



Message from the President

Merle Starr

This year is going to be hard to make any plans as far as our shows are concerned. With the Avian flu going thru Asia and many countries in Europe. There has been several large scale elimination of whole flocks in Germany as well as Asia and the Middle East. These numbers are in the thousands, unfortunately. The news media does not help us at all. They only blow everything out of proportion. It probably had a big influence for the Edmonton, Canada show. (not sure about this though)

We will have to go ahead and have our nominations for our annual show, district shows, and for our judges for all shows and hope that we will have these shows. The NPA will now have their show in conjunction with the Des Moines Pigeon Club in December. This will make an excellent location for our annual show this year. This will be for our membership to nominate a show site and to vote for a site and for a judge. This will be our second year since we have had a European judge so it will be possible to nominate one if anyone would like to have one again. I think our treasury can stand this.

We have an opportunity to get our bands thru Canada next year. These bands can be plastic coated or can be aluminum like the old bands. We will save .05 cents per band if we do go this route. I have talked with several people about this, with mixed feelings. Some people say that since we are an affiliated club with the NPA we should get our bands thru them. Other people choose to save the money. If you have any opinions about the bands, contact Elliot or myself. SOON Elliot will have to place an order by the end of April.

Send all nominations for the show sites and for judges by the end of April also to Tim Starr at Timstarr@comcast.net. We will come out with ballots by the middle of May so you can vote.

I hope all members have an excellent breeding season and that we can all have our shows.

Perry Mueller

Things are going well here in St. Louis. We had our third warmest winter ever so I was able to get my birds mated up a month early this year. The birds are healthy and breeding well.

Secretaries Message

Elliot Yeske USC Sec./Treas.

Hello every one. I hope you all are off to a good breeding season. We have a few issues this bulletin. First we have about 300 muffed bands to sell yet and about 300 clean leg bands also. They are still 35 cents each. Remember you can use the clean leg bands on other birds than swallows they are size 8mm. Next we have many members that have still not sent in their dues. This will be the last news letter they will receive. Please try to watch your membership dues every year I try get a hold of people to see if they are going to renew or not. Many people don't even reply.

Now for lighter thoughts, Nate Wayne and I were able to attend the Grand National in Cal. They put on a wonderful show with many very good swallows and a large entry of color pigeons. It was a real treat see our good friend Reiner Wolf do the judging. He was very thorough and there were many nice swallows for him to go through. Some of the colors he judged are very rare even in Germany. Another good friend of myself and Nate came with Reiner that being Paul Heyn, Paul raises red white tails and won the European champion with one of his birds. We had a great time seeing all of the members from Cal. and surrounding states. The weather was wonderful temps in the 70's not hard to take at all coming from Minnesota. Mike Swanson won many award with the entry he put in. It was such a good time the week went way to fast.

There is one other item I would like to touch on that being shipping of our birds. There are still problems shipping. One pigeon club that has been fighting for us to be able to ship through the postoffice is the American Racing Pigeon Union. Our President Merle Starr asked me to send them a club donation to help with their finances in fighting to keep our shipping with the post office. I also sent them a little contribution of my own to help them. If any of you would like to help them here is the address to send your donation to:

ARPU
PO Box 18465
Oklahoma, OK 73154-0465
*Please make your check out to
ARPU Legal Defense Fund*

Vice President's Message

We have lots of things going on as a club. First is it's time to nominate our show site and judge. Rumor has it that the National will not be in Florida this year

Continued on page 7

Show Report From the NPA National/Western District Meet

From Bill Griebel Jr.,



So. Calif Color Pigeon Club and United Swallow Club Members. Photo by Nate Wayne



Champion and Best Silesian

Bill Griebel Sr. Blue Black Bar OC 939 E97



Best Fairy and Best Young

Mike Swanson -Blue White Bar YH 831 E97



Best Fullhead

Bill Griebel Sr. -Black Barless OH 314 HS96



Best Thuringian

Jay Beals -Black Barless OC 1504 HS96



Black White Bar Saxon Fairy

Bill Griebel Sr. 182 HS96



Black White Bar Fullhead

Young Cock Frank L. Bailey 1945 S95



Thuringer Wing Pigeon Blue Spangle Old Hen

Dave Holloway 674 S94



Silver Barless Silesian Old Cock

Mike Swanson 932 E97

*These Excellent photos
of the birds are by
George De La Nuez*

Thanks George

Judge: Reiner Wolf
Number Entered: 166
Number Shown: 149

Champion and Best Silesian

Bill Griebel Sr.
Blue Black Bar OC 939

Best Fairy and Best Young

Mike Swanson -
Blue White Bar YH 831

Best Fullhead

Bill Griebel Sr. -
Black Barless OH 314

Best Thuringian

Jay Beals -
Black Barless OC 1504

RATING SYSTEM

E97	Excellent
HS96	Highly Superior
S95	Superior
S94	Superior
S93	Superior
G92	Good
G91	Good
I90	Inferior

