



California State Racing Pigeon Organization

Since 1945

SPRING 2014 Newsletter

Plymouth Peak Pro Challenge



Congratulations to our
2012-13 California Money Winners!

2012

0712-AU12-TOP :	LUNCH BUNCH	3166-AU12-VITA :	PACIFIC WEST LOFTS
2206-AU12-MTZ :	RMC LOFT	1296-AU12-SIER :	Sierra Ranch
0066-AU12-AUB :	Sierra Ranch	3177-AU12-VITA :	PACIFIC WEST LOFTS
1204-AU12-SPET :	LADIN / SPETZ	3166-AU12-VITA :	PACIFIC WEST LOFTS
1524-AU12-VIP :	Rick Barker	2237-AU12-MTZ :	RMC LOFT
2237-AU12-MTZ :	RMC LOFT	0269-AU12-FVC :	Solid-North Loft
1296-AU12-SIER :	Sierra Ranch	0376-AU12-STON :	Gold Star Loft
0373-AU12-STON :	Gold Star Loft	0234-AU12-STON :	Gold Star Loft

2013

30708-AU13-MAN :	Manteca Conection	88083-AU13-RMC :	R M C Loft
0306-AU13-KEYH :	Duane Gragg	14018-AU13-AA :	Gary Bertagnolli
3260-AU13-COOK :	De La O-Siino	0114-AU13-VIP :	PARADISE LOFTS
3063-AU13-SYV :	Hunsicker Lofts	3232-AU13-COOK :	De La O-Siino
30124-AU13-MAN :	Manteca Conection	3072-AU13-SYV :	Hunsicker Lofts
4768-AU13-FVC :	Mexicano Loft	4753-AU13-FVC :	Mexicano Loft
3260-AU13-COOK :	De La O-Siino	0041-AU13-RARA :	Mo Loft
3263-AU13-COOK :	De La O-Siino	14002-AU13-AA :	Gary Bertagnolli
0419-AU13-STON :	Gold Star Loft	0041-AU13-RARA :	Mo Loft
3280-AU13-COOK :	De La O-Siino	88083-AU13-RMC :	R M C Loft
0223-AU13-LAKE :	Rachel Olivieri	3260-AU13-COOK :	De La O-Siino
0838-AU13-ACE :	Blue-Face	3072-AU13-SYV :	Hunsicker Lofts
3260-AU13-COOK :	De La O-Siino	1392-AU13-SIER :	Sierra Ranch

The Original Premier One Loft, 7 Race Series



Perch Fees: \$125 Per Bird
6 for \$600 or 8 for \$700

Accepting Birds February 27th
Replacements until June 1st

Brad Hoggan Owner and Loft Manager (435) 760-0885

www.plymouthpeak.com



California State Racing
Pigeon Organization Since 1945

SPRING 2014 NEWSLETTER

*Published two times each
year and distributed
to all CSRPO members*

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calpigeon.org



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Pigeon Potpourri

ORDINANCE ASSISTANCE PROTOCOL

If any member in good standing with CSRPO requests assistance with an ordinance problem, we first assure the flyer has:

1. No CC&Rs restricting the keeping of racing homing pigeons.
2. Conformed to local zoning laws regarding the keeping of racing homing pigeons.
3. Followed building codes and obtained required permits.
4. Complied with licensing requirements regarding the keeping of racing homing pigeons.
5. Kept his /her racing homing pigeons in a healthy atmosphere.

The CSRPO will then endeavor to help the fancier to the following extent, provided that he/she has furnished information requested by the Ordinance Chairman and that he/she is in compliance with the aforementioned restrictions.

- A. Match local funds raised and paid to a law firm for fighting the ordinance problem. Such matching funds are not to exceed \$3,000 per case unless prior authorization for more money has been obtained from the full Board of Directors. In all cases, the CSRPO will not reimburse the locality more than the portion they have raised and paid as their share of the matching funds.
- B. Request ARPU to assist with funding of the ordinance litigation.

For further information, contact your regional vice president.

2014 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

01/25/14 Bakersfield Rpc Annual Show & Auction

02/01-05/15 Sierra Ranch 5 Race Series

09/17/14 The Shasta Classic Race

10/12/14 San Francisco Bay Area Triple Challenge

10/18/14 Plymouth Peak OLR

10/19/14 The 2014 Golden State Classic

11/2/14 Gold Country Challenge



**See the web site for updates
www.calpigeon.org**



A photograph of Joyce Stierlin, a woman with short blonde hair, standing in front of a small, single-story building. The building has white vertical siding and blue horizontal lattice work. There are two small, covered entryways with blue frames. A yellow diamond-shaped sign is mounted on the right side of the building. The background shows trees and a clear blue sky.

Joyce Stierlin

2014 CSRPO Walt Disney Award Winner

By: Chou Hang

I am please to announce that Joyce Stierlin has been awarded the Disney award for 2014. For those who do not realize how hard it is to obtain this award I will explain a little about the process. To be eligible the applicants must fly a total of eight old bird races with a minimum of 2500 miles and five young bird races with a minimum of 1000 miles. The point system is more complicated but it pretty much sums down to that you have to have a bird qualify in every one of those races to be eligible and then all races are totaled up by the number of points you receive in each

race. There are six different divisions that members can apply and qualify for. For more information please see out CSRPO website under the CSRPO information tab. On behalf of myself and the organization I want to congratulate Joyce for this achievement. Now for a little information about Joyce.

How did you get started in pigeons?

In the '70s my late husband Roy spent many long nights on law enforcement stakeouts with state judge and breeder

Joyce Stierlin

extraordinaire Mel Miroth as they tracked the comings and goings of heroin dealers. Mel talked for hours...and hours...and hours about his pigeons. That awakened Roy's childhood memories of pigeon flocks circling over his Davenport, Iowa neighborhood where many Belgian families resided. Mel helped us find a couple of breeder pairs, we joined the Sacramento RPC, and fell in love with the sport. One of my fondest memories of that time was watching Stan Melville crank his old abacus-looking clunky calculator to figure bird speeds at knockoff after looking up the deviations in his "black book". When Jay Weisgerber introduced the first handheld Texas Instruments TI mini computer to do the speed calculations, most flyers (with Charlie Jacinth leading the pack) poo-pooed it as "impossible to get the clock variation right". We persevered, though, tried the "new-fangled thang", and cut final KO from a many-hour ordeal to under an hour. I do kind of miss racing into the clubhouse ten seconds before knockoff time to turn the clock crank at the beep of the time cube. Well no, not really, 'cause I'm several dozen years older now and my walker doesn't go that fast!

What breeding methods do you use?

Roy always handled the breeding program and I did the loft management and flying. His method was mate best-to-best,

which meant whenever I'd get a bird that won a couple races he'd pull it and stock it (DARN!). Then at the end of each season he'd take two cocks and two hens with the best record and stock them. Over the years he bought birds at the State Race auctions and Fort Sutter auctions to bring in new blood. One of the birds that did so well last year was from Roy's old family.

What training methods do you use?

Training varies greatly depending upon how the birds are responding and distance of the upcoming race. In general, though, I loft-fly most days until one month before the season and then go up into the Sierras three times a week to build lung power (and also because I love driving in the Sierras!). One thing I learned this past year was to leave the old birds alone and quiet on shipping day. This I learned because my family comes first and there were so many graduations and weddings that took me away from home on shipping days. Thank goodness for great friends like fellow Penryn-ite Larry Holmes who helped out by boxing up the birds and taking them to shipping for me. Anyway, my absences seemed to be good for the birds... they did better whenever I was gone. Thank goodness, too, for the Benzing-Live clocking system that a few of us in the Camellia City Combine are testing. That allowed me to go

Joyce Stierlin

into the Internet on my cell phone, see who was clocking, and see how their speed compared to others in the combine. Great fun!

How do you feed your birds?

Again, feeding varies greatly depending upon weather and distance of the upcoming race. I make a general written plan with details of the amounts and types of grains to feed each day, and then execute that plan every day. All feed is super clean and weighed to keep the birds at about 1.25 ounces per bird per day when they're training or racing. Medications are done the same way and the waterers are cleaned and sanitized every day. One thing I did learn in the past couple of years was an old bird feeding program from Stanton Woody that emphasizes seeds with lots of fat for the old birds. That made a huge difference in their performance.

What words of wisdom would you pass on to new fliers?

Read everything you can get your hands on, and develop friendships with other flyers. Listen to their ideas and try the ones that make most sense for you. Don't try more than one new thing at a time, and try it for a long enough period of time to give it a real chance. I think the birds need consistency. They also respond to genuine affection. Brad LaVerne's

flying partner Henry Coors showed me years ago how the hens in their flying loft treated him like their lover, cooing at him whenever he walked into the loft. All other things being equal, motivation makes the difference. The birds know if you really love them. Enjoy our sport and enjoy your birds.

Strains or birds that have helped you win the Disney Award?

As I said above, 658 is down from Roy's old family. He didn't keep pedigrees so I don't know much about the strains involved, but his breeders came from such people as Ted Little, Al Rubida, George Choi and Mel Miroth. The other great old bird last year was 12204 which came from Ed Minvielle's cross of Colin Walkers and Armand Zazuettas. Both birds clocked consistently at the top of the sheet; it was a real MIRACLE! I hope all fancers have such a wonderful season at least once in their flying career. When you work hard year after year and you are blessed with your miracle season, ENJOY!



In 2014, the 7th annual.....

