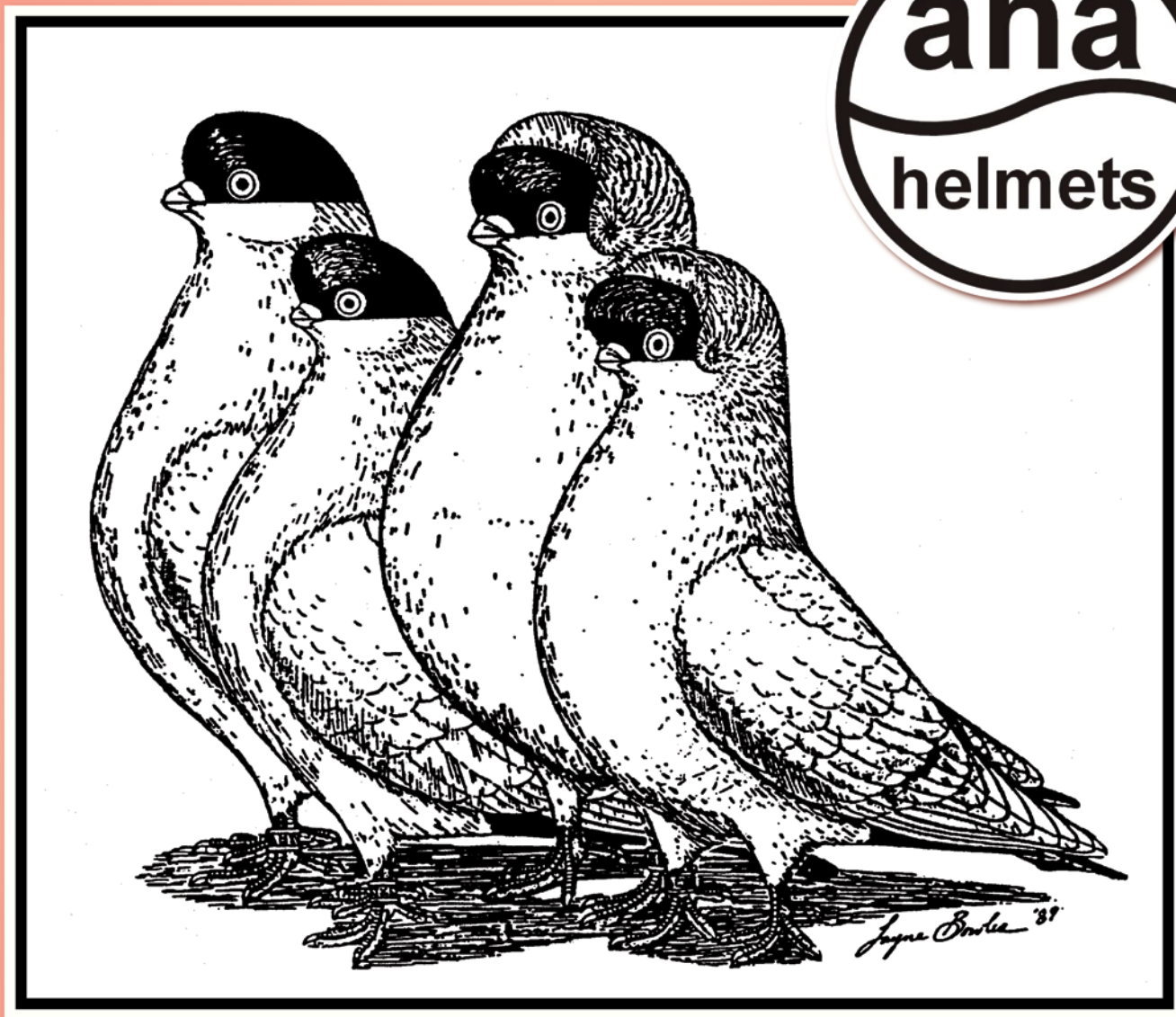


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May/June 2024

Breed of Issue - Helmets
Pouters/Croppers at
NPA National
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From the Editor

Thank you to the Helmet fanciers for their participation
in this feature. Helmets are such a lovely breed and they have
enough variation to interest almost any fancier.

I imagine many of you have already divided your pairs and
are waiting to see what the moult brings. Andy Hansen has a
great article about this very topic -- he sold a so-so young bird
and through an odd series of events it came back to his loft.
Vastly improved!

If your club is considering a Breed of the Issue feature,
there are several openings available. Email or call me for more
information. These features don't have to be big. Just a few ads
and articles can highlight your breed to new fanciers or re-in-
vigorate some former ones!

Hope you enjoy the issue!



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Croppers & Pouters

at the 2024 NPA National

By Scott Sharp, Scotland

Photos in show cages by Scott Sharp,
all others by Layne Gardner

After enjoying the NPA National in Amarillo a few years ago, my wife and I decided to go to the Louisville event this year. After getting flights and hotel booked, I was asked by Todd Millard if I would judge the Holle Croppers for the Holle Club. Then nearer the time, Charlie Rowe asked if I'd judge other breeds of Croppers and Pouters, which I was delighted to do for the NP&CC.

On reaching the hotel, we were pleased to find Bill Griebel, Fred Maenpa, Chet Edmunds and Hennie Kersten were booked there so we traveled to and from the show with them and had our meals on the Thursday and Saturday with them as well as the Friday evening banquet. I have known Bill and Fred for many years, having met them at various LAPC Pageants but it was the first time we had met Chet – a really very nice guy, also from the LAPC. And when Hennie was introduced to us, it was an instant bond. What a funny guy! The five of us had a really great time together and I'd like to thank them for



Reserve Champion Pouter - Bavarian Pouter bred by Beals and Gardner



Champion Pouter at the NPA National 2024 - Black English Hen - Trevor Nau

making our trip so enjoyable.

As the bad weather was delaying many exhibitors, we decided not to judge any birds on Thursday, letting the birds settle in their cages after their long journeys. Early on the Friday morning we started on the Holles. The Holle guys wanted their birds judged in the large cages that were set up for the other breeds, and some of the birds took a while to settle down. But there were some really nice birds. The Whites were especially nice. After getting the birds settled down, it was a hard decision to pick the winner, especially in the Whites with so many good birds, but I eventually decided on a lovely hen owned by Mike Pope, who also won reserve with a very typy Red. I suggested that at their next show they should experiment with judging the birds in the smaller cages with cardboard around the back and sides and I think that is what they are going to do.

We then started on the other breeds. Norwich came up first, and some excellent birds were present. There was an outstanding Black with gorgeous shiny black colour and huge well-sprung globe, but unfortunately some feathers at the bottom of its crop



Norwich Cropper Andalusian hen - Trevor Nau



Saxon Pouter bred by Beals and Gardner



Pomeranian Pouter bred by Jeff Colby

were missing. Another outstanding bird was an Andalusian hen. This bird was in excellent condition, very well marked and had a lovely round globe. Some nice Reds also, but they didn't blow at the time of judging, probably due to the stress of their long journey to the show. On picking the champion Norwich, I decided on the lovely Andalusian hen, bred by Trevor Nau.

Saxon Pouters were next. On the whole, a very uniform bunch of birds and all in lovely condition. Only one Isabel, all the others were Black White Bars. I picked a lovely bird bred by Beals and Gardner as the best.



Holle Cropper bred by Mike Poe

English Pouters had some really excellent birds. I don't think I've ever seen birds with such slim bodies and long legs as the winners. I have noticed over the years the English Pouters in America have been very good quality, but the surge in quality in recent years has been remarkable. I went for a really gorgeous young Black hen, again belonging to Trevor Nau.

The Bavarians are a beautiful breed and also one of the most difficult to perfect in markings and type. The birds present were all very good quality and nice type and I congratulate the breeders who have been working so hard to



Voorburg bred by Trevor Nau



Reversewing bred by Jonathan Miller Lofts



Marchenero bred by Leon Ginenthal

perfect them. Champion Bavarian went to a lovely Blue bred by Beales and Gardner.

Next came the Pomeranians.

Once again, great quality throughout and all shown in excellent condition. Not much to choose between most of them and I chose a very nice type Blue Pied as best. This bird stood very tall, lovely color, good markings and good muffs. Owned by Jeff Colby.

The Voorburgs had a few birds missing. I learned later that Hennie Kersten had sent four birds from the Post Office in Washington on the Tuesday and they had not arrived. Believe it or not, after a lot of phoning, his birds arrived at Louisville Post Office on Saturday afternoon after the show had finished. Thankfully, they were still all alive and someone was going to look after them for a while before sending them back to him. Hope they made it back. Of the birds present, there were a few nice Creams and Reds. I chose a Cream as the best Voorburg, nice type, clean underneath and blowing well. Another fine bird owned by Trevor Nau.

There was only one Reversewing entered, a Yellow, and it was a little short in the legs although very nicely marked. Also only one Hessian, an old hen bred by William Baldwin. Too bad there was no competition.

There were not many Czech Ice, but the few entered were very nice quality and very clean. Winner was owned by Larry Wilmes.

The Marcheneros had about eight entered, mostly Chequers. Very active as you would expect from this breed. I chose a young cock belonging to Leon Ginenthal as best. The only other Spanish breed entered was 1 Cuban, which I think we call Canaria, entered by Pedro Carillo. This bird was a White and was in beautiful condition and very active. Too bad there was no other entries. As there was only the 1 bird entered, I did not see this bird until it was put in the final line-up the following morning.

Charlie Rowe judged the Horseman and also the Brunners and someone else, I'm sorry, don't know his name, judged the Pigmies. So on the Saturday morning they were included in the line-up for Champion Cropper or Pouter. The Brunner, a Red, was bred by Bob Bollinger, the Horseman, a chequer, bred by Chris Shupe and the Pigmy, a White, shown by Stan Staveckis.

This is the hardest part of judging for me. When I looked over the line-up of best of breeds, there was not one bird that was not worthy of its place. I always say if you had six judges, you could have six different winners and no one would be wrong! After a lot of deliberation, I finally decided on the excellent young Black English hen of Trevor Nau's as Champion, with the Bavarian of Beals and Gardner as runner-up.

I took a video of the final line-up of birds, but forgot to take still pics. Fortunately I had taken a few the day before. The rest of the photographs have been very graciously supplied by Layne Gardner, so thanks for that, Layne.

I would like to thank the breeders who gave me the opportunity of judging their fine birds. It was a pleasure and great honour for me. Thank you.

– Scott Sharp•



Czech Ice bred by Larry Wilmes



Pigmy bred by Stan Staveckis



Brunner bred by Bob Bollinger



Horseman bred by Chris Shupe

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English Trumpeter judging area with the backdrop of Diane Jacky's artwork featuring many years of English Trumpeter Champions at the Pageant
 Gerald Wiebe judging the final three English Trumpeters

Tom Moss

Photos from the 2023
 LAPC Pageant of Pigeons



English Trumpeter, Best of Breed, Andalusian, John DeCarlo Sr.
 (John's birds took the top three placements in final judging)

Below: Mike Cobb judging the Old Dutch Tumbler entry





Egyptian Swift, Best of Breed, Magdy Khalil



Millie Grill and her daughter Nicolette Grill-Salazar with pigeon antiquity prints, and friends Bob Nolan and Kathie Johnson.



Doug Hall judging African Owls



Bill Griebel, President of LAPC, awarding Doratha Connolly the LAPC's 2023 Presidential Award



Deborah Georgeson and Gail Long prepping their Indian Fantails





Los Angeles Pigeon Club 2023 Pageant of Pigeons



Matt Soares and Melissa Soares Ferrell presenting the Dennis Soares Memorial Trophy to Drew Lobenstein for Overall Best in Show with his Frillback



Above - Artist Diane Jacky's amazing banner featuring the past English Trumpeter Champions at the Pageant. See Tom Moss' photo on page 10 to see the scale of this incredible work of art.



Overall Champion Best in Show Frillback - Drew Lobenstein
Frillback. Judges were Mike Cobb, Layne Gardner and Bob Bollinger



Tony Cardoza took Reserve Best in Show with this Red Mottle West of England Tumbler



Tony Cardoza receiving the award for Reserve Best in Show from Bob Nolan

Photos by
Doratha Connally



Impressive display of Voliers at the 2023 Pageant



Bob Nolan presenting the award for Best Female Exhibitor to Deborah Georgesan for her blue bar Indian Fantail



Mike Cobb judging Best Bird bred by a Female Exhibitor. Champion was the Blue Bar Indian Fantail - Deborah Georgesan



Champion Junior - Aden Caudillo with his Andalusian Indian Fantail. Judge Vinnie Mazuto on the left and Junior Organizer Lonnie Mefferd on the right.



1st place 13-17 Junior - Briana Garcia with her Oriental Roller



Champion of the Rare Breeds Club Meet - Old Dutch Turbit, Anthony Flagg



Melissa Ferrel's almond Jacobin



LAPC show team members Jim Symington, Fred Maenpa and Bill Griebel at the LAPC desk



Kathy Johnson created numerous displays honoring well-known women fanciers which were spread throughout the show halls. Pictured is Old Dutch Tumbler breeder Penny Harsen with her display.



Layne Gardner photographed outside of his photo studio (a utility room of suitable size and darkness for photographing the champions)

Andrew Kerns judging Fantails





Bob Bollinger judging Old German Owl Club meet. Champion was won by Yeng Her with a Red Bar shown below



Frank Barrachina (left) and Bob Nolan (right) present an award to Yeng Her for 2nd Reserve Best in Show with his Old German Owl



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A Balanced Life Raising Helmets

By Baskar Anjappan



Hi, I am Baskar Anjappan. Living in a bustling city with a demanding job, it's easy to get caught up in the daily grind. But recently, I found myself drawn back to a passion I had long forgotten – raising pigeons. It's a hobby that once brought me immense joy and life lessons, and now, it's bringing a sense of peace and fulfillment back into my life.

My love for pigeons began when I was just eight years old. I got impressed with our neighbor who had a lot of birds and he flies them once a day. It was a fantastic feeling to watch them fly and come back home. Pigeon breeding and the way pigeons care for their babies are the most incredible things to know at that age. They weren't just birds; they had personalities, they bonded with you, and they were incredibly smart. My best friend and I saved our pocket money to buy our first pair of pigeons.

