so hard to improve and refine. USC member, Gloria Weisgram, shared the USC Central district throughout the years has worked hard to promote their auctions to sustain the club and the breed to make resources (birds) available to members and interested potential members.

Ron DeClement made a motion to dedicate the Sept./Oct. Purebred Swallow special to a USC member (to be revealed upon publication). The motion was seconded by Gloria Weisgram. The motion passed. It was further agreed by those in attendance specificity in our articles will provide opportunities to refine our breed and educate members and potential members as well. It was agreed by all in attendance the sustainability of the club is in our collective energy, the people, the camaraderie and generosity of breeders to reach out to new members and our stewardship in refining our breed.

The meeting broke for an "intermission" a.k.a. pizza delivery and beverage break. Member Gloria Weisgram arranged for the delivery of delicious pizza along with a quenching cold beverage (a thank you to member Bill Griebel for his \$100 contribution to the pizza!) Those in attendance moved their chairs into a circle to share who they were and what breeds and colors they raise while enjoying the pizza and cold drinks! The "share-n-tell" provided an opportunity to connect a name-to-a-face, share common interests, update current information and reflect on the past and laugh together. Several members reflected about the meaning of their enduring friendships with other members, members as mentors while others spoke fondly of how fathers were mentors and influences. Those in attendance included individuals from the East coast to the West coast and southeast to the Gulf Coast. Additionally a big representation included Central District states: Missouri, Minnesota, North Dakota, Nebraska, and Oklahoma and Colorado, too! After everyone had the opportunity to contribute and share the meeting resumed.

UNITED SWALLOW CLUB ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES (continued)

In other new business, USC member, George de la Nuez shared he was taking photographs of E-rated birds and photos to capture other top winners in each color. George further indicated these photos are a way to communicate and keep in contact with those members here and abroad in Europe.

Constitution and By-Law committee chairman, Chris Auer reported on the outcomes of this committee. President Mike Swanson thanked Chris and committee members, Leon Stephens, Ron DeClement and Dave Averbek for their work and follow through. Bill Griebel member-in-charge of the certified judging program reported on related outcomes. Bill reported David Averbek is working on his certification and George de la Nuez is also working on his certification and had a unique opportunity at the show in Zwonitz to co-judge with Andreas Reuter. Bill also reported Nate Wayne is the latest individual to become a certified USC judge.

USC member, Ron DeClement suggested up to \$12,000 has been spent on bringing in European judges for our shows and club money could be used in a better way. He suggested the need to scale back on European judges as we have very qualified judges here in the United States. Ron suggested the money could be used in a different way perhaps for cash prizes.

Member Nate Wayne suggested expenses for European judges had been defrayed through private membership contributions and judges were brought in as a resource to grow our collective interest and depth of knowledge of our breed as opposed to not having qualified judges here in the United States. President Mike Swanson suggested if you have a member like Perry Mueller judge, then you eliminate the opportunity for him to show his birds and this in turn suppresses the entries. USC member Elliot Yeske added as a result of exposure to the European judges our collective consciousness of the nuances and refinements of the clean-legs have been positive outcomes.

Additional new business included an idea USC member Jay Beals had brought up at the annual meet a few years ago in Oklahoma about the possibility of a United Swallow Club Master Breeder award. President Mike Swanson said it might be something to consider however, the NPA's Master Breeder award program is what we have at the moment. The current NPA Master Breeder award is a rigorous process and has served the USC well.

However, the NPA is currently considering requiring NPA Master Breeders to have a Master Breeder award from their specialty club first before being considered for the NPA award. President, Mike Swanson recommended all past NPA Swallow Master Breeders be grandfathered in as United Swallow Club Master Breeders should the NPA make this change and we proceed in creating a USC Master Breeder protocol.

Other new business migrated to the silent auction at the show the next day and all those in attendance agreed having periodic announcements on the P.A. system would make those individuals in the show hall aware of our auction and create energy and increase bids. President Mike Swanson indicated the auction has been important to our club in many ways and thanked Brian Goodwin for his generous donations and the numerous donations of other members as well. Mike also thanked Chris Auer and USC Secretary-Treasurer, Elliot Yeske for their contributions to making the USC auctions a success. Mike indicated he would make periodic announcements on the P.A. system at the show the next day.