SILESIA SWALLOWS

Blue Black Bar

Young Hen

Leon Stephens	926	HS96
Bill Griebel Sr.	479	S95
Bill Griebel Sr.	482	S95
Bill Griebel Jr.	400	S94
Ron Smith	893	G92
Bill Griebel Sr.	476	I90

Young Cock

Bill Griebel Sr.	475	S95
Bill Griebel Sr.	474	S94
Bill Griebel Jr.	1078	S94
Bill Griebel Sr.	481	S93

Old Hen

Bill Griebel Jr.	760	S95
Bill Griebel Jr.	770	S95
Bill Griebel Sr.	726	S94
Bill Griebel Sr.	2311	S94
Leon Stephens	1486	S93
Bill Griebel Jr.	486	S93

Old Cock

Bill Griebel Sr.	939	E97
Bill Griebel Sr.	466	S95

Bill Griebel Jr.	411	S94
Bill Griebel Jr.	617	S94
Bill Griebel Jr.	402	S94
David C. Harris	421	G92

Blue White Bar

Young Hen

Leon Stephens	938	S93
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Old Cock

Leon Stephens	150	S95
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Blue Barless

Old Hen

Bill Griebel Jr.	518	G92
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Old Cock

Leon Stephens	379	S93
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Silver Dun Bar

Old Hen

Bill Griebel Sr.	918	HS96
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Silver Barless

Young Hen

Mike Swanson	910	HS96
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Mike Swanson	930	S94
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Old Hen

Mike Swanson	827	S95
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Old Cock

Mike Swanson	932	E97
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Mike Swanson	942	S95
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Mike Swanson	323	S94
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Mike Swanson	366	S94
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Silver Check

Old Hen

Leon Stephens	99	S94
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Black White Bar

Young Cock

Frank L. Bailey	1915	S93
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Frank L. Bailey	1918	S93
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Old Hen

Frank L. Bailey	1902	G91
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Black Barless

Young Cock

Ron Smith	881	G92
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Red White Bar

Old Cock

Leon Stephens	180	S95
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Red Spangle

Old Hen

Leon Stephens	931	S94
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Yellow White Bar

Young Hen

John DeCarlo Jr.	499	I90
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FAIRY SWALLOWS

Blue White Bar

Young Hen

Mike Swanson	831	E97
Mike Swanson	908	S94
George DeLaNuez	505	S93
George DeLaNuez	504	I90

Young Cock

Mike Swanson	903	S95
Mike Swanson	838	S94
George DeLaNuez	503	S94
George DeLaNuez	506	S94
David C. Harris	113	G92
Wayne & Debbie Dorothy	372	I90

Old Hen

George DeLaNuez	98	S95
Mike Swanson	1517	S95
Mike Swanson	826	S94
George DeLaNuez	302	S94
David C. Harris	221	S93
David C. Harris	170	S93
Wayne & Debbie Dorothy	555	G92

Old Cock

Mike Swanson	908	S95
George DeLaNuez	301	S94
George DeLaNuez	179	S94
David C. Harris	612	S93
Mike Swanson	1237	S93
Mike Swanson	280	G92
Wayne & Debbie Dorothy	11	G92
Mike Swanson	1290	G91
David C. Harris	816	G90

Blue Barless

Old Hen

Leon Stephens	81	S95
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Old Cock

Leon Stephens	1725	S94
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Silver White Bar

Young Hen

George DeLaNuez	502	S94
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Young Cock

Leon Stephens	707	S95
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Old Hen

George DeLa Nuez	934	S93
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Black White Bar

Young Hen

Bill Griebel Sr.	434	S95
Bill Griebel Sr.	436	S95
Leon Stephens	802	S94
Wayne & Debbie Dorothy	TF373	I90

Young Cock

Bill Griebel Sr. 471 S94
 Wayne & Debbie Dorothy TA107 I90
 Wayne & Debbie Dorothy TA108 I90

Old Hen

Wayne & Debbie Dorothy TB740 S93
 Bill Griebel Sr. 882 G92
 David C. Harris 89 G92
 David C. Harris 832 I90