After we released that first pigeon back into the wild, I couldn't stop thinking about them. My parents, supportive of my new-found passion, helped me

build a small pigeon loft in our backyard. Over the years, my flock grew from that few pigeons to a vibrant group of various breeds, each with its unique characteristics and charm. Raising pigeons wasn't easy, but I enjoyed every part of it. They taught me patience, responsibility, and the importance of consistency.

However, as I grew older, life got in the way. School, college, and eventually a demanding career led me to put aside my pigeon hobby. But the memories and the lessons I learned stayed with me, always lingering in the back of my mind. With the support of my family, I decided to restart my pigeon hobby. We renovated the loft, and I began to reacquaint myself with the world of pigeons. It felt like coming home. I started with a few pigeons, slowly rebuilding my flock. Each bird had its own personality and charm, just as I remembered.

Raising pigeons again has been incredibly rewarding. I wake up early every morning to feed them, clean their loft, and

ensure they're healthy. After work, I spend time observing them, noting their behaviors and interactions. It's a peaceful routine that helps me unwind and reconnect with nature.

One of the highlights of rediscovering this hobby has been joining the Helmet Pigeon Club. I've met fellow enthusi-

asts, many of whom have been raising pigeons for decades. They've shared their knowledge and experiences with me, and I've even participated in most of the shows near me. The thrill of watching my pigeons at home and also in the shows along with my fellow club members' birds.

Raising pigeons has brought a sense of balance back into my life. In a world dominated by screens and constant connectivity, spending time with my birds provides a much-needed escape. It's



not just about raising pigeons; it's about following a dream, embracing responsibility, and finding joy in simple yet profound experiences. My goal is to expand my aviary, participate in more shows (competitions), and perhaps breed champion pigeons someday. But for now, I'm content with the daily routine of feeding, cleaning, and bonding with my feathered friends.

So, that's my story. Restarting my pigeon hobby at age 40 has been a journey of rediscovery and joy. It's a reminder that sometimes, the greatest joys and lessons come from revisiting the passions of our past. For me, that place is a pigeon loft in my backyard, where the coos of my beloved birds echo the sounds of a rekindled love and dedication. Helmet pigeons are a distinctive and charming breed, prized for their striking appearance and unique characteristics. They are a type of fancy pigeon, bred primarily for exhibition and show purposes. Here's a detailed look at what makes Helmet pigeons so special.

APPEARANCE

****1. Head and Crest:** The most defining feature of Helmet pigeons is their “Helmet” crest. This crest is a tuft of feathers that sits atop their head, resembling a helmet. It gives the bird a distinctive look that sets it apart from other pigeon breeds. The crest can be quite pronounced and should be smooth and symmetrical, adding to the bird’s overall elegance.

****2. Markings:** Helmet pigeons have a unique pattern of coloration. Typically, they are mostly white with colored markings confined to the head and on the tail. The head’s coloring resembles a helmet, hence the name. Common colors for these markings include black, blue, red, yellow, and silver. The contrast between the white body and the colored Helmet and tail creates a visually striking appearance

****3. Body and Size:** Helmet pigeons are medium-sized birds, with a well-proportioned body. They have a compact and muscular build, with a short tail and slightly rounded chest. Their legs are clean and free of feathers, giving them a neat and tidy look.

****4. Eyes:** Their eyes are typically bright and alert, adding to their expressive and engaging appearance. The eye color can vary but is often a rich, vibrant hue that contrasts nicely with their plumage.

BEHAVIOR

****1. Temperament:** Helmet pigeons are known for their friendly and calm demeanor. They are generally easy to handle and make excellent pets for those who appreciate their beauty and gentle nature. They can be quite affectionate with their owners, often enjoying human interaction.

****2. Intelligence:** Like other pigeon breeds, Helmet pigeons are intelligent birds. They can learn to recognize their owners and respond to calls. Their smart and inquisitive nature makes them enjoyable to observe and interact with.

****3. Social Behavior:** Helmet pigeons are social birds and do well in pairs or small flocks. They form strong bonds with their mates and are known for their affectionate behavior, often seen grooming each other or sitting close together.

CARE

****1. Housing:** Helmet pigeons require a clean, spacious loft or aviary where they can fly and exercise. The loft should be well-ventilated and protected from harsh weather conditions. Perches and nesting boxes should be provided to meet their natural behaviors.

****2. Diet:** A balanced diet is essential for the health of Helmet pigeons. They should be fed a mix of quality pigeon grains, seeds, and pellets. Fresh vegetables and fruits can also be offered as supplements. Clean, fresh water should always be available.

****3. Health:** Regular health check-ups and a clean living environment are



crucial to prevent diseases. Helmets, like all pigeons, should be monitored for signs of illness such as changes in behavior, appetite, or droppings.

BREEDING

****1. Breeding Habits:** Helmet pigeons are good breeders, known for their strong parenting instincts. They typically lay two eggs per clutch and both parents take turns incubating the eggs and feeding the chicks.

****2. Selective Breeding:** Breeders often select Helmet pigeons for their distinct markings and crest quality. Maintaining the breed’s standard involves careful pairing to ensure the offspring exhibit the desired characteristics.

EXHIBITION

Helmet pigeons are a popular choice for pigeon shows



and exhibitions due to their striking appearance. Judges look for well-defined crests, clear and consistent markings, and overall health and condition. Preparing a Helmet pigeon for show involves meticulous grooming and conditioning to highlight its best features.

In conclusion, Helmet pigeons are a unique and elegant breed that combines beauty, intelligence, and a friendly nature. Whether kept as pets, for breeding, or for show, they bring a touch of charm and sophistication to any pigeon loft. Their distinctive Helmet crest and striking coloration make them a favorite among pigeon enthusiasts and a joy to own.

This breed deserves more attention than any other fancy pigeon breed. When you visit a show, please stop by the Helmet show area – I am sure you will be stunned by the beauty of this breed.

LINK

The author has many videos on YouTube. Search for his name, Baskar Anjappan •

My Experience with Helmets Over the Years

By Dave Gazaway

It took me a minute to even figure out how to start this article, as my start with Helmets was also my start in the awesome world of PIGEONS!!

When I was 13, my 5th grade buddy Mark Larsen told me he had Roller pigeons that he would let out to fly and they would come back. I was intrigued and shortly after, I went to Mark's house after school. I held, and later watched, his birds fly. At that second, I was hooked! Although I couldn't find any Rollers for myself to purchase but I quickly converted a rabbit hutch my folks had and found a few pigeons locally for \$3 dollars each. These were mixed breeds but I didn't care. It was just to get my feet wet (so to speak) in raising and caring for pigeons.

After a few months, my Dad ran into a guy in our local community that raised Helmet pigeons. His name was Frank Manning. I had no idea what Helmets even looked like but I needed to know! I went to the local library and borrowed the book *The Pigeon* by Wendell Levi. I looked up Helmets and saw their pics in black and white. That was enough for me! Game on! So I had my Dad take me to Frank's and I ended up getting four random, young Helmets. Frank was a great guy and I would



Gazaway's childhood loft

call and bug him all the time with my questions. I look back now and think, "Man –he was very patient guy!" Haha!

Shortly after this, I joined the American Helmet Association. This was back in 1989. I would get a monthly bulletin sent in the mail! The excitement of just being able to receive that and flip through it was over the top as a kid! I quickly realized that the club had a few more members in Utah (District 8). We had James Jensen and Steve Mitchell. At this point, this is where

Helmets had an even bigger impact on me knowing that these two guys were unbeatable and had the best birds in the country! In fact, James had just received his master breeder award and had a picture of him receiving it in the bulletin. (pictured).

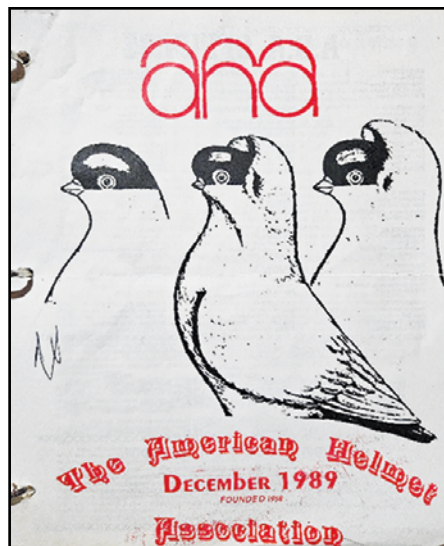
I ended up calling James Jensen who was very welcoming and was quick to invite me to an upcoming lawn show at his place. I, once again, begged my Dad and he HAPPILY (or maybe just willingly) took me on the 45-minute drive to the show where I met a bunch of great pigeon guys and got to chat with pigeons. Once again, it sealed the deal and Helmets made an even bigger impression on me.

Fast forward to that next Spring, I was now 14 and I wanted a REAL loft. Something I could walk into with breeding boxes, perches etc. I got the okay from my Dad, but needed moolah! Lots of molah! I wasn't old enough to get a real job but I did do odd jobs and ended up selling my Walter Payton rookie card (which I replaced later) to fund enough money to build a 12'x8', very modest, chicken wire wrapped loft. Dirt floor and all. That was all my budget had to offer at that age. But I got it done and I was in heaven! I brought in Bellneck Rollers, colored Homers, Archangels and just about anything my lawn-mowing money would get me and I could find locally. All of these breeds without thinking about the breeding situation and not having the means to divide the loft by breed. I soon realized I made a mistake! Haha. But I just liked having the birds around!

Later when I turned 16, driving, girls and friends became priority! Although the pigeons stayed fed and healthy, they were put on the back burner as far as me getting serious about showing Helmets and being more selective on my impulse purchases! When I turned 19...BAM! I was married. My folks allowed me to keep my pigeons at their place until I had a place of my own. Again, Showing Helmets would have another delay.

However, that same year, in 1996, the NPA Nationals were in my home State of Utah! I took my wife and my always supportive Dad, and we went to the show. I would later find out that that particular show had more Helmets shown than any other year then and even now! 600+ Helmets! Talk about getting the pigeon blood flowing again!

I did finally get a house built when I was 24. The first thing that went up was a pigeon loft. However, I'd lost all the contact information of my Helmet buddies and I decided to try my hand at Racing Pigeons (knowing full well I would get back into Helmets someday). I raced for 10 years and loved it! However, it was time to transition and get back into Helmets. I had accomplished all I wanted in racing.



1989 AHA Helmet bulletin



Don Phy (left) and James Jensen (right) receiving their Master Breeder Awards from Larry Dobelbower (center)



Helmets in the author's loft

By this time, I was 34 years old and the internet is "a thing." I was able to quickly get the info I needed to get hold of James and Steve to, once again, get a good start in Helmets with the plan to show. I purchased birds from James and Steve and also from Dennis Manning. I purchased some pumpers and I was on my way! BUT, life had other plans and after a few successful rounds of some awesome looking youngsters, my then-wife threw me a curve ball and before I knew it, I was single, living in my home by myself, trying to pay the bills on a single budget. Needless to say, the pigeons had to take a backseat.

After seven years of being single, I met my wife. While dating, she knew I was a bird brain and knew pigeons would be in my future. MAYBE not to the extent they are. Haha! But she has been very supportive and helps me out a ton! This June we will have been married seven years. We found a home and property where we could be left alone by pesky neighbors. She can have her horses and I can enjoy my pigeons without concern.

We have finally landscaped our yard how we want it and I have two pigeon lofts to allow me some freedom to move birds around when needed. I started out showing Show Homers and Swallows about three years ago, as they can raise their own babies. Once I got settled in with raising, conditioning and showing pigeons again, Helmets and pumpers are now back in the mix! I got an excellent start with birds from both James Jensen and Kip Huffman (who I met at Nationals this year). Thank you guys!

I'm excited to finally put some Helmets in a show pen, for the first time! I'm hoping that continues year after year for many years to come as they are one of the coolest breeds!. The club also has some great guys in it and that goes along way with me. If you can't have fun raising pigeons, then may I suggest taking up accounting in your spare time. It's a much more serious endeavor. Just ask your local IRS agent! Cheers and happy breedings, Dave Gazaway•

Thoughts on Helmet Breeding

By Mike Crawford and Bob Bollinger

The conventional wisdom for pigeon breeding is: “mate the best to the best”! This is a great rule if you have a loft full of champions and proven breeders. Unfortunately, most of us don’t have a loft full of perfect birds. We will try to share our more practical experience with breeding Helmets.

The basic ideas that we want to share in this article are:

1. You should only breed with your better birds
2. Sometimes your best breeders are not the show winners
3. Balancing features is the key
4. Some faults should never be bred from

Ideally, we would always breed the best to the best birds. However, “Best” is not always defined by show results. Moreover, experience has shown that some of our most productive pairs have been two stock birds. You must take all the features of the bird into account when planning your matings. Some of the birds that aren’t good in the show pen can be very useful in the breeding pen. Typically, people refer to those less than perfect birds as stock birds. Stock birds are maintained because they have one or two great features that we want to use to enhance another bird. This is where balance comes in. As we mate our pairs we try to ensure that each bird has features that improve the other or compensates for a defect. Listed below are a number of features we have found can be balanced in matings: (in no particular order)

- Color
- Weak Rosettes to Deep Drilled Rosettes
- Long to Short (birds and feather length in general)
- Tall to Short
- Cap / Markings (over marked to under marked, mis-marked to very cleanly marked)
- Beak length (short to long, stout to weak)
- Beak setting (beak setting can be improved, but if a bird is very down set, don’t breed it)
- Feather quality (long and loose to tight and hard)

As much as balance is good, you always need to remember to breed with only your better birds. Mediocre birds typically breed mediocre birds and bad birds rarely make anything useful. We try to sort out a group of our better birds (show and stock birds) and use them for breeding. We typically try to keep similar birds together and only improve one or two features at a time. Putting very dissimilar birds together can have unpredictable results.

We have also found that some faults are very hereditary and should never be bred from. It is often difficult to pass over a bird with a bunch of stellar features. However, if you don’t eliminate these faults from your breeding program they can come back to haunt you. Faults to avoid:

- Pinched heads (when viewing the bird from the front the sides of the face come to the wattle at an angle versus straight down)
- Wing Droopers / Shallow Backs (these often go together)
- 13 tail feathers
- Cross beaks
- Bull eyes
- Severely Cracked Eyes / Bad Eyes
- Excessive eye brows (where the features protrude out over the eye from the side of the head)

The above lists are not all inclusive but provide some general guidelines that we use in the breeding pen. Remember that balance is key and try not to do too much at one time. If a mating doesn’t work out, break up the pair and balance them against other birds. Many National Champions have come out of stock pairs, with minor imperfections, that have balanced well and produced great youngsters.