In other new business President Mike Swanson indicated the membership needed to be looking ahead to the new officers for January of 2018. President Mike Swanson thanked the current officers for their contributions, hard work and commitment to the USC. As a result of the work of the officers and our members the United Swallow Club is thriving! Mike also indicated any nominations made during our meeting tonight would be taken but that nominations for officers to take office as of January of 2018, would remain open up to thirty days after the USC Winter bulletin. This timeline would be the same for nominations for the location of the next annual show. Ron DeClement nominated Dave Averbek for President. Gary Romig was nominated for Vice-President. Elliot Yeske was nominated for Secretary-Treasurer. It was recommended Chris Auer be the USC publicity director. President Mike Swanson indicated the publicity director is an appointed position and the newly elected 2018 USC President would appoint the publicity director.

Nate Wayne made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Rachel Stuckey seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 P.M.



The United Swallow Club annual meeting / pizza dinner

UNITED SWALLOW CLUB ANNUAL MEET Photos



Photo: George de la Nuez

Saxon Fullhead Swallow YC 451 rated S95, Chris Auer



Photo: George de la Nuez

Saxon Fairy Swallow OH 1017 rated S95, Nate Wayne



Photo: George de la Nuez

Saxon Fairy Swallow YH 338 rated HS96, Perry Mueller



Photo: Perry Mueller

Ron DeClement congratulates George de la Nuez for winning Champion Swallow



Photo: Perry Mueller

Silesian Swallow Rated HS96, Perry Mueller



Photo: Perry Mueller

Ron DeClement judging with Dave Averbeck and Rachel Stuckey

Judges Comments on the USC Annual Meet

Ron DeClement



Ron DeClement Judging Thuringer Swallows at the USC Annual Meet December 2016 Des Moines, Iowa.

To the left are Dave Averbeck and Rachel Stuckey and on the right taking notes is Kaylee Skistimas

I wish to thank all the swallow members who contributed to the annual meet whether through preparation or exhibition which made the show possible. First, special thanks to Eric and Stacy Cooker for making the travel plans and allowing us to travel with them. Eric drove 18 hours each way which is not easy.

Special thanks also to Kaylee for traveling from the University of Missouri at Columbia to Kansas City, then to the meet to scribe for me so members would have comments on cards for reference. Kaylee did superb work because as I talked she made the comments orderly and readable.

I also want to thank Nate for serving as the second judge for me in awarding the E ratings. Nate is a competent breeder and judge working with some of the most difficult swallow colors to breed.

Thanks to our great president Mike Swanson for all the work he did on the show. Mike began calling fanciers way back in April to encourage participation in the show. I am sure I speak for all members when I say we will all miss Mike's friendly correspondence and calls as president, when he encouraged us to participate and support the swallow club. Mike and Cathy are truly great people and swallow breeders.

All of us must also thank Gloria, Mary, Dave, Perry and Chris for their organizational work and set up. The swallow section looked presentable and displayed the club in a professional manner.

Not least, we must all thank Bill and George, two truly great swallow breeders, for traveling the greatest distance to support the club with well prepared, beautiful birds.

The overall quality of the show was consistent and quite high. Pigeons were well prepared in excellent show condition.

Time was limited and unfortunately did not allow space for me

to explain the positive points of the birds or those points that needed improvement to the larger audience.

Several breeders walked closer to hear what I was saying and Rachel who is a new and very promising swallow breeder stayed in the judging area to listen to every bird being judged both Friday and Saturday.

The comments on the cards will serve as a reference and if anyone has any questions they are welcome to call me and I will explain exactly how the bird was judged.

When we finally finished over 75% of the show was already taken down and time weighed on us the entire weekend. Unfortunately we actually had less than 24 hours to fellowship with fellow swallow breeders and it was great to see people I have not seen in 20 plus years.

There was some concern expressed to me at the show for talking to exhibitors before or during the judging, but let me assure everyone, we are all adults and know enough to be fair when judging while being able to share friendship. The competition is extremely important and we all work hard and spend considerable amounts of money to be competitive. My judging reflected this attitude because taking the swallow fancy seriously is what improves the breed.

The pigeons serve as the medium which we use to bring us together and the people and the friendships make the pigeon show become reality. The friendships and competition are equally important and we must not let one overshadow the other or the quality of the show is compromised. It was great to see everyone again and I hope everyone has a successful breeding season this spring.

The Judges Corner

by Bill Griebel

USC's efforts towards the certification of new judges continued this show season at two shows. First, Arnold Chaney worked with USC Certified Judge Gary Romig at the Pageant of Pigeons in an observing role. Then Dave Abverbeck worked with USC Certified Judge Ron DeClement, also in an observing role. Both Dave and Arnold, please send us your observation paperwork and please make a copy for yourself for your records.

