

Summer 2008 Supporting Swallow Pigeons http://personal.riverusers.com/~swallowclub/

Since 1969

## Message from the Secretary

Elliot Yeske

It has been kind of slow this time of year as I have not heard from many members lately. I have been in contact with Perry Mueller from time to time, he is having a good year with many young swallows. Nate Wayne has many young yellow Fairy Swallows from this years hatch but has not rasied very many reds this year. Here things are going okay with some young black spangle fullheads rasied this year. I am glad to see this as I am trying to keep this breed going and there are not many in the US. I also have quit a few blue black bar thuringer wing pigeons this year.

The club still has a few bands for sale if anyone needs a few more to finish up the year they are 35 cents. The National young bird show is coming up in October the entry from for that show will be in this news letter.

All for now take care everyone and I hope that you had a great breeding season.

## **Central District News**

Bob Benson

It's late July; the breeding season is over (that was a fast six months). Did your pairing selections prove to be good ones?

I've banded a large number of birds - too many to feed or house. As usual the molt will be a major factor in deciding which birds will go to Louisville. At this point I feel there are six to ten swallows of Louisville quality.

Speaking of Louisville I would like to see one hundred swallows displayed, that would be a fine show! I know the price of gas is out of sight as are hotel/motel rates but I hope to see many breeders there.

Also, be sure to vaccinate for PMV this fall as some breeders have lost birds when they didn't vaccinate. The best breeders are victims as well.

Tim Kvidera has written an excellent article on this subject. (See the next page)

## **President's Report**

#### Perry Mueller

Summer is here. I hope everyone has had a chance to raise some show winners. I've had a good year and now am in the process of shutting the breeding down.

Bill Griebel was elected to judge our Annual Meet in Des Moines this December. Bob Benson is that district's Director and will be the member in charge. If you have any questions about the show, please feel free to contact Bob.

I'll be going to the National Young Bird Show in October. We will be having a district meet there again. Merle Starr will be our member in charge and Tim Starr will be the judge. That show is always a good time with lots of members from all over the US participating. Hopefully, \$4.00 gas prices won't affect the show.

I've got a few responses about our Constitution and Bylaws. I haven't been able to put the time I wanted into that project this summer so I'll be working on it at a later date.

Did everyone raise a few fullheads? I raised a few blue white bars and hope to be showing one or two this Fall. Remember to help promote that breed. Let's see if we can gain more interest in them by putting a few in the show this Fall.

That's all for now. Take care, enjoy the remainder of the season!



Blue Fullhead owned by Ben Kocken. Photo by Ben Kocken.

## Message from the Vice President

#### Mike Swanson

I've talked to a few Swallow breeders and it sounds like all of them are having a great year. I've banded a little over two hundred color pigeons so far and plan on breaking them apart August 1st.

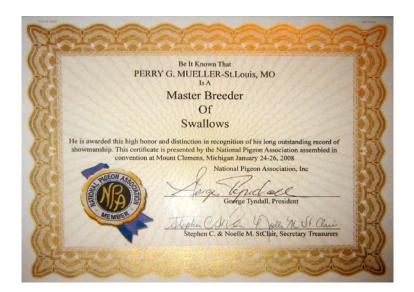
Hopefully, I'll get a couple of nice ones after the molt. I've talked to both Bill Griebel and Leon Stephens and they are having a great year raising birds. Also, they informed me that I was voted the honor of judging the Pageant of Pigeons November 20,21,22, 2008.

The Pageant is always a great show for Swallows and many other color pigeons of excellent quality. Additionally you have a lot of the color pigeon breeders to talk to and learn from. Mike Lerp called and said he was judging the Archangels. Mike will have his work cut out for him and he can anticipate a group of quality Archangels.

Des Moines, Iowa, the site of the USC Annual meet, is also an excellent show with quality birds and quality breeders as well! Bill Griebel was voted to judge this meet. Hopefully, I'll get my birds ready and show in Des Moines; it is always a great time. Let's just hope the weather cooperates this year! I know how much Bob Benson likes icy roads.

Also I would like to congratulate Perry Mueller on becoming an NPA Master Breeder of Swallows last year! I remember going to visit Perry's loft in the 70s with Dr. L.E. Hummel. As Doc Hummel and I were driving to Perry's House, Doc said Perry was going to be an excellent breeder of Swallows. He was right! I know Doc would be very pleased with Perry's expertise in Swallows and his commitment toward promoting the USC in many different capacities.

Hope all of you are having a great season and hope to see you at some of the shows!



## Loosing at Russian Roulette - HURTS

#### ByTim Kvidera

I am sure that you all have heard of the "game" of chance were a single bullet is put in the cylinder of a revolver, the cylinder spun before the player puts the gun to his head and pulls the trigger, allowing chance to determine his fate.

