

# UNITED Swallow Club



Spring/Summer 2014 Newsletter • [www.unitedswallowclub.com](http://www.unitedswallowclub.com) • Since 1969

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *Mike Swanson*

I've talked to quite a few USC members and most of them are doing well with their breeding season. Mine? Well, too many things to do and so I've gotten off to a very slow start!

First of all congratulations to California and the NPA National for being voted in as our United Swallow Club's Annual Meet! California always puts on a great show and this one will be fantastic I'm sure. As President, one of my goals was to make sure we established show dates early so everyone could plan for the show season. Bill Griebel has volunteered to be the contact person for the USC Annual Meet and has also said he would be in charge of the auction for the USC. Thanks Bill!

Therefore, please contribute to the success of the auction by supporting Bill in a timely manner and donating to the auction. Also, any awards you would like to donate, auction items, including birds to auction would be very welcomed and appreciated. Donating to the auction gives new and old members access to quality birds, thus helping out the members with quality birds and financially helping pay for the judge and awards. I know I have items I like to display however, I don't have the room. So this might be a possibility for some of you to donate various items, be creative! Raffles might be another possibility or alternative.

Dave Averbeck is also working on having a meet at the Louisville National Young Bird Show and also having an auction. I would encourage you to contact Dave early and support him as well! Also, Dave is eager to have members show and assures everyone he would house your birds and transport them to the show if you would want that arrangement. Also the birds you ship to Dave could be exhibited and then be auctioned. Gloria has also indicated she may be attending the National Young Bird Show and therefore she would be available to judge.

In other show news, Colorado is also going to have a Western District Meet in conjunction with the Colorado State Pigeon Association's annual show. At the Colorado show we are also very interested in a successful auction and your contributions are welcomed and appreciated.

I would encourage all of you to keep in contact with Gary Romig about events in your area and submit them to the bulletin. On that same topic, Ron DeClement and Steve

*Continued on the next page*

## The votes are in: Ontario Calif. is the site for the next USC Annual Meet Jan. 2015

Hans Schipper will be the judge. Chris Auer, Election Commissioner, sent the results of the voting for the Annual Meet Location. 14 votes were submitted and all were for Ontario, California in conjunction with the NPA Grand National on January 29, 30 and 31 2015. For Further information go to the website: [2015GrandNational](http://2015GrandNational.com). There you can find info on hotels etc.

For those who enter birds in the show the LAPC and NPA are offering the above "18 x 25" poster/calendar designed by Gary Romig, inspired by George de la Nuez and financed by Kenny Davis of Pomona Feed.

## Club Officers for 2014 & 2015 (See more officers on page 8)

<b>President:</b> Swanson, Mike 4800 Road 23 Ft. Lupton, CO 80621 303-857-0985 <a href="mailto:cathybighorn@yahoo.com">cathybighorn@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Vice President:</b> Gary Romig PO Box 152, 58 Sonoita Dr. Patagonia, AZ 85624 520-394-2174 <a href="mailto:gromig@unitedswallowclub.com">gromig@unitedswallowclub.com</a>	<b>Secretary/Treasurer:</b> Elliot Yeske 21649 State Hwy 108 Pelican Rapids, MN 56572 <a href="mailto:ejy@loretel.net">ejy@loretel.net</a>	<b>Western Dist. Director:</b> Griebel, Bill Sr. 12032 Rio Hondo Pkwy. El Monte, CA 91732 626-448-8565 <a href="mailto:griebel@att.net">griebel@att.net</a>	<b>Central Dist. Director:</b> Dave Averbeck 9432 Tiber Dr. St. Louis, MO 63123 314-260-9326 <a href="mailto:averbeck1979@gmail.com">averbeck1979@gmail.com</a>	<b>Eastern Dist. Director:</b> Jesse Espinosa 130 Lincoln St. St. Augustine, FL 32084 904-377-0477 <a href="mailto:jesse.esp2009@gmail.com">jesse.esp2009@gmail.com</a>	<b>Canada Dist. Director:</b> Bernd Licht 54149 Range Road 205A Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, Canada T8L 3Z2 780-998-4876 • 01/14 <a href="mailto:alterkeiler@mcsnet.ca">alterkeiler@mcsnet.ca</a>
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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** *continued*

Ripper are busy setting-up a couple of Eastern District Meets with the Reading, Pennsylvania, Show Association. The young bird meet will be the first weekend of October and the second show in this area will be the second weekend in January of 2015 at Host Farm in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. In related news and on a sadder note, Ron DeClement shared Merle Starr has been having some major health problems. Merle Starr has been a mainstay as a breeder of swallows, club officer and a supporter of the United Swallow Club throughout the years. I'm confident I can speak on the membership's behalf and wish him well and our support.