Gold Country Challenge

- 4 Races flown from the high deserts of Nevada and over the High Sierra Mountains
- \$6000 1st Overall Average Speed Ace Pigeon
(Prizes based on 200 paid entries going to Race 1)
- 42% of Prizes Awarded to Average Speed Aces
(Rewards the best and most consistent entries)
- 3 Different Ways to Win Prizes
(Overall Ace Pigeons + Prizes in Race 3 & Race 4)
- Live Training & Race Results on Website
- Optional \$50 Champion Point Bird
(Based on innovative point system previously used)

Ship Birds (and checks) to:

Jon Hans
6120 Chrysler Circle
Garden Valley, California 95633

Phone: (530) 409-2485

Web: www.GoldCountryChallenge.com
Email: hansfamilyloft@gmail.com

Please Make Checks Payable to: Jon Hans

Contact
Info

**Challenge Your Pigeons
in the Race where it Pays
to have the Ace!**

**One Loft Race Series
Hosted by Hans Family Loft.**

2014 Rules:

- **Perch Fees: \$100 Per Bird or 6 for \$500**
(After the first six birds, additional birds are \$85 each)
- Perch Fees due when birds are sent to the loft
- **Entry Fees: \$225 Per Bird**
(Entry Fees due before Race 1)
- Entries accepted February 15th to May 15th
- Replacements accepted until June 1st
- No limit to the number of birds a breeder may enter
- All active birds on a breeder's team must have entry fees paid before Race 1 to maintain prize eligibility
- All birds vaccinated for PMV upon arrival
- Entry Fees Cut 10% for race transportations
- No Buy-Backs. Birds remain property of breeders
(Owners Pay Return Shipping)
- Live Training Tosses, Race Results, and Standings posted on Website via WinCompanion
- Race dates subject to change in event of bad weather

Prizes based on 200 paid entries

Overall Ace Pigeons determined
with Average Speed

All birds on the drop
share equal prizes

Overall Ace Pigeon Payout

1st Place - \$6,000
Prizes Paid 10 Positions
Overall Average Speed

Optional \$50 Champion Bird

Category determined by Points
Based on innovative point system
previously used for Ace Pigeon
Paid 5 Positions Per 100 Entry
100% this category paid prizes

Race 1 (165 Miles)

Coal Canyon, NV
October 12th, 2014

Race 2 (240 Miles)

Valmy, NV
October 19th, 2014

Race 3 (266 Miles)

or Carlin, NV (287 Miles)
October 26th, 2014
1st Place - \$2,500
Prizes Paid 10 Positions
20% of Prize Pool

Race 4 (334 Miles)

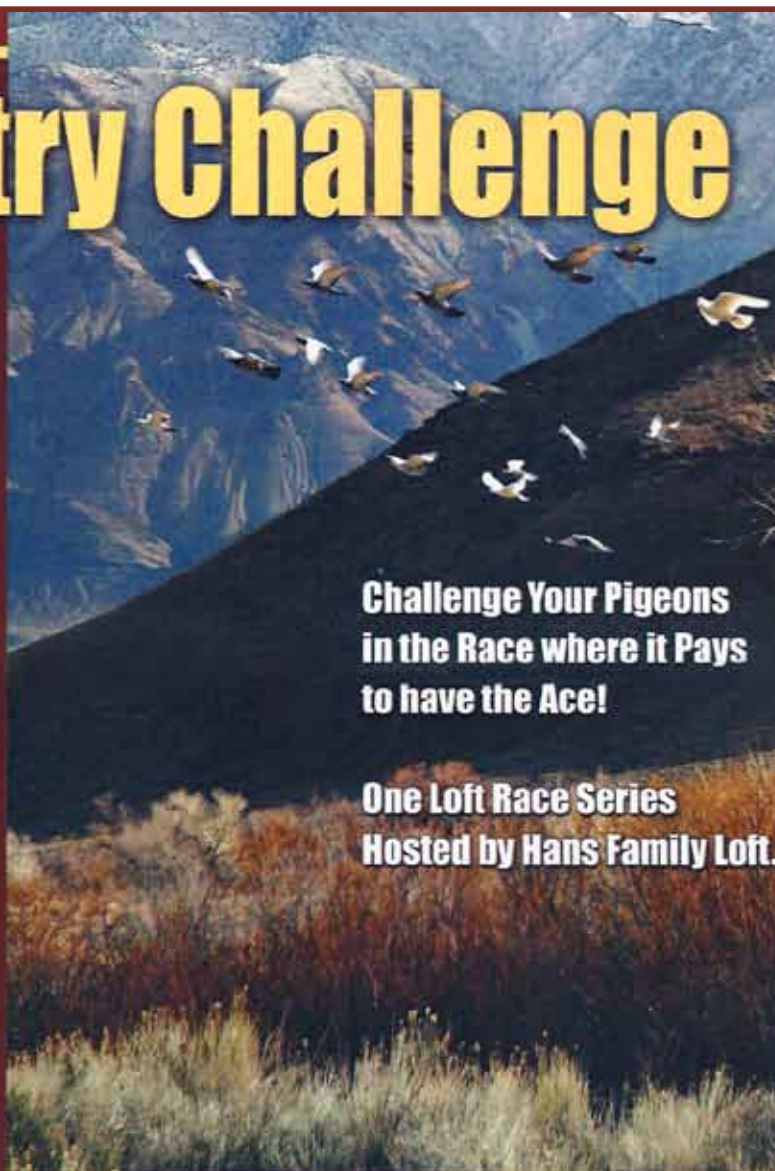
Deeth, NV
November 2nd, 2014
Sunday - BBQ Lunch
1st Place - \$5,500
Prizes Paid 10 Positions
38% of Prize Pool

Our Sponsors

Royal Racing Feed & Grain
supplied by Leach Grain & Milling
Downey, CA www.leachgrain.com



Health of entries to be maintained on
supplements from Racing Pigeon Mall
(Owner John Vance) 949.496.4825
www.racingpigeonmall.com



2013 CSRPO Annual Meeting

CALIFORNIA STATE RACING PIGEON ORGANIZATION ANNUAL MEETING 11-02-2013

The meeting was called to order at 10:20 am by President Bill Barger at the Convention hotel in Petaluma. Present at the annual meeting: Board members Barger, Coston, Stone, Meder, Vander Heide, Stierlin; delegates from Apple Valley, Auburn, Bakersfield, Compton, Fort Sutter, Fresno, Manteca, Martinez, North County, Orange County Flyers, Salinas Valley, San Diego, San Francisco Racing, Shasta, Sonoma, Tri Cities and Tule.

The Board approved proceeding with the meeting. A moment of silence was observed for our departed members. Minutes of the Feb 2013 Board meeting were approved as published.

OFFICERS' ANNUAL REPORTS:

President Bill Barger introduced himself and the vice presidents, and said it has been his pleasure to serve as CSRPO president this past year.

2013 CSRPO. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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North Vice President Frank Meder has handled several ordinance problems. One was resolved by relocating the flyer's loft farther from the property line. Frank noted it is important not to locate a loft on commercial property. Also be careful about the number of pigeons kept in relation to size of the property, and members should take care not to fly birds on holidays when many neighbors are gathered outside and may be disturbed.

Central Vice President Jerry Stone had one inquiry this year from a fancy pigeon owner whose lofts were too close to the property line and too many pigeons were maintained for the size of the property. This was resolved by moving his birds to a friend's house in the country.

South Vice President Jim Vander Heide said the only ordinance problems he's seen involve noncompliance with ordinance restrictions.

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Secretary-Treasurer Joyce Stierlin gave the financial report and provided copies for clubs:

Beginning Balance as of 9-01-2012		\$53,001.77
Checking	\$9,966.40	
Savings	\$33,035.37	
CD	\$10,000.00	
Income		
2012 Late Dues	\$56.00	
2013 Dues	\$12,012.00	
Interest (Savings)	\$25.10	
Interest (CD)	\$114.05	
2012 Race	\$2,507.00	
2013 Race	\$2,250.00	
		\$16,964.15
Expenses		
2012 Convention	\$1,389.23	
2013 Convention	\$3,250.00	
Awards	\$2,355.63	
Donations	\$1,500.00	
Insurance	\$1,376.00	
Newsletter	\$3,060.21	
Office	\$1,118.65	
Officers' Expenses	\$2,956.80	
		\$17,006.52
Ending Balance as of 8-31-2013		\$52,959.40
Checking	\$9,898.93	
Savings	\$33,060.47	
CD	\$10,000.00	
Net Loss This FY		\$42.37

Darryl Coston moved and Larry Ault seconded that we approve the report. It was approved unanimously.

NOMINATIONS: The vice presidents and secretary-treasurer are

up for election this year. The following nominations have been made:

North VP	Frank Meder	(Fort Sutter)
Central VP	Dan Severns	(Manteca)
South VP	Jim Vander Heide	(Orange County Flyers)
Secretary-Treasurer	Joyce Stierlin	(Auburn)

Larry Ault moved and Darryl Coston seconded that we approve the nominations. It was approved unanimously. President Barger swore in Dan Severns as Central Vice President.

AUDITOR'S REPORT:

Auditor Jim Ryan's report was read: "The CSRPO financial records were reviewed on October 18, 2013 and found to be in compliance with all acceptable accounting procedures. Any required IRS reports or documents have been filed on a timely basis. The California Statement of Information has been filed and the required fees have been paid. No discrepancies were noted."

2014 CONVENTION HOSTED BY MID-VALLEY COMBINE: Convention Chairman Randy Blackwood said the convention will be held one week earlier (October 23rd-26th). This is at the request of Loft Managers Carl and Tim Perry who have a scheduling conflict with the later dates. Convention headquarters probably will be at the Clarion in Modesto. Room rates should be around \$80. The California State Race will be at Carl Perry's loft in Hilmar. Mid-Valley will try to have a show and they are looking for someone to do the junior race.