Well, we pigeon breeders have our own version. For a couple decades there has been an effective vaccine to combat PMV. But it only works if you use it. Don't leave it just sitting in the refrigerator like I did.

Over the years it is easy to become complacent. If you have not had it, or heard from close friends who have experienced the virus, vaccinating eventually becomes a lower priority. Having to go through the hassles and time involved to catch and inject all of ones birds takes a conscious effort.

You skip, or forget, one year and nothing happens. The next year rolls around and before you know it the shows are upon us and oops forgot to vaccinate again. All was well after missing last year so it will be fine to let it slip again. And before you know it a contagious case of complacency has set in.

But as long as there are others with the same apathy there is the opportunity for the chamber to be loaded when you allow your birds to be exposed to others, directly or indirectly. And you will not know the difference between the "CLICK" or the "BANG" until it's too late. The outcome can be devastating. Not only loss of good birds and generations of building up your stud, but some projects that may never be re-started.

The time "saved" by not vaccinating will pale in comparison to the hours of anguish in watching more birds successively develop the symptoms, with many of them perishing or having to be put down. Add to that the time to thoroughly clean and disinfect the loft and it will be much easier to find those "round to-its" in the future and assure your birds are adequately protected with a vaccination.

One of the rationales that I used when not getting around to vaccinating was the 1 - 2% vaccination losses I always experienced when shooting the birds in the neck. There always were birds that I really did not want to loose. After hearing good reports from others who, have used it, this year I tried the cavity between the leg and side of the body and had no losses in the 250 birds vaccinated. It is also a method that can easily be done as a one person operation.

Sure, the price of the vaccine has doubled recently, but the costs of not using it can be significantly higher.

# National Young Bird Show October 18, 2008

Pavilion - Kentucky Fair & Exposition Center Louisville, Kentucky Entry Fee: \$5.00

TOTAL

Mail all entries to: NATIONAL YOUNG BIRD SHOW P.O. Box 21 Milton, KY 40045 Make checks and money orders payable to: NATIONAL YOUNG BIRD SHOW

Canadian entries: US money orders only No Canadian postal money orders

Entries must be postmarked by Post Office on or before: September 24, 2008 No postage Meters.

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Clubs:			Sales coop @ \$20.00 each (limit 3 coops - 8 bird limit)				\$		paid in advance of
_			Parking Pass @ \$7.00 each include self-addressed				\$		

STAMPED envelope

### **PHOTOS**

**Right:** Frank Bailey's recently completed loft and garden.

**Below:** Two baby fullheads raised by Frank this year. Frank is very happy with the length of the back bar on these youngsters.

Bottom: Two pictures of some 2008 Red White Barred Fairy Swallows bred by Gary Romig (Still molting).











## Thuringer Swallows from Europe. Photos supplied by Ben Kocken Thuringer Color Pigeon Club show in Germany GestungHausen Jan.2007 and Verden Jan.2008



Best Black Thuringer at a recent show. Judged by Ben Kocken. Owned by Dirk Wolfram.



Blue Black Bar Thuringer Owned by Ben Kocken. Ben achieved German Master Breeder with this bird.



Ben Kocken's Best Blue Barless Hen rated HV 96



Best Blue Check Thuringer at a recent show in Europe.



Yellow Barless Thuringer owned by Ernst Fleisman



Silver Barless Plain Head owned by a young breeder, Daniel Rist. Ben judged this bird best in it's class.

## USC Membership August 2008

Albrecht, Rich 4295 Boone Rd. McAlester, Ok 74501 918-429-2215 Albrecht@hughes.net

Albrecht, Joe 2746 Homeyer Rd. North Tonawanda, NY 14120 716-693-8358

Angevine, Howard 815 Pleasant St. Attleboro, MA 02703 01/09 brihowang@comcast.net

Aultman, Mark 976 Hulaco Rd. Arab, AL 35016-4469 akahahn@yahoo.com

Bailey, Frank 21506 E. Lost Lake Rd. Snohomish, WA 98296 360-668-1371 frankbailey@verizon.net 01/09

Baker, Herbert 3313 Wayne Center Rd. Lyons, NY 14489 dandd55@eznet.net

Baker, Richard 3313 Wayne Center Rd. Lyons, NY 14489 <u>dandd55@eznet.net</u> 315-946-6353

Ball, Steve 6379 Jamieson Ave. Encino, CA 91316 s4nature@aol.com 01/11

Bartz, Kimberly 10775 102nd St. Cologne, MN 55322 pigeonfokb@embarqmail.com 952-466-5603 01/09

Beals, Jay 274 Chickadee Circle Highgrove, CA 92507 909-788-7606 jwbealsbeals@yahoo.com 01/09

