

Helmet Happenings

What's Inside?

President's Report

By Hank Ebbelaar

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Here it is time for a few words from the President, but really I don't know what to write. In the last bulletin I asked everyone to write a little something for this bulletin. Very few of you did so. That is very disappointing. It takes more than a few to keep a club going.

I am guessing that most of you are done breeding. You are now watching feathers fall out of that ugly duckling to become the next Champion Helmet.

Last October my wife and I went on a cruise to Bermuda. Had a great time, but when I got home some low life stole ALL of my cock birds.

I bought some replacements from some of the top breeders in the AHA. I want to thank them for making those birds available to me. I had some birds given to me by some breeders also and I want to thank you again.

When you get birds from different lofts, they do not always click with your birds. I have never seen so many birds with drooping wings. Some of them look like Oriental Rollers. I raised 28 birds and I have 6 or 8 left. The rest were not good enough to keep. I put the rest of the birds in a large loft so they have to fly more and hopefully strengthen their wing muscles. It seems to help or so I think---wishful thinking maybe?

After talking to our secretary, he tells me we have a lot of nominees for judging at the National in Florida.

A few years ago we had a judge come from Eastern Canada. His name is Gary Parsons. He judged the Western Sectional for us. He did (in my opinion) the best judging I have ever seen. For the first half of each class he gave the reasons for placing each bird as he did. That is something that should be part of the judging responsibilities, so the spectator can also learn something. If you agree or disagree with how he placed each bird.

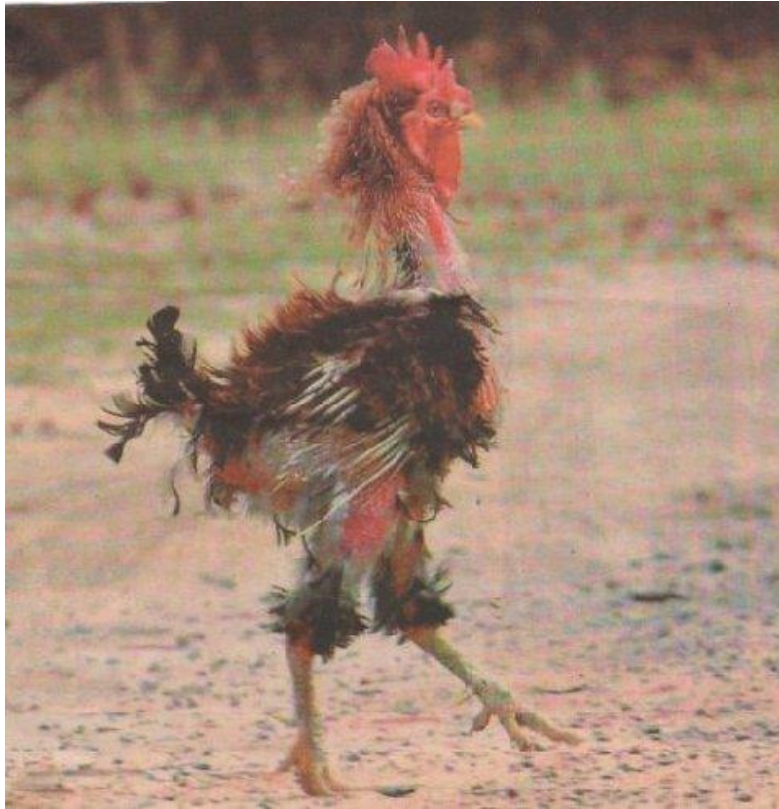
Now another Canadian has been nominated by the name of Guido Madrusan. At the moment he does not raise Helmets. In the past he has. He has judged Helmets in Canada. He is also an all breeds licensed judge. He is in the Who's who in the Komorner world. He is an NPA Master Breeder in both Komorner Tumblers and Nuns; he was breed 6 National Champions, & 7 NYBS Champions. He has 2 Hall of Fame birds and has been Breeder of the Year 6 times.