2015 CONVENTION APPLICATION: The Northroad Combine has submitted an application to host the 2015 Convention in Fresno. Larry Ault moved and Randy Blackwood seconded that we accept the application. It was approved unanimously.

WATERHOUSE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Jerry Stone announced that this year's Waterhouse Achievement Award goes to Bill Barger. He has been in pigeons since the age of 16 and has held many offices at all levels. Currently Bill is an AU director, CSRPO president and show judge. Our congratulations to Bill for extraordinary achievement in the sport!

OKLAHOMA LITIGATION: President Barger reported there has been an evidentiary hearing and the trial date is set for January 27th. Randy Blackwood moved and Stanton Woody seconded that we donate \$2000 from savings to the OKC Legal Defense Fund, Citizens Bank of Edmond, PO Box 30, Edmond, OK 73083 to help defend this lawsuit.

North VP Meder said we need to be careful about donations that involve one-loft races, but he supports this one because Rick Mardis is defending his involvement as chair of the AU National Race in 2010 and this could affect the sport in general. The motion was approved unanimously.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Leonard Lee asked if we are still working on using the National Database for CSRPO awards. There is no news on this yet.

Stanton Woody moved and Lee Serpa seconded that we separate the State Race buyback fee from the buyback race entry fee and make buyback \$35, leaving the buyback race as an option for the host club. After discussion, Woody recommend increasing the perch fee to \$100 and having no buyback—the bird belongs to the owner and there is a set time after the race to make arrangements to retrieve the bird. After that time the bird becomes property of the host organization. Secretary-Treasurer Stierlin noted that in February the Board will be restructuring the State Race fees to clearly separate perch from entry, while maintaining the current funding levels for host organization and CSRPO race expenses. Woody withdrew his motion in favor of the Board's revamping of the race rules.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 am.

Joyce Stierlin, Secretary-Treasurer



2014 CSRPO Board Of Directors Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 9:54 am by President Bill Barger at Fresno Brooks Ranch Restaurant. Present: Board members Barger, Coston, Vander Heide, Hang, Brazil, Severns, Meder, Stierlin; Committee Chairs Gonigan, Blackwood, Harmon. Guests: Jerry Stone, Gene Hart, Carl Perry, Ken Larrey.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Northern Vice President Frank Meder – Frank handled a few minor issues but no major ordinance. His local combine has lost two clubs recently; both are working to retain their non-profit status. Meder reminded clubs to keep up with required annual filings such as tax reports with IRS and FTB and also the Statement of Information (Domestic Nonprofit Corporation) with Secretary of State. Some organizations can file simple e-postcards (IRS and FTB Form 990-N) online if their gross income is below a certain level.

Central Vice President Dan Severns – No issues

Southern Vice President Jim Vander Heide – No issues

Judges' Chairman Mike Brazil – Mike Gonigan has met the criteria and passed the test to become a certified CSRPO Judge. Congratulations, Mike!

Awards Chairman Mike Gonigan – Mike has been studying ways to use the AU National Database data to determine CSRPO Hall of Fame awards instead of requiring paper applications from our members. This method would truly reward the best California birds since many qualifying flyers currently do not fill out the applications. Current CSRPO HOF only considers results from a single competition group, requires a minimum of 3 diplomas to qualify, and uses points earned by the top 10% of birds in each race. AU does not require diplomas and uses best UPR score (position divided by number of birds entered) per race day regardless of competition group. Mike recommends we use AU NDB data and methods to award the Top 10 birds in each category listed below, with the winner receiving the CSRPO plaque and all winners listed in the annual CSRPO Yearbook. For Old Birds there are 3 distance categories (middle, long, all) for each of the 3 birdage categories, making 9 awards. For Young Birds all distances qualify for each of the 3 birdage categories, making 3 awards.

Old Birds	Races	# Races	Total Miles			
Middle Distance	Under 350M	4	800+	<350 Birds	351-900	900+
Long Distance	Over 350M	3	1275+	<350 Birds	351-900	900+
All Distance	(1)under 250M (1) over 450M	4	1200+	<350 Birds	351-900	900+
Young Bird	any	4	800+	<350 Birds	351-900	900+

It was moved by Stierlin, seconded by Hang, and unanimously approved that we adopt this new method starting with Old Bird Season 2014. This does not affect the Disney Awards; flyers still must submit paper applications for this by December 31st each year.

Gonigan announced the winners for 2013 CSRPO Hall of Fame and Disney Awards.

CSRPO Hall of Fame - Old Birds

<150 Birds	1. Joyce Stierlin	12 A 12204 BCC	301.28 pts
	2. Joyce Stierlin	12 AUB 707 BBC	142.66 pts
151-350 Birds	1. Joyce Stierlin	12 AUB 758 BCH	314.44 pts
	2. Roy Cline	12 MAN 20406 BBH	314.16 pts
	3. Tom Shelton	09 BAK 1464 BBC	297.56 pts
	4. Roy Cline	12 ARPU 6976 BCH	200.34 pts
351-600 Birds	1. Joyce Stierlin	11 AUB 658 BBSPH	532.56 pts
	2. Tim Perry	12 GSF 2409 BCC	290.46 pts
	3. Joe Silveira	12 GSF 250 BCH	273.38 pts
901-1250 Birds	1. Alex Bieche	10 BIECHE 10024 BCH	684.68 pts
>1250 Birds	1. Leonard Lee	12 LLL 12 BCWFH	1338.12 pts
	2. Leonard Lee	12 AVC 1732 BBH	1057.88 pts

DISNEY AWARD

26-50 Lofts	1. Joyce Stierlin
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CSRPO Hall of Fame - Young Birds

<150 Birds	1. Frank Meder	13 MEDER 432 BB	175.68 pts
	2. Carl Hanson	13 MAN 30441 BC	129.38 pts
	3. Matt Hans	13 HANG 41 BB	112.68 pts
	4. Jim Ryan	13 RYAN 1390 BC	107.28 pts
	5. Sonny Cangiarella	13 OBC 371 BB	107.12 pts
151-350 Birds	1. Tim Perry	13 GSF 471 BB	399.66 pts
	2. Carl Perry	13 GSF 430 BC	323.16 pts
	3. Tim Perry	13 GSF 403 BB	251.62 pts
	4. Mickey Hickman	13 MAN 30244 BB	231.36 pts
	5. Matt Hans	13 HANG 22 BB	223.66 pts
	6. Matt Hans	13 HANG 28 MRBL	219.84 pts
	7. Joe Silveira	13 SILJ 341 BBPD	187.86 pts
	8. Abel Castellanos	13 JEDD 31401 BB	179.56 pts
	9. Abel Castellanos	13 HAN 4541 BC	172.86 pts
	10. Carlos Saldana	13 MAN 32163 BC	129.10 pts
351-600 Birds	1. Carl Perry	13 GSF 426 BC	333.70 pts
	2. Carl Perry	13 GSF 444 BC	258.66 pts
	3. Tim Perry	13 GSF 647 DC	257.76 pts
	4. Wilma Rose	13 GSF 0005 BB	190.36 pts
601-900 Birds	1. Juan Sepulveda	13 CBR 4048 BBWF	564.96 pts
	2. Juan Sepulveda	13 COM 526 BB	509.92 pts
	3. Juan Sepulveda	13 CCF 3070 BB	449.96 pts
901-1250 Birds	1. Ron Actis	13 MTZ 2024 BB	748.32 pts
	2. Sonny Cangiarella	13 OBC 347 BB	435.72 pts

2013 CONVENTION REPORT – The directors reviewed the convention report sent by Pat Siino.

2014 CONVENTION REPORT – Chairman Randy Blackwood said the Modesto Clarion Hotel has been secured for the October 23-26 convention dates. Rooms will be \$80 per night. There will be a State Show and a Junior Race. Mickey Hickman is show chairman. Tim Perry will be loft manager for the junior race if his son and daughter can enter. Junior race birds will be housed in the State Race loft but will have different color electronic bands. Coston moved, Hang seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve these requests. The junior race will be released from Corning (188 miles) and the senior race from Weed (293 miles), weather permitting. Carl Perry's lofts will accommodate more State Race birds (350) so it was moved by Meder, seconded by Severns, and unanimously approved that we increase the maximum to 350 entries, limit 2 per member, with an entry deadline of February 28th.

DONATIONS – It was moved by Coston, seconded by Meder, and unanimously approved that we donate \$1000 to the Ladies' Auxiliary Scholarship Fund and donate \$500 to the City of Hope's Fly For Hope program.

STATE RACE RULE AMENDMENTS – South Vice President Jim Vander Heide gave his report on modifications to the State Race Rules to increase the perch/final fees and remove the buyback option while retaining the general breakdown of administrative costs and prize payouts. Secretary Stierlin added a special format of that proposal to be used for the 2014 race since collection of the \$75 perch fees is already under way. Next year's race would use Vander Heide's format.

	2013 FORMAT		2015 PROPOSAL		2014 PROPOSAL	
	%	\$	%	\$	%	\$
Perch fee		75		100		75
To CSRPO	10%	2250	10%	3000	10%	2250
To Host	5%	1125	5%	1500	5%	1125
To Prizes	85%	19125	85%	25500	85%	19125
Final Race Fee		100		200		225
To CSRPO	10%	2000	5%	2000	5%	2250
To Host	5%	1000	15%	6000	15%	6750
To Prizes	85%	17000	80%	32000	80%	36000
Buyback Fee		125				
Buyback Total		25000				
Amt to Host		5000				
Amt to Prizes		20000				
Total Fees Paid		300		300		300
Total to CSRPO		4250		5000		4500

Total to Host	7125	7500	7875
Total to Prizes	56125	57500	55125

It was moved by Vander Heide, seconded by Hang, and unanimously approved that the 2014 State Race Rules be amended per Stierlin's proposal and the 2015 State Race Rules be amended per Vander Heide's proposal.

