Winter 2013 Newsletter

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Since 1969

President's Message

Perry Mueller

2013 is here and it's the start of another breeding season. I hope everyone has a good one. The weather is starting to cooperate so I've been mating a few pairs.

We had a good show season this year. Gary flew in for the Des Moines show. As a matter of fact, he judged the Pageant and the Nationals. He must be doing something right. The National Young Bird Show was light this year. We're hoping to do a better job promoting it this year.

We want to get an early start on nominations for officers and show site. Gloria Weisgram will be the election commissioner. An early election on a show site will make planning easier.

This will be my sixth year serving as President. I will be stepping down this year although I have enjoyed serving in this role. I think the club benefits most by rotating

I think we have accomplished some positive things these last five years. We put together a Breed of the Issue with the Pure Bred Magazine. I heard they reported it as one of their finest issues. We put together a club patch and contributed to the New NPA Book of Standard. With that said, I think it is time for some new thoughts and ideas to keep the promotion of the Swallow going.

Don't forget to send in your dues.

Secretary's Message Elliot Yeske

I hope you all had a good show season. I was not able to attend the Des Moines show this year for the first time in many years as I went to the show in Leipzig Germany. The Leipzig show was the first time that Nate Wayne and I had ever attended one of the big shows in Germany and what a show is was. It was the most amazing show that I have ever been to. There were over 95,000 small animals. saw things that I have never seen before. Chicken breeds and colors we don't have here, even colors of rabbits that I have never seen before. And, of course, a wonderful group of all kinds of pigeons. If you ever get the chance to go to a show like this one go it is well worth it. There were some of the California members at the show as well some other American pigeon breeders. It was wonderful to see that the show was so well organized. And, see a

show that big with so many cages and things to deal with. And, it seemed to run so smooth.

As for more club things it is that time of year that we need to renew our membership dues are still only \$10 and what can we get these days for \$10. As of this writing we are sold out of the 11 mm size bands and I have a very few of the 8 mm bands left for the clean leg birds. Bands did go up this year to 40 cents and next year it looks like they will be 45 cents. The club does still have club patches to sell they have a black white bar fairy swallow on them and the cost is \$5 each and \$3 postage. Again please get your dues to me soon as we are a small club and we need our members to survive. All for now, I hope you all have a nice group of birds ready for the upcoming breeding season. <u>Attention!</u> Members need to be paid by March 15th or will be dropped.

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS AND ANNUAL MEET SITE ARE NEEDED

In the box below are our current officers. Members need to make nominations for these positions. You may want to talk to your nominee to confirm that they will accept the position. Be sure to nominate for the directors in your district only. Elections will be conducted in the Spring bulletin.

We also need to nominate a location for our 2013 annual meet. So send in your choice of location for the annual meet. Along with your choice of location add your choice

for the judge of the annual meet. These will also appear in the Spring bulletin elections. We should be able to make these decisions by early summer so that we can plan our show season. Pick your judge choices from the certified judges list presented here:

Mike Swanson Dave Harris Leon Stephens Steve Ball Perry Mueller Gloria Weisgram Bill Griebel Write-in European

Send your choices to election commissioner: Gloria Weisgram, 508 S. 5th St. Moorhead, MN 56560 • 701-261-8716 gweisgram@gmail.com

Club Officers for 2012 & 2013

President: Perry Mueller, 9836 Coventry St. St. Louis, MO 63123 314-631-3772 perrynsusie@charter.net

Vice President: Frank Bailey 21506 E. Lost Lake Rd. Snohomish, WA 98296 360-668-1371 frankbailey@frontier.com

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Western Dist. Director: David Holloway 30255 NW Evergreen Hillsboro, OR 97124 503-648-7893

Central Dist. Director: Dave Averbeck 9432 Tiber Dr. St. Louis, MO 63123 314-260-9326

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Message from the Vice President

Frank Bailey

Good day - from here in the Pacific Northwest – just NE of Seattle, WA. Another balmy day with rain and temperatures in the mid to upper 40's F... Well 2012 is behind us now and it was a great breeding season for many of us. Offering us some great productivity and opportunities to replace some of our aging breeding stock. For me, I have elected to eliminate some breeds and show classes and begin specializing a bit more. I plan on staying focused on Red White Bars and Red Spangles in Silesians, Fairy's and Saxon Fullheads and maintain my ongoing project of Blue Barless & Black Barred Saxon Fullheads.

