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CAN-AM Lofts will export American and Canadian birds to the VFWCPR again this year. By the time this is printed, the inaugural race in January 2017 will be history. Several USA lofts won money in the Hot Spot races and look good and winning money in the final the last Saturday in January. This year the VFWCPR will take in birds earlier and we will be shipping in the months of May, June and July. Last year we shipped 134 pigeons in early August to meet the August 15 cut-off date. Pigeons are best shipped six weeks or older. Pigeons will be tested for Avian Influenza – a requirement by the Zimbabwe Ministry of Agriculture. Some breeders told me already they planned to enter teams in each of these shipments. Come join our group with an exciting trip to Victoria Falls with your wives and pigeon buddies.

All pigeons tested for Avian Influenza by a State Vet in Michigan is required for all pigeons entering Zimbabwe. All pigeons must be here ten days prior to shipping for testing and results.

Cost is $950 for primary bird and 4 reserves. Cost for AI testing and shipping is $60 per pigeon. When sending a team of five pigeons send $1,250 to cover entry of primary bird, AI testing and shipping. I will forward entry money to Zimbabwe.

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John E Nelson (The Band Man)
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<td>LUDO/TDM</td>
<td>prefers email</td>
<td>337.237</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pigeonring@gmail.com">pigeonring@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Eljamali, Sami</td>
<td>Samis/Rays Loft</td>
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Greetings!

2016 was another great year for the I.F. I am very proud of the accomplishments made during the year. I would like to bring everyone up-to-date with what is happening within our organization.

The 136th I.F. Convention in November was a great one. Thank you to the 2016 I.F. Convention Committee for hosting this year’s event (IF 1st Vice President Sam Pixley and Joe Charvat were the co-chairs). We had another successful race, great auction of high quality birds, fun shipping night, race loft visiting, and banquet. The ladies had a wonderful itinerary of their own with a casino/shopping trip and a Spirit of Washington lunch cruise, as well as, a ladies night social. The weather cooperated again this year too. It was nice to visit lofts down South and see old friends, and meet many new ones. Joe Charvat has a convention article on page 72 followed by photographs and the 2016 convention race results.

I am looking forward to this year’s 137th IF Convention in Connecticut on November 2nd through November 4th. Bob Carney is the Committee Chair this year, with the help of Michael Zuber and Wilberto Aponte, and hosted by The CT Classic Club of New Britain, CT. The details are on page 78 with the handler list following on page 79. Additional information and updates will be posted on our website www.IFPigeon.com and the host club website www.ctclassicclub.com. Please check those sites often for new and additional information.

I continue to encourage clubs and combines to host or co-host an I.F. convention. It’s a very good opportunity to gain club exposure, momentum, prestige, membership recruitment and fund raising. Questions and concerns can be answered by some of our previous convention chairs. We would like to see I.F. members go to new areas of the country and visit new lofts in the upcoming years. Let me know if you and your club/combine are interested in hosting an I.F. Convention.

The I.F. Database became live in 2016 and ran successfully for all the clubs that are using it. The database helps our members search and view race results for their clubs and lofts. I would encourage more clubs to start using the database so we can continue to build it and use it to calculate awards. Please see the update on page 16. Thank you Sami Eljamali for your continued work on the I.F. Database feature.

The www.IFPigeon.com website is being updated again. I’m very pleased to say the site will again have a page for our valued SkyTalk advertisers. Please support our advertisers as they help support the I.F. and our sport. Once again, THANK YOU to all the SkyTalk advertisers. It is greatly appreciated. The SkyTalk is the membership’s publication. If you would like to write an article, create an advertisement to promote your loft, or announce a club race, simply contact Susan Hurrell and she will make it happen. Show your support, spread the news and continue with advertising in SkyTalk 2018.

Congratulations to this year’s I.F. Scholarship Winner: 1st Place $1,000 – Molly Gallagher of Weymouth, MA. Our sport continues to be a great way to teach the youth responsibility, morals and have some fun doing it. You can read Molly’s winning essay on page 67.

I would like to thank the International Artist Sherry Owen for donating prints of her artwork to be auctioned off at the I.F. banquets. All proceeds from her prints go towards our junior flyers. We share the same wish as Sherry to help involve our youth more in the pigeon sport. Please continue to invite our youth to events, treat them to an I.F. membership (only $10.00), and help build our sport up with new flyers. Educate and share your experiences with them and hopefully they will enjoy and make this great sport their own.

The I.F. continues to stand behind drug testing. It is important and always will be important that as a collective group, we promote clean, fair and transparent races where the best birds/flyers win. There is protocol in place for drug testing and I encourage everyone to review it. You can find it on the I.F. website under the club bi-laws, in the home rules (section 21.0). I know more clubs and combines are practicing this now and their results are changing. Please feel free to contact me anytime, I would be happy to help anyway I can.