Congratulations on a Great Helmet Special



Bob & Lynn Bollinger
Dynamic Horizon Loft
DynamicHorizonLoft@verizon.net

The Advantage of Complimentary Breeds

By Bob Bollinger



Over the years, some of our most striking and desirable show breeds have become less productive than many of us would like to see. There are a number of possible solutions for dealing with less than perfect breeders. Some people hand feed, many use feeder pairs, and others just let the pairs struggle though with low productivity. My preferred strategy is to keep complimentary breeds where I can swap eggs and have the opposing pairs raise each others' babies. By using other nice show breeds I get the advantage of feeders without necessarily wasting space for pairs whose sole purpose is to be foster parents. With the complimentary breeds I show my feeders, enjoy other clubs, and have nice birds to look at in the loft.



MFC - 5 days old

My passion is English Shortface and my wife and I both keep several Helmet varieties. The Helmet and Shortface babies are smaller and more delicate than other breeds. It seems that they require more care than the Helmet parents can provide. To increase productivity, I routinely swap their eggs and babies with others in the loft. Along with the Helmets, we also keep Brunner Croppers, Horseman Pouters, and some other breeds. I have found that the Helmets will raise the other breeds' babies as they tend to be more robust and tolerate the sub-optimal parenting of my Helmets.

When choosing a complementary breed I pick birds that have a reputation for being great feeders. I try to match size and temperament to the birds I am working to foster. I pair the birds at similar times to match the timing of the eggs. I have found that some pairs tend to be a little bit faster or slower than others. I just account for that when I pair them so they match timing. I have found that eggs can be swapped +/- 3 days and babies can be swapped any time as long as they match size and color. It is acceptable to move babies from pair to pair as they grow.

Record keeping is important when swapping parents. However, the process does

not need to be complicated. I use a simple white board with blocks that represent my nests. I record when eggs are laid, when they hatch and the band numbers of the parents. I typically fill in the pertinent data when I actually make the egg swap. The same records can be kept in notebooks, on cards attached to the boxes or even on scraps of paper.

Helmets and other show breeds can often be frustrating.



Simple Records on a white board

There is no point in getting stressed and leaving a breed you really enjoy. By adding and utilizing a complementary breed you get to enjoy both!



Good Adoptive Parents



Homer with Helmet babies

Helmet!

By Andy Hansen

Back in the 1970s and early 80s when I was a kid, I had some Helmetts and they were a lot of fun to have around the loft. At that point in time, the Helmet was a great kid's breed. Easy to raise and everyone had some. You could tame them by hand feeding and they would sit on your shoulder. They were great parents, and very fun to watch.

I have them again but they're not the same.

Now it's a challenge to get them to raise their own young. Over the years many of the breeders have

used feeders or done a lot of hand feeding and the birds seem to have lost a bit of their parenting skills. I've been trying the last few years to let my Helmetts feed their own. A few other Helmet breeders have as well and some have made crosses with other breeds, trying to bring back these parenting skills. I have noticed that my blue Helmetts seem to be better than the red and blacks.

Let's work on getting Helmetts back to feeding their own!

How to Enter Helmets in a Show

by Bob Bollinger

Many of you have seen the challenges that we face at some of our meets regarding show paperwork. It seems that Helmet exhibitors are not very consistent with how they list birds on show entry forms.

Some people list a medium face crested (MFC) as “Helmet” or “Medium Face Helmet” or “Helmet MFC” or other names. When plainheads and shortface are added to the mix it is understandable that many show secretaries are confused.

Seasoned secretaries often know the exhibitors and can guess at varieties. However, many shows are getting new or less seasoned show secretaries. When they see all these different names, they assume that they are all different breeds or styles of Helmets and then they create many classes. I have seen up to 3 different classes created for MFC Helmets at some of our larger shows. There are even bigger challenges with the shortface varieties.

When multiple classes for the same variety are created at a show the paperwork is a mess, the cage groupings are confusing, and it takes a long time to sort out and re-write

the judging sheets. We also risk missing birds or having to re-judge classes.

In an effort to standardize our entries, several years ago the AHA created a template for members to use as a reference when filling out show entry forms. Basically, we use the name Helmet followed by the variety as follows:

- Helmet MFC – medium face crested
- Helmet MFP – medium face plainhead
- Helmet SFC – short face crested
- Helmet SFP – short face plainhead

For muffed we would just add muffed after the above designations.

If we follow a common format we will not only help out the show secretaries, but we will make the book work much easier, have less chaos, and more time to enjoy the shows. •



Longtime American Helmet members

American Helmet Association Since 1958

By Andy Hansen

The American Helmet Association has been around since 1958!

Throughout the years, this club has had some life long dedicated Helmet Breeders. These breeders are some of the best in the hobby. None were more dedicated than Vic Eshpeter. Sadly he passed away this year the day before the NPA National: a show he rarely missed in the last 40 years.

Living in Canada, sometimes it's hard to get Birds to shows the US but I have attended shows without my birds, and had a great time with the group of people from the American Helmet Association.

Join the AHA! Great breed! Great People! •



Join the AHA!

www.americanhelmetassn.com



The American Helmet Association is devoted to the promotion, breeding, and exhibition of all varieties of helmet pigeons. Whether you've been breeding Helmets for years, or if you're just starting out, the AHA is the club to belong to!

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My Short Faced Crested Helmets

by Dennis Manning

I first began attempting to raise Short Faced Crested Helmets in the mid 1980s. We were living in southwest Washington State at the time and I bought a pair from Myron Berger. I believed I was ready to manage the young, fostering the eggs out and helping the babies along. It just didn't quite happen that way.

I managed to raise one or two over several years. I competed with what I had – maybe only a couple times by the end of the 1980s. Around that time I also started my first stud of Short Face Plainhead Helmets.

My career took a hard turn pigeon-wise in the very early 1990s and I was forced to give up my birds. I was on the road four days a week and my kids had no interest in my birds. By 1997 I was able to stop traveling as we had moved with the company to North Central Texas.

As you can imagine the first thing I did was start building a coop. I was determined to not raise Helmets again. I acquired a



few pair of Domestic Show Flights and picked up more at Louisville. I met a few of the breeders that had joined the Helmet club since my departure and saw a few of the older guys that had been around a while. I found Charles Hanna who was living just a few miles away from my new home. I also had a chance to get connected again with names I had known for years but either had never met or maybe once or twice.

First off was Gerald Butler. Gerald had been kicking around the AHA for a while but had gotten out of Helmets and was raising Pouters. I soon visited with Gerald's traveling partner Don Phy. I had met Don at the 1987 Portland National and sold him some of my Plainheads. Don had also gotten out of Helmets and was big into fighting cocks at the time. Eventually I met Bob Davis of Texas Helmet fame. Bob asked Charles and I to come to his home and haul off all his Helmets. It was sad but at the same time I was once again bringing home boxes of Helmets. I kept a few of the Plainheads

Congratulations to all of our Helmet Breeders

**Dennis Manning – Cloverdale Oregon
Proud Member and President of the
American Helmet Association**





and the F1 Plainhead/ Domestic Show Flight crosses Bob had. I also kept one Short Faced cock.

Gerald, Don, Charles and I had all agreed to show Helmets at an upcoming Oklahoma Show. We all had birds someone else had raised but we did in fact have a meet. I was hooked again.

A couple of years passed and I was back home in Oregon. I was trying to raise and show Short Face Helmets along with my Medium Faced Plainheads. I struggled as before – I just could not get them out of the nest. The few I was raising were looking better and better. Finally at the last Pennsylvania National I had raised a couple I was proud of and brought them to that show. We actually had a pretty good Short Face Meet there. I had a bird I think was 3rd in the final line up and it also did well against the NY birds. I needed crest and some neck. I could not buy it and could not figure out how to raise it. A lot of the NW breeders were getting excited about Short Faced Helmets at the time. Dennis Bray had gotten a good start from Myron Berger. Hank already had his for many years and of course Myron was still showing at the time. Even Vic Eshpeter was buying short face to breed. Jim Garus was the only one we could not entice into short face all though he was back into Helmets with a vengeance with his Medium Faced Crested.

I was doing better and better at hand feeding so I was producing more and more young. All the District 2 Helmet guys attended the California National. Several of us showed our Shortface. There came a moment at the show when I could not find anyone?? I asked several people if they knew where the guys had gone? The answer I got was they had all gone outside to look at some short faced Helmets for sale. It was the day we met Ziggy. They had slipped out quietly to buy some Helmets, I found them all crowded around the back of Ziggy's car, each with hands and pockets full of Helmets. They were all having a good laugh at my expense.

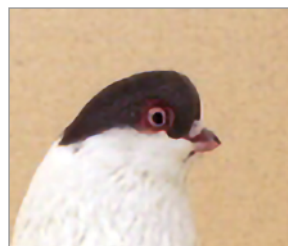
Ziggy was doing what he liked to do best, selling short faced Helmets and I was too late for the sale. Ziggy had some

other short faced breeds he was showing me as the guys all headed back to the show hall with their loot. He said in his broken English, "I have one more Helmet." He pulled out a small box with a really nice bird, head and beak wise, terribly mismarked – it looked like a splash – but it had a better crest than anything I had. I bought the bird for less than any of the others had paid Ziggy for birds that day and immediately started trimming it there in the parking lot. By the time I got back in the show hall I had a better short faced Helmet in my hand than anything they had bought or brought. The guys could not believe it.

It was a young bird so I got a few years of young out of that cock bird. I had a hen out of Tony Patti stock at home that matched up nicely with him. They produced a red cock that was Reserve in Lakeland Florida, Second Reserve in Vancouver, and finally Champion in Oklahoma. He then when on to win the California National. Two of his sons and one of his Grandsons also went on the win Grand Nationals. •

Short Face Plainheads comparison to the standard drawing

By Dennis Manning



AORC in Helmets – Catch-all or Carefully Judged Class

By Dennis Manning

I have wanted to write this article for a while. The thought always comes up for me this time of year as I am sorting the new young, working to identify their best traits from station to color.

The AORC (All Other Recognized Colors) youngsters – in my case mostly almond and almond sub colors – are hard to class if you are not familiar with the almond color family. I have been entering these birds in competition over the last 45 years in varying stages of color quality. The problem for me is that so many of the the Judges don't recognize the difference between good quality presentation of the AORC and poor quality presentation of the AORC so they disregard the pigeon's color and only judge on conformation and station. I call it the "its just AORC so..." syndrome. By doing that they are denying the bird it's 10 color points. The AHA recognizes All Other Recognized Colors. Which means that while there is not a standard description of the color, it is incumbent on the Judge to be versed in the color and judge it accordingly. The Judge should grade the color presentation and award somewhere between 0 and 10 points for the bird.

AHA Standard: RECOGNIZED COLOR CLASSES - Black, Blue, Recessive Red, Ash Red, Spread Ash Red and their respective dilutes; Dun, Silver, Yellow, Ash Yellow, Spread Ash Yellow and AORC .

A.O.R.C. (All Other Recognized Colors) - All other established colors and/or patterns such as Brown, Khaki, Indigo, Almond, Checker, etc. not listed above as recognized colors, NOT to include birds which are mis-marked or a poor example of a recognized color.

"NOT to include birds which are mis-marked or a poor example of a recognized color." is one of the problems we face. The almond sub varieties recognized around the world can look similar to poor quality presentation of some of our standard colors. I try to let the Judge know the intended color of the AORC birds as having only the top of the head and the tail color presented can provide a real challenge. I would like to see that become a part of our judging tradition going forward. Simply informing the judge of the intended color he is judging in the AORC class. We do that now with our standard colors by announcing the color class "young yellow hens" etc.. If there are enough of a certain AORC color age and sex to make up a class I would suppose that would make it easier but most of the time the AORCs are lumped together by age and sex, which is correct by our standard as only one AORC YH, YC, OH, OC can make it to the final line up but makes it hard for the Judge to know what he is Judging. The fix for now is to simply inform the Judge what color the bird has been entered as. I try to write that on my entry so that it moves forward on the judging sheets. I would like to see the show Secretary take a moment and let the Judge know what the breeder's intent is. In my case that keeps me from appearing to be trying to let the Judge know who's bird it is.

The Almond Sub Varieties offer some confusing examples. The Kite and it's dilute – Golden Dun – could also be very bad quality Recessive Red on barred birds. A poor almond and a deroxy in Helmets can be hard to discern. Separating Brown and Dun on a Helmet would be very difficult. Indigo is another that we haven't seen much of but it would really help the judging if the Judge was pre-informed. If the Show Secretary can notify the Judge about what he is about to see it would be so helpful.

Once the Judge has been given a fair chance to know what Helmet marked colors he has to award the AORC birds their points, then it is up to him to have the sufficient working knowledge to do that job as we don't have a description for him in our standard. Judges should be selected based on their ability to consider the quality of Other Recognized Colors as well as the entire Helmet.

AHA CERTIFIED JUDGES - CODE OF RULES

1. A thorough working knowledge of the Helmet breed and its current Standard.
3. Sufficient knowledge of color genetics to readily identify qualities of pigmentation. •

Congratulations to the
American Helmet Association
Founded in 1958

Hank Ebellar
Member since 1968

One of the
"Three Musketeers"
Dennis Bray, Vic Eshpeter
and myself



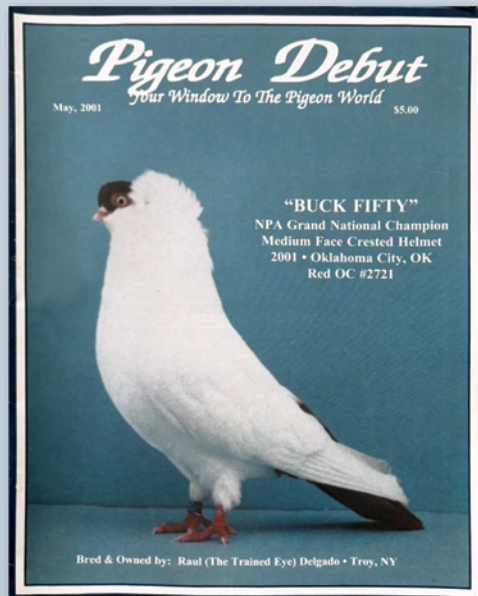
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- 2004
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- 2013

In Loving
Memory
Mr. Don Phy



Friend
Mentor
Legend

Raul "the trained eye" Delgado (left) and Don Phy having a discussion at the 2006 NYBS in Louisville, KY

Raul "UPTOP" Delgado – "The Trained Eye"
AHA Master Breeder MFCR
email: CROWNLOFTS174@GMAIL.COM

Stewardship of the Hobby

By Danny Revolinsky

Having been around the pigeon hobby all my life I learned early on it's a commitment for sure.