Old Cock

Bill Griebel Sr. 182 HS96
 Bill Griebel Sr. 14 S93
 Wayne & Debbie Dorothy TA553 S93
 Wayne & Debbie Dorothy TE5 I90
 David C. Harris 603 I90

Black Barless**Young Hen**

Ron Smith 891 S93

Black Spangle**Young Hen**

Leon Stephens 733 S95
 David C. Harris 136 I90

Young Cock

David C. Harris 608 I90

Red White Bar**Young Cock**

Leon Stephens 747 S95
 Leon Stephens 923 S94
 Leon Stephens 874 S93

Yellow White Bar**Old Cock**

Leon Stephens 29 S94

Yellow Spangle**Young Hen**

Leon Stephens 890 S93

Old Hen

Leon Stephens 1713 S95

FULLHEAD SWALLOWS**Blue White Bar****Old Cock**

Leon Stephens 1495 S94

Blue Spangle**Old Hen**

Leon Stephens 79 S93

Black White Bar**Young Cock**

Frank L. Bailey 1945 S95

Old Hen

Frank L. Bailey 1900 G91
 Frank L. Bailey 1907 G91
 Frank L. Bailey 1916 G91

Old Cock

Frank L. Bailey 1907 S94
 Frank L. Bailey 1903 S94
 Frank L. Bailey 1906 G92

Black Barless**Young Hen**

Wayne & Debbie Dorothy TF374 S93

Young Cock

Wayne & Debbie Dorothy TA101 S93

Old Hen

Bill Griebel Sr. 314 HS96
 Bill Griebel Sr. 267 S95
 Bill Griebel Sr. 274 S94
 David C. Harris 461 G91

Old Cock

David C. Harris 618 I90

Red White Bar**Old Hen**

Bill Griebel Sr. 107 G92

Old Cock

Bill Griebel Sr. 641 S95
 Bill Griebel Sr. 456 S93

THURINGIAN SWALLOW**Black Barless****Old Hen**

David C. Harris 976 I90

THURINGIAN WING PIGEON**Blue Black Bar****Young Hen**

Jay Beals 656 S94
 Bill Griebel Jr. 300 G91

Young Cock

Carl Rodegerdts 854 S93
 Bill Griebel Jr. 296 S93
 Carl Rodegerdts 850 I90

Old Cock

Bill Griebel Jr. 209 G91

Blue Barless**Old Hen**

Bill Griebel Jr. 385 S95
 Dave Holloway 357 G92

Blue Check**Young Cock**

Carl Rodegerdts 848 G91

Blue Spangle**Old Hen**

Dave Holloway 674 S94

Old Cock

Dave Holloway 752 S94

Silver Dun Bar**Young Cock**

Jay Beals 653 G92

Silver White Bar**Old Hen**

Dave Holloway 383 S93

Old Cock

Dave Holloway 378 S95

Silver Spangle**Old Hen**

Dave Holloway 671 G92

Old Cock

Dave Holloway 882 S94

Black Barless**Young Hen**

Jay Beals 633 S95
 Jay Beals 636 G92

Young Cock

Jay Beals 687 S94
 Jay Beals 69 S94

Old Hen

Jay Beals 1507 S93

Old Cock

Jay Beals 1504 HS96
 Jay Beals 1530 G92

Red Barless**Old Hen**

David C. Harris 43 S93

Old Cock

David C. Harris 66 G92

Yellow Barless**Old Hen**

David C. Harris 3 G91

Old Cock

David C. Harris 472 G91

Cream Yellow Bar**Old Hen**

Dave Holloway 876 S95
 Dave Holloway 834 G91

Cream Yellow Check**Old Hen**

Dave Holloway 834 G91

Avian Influenza - Update Winter 2005

Dr Paul G. Miller PhD, DVMPennsylvania, USA.

"For the past few months, Avian Influenza has been in the news, and some of this news has had a negative impact on the pigeon fancy. This is an attempt to clarify and elaborate on some of that information, especially as it relates to pigeons.

The news media abound with fearful stories of some new and treacherous 'Bird Flu' that will 'kill us all', (more precisely 150 million) in the latest pandemic on the horizon, the worst since 1918. Ninety nine percent of this is hype, intended to raise money for the medical bureaucracy establishment and improve business for drug companies and vaccine companies. With West Nile fading fast over the horizon, the medical establishment needs a new poster child, a dreadful disease that will 'surely kill us all' if we don't continue to support their capricious demands.