We will be working on a new project for our judging program which should help our judges and members in charge of our shows answer any arising questions that come up during a show. This may be ready by the next bulletin for all to look at.

Let's keep up making shows available to our trainee judges so we can add them to our Certified Judges list.



Dave Averbeck, trainee judge, working with Judge, Ron DeClement at the USC Annual Meet in Des Moines.

Western District News

By Bill Griebel

The results of our first USC District meet here in the West are posted in this bulletin. Gary Romig did the judging for not only our swallows but for all our color pigeons, German Trumpeters and Frillbacks as well. A very big job and a job "well done Gary" for sure! George de la Nuez won champion swallow this year with young blue white barred fairy hen that is pictured on the cover of this bulletin. Leon Stephens entered a group of blue checker Silesians that were outstanding and gave George a run for the championship!

Our second Western district meet will be with the NPA National coming up in Vancouver, Washington. Frank Bailey is the member in charge and Mike Cobb will be doing the judging. Rumor has it that Frank entered 20 red swallows, what a sight to behold! This should be a good one and the results should appear in our next USC bulletin.

The weekend following the Pageant of Pigeons was the USC Annual Meet in Des Moines, Iowa. George de la Nuez and I flew out to this show and it was no small task getting there! There were 150 swallows entered and 120 showed up, no small task for our judge Ron DeClement.

It's a very difficult job to compete with our muffed swallows in other parts of the United States. George and I talked for many weeks prior to the Des Moines about how we were going to get our birds to the show without messing up the muffs. We came up with the idea of buying a large dog kennel, which the airlines like us to use, and built 3 units to fit inside the kennel. These 3 units were stacked one on top of the other, housing 18 show birds, each bird having its own compartment. The key idea was that all the inner walls were raised 2 inches above the floor to allow the muffs to flow freely into the other compartments. As you know, getting our birds to the show with the muffs in good shape is the key! I've added photos to show the boxes.

It's important to note that United Airlines air freight has a great program called "Pet Safe". It's important that you book space well in advance for your carrier. We had a bit of a problem at first getting the birds on the plane (a computer glitch) but once done it was smooth sailing. Oh, and it's nice to have friends like Eliott Yeske and Nate Wayne! They picked us up at the Des Moines Airport in Elliott's truck and hauled George and I to the show. Thanks guys.

Good luck everyone, have a wonderful 2017 breeding season!

New Shipping Solution for Large Muffed Breeds From Bill Griebel & George de la Nuez



Report from the Central District

Dave Averbeck

Greetings from the Midwest. What a great show season we have had. For some of us we still have one show left. Here in St. Louis, we have our local show that we put on, and over in the West the NPA Grand National will be going on. Even though I didn't get to show much this year, I got to watch two different judges judge some really great shows. First let start off with the National Young Bird Show in October in Louisville, KY. We had a smaller show but the quality was still really great for an early young bird show. Our judge was Elliot Yeske and he did a great job. There was 34 entries in the show with some first time members showing with us. It was one of the first time exhibitors, Eric Kooker that won the show with a really nice Thuringer Swallow Pigeon.

Jim Grober brought a really nice show team down of some black white bar and blue black bar Silesian Swallows. A big thank you goes out to Brian Goodwin, Chris Auer, and the Rare Breed pigeon club for their work for the auction in Louisville. Brian donated several great pairs of birds; Chris housed them and took care of them before Louisville. We split the money with the Rare Breed pigeon club since they hosted the auction and got more people to attend the auction. Please find the results further down in the bulletin.

Our annual meet was held in conjunction with the Iowa State Pigeon Association, Pigeons on the Prairie Show. We had an awesome turnout for the annual meet and I believe that our area of the show was the best looking as well. A big thank you goes out to Gloria, Mary, Chris, Brad, and Rachel. Gloria, Mary, and Brad all helped set up the show. Gloria made the show look really beautiful and made some really nice signs for Merle and Judine Memorial show. Chris did an amazing job pulling the auction all together, getting donations, making silent auction sheets. We had a big auction with several pairs of birds from top breeders from across the US. Big thanks go out to Perry Mueller, Bill Greibel, George de la Nuez, Brian Goodwin, and Mike Swanson for donating birds. Also big thanks go out to Gary Romig, Nate Wayne, and Gloria for donating memorabilia for the auction. Our club made some really good money and more important than that a lot of great birds went to some breeders that will help them get started. Again a thank you isn't enough to Gary Romig for the beautiful awards and the sign that was hanging proudly behind the judging area.