I used to admire the fancy embroidery and beautiful Pigeons displayed on the back of the breeders' Loft Coats and the way they conducted themselves at the meetings.

Fast forward I met my good friend John Heppner who encouraged me early on to become an active member of the National Pigeon Association. John's perspective in the hobby is epic and he expressed the importance of supporting the hobby. Not just by showing birds but by taking the time to lend a hand or to answer a newcomer's questions. I welcomed the advice and started attending every Grand National.

Uncle Sam came along and made me an offer, so I started traveling and showing all over the United States by transferring duty stations every few years. As time went on, I found myself spending more time helping with the show than messing with the pigeons. Along the way, I always seemed to see the same people working and giving back to the hobby.

Shortly after retiring from the service, I realized most of the people I spent time with at the shows had Helmets. My good friend Vic Eshpeter had been attending Grand Nationals since the early 1960's and asked me why I didn't

raise Helmets.

Years passed I observed many different clubs but always admired the American Helmet Association and the way they conducted themselves. We moved out to Oregon in 2000 and the Helmet guys held a large presence. No matter where you go, they show at District shows, sectional shows and of course the Grand Nationals. Once I became a member, my enthusiasm was back and soon, I was actively showing and breeding a different breed of pigeons.

Of course, having had English Shortface for many years, choosing a type of Helmet was easy: short face crested. What a difference in culture from what I was used to. I went from a group of angry old-timers to a great group of people who do whatever is necessary for the club and the hobby. Obtaining breeders was difficult due to the short beaks – it's difficult to raise enough to go around but with persistence I was off and breeding. It took much longer than I expected to get competitive, so I had to pump out a lot of birds and learn the advanced class on crested birds. Once I somewhat understood the feather code, things were looking good. I have since taken on short face plainheads and absolutely love them.

Long story short, if you're looking for a group of guys who compete hard, have a lot of fun and support the hobby consider the American Helmet Association. •



Editor's Note: At the Grand National Pigeon Show in Louisville Kentucky, Danny Revolinsky won Champion SFC & Champion Plainhead SF. He also received his Master Breeder Award from the American Helmet Association that weekend.

**In Support of the
AMERICAN HELMET ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL PIGEON ASSOCIATION
PUREBRED PIGEON MAGAZINE
and
In Memory of my friend, Vic Eshpeter**



**RevoLofts Texas Hill Country Lofts
Danny Revolinsky
AHA Master Breeder Short Face Helmets
NPA Master Breeder Short Face Tumblers**

Muffed Helmets? A Long Time In The Works

By Kevin Moths- reprint from the May/June 2021 issue

It was the early 1980s, I was out of high school and living on my own. I met a man that learned I raised pigeons as a boy. He happened to find a pigeon in a barn, so he caught it, brought it to me, and asked if I would like to have it. I did not know the breed but thought it was beautiful. I was single and lived in a duplex with a little yard – well I could not resist the urge – so I built a small 4' x 4' x 6' high pen and bam! I was back in the pigeon hobby.

I found more information about the breed (Helmet) and then I found the Helmet club (American Helmet Association) and the *American Pigeon Journal*. In August of 1986, the *APJ* ran a special issue devoted to Helmets. On the cover of that issue was a drawing done by Diane Jacky in 1981 that included a Muffed Helmet. That issue introduced the “Muffed Helmets.” There are pictures and articles that show the progress of the muffed Helmet at that point. Well-known breeders like Toni Patti, Harold Strawniak, and Al Flinn were working on the project. It sparked my interest in working on the muffed Helmet.

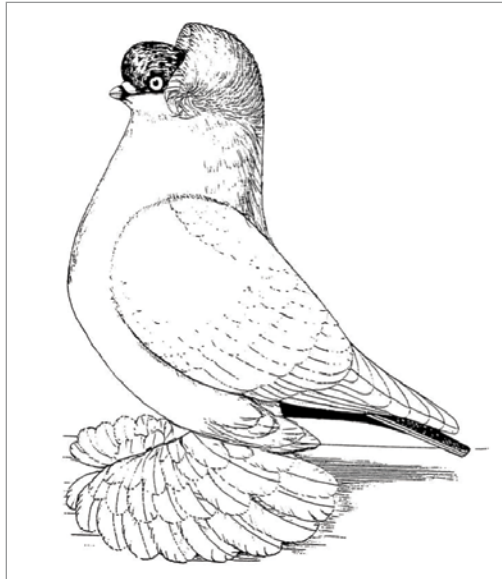
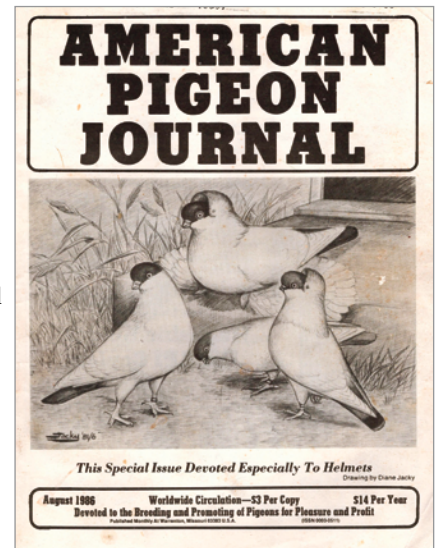
There was enough interest by the early 1990's that the American Helmet Association Board of Directors decided to set up a committee to create the guidelines and a written standard for a muffed Helmet. When complete, the Board of Directors and the club members would review it and decide if it could or should be added to the standard. The committee was set up in early 1993, with five members: Tony Patti, Harold Strawniak, Al Flinn, Allen Easterday and myself, Kevin Moths (Chairman).

The National Pigeon Association Grand National in 1995 was held in Oklahoma City. This was my very first NPA grand National to attend, so I was super excited in many ways mainly because I also entered several of my Muffed Helmets in the “Project Class.” I was also scheduled to present the “Muffed Helmet” proposal in the AHA club meeting. The meeting was well attended by the membership, the proposal was well received with lots of interest and a very open discussion. In the end there were several sticky points the board of directors felt they needed more time to review before it should go to the membership for a vote.

By 1997 I had a turn of events in my personal life that meant I needed to pick some priorities – my pigeon hobby was not one of them, so all my birds had to find a new grain giver.

Then in 2008 I reached a point in my personal life that allowed me to return to the hobby.

I did not pick up where I left off. Instead I picked a new breed of pigeon with a new direction – the Portuguese Tumbler with its new club, The Portuguese Tumbler Club of America. I also stumbled into a muffed breed that at that time I really took a liking to – a short face breed, the Warsaw Butterflies. I still breed them and use three pair each year.



It was about 2016 I raised a Butterfly hen that had a small crest and was almost completely white but with a red tail. Well, that got the gears turning in my head – is anyone still working on the Muffed Helmet? This could be a possibly a good cross to work with? With the NYBS coming up I thought I would see if there was a muffed class. I don't believe there were any there that year. But I decided to keep the bird. I got in touch with Tony Patti who said I should use it. He would send me a project Medium Face Crested Helmet with grousing on its legs.

Well, at first I really wasn't interested but after several emails I decided I would jump back into the Medium

Face Crested Muffed Helmet project again. That was in 2018. In January 2021, Tony sent me more birds to work with in both plainhead and crested. Some of them lean toward a short face look but now I do have some nice birds to work with that should really give me a jump start. Several of Tony's birds have perfect markings and are nicely booted. My F1's and F2's show some promise with nice type, crest, eyes but no sign of Helmet marking, yet. I would like to thank Tony Patti for helping me with some very nice birds that he has years of work in, they will push this project ahead by years, for me.

I would love to see in my lifetime, a Muffed Helmet that looks just like Layne Bowles' drawing he did in 1989. • (Editor's note: The current standard revised in 2009 has a section for the muffed type. Go to americanhelmetassn.com/tools.htm to see the standard.)

Homecoming

By Andy Hansen

At the end of every year, you always have a few decent birds left over but you've picked out your breeders for the year. Last fall I had a handful of extra Helmets. In that bunch, I had two ash reds. Both were average at best, but I was hanging on because of the color. I sold them to a local guy and started to pair up the rest of my birds.

About a month later, he mentioned to me that he lost one of the Helmets and if it came back, could he please get it back. I told him that they are not homing pigeons and they had never flown before so chances are it will not survive.

Fast-forward a couple months later, I got a call from a lady I know through my Canary & Finch club. Her daughter had a friend that had caught a pigeon and it was somewhat injured. Knowing that she was a bird person they gave that Pigeon to her to

look after. She contacted me knowing that I had pigeons and asked if I could locate the owner. I said sure send me the band number and a picture of the bird and I will do what I can. Lo and behold, it was one of those Helmets that I had sold! It had its flights and tail feathers cut, and wasn't in very good shape. I spent a little bit of time cleaning him up and let him regrow his flights and tail feathers.

After seeing how he matured, I realized that this bird should not have left my loft. They change so much after the moult. I'm quite happy that he found his way back to me and I've got paired to really nice black hen.

I've heard so many times people have regrets of birds that they have sold and have turned out to be really nice. Here's an instance where the bird came back to where it belongs! •



American Helmet Association – District 9 –



Ernie Silveri Andy Hansen Pavel Lutsenko



Yellow MFC Cock 615 - Georgette & Gary Parsons

We Like Yellow Helmets

By Gary Parsons

Yes, we like Yellow Helmets –specially my wife Georgette; actually I think she LOVES Yellow Helmets! Actually, Georgette loves all the Helmets, but she loves the Yellows the most, and she claims the yellows as “hers”! Just ask her! LOL!

I used to travel out-of-town for work a lot – 50 weeks of the year a lot! I would make it home most weekends, but that



Georgette Parsons

lasted for close to six years. And then after that, I worked out-of-town for one or two weeks a month for the next four or five years, soooo – Georgette has taken care of all of the pigeons a lot! And she did a great job! When I was working out-of-town for 50 weeks of the year (2 weeks of vacation AT HOME!), Georgette raised some GREAT Helmets during that time period. She did so good, that when I finally got tired of traveling and



Yellow MFC Cock 567 - Georgette & Gary Parsons



Yellow MFC Cock 2049 - Georgette & Gary Parsons



Yellow MFC Hen 10 - Georgette & Gary Parsons



Yellow MFC Cock 545 - Georgette & Gary Parsons

got a job in my home town, I had a very hard time raising Helmets that were as good as the Helmets that Georgette raised when I was working out-of-town! Seriously!

During those years that Georgette was taking care of the pigeons, she developed a very nice family of Yellow Helmets, and to this day, that Yellow Helmet family dominates all of the Helmet Shows in Eastern Canada most of the time. We have won Champion Helmet, or Grand Champion Pigeon, or

1st Reserve Grand Champion, or 2nd Reserve Grand Champion Pigeon with a Yellow Helmet numerous times over the last 10 or 15 years or so. Congratulations Georgette!

But, I think I am really close to beating her with some Red Helmets. Only time will tell. This year.... maybe next year... watch out Georgette, I'm coming after you! LOL!

Here are some pictures of some of our, or Georgette's Yellow Helmets!•



Yellow Medium Face Crested Helmet Cock #567

Grand Champion Pigeon

1) Prairie Invitational

All Breed Show

January 13 & 14, 2023

Portage La Prairie, Manitoba

2) Sarnia Pigeon Show

December 10, 2023

Sarnia, Ontario

Gary & Georgette Parsons

Ontario, Canada

garyhelmet@yahoo.ca



Dan Homick, Dennis Manning & Gary Parsons

Canadian Helmet Club

by Gary Parsons

My name is Gary Parsons. My brother Ken and I got our first pair of Helmets in 1969 from a breeder named John Hall here in Sarnia, Ontario. We showed all around here in the Province of Ontario for many years. It took 5 to 10 years or so before our bloodline started to do really well and win at the shows.

So, in 1988 we decided to go to Louisville, Kentucky and attend the American Helmet Association show at the Louisville National Young Bird Show. There, at our first big AHA show, we won Best Red YC which ended up being the 2nd Reserve Champion MFC Helmet, behind two Blue young Helmets bred by Don Phy, from Oklahoma.

Unfortunately, my brother Ken passed away in 1991, but I, and a few other Canadian Helmet breeders have attended many Louisville National Young Bird shows ever since that time.

I was AHA District 10 Director from 1988 to 1994. We held a couple shows in District 10 every year during that time frame,



Red MFC Cock - John Ridler

a “Young Bird” and an “All-Age” show, and our membership grew from around seven or eight the first year or so to a high of around 15 members by the time I gave up being District Director. Our show entries climbed to a peak of around 150 MFC & MFP entries, which is quite respectable. We almost always had success in getting an AHA member to come and judge our shows, especially the All-Age show, and had guys like Al Flynn, Bob Dunlap, and Charles Dwight crossing the border to judge our shows in District 10.