Last, but certainly not least, a special thank you to Susan Hurrell for all she does behind the scenes for the I.F. Your hard work is greatly appreciated.

See you in Connecticut this Fall!

Yours in the sport,

Richard Smith
Best wishes to all of our members and their families for a very Happy New Year. In 2017, we look forward to great success and prosperity for all our members and for our great country.

We welcomed several new clubs to the IF in 2016 -- the Baileyton Club in Tennessee, Cap City in Maryland and the Waterloo-Wellington Club in Canada.

The 2016 IF Convention was hosted by the Cap City Club. Kudos to Joe Charvat and Sam Pixley and their committee for the great convention they put together. The cruise on the Potomac was outstanding and we enjoyed such beautiful weather that day. There was no shortage of food at the clubhouse on shipping night and clocking day. Quite a few wives and families enjoyed eating at the clubhouse on shipping night and the food was delicious. Many compliments to the chefs who were club members.

The 2017 IF Convention will be hosted by the CT Classic Club in New Britain CT. The dates are November 2nd through November 4th. Further information and the handler list can be found on the IF website and the CT Classic Club website, www.CTClassicClub.com.

Congratulations to Molly Gallagher of Weymouth MA who is the 2016 winner of the IF Scholarship. Molly’s Dad is Jack Gallagher, a member of the Braintree-Norwood Club. Molly wrote a very interesting article about how pigeons inbred an ability to imprint their location and use sight cues to find their way home. Take a few moments to read her entry (pages 67/68). I, again, hope we receive more entries. There are three awards -- 1st Place is $1,000, 2nd Place is $750 and 3rd Place is $500. There must be members who have children or grandchildren that would be eligible (scholarship requirement is continuous membership in the IF for five years).

The 2017 Secretary Packet includes a copy of your 2016 membership from our MMS program to be updated with any additions and deletions. IF membership dues remain at $15.00 per adult, $10.00 per junior member (under 17) and $25.00 for international members (out of the USA). As usual, a listing of various costs associated with bands, diplomas, etc. is part of the packet. The United States Post Office is increasing the cost of stamps and other areas of postage.

We have changed the price of stock bands from .45 to .50 per band. Pricing for quantities of 300 to 700 bands have been increased a small amount. There are no changes in the cost of 800/900/1,000 bands and over.

Again, thank you to our SKYTALK advertisers for their support. We encourage our members to support these advertisers.

Sami ElJamali has spent many, many hours working on the IF Database Program. The goal is to have a program that will be able to determine most of our awards in lieu of submitting paper forms to the IF. Secretaries, please read the message from Sami in your club packet.

“Thank You” to all club secretaries for your continued support and cooperation. Also, thank you to Susan Hurrell, our hard-working SKYTALK editor.

God Bless you and God Bless America.

Val Matteucci
Secretary/Treasurer
The I-Com band is used to band youngsters in the same manner as previous I.F. leg bands. The difference is, the separately purchased Electronic Race Chip then clips onto the I-Com band, leaving the other leg free for a second band, if desired. The e-chip may be installed at anytime.

The cost of the I-Com band is 50 cents each, the same price as regular stock bands. Stock bands and I-Com bands are sold in Units of 25 bands for $12.50 plus $5.00 shipping. The cost of 100 I-Com bands is $110.00, plus $8.00 shipping. All IF bands may be purchased by active I.F. members only.

The I.F. does not sell the chips for the I-Com rings at this time, you must contact your E-Clock dealer and check availability for your particular E-clock, and purchase the chips from them.

I-Com rings may be ordered as your regular club band. The I-Com rings are available from the I.F. now.

Please order by contacting:
Val Matteucci, IF Secretary & Treasurer
P.O.Box 374
Hicksville, NY 11802 Tel: (516) 794-3612

Dear International Federation Members:

We are happy to announce that our member database has launched and is running successfully. Several clubs have come on board and we welcome any feedback they may have.

In the near future, utilizing the database, will take us into other phases and enhancements. One that I am particularly excited about is having the database facilitate the calculation of results to determine award winners. For instance, once your club's race results are posted, the database will automatically calculate the winners of awards, such as "Champion Loft" and "Hall of Fame." Members will no long have to submit their applications and results on paper. Currently, several members who are deserving of awards miss out on the opportunity because their paperwork is not submitted. With the database doing all the work, all they need to do is log in their race results via their appointed club member and they will receive the much deserved recognition they have been missing out on.