Every judge pleases one person, and that is the winner. We usually have a Helmet breeder judge our shows. I think an outsider who understands the Helmet and has no axe to grind would be very refreshing. Maybe he could pick a more balanced bird and not a bird that has a terrific crest and head but not much else. Enough of that.

I asked about the finances of the club and not a word or suggestion from anyone. Since Jim Garus took over the printing of the bulletin we have saved some money. The last bulletin cost the club \$31.40. The one before that was \$263 big difference. Big thanks Jim.

I hope to see all of you in Riverside, CA at the 100th Anniversary of the Pageant of LAPC. If not then, maybe at the National in Florida. I believe a lot of the West Coast fanciers will be there. Till next time, yours in the fancy.

As usual a visit to the Manning loft is always interesting. He showed us his "Best" young bird. This one will be tough to beat at the shows. Dennis has a rigorous training regime that he puts his birds through to get them ready for the shows. Look at the eyes over the toes, and how he stands up on his toes, not flat footed. Way to go Dennis, you raised yourself a good one here.



Secretary's Report

By Greg Bliven

Breeding season is over for most of us. I only banded 11 Helmets that have survived, but am pleased with the quality. I also have been very pleased with my Helmets as far as raising babies. Every pair of Helmets in my loft fed and raised at least one baby to weaning, some raised their own and some raised Catalonian Tumbler babies. I hope everyone had a great season and is ready for the show season to start. I look forward to seeing many of you at the shows this year.

Returning Members

Jim Shackleton, OH

If you've joined the AHA in 2011 and Haven't seen your name here, please contact me so I can track that information in a new spreadsheet. Thanks.

Members past due

Shane Aherns, Teddy Anderson, James & Cailin Aston & Monaban, Vernon Barrett, Myron Berger, Brandon & Mindy Bingham, Richard Bohman, Walter Boroznoff, Steve Brockett, Jeff Butler, Gerald Butler, Brianna Clark, Robert Combs & Family, Mike Davis, Ron Davis, John DeCarlo Jr., Phil Decarlo, Marty DeHart, Wayne Diviney, Larry Dobelbower, Keith Edwards, Mark Etherington, Chris Evans, James Evans, Nelson Eylander, Todd & Cathy Farnsworth, Alisha Finkbeiner, Betty & Pat Flinn, Kayla R Flinn, Charles W. Folkening, Louis Fournier, Joseph Gardfola, Gary Garrett, Dave & Kena Lin Gazaway, Mike Geis, Steve Gelhausen, Terese Gillitzer, Galen Goshorn, Roger Gravel, Scott Gray, Joe & Tari Hammons, Bert Harmon, Bill Harnett, Stephen Henderson, David Henshaw, Kevin Heppner, Kurtis Hogan, Don Homik, Jack Janota, Johnnie Johnson, Harold Jones, Doug Keller, Lenny & Donna Keller, Pete Keppley, Robert Kirby, Howard

Kleinberg & Family, Tom & Melanie Kleiser, Ray Kolinski Jr., Lloyd Larghe, Mike Larson, Georgia Lawrence, Bob Lien, Gary Lien, Rafael J. Marrero, Brian McCormick, Bob McMahon, Greg & Christy Michael, Joy Mortz, Gregory Munch, Brian Nichols, Curtis Oberhansley, Vincent Pellegrino, Joe T. Powers, Guy Rainey, Marilu Rajala, Brandy Ralston, Francois Renaud, Don Rexroth, Stan Reynolds, Lorenzo Robinson, Antonio Rodrigues, Richard Ronevich, S&S Lofts, Ray Sanchez, Marvin Schindler, Daniel Sexton, Wes Siebe, Terrell Stone, Nathan Strsich, Mike Sweeney, Andy Terraciano, Edward Verdugo, Chris Walker, Gary Wendholt, Lew Wescott, Jim Williams, Caleb Yatuzis & Family, Gary K. Yount, Steve Zachary.