Some aspects of the current situation do raise concern, but we are light years away from anything remotely resembling a pandemic. In Asia, over the past few years, there have been some cases of humans contracting Avian Influenza from birds; the earliest of any notoriety was in Hong Kong in 1997. This infection was a H5N1 type which did indeed prove fatal in a few humans, but which did not infect pigeons and couldn't be transmitted by pigeons. (The 'H' and 'N' numbers are a technical way of characterizing the Influenza virus used by scientists to distinguish one type of Influenza virus from another; obviously if the numbers are different in two separate outbreaks, so are the sources of infection).

As times have gone on from there, human infections of Avian Influenza have occasionally occurred in Asia; all of these have been in situations where there has been extremely close contact between humans and birds. In many of these cases, the birds were chickens living in the same house as the person infected, often in hygiene and sanitary conditions far below contemporary American standards of personal and household hygiene and sanitation. As these people became ill, they were often diagnosed and treated using local medical professionals and facilities which, in some cases, are not comparable to American medical standards. Under these conditions, the fatality rate of Avian Influenza in humans in Asia has been about 50%. In most of this, the culprit has been H5N1 type Avian Influenza.

This particular strain of the Influenza virus is carried in wild waterfowl and shorebirds. In the past, this virus has not caused disease in these birds, and, as these birds migrate, they act as a wild reservoir for the disease, spreading it along their migration flyways. Domestic birds which come into contact with the virus spread in this manner are likely to become infected, and many infected species are likely to develop disease. With the relatively primitive poultry husbandry practices used in many situations in Asia, domestic poultry can easily become infected through exposure in this manner.

Over the past few years, H5N1 itself has undergone some changes. Just as pigeons are subject to the laws of Genetics, so are viruses, and just as pigeon genes are subject to genetic mutations, so are viral genes subject to mutation. Influenza is an RNA virus, and such viruses tend to have a relatively high rate of mutation. Once a mutation has occurred, the persistence of that mutation is subject to the selection forces in the environment; a favorable pigeon mutation is selected for by the pigeon fancier to produce a winning flier or a show winner. An unfavorable mutation is selected against and culled. Viruses work similarly, but with environmental forces doing the selection: virulent viruses more effectively infect their host, and are spread more efficiently. Less virulent viruses are outnumbered and crowded out. Hence, without any opposition or control, a virus would naturally tend to build up mutations enhancing virulence and it would increase in virulence, propagating more effectively within its host, transmitting more efficiently to another susceptible host and, possibly, even expanding its host range. On the contrary, a situation in which the virus is not allowed to propagate widely would obviously not be favorable

for any of this, and establishing a new viral mutation would be a very remote possibility. This is exactly the situation with the H5N1 virus itself. The H5N1 virus is found world wide, both in North America and in Eurasia. Since the group of species of birds inhabiting North America is distinct from the group of species inhabiting Eurasia, these two groups of birds can be thought of as separate, distinct populations. Also there is very little contact between birds endemic to these two areas; thus, these two populations of birds (American and Eurasian) can be thought of as entirely distinct populations of birds, each with its own unique environment. Also, in each of these populations, the H5N1 virus experiences entirely different selective forces,

and hence we have emerging two distinct strains of the H5N1 virus. Just as there are different strains of racing pigeons (e.g. Sions vs Jansens), there are emerging different strains of the H5N1 virus. In particular, as we have seen above, in Asia, there has been very little effective control over the H5N1 situation, so it has propagated largely out of control, and hence become a distinct, more virulent strain of the H5N1 virus; thus the Eurasian strain of H5N1 has now been specifically named 'Asian H5N1 HPAI'. (The 'HPAI' stands for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza). The Asian H5N1 HPAI strain lives up to its name very well. It is pathogenic in its natural hosts (waterfowl and shore birds) and, can still infect humans, cause disease and even death. Unfortunately, it has also extended its host range to now include pigeons. This does not mean that pigeons have become its natural host, but it now can infect pigeons and cause disease in them. Pigeons are still insignificant players in the Eurasian H5N1 scene, but they are now in the host range.