Mike Brazil said we should increase capital prizes to a number equal to ten percent of the original entries. For example, if we take 300 entries the number of prizes should be 30; if we take 350 entries the number of prizes should be 35. It was moved by Brazil, seconded by Coston, and unanimously approved to make these changes.

COST SAVING IDEAS – At our Board meeting last year President Barger appointed Secretary Stierlin to study ways to reduce our costs. She reported the following ideas which together could save over \$1850 per year. Many of these take advantage of free email. 419 of our members have their email address on file and 520 do not. Meder noted we need P.R. to get more members to provide their email address. Currently Stierlin is compiling the CSRPO Email List from club rosters sent in by club secretaries and from emails she receives from members. It needs to be made clear to the members that they will receive more timely information if their email address is on file.

Mail the Fall Newsletter issue and the yearbook together. (\$1200 vs \$1650). **SAVINGS \$450**

Set a specific date by which both publications must be printed and ready to mail.

Larry Cook recommends October 1 so publications get to our members before the convention.

We do bulk rate mailings and they go out slower than regular mail.

Pay for yearbook postage only if the convention host organization meets the October 1st deadline.

Mail printed copies of the Spring newsletter only to those members who are not on the email list.

SAVINGS: \$759

Each newsletter issue costs about \$1700 for printing and mailing (\$1.81/member).

Mail printed copies of the yearbook and Fall newsletter together, but also email the electronic newsletter to members who are on the CSRPO email list. It will get to them faster. Move yearbook pages that give rules and application forms (Disney, HOF, Show) to the newsletter .

It was moved by Meder, seconded by Coston, and unanimously approved to email the electronic version of the Spring newsletter to all members on the CSRPO Email List and mail the printed version to members who do not have email. The Fall newsletter printed copies will be mailed to all members along with the yearbook, and an electronic version of the Fall newsletter will also be emailed to those who have their email address in the CSRPO Email List.

Send emails instead of printed mailings to State Race entrants

SAVINGS: \$354

127 of 158 current State Race entrants have email.

Cost per piece of mail is 66 cents. Email is free.

Use the email system to send the 4 notices to all entrants who have email.

Snail-mail printed copies to entrants who do not have email.

This was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Send acknowledgements for receipt of annual dues via email vs printing

Only send decals when they are requested.

SAVINGS up to \$300

53 of 61 club contact persons have email.

Cost per acknowledgement letter is 66 cents each.

Decals cost \$400. Most of this charge is setup for printing, so ordering less would save about \$200.

Added posted to mail the decals is about \$50.

By unanimous voice vote it was approved to have Secretary Stierlin try this method this year.

PROPOSAL TO ALLOW INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS - Joyce Stierlin

CSRPO member clubs are required to be in good standing with AU. Starting in 2014, AU will drop the charter of any club that does not have a minimum of five who pay dues through that club over a period of two years. Six of our CSRPO clubs would be dropped if they don't increase their membership by 2016. Also, our pigeon enthusiast population is aging and due to health concerns many are having to drop out of active flying. Often they turn to entering birds in special races only. With the following amendment to CSRPO By-Laws Article 1 Section 6 (amended wording is underlined) Secretary Stierlin proposed that the Board consider individual requests and approve/disapprove as appropriate.

6. The Board of Directors may grant membership to a person living in an area of California that does not have a racing pigeon club to serve them, and also may grant membership to a person living in California who does not belong to a recognized racing pigeon club but has demonstrated support for pigeon racing. Application for such memberships shall be in writing, forwarded to the CSRPO Secretary-Treasurer, and accepted only upon majority approval by the Board via the email board action process. The dues will be paid directly to the CSRPO Secretary-Treasurer.

Dan Severns moved instead that we open up individual memberships to all applicants, but there was no second to this motion. It was moved by Coston, seconded by Hang, and approved 8-1 that we adopt Stierlin's proposed amendment.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS - Joyce Stierlin

In recognition of the outstanding efforts by Fay Leighton and Margaret Gwinnup to promote the Ladies' Auxiliary Scholarship Fund, Secretary Stierlin moved that we grant honorary membership to them. Meder seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22.

Joyce Stierlin, CSRPO Secretary-Treasurer

Sexing Pendulum - Science or Hokum

Ever since I returned to the sport of Racing Pigeons, I have encountered many interesting concepts and theories. I use the word “theory” loosely because a theory is based on conclusions derived from repeated experimentation using the “Scientific Method”. I got a big kick out of the idea one could determine the sex of a bird by swinging a pendulum over their body and observing its orientation. If the pendulum motions back and forth, it is a cock; if it eventually or initially motions in an elliptical or circular direction, it is a hen. This empirical idea has been around for a long time. The natural question is “does it actually work”? One has

to be curious about a concept that goes against Newton’s First Law that states, “Every object persists in a state of rest or uniform motion in a straight line unless it is compelled to change that state by a force acting upon it.” If the sexing pendulum works, then somehow, the bird is creating a force to make it do so.

I came across the sexing pendulum concept after reading an advertisement in the Racing Pigeon Digest. I jumped on it and purchased one. It is no more than a little piece of metal attached to a string. All one has to do is initiate a force on the mass of the pendulum while placed over a bird and observe the direction of

SHASTA CLASSIC

The One Loft Race Now With 5 Races in 2014!

Sign Up On Our Website!

Accepting Birds Feb 1st - May 18th

Perch Fee Now Only \$100 Per Bird or 6 for \$500!

Loft Manager~ Dan Welch Cell: 530.941.9360

Website: www.shastaclassic.com

DanMilnerDesigns.com



By Loren Lukens (Mother Lode Racing Pigeon Club)

its motion. I couldn't wait to give it a try. The first thing I did was try it out on birds in which I already knew their sex. It worked like a charm. I couldn't believe it because I had my doubts. That year I gave it a try. The pendulum was used on all my young birds at the time of weaning. What astonished me was after the birds matured and sexual dimorphism was obvious, my predetermined calculations came out about fifty-fifty. What's up with that? Once I knew for a fact the sex of the bird I tried the pendulum again, and it always came out correct. Now things are getting interesting. Instantaneously I realized a controlled experiment would determine the merit of this phenomenon.

In order to perform an experiment, one must formulate a hypothesis(es). I chose to keep it simple and formulated one hypothesis. If a sexing pendulum can determine the sex of a pigeon correctly, then it should be 100% accurate in sexing pigeons of known sexes. The experimental design included testing 10 hens and ten cocks of positively known gender while blindfolded. The blindfold consisted of a pair of motorcycle goggles covered with electrical tape. The pendulum was a small 4.6 gram cylindrical piece of iron with 10 inch string attached.

In order to accomplish this task, I enlisted the help of Chuck Hughes (Lazy Oak Loft) who is a good friend and fellow Mother Lode Racing Pigeon club member. The experiment started out with Chuck bringing a bird into the testing site and holding it directly under the pendulum. He brought each bird in randomly, and I had no idea as to its sex. Chuck proceeded to start the pendulum in motion and record its direction.

Naturally, the suspense was high, and I couldn't wait to see the results. In 100% of all birds tested, the pendulum motioned straight back and forth. Not in one case did the pendulum move in an elliptical or circular direction. We were both blown away by the results.

After the initial experiment we retired to lunch. While at lunch Chuck thought it would be a good idea to go back and test the same birds over again, only this time he would be the one holding the pendulum. I agreed that was a good idea as that would help substantiate reliability. We did the experiment again and low and behold, we came up with the same results. The pendulum never wavered from the back and forth motion. This data confirms that the hypothesis must be rejected. The sexing pendulum does not determine the sex of birds. I must mention that this study is limited to only one kind of pendulum and if anyone feels their pendulum does work, I would suggest they do the same experiment.

It seems like the story should end here, but it doesn't. After all the testing was done on the second round, we decided to try it out again on just a few birds with full vision. The results were conclusive as the pendulum motioned back and forth when placed over a cock, and motioned in an elliptical pattern when placed over a hen. This is way too crazy. Apparently, the power of our mind through motor control can subconsciously influence the muscles in our fingers resulting in the way the pendulum swings. This is way more than I want to take on at this stage of my life. However, if someone would like to take this to the next level, I invite them to do so. Ever heard of a "Weegie Board"?

Sacramento Area News

The Camellia City Combine held a Show on Dec 7th 2013 at the Eureka Road School. The show was held in conjunction with the Northern California Pigeon Fanciers all breed show. Best of Show went to Dennis Bisnett who also took Best Flown , Best Un-Flown and Best Eye Sign. Best Show Racing Homer went to Joe Neves and Best Non- Standard went to Gary Brasiel. C.S.R.P.O. State Judge Jim Cain presided over the judging .

Fort Sutter Racing Pigeon Club

While other clubs continue to show a decline in membership Fort Sutter continues to grow. There are usually new members voted in every meeting. This is attributed to the positive image presented by the club. Under the leadership of President Frank Meder the club is progressively moving forward. The club continues to provide state of the art Benzing clocks for all of the members along with an allocation of chip rings. While maintaining a club house is tough for some clubs Fort Sutter seems to do it effortlessly. The real truth is that the hard work of the members through fund raising auctions, feed sales and running two annual fireworks stands is the key to success. The club has between 16-18 active flyers and has plans to increase the number. Providing a positive attitude to racing is a key to retaining flyers along with help and encouragement for new flyers.

