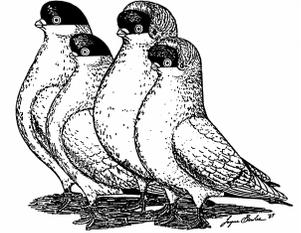


Helmet Happenings



Nov/Dec Issue

January 1, 2005

Special points of interest:

- From the President
- District Reports
- New Officers for 2005
- National Schedule
- Membership listing

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From the President

I was looking over my birds this morning and was pleasantly surprised by a couple of youngsters that have come into bloom. It's always fun to see one shape up. Now if the last ten would get the molt over with I could put the old breeding season to rest. I am pleased however with a few youngsters that will find their way into the breeding program this coming year.

It looks like I'm going to have a very quiet Christmas at home this year. I am scheduled for back surgery on December 20th and regret to say that this will prevent me from traveling to the national. I have enjoyed talking to many of you the past couple of weeks while searching for a judge to take my place. Thank you, Bob Dunlap for stepping up to the plate. Thank you also to Raul Delgado for taking over the M.F. Plain Head judging. I appreciate those who are willing to help out, especially at the last minute. I would surely rather be judging the best helmets in the country instead of dealing with a surgery. I look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new friends at the national each year. So much for

the doom and gloom. I'll see you next year.

Dennis Bray will conduct our meetings as per the constitution. Chuck has the rewards ready and the rooms booked. The judges are in place. It should be a great time. Bob Bollinger will have our updated constitution ready for your review prior to official printing. I would like to see the board of directors adjust the points needed to win hall of fame bird. It's been over a decade since we have had a bird with this award. Directors come prepared with ideas. Do we need to look a re-districting? We have some districts with few or no members. Would the breed be better served with some changes? Are there issues for the betterment of the club that you would like to see brought up?

As I look over the past year in the A.H.A., I feel that we have seen some good progress. We are seeing our shows generally growing in entries. We have gained a few new members. Thanks to Stan Reynolds and Todd and Cathy Farnsworth we have enjoyed more and better bulletins this year. We are now

seeing a consistency in the frequency of the bulletins. As I have talked to many members the past couple of weeks, I believe we will see the biggest national in years at Lancaster. I believe we are seeing an overall improvement in our helmets in every area of the country. Things are looking good.

Now what can we do in the new year? I would like to challenge every member to send an article to the bulletin or the Pigeon Debut. Let us know how you are doing or give us some helpful hints. I would like to see every member get a new breeder started in helmets. I would like to see every member bring in a new member or get an old member to rejoin the A.H.A. Wouldn't it be fun to see the helmets be the number one breed at the national again? We did it once, we could do it again.

Well, there is my Christmas wish list. I think we could do it if we worked together at it. I hope you and your family will have a delightful holiday season. Good luck at the national.

James P. Jensen

Secretary's Report by Charles Dwight

It seems like show season has just started and it is almost over all ready. I have only made it to one show so far this year. I would have gone to one this weekend, but my granddaughter picked this weekend to get married. My wife said that was more important than a pigeon show.

The weather here in Ohio has been crazy for most of this year. Dry in the spring when it is normally wet. Wet all summer when it should have been dry. Warm all fall when it should have been cool. Our temperature at this time of the year should be in the high 20's. It has been in the high

30's to low 50's, with a couple of days in the 60's.

My hens think that it is spring. I have to throw out eggs almost every day. I will start mating a few pair this weekend. That should make it get cold like it should be.

See you at the National.

DISTRICT 2 REPORT
by Dennis Bray, Western Vice President

Yes, I am alive, and attempting to write an article for the bulletin. Got the American Helmet Bulletin marked Sept/Oct. issue. As I opened it up, the front cover is from The President. The last thing James Jensen said to me as I am leaving last years' Helmet meeting in Alabama...."make sure to write some articles for the Helmet Bulletin". As I finish reading our bulletin – now inspired to write something from District 2.