It is kind of depressing looking outside from my bay windows, but not when I look inside my lofts.. I have cock birds courting those willing hens and hens dropping eggs due to the warming weather and the extending daylight. The birds are so ready to get going and so am I – you've got to love this time of year! I have elected to pair up and lock them up in mid-March this year instead of my normal date of mid-February. I have started seeing a bird here or there that for some reason looks fantastic and a few weeks ago I was not impressed at all. So the more those young birds age, the better or worse they begin to look to me.

I wanted to offer my congratulations to a few members for their outstanding achievements. Our membership had chosen the Des Moines, Iowa Show to host the 2012 Annual USC Meet. At that meet, organized and implemented by Gloria Weisgram, there was a special tribute to the late Bob Benson. The event was called: "The Bob Benson Memorial, CHECKER EXPLOSION"... the entries were high in numbers and the completion was great with numerous birds achieving very respectable marks of 94 points and higher. When the judging came to a close a few very familiar names were respectfully honored.

Champion of the Show went to Perry Muller with a Blue Barless Silesian and he also captured the mark of Best Saxon Swallow and Best Thüringer Swallow. Gloria Weisgram took the honors for Best Check Silesian with a Blue, Mike Swanson walked away with Best Young Blue Check Silesian, Best Silver Barless Silesian and rounded out his winnings with Best Fairy Swallow and that was with a Blue White Bar. But, nothing was more impressive than the achievements made by our junior member Kaylee Skistimas out of Missouri... WOW!!! What a performance by a dedicated fancier...six entries resulting in three 94's, two 95's and one 96. She took the awards for Best Silver Check and Young Silver Check. This is an incredible performance and I applaud her accomplishments!!! Good job Kaylee!

Before closing, I also want to single out and personally thank two gentlemen for their continuous services to our USC – Elliot Yeske for his extraordinary accomplishments as our Secretary/Treasurer. Elliot is never getting a break from his duties. The annual responsibility of ordering leg bands itself is a nightmare as it requires looking into his crystal ball, standing on one leg, closing his eyes and guessing... Trying to be encouraging all of us that are delinquent on their dues to rejoin and help support our club. Then there is all that debiting and crediting that goes along with the book keeping... And then there's Gary Romig for everything he does.. Here is a man that asked for nothing and yet he is always there when he's called upon. Everything from managing/editing and the publication of our USC Bulletins to management of our wonderful website: http://www.unitedswallowclub. com/index.html and just look at the number of shows he judged for us this past show season. WOW! We as an organization are so fortunate and I know I speak for everyone when I say: "Thank you Elliot Yeske and Gary Romig and we appreciate all you do for us"

In closing, I would like to wish all of you a great breeding season and encourage you to begin planning now on attending and entering some of those promising young birds come next winter.

Pictures from the Erz Mountain Show in Großolbersdorf Germany

Pictures from Andreas Reuter



Our special judges during their work in Großolbersdorf



Saxon Fullhead blue white bar Klaus Hentschel; sg 95

Pictures from the Erz Mountain Show in Großolbersdorf Germany Pictures from Andreas Reuter



Saxon Fairy Swallow black white bar Klaus Burkhardt; sg 95



Saxon Fairy Swallow silver spangled Christoph Klemm; hv 96



Saxon Fullhead black white bar Klaus Hentschel; V97 LVPM



Saxon Fairy Swallow black white bar Klaus Burkhardt; sg 95



Saxon Fullhead red white bar Klaus Hentschel; sg 95



Saxon Silesian Swallow silver Daniel Klemm; V97 LVE

Memorial Show a Benson Win

Gloria Weisgram

The 2012 USC Annual meet and Bob Benson Memorial Show is in the record book. What is not recorded is that Bob had one last hurrah, one last laugh so to speak!