The Sacramento Racing Pigeon Club

The Sacramento Racing Pigeon Club (one of the oldest in the area) continues to thrive though not actively participating in local competition. Dan Walsworth has taken over the Secretary/Treasurer position while Larry Miller continues as President with Jim Williams as Vice President. The club is still actively involved in white bird releases at Sunset Lawn Mortuary and continues to provide feed to members at discount prices.

Feed day at the SAC club is still a festive occasion giving non active flyers a chance to socialize and tell old pigeon guy stories.



January 2014 C.C.C. Show

Camellia City Combine

The Camellia City Combine continues to aid the local clubs in getting the birds to the release point. Maintaining a first class trailer with two identical sets of removable crates makes it more convenient for the driver to drop off one set as the other set is being loaded. Each club has its allocation of crates based on number of flyers. Recently, Reno has been coming in on the longer Old Bird Races helping to keep the cost down. Driver Jon Hans continues to do an excellent job of hauling the birds, care during transport and responsible releases. Jon is a pigeon flyer himself and cares for the birds as if they were his own. He carries water and has a set up for lights inside the trailer.

Western Open

The Camellia City Combine will again be participating in the Western Open from Winnemucca Nevada.

Birds from all points of the compass are released together to fly back home to various Clubs and Combines from 200-over 500 miles from the central point. There are various division awards along with donated films by Jim Jenner as prizes. The Combine will have a separate result sheet and a trophy for the local winner this year.

Good flying to all.

Respectfully Submitted:

Gary F. Brasiel

Publicity Fort Sutter R.P.C.



Scholarship Report - 2013 Convention

Fay Leighton Chairlady

At convention the scholarship was renamed (The Martha Apel Scholarship) but for banking purposes we will still be The C.S.R.P.O. Scholarship fund .Thank you Martha for starting the scholarship that has helped so many of our members , children, and grandchildren with there education.

Balance \$12,947.22

Scholarship Pay out

1. Glenn Gillen \$2,500.00 (Grandson Lee & MaryAnn Serpa)
2. Riley M James \$2,000.00 (Grandson Alan & Barbara Schulman)
3. Everette Walls \$2,000.00 (Grandson Leonard & Ann Lee)
4. Danielle Belanger \$2,000.00 (Granddaughter Dennis Weinreich)
5. Kristine Jones \$1,500.00 (Granddaughter Bob & Fay Leighton)

Balance \$2,947.22

MONEY ORDERS \$16.00

Expenses for Raffles and trip to Williams

Samsung 10' Tablet /Lunch and gas

Printing and postage/Certificates \$467.78 Pd.\$ 400.00

Balance \$2,531.22

(The following 2 checks were received too late for this year's deposits)

M&M Classic Race 50/50 raffle & bird feeder Raffle	\$ 195.00
Tule Racing Pigeon Ass. Honoring Mary Cox (special race)	\$ 316.00
Friday night Ladies general meeting and Raffle & silent auction	\$ 650.00
Sandra Norgrove a donation of	\$ 500.00
Saturday at loft and Saturday night Banquet tickets for Samsung tablet.....	\$ 860.00
Saturday loft and banquet tickets for Benzing M1 timer with pads	\$ 880.00
Saturday night silent bird auction	\$ 1,290.00
Saturday night silent auctions afgan quilt and statue.....	\$ 190.00
Saturday night raffle.....	\$ 650.00
Winner of the race Eugene Overbay made a donation from his winnings.....	\$ 500.00
New balance at close of convention.....	\$ 7,921.22
Nov.18th-2013 Martinez Homing Pigeon Club	\$ 200.00
Dec. 7th-2013 Duane & Denise Gragg	\$ 100.00
Dec.7th-2013 Marty MacDonell.....	\$ 100.00
Dec. 15th-2013 The Perez Family	\$ 350.00
Dec. 17 th -2013 Pat Siino/Armando DelaO.....	\$ 500.00
Dec. 17 th -2013 Richard Norgrove	\$ 150.00
Dec. 19 th -2013 Fifty/ Fifty raffle @ Perry Pigeon Event	\$ 150.00

New Balance \$9,471.00

Overbay, Gragg, Mac Donell, Perez,Pat Siino & Armando DelaO all made donations from their winnings, thank you all so much.

I feel so blessed to have such great support from all of you out there, for buying, selling, and donating so these students can get some help with school expenses being what they are.

And a special Thank you to Dorthy Martinez and Kathy Bertagnolli for their outstanding help. (You girls rock).

San Diego Holiday Classic

THE LONGEST RUNNING ONE LOFT RACE IN THE COUNTRY

2013 San Diego Holiday Classic Winners



L-R Back Row: Annual Meet/Loft Managers, Ray Jones(Utah Team), Tom Hill(Utah Team), Ma & Richard Odeguera, Sandy & Rob Governetti, Rick Barker, Grey & Alex Blacher, Little Brothers, Kim & Steve Stearn, Dave Blaco & Chuck Williamson
L-R Bottom Row: Captain Chuck Coleman, Ryan Zornhagen, Ryan Jones(Utah Team), Steve Miner, & Art Casali
Not Pictured: Scott Laidler & Sandy Gibson

2013 Superbird Winners



Joe Add & Larry Limasa



Juan Soto, Saleem Ismail & Hung Dao



Utah Team

Not Pictured: Scott Laidler & Sandy Gibson



San Diego Classic is proud to be a supporter of City of Hope. We were able to donate over \$6000 from the race & auction!

Our representatives for City of Hope are:
Nancy Lewis & Michelle Vigue



2014 San Diego Holiday Classic

FIRST PLACE 40,000 pts.

Perch Fee: \$125 per bird, 6 birds - \$500, 8 birds - \$600, 10 birds - \$700

Race Fee: \$300 per bird (Payable only if bird goes to the 300 mi. race)

****Optional: 3 Race Average Speed(150, 200 & 300 mi.) - \$100 per bird****

First Place Based on 400 Birds Going to Race - Prizes Paid Thru 10% of Birds Shipped
15% Deducted for Expenses

Accepting Birds March 1st thru July 15th, 2014

Ship Birds To: San Diego Classic Club
6905 Central Ave., Lemon Grove, CA 91945

Any Questions Contact Steve Miner - (619)933-8188 - sminervangruen@aol.com

See Our Website for Full Details: www.SanDiegoClassic-HolidayCup.com

J.K. Images

2013 CSRPO Convention

hosted by

Sonoma County Racing Pigeon Club

The 68th annual CSRPO Convention and Race was again hosted by the Sonoma County Racing Pigeon Club (SOC Club) at the Sheraton Hotel in Petaluma and was held on November 1-3. The convention activities followed the same format as the 2012 convention except there was no pigeon show and the ladies program was completely changed. Once again we were blessed with beautiful weather.

The convention kicked into gear Friday afternoon with registration. Joyce Stierlin was there to collect race fees and “meet and greets” were going on everywhere. Our hospitality room was filled to capacity all afternoon and the vendors were busy selling their products. We did have something new this year...before shipping started, we hosted a welcome reception for everyone in the ballroom. There was Caesar salad and pizza, all you could eat, and beer and wine, all you could drink, FREE for all.

After the reception, we got down to business, shipping first the junior race birds and then the state race birds. The ladies auxiliary members and their guests headed up to the 4th floor to get down to their business including the annual meeting, the raffle benefiting the scholarship program, and dessert.

Saturday was a busy day for everyone. Our seminar speaker, Ed Minvielle, gave an interesting and informative presentation, as always. The state meeting followed with President Bill Barger presiding. Then it was off to the junior race loft at the home of Tom O'Brien and Patty Driver and then the state race loft at Mike and Sue Cambra's home for a great lunch, bird auction, and the arrival of the race birds. The race was much tougher this year than last due to heavy winds along the way and the longer mileage.

The ladies auxiliary members and their guests spent the day visiting the Charles Schulz Museum, lunching at the Bear Republic Brewery, and wine-tasting and shopping in downtown Healdsburg.

The evening agenda began with the mayor of Petaluma welcoming us and giving us reasons to come back for another visit sometime soon. After we enjoyed a delicious buffet dinner and dessert, the speeches began with Nancy Lewis from the City of Hope, followed by Brad Hoggan, our AU rep who gave us a brief update on the PETA situation. Virginia Camacho, the Ladies Auxiliary President, spoke briefly about

the ladies organization and then recognized Ann Cook as the recipient of the Helyn Brancato Award for her years of participation and leadership. Fay Leighton, the Scholarship Chairperson, spoke about the importance of the scholarship fund and presented \$10,000 in awards to deserving family members of our CSRPO membership. Martha Apel was the driving force in the establishment of the scholarship many years ago so to honor her it has been renamed the Martha Apel Scholarship Fund. Martha expressed her gratitude for this honor but was really pleased that the scholarship fund has helped so many with their college education. Bill Barger, the CSRPO President, spoke very briefly and joined Joyce Stierlin, CSRPO Race Secretary, to present all the CSRPO racing awards.

With dinner, speeches, and awards behind us, now it was time for the fun to begin, with...you guessed it...the RAFFLE! This was actually a multi-faceted raffle – the Benzing/Siegel's clock raffle for the scholarship fund, the notepad raffle for the scholarship fund, the general raffle with many, many items put together by the SOC Club and being shared with the scholarship fund, and finally, the silent auction for the scholarship fund which included pigeons donated by winners of the races, a lovely quilt from Fay Leighton, and a gorgeous afghan made by Nancy Dias. Our convention chairman, Richard Norgrove, was the master of ceremonies for the evening which included

running the general raffle but once he got warmed up it seemed more like comedy central. He got tickled over one of the raffle items and pretty soon the whole room was exploding in laughter and it was non-stop craziness for the rest of the raffle. He said he had quite a few requests for his emcee services at other events coming up but had to say thanks, but no thanks.