Members who will be due before next bulletin

Joseph Corradino, Raul Delgado, Chet Edmunds, John Hoekstra, Kenyon Jorgenson, Karl Mike LaCom, Aaron Lorton, Giulio Marcoccia, Paul McRae, Gary Parsons, Leonard Patito, Steve Petitto, Ron Wakefield.

I will put the date your dues are paid thru on the address labels of this bulletin so that you know exactly when they are due. The dates are based on when your dues were due to keep your master breeder qualification of being an AHA member for 10 consecutive years.

JUN-AUG 2011 FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME

DUES	\$125.00
BANDS	\$121.50
BAND POSTAGE	\$16.00
SHIRTS, CAPS, PINS	\$0.00
NATIONAL AUCTION	\$0.00
NATIONAL SHOW REBATE	\$0.00
DONATIONS	\$16.10
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	\$278.60

EXPENSES

BULLETIN PRINTING	\$18.20
BULLETIN POSTAGE	\$47.00
POSTAGE	\$8.80
SUPPLIES	\$0.00
2011 NATIONAL AWARDS	\$0.00
SHIPPING	\$0.00
NATIONAL AD	\$0.00
NATIONAL AUCTION	\$0.00
WEB SITES	\$0.00
2012 BANDS	\$0.00
STAMPS	\$0.00
2012 NPA DUES	\$0.00
CHECKS	\$0.00
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>	\$74.00

TOTALS

JUN 2011 STARTING BALANCE	\$1,475.94
JUN-AUG 2011 INCOME	\$278.60
	TOTAL
	<u>\$1,754.54</u>
JUN-AUG 2011 EXPENSES	\$74.00
<u>JUN-AUG 2011 ENDING BALANCE</u>	<u>\$1,680.54</u>

Get Your Bulletin By E-mail

If you want to get your AHA bulletin by email send your correct email address to Secretary Greg Bliven. You will get your bulletin much faster and at a lot less cost to the AHA. Help us save some money and have your bulletin emailed. To receive the bulletin electronically, email your email address to Greg Bliven at grabliven@yahoo.com. Be sure to put AHA in the subject line.

District 1 Report

By K. Mike LaCom

This is the 100th anniversary of the Los Angeles Pigeon Club and the site of this year's AHA Western Sectional! This could be the largest Helmet show of the year. With at least 14 exhibitors making plans to attend, the total number of Helmets should be impressive! If you have not made up your mind to come to California it is not too late. The LAPC has a good web site for information; i.e. dates, airports, hotels, show hall, entry forms, etc., or give me a call (cell 818-515-9130) or e mail at km11sj@charter.net. The District One guys: Antonio, Brian, Chet, Leonard, John Heppner, and I are looking forward to see what you have raised. I hope I did not forget someone again! California is finally raising some Helmets once again. James Jensen will be judging the Plain heads and Brian McCormick will be judging the crested birds. Brian has said he wants a good challenge, so bring some birds!

If you are like me and my very good friend Jim Garus, then you too have some good memories of roaming the halls of previous Pageants. It is hard to imagine but we roamed the halls for the 50th Anniversary. Getting a ride from our parents and going to a pigeon show was always a great time. Hopefully, we can all continue for several more years, being with friends, and seeing the year's efforts in our birds. Speaking of friends, if circumstances permit, a good friend from the East will be spending sometime in the Helmet area too. Hopefully he can spend a lot of time!