In 1994, I resigned as District 10 Director and then formed the Canadian Helmet Club. I didn’t create the CHC to compete against the AHA – I created it to better promote the Helmet Pigeon breed all across Canada. This was a time period when the Canadian dollar was much lower than the American dollar, and we were losing members in District 10 because members were complaining that the cost of membership for the AHA was just too much because of the low Canadian dollar. So along with a few other good



Judge Dennis Manning with Champion Helmet Winner John Hoekstra

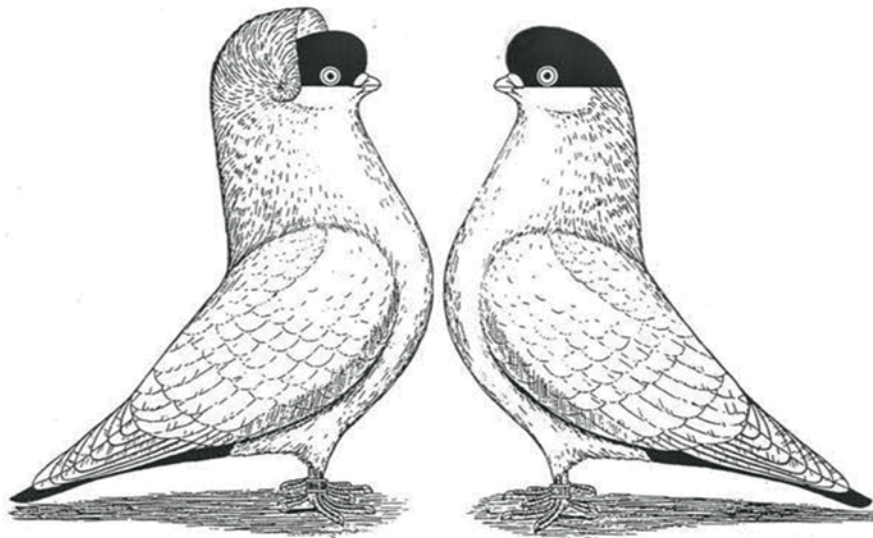


Red MFC Cock - John Hoekstra

Canadian pigeon men and Helmet fanciers like John Hoekstra, Dan Homick, John Ridler and Randy Cobb, we started the CHC. We have had a lot of members come and go over the years but these four guys, and myself, are still the life-line of the Helmet fancy in Eastern Canada. We have had lots of good members that I wish would get back into Helmets and join the club again, and we have had some members that are

simply more trouble than they are worth – LOL! At our peak, our membership fluctuated between 30 to 40 members, and our show entries peaked at just over 200 entries. We now have entries in MFC, MFP, SFC, MFCM and MFPM! Right from the

CANADIAN HELMET CLUB



- **Free Membership—Top Quality Shows—Great Members**
- **Contact: Gary Parsons—garyhelmet@yahoo.ca**



Yellow MFC Hen - Gary & Georgette Parsons



Blue MFC Hen - Gary Parsons

beginning we adopted the AHA "Standard" as our "Standard of Perfection" and we continue to bring in AHA members to judge our shows whenever we can. Over the years we have had guys like Tony Patti, Joe Granger, Raul Delgado, Bob Bolinger, Victor Cline, and Bob Dunlap crossing the border to



Yellow MFC Cock - Gary & Georgette Parsons



Silver MFP Hen - Dan Homick

scrutinize our birds and pick the champions! The Canadian Helmet Club has always basically only attracted Helmet breeders in Ontario and Quebec. There are very few Helmets on the east coast, and the Helmet breeders in the west coast usually join the American Helmet Association because there are quite a few AHA members in the upper west coast of the US that interact with the Canadian Helmet breeders out there. Today, the Canadian Helmet Club has less than a dozen active members and our shows are very small, but the quality of the Helmets shown are excellent! Attached are some pictures of some CHC Champions.

Here's to better days ahead!•

**Red MFP Cock -
John Hoekstra**



Red MFP YC - John Hoekstra



**Blue MFP Cock -
Dan Homick**



Red MFP Hen - Randy Cobb

Plainhead Helmets in Eastern Canada

By Gary Parsons

In Eastern Canada, in the Canadian Helmet Club, we have had numerous Helmet breeders breeding Medium Face Plainhead Helmets over the years, but the breeders that stuck with them for many years are John Hoekstra, Dan Homick, John Ridler and Randy Cobb (unfortunately Randy passed away a few years ago).

A couple of the Plainhead Helmets were so good that they went on to win Champion Helmet beating out the much more popular Medium Faced Crested Helmet competition!

An example of this is Dan Homick's Silver Plainhead Hen Helmet in 2014. That Silver Plainhead hen went on to be Reserve Champion Pigeon of the entire show, competing against 1,200 other pigeons, judged by the great John Heppner of California (originally from Manitoba, Canada!). Even today, Dan Homick and John Hoekstra are producing some great looking Plainhead Helmets!

Keep it going gentlemen! •



Silver MFP OH - Dan Homick



Black MFP Cock - Gary Parsons

Helmet Aspirations

By Pavel Lutsenko

It is no surprise to many when they ask me what I consider the most important features of the Helmet pigeon is, I answer without hesitation: the head/skull, type, beak set, size, feather.

When we look at the standard, we see that the head only has 10 points allocated to it for the crested variety and 12 points for the plainhead variety. For this article we will only be talking about the medium faced Helmet although this discussion can be and should be applied to the short face variety of Helmet as well.



The standard says:

HEAD - Should be medium in size, with broad frontal, showing no indication of flatness. The frontal should rise sharply from the wattle with a well-defined forward curve, rising to a full top skull (on the short faced varieties, the distance from the eye to the frontal should be greater than from the eye to the top skull), then flowing back to the base of the crest without any breaks to mar it's continuity. There should definitely be more front than back skull. Top skull should not be lacking. Viewed from the front, the face should start to develop right behind the wattle with broad cheeks and rising with fullness across the eyes, appearing slightly arched, instead of flat or angular. Any indication of a narrow face or pinched appear-

ance should be avoided. Despite the desire for a broad full frontal, "eyebrows" (feathers protruding over the eyes) must be avoided. The crest should be the only interruption in the smooth flow of the head into the neck.

The reason I put so much emphasis on the skull is that I find this is the one feature that you can lose in one season. In our ever-constant pursuit of big crests we sometimes use weak skulled birds. And as per Murphy's law it's usually the weak-headed birds that have tremendous crests. The weak skulls take over and it takes years to get a loft full of Helmets with broad frontals. My opinion is that the long skinny heads are just a reversion back to the wild type so in the breeding pen the broad skulls will lose out every time.



TYPE – 15 and 17 points.

Type should be proportioned in such a way as to present an evenly balanced appearance in all respects. Should be sprightly in manner and stand very erect, appearing to try to thrust its chest upward. The head should be positioned so that the eyes are vertically in line with the balls of the feet. Ideally, the bird should be on its front toes with its rear toes off the surface.

Again, this is another characteristic that is so hard to consistently have in your birds year in and year out. Lots of nice Helmets will never be champions simply because they don't have TYPE. The most common fault in the Helmets regarding type are the Helmets that stand horizontal or crouch. This is due mostly to the bad leg placement in our birds. Next time you are out in the loft or at a show look at the Helmets with excellent type and notice that the leg placement is up front under the chest. Birds with improper leg placement will have their legs somewhere in the middle of the wing shield. Type is paramount to have a champion Helmet. You can have a weaker skulled bird win a big show but a Helmet that's crouching and ducking should not ever win no matter how big the skull or the crest is.



Beak Set. (3 points for beak of which beak set is a small but very important element) It should be set straight with an imaginary line passing between the mandibles to the bottom of the eye cere and through the center of the rosette.

Where do I begin with this one? Beak set is probably the last frontier for the Helmet breed. We have been trying to straighten the beaks of Helmets for decades it seems. Beak set is not a deal breaker as there are many fine Helmets that win major shows that do not have perfect beak settings. However, every now and then a specimen will be shown, and these Helmets are something special even if they lack in other areas. Presently to straighten out the beak we have been experimenting with the English Shortface and Longface Tumblers as well as the Domestic Show Flight. It's been a long journey so far but with perseverance we will produce straight set beaks in the Helmet.

Size. No points allocated for size but its an integral part of TYPE. In the official measurements, you will see that the Helmet is a small pigeon, 8 inches tall and 7.5 inches from chest to tip of tail. In reality, we are still trying to get our Helmets down to the ideal size. We do see from time to time small, typey Helmets. Small Helmets, especially cock birds are worth their weight in gold in the breeding pen.



Feather. When I say feather I mean big crests, full powerful necks, tight flights and tail. Without good feather you cannot win a championship. The eye is naturally drawn to big crests and powerful necks. Fortunately, in this list I believe that feather is one of the easier things to breed for. However, we are still battling the need for long feather in the Crest and neck and trying to shorten the flights and tail. Every now and then a special specimen does show up at our shows and these Helmets are sight to be seen!•





By Jan de Wit

Ulisse Aldrovandi (1522-1605) born in Bologna, Italy was a nature researcher and one of the founders of modern zoology. In the *Ornithologiae Lib. XV* he described several pigeon breeds, amongst which the Draaiers, Helmets, Kappers, Shortbecke, Kroppersdue and Querslagers. He used Dutch breed descriptions, so we may understand that he wrote about Dutch Helmet pigeons. The Dutch Helmet is one of the oldest rare traditional Dutch fancy pigeon breeds since 1603. They probably came originally from Persia (Iran) transported by the Dutch traders of the United East Indies Company around 1600.

In the Dutch book *Beschryvinge Der DUYVEN* by the Dutch writer Johan van Vollenhove, printed in 1686 in Utrecht, there is a poem written about the beauty of Helmet pigeons.

The Nederlandse Helmduif –

The oldest picture of the Helmet pigeon can be found in the German book *de Vorstellung der Vogel in Deutschland und Beylauffig auch Einiger Fremden, mit Eigenschaften Beschrieben ... und Nach Ihren Natürlicher Farben* by Johann Leonhard Frisch and Baron Friedrich August Zom von Plobsheim 1743-1763.

There are several different breeds of Helmet pigeons in Europe and other countries.

Charles Darwin researched many fancy pigeon breeds on shape, behaviour, sound and flying style. He described in his *Origin of Species* (1859) that the Rock Pigeon, *Columba Livia* can be seen as the father of all fancy pigeons. Pablo Picasso (1881-1973) was the son of the famous pigeon painter José Ruiz Blasco and became probably the most famous pigeon painter.



the Dutch Helmet Pigeon

Picasso made several peace pigeon designs for international peace congresses.

The original Dutch Helmet pigeon is a flying pigeon. Later the show type was bred. It was especially popular on the typical pigeon flats on top of the traditional canal houses in the center of Amsterdam. It was an excellent group flyer.

The Dutch Helmet pigeon is not a real highflyer. It is a powerful bird; the shape and posture show that it is a good flying pigeon. They can fly up to one and a half hours. They frequently swing and change their flying direction. They fly closely together and show exact flying movements. They never stay long in other pigeon groups. Birds of prey seem not to impress them. With their eye-catching colored tails and heads,

they offer a striking image in the air, even for viewers not set on pigeons. Their special flying habits are especially shown in strong winds. The

pigeons are very easy to breed.

The famous Dutch fancy pigeon expert Mr. C.A.M. Spruit from Gouda wrote in his book *Our Pigeon Breeds* in 1954 that the Dutch Helmets could be seen as one of the oldest pigeon breeds in Holland for over 400 years. A great example of the living, cultural heritage of the Netherlands, a world power in agriculture. It is important to protect these rare old Dutch breeds for future generations. They are a part of the Dutch history and often shown on old paintings.

Moreover, they are rich in unique research material, which gives them great scientific value. They have a great variety of characteristics. The Dutch Helmets are protected in the Centre

of Genetic Sources in the Netherlands (CGN) connected with the world famous Wageningen University and Research (WUR) so that the genetic material can be stored in the national gene bank for agricultural animals for the protection of original breeds and the genetic diversity within a breed.

The Nederlandse Helmduif is mentioned in the Critical Breeds List of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations. On this list are mentioned 483, mostly local, rare breeds with less than 100 female animals.

During the Second World War it was prohibited by the Germans to keep pigeons. Some Dutch Helmets and other typical Dutch breeds were kept undercover with great risk. Only a limited number of pigeons could survive the war, as a result of which the breed had to be restored again. In this period a limited number of serious breeders like Dolf van Feggelen and Jan Ojevaar, started to breed and recover the population and quality of Dutch Helmets, which led to great popularity in the 1950s. In 1972 a new Dutch Helmet association was founded, among others by A.A. van Feggelen. This was the start of a new heyday.

BREED CHARACTERISTICS

The Dutch Helmet is an independent breed. It is a completely white pigeon with only a colored Helmet/head and tail. The marking of the Helmet starts from the corner of the beak in a straight line, passing the bottom side of the eye via the back side of the head to the corner of the beak at the other side. Its colors are black, red, yellow and blue. The colors must be deep, warm and shiny. The color of the tail must be identical to the color of the head.

The Dutch Helmeted Pigeon is a pigeon that has to have a strong built. It is a little bigger than the Dutch Highflyer and a little smaller than the Hagenaar. It should be wide with a good underpart, so that it is a powerful pigeon which shows its flying capacity. There should be strong flight feathers. The body should be horizontal with wings resting on top of the tail. The standard describes: compact, powerful, wide, deep and rounded breast and a horizontal position. The head must have an uninterrupted line without showing a forehead and well filled. The beak must grow horizontally. The eyes must have a pearl color with the smallest possible pupil. The edges around the eyes are fine and thin, meat colored and well closed by the feathering. The neck should be medium long and rise up deep from the breast. The breast must be deep and well positioned to the front. The back is wide within the shoulders, flat and a little downwards and well covered by the wings, especially on the tailbone. The wings must be wide and powerful with wide pens and such a length that the wings are resting approximately 1 cm before the end of the tail on the tail. The wings should not be crossed.



Black plainhead Dutch Helmet

The tail is formed by 12 broad, medium-long feathers, which as a whole, as they are carried flat and strictly together, does not show too widely. The legs are medium long, colored red and from the knee unfeathered. The nails should be white.

THE DUTCH HELMET LOVER – JAN DE WIT

As a young boy I got several fancy pigeons from my uncle Kees Overdevest from Wassenaar. He was a small breeder of Dutch High Flyers and Helmet pigeons. He was member of the local club. I have a picture of myself where I hold my Old Dutch meeuwjes. I also had Welsummer bantam chickens and rabbits. My mother enjoyed seeing that I have some farmers' blood. My uncle Rinus de Wit was a very active rabbit breeder of Vlaamse Reuzen and Rexen. I often visited exhibitions with him all over Holland. I especially enjoyed watching the fancy pigeons. I also had black Old Dutch Tumblers with a wild tail. I was always attracted by the traditional old Dutch breeds. There were many pedigree pigeon breeders in the neighborhood at that time, amongst whom my uncle Dirk de Wit, our neighbors and someone working at our company. I always wanted something different from others and therefore I chose fancy pigeons. I never started to breed them seriously.