As the evening, and the convention, was coming to a close, there was one thing left to be done. Each of the banquet tables had a unique centerpiece hand-crafted by the multi-talented Fay Leighton that one lucky person at each table would get to take home with them. Everyone was asked to lift up the tablecloth and whoever had the post-it stuck where they were sitting got the centerpiece. There were 12 very happy people.

Sunday was the day for good-bys and see you next years, one last trip to the vendors, picking up those winning birds in the race, and to look forward to next year's convention being hosted by the Mid-Valley Combine. For the SOC Club it was a day to breathe a sigh of relief for a job well done knowing we can just sit back and enjoy, next time.



Bakersfield Racing Pigeon Club

Annual Show and Auction...January 25, 2014

Stan Hullender BRPC Publicity

Where is the largest Racing Pigeon Show in California? Bakersfield of course! A beautiful day greeted those who arrived seeking good competition and fellowship with old friends.

Jean Daramy and Tom Shelton provided us with a great tri-tip lunch with all the fixins. Jim Morrison was our show chairman, assisted by Ramon Ortega.

We want to thank our judges, Bill Barger, Mike Brazil, Alan Dyar and Vidal Gonzalez as they had their work cut out for them. 148 quality birds were entered. Two of the three show champions had to go to tie breaker.

The big news of the day was the showing by Ashlyn Mayfield, who is the daughter of BRPC member Jerrod Mayfield. She won classes in diploma, non-standard, and to top it off had the Grand Champion record bird. It was quite a days work for Ashlyn. Congratulations young lady!!

Thank you so very much for all of you who joined us in making this years show one of the best in recent memory. Looking forward to seeing you in 2015.



Show Winners:

RECORD CLASS

BEST OLD COCK- ALAN DYAR, GURNAY 77
BEST OLD HEN- ASHLYN MAYFIELD, KERN 10501
BEST YOUNG COCK- LARRY COOK, LCOOK 1719
BEST YOUNG HEN- TED LITTLE, BAK 835
CHAMPION RECORD BIRD- ASHLYN MAYFIELD. KERN 10501

DIPLOMA CLASS

BEST OLD COCK- JIM MORRISON, BAK 1029
BEST OLD HEN- ASHLYN MAYFIELD, BAK 115
BEST YOUNG COCK- MIGUEL JIMENEZ, TULE 305
CHAMPION DIPLOMA BIRD- JIM MORRISON, BAK 1029

NON-STANDARD CLASS

BEST OLD COCK- ASHLYN MAYFIELD, BAK 132
BEST OLD HEN- STAN HULLENDER, GURNAY 919
BEST YOUNG COCK- LARRY COOK, LCOOK 862
BEST YOUNG HEN- JIM MORRISON, BAK 598
CHAMPION NON-STANDARD BIRD- STAN HULLENDER, GURNAY 919





Auction January 25, 2014





M&M Classic 2014



Final Race Date: September 28th from Hilt, CA 290M

1. The M&M Classic consists of 3 races. #1- Sept 14th 150M, #2- Sept 21st 200M, and #3- Sept 28th 290M.
2. Perch Fees- \$75.00 per Primary Bird (Nonrefundable-Payable when birds are placed in the loft)
3. If you enter 1-3 Primary Birds, (1) Back-up; 4-6 Primary Birds, (2) Back-ups; 7-10 Primary Birds, (3) Back-ups.
4. Birds accepted Feb 1st- May 4th. (Approx. 300 Bird capacity)
5. All Paid entries remain the property of the breeder. Breeder pays for return shipping.
6. All birds will receive a PMV and Pox vaccination. 9th and 10th flights will be cut and pulled.
7. Entry Fee(s) will be payable in 3 installments: #1-When placed in the loft, a \$25.00 Entry fee will be payable for each Primary entry. #2- On Sept 1st, a \$50.00 Entry fee will be payable for each entry. (Refundable if your bird(s) is not entered in the 150M Race). #3- On shipping night of the final race, a \$100.00 Entry fee will be payable for each entry (Refundable if the bird(s) is not entered in the final race). **Special Note:** If your back-up(s) have not taken the place of a Primary entry as of Sept 1st, the \$25.00 entry fee is payable to activate the back-up entry.
8. There will be 5 capital prizes for Races #1 and #2 (Payable by Clocking order). There will be prizes for the Top 5 birds of the series based on Average speed (Average Speed paid by the clock. Computed on Total Distance / Total Time). On the FINAL Race, Capital prizes will be awarded to the top 15% of birds entered. (All capital and Class nominations paid by the drop)
9. If a bird does not clock, due to piggy back or clock or chip malfunction, and M&M verifies the bird is in that drop, it will be placed last in that drop.
10. To maintain eligibility all birds must have all fees paid or they become property of the M&M Classic.
11. 15% retained from all Race Entry fees and Class nominations.
12. Final Race Results package will be provided.
13. Please make all checks payable to Mike Gonigan.
14. Race and training dates are subject to change due to weather. Loft manager reserves the right to make all final decisions.
15. Each Syndicate will have one person that will be responsible for money and correspondence.
16. Participants should visit the website regularly for News Updates, Inventory and Training/Race results.

Contact: Mike Gonigan

7861 S. Endow Rd.

French Camp, CA 95231

(209) 814-7002

mmclassiconeloft@gmail.com

TONY THE MENTOR SAYS: “LEARN THE BASICS!”

“That was a big project you took on. Reminds me of a professional football coach coming into a bad organization and turning it around. What Impressive Results! Congratulations!!”

Famed Racer and Breeder, Frank McLaughlin

Ever wished that you had a personal flying consultant? Someone outside of your club so you had some secrets in life. Perhaps a flyer with a record of successful flying of many different families, from more than one location. Maybe even flying from different directions, like from the North, the East and from the South? And, with all of this, a proven track record of bringing joy to flyers through helping them better their past performances.

What would you give if his advice was predicated on years of successful pigeon racing. No magic, no secrets. Just hard work, common sense and a knack for keeping things simple. If this effort is neither magic nor secret, but hard work, you can't help but believe that s/he has a chance of learning what it takes to climb your way to the top. Regardless of the credentials and pedigrees you may be competing against.

THE TEACHER

Please allow me to introduce you to my friend of long standing, **Mr. Anthony (Tony) Huhn, Racing Pigeon Consultant** who creates a great amount of personal delight by educating flyers who are tired of finding themselves on the bottom of the race sheet,.

I met Tony about thirty-five years ago at Bill Hail's home. Bill was a member of the Army Pigeon Corps during WWII. Although raised in Petaluma, CA, he eventually settled with his charming Nurse wife, Kathleen in Santa Rosa, which is about twenty miles north of Bill's original home in bucolic Petaluma.

He was one of the most charismatic people I have ever met. He was a very inclusive (i.e., inviting) man, not filled with judgement. I found him to be as humble as any man who had lost a million dollars twice (when a million dollars meant something!), then priding himself

by paying all of his debtors back. His mind was a dynamo. And did he love pigeons!!



TONY'S EARLY YEARS

“Tell Tony to Fly for me!”

The Late Bob Gerhow on his deathbed to his son, Robert, Jr.

In 1964, Tony commenced flying in southwest Santa Rosa when he was fifteen. Flying with the Santa Rosa Racing Pigeon Club, his first team of young birds was composed of birds given to him by the senior flyers. Flying out of an old barn, he lost most his birds in this first year.

Interesting enough but without surprise, these youthful experiences were the building blocks which shaped the Tony of today. His adult flying life has included the goal of not losing birds. The second perception is that to this day, he truly enjoys the challenge of flying different birds and families at the same time. Claims that it hones his flying skills to balance such a routine so successfully.

In 1965, Leo Enright of the North Road Concourse took him under his wing. It was this Master Flyer that Tony was taught loft construction, the importance of sun and ventilation to health, the science of the eye, and the art of pigeon racing and selection of breeders.

Not being a slacker, Tony's 1967 Young Bird season was quite a success. In fact, his mentor was so impressed that, unbeknownst to Tony, he sent Tony's race results into the former Racing Pigeon Bulletin (RPB). Through Leo's effort, at age eighteen, Tony won 12th Honorable Mention in the RPB's *Little All American Awards*.

In those days (the mid 60's), the vast number of flyers assured that there was a layer of racing enthusiasts well versed in the art of sportsmanship, particularly

amongst the European Flyers, flying some thirty miles long of Tony. It was flying in this European melting pot that Tony's flying and breeding mettle was vulcanized, then hammered and shaped on the ancient anvils of Wooden.

In his world of pigeon flying, he was treated with the respect and appreciation for which we, young and old, thirst. The essential ingredients needed to stoke the confidence of a young person so that when he walks through his own period of pubertic rites, he will exit as a whole sentient being. Tony built many powerful relationships amongst these old timers who literally took him under their wings. He was taken across the State, many a time, to meet the flying and breeding legends of old. He maintained these relationships throughout his life, long past the flickering of theirs.

For Tony Huhn is a man who honors his relationships. That has never been a question. In fact, literally on his death bed, Bob Gerhow of Galaxy Devriendt fame (a WWII tank commander who had two tanks blown out from under him, one on the African Campaign, the other in Germany), told his son Robert Jr. to "tell Tony he is the best flyer I ever competed against!". And at Bob's funeral, Robert shared this message with Tony.