Benson, Robert E. 5 Fareway Dr. Northfield, MN 55057 507-645-7230

Besaw, Patricia P.O. Box 181 Pelham. NH 03076 PatriciaBesaw@aol.com 01/09

Best, Horst Birkenhof 65812 Bad Soden/Neuenhain Germany

Bitter, Allen 3251 Rose Hill Rd. Skaneateles, NY 13152 allentogg@aol.com

Brown, Larry 7413 S 53rd St. Omaha, NE 68157 01/10

Burkhardt, Klaus Teichstr. 34 04626 Schmolln Germany

Chaney, Arnold 30544 Terrace View Ln. Valley Center, CA 92082 a2chaney@aol.com 01/09 Curtis, Jon 889 W. Tyrrell Rd.

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01/09

01/09

01/09

01/10

Morrice, MI 48857 Jcurtis11@tds.net Cook, Mahlon 295 Bridge St. Corning, NY 14830

Dauner, Georg Hoherweg 6 87700 Memminggen-Eisenburg Germany

De la Nuez, George 2350 Del Mar Way Apt 103 Corona, CA 92882 01/10 georged@prodigy.net

DeClement, Ron 11179 Olde Princess Anne Rd. Princess Anne, MD 21853 01/10

Dobson, Ross 1408 Boyd St. Cornwall, Ontario K6J1X1 Canada 613-938-2869 rdobson8@cogeco.ca

Eriksen, Bert 1 Lookout Lane Ocala, FL 34482 berteriksen@aol.com

Griebel, Bill Jr. 3610 Whitestone Dr. Pearland, TX 77584 blueblackbar@yahoo.com 01/09

Griebel, Bill Sr. 12032 Rio Hondo Pkwy. El Monte, CA 91732 626-448-8565 griebel@worldnet.att.net 01/11

Harris, David 23901 Stottlemeyer Rd. NE Poulsbo, WA 98370 Dharris39@att.net 360-779-7860

Hendricks, Kerry 225A NE 40 Rd. Great Bend, KS 67530 khendricks@ruraltel.net 01/09

Holloway, David 30255 NW Evergreen Hillsboro, OR 97124 01/10 <u>dianne.holloway@verizon.net</u>

Hornung, Ted 820 Wisconsin St. Oswego, KS 67356 01/09

Jakubowski, Robert 8707 White Fawn Trail Rockford, MI 49341 fawnlofts@charter.net

Jefferson, Kenneth 500 Rocky Meadow Rd. New Salisbury, IN 47161 joejefferson@aol.com 01/09

Kaiser, Jerry 100 Lincoln Dr. Taylorsville, KY 40071 01/09 Kennedy, Jeff 1781 Holly Grove Rd. Lascassas, TN 37085 Mary.Kennedy@mtemc.com 01/09

Kocken, Ben Noordparallelweg 32 NL-570 A X Helmond Netherlands ben.kocken@planet.nl

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Kohnemann, Julia Albert Schweitzer Str 8 76316 Malsch Germany jumbarbeito@freenet.de

Kolinski, Ravmond 215 Mexico St. Boswell, PA 15531 0 rays\_animal\_pardise@yahoo.com 01/09

Kreher, Rudi Pestalozzistr 4 64839 Munster Germany

Kress, Gerald W9971 Beechnut Dr. Wautoma, WI 54982 920-787-1498 pigeonpl@network2010.net 01/09

Landry, Scott 67 Weld St. Wilton, ME 04294 207-645-4265 scottlandry1@verizon.net 01/10

Lawson, Bill 693 Montecito Blvd. Napa, CA 94558 707-226-2121 billrlawson@vahoo.com life member

Licht, Bernd 54149 R. R. 205A Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta T8L-3MO Canada 780-998-4976 berndl@telus.net

01/09

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01/09

Lindbom, Chris 2966 60th Ave. Wilson, WI 54027 celindbom@wwt.net

Lutz, James and Raven 116 Oak Brook Court Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Mrowka, Rich 1190 Durham Rd. Madison, CT 06443 ShirMrow@aol.com 01/09

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

Nattenmiller, Erwin Schlössleweg 7 87789 Worringen Germany

> Navant, John 1020 Terry St. Golden, CO 80401 navant@hotmail.com

Neuhofer Jr. Peter Kleinlehenstrasse 24 A-1502 Anthering Austria

Nelson, Jud 1505 Pebble Court Grove, OK 74344 918-786-3885 judnjudy@sbcglobal.net 01/10

Pool, Ioe 11832 Yvonne Circle Lower Lake, CA 95457 01/09

Rau, Karl 29 Windsor Rd. South China, ME 04358 krau@pivot.net 207-445-3718

Redmond, Ariel 706 Black Oak Dr. Mokelumne Hill, CA 95245 01/10 arielredmond@yahoo.com