During and after my school-time I started working abroad at the customers of our company, to see how they treated our tulip bulbs for forcing cut flowers. When I was 22 years old, I started working in our family's flower bulb company Jan de Wit Zonen, (see our website www.jandewitenzonen.com). I visited our single customer in Japan together with my father for the first time in 1987. Since then, we have quickly developed the market over there and also in other Asian countries like China, Taiwan, Vietnam and Russia. I travel abroad around three months per year. That does not make it easy to breed pigeons.



The Author's flying Dutch Helmets

I have always had chickens like Sabelpootkrielen and later just chickens for the eggs. Just after my wedding I had a small dovecote in the garden with some Old German meeuwjes. The love for pigeons never disappeared. In 2019 I restarted the hobby in a serious way. There always has to be a story behind it for me. I contacted the Stichting Zeldzame Huisdierenrassen, the foundation of rare Dutch domesticated animal breeds, www.szh.nl. I studied the rare Dutch breeds and the critical situation of the Dutch Helmet. I found out that it was one of the oldest breeds, since 1603, which makes it very special. I was introduced to Mr. Rein Slikker, who introduced me to the fancy pigeon world. I soon found out that there are two types of Dutch Helmet pigeons, the show type and the flying type. The flying type especially attracted me, as it should be like the original Dutch Helmet kept in the old days, mostly in Amsterdam. I live in the polder (lowland area) and I wanted my pigeons to be flying around freely. Besides, I found out that not only there were two types of fancy pigeons, but also breeders of these pigeons seem to be different. The combination of keeping show and flying pigeons together is a bit complicated. It is hard to train the athletic flying type well if they are held with the bigger, quiet show pigeons. I have two departments in my dovecote. In

summer, I keep the youngsters separately from the breeding. In winter, I separate the males and females.

Mr Hennie Schwarz, who has been a pigeon breeder his entire life, emigrated many years ago from Amsterdam to our region in West Friesland. He is a top breeder of the old Dutch breed Hagens and Chinese Frills. He was breeding fancy pigeons 60 years ago in the old city of Amsterdam. As a professional municipal fireman he could watch his own pigeons flying high above Amsterdam. Hennie is a renowned international top judge. Hennie has an enormous knowledge, and next to that he is a most friendly and humorous man and pigeon friend. He helped me start with deciding on the right cross breeds and still helps me. I have joined a small club show in Amsterdam and even became reserve champion with a young red cock.

PROMOTION

I actively try to promote the Dutch Helmet pigeon as living heritage and as one of the representatives of the rare Old Dutch breeds. For the preservation of these breeds it is important to have a correct breeding administration to keep the vitality of the breed. The Vrijwillig Sierduiven Stamboek Nederland (VSSNL), meaning the Voluntarily Breeds Registration

Netherlands can be used by individual breeders as a simple and cheap breeding administration. The data can be checked by the breeders. Pedigrees and kinship can be researched. A strict breeding program can prevent problems and even restore them. To prevent inbreeding, I have both show



type and flying type pigeons from different breeders. The show type amongst others from A.A. van Feggelen, third generation breeder of Dutch Helmet pigeons. The flying type amongst others from Dick Hamer, famous pigeon breeder and international judge (and photographer). Dick can be regarded as the savior of the original flying type Dutch Helmet pigeon.

I have participated in the National Agricultural Exhibition in Opmeer, where pigeons are shown besides cows, sheep, horses, etc. Over 10,000 visitors come there usually. My pigeons are flying around at children's farm Skik in Hoogkarspel, as they

also focus on the rare old Dutch breeds. Our flower bulb company has been participating for many years in the Keukenhof, the greatest tulip park show. Its beautiful dovecote is inhabited by my Dutch Helmets, showing their beauty to the over 1 million visitors this spring. I am also active on several Facebook sites to promote the breed.

It was my great honor that the Dutch Helmet was selected as breed of the year 2023. This is also the year that the NBS Nederlandse Fancy Pigeons association celebrates its 100-year anniversary. •

National Helmet Pigeon

By Moezelaar from magazine *Fokkers belangen*
October 12, 1984, translated by Jan de Wit

One of the popular medium faced tumblers in our country is certainly our national Helmet pigeon. We wrote national, because there are more countries where they have Helmet pigeons. It is a very old breed, which was already described by Aldrovandi in 1603, by Willughby in 1676 and by Van Vollenhoven in 1686. In the eldest pigeon books Helmets can be found, in German Kalotte, in French Pigeon à Casque, in Dutch as Helm, and in Spanish as Capicus.

Every country has its own type, because every country has its own preferences, but all originate from the same original Helmet pigeons, which came, according to passing on history from Persia as birth country. Germany has its Hamburger Kalotte (bred by Dutch Helmets crossed with Reinooq Tumblers), a small short faced tumbler, crested and plainhead and besides the more original Cologne Helmet, which was called colortail over there. In Denmark, the Helmet should be similar in type like the

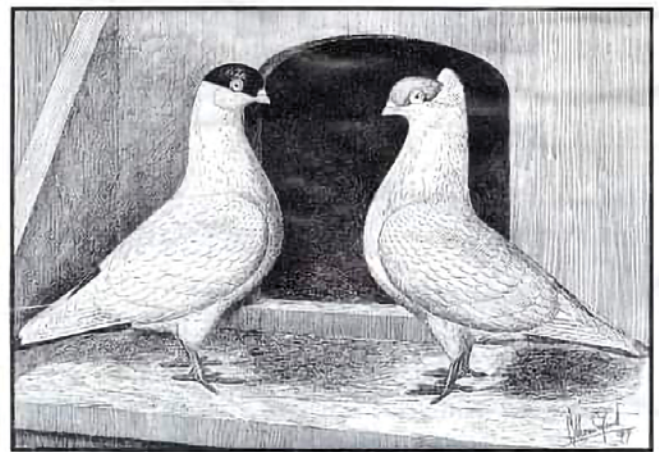


Illustration include with the original article by van Gink in 1917

over there popular Danish Magpie pigeon. In England, they have the plainhead Helmet as a bigger and the crested as a smaller and more compact type. In Poland, they have Helmets with bare legs, with stockings and large foot feathers.

In the United States, where the Helmet is already exposed since 1873, they preferred a more compact type with a dark upper face, and mostly crested. Also in Switzerland it seems, accordingly, they preferred a more compact type with a dark

upper face, and mostly crested. Also in Switzerland it seems, according to Mr. Wendell Levi and a picture from 1963, the Helmet bred as Hamburger type with a dark upper face. But how the Helmets are bred in different types in different countries, the countries wisdom, the countries honour – we are proud of our original Dutch Helmet pigeons, since 1686.

The Helmet has always been popular in Holland, of which the first standard description was issued in 1927, composed by at that time specialists and leaders: Spruyt, Logman, Goese, Schneider and Linnebank.

Before this, they were bred without a standard description, but the pigeon lovers still had stable guidelines. Very well known was the great collection of Helmets in black, red and yellow of breeder Tuyt in Oegstgeest in 1918. Many will also remember the entries of Helmets in the nineteen thirties of breeder Gouverne from Heerlen, the breeder who attended many shows.

The Second World War gave a devastating blow to the Dutch Helmets and after the war the quality of the surviving Helmets was much worse than before. The only surviving Helmets in the collection of Spruyt in Gouda, who saved many rare Dutch traditional pigeon breeds under the allowance of the Germans during the war, came from Mr. P. de Vries from Eindhoven. They were black and red. With the hidiers in Amsterdam, there were still yellow and blue ones.

There was a Helmet association founded with Mr. De Vries as chairman, Leemhuis as secretary and Kreuger as treasurer. It was registered at the Board of Directors and the NBS (Netherlands Fancy Pigeon Association). In 1947 the booklet “De Nederlandse Helmduif” was published. Unfortunately the club did not have a long existence. When we remember 1950, the Helmets have been improved enormously. Especially in face and eye rings. The earlier exposed birds, were not really middle faced tumblers anymore, because they had too short faces and without exception almost red coloured eye rims.

During a visit to the chairman of the Kölner Tümmelverein, Mr. Alex Richarta in Cologne, we found an enormous collection of Cologne Tumblers and Helmets with long faces and pale eye rims. Mouth-wateringly nice. Here was our chance to improve the Dutch Helmets. We needed fresh blood. The Hamburger could not be used due to the short face and the Danish would make the eye rims of our Helmets even more red. The Cologne Helmet originally from imports from Holland turned out to be the perfect model. What could improve from Holland to Cologne, could improve the way back also.

We have personally brought several Cologne Helmets in exchange of Old Dutch Tumblers, which were most welcome to



recover the large foot feathered Cologne Tumbler. It is successfully achieved by our breeders to use the Cologne Helmets to rebuild a few strains of Dutch Helmets, even for 100%. Nobody will resent it if we mention two names who have made a most special service in this: Mr. A. de Boer uit Eindhoven, and Mr. A. van Feggelen from Amsterdam. The Cologne type is slightly slimmer and with falling back line. Our Dutch birds show without exception, the accord-

ing to our standard required, horizontally carried body with a full breast and not too long back part, by which they completely distinguish themselves from the Cologne Helmets. That's why our breeders and judges should pay special attention to this point.

Also the Cologne head is different from the Dutch Helmet, because the Cologne head should be bred more flat of the skull, although the Dutch Helmet should have more forehead and more round proportion above the eyes.

In short, our Dutch Helmets have a their own distinct type and cannot be mixed with the present day Cologne Helmet Tumbler, as the Cologne Tumbler cannot be mixed with the Dutch Highflyer.

There has been a time when the Helmet and Schoorsteenvegers (Chimney sweeps) would be classified as varieties of the Dutch Highflyers. Although this is the case in other countries, it is not possible in Holland. Indeed the Hamburger Helmet is a variety on the Cologne Tumbler. Also the Danisch Helmet is a drawing variant on the Danish Tumbler. Our Dutch Helmet, however, has always been a different breed with much older papers that the Dutch Highflyer and will always be its own breed with its distinct own proportions.

It is also one of the breeds, of which to the starter looks simple, but for breeding the true show bird, one should have a lot of experience. The correct breeding of the Helmet will always be a difficult point and even straight continuation is more difficult to breed than the one with moustaches, which are very easy to make. Head and tail may not differ from color. The beak may not be colored grey, and we are only recently happy that with the black type that has the nearly colorless beak – how difficult this is.

Then the remaining difficulties are the eye rims. They should be fine and pale and this is not easy to achieve for the breeder. And then we don't talk about the type, although that is number one during the judging.

The path of the Helmet breeder is really full with pitfalls and traps and that's why one should see the breeding of good Helmets as a great achievement.

Written by Moezelaar. Translated by Jan de Wit 2024•



Polska Krymka

More Helmet Breeds

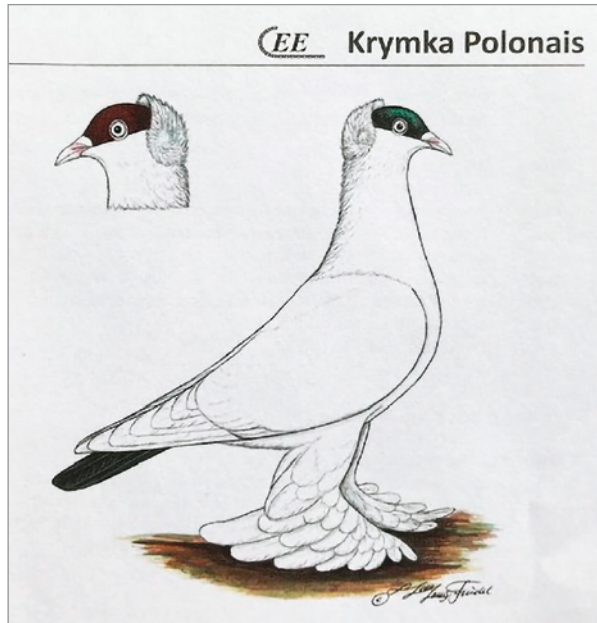
Helmet, Krymka, Kalotten also Capicúa

By Jerry Sindelar

The Helmet, a neat pigeon described often as a breed with zestful impression, vigor and enthusiasm, is well known in the pigeon world for a long time. Even though it is not bred by high number of breeders, it has serious breeders on every continent.

Originally probably from Persia as a flying bird, now strictly a show breed. In the USA it was first exhibited at a pigeon show in 1873. Its first description was mentioned by Aldrovandi in 1603, and several times shortly after that in the 17th century. Existing at that time already in several colors, sometimes only with slightly different description in marking on wings, but always with colored head and tail, which gave this breed, referring to coloration of the head, the name Helmet. The same derives also in other languages.