THE FORGE

"When they are talking about you, they are thinking about you. When they are thinking about you, they are worried about you, make no mistake."

Joe McAvoy (the *Silver Fox*), Bay Cities Combine YB Average Speed Champion.

The old timers of the TAM Club, such as Leo Enright, Doc Bland, DVM, Erwin Eickele, Al Boccone, and Bud Sthymmel taught Tony everything he knows of racing pigeons; not with standing the Genie of experience. Tony was taught the subtleties of the eye and its many subtle aspects. The body of the bird was deemed essential. The relationship of the flights to flying the short, the medium, the long distance racers. As well as the importance of the secondary wing feathers, and why the shape of the wing was of such importance.

Nest positions, flying styles, and the methodology of feeding, training, and flying were also in the Curriculum. With his rare intellect and admitted obsession for racing pigeons, Tony is literally the last of the proverbial Mohegans¹. When he goes, this invaluable source of racing pigeon knowledge from the deep past will migrate from this Earthly existence along with his soul.

RECORD FLYING SOLO IN THE SOC

"Your competitors may have a better loft location or fly racing pigeons that have very impressive pedigrees, but birds that are treated with more care, consideration, patience and love will often dominate the race results each week." (AFH)

¹ An eastern tribe that lost their formally recognized status until federally granted in 1994.

1985 Old Birds

TONY HUHN LOFT 1985 OLD BIRD SEASON SONOMA COUNTY RACING PIGEON CLUB (18 FLYERS) NORTH BAY CONCOURSE (83 FLYERS) BAY CITIES COMBINE (164 FLYERS)

<u>Station</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Conc.</u>	<u>Comb.</u>
Fernley, NV	208	6	33	92
Fernley, NV	208	4	14	41
Lovelock, NV	266	8	16	40
Imlay, NV	293	1	17	81
Winnemucca, NV	323	3	19	62
Wendover, NV	492	1	4	16
McDermitt, NV	368	3	6	12
Rogerson, ID	507	5	10	20
Carlin, NV	391	1	1	3
Council, ID	550	2	5	13
SHORT - AVERAGE SPEED		3	10	44

LONG - AVERAGE SPEED	1	2	4
OVERALL - AVERAGE SPEED	1	3	6
OVERALL - CHAMPION LOFT	1		

1986 Old Birds

TONY HUHN LOFT
1986 OLD BIRD SEASON
SONOMA COUNTY RACING PIGEON CLUB (19 FLYERS)
NORTH BAY CONCOURSE (81 FLYERS)
BAY CITIES COMBINE (161 FLYERS)

<u>Station</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Conc.</u>	<u>Comb.</u>
Fernley, NV	208	3	22	35
Fallon , NV	227	1	29	84
Middlegate, NV	265	1	6	41
Winnemucca, NV	323	3	24	75
Austin, NV	314	7	20	59
Rogerson, ID	507	5	21	62
McDermitt, NV	368	3	14	35
Lovelock, NV	266	3	15	36
Carlin, NV	391	1	10	35
Council, ID	550	5	6	6

SHORT - AVERAGE SPEED	1	2	23
LONG - AVERAGE SPEED	1	7	26
OVERALL - AVERAGE SPEED	1	5	21
OVERALL - CHAMPION LOFT	1		

NOTE: All race results denote loft position.

1992 Young Birds

TONY HUHN LOFT
1992 YOUNG BIRD SEASON
SONOMA COUNTY RACING PIGEON CLUB (27 FLYERS)
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COMBINE (71 FLYERS)

<u>Station</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Comb.</u>
Fernley, NV	208	13	19
Lovelock, NV	266	5	21
Imlay, NV	293	3	10
Winnemucca, NV	323	2	3
Lovelock, NV	266	10	16
Battle Mountain, NV	346	5	9
Winnemucca, NV	323	19	30
McDermitt, NV	368	4	4

OVERALL - AVERAGE SPEED	3	4
OVERALL - CHAMPION LOFT	5	5

A special gratitude to the following breeders who enabled us to achieve such success in 1992: Carl Hanson, Dr. Ed Bland, Billy Sigmann, Cliff Hoover, Warren Coffin, Marty McDonell, the late and great Bob Gerhow, Danny Tennyson, and finally, Storm Goranson.

1993 Young Birds

TONY HUHN LOFT
1993 YOUNG BIRD SEASON
SONOMA COUNTY RACING PIGEON CLUB (29 FLYERS)
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COMBINE (59 FLYERS)

<u>Station</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Comb.</u>
Fernley, NV	208	1	1
Lovelock, NV	266	26	51
Imlay, NV	293	7	18
Winnemucca, NV	323	13	21
Lovelock, NV	266	4	5
Battle Mountain, NV	346	3	12
Winnemucca, NV	323	1	1
McDermitt, NV	368	2	2
OVERALL - AVERAGE SPEED		5	9
OVERALL - CHAMPION LOFT		1	1

NOTE: All race results denote loft position.

A special gratitude to the following breeders who enabled us to achieve our success in 1993: my late, Dear Friend, Dr. Ed Bland, Cliff Hoover, State Judge Carl Stone and once again, none other than Storm Goranson.

TONY AS A MENTOR - "Tell them that there is a new Sheriff in town" (AFH)

Young Birds

WINKLER / HUHN LOFT
2003 YOUNG BIRD SEASON
SHASTA RACING PIGEON CLUB (6 FLYERS)
NOR / CAL COMBINE (22 FLYERS)

<u>Station</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Comb.</u>
Dorris, CA	97	1	No Race
Stateline	99	1	No Race
Dorris, CA	97	1	12
Stateline	99	1	2
Junction 97 & 62, OR	135	3	-
Chiloquin, OR	138	3	3
Stateline	99	1	-
Beaver Marsh, OR	177	1	2
Chemult, OR	182	3	4
Dorris, CA	97	3	No Race
Stateline	99	3	No Race
Junction 97 & 31, OR	214	2	2
La Pine, OR	215	3	3
Bend, OR	245	3	5
OVERALL - AVERAGE SPEED		1	2

A special gratitude to the following flyers who donated their fine birds which enabled us to achieve our success: Ken Blamires (SOC), Jim Bryan (SOC), Carl Burkett (SRP), Charlie Hess

(SRP), Marty McDonell (SOC), Sam Medeiros (SOC), Dave Salopek (SOC), Dan Welch (SRP), Dave Wilson (SOC).

Old Birds

ZUGOR / HUHNS LOFT 2013 OLD BIRD SEASON SHASTA RACING PIGEON CLUB (14 FLYERS)

<u>Station</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Club</u>
Davis, CA - A Race	138	1
Davis, CA - B Race	138	2
Manteca, CA - A Race	194	2
Manteca, CA - B Race	194	1
Los Banos, CA - A Race	248	9
Los Banos, CA - B Race	248	4
Harris Ranch, CA - A Race	312	4
Harris Ranch, CA - B Race	312	5
Harris Ranch, CA - C Race	312	2
Lost Hills, CA	364	1
Harris Ranch, CA - D Race	312	2
Grapevine, CA	423	1
Los Banos, CA - C Race	248	5
Lost Hills, CA (400 Memorial)	364	6
Los Banos, CA - D Race	248	3
Los Angeles Zoo. CA	488	3
SHORT - AVERAGE SPEED		2
LONG - AVERAGE SPEED		3
OVERALL - AVERAGE SPEED		1
SHORT - CHAMPION LOFT		2
LONG - CHAMPION LOFT		1
OVERALL - CHAMPION LOFT		1

NOTE: All race results denote loft position.

PREFERENCES

Medication

"Pigeon racing used to be an art, now it is also a science."

The Legendary Hank Vernazza to Tony Huhn discussing the impact of medications on the Sport of Pigeon Racing (1985)

Super Health equals SUCCESS!! Like many flyers, Tony prefers to use medical drugs for preventive measures. He uses a Calendar to plan and record what he gives the birds, and uses some of the cocktails developed by Joe Rotondo so many years ago.

The list of his recommendations is available at the end.

"I believe that medication in the hands of a skilled, knowledgeable and experienced flyer can be beneficial in improving the performance of racing pigeons. However, medication in the hands of uneducated individuals can easily be a great detriment to our fine feathered friends." (AFH)

Loft

He disinfects his lofts prior to the race season. His lofts are well ventilated. Sun is welcomed

wherever possible. In order to master control over the birds, there are no “open lofts” flying.

Feeding

All the birds get the basic Seed Factory 15% protein with whole corn. He adds enough flax so a few seeds are left in the feed tray when the birds are finished eating. At the beginning of each season, he starts adding supplements to the feed as well as to the drinking water..

He does not feed OB racers malted barley, but does add 50% for the YB's on Sunday and Monday. He feeds for thirty minutes twice a day on a regular schedule. He makes a point of examining what feed the birds are eating, then gives them more of those specific grains.

Breeders

From what I observed, Tony looks at the eye with a 10x glass. Placing some value on the inner eye sign. He says the eye sign is fully developed after two years of age.

He looks in the throat, particularly at the vein on the back of the throat. Its shape and movement are important to him.

He pulls out the wing, observing the relationship between the 8th, 9th and 10th flights. If there is much of a space, the bird has distance potential. He likes a step at the start of the secondaries for the longer distance birds. He then releases the wing. If the bird snaps it back, it is a sprinter. If it has a more relaxed return, it has distance potential.

He likes a solid keel with tight vent bones for the male of the species. He likes a single tail with the tail dropping down denoting a strong back.

Nationally Recognized Racing Pigeon Authority, Mr. Alex Bieche, was kind enough to grade my birds last year. Their findings were surprisingly similar.