In contrast to the Eurasian situation, the American H5N1 remains well controlled. It has never had the opportunity to become highly pathogenic, mainly because it has been stamped out or controlled where ever it has been found. For foreign trade as well as public health reasons, the United States and Canada have always aggressively stamped out or tightly controlled Avian Influenza (regardless of H and N types) whenever it occurred. In this environment, it has

not had the opportunity to become highly pathogenic, hence the American H5N1 is termed LPAI, Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza. For this American H5N1 strain, the prior experimental results would indicate that pigeons are largely resistant. Notice that, as much as we dislike government intrusion into our lives, both state and the federal government play a major role in defining this environment, especially keeping Avian Influenza from getting out of hand as it has in Asia. So where does this leave us ??? Obviously that depends upon the geographic location. In the United States and Canada, the situation is as it was before: the American H5N1 has low pathogenicity, and pigeons (and humans) don't get it. That doesn't mean that we can become complacent and forget about Avian Influenza; we still need to be very vigilant and make sure that all Avian Influenza is well controlled so that we don't get into the situation we have in Asia. In particular, let me reiterate a few precautionary principles. Do NOT let your birds mix with migratory birds, especially waterfowl or shorebirds. All wild birds should be kept out of your loft and off your premises. Do NOT feed wild birds around your pigeon loft. Do NOT let your birds mix with any other domestic poultry; galliforms and waterfowl can and do get Avian Influenza, and could set up a situation similar to the Asian situation, expanding the host range into pigeons. Don't let this happen. Do NOT allow your birds to mix with feral pigeons, and do not allow feral pigeons into your loft. Avoid any and all contact with hogs, even indirect. Hogs are the 'mixing vessel' to combine the Avian Influenza strains with human adapted strains. Many of the Avian Influenza cases I have seen in domestic poultry have been associated with hogs. When training, keep birds under control, and do NOT allow them to just sit around outside on the loft roof; they should be either in the air or in the loft. Young birds traveling to scout the territory is fine, as long as they are flying. Except for settling, birds should not just sit on the roof. Races and training flights should be arranged so that the birds can make it home in a reasonable amount of time. Do NOT release into bad weather, weather 'fronts', low atmospheric pressure, high winds, other races crossing their flight path, etc. Do NOT import pigeons from Europe, except through approved USDA quarantine stations. Since the Asian H5N1 HPAI can infect pigeons, we must be VERY CAUTIOUS with anything from Europe. There are plenty of good birds available domestically; it is no longer necessary to import from Europe. In the case of an Avian Influenza break in any species, keep yourself and your birds totally clear of any contact, even indirect or incidental.

In the Asian situation, the strategy would be to keep pigeons as a minor, incidental host. Pigeons are not a major player in Asian H5N1 HPAI at this time; they are insignificant at this point. Keep it that way. Do not allow pigeons to become infected, and quickly destroy any that do become infected. Monitor for Avian Influenza by whatever means are available through your local Avian Lab or Avian Vet; and vaccinate if a vaccine becomes available and is approved. The above rules should also be observed, and modified as necessary to fit the situation. Avian Influenza is not a major problem in pigeons. With a little bit of common sense and vigilance we can easily keep it that way, and continue to enjoy our birds for a long time to come.

USC Membership April 2006

Albrecht, Rich PO. Box 3430 McAlester, OK 74502 918-423-8497 Albrecht@direcway.com	01/07	Cook, Mahlon 295 Bridge St. Corning, NY 14830	01/07	Jopp, John 2655 Navajo Ave. Watertown, MN 55388 952-955-3186	01/06	Pinke, Nancy 8151 E. 255 th St. Elko, MN 55020 pinkepap@cs.com	01/07	Taupert, John 610 Spencer St. SE Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A-1Y7 Canada 403-526-2676	01/06
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Bitter, Allen 3251 Rose Hill Rd. Skaneateles, NY 13152 allentogg@aol.com	01/08	Holloway, David 30255 NW Evergreen Hillsboro, OR 97124	01/06	Neuhof Jr. Peter Kleinlehenstrasse 24 A-5102 Anthering Austria	01/07	Starr, Merle 8900 Lemar Rd Greencastle, PA 17225 717-597-7760 pigeon8900@comcast.net	01/06	Wolfram, Dirk Bashgasse 3 07907 Schleiz-Oschitz Germany	01/06
Bonelli, James 45 Starlite Lane Levittown, NY 11756 Jhon428888@aol.com	01/06	Hornung, Ted 820 Wisconsin St. Oswego, KS 67356 hornung@oswego.net	01/07	Nelson, Jud 1505 Pebble Court Grove, OK 74344-4305/918-786-3885 judnjudy@sbcglobal.net	01/07	Starr, Tim 8804 Ft. Loudon Rd Mercersburg, PA 17236 717-328-9751 timstarr@comcast.net	01/06	Yeske, Elliot 21649 State Hwy 108 Pelican Rapids, MN 56572 cjy2156@prtcl.com	01/07
Brausch, Neal 664 Bohemia Pky. Sayville, NY 11782 pigeonguy@optonline.com	01/06	House, Norm 1915 138 th Dorr, MI 49323 616-681-0057 Norm_House@msn.com	01/07	Piffner, Guido Site 1 Box 40 R.R. 3 Ponoka, Alberta T4J-1R3 Canada 403-230-7805 rusie@telplanet.net	01/06	Stephens, Leon 5238 La Madera Ave El Monte, CA 91732-1263 taubens@yahoo.com	01/07	Yuhus, Glyn 86 Craven Place SE Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A-7T1 Canada 403-527-1011	01/06
Brown, Larry 7413 S 53 rd St. Omaha, NE 68157	01/07	Jefferson, Kenneth 500 Rocky Meadow Rd. New Salisbury, IN 47161 joecjfferson@aol.com	01/09	Pilchar, Bob Site 175 RR#1 Brandon, Manitoba R7A 5Y1 Canada 204-727-5270	01/06	Swanson, Mike 4800 Road 23 Ft Lupton, CO 80621 303-857-0985	01/09	Zahn, Werner Wihelm Strasse 18 63179 Obertshausen Germany	01/06

