Spring 2008

Supporting Swallow Pigeons http://personal.riverusers.com/~swallowclub/

Since 1969

Message from the Secretary

Elliot Yeske

By now alot of you are well on your way to rasing a bunch of swallows. Here in Minnesota we just now got rid of the last of our snow. So my birds here are off to slow start. I have not talked with very many members to see how their breeding season is going. I know that Frank Bailey has banded some as well as Bill Griebel and some others. Perry Mueller has had some young but the weather down his way has not been the best either.

The club still has a few bands to sell in both the clean leg and muffed sizes. Bands are still 35 cents each as they were last year. I have just sent in our order for the 2009 bands. We are buying them from the NPA. They have made it that the only way to show in their shows was to use NPA bands.

We have lost a few of our members as we do every year and gained a few new ones as well, I want to welcome all of the new members. We hope you will enjoy being a member of the USC and will stay with us for many years to come. Good luck to everyone on the breeding of your swallows.

Vote for 2008 Annual meet Location. Please pick one from the list of nominated sites below

Des Moines December 5-6
Lancaster January 8,9-10
Pageant November 20,21-22

Nominations for judges: Be sure to pick a judge that can come to the location you picked. See the list to the right of the judges name.

Leon Stephens: Des Moines, Lancaster Bill Griebel: Des Moines, Lancaster

Dave Harris: Des Moines, Lancaster, Pageant Gary Romig: Des Moines, Lancaster, Pageant

Hans Shipper: Des Moines

Send your choice by **May 25** to Tim Starr: E-mail: timstarr@comcast.net Phone: 717-328-9751 or mail him at 8804 Ft. Loudon Rd. Mercerburg, PA 17236

President's Report

Perry Mueller

Spring is finally here. After a cold and snowy winter here in Missouri, it's a welcome site. All the birds are paired up and breeding well. It looks like it is going to be a good year. In the bulletin is our list of nominations for our annual show site and judge. Please take time out to vote. All the nominees were contacted to see what dates and locations they were available for. If your nominee is not in the voting, that means he declined.

If you are not getting your bulletin on a regular basis, please send Gary Romig an email. It seems some of the members this fall didn't get their copy for some reason. We are in the computer age but sometimes things just don't work.

I've asked Gary to print a copy of the constitution and by-laws. Over the last few years, we have adopted some things but failed to change the constitution. Please look it over. This summer I'd like to update it. This would be a good time to address other areas as well.

The last couple of years we have been getting our club bands from Canada. They were cheaper and also we could still get aluminum bands which some members prefer. As some of you know, the NPA is insisting that the affiliated specialty clubs buy their bands from the NPA. In order to show at the NPA Nationals starting in 2010, you will be required to have your young birds banded with NPA bands. Now I think we should support the NPA. I also think our club should be buying NPA bands. But I really don't like being told I have to do something or else. Our options are to buy NPA, continue to buy Canadian, or don't buy any at all. After talking to the Executive Committee which is made up of our officers, most of us feel it is in the best interest of the club to buy NPA. If we want to show at the Nationals, we have no choice. I know everyone may not agree, but this is what we think we should do. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Feel free to contribute any articles you have or pictures for the bulletin. Gary is always looking for additional input.

I wish everyone a great breeding season and hope to see you this fall at the shows.

Official USC Constitution and By-Laws

Adopted 1976 - Revised 1995

Article I - NAME

This club shall be known as "The United Swallow Club".

Article II - PURPOSE

The purpose of this club shall be to advance and improve the scientific breeding and showing of that group of color pigeons known collectively as "Swallows". This shall include all varieties referred to as spot or fullhead, with or without shell crest and muffed or cleanleg.

Article III - OFFICES

The officers of this club shall consist of president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer, and four district directors. The above officers shall comprise the executive committee.

Article IV - ELECTIONS

The officers shall be elected for a two year term. All the officers shall take office on the first of January of the even numbered years or as soon after the Annual Meet as possible (not before January first).