To set the record straight, Mike and Kathy Swanson purchased all of Bob Benson's birds from his wife, Betty, with the exception one young blue check # 309 that I took home. With help from Nancy Pinke and her husband Dave, Bill Tietze, Mary and myself along with Bob's kids, we took down the lofts, salvaged the perches and other stuff and loaded up the birds. Once home, Mike evaluated Bob's birds and distributed about half to fellow Colorado Pigeon Club members, dividing the quality equally. Mike's thinking was that breeders would have a good chance to raise superior birds and keep the bloodline going.

When Bob's memorial show was planned, I encouraged these Colorado breeders to show that last round of Bob's birds along with what they raised over breeding season. Most of the Colorado breeders came to Des Moines, some with Bob's last round and others with nice young silver and blue checks. It was a most beautiful display of checkered swallows and something Bob would have loved to see!

The memorial part of the show and checker judging was held Friday night. Bob's loft jacket hung on an empty chair, his master breeders certificate layed on a table for everyone to see. The show sign read "Bob Benson Memorial Show" and pigeon folk stopped by to pay their respects or tell a story or two; others were shocked and unaware of Bob's passing.

There were new faces at the show including Dave Averbeck, our Central District director, the Colorado boys, and some new members who were recent additions to the club!

Best Checker Swallow. Bred by Bob Benson, shown by Gloria Weisgram Rated HS96

The checker judging was held like a separate show. Gary Romig had his work cut out for him and did a fine job of rating the birds, though it was no easy task. All of the birds were very nice. In fact, there wasn't a "G" rated checker in the bunch which is unusual. Kaylee Skistimas, with her own line of checkers, had the best silver young checker, best silver check and young checker overall with a young hen. Mike Swanson had a terrific blue checker that was the best young blue, also a hen. J.T. Cashman, Frank Walsh and Rob Cranwell and Rolly Parrott were competitive with their respective entries and most of the time, as we watched the judging, we were never guite sure just whose bird would come out on top! To my surprise, blue checker # 309 turned out to be the bird of the day and best checker of the memorial show! Because I had already given the bird to Mike Swanson, I presented the award and the Hans Schipper donated painting to Mike and the Colorado crew where it belonged!

The following morning the show continued with more great birds and high ratings! Perry Mueller had the best bird of the show with an "E" rated Blue Barless Silesian!

It was a great show with beautiful swallows, fine competition and wonderful fellowship, like the early Des Moines shows held downtown in the old civic center, back when Howard Hart was alive...much like the shows Bob loved 20 some years ago when he started in checkers.

In a twist of fate, Bob Benson actually won his own memorial show. We laughed about that after the fact. Congratulations, Bob! You were and still are a great inspiration! As for the rest of us, we better get going on our next season. Rumor has it there are some special awards for checkers next year! Best of luck, everyone, in 2013!