Central District Meet in Des Moines

Submitted by Elliot Yeske

December 9&10 2005 Judge Nate Wayne • Champion & Best Silesian also best young Silver check #733 Bob Benson

• Reserve Champion and best Thuringer Swallow Blue Barless #34 Elliot Yeske • Best Thuringer Wing pigeon Blue Black Bar #34 Elliot Yeske • Best Fairy Swallow Balck Barless #608 Gloria Weisgram • Best Saxon Fullhead Swallow Black White Bar #765 Elliot Yeske

SAXON FARIY SWALLOWS

Young Hens

Blk Barless 608 S1 Weisgram (Best Fairy)
Silver barless 238 S2 Mueller
Blk Barless 603 S3 Weisgram

Young Cocks

Blk Spangle 706 G Pinke

Old Hens

Blk Spangle 743 S6 Pinke
Blue White bar Abs S Walsh

Old Cocks

Blk Barless 675 S5 Pinke
Blue Spangle 667 Lindbom
Blue White Bar 854 S Walsh

SAXON FULLHEAD SWALLOWS

Young Cocks

Yellow Spangle 113 G Yeske

Old Hens

Blk Barless 325 G Jakubowski
Blue Spangle 1832 G Jakubowski
Blk White Bar 765 S Yeske (**Best fullhead**)

Old Cocks

Blk White Bar 1004 G Jakubowski
Blk Barless 101 G Yeske

THURINGER SWALLOWS

Young Hens

Blk Barless #45 S3 Yeske
Red Barless #16 S2 Yeske

Young Cocks

Blk Barless #10 G Yeske
Red Barless #4 S4 Yeske

Old Hens

Blue White Bar #9 S Yeske

Old Cocks

Blue Barless #34 HS Yeske (**Best Thuringer Swallow & Reserve Champion**)
Yellow Barless #27 S1 Yeske

THURINGER WING PIGEONS

Young Hens

Blue Spangle #1 S4 Yeske
Yellow Barless #913 S5 Kress
Blue Barless #601 G Jefferson
Red Spangle #145 S3 Mueller
Red White bar #175 S6 Mueller
Red White Bar #124 S1 Mueller
Yellow Barless #28 S2 Streeter
Yellow Barless #106 Abs Mueller
Yellow Barless #160 G Mueller

Young Cocks

Blue Barless #611 G Jefferson
Red Spangle #145 S3 Mueller
Yellow Barless #117 S2 Mueller
Blue Blk Bar #34 S1 Yeske (**Best Wing Pigeon**)
Yellow Barless #1456 G Streeter

Old Hens

Red Barless #161 G Kress
Red Barless #310 G Kress

Old Cocks

Yellow Barless #308 G Kress
Yellow Barless #478 G Starr
Yellow Barless #414 S1 Starr
Blue White Bar #73 G Yeske
Blue White Bar #309 S2 Yeske

SILESIA SWALLOWS

Young Hens

Silver Check #226 S Mueller
Blue Barless #203 S1 Mueller
Blue Barless #213 HS1 Mueller
Blue Barless #242 S4 Mueller
Blue Barless #605 S3 Weisgram
Blue Barless #616 S2 Weisgram
Blue Check #771 S1 Benson
Silver Barless #236 HS3 Mueller
Silver Barless #214 HS1 Mueller
Blue Barless #601 HS2 Weisgram
Silver Check #780 G Pinke
Blk Spangle 743 S6 Pinke