Article V - MEMBERSHIP

A candidate for membership may become a member of this club by payment of the annual dues.

Article VI - DUES

Regular dues shall be \$10 per year to be paid at the beginning of the calendar year. Dues assessments may be increased or decreased only on election years. A simple majority of votes cast is required for a change.

Article VII - DISTRICTS

There shall be four districts: *Eastern District*: Michigan, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Maryland; *Central District*: North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, Illinois, Arkansas, Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana; *Western District*: Oregon, Montana, Wyoming, California, Nevada, Utah, Idaho, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Washington; and *Canada*.

Article VIII - VACANCIES

Vacancies in any office caused by resignation, suspension, death, or any other reason shall be filled by appointment of the Executive Committee (officers). The appointee shall fill only the unexpired term of the office to which he is appointed.

Article IX - MEETINGS

The annual meeting may take place at the annual show. District meetings may take place at the districts.

Article X - AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

It shall require the approval of at least 51% of the votes cast, provided at least one over half (50%) of the membership votes, to amend the Constitution and/or By-Laws.

Article XI - DISSOLUTION

This club can only be dissolved with the consent of two-thirds of the active members. Disposition of all assets shall be determined by a majority vote of said members.

BY-LAWS

Article I - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

President - The president shall exercise general supervision and leadership that will promote the aims and objectives of the club. He shall preside over all meetings of the club. He shall, with the help and advice of the secretary-treasurer, make appointments to special posts or committees. He shall serve as an ex-officio member on all committees. He shall appoint a publicity director.

Vice-President - The vice-president shall act as an aide to the president, and in the absence of the president, shall perform all the duties of the president.

Secretary-Treasurer - The secretary-treasurer shall serve as general business manager of the organization. He shall record the minutes of all meetings, the names and addresses of members and all other matters pertaining to the operation of the club including an account of all monies received and disbursed. He shall present in writing at the annual meeting of the club a report on the finances of the club and publish said report in the first club bulletin following this meeting, or in lien of such meeting, he shall publish said report in the first bulletin of the calendar year. He shall notify all members of their arrears and attend to all club correspondence. As treasurer, he shall receive and pay all money belonging to the club; all checks shall be signed by him or by the president. He may prepare and send to members in good standing four or more bulletins per year (winter, spring, summer and fall). He shall supply a current membership list to the election commissioner.

Directors - The directors shall be responsible for coordinating all club activities within their respective districts. They shall select the district annual show site and report same to the secretary-treasurer for the inclusion in the club bulletin.

Executive Committee - The executive committee shall act for the club between bulletins or meetings of the membership on matters too urgent to wait for such bulletins or meetings. Such actions shall be described in the following bulletins or meetings. They shall make the appointment to fill a vacancy created in an elected office. They shall appoint an election commissioner who may not be permitted to hold an elected office of the club while he is commissioner.

Article II - NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The secretary shall announce in the spring bulletin in the odd numbered years that nominations are being accepted for all elected offices by the election commissioner. He shall include the name and address of the commissioner in this bulletin and a deadline for receiving nominations of not less than thirty (30) days from the date the announcement is made. Only nomination ballots received from and signed by members in good standing and nominating members in good standing shall be accepted for inclusion in the election ballot. The election commissioner shall send a complete list of the names of only the nominees to each member of the executive committee. The secretary shall include the election ballot, deadline for receiving ballots of not less than thirty (30) days, and the name and address of the election commissioner, who shall receive all cast ballots, in the summer bulletin in the odd numbered years. The election commissioner shall record all votes cast by members in good standing and send a complete list of the results to each member of the executive committee. The secretary shall publish the total results of the election in the fall bulletin in the odd numbered years. The nominee with the highest number of votes shall be elected.

Article III - ARREARS

A member shall be considered in arrears if his dues have not been paid by the expiration date on his most current membership card. A member in arrears shall not be entitled to vote, be a candidate for office, receive club bulletins or compete for prizes offered by the club.