District 2 Report

By Dennis Manning

Things are quiet here in District 2. Just watching the babies mature in the loft. Some disappointments and some surprises. I had a great visit with Mr. Garus and Karl Mike LaCom. It's great to get to sit with friends and talk helmets. Jim has found a cheaper source for feed and that is a good thing we were about to hit \$20 a sack for 14.5%. Got to get rid of some birds, the feed is just too much. I visited with Dennis Bray on the phone some time during the past couple weeks. Dennis is still bragging up his plain head he raised so the gauntlet is thrown. Our friend Ernie Silva from Western Canada had almost all his birds stolen and many apparently sold to the Vancouver squab market... I set Ernie up with some good plain head stock birds this last Spring, I don't know if he got any of his helmets back or not but I heard the bands were cut off of all of the birds that were recovered. The thief apparently lived close by and had visited during a lawn show Ernie had hosted at his house. According to the rumor mill an internet savvy kid that was a young pigeoneer in the area found Ernie's birds for sale online. I've visited on the phone with Hank and he has a couple dandies on the way as well. I even got to speak to with Vic Eshpeter shortly at an event my fellow District 2 members held up at Otto Schenck's home. According to the guys who made it up there they really had a great time. Jim Garus is still hand feeding babies, I'm going to haul him over my remaining supply of Purina Green and Gold to help finish out his season. We have two meets set in District 2 this year; The Sand and Sage Brush show Kennewick Washington the end of October and the Winter show in Puyallup the end of November. Greg Bliven has agreed to judge the SF at the Kennewick show and I am working on the MF judge now. That's it for now see a bunch of you in California at the Western Sectional. It is going to be a great show.

West Coast Get Together

A group of us got together on July 31, 2011. Below is a picture of the NW crew get together at Otto Schenck's house. From left to right Hank Ebbelaar, Vic Eshpeter, Jim Garus, Otto Schenck, Karl Mike LaCom, Greg Bliven, & Mike Larson. A good time was had by all; we had great food and great company as usual.



Another Year

By Dennis Bray

Big thanks go out to Jim & Greg for doing a great job on last quarters Helmet bulletin. It was nice to see more than just one member sending an article for the bulletin.

Has everyone received their American Giant Homer Issue for July-August in the Purebred Pigeon? The Giant Homer Club members and breeders really care about their club and breed. It appears to me the guys are great promoters of each. Much involvement in club issues, they share experiences thru articles in the bulletin. As questions or problems in their breeding programs, upcoming shows and their result after judging. It's all about hours of hard work, patience, and perseverance of numerous dedicated club members.

I am done breeding as of August 31. My floors are covered with feather due to the molt. Disappointed in how few I banded the 2011 season. Sixty in all normally it would be 100 banded at the end of July. Here its end of August babies in the nest. How come my numbers are down? Here is my reason: I think the MFC babies are too weak when hatch to reach out to their parents for that much needed pigeon milk. It appears that the PH and SF young seemed to be stronger at hatching for I don't lose as many that first few days. Grading what is now in my young bird pens: very happy with my 2011 breeding season as quality. Good improvement in PH much improved in head and back skull shortened up beak length. SF just raising them makes me happy, banded thirteen culled two, bad eyes. MFC fewer banded but in each of colors I raise have good looking Helmets.

Now it's about show season time. Our first Helmet meet in District 2 will be October 29-30 at Sand-Sagebrush, Kennewick, WA. Everyone who I have talked with is excited about showing their 2011 young. See you at our meets.
As Ever

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The Integrity of the American Helmet Association

By John Heppner

I have always had a special place in my heart for the Helmet and the AHA. Unlike several other breeds the Helmets have only one club to promote the breed. Helmets do not have a United Helmet Club or The Eastern Helmet Club or The Western Helmet Club. We have The American Helmet Association. This is special.

For quite a few years I have been a silent supporter partly because I was not really in the game, not showing and breeding a lot of Helmets. I have however maintained a few of my old stock birds plus some from Kevin Heppner.

My program has been reinvigorated by the purchase of a really nice hen from Dennis Manning at a Helmet auction some years ago. Mating that hen to some of my cocks produced nothing worth breeding. I disposed of all the young. Then at the 09 Des Moines show I saw what I believed could be the perfect mate to my hen from Dennis. This cock was in the "for sale" section being offered by Bob Lien. The Bob Lien cock was small, typy, broad, had a good frontal and nice beak. He did not have rosettes but showed a lot of promise in every other way. The youngsters from my own cock mated to the Manning hen were all junk. The youngsters raised in 2010 from the Manning hen and Lien cock were all good, and some very good. I feel good about raising some respectable young Helmets again.