Ron DeClement had the daunting task of judging over 140 swallows for the show. He did a great job judging as I was able to look over his shoulder and observe most of the show. I was able to pick up a few pointers along the way, so thank you Ron. The entries were a big number and from all across the US as East and West coast as well as the Midwest were well represented. Mike Swanson had a big entry and all things considered did an amazing job getting his birds show ready. Judging started Friday afternoon and went to about 7:00 and then we all went back to the hotel were Mike Swanson did a nice job with our annual meeting. The first classes that were judged were the Thuringer Swallows and Brian Goodwin took home top honors with a nice Black Barless young cock swallow. There were some nice examples of Thuringers also shown by Nate Wayne and Elliot Yeske. Up next Ron judge the Fullhead Swallows where Perry Mueller won best fullhead with an impressive Blue White Bar Fullhead. Then Ron started to judge the Fairy swallows and we had our first "E" rated bird in a nice young black white bar hen show by Bill Greibel. There were two other "E" rated birds in the Fairy Swallows as well. George de la Nuez is sure on a nice roll, as he is putting out some impressive Blue White Bar Fairy Swallows. He took home both Champion of the show and Reserve Champion with his two "E" rated Blue White Bar Fairies. The young hen took Champion and the cock took reserve. A well-deserved victory for George.

Also wanted to congratulate Perry Mueller on a fine group of Black Spangle Fairy Swallows. His group is coming a long way. Finally, last but not least Ron judged a big and difficult Silesian Swallow class were Bill Greibel won with a nice Black White Bar Silesian Swallow. Overall it was a great show, where I got to meet yet some more great swallow breeders and got to see some friends that I haven't seen in awhile.

2016 National Young Bird Show

Judge: Elliot Yeske

Number of Entries: 34 (9) Absent

Champion Swallow***

Reserve Champion^{RES}

Best in Class**

Best Opposite Sex in Class*

Thuringer Swallow (1)

Young Cocks

HS96 Eric Kooker 472 Blue Barless***

Thuringer Wing Pigeon (8)

Young Cocks

S93 Perry Mueller 202 Red White Bar
HS96 Perry Mueller 240 Yellow White Bar^{RES}
G92 Perry Mueller 155 Black White Bar
S94 Eric Kooker 485 Blue Barless

Young Hens

G92 Perry Mueller 229 Red White Bar
S94 Perry Mueller 168 Black White Bar*
G92 Eric Kooker 464 Silver Barless

Saxon Swallow (Fullhead) (6)

Young Cocks

G92 Perry Mueller 303 Blue White Bar*
G92 Jr Miller 208

Young Hens

S93 Perry Mueller 202 Blue White Bar**
G92 Chris Auer 755 Black White Bar

Fairy Swallow (9)

Young Cocks

S93 Perry Mueller 369 Black White Bar
S95 Perry Mueller 348 Black Spangle*
G92 Chris Auer 756 Black White Bar
G92 Eric Kooker 3317 Blue White Bar
G92 Steven Drietz 1313 Blue White Bar

Young Hens

S95 Perry Mueller 340 Black White Bar**
S94 Perry Mueller 364 Black Spangle
G92 Eric Kooker 3305 Blue White Bar
S93 Steven Drietz 1173 Blue White Bar

Silesian Swallow (9)

Young Cocks

S93 Jim Grober 1901 Blue Black Bar
S94 Jim Grober 1902 Black White Bar*

Young Hens

S94 Jim Grober 1931 Black White Bar**
S93 Jim Grober 1930 Blue Black Bar
S93 Steven Drietz 1164 Silver Checker

2016 NYBS Photos



Photo: Nate Wayne

USC Members at the National Young bird show. Front row Left to right: Jim Grober, Perry Mueller, Elliot Yeske, Steve Drietz.
Back row: Nate Wayne, Eric Kooker, Chris Auer, Dave Averbeck



Photo: Nate Wayne

NYBS Champion Swallow, Blue barless Thuringer Swallow by Eric Kooker



Photo: Nate Wayne

NYBS) Best Fairy Swallow, Black White Bar, By Perry Mueller



Photo: Nate Wayne

NYBS) Best Silesian Swallow, Black White Bar, By Jim Grober



Photo: Nate Wayne

NYBS) Reserve Champ Swallow, Yellow WB Thuringer by Perry Mueller

Pageant of Pigeons - USC Western District Show



Photo: Gary Romig

Black white bar Saxon fairy swallows set up for judging at the Pageant of Pigeon. Judge: Gary Romig with Arnold Chaney as understudy