From my return trip from Alabama National a decision was made to begin breeding the S.F. variety helmet. With this years' National being held in Lancaster, PA I think this could be a record show for a S.F. Helmet meet. With the past history in District 2 in S.F. Helmets I certainly should be able to find good breeding stock to compete nationally. Some of the past helmet breeders in S.F. were Alvin Dow from Canada, Len Eklund, Hank Ebbelaar, Jeff and Myron Berger. The Bergers S.F. family of helmets won 11 national champions. Hank with two national wins. Len Eklund was the first helmet breeder to import S.F. helmets from Germany. He received two yellow hens which were exceptional in type, & four blacks. The blacks exceptional in crest and type.

As I begin my breeding season with my newly acquired S.F. breeders, I have three essentials for success. Feeders, planned program and patience. With my first breeding season over I hope to show the west still has top quality S.F. helmets as does the east coast breeders.

Here in District 2 we had our first 50 bird helmet show. It was a great show and all varieties of helmets looked good. Dennis Manning, Vic Eshpeter, Hank Ebbelaar, and myself attended this show. This show had the biggest turnout for M.F.P.H. in our District. Thanks to Manning for the help he has given the other breeders in P.H. It showed with some very good plain head helmets. Hank who has been breeding them since the 70's and Vic who has been working with them since the 80's. We had a great turnout in this variety.

Hank won best M.F. and S.F. Myself winning best P.H. All winning birds were reds. I have found with my P.H.'s they are better parents when it comes to parenting their own young.

Our next show will be Thanksgiving weekend. If all goes well we hope to see another 50 bird Helmet show. Our District is coming alive again and with all 3 varieties.

As ever,

Dennis Bray

DISTRICT 2
by Hank Ebbelaar

Here is some news from the second district of the A.H.A.

On October 30 & 31 at the Benton/Franklin County Fairgrounds, Kennewick, WA the Sand & Sagebrush annual open show was held.

I don't know how many of you are familiar with Washington's climate, but in the Eastern part of the state it is desert. We usually have an annual rainfall of less than 7", thus the name Sand & Sagebrush.

One of the events that was really nice is that we had over 50 helmets shown and also for the first time in my memory, a Plainhead M.F. helmet won best of show. There were 800 birds shown. Dennis Bray can be real proud of the red young cock.

Some time back I was "surfing" the internet, so the younger generation calls it. I call it pure luck. Anyway, I found these pictures there. I don't know if you can use them or not but there they are.

Because I was born in Holland and have had some contact with some Dutch fanciers (and by the pictures), you can see that they fly them. In Holland they know nothing of a M.F. Crested Helmet. As far as I've been able to find out they do not have any S.F. Helmets there.

By the time this comes out in the bulletin Vic Eshpeter & I will have been to a show in Holland and I'll be able to know more.

Hank Ebbelaar

District 2 Sand & Sagebrush show report
Plainhead photos from Holland (cut/paste)

DISTRICT 7 REPORT

By Bob Bollinger

The show season is upon us. Here in District 7 we have had a number of nice shows so far. There were about 50 birds shown at the Reading Pigeon Assn. young bird show. There was also a nice showing of birds at the White Rose Summer show. Congratulations go to Brandon Jeffrey for his win at WRPA.

At our local agricultural fair (York Interstate Fair) there were 800 pigeons shown with 70 helmets exhibited by a bunch of exhibitors. I am always pleased to see a good showing at the fair. These types of public events are great exposure for our hobby and our breed.

There will be more great shows in District 7 later this Fall / Winter. The WRPA Winter (York, PA) show is scheduled for November 13 and the NPA Grand National will be held in Lancaster, PA in January.

I hope to see you all there!

I also had the distinct pleasure of attending the District 14 meet at the EHPC Fall show! What a great show! (see separate article)

"Hats off to Victor Cline!"