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01/09

Ripper, Stephen 1195 W. Sawmill Rd. Quakertown, PA 18951 srips@verizon.net

Roelofs, Wout Baron d'Osystr. 22 NL-6602 Bl Wijchen Netherlands

Romig, Gary PO Box 152 Patagonia, AZ 85624 520-394-2174 gromig@theriver.com

Schipper, Hans Nijverdalsestr 106A NÍ-7642 LG Weirdan Netherlands Hans-schipper@planet.nl

Schultz, Alice 26 E. Elk Lane Pottsville, PA 17901 jaas2003@webtv.net

Sciame, Michael 959 N Niagara Ave. Lindenhurst, NY 11757 pigeon726@hotmail.com 01/10

Sheehy, Patrick 44 Suncook Valley Rd. Barnstead, NH 03218 SerenityFarmNH@aol.com 603-435-8164

Sizemore, Phillip 419 West Wind Dr. Villa Rica, Georgia 03218 sizmo\_99@yahoo.com

Skistimas, Kaylee 8727 S. Stillhouse Rd Oak Grove, MO 64075 (Junior Member) kns1995@hotmail.com

Smith, Ron 9 N. 40 Rd. Ponca, OK 74601 580-363-9809

Starr, Merle 8900 Lemar Rd. Greencastle, PA 17225 pigeon8900@comcast.net

Starr, Tim 8804 Ft.Loudon Rd. Mercerburg, PA 17236 717-328-9751 timstarr@comcast.net Streeter, Dennis 18512 Hwy 30 West Carroll, Iowa 51401 712-792-6157

Stephens, Leon 5238 La Madera Ave. El Monte, CA 91732 taubenls@yahoo.com 01/09

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01/09

01/09

01/09

Swanson, Mike 4800 Road 23 Ft. Lupton, CO 80621 303-857-0985

Tietze, Bill 24901 Newport Ave. Prior Lake, MN 55372 612-461-2195 billtietze@intergraonline.com 01/09

Van der Post, Paul Van Bergen IJzendoornpark 29A 2801 AB Gouda Netherlands

Van der Post, C.N.M. Methen 6a 6904 GN Zevenarr Netherlands

Waldick, Rod Box 44 Teeterville, Ontario NOE 1SO Canada waldo@kwic.com

Walsh, Frank 5386 Fir Ave. Erie, CO 80516 303-828-2490

Wayne, Nathan 205 Rhode Island S. Minneapolis, MN 55426 763-545-7313 nwayne@dsb-cpa.com

Webb, Charlie 3200 Olympic Dr. Bakersfield, CA 93308 661-391-9736 Webb0873@sbcglobal.net 01/09

Weisgram, Gloria 508 Š 5th St. Moorhead, MN 56560

sky@gomoorhead.com Wolf, Reiner

09488 Schonfeld

Wolfraham, Dirk Bashgasse 3 07907 Schleiz-Oschitz Germany

21649 State Hwy 108 Pelican Rapids, MN 56572 ejy@loretel.net

Wihelm Strasse 18 Germany

01/09

Annaberger Str. 38 Germany zfreinerwolf@aol.com

Yeske, Elliot

Zahn, Werner 63179 Oberthausen 01/09

## USC Officers for 2008-2010

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

**Vice President:** Mike Swanson 4800 Rd. 23 Ft. Lupton, CO 80621 303-857-0985

**Secretary:** Elliot Yeske 21649 State Hwy 108 Pelican Rapids, MN 56572 ejy@loretel.net

**Canadian District Director:** John Taupert 610 Spencer St. S. E. Medicine Hat Alberta T1A 1Y7 Canada

Eastern District Director: Merle Starr 8900 Lemar Rd Greencastle, PA 17225 717-597-7760 pigeon8900@comcast.net

**Central District Director:** Bob Benson 5 Fareway Dr. Northfield, MN 55057 507-645-7230

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

## United Swallow Club Financial Report 2nd Qtr.

May, June July, 2008

Beginning balance:	<u>2752.06</u>
Income:	
From bands, sales	105.65
Expenses:	
Monthly checking fee May, June, July	9.00
USC Band Order	450.00
Ending statement balance:	<u>2398.71</u>

**Right:** Black Fullhead owned by Ernst Fleisman Photo by Ben Kocken







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



Swallow & Wing Pigeons (Spot Swallows) Winners at the 2007 United Swallow Club Annaul Meet • San Bernardino, CA. Silver White bar Fairy Swallow by George De le Nuez • Best Fairy Swallow & Best Young • HS96 Blue Spangle Fullhead Swallow by Leon Stephens • Best Fullhead • HS 96 Blue Spangle Fullhead Swallow by Bill Griebel Sr. • Champion in Show • E 97

Artwork by Gary Romig