RACING

Silence is Golden. So after the races start, he doesn't discuss training, medication, etc. with the competition. Says he doesn't want to disappoint them.

He checks all flights far enough in advance of the season so that damaged ones can be removed and regrown before the season starts. He believes in loft training and likes a good 30 minutes of flying twice a day when the birds aren't road trained. He doesn't worry about flyers bragging how long their birds are flying around the loft. He knows that with too much work their birds will fall down when the races get out there.

After 250 miles, he doesn't repeat birds. Nor does he repeat the first bird back from the previous race. Unlike in Europe, according to Tony, the goal and the beauty of pigeon racing in the United States is that it is team oriented, through winning the coveted Loft Average Speed and Champion Loft Awards. He wants to beat his competitors, not jockey for individual bird honors.

For both Young and Old Birds, he prefers two race teams so that the birds are raced every other week. This provides the opportunity for him to vary feeding, training and medication regimes.

So for example, the YB team which raced the previous weekend, would not get a training toss until the following Thursday. Then, a longer toss on Saturday. On the other hand, the second team would be tossed on Tuesday (40 to 60 mi), then Thursday (40 to 60 mi) with the total of the two tosses around 100 miles. “Don't send birds”, Tony admonishes, “which you don't think will make it back.”

For the Short Races, he likes a bird that appears jumpy and nervous with



the vein in the back of its throat wiggling like a worm on a hook. For the longer races, he likes a bird which is calm. So relaxed that it is comfortable with sitting, not standing, once it is placed in the race basket.

Training

With the exception of the beginning of young bird training, it is very rare for Tony to train on back to back days. Interesting enough, he measures training, not so much in miles per week, but in days of rest between tosses. No more than ten birds are released at anyone time. Typically, the birds are released within one half of an hour after sunrise.



Once the season has started, there is no more than one - two hour (85 miles) toss per weekend. For those week days with a training toss greater than 40 miles, he doesn't loft fly the birds that day.

Nor does he train in poor weather. "How can you train a bird to fly when it is wet?" he asks. "You can't. But what you can build the bird's self confidence through tasks it can accomplish."

Flying Old Birds

He prefers flying Old Birds on the Natural System where the birds are mated. He flies to eggs most often ten to fourteen days old, and avoids raising youngsters until the season is over.

Flying Young Birds

There is no magic to racing young birds. Hard work, healthy birds and building budding relationships are the most important ingredients for young bird success.

In closing, few flyers have faced up to Tony's accomplishments. He has ceased and commenced racing (none of these through desire, but more of circumstance) in this wondrous advocacy many a time. Always coming back on top. Even the late and great, Roy Hunter, Young and Old Bird All American Award winner, could not accomplish this sphere of tantamount flying.

The *Following Pigeon Management Programs* are available from Tony via Email.

1. *So you want to win with Pigeons.* (Tony's Initial Advice and Consultation)
2. *Sound Loft Considerations and Construction*
3. *The Importance of Observation*
4. *Race Day Measures*
5. *The Importance of Loft Disinfection*
6. *Prevention Medication Program*
7. *Food Supplements for the Long Races*
8. *Preparation for the Short and the Long Ones*

9. *Dietary Supplements and Scheduling for the Racing Pigeon*
10. *Super Health equals SUCCESS!! Sound health practices for your racing pigeons*
11. *Insure Your Success – Pre season Young Bird Timetable*
12. *Winning Race Season Practices*
13. *Old Bird Racing Made Simple*
14. *Example Old Birds Weekly Management Schedule*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS MENTORS

“Many of the old school master flyers that I have known in my lifetime appeared to have a special affinity for the birds on their race teams. This unique ability with racing pigeons can not be taught.” (AFH)

The list of Tony’s mentors literally reads like an inventory of the most famous flyers ever to grace the Bay Cities Combine. Characteristically, they were well mannered, polite gentlemen and fearless competitors, all of them.

Look at his Long Distance Mentors. Boccone, Brockman and Sthymmel were breeding partners. Boccone and Brockman racing partners. Brockman raced the Young Birds. Boccone, the Old Birds. Boccone’s Widowhood Team (flying name, the *Galaxy Loft*) could not be beat, not even in the MTZ 500 Mile Special. It was rumored to have been the top ranked OB Team in the United States.

The reason Hank Vernazza hired Piet DeWeerd to help him improve his loft (like importing the Red Hen) . . . he had a difficult time beating Boccone at the Distance even though he flew some twenty-five miles short of Boccone. Both were Gentlemen and fearless competitors of the highest order! If there was a ranking of Knight in the racing pigeon world, both of these fine men would have been knighted as “Sirs”.

MENTORS			
Loft Management and Flying	Eye Sign	Long Distance Flying	Young Bird Racing
Leo Enright (NRI)**	Leo Enright (NRI)**	Erwin Eickele (NRI)	Elio Lumachi (MTZ)
Doc Bland, DVM (TAM)	Stan Honey (SFR))	AL Boccone (TAM)	John Bellandi (MTZ)
Otto Meyer (VA)	Dean Strawn (Lake)	Bud Sthymmel (TAM)	Stan Culligan (NSH)
** Primary Mentor	Pert McCalvey (MTZ)	Hank Vernazza (MTZ)	

EPILOGUE

“To win races and average speeds, all of your birds will have to give us their very best possible performance each week. It will be our challenge to help them accomplish this goal. We must make fewer mistakes and out think the competition every move we make. Let the competition utilize energy trying to out guess our next move. From this day forward, we will practice the rule that silence is Golden with our competition.” (AFH)

SOME OF TONY’S MEMORABLE QUOTES

\$ “I am willing to invest my valuable time to advise you, but are you willing to listen, learn, and follow my directives?”

\$ “I personally believe that racing pigeons will give you their very best in each race if only the fanciers would do the same.”

\$ “Racing pigeons are like people. Some are very calm and respond to you holding them. Others are wild, aggressive and very independent. I believe in allowing each bird to have its own character, personality and freedom of choice. The most important consideration for me is each bird’s love of the loft environment and its burning desire to return home as fast as possible.”

Tony Huhn can be contacted for advice by emailing him at afhuhn@sbcglobal.net.

020714 Storm Goranson (blackcatloft@sonic.net)

Hayward Homing Pigeon Club Presents

2014 Bob Wright Memorial

Open to All BCC Lofts

**Flown From Alamo NV Approx. 375 Mi.
(Last race on BCC schedule)**

Bands \$5.00 @ or 25 For \$100.00

Entry Fee \$50.00 per bird No Limit !

\$12,500.00 in prizes to be paid out Based on 250 Birds Shipped.

**60% to Overall 40% to Section Paid Down to 10% of birds shipped
(Over 250 Birds shipped; Paid down to 15%)**

Bands to be registered and paid for by June 1 2014

**All Special Banded Birds will be eligible to compete in the OB
Special. (Details coming soon)**

All Birds will be shipped and clocks figured from your own club.

Basketing list, scanning list & Fees are due shipping nite.

100 percent of entry fees will be paid out in prizes

A trophy will be awarded to the overall winner

**Out of Area birds are welcome. Shared Arrangement of Fees and
Prizes will be the responsibility of the Handler**

Race Committee

Reece Bishop 510-257-4355

Bieu Tran 510-867-1288

Ken Blake 510-258-3592

Bernardo Ibanez 510-734-1927

Band Sales

Your club sectry.

Or Larry Dingman 925-580-7053



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nonrefundable**

**Entry Fee \$275 per bird
Due Sept 1, 2014 after 125 Miles**

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Steve's Cell ph. 530-559-0775 Fax 530-268-0839
16242 Tierra Rd. Grass Valley, CA 95949**

**2013 Final Race 370 Miles
14 Birds on the Drop**

**Champion Bird
5044-AU13-CORP**

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Wild Bunch 0245-FIAH
Mo Loft 0002-RARA
Blue Bucket Stampede 5067-CORP
Zhen Yuan Guo 26826-GUO
Zhen Yuan Guo 26810-GUO
Alias-Alias 0103-ALIA
Money Loft 0012-MONE
Dennis Martinen 1150-YAK
Hutchins Loft 0022-HUTC
We-Be-One 1317-WEBE
Alias-Alias 0105-ALIA
Quejado/Lopez Lofts 0837-TCH
Blue Bucket Stampede 5044-CORP
Flyhome Loft 1327-FLY



**169 Miles - 1st
194 Miles - 21st
225 Miles - 149th
310 Miles - 1st
370 Miles - 1st**

**Breed by Blue Bucket Stampede
Paul Rueter**

CORP-10223/01 HUBEN
Full Brother to HUPW Chat ACE BIRD

CORP-6391/05 HUBEN
-1st Highlander One Loft Ration

CORP-1502/02 HUBEN
flown in Late Hatch Classic

CORP-5044/13 HUBEN
1st ACEBIRD Sierra Ranch Classic

HEDGE-177/05 HUBEN

HEDGE-1011/08 HUBEN

LCR-6602/04 HUBEN

CLAUSING-260/00 HUBEN
Full Brother to #410 (DANA x #78)

CORP-0029/00 1/2 HUBEN
Mother one-loft ACE pigeon

CLAUSING-69/98 HUBEN
Inbred - ZICO x 66/96

CLAUSING-179/01 HUBEN
1st (138/07) David Anthony x One

CLAUSING-101/00 HUBEN
Full Brother to #38 (1383 x #87)

CLAUSING-45/02 HUBEN
Full Sister to Millard Race Winner

CLAUSING-421/00 HUBEN
Son of DAVID JR x #230

CLAUSING-291/03 HUBEN
Daughter of #410 x #217

srclassic.com for more details