It is bred usually in two types - plainhead and shell crested with rosettes, some have beside the original medium beak also short face type. Interesting markings and long-time breeding existence, gave impulse to create also breeds differing in type, size and feather ornaments. Several breeds differ now from the common medium beaked variety and exist as short beaked only - as Bialostok Krymka, some longer beaked as the Dutch Helmet and Polish Krymka. Over time, some breeds are changing appearance but also name as it is Kalotten from previous Hamburg, Kalotte, etc. This marking has been transferred also into breeds which are not originally Helmets, like Köln (Cologne) Tumbler. Some of the officially recognized Helmet breeds are pictured. •



Moskevsky mnich LAJ



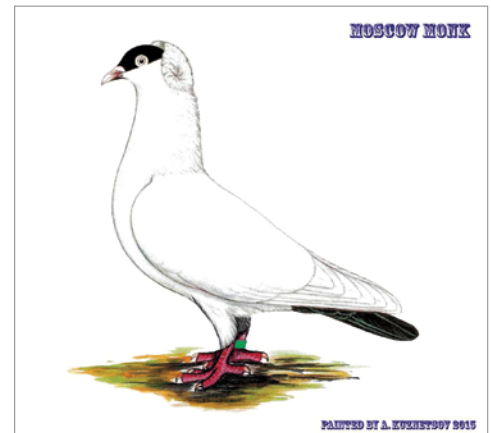
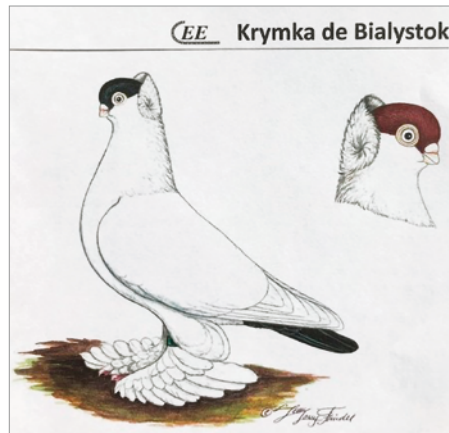
Helmet Koops



Helmet Short Face photographed by Thomas Hellmann



Bialostock Helmet



Black Dutch Helmet, young hen, bred and owned by A I Br9oer, Eindhoven, Holland. Photo by van Gink. From Wendell Levi's *Book Encyclopedia of Pigeons* published in 1965

Catalonian Chapat Helmet, red cock. Photo by Ralph Buck-Brage, Madrid Spain, breeder and owner. From Wendell Levi's *Book Encyclopedia of Pigeons* published in 1965





Lombard figurines – Crested Helms

Helmet Figurines

By Jan Lombard, South Africa

A ndy Hansen asked me to write an article on my Helmet figurines but my interest in this breed goes much further than the figurines. I have bred Medium Face Crested Helms for a number of years. My original birds came from the late Chis van den Berg. In South Africa we have top-7 awards at all regional shows as well as the National. This is for Champion on show (all breed winners competing) as well as for the first to sixth reserve champions. SAFPA awards National Colors to breeders, administrators, and judges, based on merit. To be awarded National Colors in Breeding one must exhibit top-7 self-bred birds on a certain number of shows. As this is an all-breed competition, with various senior judges (with different tastes) doing the selection, this is not an easy feat for breeders specializing in one or two breeds.

2005 was a particularly good show season for me. A young red MF crested Helmet cock was placed in the top-7 four times, of which fourth reserve champion at the National show in Pretoria was the cherry on the cake! This bird's performance helped a lot to accumulate the required points to be awarded this honor. Whenever I attend banquets at international shows, I always wear my "green & gold" with pride, with fond memories of this little bird.

I have completed judge's exams for all the breeds I kept. As a result, I have judged Helms on many shows, some of which ended up in the champion's row. Helms were also one of the

first breeds that I have judged Internationally - during 2004 in Doncaster in the United Kingdom where John Graves won with a yellow cock.

As a sculptor and painter this breed has ended up in my offering of hand painted figurines of over 200 different breeds; not just because of my love for this specific breed, but also based on its popularity in the USA, UK and Australia. It is also gaining popularity on the German shows, where it is known as American Helms ("Amerikanische Kalotten"). I have recently added the plainhead variety to my list.

Helms will always hold a dear place in my heart. •



Lombard figurines Plainhead Helms

Events Calendar

SHOWS, PERFORMANCE EVENTS, SWAP & SALES
Listing Is Free To All Pigeon Clubs – Some Dates Are Tentative

JULY

Jul 13 – Baltimore United Tippler Club First Annual Pigeon Show. 2442 East North Ave. Baltimore, MD 21213 at 10 am. Tipplers, Rollers and Homers. Ribbons and Trophies. Feed, feeders, nest fronts plus Foy's products. Lunch. Contact Arthur Foster arthurfoster6@gmail.com or (443) 934-9063

SEPTEMBER

Sep 7 – Arizona Pigeon Club Young Bird Show. Pioneer Park, 506 1st St East, Snowflake Arizona 85937. 11am-3pm. Raffle & poop lotto. Contact Phillip Fry (520)609-5930. Facebook group: Arizona Pigeon Club.

Sep 21 – Pigeon Fanciers of the Carolinas annual fall cook out, swap and pigeon show. All paid members can have their birds vaccinated Free for either PMV or Paratyphoid. For more information find us on facebook at "Pigeon Fanciers of the Carolinas"

Sep 21 – Fremont Pigeon Club Young Bird Show. Sandusky County Fairgrounds, 901 Rawson Ave. Fremont, Ohio 43420. Large Swap Area. Masserant's Feed Co. will be there. Contact Jim Feasel, 2373 CR 181, Clyde, Ohio 43410. ph. 419-765-0479 jfeasel@glis.cc

Sep 21-22 – Faircount Pigeon Expo Young Bird Show. Sponsored

by the Faircount Pigeon Club in conjunction with the Orange Country Fair in Connecticut. For more information, visit the following website www.OrangeCTFair.com or contact Jon Spodnick at 203.372.1500.

Sep 27 thru Oct 6 – Va Pigeon & Dove Association - VA State Fair Exhibition and Show. Doswell, VA. Entries include admission to the State Fair. This is to promote the Pigeon and Dove hobby by showing all types of pigeons and doves. Displays which include War Pigeons. Release of Performing Rollers and more. Keep the hobby alive and join us! vpdusaorg@gmail.com 804-448-9721 (Leave Message)

Sep 28 - Bay City Pigeon Fanciers annual all breed, young bird pigeon show. 2024 Seamless banded birds only. Bay County Community Center, 800 John F Kennedy Drive, Bay City, Michigan. 48706. Specialty clubs include Rare Breeds Club, National Russian Tumbler Club, and Old German Owl Club. For Sale section. Please contact Barry Talaga, at 989-893-9879, or email me at: btalagab@aol.com

Sep 29 – Reading / White Rose Pigeon Assoc. Young Bird Show. Union Fire Company, 201 York St. Manchester, PA 17345. Contact: Barry Wagner, Show Sec. Adn8691@yahoo.com 717-653-6146

OCTOBER

Oct 4-6 – CPFA Classic, the Canadian National. Vancouver Poultry & Fancy Pigeon Association. Annual Winter Show in Abbotsford, BC Canada. Contact Andy Hansen, Show secretary: ajhansen70@gmail.com or 778 928-9351 <https://www.vancouverfancypigeon.ca>

Oct 5-6 – National Young Bird Show. Louisville, Kentucky Expo Center. Largest young bird show in the U.S. Dozens of specialty meets.



Nassau Suffolk Pigeon Fanciers Club

Young Bird Show October 19, 2024

**68th Annual Long Island Classic Open Show
November 23, 2024**

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For more information or entry forms contact:
Facebook: Nassau Suffolk Pigeon Fanciers Club
Rich Bailin, Corresponding/Recording Secretary:
rbflight@msn.com or call 917-578-2031

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Contact
Jerry Miraglia
732 462 3379
jerrythebirdman@verizon.net or

Nelson Garcia 732 995 5278



Dec 7, 2024
All Age Show
New Jersey
NPA Show

Both Shows held at
4H Community Cntr
645 Cranbury Rd
East Brunswick NJ

Facebook page:

Central Jersey Variety Pigeon Club

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Contact
JOHN MANCKIA
mrmanckia@gmail.com

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Oct 6 – Classic Old Frill Club Meet @ National Young Bird Show.

Louisville, Ky. Contact Mike McLin 715-790-6266 race_w_me@hotmail.com

Oct 12-13 – Great Western Pigeon Show. Santa Cruz Fairgrounds, Watsonville, CA. contact John DeCarlo Jr. 1625 Jennifer Ln, Gilroy, CA 85020

Oct 13 – Rhinebeck Pigeon and Dove Show. Sponsored by the Hudson Valley Pigeon Association. Newburgh Armory Unity Center, 321 South William St, Newburgh, NY 12550. Great Competition, Top Judges, HUGE For-Sale Section, Pigeon Supplies, Raffles, Great Locations, Great Food, Tons of easy Parking and Handicap Accessible. Open Sunday at 9 am. All Specialty Clubs Welcome! contact: Tony DeSantolo 845-490-2269 (cell) or unc4nuns@comcast.net. Google Rhinebeck All Breeds Pigeon Show for info and Entry Form.

Oct 19 – Nassau Suffolk Pigeon Fanciers Club Young Bird Show. Bohemia Fire Department 950 Pearl Street, Bohemia LI NY 11716 For more information or entry forms contact: Facebook - Nassau Suffolk Pigeon Fanciers Club or Rich Bailin, Corresponding/Recording Secretary: rbflight@msn.com or call 917-578-2031

Oct 19 – Delmarva Pigeon Club Young Bird Show & Picnic. Queen Anne's County 4-H Park 100 Dulin Clark Rd, Centreville 21617. Contact info: Tom Jackson 443-262-1250

Oct 26 – Central Jersey Variety Pigeon Club Young Bird Show with Swap & Sell. 4-H Community Center, 645 Cranbury Rd. East Brunswick, NJ. Contact Jerry Miraglia 732-462-3379 jerrythebirdman@verizon.net

or Nelson Garcia 732-995-5278 centralpigeonclub.wixsite.com/jers

NOVEMBER

Nov 1-2 – Central California Pigeon Club 77th Annual Cavalcade of Pigeons. Fresno, California. Contact John Geiger for information at (559) 246-3045 or by email at jfatboy22@yahoo.com

Nov 1 – Salt Lake Premier Show. Grantsville, Utah. Deseret Peak Complex in Tooele, Utah. Many specialty meets. www.utahpigeonclub.com for entries and premium book

Nov 2 - North Central Iowa Pigeon Club Show. Fort Dodge County Fairgrounds, 22770 Old Highway 169, Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501. Starts at 9am.

Nov 2 – Classic Old Frill Club meet. Fort Dodge, Iowa. Contact Mike McLin 715 -790 - 6266 race_w_me@hotmail.com

Nov 2 - Arizona Pigeon Club Swap & Sell. Pizzuto's home, 7240 E Esteem Way, Prescott Valley, AZ 86315. 11am-3pm. Raffle & poop lotto. Contact Phillip Fry (520)609-5930. Facebook group: Arizona Pigeon Club.

Nov 2 – Alabama Pigeon Club Annual All Age all Breed show. Anniston, Alabama. Contact Daniel Hughes 770-316-0802 iowahughes8268@gmail.com

Nov 3 – White Rose Pigeon Association, Annual Fall Show. Union Fire Company, 201 York St. Manchester, PA 17345. Contact: Barry Wagner, Show Sec. Adn8691@yahoo.com or 717-653-6146

The Rhinebeck Pigeon & Dove Show

New Date: Sunday

October 13, 2024



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Google: "Rhinebeck All Breeds Pigeon Show" for Information and Entry Form

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Nov 8 - 9 - Jacksonville Area Pigeon Club 50th annual all breed, all age show in Jacksonville, Illinois. Morgan County Fairgrounds, 110 N Westgate Ave., Jacksonville, IL 62650. Come join us for a fun and growing gathering of pigeon fanciers at Illinois' only all breed pigeon show. All specialties are invited. Rare Breeds and Archangels will be returning as well as 10 point meets for Indian and Mindian Fantails. Extensive buy/sell/trade section, raffles, auction baskets, free youth contests and more. Contact Sarah Brown 1-217-320-3543 or email JAPCpigeons2017@gmail.com

Nov 9 - Kansas Pigeon Association Show. Annual All Breed/ All Age Show. Poultry Building at the Kansas State Fairgrounds 2000 N. Popular, Hutchinson, Ks. Large For Sale Section. Lunch will be available on site. We Invite all Specialty Clubs to participate. Specialty Clubs that regularly show with us: Central Fantail Club, National Modena Club, American Frillback Club, Kansas Jacobin Club & many others. For more information or for Specialty Club contract information please call Steve StClair at 785 506 2159 or email at pm66052@cox.net

Nov 9 - Minnesota State Pigeon Association Annual North Star Classic All Breed Show. Specialty Club Meets are welcome!! See our ad below! McLeod County Fairgrounds, Hutchinson Minn. Contact info <http://www.minnesotastatepigeonassociation.com> or Patti Dietzel MSPA Treasurer 12355 134th Street Cologne, Mn. 55322

Nov 9 - Classic Old Frill Club meet. At the North Star Classic Show. Contact Mike McLin 715 -790 - 6266 race_w_me@hotmail.com

Nov 23 - Nassau Suffolk Pigeon Fanciers 68th Annual Long Island Classic Open Show. Bohemia Fire Department 950 Pearl Street, Bohemia LI NY 11716 For more information or entry forms - Facebook

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- Nassau Suffolk Pigeon Fanciers Club or Rich Bailin, Corresponding/Recording Secretary: rbflight@msn.com or call 917-578-2031

Nov 23 – Virginia Pigeon & Dove Association Show. Doswell, VA. Specialty Clubs Encouraged to join us! Average 1000+ Entries. Raffle, For Sale Section and Pizza Lunch. vpdausaorg@gmail.com 804-448-9721 (Leave Message)

Nov 23 – Old German Owl Meet at the Virginia Pigeon & Dove Show. Meadow Pavilion at 13191 Dawn Blvd. Doswell, VA. Baskar Anjapan will be judging. Contact Forrest Malcomb for info and entry form. fdmalcomb@gmail.com

Nov 30 – Watertown Pigeon Club 87th Annual All Age, All Breed Winter Show. Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Jefferson Wisconsin. Contact Pete Dempsey 920-674-3871 or Cris Krenke at pharm-er101@gmail.com

Nov 30 – Classic Old Frill Club Midwest National meet. At the Watertown Pigeon Club Show. Contact Mike McLin 715 -790 - 6266 race_w_me@hotmail.com or www.classifoldfrill.org

Nov 30 – FAIRCOUNT Pigeon Show. The Northeast Premier All Age & All Breed Pigeon & Dove (Saturday after Thanksgiving) Warsaw Park, Route 243 - 119 Pulaski HWY, Ansonia, CT. Lsrgeest and cleanest for sale section of birds in the Northeast plus we will have venders on hand selling their specialty products. Excellent food selection for breakfast & lunch. All specialty clubs invited to attend. Visit our website at www.FaircountClub.com or contact: Jon Spodnick at (203) 372-1500 or join our email list at contactfaircount@faircountclub.com to get the latest information.



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DECEMBER

Dec 7 – Central Jersey Variety Pigeon Club All Age Show / New Jersey NPA Show. 4-H Community Center, 645 Cranbury Rd. East Brunswick, NJ. Contact Jerry Miraglia 732-462-3379 jerrythebirdman@verizon.net or Nelson Garcia 732-995-5278 centraljpipeonclub.wixsite.com/jers See our ad in thisEvents Calendar.