Champion Swallow rated E97 bred and owned by Perry Mueller

Silesian Swallows-Noncrested Saxon Wing Pigeons (47)						Saxon Fairy Swallows-Crested Saxon Wing Pigeons (24)					
Exhibitor Name	Color/Pattern	Sex/Age	Band #	Rating	Special Awards	Rolly Parott	Yellow White Bar	YH	2822	S-93	
Frank Walsh	Blue Check	OC	#235	S-94	4	Rolly Parott	Yellow Spangle	OC	981	G-92	
Frank Walsh	Blue Check	OC	#360	S-93		Rolly Parott	Blue Spangle	OC	2654	G-92	
Frank Walsh	Blue Check	OC	#348	S-93		Rolly Parott	Blue Spangle	OC	2034	S-93	
Frank Walsh	Blue Check	ОН	#341	S-93		Gloria Weisgram	Black Barless	ОН	#1042	S-95	
Gloria Weisgram	Blue Check	OC	#309	HS-96	Best Check	Gloria Weisgram	Black Barless	OC	#1041	HS-96	
Gloria Weisgram	Black Barless	ОН	#720	S-94		Gloria Weisgram	Black Barless	OC	#1044	HS-961	
Gloria Weisgram	Black Barless	ОН	#1050	HS-96		Gloria Weisgram	Black Barless	OC	#1049	HS-96	
Gloria Weisgram	Blue Barless	ОН	#711	S-951		Mike Swanson	Blue White Bar	ΥH	#311	HS-96	
Gloria Weisgram	Blue Barless	ОН	#715	S-952		Mike Swanson	Blue White Bar	YC	#485	S-95	
David Averbeck II	Black White Bar	YC	#1400	S-93		Mike Swanson	Blue White Bar	YC	#301	HS-96	Best Fairy Swallow
David Averbeck II	Black White Bar	ОН	#1867	S-95		Mike Swanson	Blue White Bar	ОН	#41	HS-96	-
David Averbeck II	Black White Bar	ОН	#590	S-94		Mike Swanson	Blue White Bar	OC	#395	HS-961	
David Averbeck II	Black White Bar	ОН	#594	S-93		Mike Swanson	Blue White Bar	OC	#330	HS-962	
David Averbeck II	Black White Bar	OC	#593	S-93		Cranwell Lofts	Blue White Bar	YC	#1499	S-95	
David Averbeck II	Black White Bar	OC	#545	S-95		Cranwell Lofts	Blue White Bar	ΥH	#1498	S-93	
Perry Mueller	Blue Barless	ОН	#46	HS-96		David Averbeck II	Black White Bar	YC	#1409	S-93	
Perry Mueller	Blue Barless	ΥH	#13	HS-96		David Averbeck II	Black White Bar	ОН	#1562	S-95	
Perry Mueller	Blue Barless	ΥH	#14	S-95		David Averbeck II	Black White Bar	ОН	#1351	HS-96	
Perry Mueller	Blue Barless	YC	#74	E-97	Best & Champ Swallow	David Averbeck II	Black White Bar	OC	#1531	S-95	
Perry Mueller	Blue Barless	OC	#61	S-95		David Averbeck II	Black White Bar	OC	#592	S-94	
Perry Mueller	Silver Barless	YC	#31	S-94		Perry Mueller	Black Spangle	ΥH	#53	S-93	
Jr.Kaylee Skistimas	Blue Black Bar	YH	#1871	S-95		Perry Mueller	Black Spangle	YC	#90	S-94	
Jr.Kaylee Skistimas	Blue Black Bar	ΥH	#1878	S-94		Perry Mueller	Blue Barless	YC	#34	S-95	
Jr.Kaylee Skistimas	Silver Check	ΥH	#1870	HS-96	Best Silver Check	Thuringer Wing Pig	geons-Clean Leg Spo	ot Swallo	ws (8)		
Jr.Kaylee Skistimas	Silver Check	YC	#1884	S-94		Perry Mueller	Red White Bar	YC	#437	HS-96	Best Thuringer
Jr.Kaylee Skistimas	Silver Check	ОН	#1712	S-95		Perry Mueller	Red White Bar	ΥH	#1806	S-95	
Jr.Kaylee Skistimas	Blue Black Bar	OC	#386	S-94		Perry Mueller	Yellow White Bar	YC	#1822	S-93	
Mike Swanson	Blue Check	YH	#347	S-952		Perry Mueller	Yellow White Bar	YH	#718	S-94	
Mike Swanson	Blue Check	YH	#397	S-951	Best Young Blue Check	Perry Mueller	Red Spangle	YH	#455	S-94	
Mike Swanson	Silver Barless	ΥH	#471	S-94		Perry Mueller	Red Spangle	YC	#456	S-94	
Mike Swanson	Silver Barless	YH	#383	S-95		Perry Mueller	Black White Bar	YC	#705	S-94	
Mike Swanson	Silver Check	YH	#410	S-93		Perry Mueller	Black White Bar	ΥH	#717	S-94	
Mike Swanson	Silver Check	YH	#109	HS-962		Saxon Swallow-Full	head Swallow (1)				
Mike Swanson	Silver Check	YH	#495	S-95		Perry Mueller	Blue White Bar	ΥH	#118	HS-96	Best Fullhead
Mike Swanson	Blue Check	YC	#461	S-95							
Mike Swanson	Blue Check	YC	#341	S-94				udi			4 4 4 4 1
Mike Swanson	Silver Barless	YC	#313	S-93			A CONTRACT	(P)			
Mike Swanson	Silver Barless	YC	#314	S-93				-		M	
Mike Swanson	Silver Check	YC	#305	S-952		Alle a Mill					Ball All
Mike Swanson	Silver Check	YC	#439	S-952		THE PERSON	STATE OF THE PARTY	TE S		7	
Mike Swanson	Silver Barless	ОН	#41	S-93		要を		10	1		11)
Mike Swanson	Silver Barless	ОН	#131	HS-96				7	1		
Mike Swanson	Silver Barless	OC	#175	HS-96	Best Silver Barless				1	L	
Mike Swanson	Silver Barless	OC	#384	S-95		100			1	-	
J. T. Cashman	Blue Check	ОН	#358	S-93			9	1		200	
Cranwell Lofts	Silver Check	YC	#1494	S-94				100	Sea.		
Cranwall Lafta	Cilvar Charle	VC	#1/02	C 02			1 3 9 7 6				