I enjoyed reading the AHA bulletin of March-June 2011. I am very glad the leaders of the club namely Hank Ebbelaar, Victor Cardillo and Jim Garus did not just sweep the latest problem under the carpet. When a person or an organization faces a major problem one usually looks for a solution to that problem. Some self-examination is in order. What could we do to prevent the problem? Did we face the problem head on? Did some in leadership not step up to the plate to deal with the problem? Can such a problem be avoided in the future? My own answer is that I believe the AHA can avoid such a problem in the future and I'm going to make a recommendation to that effect. In the sense I believe my article can be constructive and beneficial.

Before I get to that I have an observation. I have never been able to understand why the "good guys" will quit in the face of wrongdoing. Of course this is my own personal view on it and Bob and Tony may have perfectly good reasons for their action. And I accept that. But I can't help but wonder if all the officers had fully stood shoulder to shoulder with Bob whether the situation would have become this grave.

Let me ask you this, If the body has a bad malignant cancer but the body generally is still sound, what do you do with the cancerous lesion? You cut it out to save the rest of the body! Of course that is drastic action, but it is a saving and beneficial procedure. Well, some don't have the guts to do that. But in the end, the results of not cutting out the offending cancerous lesions leads to greater damage and even death!

The award of Master Breeder of Helmets is offered by the AHA and they set standards that must be met to receive the award. Most all clubs do that. One of the requirements in the AHA is you must win a National championship show in order to qualify and a very good requirement I might add.

A look at some history may be in order. James Jensen had acquired sufficient points to be declared an AHA Master Breeder but he had not won a National Show. What did he do while he was striving for that National champion? Did he make a complete ass of himself by calling officers saying, "You have stupid rules, I have all the points! I should be a Master Breeder." No, he patiently continued to improve his stud till he finally achieved the elusive National Champion. That's called "playing by the rules." That's being a supportive good sport.

My proposal to the AHA board is a requirement that in order to be worthy of the AHA Master Breeder award the member must exhibit at least of medium level of sportsmanship at the shows. I'm not saying you aren't allowed to be disappointed now & then. But behavior such as was demonstrated by our disgruntled member would automatically disqualify from the AHA Master Breeder award. Sometimes adults need to be faced with consequences for reprehensible behavior!

I understand Don Phy may propose that purchased Helmets not be allowed to be shown in the first place. This in my opinion has a merit as well. Best Wishes for a good show season.

Thanks

By Jim Garus

John thanks for a great letter and its excellent content. You belong to several clubs and have seen it all. Yes the AHA is unique and we currently have our problems, but we will overcome and continue to be a National Club.

Featured Member of Quarter

By Gary Parsons

I was born in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia. We lived on a farm; my Dad raised a few cows, pigs, chickens, rabbits and pigeons while working in the coal mines. We moved to Sarnia, Ontario when I was a "wee one" after the coal mine was shut down, but my Dad still kept a few chickens, pigeons and rabbits which wasn't a problem in the cities back in those days. So you can see, birds are in my blood!