Article IV - EXPULSION

Any member detected in any dishonorable dealing involving the club or swallow fancy in general shall be expelled from the club by a simple majority vote of the total membership.

Article V - ANNUAL SHOW

The secretary shall announce in the first bulletin after the USC Annual Show (usually the winter bulletin) that nominations are being accepted by the election commissioner for the next Annual Show Site. The secretary shall include the name and address of the election commissioner in this bulletin and a deadline for receiving nominations of not less than thirty (30) days. The commissioner shall report to the secretary which sites have been nominated.

In the next bulletin, the secretary shall include a final ballot, a deadline for receiving ballots of not less than thirty (30) days and the name and address of the election commissioner. The election commissioner shall report the final results to the secretary who shall publish these results in the next bulletin.

The annual show should be on a rotation basis as much as possible. The site receiving the highest number of votes shall be awarded the annual meet.

When any problem arises regarding the location of the annual show site, the executive committee shall make all final decisions. The secretary shall notify all members by U.S. mail of any change in the annual show site within two (2) weeks of said change.

Article VI - DISTRICT SHOW SPECIALS

The specials awarded by this club for the district shows shall be determined by the executive committee. Additional special awards may be accepted by the district directors, appointees or the club secretary. Any rebate from entry fees paid to this club as a participating club may be used to pay for judging and/or additional specials offered on swallows exhibited by members or returned to the secretary of this club. (This is to be determined by the district director.)

Article VII - SELECTION OF JUDGES

The judge and/or judges for the annual meet may be elected by a vote of the membership. When the judge or judges is/are not elected by the membership, then he/they shall be approved by the executive committee.

The secretary shall announce in the first bulletin after the USC Annual Show (usually the winter bulletin) that nominations are being accepted by the election commissioner for annual meet judge(s). The secretary shall include the name and address of the election commissioner in this bulletin and a deadline for receiving nominations of not less than-thirty (30) days. The election commissioner shall contact all nominees to confirm their acceptance of the nomination. The commissioner shall report to the secretary which judge(s) have been nominated. In the next bulletin, the secretary shall include a final ballot, a deadline for receiving ballots of not less than thirty (30) days and the name and address of the election commissioner. The election commissioner shall report the final results to the secretary who shall publish these results in the next bulletin. The judge(s) should be on a rotation basis as much as possible. The judge(s) receiving the highest number of votes shall be awarded the annual meet. When any problem arises regarding the judge(s), the executive committee shall make all final decisions. The secretary shall notify all members by U.S. mail of any change in the judge(s) within two (2) weeks of said change.

Article VIII - METHOD OF JUDGING

The Americanized-German grading system shall be used at all recognized meets of this club. The following grading system shall be used: *E (Excellent)* - Excellent show bird, very good condition, near perfect. *HS (Highly Superior)* - Outstanding show bird in good condition with some faults. *S (Superior)* - Superior show bird in good condition with some faults. *G (Good)* - Good specimen but showing major and minor faults. Useful as a stock bird. *I (Inferior)* - Sick, crippled, very poor condition, not representative of the breed.

Article VIII - continued

A judge may assign a bird a grade up to HS. In no case shall less than two (2) qualified swallow judges be allowed to assign the grade of "E" to a bird. When two (2) qualified judges are not available no "E" grade shall be assigned.

A numerical placing may be assigned when necessary to determine awards or specials as follows: the highest rated bird shall be number one (1). Example: If one bird receives an "HS" and another birds receives an "S", the "HS" bird automatically becomes the first place or number one (1) bird. If, however, two birds in the same class receive the same rating the judge may assign one bird an additional numerical rating of one (1). Example: Each bird receives "HS", then one bird may be assigned "HS-I", etc. No numerical rating shall be given below the "S" rating and only then when it is necessary to make a selection for purposes of an award or awards. The assigning of additional numerical ratings shall be discouraged.