YC #1493 S-93

Cranwell Lofts

Silver Check

Best Silver Check & best by a junior: Kaylee Skistimas rated HS96

More Photos from the 2012 USC Annual Meet in Des Moines



Back Row: John Navant, Mike Walsh, Bob Cranwell, Dave Averbeck, J.T. Cashman.Middle Row: Perry Mueller, Kaylee Skistimas, Gloria Weisgram, Mike Swanson. Bottom: Sydney Skistimas. Photo: Cathy Swanson



Best Saxon Fairy Swallow, Blue White Bar, rated HS-96: Mike Swanson. Photo: Gary Romig



Kaylee Skistimas receives her awards for Best Silver Checker and Best Swallow by a Junior Fancier. Photo: Cathy Swanson.



Left to right: Gloria Weisgram, Mike Swanson, Dave Averbeck, Gary Romig and Perry Mueller. Photo: Cathy Swanson.

USC Financial Report Jan. 1, 2012 – Dec. 31, 2012

Beginning Balance:	2376.26
Income from bands, dues and NYBS	1877.85

Expenses:	
Checking fee for Jan – Dec 2012	36.00
Mark Eldridge band refund	6.50
Funeral flowers for Bob Benson	111.10
Gary Romig, newsletter and postage	158.92
USPS	24.01
Fee for Canadian deposit	5.00
NPA first half of bands	472.50
NYBS Ad	50.00
Gary Romig, Annual meet Judge	456.20
Harland Clarke (purchase of additional checks)	19.95
Purebred Pigeon (2011-2012 Ad)	768.00
NPA second half of bands	472.50

Ending checking balance

1673.43



Leon Stephens and Dave Holloway at the NPA National Show. Photo Frank Bailey



Bill Griebel's Champion Swallow & Grand Champion of The Pageant of Pigeons. Rated E97. Photo: George de la Nuez



Steve Ball's Nuremberg Swallow at the Pageant rated S94. Photo: Tom Moss.



Left to right back row: Tony Brancato, Jay Beals, Bill Griebel Sr. Leon Stephens, Steve Ball, Arnold Chaney, Mike Lerp. Bottom Row: Mike Cobb, Eddie Ah Chong, Hermann Baertschi, Monica Soares, Gary Romg, Jim McCann. Photo: Tom Moss

USC WESTERN DISTRICT MEET DENVER, COLORADO JAN. 19, 2013

by Mike Swanson

We had a very nice showing of Swallows. We had an entry of forty-six birds by six exhibitors. In all we had sixteen Fairy Swallows and thirty Silesians.