By Bob Bollinger

I would like personally congratulate Victor Cline for the great showing at the District 14 Meet with the EHPC. Vic did a fantastic job of coordinating the show. Vic proposed the idea of having a District 14 meet a few years ago. Last year's attempt was foiled by weather. Undaunted, Vic started again this year. He called folks, proposed the show venue, coordinated getting entries to exhibitors, he called people personally to invite them, found judges, and managed the show. Bear in mind that this was Vics first show as a district director. When everything was done there were nearly 150 birds shown by AHA members from 4 states. The weather was great and there were many superb pigeons shown by many exhibitors. All in all a super job!

In our last AHA bulletin, in the President's message, James questioned what we need to do to get excitement and participation back into the club. I submit that we need to do exactly what Vic did. District 14 was without a director for many years. Vic stepped up and took the position. He then sought advice from other members on what to do as a district director. The club came though and many people helped Vic. Next Vic took it upon himself to try to coordinate a district meet and he succeeded admirably! By taking initiative, calling members, and everyone working together we had a great show and a wonderful day of pigeons and camaraderie. Indeed, this is what we need to keep doing and we will revitalize the club!



Victor Cline District 14

Way to go Victor!

DISTRICT 14 REPORT

By Victor Cline

I would like to start by thanking everyone who made our District 14 show possible. It was great to have the support of so many people. The EHPC always has a nice show under a large pavilion in a secluded park. The club was helpful and welcomed us with open arms. AHA members came from 4 states and 3 districts to show. What a nice turn out! Thank you everyone! A special thanks go to Victor, Raul and Harold who had to drive quite a few hours to make the show! Of course I also need to thank Mike Crawford who had the tough job of judging the MFC.

We had 148 birds shown at the show. There were 97 MFC, 48 MFP, and 3 SFC. The competition was tough. There were many great birds shown. Champion MFC was won by Raul Delgado with a nice black YC. Bob Bollinger won Reserve MFC with a black OH. MFP was won by Harold Strawniak with a Black OC. Mike Crawford took Reserve MFP with a Silver OC. Steve Brockett won SFC. The winners list does not tell the whole story. In nearly every class the quality was several birds deep. I have included a copy of the show report* and a group picture in the bulletin.

I hope this is the beginning of many more great point shows in District 14.



AHA Members at the EHPC Fall Show

District 14 Meet

Back Row: Brandon Jeffrey, Galen Goshorn, Steve Comos, Mike Crawford, Gary Cable, Harold Strawniak and Victor Cline

Front Row: Steve Brockett, Bob Bollinger, Victor Cardillo and Raul Delgado



WRPA Winter Show

RPF Winter Show

Sturbridge Pigeon Show

Thanks to everyone who sent in show reports and articles. Some items had to be re-typed into this publication. Our apologies if any mistakes were made. The Editors

2005/2006 A.H.A. Officers

Effective January 2005

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District 10 Director: OPEN

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District 13 Director: OPEN

District 14 Director:

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Membership list

Membership list

Constitution Changes

Proposal #1 Hall of Fame Award
 by Henry Ebbelaar, Dennis Bray & Leonard Petito.
 January 17, 2004

Section 4, Sub-section D:

The Hall of Fame program may be amended at any time by a majority of the senior membership votes after compliance with the provisions of Section A through E of article V of the Constitution, except that under Section D only one news bulletin review is necessary.

Change to:

Section 4, Sub-section D

The Hall of Fame program shall be reviewed periodically by the Board of Directors who have the responsibility to set the points for the award. The points required shall be based on the intent to keep the award challenging but reachable and will not be changed more than once every three years.

For 22 Against 3 PASSED

Proposal #2 Breeder of the Year Award
 by Robert Bollinger, Victor Cline & Mike Crawford.
 January 16, 2004

Section C, Awards Recognition, Sub-section 2:

This annual award will go to the member selected by popular vote of the membership on the basis of: (a) AHA show record for the past year, (b) results of his or her breeding stock in other lofts, and (c) genetic improvement of the Helmet Pigeon.