SWALLOWS (45)

Judge: Gary Romig

Exhibitors: George de la Nuez, Bill Griebel, Arnold Chaney, Keith Chadd, Dave Holloway, Leon Stephens

Champion Swallow:

Blue White Bar YH # 256, George de la Nuez

*= Best in Class

Fairy Swallow (Crested Saxon Wing Pigeon)

Blue White Bar

HS96	YH #256	De la Nuez***
S95	YH #250	De la Nuez
HS96	YC #275	De la Nuez
S95	YC #252	De la Nuez
HS96	OH #2480	De la Nuez
HS96	OH #1998	Stephens
S95	OC #3067	De la Nuez

Black White Bar

HS96	YH #482	Griebel
G92	YH #493	Griebel
G92	YH #854	Chaney
S95	OH #1065	Chaney
S95	OH #3	Griebel
S95	OH #684	Stephens
S94	OH #1366	Chaney
HS96	OC #716	Griebel
S95	OC #1088	Chaney
S95	OC #197	Stephens
S93	OC #821	Chaney

Red White Bar

S94	YC #531	Griebel
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Red Spangle

S94	YH #534	Stephens
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Silesian Swallow (Plain-headed Wing Pigeon)

Black White Bar

HS96	YH #480	Griebel*
S95	YH #523	Griebel
S95	YC #451	Griebel
S95	OH #62	Griebel
S94	OC #1476	Chaney

Blue Black Bar

S95	YH #490	Griebel
S95	YH #523	Griebel
S95	YC #451	Griebel
S93	OC #137	Griebel

Blue Check

S95	YH #1841	Stephens
S95	YC #1854	Stephens
S95	OH #1812	Stephens
S95	OC #1857	Stephens

Saxon Swallow

Black Barless

S95	YH #467	Griebel*
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Thuringer Wing Pigeons (plain-headed)

Blue Barless

S95	YH #20	Holloway
S95	YH #10	Holloway
S95	OH #499	Holloway
HS96	OC #658	Holloway*
S94	OC #587	Holloway

Red White Bar

S95	OH #9	Stephens
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Yellow White Bar

S95	OC #404	Stephens
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Silver Spangle

S95	YH #1523	Chadd
S95	YC #1527	Chadd

Thuringer Wing Pigeons (crested)

Silver Spangle

S95	YH #5	Holloway*
S93	YC #1	Holloway

USC Sec./Treas. Report

Elliot Yeske

Hello everyone, hope all of you are well. It's that time of year again that we need to look at renewals to the United Swallow Club. Dues are still only \$10 per year you can check the membership list in the news letter to see if your dues have expired. If for some reason you are not going to stay with us please let me know by email or a phone call and I will not bother you with emails and postcard reminders. The club is again offering leg bands for sale, they are 50 cents each, same as last year. We have them in 11 mm for the muffed birds and 8 mm for clean leg birds. And, please include \$4 for postage the mailer we use. Before you order bands check with me to see what I have available as some sizes are growing short.

I was able to attend two nice shows this year, the young bird show in Louisville and the annual meet in Des Moines. I had not been to the young bird show for maybe 20 years, it was sure nice to be able to go that show. I want to thank Perry Mueller and his wife, Susie, for letting Nate Wayne and I stay with them. It was a lot of fun to travel with Perry and Chris Auer to Louisville.

The Des Moines show was one not to be forgotten. We had members from all over the country attending and more different colors and types of swallows than I think I had ever seen in a US show. I know that a very good time was had by all, as some of the members had not seen each other years. I want to thank Ron De Clement for taking on the task of judging so many quality swallows. He did a nice job and had a large number of birds to get through in a short time. We did pick up a few new members recently. Some of them returned after being out the club for a while and others brand new to swallows. It was nice to meet all the new members, I enjoyed visiting with them about our swallows and our club.

Take care have a great breeding season.

Pageant of Pigeons Photos



Photo: George de la Nuez

Best Fullhead Swallow, YH #467 rated S95, Bill Griebel



Photo: George de la Nuez

Best Thuringer Wing Pigeon, OC #658 rated HS96, Dave Holloway



Photo: George de la Nuez

Best Silesian Swallow, YH #480 rated HS96, Bill Griebel

Thuringer Swallows & Whitetails for Sale

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 bgoodwin1478@gmail.com



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George de la Nuez georgedlnuez@att.net

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All birds
 Vaccinated for PMV



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Member Dues are payable now when your date is 01/17 or earlier