My oldest brother Bud really got into the hobby here in Sarnia in his teens; he got me and my other brother Ken started! I got my first helmets when I was 15 years old in the early '70's, my brother Ken and I picked up a couple pair from a local Helmet breeder, John Hall. We showed locally and all across Ontario for many years and then finally "crossed the border" and showed a few times in Michigan (District 6) and in Louisville in the late '80's. Our first show in Louisville was October 1988 and we did pretty well, we won Best Red with a red young male, and it was 3rd place overall behind 2 blue young males from Don Phy. The AHA was big in those days that show had 238 MFC entries, and had a total of 326 entries including all other varieties, all young birds, right! My brother and Ken and I attended and showed at most Louisville shows ever since that year, until Ken passed away from brain cancer in 1991. I have had helmets continuously since that first pair when I was 15 years old. I have won numerous Canadian Champion Helmet awards over the years, and have also won many Champion Pigeon awards with my helmets. All these years, I have maintained a fairly small coop of only a 10 ft. by 15 ft. size, which has forced me to keep my numbers down. I have only bred from around 10 to 12 pair of helmets, plus a few pair of whatever breed hits my interest for a few years, and usually about 6 pair of Baldhead Show Rollers that are used mostly as feeders for the helmets. My favorite colors in the helmets are the yellows and the blues, but at the moment I also keep reds and silvers. I have probably supplied Helmets to just about everyone in Canada who has helmets, or they have helmets from my bloodlines. I have bought helmets from many other great breeders too, here in Canada and the US. In the U.S., I started off getting some helmets from Bob Davis, then got some from Gerald Butler, Mike Crawford, Raul Delgado, Bob Dunlap, James Jensen, Don Phy, Everrt Uhls, etc., etc. (alphabetic order).

I was AHA District 10 Director from 1988 to 1994. We held a couple shows in District 10 every year during that time frame, a "Young Bird" and an "All-Age" show, and our membership grew from around 7 or 8 the first year to a high 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! I was awarded a "Certificate of Merit" by the AHA in 1990 for the work I did in District 10 for the AHA and the Helmet Pigeon.

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 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 Canadian pigeon men and helmet fanciers like Randy Cobb, John Hoekstra, Dan Homick, and John Ridler (listed in alphabetical order), we started the CHC. And these guys are still the base of the Canadian Helmet Club today. We have had a lot of members come and go over the last 17 years but these 4 guys, and myself, are still the life-line of the Helmet fancy in 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, I'm sure you guys in the AHA know all about that too, right! Our membership fluctuates between 30 to 40 members, and our show entries have peaked at just over 200 entries. We now have entries in MFC, MFP, SFC, MFCM and MFPM! Right from the beginning we adopted the AHA "Standard" as our "Standard" and we continue to bring in AHA members to judge our shows whenever we can. Over the last few years we have had guys like and Bob Bollinger, Victor Cline, Raul Delgado, Bob Dunlap, Joe Granger and Tony Patti crossing the border to scrutinize our birds and pick the champions!

Back in the early '90's I was lucky enough to be contacted by Colin Campbell of the Australian Helmet Association about selling some helmets to Colin and to Phil Bachner in Australia. So I gladly did and sold him my best red young male at the time, which had just won Champion Helmet at the previous AHA District 10 show, and I also sold him a very good red old hen. That started a long relationship with the "blokes down under"! Colin and I kept in touch with each other over the following years. I would send Colin our Canadian Helmet Club newsletters and Colin would send me

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the Australian Helmet newsletters. Colin said the MFC helmets that I sent him were a big part of the development of MFC helmets throughout Australia. Colin and Phil were able to raise a lot of young ones from that strain and spread them across the country, along with some other MFC helmets that were imported from Canada, England, etc. A few years ago, Colin asked me if I would be interested to travel to Australia and judge the Helmets and several other breeds at their 25th Anniversary Australian National Pigeon Show (in 2007). And of course I said YES!! And it turned out to be a great show and a great vacation! After the show, I spent 3 weeks "down under" visiting with several great Australian Helmet breeders / fanciers! Anthony Ferguson, Mark Moores, Alan Hill, Colin Campbell and Phil Bachner all opened their homes to me and took time to show me around their country! They are terrific people and we all had a terrific time! It took over a day to get to Melbourne, switching planes a few times, but no long layovers. I arrived there Friday afternoon, and started judging Friday evening! I judged the Helmets on Saturday in what they call a "walking pen", with all the birds in a class in a single cage all at the same time (for example all the red young hens in 1 cage at the same time, etc.). I caught on to that method of judging pretty quickly and the guys commented that I did a very good job, especially explaining why I made my selections. It was one of the largest helmet shows they ever had, with almost 150 entries. There were some several other very good judges there at the same time, John Heppner, Drew Lobenstein, Jerry Sindelar (Canada), and several judges from Germany and the Czech Republic.

