

Time to Vote on our Annual Meet

The nominations are in and we have two choices for location:

*1. Bob Benson Memorial show with the Iowa State Pigeon Show in Des Moines Dec. 7-8 2012

*2. NPA Grand National in Vancouver Washington Jan 17-18

Judges Available:

1. Gary Romig for Bob Benson Memorial show in Des Moines

2. Andreas Reuter, from Germany, for Vancouver WA.

Send your choices to: **Gloria Weisgram by July 15, 2012**

gweisgram@gmail.com

508 S 5th St., Moorhead, MN 56560

**Both of these shows will become district meets for their areas if they are not chosen for the annual meet.*



Art by Gary Romig

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Message from Canadian District Director

Jim Richards

This breeding season has been a real mixed bag across the country, not just with swallows but other breeds in general. Hens laying single eggs, or laying a normal clutch but abandoning them after a week or so. Other eggs pipping but not hatching and the parents leaving them. Some hens haven't even laid that should be, other eggs infertile.

I have heard some blaming the up and down weather, one day its warm the next few are damp and cool. March here was unseasonably warm and the birds started to lay and hatch, then the nights would freeze and I would end up with frozen chicks.

To me we are medicating our birds too much and many

have lost their immunity. I have heard some advocating the use of everything from probiotics to garlic to iodine to antibiotics on a regular basis. When I was a kid all they got was feed and water and the feed was just plain old scratch grain, none of this expensive mixed feed. They raised tons of babies and were seldom sick.

On a brighter note a few breeders have visited my lofts and have taken an interest in getting some swallows...after they see them in real life. So hopefully I can raise a few for the fall. The 2 major shows here this year are the national being held in St. Hyacinth, Quebec and Woodstock, Ontario.

Swallow Photos from Gloria Weisgram

A few young birds... This little one is from a Benson checker!



Come and Join the Discussion on the United Color Pigeon Internet Club

By Gary Romig

I don't know if any of you noticed my little blurb in the last bulletin about the website where many Swallow and Color Pigeon breeders are exchanging their ideas. I want to reiterate. It really is a wonderful resource for all pigeon people to visit if you have Internet access.

You don't have to participate any more than just reading what the others have to say. So, if you have not done it yet. Sign up by contacting Ron Smith or Frank Bailey. They will send you an invitation to join (it is free).

Thanks to several members of the Swallow Club and So. Calif. Color Pigeon Club for pitching in to help pay for the site.

The site is run by Myfamily.com and it is NOT completely open to everyone on the Internet which is kind of nice because there is no advertising on the pages when you visit and you won't have an increase in unsolicited email. Myfamily.com will send you email alerts each day that new stories or photos have been posted. When you sign up; they ask a few personal questions; most of them you don't have to answer (like your birth date). But, they do need

your email address so they can send you the alerts.

It is a nice way to show pictures of your birds to others and then receive comments on your birds and exchange ideas about your breeding program. And, believe me you can learn a lot.

Many of our members have already joined. There are lively discussions and interesting photos explaining some very challenging breeding projects. Pictures of; Swallows, Color Pigeons, and several other varieties from all over the world.

I will be posting some of USC's news items on the site as well. It is a good way for USC members to keep in touch, show your birds to others and even arrange to make sales or buying birds.

So, come join the fun. Contact:

Ron Smith ronsmith9809@yahoo.com Ph. 316-651-6436

Frank Bailey frankbailey@frontier.com Ph. 360-668-1371

USC club secretary, Elliot Yeske, still has some Swallow bands available for sale.

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Blue Spangle Saxon Wing Pigeon (Fairy Swallow). Art by Gary Romig

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