When selecting the champion or other specials, only the highest rated birds shall be considered, example: if two birds receive the "E" rating, only those two birds shall be considered for champion, etc. If no "E" ratings are given, then the next highest rating (HS) shall be considered. In no case shall birds of two different ratings be in competition with each other, the higher rated bird is automatically placed ahead of all lower rated birds.

The additional numerical classification is only valid within the class in which it is assigned. Example: If a class has an "E-1" rated bird and an "E-2" rated bird, the "E-1" rated bird shall compete with all other "E" rated birds for champion, etc. If the above "E-1" rated bird is awarded champion, the "E-2" bird from the same class as the champion shall compete for reserve champion (second best).

After all of the possible awards for the "E" rated birds have been exhausted, the "HS" or the birds from the next highest category are brought up for the remainder of the awards.

No special awards shall be given below the "S" category.

The following special awards shall be given at all recognized club meets and be assigned the following letter designation after the rate: Best Crested Fairy Swallow - BC; Best Silesian Swallow - BS, Best Fullhead Swallow - BF; Best Tiger Swallow - BT; Best Thuringian Spot Swallow - BTS; Best Thuringian Fullhead Swallow - BTF; and Best Nuremburg Swallow - BNS.

Example: If the blue white bar crested fairy swallow is rated "HS" and is selected as the best crested fairy swallow, it shall receive the letters "HS-BC". The numerical classification, if any, shall be removed when specials are assigned to the rating.

The following awards may be given at recognized club meets and when given shall be assigned the following letter designations after the rating: Champion Swallow - CH; Reserve Champion Swallow - Res. CH; Best Opposite Sex Swallow - BOS; and Best Young Swallow - BY.

Example: Blue white bar crested fairy swallow - E-BC-CH.

When Best of Variety specials, such as red white bar silesian, are awarded, the following letter destinations shall be used: Best of Variety - BV.

Example: Best red white bar silesian swallow - HS-bv. (Note: This award is noted in lower case letters.)

All other awards may be assigned letter designations as deemed by the director of the district in which the show is being held and/or the club secretary. All special awards shall be noted in lower case letters and be defined in the show report.

Article IX - STANDARD

The standard of this club shall be the Swallow Standard as adopted by this club in June of 1972 and published in the American Pigeon Journal of August 1972, page 498 (referred to as the German Toy Special).

In 1984, the Thuringian and Nuremburg Standards were adopted. They are the Standards that appeared in the Summer 1984 U.S.C. Swallow Bulletin.

USC Membership April 2008

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USC Officers for 2008-2010

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Secretary: Elliot Yeske 21649 State Hwy 108 Pelican Rapids, MN 56572

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Western District Director: Leon Stephens 5238 La Madera Ave. El Monte CA 91732-1263 taubenls@yahoo.com



United Swallow Club Financial Report

Jan., Feb., Mar., 2008

Beginning balance:	<u>2120.18</u>	
Income:		
From bands, dues and show rebats	1,860.00	
Expenses:		
To Leon for Hans's judging expenses	60.00	
Band Postage	22.41	
Purebred Pigeon (for Swallow breed issue)	375.00	
Gary Romig (newsletters)	404.21	
Purebred Pigeon (for 1/4 page ad)	350.00	
Ending statement balance:	2752.06	







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

Gloria Weisgram recommends Bob Benson's idea about baby socks

We just got 12 inches of snow! Happy first day of Spring. I had to break out the baby socks for my young hatches! It might look a bit funny but this works! Leave it to Bob Benson to come up with a life saver for E babies in the nest!

It is still snowing and we expect several more inches. The temps are in the low 30's so it's melting some. I had my first motorcycle drive a couple days ago! Might be a month before I get to ride it again! Hope your weather is better!

I bought baby socks at Walmart - 6 month size. \$3.86 for 6/pr. They look like short tube socks! Just cut a super tiny hole where I put the black marks. The holes expand more than you will anticipate. Leave plenty of room in the front part of the sock!