I've also had the pleasure of judging several AHA Shows, a couple shows in District 6 in Michigan in the early '90's, and a Western Sectional show in Medford, Oregon a couple of years ago. The Western Sectional was a very good and a very fun show, which was the first time that I met Jim Garus, and you all know how special that is!! OK, Dennis Manning was there too..... actually I met a lot of AHA members for the first time there, I know I will miss a few names, but here goes.... in addition to Jim and Dennis, there was Hank Ebbelaar, Dennis Bray, James Jensen, Mike Larson, Karl Mike LaCom, Todd & Kathy Farnsworth, and probably a few others that I missed, my apologies There were some very good birds at that show, and it was a very nice set-up, all shows should strive to have a top-quality judging area like that one had, fluorescent lighting on top of the cages, a nice background, etc. I hope the guys there liked my judging, because I would certainly like to be invited back to judge again, and I would especially enjoy being invited to judge the Helmet Show at the Pageant of Pigeons, that would be a thrill and a lot of fun I'm sure!

Helmets have always been and still are my favorite pigeon breed. They are a challenging breed to raise though, because of their poor feeding / parenting skills so it is not a breed for everyone, you really have to love them to stay with them. I enjoy the shows, the competition and the friends you make. I also enjoy helping other people out with good birds and watching them get better year after year. My only wish is that I wish more people would help out running our clubs and help out organizing and running our shows. There are fewer and fewer of us every year, and I'm afraid to see what some clubs will look like in a few years if the current "worker bees" burn out! Many hands make light work, we need members that are as interested in helping out the clubs they belong to as they are interested in helping themselves out, that's what is called a "win / win" situation!





Bulletin Editor Report

By Jim Garus

Gary is our featured guest this quarter. As many of us know Gary as a long time top Helmet breeder. I have heard people refer to him as Mr. Helmet of Canada. Gary I'm sure the West Coast guys would love to have you out to judge again at the Pageant. We had Gary judge our Western Sectional a few years ago in Oregon and he did a great job. Always spoke clearly as to why he placed a bird and also lots of great humor, as we all need at our shows. The folks attending said it was some of the best judging they have seen. Looking forward to a repeat someday.

As a member of the AHA I would like to throw my two cents in about the controversy that occurred at and after the San Diego National. The following article was placed on the MyFamily International Helmet Pigeon Group website on June 18th approx. 6pm and by 6:20pm it was deleted.

This was posted by Karl Mike LaCom who had a nice visit with Bob Bollinger. [You won't believe who visited me. Had a great surprise visit from Bob Bollinger, his wife and son! We sat under the gazebo and enjoyed some cool drinks. Great time and conversations! Then Bob surprised me . . . When are we going to look at your birds? Bob has not lost his interest in Helmets! "Let me see that bird, I want to hold that one, that one is going to be good" . . . I just hope he is correct! A great friend and great loss for our club.]

It is obvious that this individual does not want to let go of his attitude, grudge, and hate toward Bob Bollinger. Since he does not want to forget the past, I will again defend Bob.

I've been in and out of Helmets since the 60's and I've never seen a person as caring and giving of his time to this club. Bob would literally sit at all shows & work the computer while other people prepared and ushered their birds to the judging area. He wasn't concerned about setting his own birds up; they came up as others brought them. So you tell me who he was looking out for.

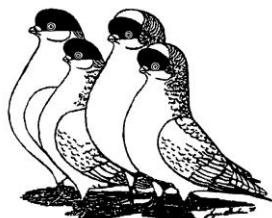
Back when Bob resigned there were a few of us who knew what was being said & to this day good ole Bob has never said one thing against anyone other than he gave it all. Well to give it all doesn't mean you have to take it all from a rude, disrespectful member. In my opinion & in most folks I talk to there were grounds to permanently suspend 1 or 2 members from the AHA. A phone survey was taken and we only missed by a few directors.