For this reason, we are encouraging the rest of the clubs to join and take advantage of what this database has to offer. We urge every club to participate and give us their feedback so we can have a solid foundation that we can build on going forward. All you need is to send in your access forms by mail or e-mail to samieljamali@yahoo.com and we will grant you access to post your club’s race results.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me at the above e-mail. We are looking forward to the upcoming season. Let the races begin!

Sincerely,

Sami Eljamali
IF Database Administrator / samieljamali@yahoo.com
2018 Band Price List
Regular Band Or I-COM BANDS

NOTE: DEADLINE FOR ORDERING 2018 BANDS IS MAY 1ST – NO EXCEPTIONS

1) CLUB/COMBINE/PERSONAL BANDS – REGULAR BANDS OR I-COM BANDS (Quantity in 100’s) – 2018 Color is Blue. Different color – add $25.00 per order. Other colors are White, Red, Yellow and Green.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>POSTAGE</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1000</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>$308.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>900</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
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<td>148.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>110.00</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>118.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: For Band Orders over 1000, following is a listing of the postage/handling fee to be added to each order. Please note when an order exceeds 1000 bands, the bands are .30 each (ex: 1100 x .30 = $330; 1500 x .30 = $450).

2) STOCK BANDS – 2017 IF Stock Bands are available with the letter “E” or “Scholar” at .50 per band plus postage and handling. Minimum order is 25 bands.

3) I-COM BANDS – 2017 IF I-COM Bands, with the Letter “R”, are available at .50 per band plus postage and handling. Minimum order is 25 bands. Additional orders are sold in increments of 25 bands.

NOTE: DEADLINE FOR ORDERING 2018 BANDS IS MAY 1ST – NO EXCEPTIONS

4) BAND ORDER CARDS - Fill in all information and return with payment for bands. Mail band orders with check made payable to IF of AHPF, Inc., to:

Val Matteucci
P.O. Box 374
Hicksville, NY 11802
Telephone: (516) 794-3612
Email: valmatteucci@optimum.net
**Homeward Bound for Pigeons DVD**

This DVD has excellent visuals and basic information on the aspects of history. The housing and training of race birds, as well as, breathtaking footage on European race releases.

This custom-made, exclusive DVD was produced with the assistance of world-renowned filmmaker Jim Jenner and former IF Vice President Paul Walsh, who is an expert on the sport.

This innovative promotional tool is *perfect* for introducing schools, scouts, 4-H clubs, senior citizen groups and other non-fanciers to the rewarding sport of pigeon racing.

*It is also a great addition to every fancier’s video library.*

Order a copy today for *only* $10 (+ $5 S&H) from the club Secretary/Treasurer:

**Val Matteucci**  
P.O. Box 374  
Hicksville, NY 11802  
Telephone: (516) 794-3612

---

**Official I.F. Embroidered Hats**

**Only $12.50 per Hat**

*(Shipping $5.00 per hat)*

To order your I.F. Hat today, send your check or money order including cost of hat or hats, and shipping payable to the International Federation, and mail to:

**Sam Pixley**  
34 Mills Hollow Drive  
Fredericksburg, VA 22406  
(540) 752-9014  
FMI: E-mail Sam at spixley3@verizon.net  
www.IFPigeon.com
PERTH AMBOY RACING PIGEON CLUB

806 CENTRAL PLACE PERTH AMBOY, N.J. 1-732-826-6264
www.perthamboyrpc.com

“King of the East Coast”
500 Mile 3 Bird Derby
500 Miles London, Ohio ship Friday 5/19/2017
Liberate Sunday 5/21/2017
5,000 Points based on 50 Lofts

Prizes will increase or decrease based on Lofts entered
3 Bird Limit, $100.00 Entry per Loft plus shipping and committe

Check www.perthamboyrpc.com for all race dates or future advertisements

2017 “PAOF” Young Bird Auction
Auction - Friday Night April 7, 2017
Viewing 7:00PM, Auction 8:00PM

Use your own bands; out of area entries are welcomed
$1,000.00 Guaranteed to the winner

All auction prizes split 60 / 40 breeder / handler

“PAOF” auction birds will be liberated with the 2016 PAOF Futurity Race and will
be eligible for all entry prizes split 75/25 Flyer/Breeder

Tri-State Open 250 Mile Bond Race
1st Place 3000 POINTS
2nd Place 2000 POINTS, 3rd Place 1000 POINTS

Bonds purchased between 1/1/17 - 5/31/17 6 birds $100.00
Ship Friday September 15, 2017, Liberate Saturday September 16, 2017
From Race Station #8394 Somerset, Pa