Interestingly and on a positive note, Merle Starr won the combine he participates in for Racing Homers. Also, Tim Starr had several of the top placers just a few weeks ago!! Perhaps you noticed in the March/April Purbred Pigeon, Tim and Merle Starr were recognized for their marked Tiger Swallows in red, yellow, blue and black. The photo of Tim and Merle's birds in the Purebred Pigeon article [The Pigeon Jewel Bohemian Tiger Swallow](#) by Jerry Sindelar speaks to the difficulty and beauty of the Tiger Swallow. The photo is amazing and you should definitely create the opportunity to access this article and the photos.

A huge thank you goes to Gloria Weisgram and Gary Romig for their collaboration and work in designing the patch for the "E" award for our club. In January, at the Oklahoma National, during our annual meeting this was discussed and everyone was in agreement this would be great. Gloria spent a great deal of time and effort contacting various vendors. Also Gary contributed to the endeavor with various original designs and ideas for the patch. Although it may seem like a simple process, Gary and Gloria are perfectionists and worked at length to develop and design the patch. During this process I received numerous emails updating me about their process and decisions. In the end I had the final say and approved the order of 100 patches for \$187.50. In the bulletin you will see a picture of the patch. After the bulletin is published, Gloria will be sending out the patches to exhibitors with "E" rated birds this past show season. Gloria is also including a card to accompany the patch that lists: Breeder's name, rating, show, date, primary judge and second judge. Again a big thanks to Gloria and Gary!

In other related club news, Chris Auer has been taking care of all the election commissioner's responsibilities. Chris has done an outstanding job. Bill Griebel was elected the chairperson for the United Swallow Club's Certified Judging Committee. As you know the USC Annual meet will be held in conjunction with the NPA National in Ontario, California. Hans Schipper will serve as the judge for the USC Annual Meet. Chris Auer is always prompt with emails or with phone calls and with the voting results! Again, this is what makes our club so unique! Everyone contributes, everyone follows through. Through our combined strengths, efforts, professionalism and follow through our club remains vital and strong! We truly are a United Swallows Club with representation from coast-to-coast!

As you know, Bill Griebel will serve as the Certified Judging Chairperson for the next two years. Our certified judges have chosen him, through voting, and are putting their trust in him to oversee this process. Bill has contributed an article to this bulletin so I won't elaborate on this topic. Don't forget this will be a lengthy yet worthwhile process. Bill and I appreciate your input and feedback. Everyone's perspective is vital and important. This will be a monster task and I appreciate Bill's willingness to commit to this endeavor. Our combined efforts, open-minds and thinking will make the end result worthwhile. All of this hard work will contribute to the enduring qualities of our club and our fancy.

If you will recall in the minutes of our January annual meeting at the Oklahoma National, Judine Nelson suggested if you have extra bands let members know so you can be a resource for them.

In closing, I want to give a huge thank you to Gary Romig and Elliot Yetske for their continued work and consistent follow through. Your combined efforts, work ethic and commitment sustain our club. Thank you!

I'm hoping all of you have a successful year with your birds and this letter finds you in good spirits and in good health. I've so enjoyed the many, many conversations I've had with numerous members I haven't been in contact with as often as I might like. Renewing and rekindling those friendships has been exciting!

**"E" Patch**

Will be awarded to all USC member exhibitors that receive an "E" rating at USC Annual or Certified District Meets. Included with the "E" patch will be a beautiful certificate designed by Gloria Weisgram. We are looking forward to seeing these on show coat sleeves next year.