What irritates me is people take on any given office and they don't do anything to improve or protect our club. We essentially traded Bob for members who are for themselves and not our club. I have member's personally tell me if it wasn't for the West Coast they wouldn't show nor would the club be intact and some of these members live East. I also know that if certain people show other members will not and pull their birds from show entry. I am one of those guys. There is now talk to form our own AHA site on MyFamily, I like that American Made.

My wish is that the person's involved would come clean and write a letter of apology, I'm not sure if it would be accepted by all, but an attempt should be made. I have been friends along time with both sides involved and man can forgive and forget. I would hope that's the direction this will go. Enough said by me.



Both birds pictured above are very nice birds, but notice the difference in how these two Helmets stand. The one on the right the eyes are above the feet, this is how our birds should stand.



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!

Order Form for AHA Stuff

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City, State ZIP: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

Membership Dues

Adult \$15.00 /yr
 Juniors \$ 5.00 /yr
 Family \$20.00 /yr

Membership Cost \$ _____
 Number of Years x _____
 Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please note that your membership begins the day you pay your dues. Your bulletin address label reflects your current membership term.

Plastic Coated Aluminum Band Series 0-1499
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Bands

Plastic Coated Aluminum Bands \$0.40 each
 Regular Plastic Bands \$0.35 each
 Plus \$2.00 for postage per order

Number of Bands _____
 Year _____

(Min. order = 25 bands) x \$0.35

Please order in increments of 5 (25-30-35 etc.)

Cost of Bands \$ _____

Plus Postage \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

If you want a certain numerical range, get your order in early and specify below the range you are requesting.

Series Preferred: _____
 Alternative Series: _____

Send form to: Greg Bliven
951 SE Academy St.
Dallas, OR 97338
503-623-9797
grabliven@yahoo.com

AHA Ballot

National Show Judges

MFC:

- Guido Madrusan
- Raul Delgado
- John Raposo
- Victor Cardillo
- Donald Trump

SFC:

- Chuck Dwight
- Steve Petitto
- Jim Garus
- John DeCarlo Jr.

Muffed:

- Jim Garus
- Clifford Walker
- Vic Eshpeter
- Mike Crawford

MFPH:

- Tony Patti
- Guido Madrusan
- Leonard Patito
- Emil Snyder
- John Raposo
- Hank Ebbelaar

SFPH:

- Dick Rizer
- Leonard Patito
- Steve Petitto
- Jim Garus
- Hank Ebbelaar
- Giulio Marcoccia

Outstanding Member of the Year (2010):

- Bob Bollinger (Ineligible-won 2009)
- Hank Ebbelaar
- Jim Garus
- Greg Bliven
- Karl Mike LaCom
- Paul McRae

Please return by October 8 to:

Greg Bliven
951 SE Academy St.
Dallas, OR 97338
grabliven@yahoo.com

Proposed Master Breeder Award Change

Official Rule as it now stands

7. If an exhibitor of a given bird is not the breeder, no points won by that bird will be credited to the exhibitor. All points won by a bird must go to the breeder of said bird (if that breeder is a member of the AHA) It shall be the responsibility of the exhibitor to keep the AHA show secretary posted of such changes.

Proposed change:

1. In order for a Helmet to earn any master breeder points, the bird must be bred, owned and shown by the exhibitor.
2. Bands: Points will be awarded to birds wearing AHA or CHA bands that are registered to the breeder. NO split bands will be allowed.

Proposed by: Don Phy

Don Phy
Bob Lien

For Proposed Change

Against Proposed Change

Printed Name _____

Signed _____

Please E-mail your vote or Return by Oct. 8 to:

Greg Bliven
951 SE Academy St.
Dallas, OR 97338
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(503) 623-9797