Dave Averbeck travelled all the way from St. Louis, Missouri to show his very nice blacks in the Silesian and Fairy classes. He was able to stay with us for two nights and we had a great time talking pigeons!

Colorado Swallow breeders entered a lot of high quality Swallows.

Phil Gonzales and John Navant did an outstanding job judging. As they judged, they shared their thinking with

the gallery and raised everyone's consciousness about their rating decisions.

An outcome of the show resulted in at least a couple of additional excellent pigeon breeders becoming interested in acquiring Swallows and exhibiting them!

Hopefully, next year we will have even more birds shown and more exhibitors.

A special thanks to all of the individuals who helped set-up and tear down the show. Everyone pitched in and worked hard to make it a great show!

SWALLOWS:

Entry- Total: 46

Judge: Phil Gonzales & John Navant

"Rating" System:

Excellent=97 Highly Superior=96 Superior=93,94,95 Good:91,92 Inferior=90

Champion:

Blue White Bar Fairy
OC# 181 Mike Swanson
Reserve Champ:
Silver Check Silesian
YC#367 Mike Swanson
Best Old Swallow:
Blue White Bar Fairy
OC# 181 Mike Swanson
Best Young Swallow:

Silver Check Silesian YC#367 Mike Swanson

Fairy Swallows (Crested Saxon Wing Pigeons): 16

Blue White Bar FairyYH:

G92 # 1498 Cranwell Lofts

Blue White Bar Fairy YC:

HS96 #485 Mike Swanson S94 #363 Mike Swanson S94 #454 Mike Swanson S94 # 1499 Cranwell Lofts G92 # 1495 Cranwell Lofts G92 #462 Mike Swanson

Blue White Bar Fairy OH:

S93 #1073 Cranwell Lofts

Blue White Bar Fairy OC:

HS96 # 181 Mike Swanson

Black White Bar; YC:

G91 # 1409 David Averbeck

Black White Bar OH:

G91 #1352 David Averbeck

Black White Bar OC:

S94# 1531 David Averbeck G92#595 David Averbeck Silesian Swallows (Non-crested Saxon Wing Pigeons): 30

Silver Barless OH:

S93# 12 Mike Swanson

Silver Barless YH:

S95 #383 Mike Swanson

Silver Barless YC:

S95 #313 Mike Swanson S94#314 Mike Swanson

Blue Check OH:

G91 #341 Frank Walsh

Blue Check OC:

HS96 #235 Frank Walsh S95 #361 Frank Walsh S93 #348 Frank Walsh G91 #648 Frank Walsh

Blue Check YH:

S93 #448 Mike Swanson S93#460 Mike Swanson

Blue Check YC:

S95 #461 Mike Swanson S93 #417 Mike Swanson

Silver Check YH:

S95 #410 Mike Swanson S93 # 164 Cranwell Lofts G91 # 1492 Cranwell Lofts

Silver Check YC:

HS96 #367 Mike Swanson S95 #1494 Cranwell Lofts S93 #439 Mike Swanson G92 # 1493 Cranwell Lofts

Black Barless OH:

G91# 164 S. Dreitz

Black Barless OC:

G92# 1 7798. Dreitz

Black Whitebar OH:

\$94 # 1867DAverbeck
\$92 #590 D.Averbeck

Black Whitebar OC:

S93 #593 D.Averbeck

Black Whitebar YC: S93 # 1400DAverbeck

PHOTOS FROM DENVER, COLORADO JAN. 19, 2013



Left to Right: Cathy Swanson, Mike Swanson, Creseda Riccardi, Frank Walsh, Mikaylan Cashman, J.T. Cashman, Phil Gonzales, Rob Cranwell, Steve Dreitz, Dave Averbeck, John Navant.



Judges for the USC meet in Denver: John Navant (holding champion) & Phil Gonzales (holding Reserve Champion).



Frank Walsh with his HS rated Blue Check old cock

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