## Western District News

Bill Griebel

Mike Swanson contacted me some time back to let me know that they would like to have a USC Western District meet in conjunction with the Colorado State Pigeon Assn. on Jan. 17, 2015. Mike will be the member-in-charge and the judge will be Phil Gonzales. This should be a great meet so please contact Mike at 303-857-0985.

The Southern California group is excited about the NPA National coming to our area. The Los Angeles Pigeon Club has rented the Ontario Convention Center which is just minutes away from the Ontario International Airport. The dates for this event are January 29, 30 and 31, 2015. This show will be a USC/SCCPC combined meet with noted European judge Hans Schipper of Holland doing the honors. Birds can be shipped by the postal service or shipped air-freight directly to Ontario Airport. We would also appreciate auction birds or other items for the auction that would help with the expenses. I will be the member-in-charge for this show and I will also be in charge of the auction. You can contact me at griebel@att.net or by phone at 626-290-0038.

News from the breeders in the West is that most have had a very slow start. I myself had many infertile eggs in the first round but now the pairs are starting to work. Several other lofts have experienced the same thing. Well, good luck to all in the breeding season and let's show a few extra birds this season.

**UNITED SWALLOW CLUB  
WESTERN DISTRICT MEET  
Denver, CO – Adams County Fairgrounds  
January 17, 2015  
NPA MASTER JUDGE: PHIL GONZALES  
Contact: Mike Swanson 303-857-0985**

## AWARDS

BREED	AWARD	Donated by:
Champion Swallow	\$100.00	Mike Swanson
Champion Swallow by a Junior	\$20.00	Mike Swanson
Champion Fairy Swallow	\$25.00	Mike Swanson
Champion Silesian Swallow	\$25.00	Mike Swanson
Champion Fullhead Swallow	\$25.00	Mike Swanson
Champion Clean Leg Swallow	\$25.00	Mike Swanson
Best Checkered Swallow	Traveling Cup	John Navant and Mike Swanson

## ATTENTION USC members!

Bill Griebel

If you desire to become a USC Certified Annual Meet Judge we are looking for volunteers. Mike Swanson and I have discussed our current judging situation and have determined that it is time to increase the number of our USC judges. First, send an email to me at griebel@att.net letting me know you are interested and I will add your name to the list. Then, go to the USC website home page and go to "documents" at the top of the page. A page will come up with several items. Click on "United Swallow Club Judging Program". Study the guidelines and determine if this is something you want to do. Please let me know by July 15 so we can get this program going.

## The Judges corner

By Bill Griebel

Our USC President, Mike Swanson, has requested that we bring our Certified Judging program out of dormancy and get it working and after a vote of the Certified Judges, I have been elected as its Chairman.

Mike and I discussed the current program and came away with two main goals to start with. First, to add new judges to our Certified Judges list and second, to streamline the guidelines for becoming a Certified Judge. The latter is in the works and the current Certified Judges are working on this now.

We have put out a call in this bulletin for volunteers who wish to become a Certified Judge and have already started a list. These new candidates will also participate in most communications we will have with the Certified Judges group.

Over the next several bulletins, the Certified Judges group will be discussing various topics regarding the judging of our swallows. After the volunteers are located and the guidelines are further along, we will jump into our first topic, faults – in order of most critical to least critical. Should be fun.

### United Swallow Club Financial Report Jan 2014 to June 2014

<b>Beginning balance:</b>	<b>\$2360.57</b>
Income from Bands and dues:	1285.00
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Perry Mueller, judges room	210.42
Monthly checking service fees	13.50
Canadian deposit fee	5.00
Band refunds to members	18.00
NPA 1st ½ of 2015 bands	540.00
Mike Swanson (E patches)	187.50
<b>Current checking balance</b>	<b>\$2671.15</b>



# Photos from Saxony

Submitted by Andreas Reuter from the Saxon Color Pigeon Newsletter



Yellow spangle crested wing pigeon by K Burkhardt



Black spangle crested wing pigeon by K Burkhardt



Red white bar plain-head wing pigeon by K Melzer



Blue black bar plain-head wing pigeon by Chr. Prager



Silver spangle swallow by M. Elze „Best of Show“



Black spangle swallow by K Hentschel



# USC Membership June 2014

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