Young Cocks

Blue Barless #234 S1 Mueller
Blue Barless #219 S2 Mueller
Blue Barless #604 Abs Weisgram
Blue Check #726 HS2 Benson
Silver Barless #224 HS2 Mueller
Silver Check #733 HS1 Benson (**Champ**)
Silver Check #781 G Pinke

Old Hens

Blue Barless #715 HS1 Weisgram
Blue Barless #605 Abs Lindbom
Blue Check #826 S2 Benson
Ash Red Bar #419 S2 Starr
Silver Barless #827 S2 Walsh

Old Cocks

Ash Red Bar #1441 G Starr
Blue Barless #877 S4 Walsh
Blue Barless #716 S3 Weisgram
Blue Blk Bar #644 S1 Lingbom
Blue Check #836 S3 Benson
Blue Check #611 HS1 Benson
Silver Barless #862 S Walsh
Silver Check #819 S1 Benson
Silver Check #858 S2 Benson

Vice Presidents Message continued

so keep this in mind when placing your nominees. Hopefully the "Bird Flu" will not affect any shows that members plan to attend. We will have to wait and see.

Bill Griebel emailed me the other day. He is working on some changes to our judging program. If you have any comments on it you might want to let him know.

Gary Romig is doing a great job as usual with the Bulletins. We are lucky to have him working for us.

There has ben some discussion about getting our web page going again or maybe starting a new one.

Is there any one in the club that has computer skills and the time to invest in it? I don't know if we need to pay some one to do it or even what it would cost? I'm not a computer guy, so I don't really know. We really should pursue this so if you can help or know something, please contact Merle Starr.

USC Officers for 2004-2006

President: Merle Starr
Vice President: Perry Mueller
Secretary: Elliot Yeske
Canadian District Director: John Taupert
Eastern District Director: Alan Smith
Central District Director: Bob Benson
Western District Director: Dave Holloway

Swallow Club Treasure's Report

Quarterly Financial Statement April 10, 2006

Beginning Balance \$2,123.40
Income: bands & dues NYBS rebate 1223.00

Expenses:

Checking Service Charges Dec. Jan. Feb. Mar. 12.00
Ad to Pure Bred Pigeon Magazine 100.00
Gary Romig (Newsletter & Awards) 479.26
U.S.P.S. (Band Postage) 8.23
Ending Balance \$2,749.41

Judging the N.C.A.P.A. Wetaskiwin Pigeon Show

By Mike Swanson

I had the pleasure of judging in Canada. Bernie Licht contacted me and asked if I would be interested in judging the show on February 18-19th, 2006. Since I was not hunting and my son's wrestling did not conflict with the dates, I was more than glad to have the honor of judging their birds. I had heard about the excellent quality of Swallows in this area of Canada. I was definitely not disappointed as there were several breeders and a great Showing of swallows.

The silesian muffed birds were the first group judged. The muffed swallows had a good showing of blue black bar swallows owned by several breeders. This was a large class of very fine birds. Over all they had excellent color and very nice long even colored black bars. The best of these was a blue black bar old hen which ended up as best muffed swallow. She was owned and bred by John Taupert and rated HS. She had excellent color, station and covered very well over the back. Another thing I liked in general about the blue black bars were their nice thick multi-layered muffs.

The Thuringer swallows comprised a large portion of the birds shown. In all there were 51 Thuringer wing pigeons in the show in blue, blue black barred, black red and silver. Many Thuringers have been imported from Europe over the last several years into Canada. There were many excellent quality birds.

The Thuringer classes were very large although some were quite small but the quality was just superb! For

example, the first class of birds were the Thuringer full-head non-crested blue barless; so much for warming up on an easy class. The group of birds were all very fine in quality and very rare for North America. All had good color and markings and covered well over the back. This was my first class of birds and things didn't get any easier as we were proceeding through the classes. One of the largest of the classes were the Blue barless spot Thuringers which had over 40 birds alone. Out of the blues came the Champion Swallow of the show, and excellent young cock owned and bred by Bernie Licht rating "E". Bernie also had four "HS" birds as well.

Now to the best part of the show, the color pigeon breeder, their families and the show room. The exhibitors and the showroom were just outstanding. The entire set-up was organized, prepared and visually pleasing. They had several aviaries of different varieties of birds including several with color pigeons. One particular display included imports from Bernie Licht. This display included clean leg red and yellow whitetails, clean leg Saxon spots in blue and black and shields in blue and red barless. Breeders at the show included Dick Taylor, John Taupert, Bernie Licht and Guido Pfiffner. Guido showed some very fine clean leg ice in checkered and black bars which I had the pleasure to judge. They had excellent color and markings.