Change to:

Section C, Awards Recognition, Sub-section 2

This annual award will be provided based solely on the total number of AHA Master Breeder points that a member acquires with young birds in the preceding year.

For 21 Against 4 PASSED

National Show Schedule

Board of Directors Meeting	Thursday, January 13th 6:00 p.m.
NPA Meeting	Thursday, January 13th 8:00 p.m.
AHA Judging	Friday, January 14th Start at 9:00 a.m.
NPA Banquet	Friday, January 14th
AHA General Membership Meet.	Saturday, January 15th 9:00 a.m.
Awards Presentation	After General Meeting
AHA Auction	After Awards Presentation

National Judge Changes:

MFC	Bob Dunlap
MFP	Raul Delgado
SFC	Charles Dwight
SFP	Charles Dwight

Membership changes

New Members:

Dennis Craynor
1489 N. 400 E.
Centerville, UT 84014

Ph: 801-295-6199

Joseph Gardfola
52 Arborview
Carmel, NY 10512

Ph: 845-531-2262

E-mail: gardfol1@ren.com

Brian Nichols
P.O. Box 229
N. Bonneville, WA 89639

Mike Sweeney
6316 Deerwood Dr.
Lincoln, NE 68516

Ph: 402-327-8853

Old Members rejoined:

Charles W. Folkening
517 W. Upper Schooner Vly Rd
Nashville, IN 47448



Are your dues past due?

Please check your mailing address label on this newsletter—
If highlighted, your membership is due for renewal.

Gary Lein	9/1/04
Gary Parsons	10/1/04
Norman Edinger	11/1/04
Jim Elledge	11/1/04
Ryan Grant	11/1/04
Roger Gravel	11/1/04
Roy Hurst	11/1/04
Harold Jones	11/1/04
Leonard Patito	11/1/04
Scott Gray	12/1/04
Kevin Heppner	12/1/04
Brian McCormick	12/1/04
Tony Patti	12/1/04

BAND ORDERS

It's time to order your 2005 bands.

If you want a certain series or just want low numbers you need to get your orders in soon.

Bands are .35 each, with a minimum order of 25 plus \$1.00 for postage.

See order form inside.

Treasurer's Report

Oct/Nov 2004

by Charles Dwight

INCOME

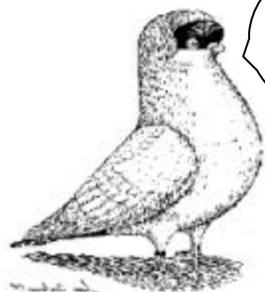
Dues	\$ 385.00
Bands	\$ 591.50
Band Postage	\$ 24.00
Patch	\$ 7.50
Total	\$1008.00

EXPENSES

Postage	\$ 3.85
Stamps	\$ 37.00
Copies	\$ 5.14
2nd 1/2 2005 Bands	\$525.00
2005 NPA Dues	\$ 20.00
Total	\$519.15

TOTALS

Starting Balance	\$2,900.64
Income	1,008.00
TOTAL	3,908.64
Expenses	-590.99
Ending balance	\$3,317.65



See you at
the National

Please send comments, suggestions or even a joke or two to us at:
528 N. 660 W. West Bountiful, UT 84087 or
e-mail us at loftsoffun@highstream.net



The next deadline for newsletter articles is February 20.

Thanks,
Todd & Cathy Farnsworth, Bulletin Editors

Issue	Deadline	Mailing date
July/August	August 20	August 31
Sept/Oct	October 20	October 31
Nov/Dec	December 20	December 31
Jan/Feb	<u>February 20</u>	February 28
Mar/April	April 20	April 30

Paste order forms here

Helmet Happenings

Have a great 2005 season!

American Helmet Association

c/o Todd Farnsworth, Bulletin Editor
528 North 660 West
West Bountiful, UT 84087-1333



American Helmet Association

Founded 1958