Dec 7 – Bay City Pigeon Fanciers 87th annual all breed pigeon show. Old birds and young birds welcome. Bay County Community Center, 800 John F Kennedy Drive, Bay City, Michigan 48706. Specialty clubs will include Rare Breeds Club, National Russian Tumbler Club, Old German Owl Club, and National Show Type Racing Homer Club. We always have a “for sale” section. Specialty club Judges to be determined. Joel Kinkade will judge the “open show.” Set up on Friday December 6th. You may enter your birds on Friday, late afternoon or evening, or early Saturday morning as well. Contact Barry Talaga, at 989-893-9879, or email me at: btalagab@aol.com.

Dec 13-14 – Pigeons on the Prairie Show - Iowa State Pigeon Association. All breed, All age. Iowa State Fairgrounds, Jacobsen Bldg, East 30th St & University Ave, Des Moines, Iowa

Dec 13-14 – Classic Old Frill Club meet. At the Des Moines show. Contact Mike McLin 715 -790 - 6266 race_w_me@hotmail.com race_w_me@hotmail.com

Dec 14 – DelMarVa Pigeon Club Winter All Breed Show. Queen Anne’s County 4-H Park 100 Dulin Clark Rd, Centreville 21617. Contact Tom Jackson 443-262-1250

Dec 14 – Old German Owl club meet at Delmarva Pigeon Club Win-



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ter All Breed Show. Queen Anne's County 4-H Park 100 Dulin Clark Rd, Centreville 21617. Contact Tom Jackson 443-262-1250

Dec 21 – Sheboygan Lakeshore Pigeon Club All Age Show. Memorial Hall in Waldo, Wisconsin. Contact Earl Helmer 920-980-9003

Dec 21 – Classic Old Frill meet. Sheboygan, Wisconsin. Memorial Hall, Waldo, WI. Contact, Mike McLin 715-790-6266 race_w_me@hotmail.com

JANUARY 2025

Jan 4 – Fremont Pigeon Club Annual Winter Show (NPA Show). Sandusky County Fairgrounds, 901 Rawson Ave. Fremont, Ohio 43420. All meets are welcome. Large Swap Area. Masserant's Feed Co. will be there. Contact Jim Feasel, 2373 CR 181, Clyde, Ohio 43410 ph. 419-765-0479 or jfeasel@glis.cc

Jan 3-4 – St Louis Metropolitan Pigeon Fanciers Association. Spirit of Saint Louis All Breeds/All Age show. Purina Farms, Gray Summit, MO. Specialty Clubs welcome..Friday - birds can be cooped at noon Saturday - Show begins 9:00 am CST Contact David Averbeck 314-260-9326, Averbeck1979@gmail.com or Peggy Crook (314)681-0002 chickenmama.marans@gmail.com or Facebook: St. Louis Pigeon Club (SLMPFA)

Jan 4 – 2025 Classic Old Frill Meet. St Louis Show at Purina Farms, Grey Summit, MO. Contact Mike McLin 715-790-6266 race_w_me@hotmail.com

Jan 10-11 – Reading Pigeon Association Winter Show. Wyndham Lancaster Resort & Convention Center 2300 Lincoln Hwy East (RT

30) Lancaster, PA 17602. Show Contact Eric Kooker PO Box 100 Quakertown, PA 18951 or phone 267-242-4676 readingpigeonassociation.com

Jan 15-18 – NPA Grand National Pigeon Show. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. More information coming. <https://www.npaua.com>

Jan 15-18 – Portuguese Tumbler Club of America Specialty Meet. Celebrating the 20 Year Anniversary of the club at the NPA Grand Nation in Oklahoma City.

Jan 15-18 – 2025 Classic Old Frill Meet. NPA Grand National. Oklahoma City, OK. Contact, Mike McLin 715-790-6266

FEBRUARY 2025

Feb 8 – Indiana Pigeon Club All Breed Show. Hancock County Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall, 620 Apple St. Greenfield IN 46140

Feb 8 - Tri-State Pigeon Club. Decorah, Iowa. More info to come. Contact Ed Warner 262-490-8425

Send your show date and information to staff@purebredpigeon.com. There is NO charge to list your events featured here!!



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[club website – www.portuguesetumbler.com](http://www.portuguesetumbler.com)



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Handed the Last Piece to the Puzzle

By Mike McLin – Rice Lake, Wisconsin

Since the beginning of the Internet sites, there have been arguments over the simplest things including the correct band size for a breed, or my favorite – over a rare color. A young fellow said it was a made up name, but it was in the standard for the breed.

What I have observed over the years, the more long time breeders drop in and comment on the material being posted – the better. I call it both voices of reason and experience. I could never figure out a how a club site that was open to anyone around the world, who have folks that may or may not even have the breed, could so easily bully fanciers and cause people to quit the site or the breed, depending on the conflict without a club administrator stopping it. We have administrators that are supposed to watch over all these sites but from my experience you really need people that are willing, knowledgeable and able to keep control over the site. One Admin I asked to step in to quell an argument said he never visits the Internet sites and it should take care of its self. Well it didn't, like so many things, and people quit the site and a few quit the club. Admins, step down and let someone who cares about the hobby take over.

After a few years of observing and trying to figure out the best solution to manage and keep the peace I have run two breed sites myself and in 5 years have not had one conflict. One thing I do when a person asks to join the site is 1). I check to see if the person

is a pigeon fancier first by viewing their info and 2). see if they have had any prior violations or kicked off from any other sites. If they have, then I have to pass on them. It's best for the welfare of the breed site. Occasionally people will try to post something other than the breed intended on the site and most often trying to sell by posting everywhere. I Just reject it before it makes it on the site and move on. It is in the best interest of the clubs and breeds involved to make these sites a nice place to view pictures of the birds and have discussions without having an ugly debate over something that may have been known for 60 years. But the new person could not find it by google search and therefore it cannot be true. That's right fellow fanciers, I was told by a person that he could not verify the information when he googled it so it can't be true. Most everyone who has had pigeons for 20-plus years would know that information so I have been taken aback at some of these comments and keyboard battles.

That was the piece to the puzzle I had been missing. I did not realize so many of the newer pigeon fanciers are so used to getting all their information on line and easy – rather than spend 40 to 65 years plus, actually breeding, observing the pigeons and going to the shows to gain their knowledge. Many times these days, it's instant gratification. How many "likes" can you get and if someone is getting more than you , well time to be a keyboard warrior and take the person down even if you have no idea who the person is, or their experience. You have Google backing you up, or not.

It made sense to me since one person with 6 months in the breed and no show record was telling long established breeders about how their achievements were mistakes and accidents or promoting the wrong band size or arguing over colors that are actually in the breed standard.

What can we do about it since most often these guys are just patted on the back and given an attaboy from their peers. Veteran breeders have to say something if they see bad behavior on these sites and from what I saw recently, stopped the baloney instantly.

Having the birds all your life you pick up knowledge along the way just by the way it was done for many years and still today for those who listen. We used to visit one another's lofts, some-

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Scott Job (L), and Alan Harsen (R) congratulating John Fife (center) for winning champion at the Hurricane, Utah show. John has been a member of the WATC since 1965!

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times carloads would travel around and talk and handle the birds, put them up in show pens, have great fun and build comradery/lifelong friends, and experience. At the shows we often used to sit around a judging pen with fellow fanciers and discuss the breed along with knowing and teaching what a good stock bird looked like and various faults that were very hard to get rid of and other faults that you could work with and eliminate as you went along. To judge you had to apprentice judge with an experienced judge and have 5 years of showing the breed with success before taking on a small show. That is how much of the knowledge was passed down. We are losing our experienced judges and a lot of people do not want to take the time to study the standard or apprentice judge these days. I was surprised by breeders that have zero judging experience want to judge a major show. That is something you wouldn't even ask just a few years ago. A qualified judge would explain the placings and if you were watching the judging you would pick up valuable information.


All of our knowledge came from interaction first hand with others and the pigeon magazines that were packed with quality information. No hiding behind a screen googling your questions and then posting the answers as if it was your own information. I found either the guy searching copied it wrong, or the person who wrote it in the first place was wrong too often. It's just not a very reliable place to get information for the most part. There is good information on the breed sites but you often have to bite your tongue at some pictures and postings. The best ones have long time experienced breeders in numbers participating and helping the new people understand the breed.

As the hobby goes we want to continue to get new breeders going and get correct information to them to retain them in the hobby. Our site administrators have to be non biased and knowledgeable people so that we don't lose a potential new breeder or club member to a keyboard warrior who almost always battles

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against a mountain of valid evidence and when soundly corrected as peacefully as possible, just leaves the conversation without an apology or saying, "I guess you have a lot of evidence here and I was wrong." Just way too hard to admit these days and so very easy to ignore when hiding behind a keyboard. I personally post very little these days compared to years past. It's nice to look at the pictures but hard to teach or pass down experiences.

Myself and older friends don't teach or hand down information from what we googled online. We hand down our experiences we had over many years observing and breeding pigeons in our loft at the shows and select sites. There is no short cut and there are too many variables that we encounter along the way for every bit of information to be on the Internet.

Watch your sites for bad behavior and try to continue to teach from experience like we used to. Raising pigeons in the many different breeds over the years has been an amazing experience, very fun and I have met a lot of people around the world through the hobby. We want to maintain a comradery of fellow fanciers for the future.

I still get handwritten letters in the mail from long-time fanciers – in fact I got one today from an old friend Rick Abrahamzon from Fredric, Wisconsin discussing the current events, friends that are long passed away, breeding of the birds he still has, along with an interest in the breeds I have and colors I am working on.

It's a great hobby, lets try to maintain the comradery and lifelong friendships that come of it. •

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— Fins and Feathers —

By Danny Revolinsky

Growing up in a small town on the Great Lakes I always dreamed of going out on the water.

So I left the pigeons and the family behind to go off in the Coast Guard to earn my Aircrew Rescue Swimmer wings. Having already attended the National Young Bird Show for years and the NPA Grand Nationals, getting back into pigeons was easy. For several years I could not keep birds but showed up and reconnected with old friends. A lot of great memories and stories have been told along the way.

Many of my mentors and friends have passed away often leaving me to ponder how long will I keep going. Having served our country for almost 25 years I was faced with getting out of pigeons or giving up my fins. My neighbor behind us sold their house and the new occupant was not making our lives easy at all. We had made sure everything was legal before we bought the place but never thought about a noise complaint. She repeatedly complained about noise and whatever she could to have the birds gone. I had somehow managed to keep the birds all those years and just wasn't ready to let go. Just like that I put in for retirement and had to give up my dream job and hung up my fins.

Many years later I still watch the weather and swim countless miles at the pool, but I really truly miss the action. The day will come when birds will no longer be in the Loft. This past here has made me think about when should I stop raising birds? What will my family do with them? And of course, why do I have so many? I have been tasked with dispersing a fellow fanciers' birds due to age or untimely death or just that one neighbor who won't stop. Vic Eshpeter passed just before the Grand National this year. He had a good run in the hobby attending 60 plus NPA Grand Nationals. Another long-time friend in the Hobby had to give up his birds due to health.

I can't imagine not having pigeons anymore but after this past year, arrangements have been discussed. •

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PIGEONS at SCHOOL

By Cam Datanagan



I just wanted to share what I did on my day off – My Father, Son, Nephew and I were invited to Ewa Elementary School, because the First Graders were leaning about birds. This was my third year educating the children of this school. This year we had close to 300 students in our presentations. We had a total of nine different presentations ranging from showing them up close to each student and the big bird release at the end.

I represented the National Pigeon Association today and I was very proud of it. Mahalo, Cam•



In Remembrance - Dr. Cordell Chang



Cordell W. J. Chang, 78, of Mililani, Hawaii passed away in Honolulu, Hawaii on Friday, January 19, 2024. Celebration of Life Service was held on Feb 28, 2024 at 9 am at the Diamond Head Memorial Park.

Dr. Chang served as the Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association's delegate to the American Veterinary Medical Association for many years. He worked as a small animal practitioner with the Naito Animal Clinic group and VCA. He was also known for raising high quality canaries, Show King Pigeons and Racing Homers. Dr. Chang was part of team that was instrumental in relighting the fire for the Honolulu Veterinary Society.

Dr. Cordell was very helpful with educating the pigeon community in Hawaii about Pigeon Health. Doc was a great resource when pigeons were brought into the state of Hawaii. Dr. Cordell often judged the Hawaii All Breed Pigeon Association pigeon shows.

We remember Cordell as always having a smile on his face and time for friends.

submitted by Cam Datanagan

Tom Price



Old German Owl Club Fancier and Club Member Tom Price of Virginia recently passed away. Tom was an enthusiastic breeder and good friend of the hobby. Tom would greet you at the show with a smile and a pleasant hello. Tom was a most generous and genuine person, He will be missed.

Thoughts and prayers go out to Tom's family and friends.
submitted by Brian Magee

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Minnesota State Pigeon Association – Welcoming all breeds and new members. Annual sponsor of the North Star Classic all breeds show in November. Dues \$5 Junior, \$10 Single, \$15 Family. Visit us on the web at www.MinnesotaStatePigeonAssociation.com. Membership - Patti Dietzel, 12355 134th Street, Cologne, MN 55322 ph. 952-303-9948 (SO21-JA24p)

Southern Pigeon Cub – Annual show in Louisiana. www.southernpigeonclub.com or southernpigeon@gmail.com (MA22-JF24F)

Virginia Pigeon and Dove Association – Three annual shows including our big Fall show with 1000+ entries. NPA Affiliate Club. Dues \$10 per year. Contact www.vpdousa.org (f)

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Books and Magazines – Antique, Vintage and New Pigeon, Poultry, Automobile. Send email, text or phone. Owen Kalland, 1-408-839-9901 oakjacobklofts1@aol.com (MJ21-MA24)

www.pigeon cote.com – books, magazines, curios, health advice, history. John Verburg

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Wanted – M. Frank Cook, A. O. Schilling Paintings, Photos and Prints. Eric L. Kooker, P.O. 100, Quakertown, Pa 18951 267-242-4676 or e_kooker@msn.com (jf21-ND21p)

Wanted – “Quality” Copper-blue-Wing, white bar Archangels. Call Mavin Jones 352-382-0443

Looking for Pigeon patches and Grand National show report – Mitch Slagle 509 778 0334 (ND23- SO24P)

Wanted Maltese pigeons – Amy Nicolai anocolai151@aol.com (mj24-Ma25F)

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