Last but not least was Bernie's daughter Yasmin. She came with her dad, who is president of the local club, and helped with everything at the show and banquet. She always had a smile on her face and was charming to talk to. I would like to thank all the people at the show for taking great care of me and showing me a great time and allowing me the privilege to judge their birds.

P.S. Bernie's birds are great fliers too!

Clockwise from upper left: Mike Swanson judging Silesian Swallows, Bernie's Champion blue barless Thuringer wing pigeon. Mike with the swallow group at the show.





The pigeon market of Naumburg

Andreas Reuter / Germany

The Naumburg pigeon market is the biggest open-air markets in Germany. The first market was in the year 1868. It started as a market for all poultry and in the course of time the market specialized into a pigeon market. Today the breeders and dealers from all of Germany present only pigeons. The visitors and breeders can look at different races of pigeons. For example strassers, swallows, polish lynx, trumpeters, pouters, kings, owls, modena and so on.

Naumburg in the valley of the rivers Saale and Unstrut is one of the oldest towns in Germany. The history goes back to the year 1028 . Today the little town has about 30.000 inhabitants around wonderful landscapes with vineyards.

Every second and fourth Saturday in January and February the pigeon market is held at the market place in front

of the world famous cathedral of Naumburg. Beside the breeders and visitors you can meet the parent rock of the market called Mucki. Mucki is the player of the street organ and sometimes you hear the trumpet player from the platform of the cathedral. Most of the time the temperatures are very cold but this is not the problem for this event. All the people wear warm clothes and some people heat up with a glass or two of hot mulled wine.

No matter what the weather, the atmosphere is always very good. Final I have to say you are very welcome to visit the next pigeon market in Naumburg to get a fantastic feeling and to exchange some experiences with other breeders around our wonderful hobby.



Pictures from the German Pigeon Shows, VDT and Erfurt

Clockwise from upper left: Krasnodarer tumblers (VDT), Thuringer swallow plainhead blue barless (Erfurt), Thuringer wing pigeon red checker (Erfurt), black Saxon spots (VDT).



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

NPA NEWS

By Steve StClair

The 2007 NPA Grand National Pigeon Show will be held on December 7-9, 2006 in Des Moines, Iowa in conjunction with the Iowa State Pigeon Association, IncTM 81ST Annual Show "Pigeons on the Prairie"TM. The show will be held at the Iowa State Fairgrounds in the Varied Industries Building.

The ISPA stepped up to host the 2007 Grand National after the plans to have this show in Florida fell through due to lack of available affordable hotel and motel rooms. The greater Des Moines area has plenty of affordable rooms available.

The ISPA puts on a 4,500 to 5,000 plus pigeon show annually and has more than adequate cooping available to host a 7,000! to 8,000 bird show. There are over 35 specialty clubs that show annually with the ISPA. This show could shape up to be a record breaking event. There has been no NPA Grand National held in the Mid West since the 1980's.

The varied Industries Building, on the grounds of the Iowa State Fair, is the largest indoor venue in Iowa. This 110,400 square foot venue uses both natural indoor lighting to create a perfectly lit show hall. Being located on ground level with drive-in unloading, makes for easy access to the show hall for all exhibitors. There are 6 carpeted meeting rooms for specialty club, vendor, photography, and sale bird use totaling another 16,000 square feet. A very nice food vendor area including seating, is located on the West end of the show hall. A wide selection of hot foods is available at reasonable prices.

The host hotel will be the Holiday Inn Downtown. Most hotel and motels are located within 10 minutes driving time from the show hall. Shuttle service will be provided from the Holiday Inn to the airport and the show hall. The NPA banquet will be held in the ballroom. It can seat 350 people.

There are many air carriers that provide service to Des Moines. There are no wide-body planes that fly into Des Moines. Fanciers do fly into this show each year with large crates of birds. Alternatives are to fly into Omaha (a 2 hour drive) or Kansas City (a 3 hour drive) and rent a vehicle and drive to the show. Early planning will ensure that you can get your birds onto a flight directly into Des Moines.

You may ship your birds by Express Mail through the Postal Service. All "live shipments" are shipped through Minneapolis, and then trucked to Des Moines. As long as fanciers have this information when sending birds to Des Moines, there is no problem. There are many birds shipped here each year for the annual show with no problems.

More information will be forthcoming. For further information please contact Jan Nyhus, Co-Show Secretary, 412 East 1ST St, Huxley, IA 50124-9444 Phone: (515) 597-3368 or (515) 231-1561 e-mail: lcnybus@huxcomm.net