“PAOF” 350 Mile Band / Bond Race
2500 POINTS, Guaranteed to the winner

78 Lofts, 704 Birds, 63 Entry positions in 2016
Bands 10.00 each, 6 for 50.00, 12 for 100.00, Bonds 6 for 100.00, 12 for 200.00, 18 for 300.00
Designate your own bands before August 1, 2017
Ship Friday October 27, 2017, Liberate Sunday October 29, 2017 From Cadiz, Ohio

PAOF One Bird Derby
Shipped with and liberated before the band race, Entry $50.00 plus shipping and committee

The following prizes are based on 50 lofts, 28 lofts shipped in 2016
First 1000 points, Second 500 points, Third 400 points
Fourth 300 points, Fifth 200 points, Sixth 100 points

Prize increase/decrease based on lofts shipped

150 Mile Tune-Up Races
Check the Perth Amboy WEB site to get the dates of the popular Young Bird
150 Miles Tune Up races that will be held starting September 3rd, 2017

Dates subject to change due to the 2017 race schedules
BREATHRU PRODUCTS

BREAKAWAY
America's #1 racing water supplement 16 oz. $16 + SH Gallon $125 + SH

BREEDING EDGE
Simply the best for breeding, growth moulting and maintenance 16 oz. $18 + SH Gallon $125 + SH

DYN-O-MITE
The match that lights the fire in our breeding system. 8 oz. $25 + SH

SPECIAL-K
10,000 MCB of B-12 per oz. Fabulous results on 1 lb 8 oz. $20 + SH

RECHARGE
The most effective electrolyte you will ever use 1 lb. $18 + SH

STINKY STUFF
Vitamins, minerals, herbs, amino acids complete nutrition on 1 lb. $40 + SH

BLACK MAGIC
Instantly absorbed high in iron and vitamins 8 oz. $20 + SH

ADENO ZAP
It's soon time for that yearly mess - Adeno Virus.

You know the symptoms, loose loal dropping, returning feed in crop in mornin and upchucking of feed. Plus large losses if you train or race with it. Each year 100's of flyers are able to greatly shorten the side effects above from Adeno Zap. Word of mouth alone has made it the #1 treatment. Adeno Zap will also help win any bacteria of e coli problem. Don't wait until you need to order. Have it sitting in stock. 8 oz. $30 + SH

A Source of Excellence Since 1976

HOME ART LAB

Flyte Pack consists of 2 Performance Plus and 1 Performance Plus Booster a wide range of vitamins at a great price $23.90 1 Port $8.95 2 Port $15.95

Performance Plus W- for stock birds and growing young as well as moulth high in protein 3 for $23.90 1-58.95 2-$15.95 8 oz. containers

RP4 A super bath powder for both conditioning feathers and removing lice 1 1/2 lbs. $12.95

PoxDef-2 oz. apply to pox lesions to help quicken recovery $12

Elevation 8 oz. 18 amino acids plus herbs contains electrolytes helps restore aids fertility $25

HomePat 3 x 8 oz. for encephalitis, loose dropping bacterial Infections $23.95

RPW 10- A inexpensive effective wormer 8 oz. $8.95

ARA 1 8 oz. to protect against infections and virus picked up in shipping races or shows $13.95

FRB 3 A very potent probiotic only 1/4 teaspoon per gallon, after Infections, medications 4 oz. $17.95

ALPA Gentian root extract for cleansing system invigorating birds 4 oz. $2.95

Formula 72 The blood builder, high in iron and 8 vitamins a must for flying and breeding 8 oz. $18.95

PTF The race day secret your competition will never tell you about 1000's of 1st won. 2 oz. $38.95

New Products

Once - One drop in eye, one drop in nostril. Will clear eye irritation. 2oz. $26.00

Canker Away - Help remove canker from mouth and internal organs. 8oz. $20.00

Para Salmo - Excellent product for E-Coll and Salmonella. 1 pound $20.00

Cocci Plus - For Cocci, Thrush, and Apergillosis 8oz. $20.00

COMPLETELY NEW MANAGEMENT

BREATHRU PRODUCTS
12005 WOODBRIDGE RD., GREEN WOOD, DEL. 19950
PH. 302-258-4602 OR EMAIL douillin2003@gmail.com

WE ACCEPT VISA, MASTERCARD OR DISCOVER. ACTUAL SHIPPING CHARGES WILL APPLY TO PRODUCTS.
Home of the

**LCM Band Race**
LCM IS THE FASTEST GROWING YOUNG BIRD RACE IN THE U.S.

**LCM Auction**
The Biggest Young Bird Auction on the East Coast

**Alfonso Abenante Memorial**
The Longest Race of the Year on The Longest Day of the Year

**LCM Yearling Band Race**
LCM is the Fastest Growing YB Race in the U.S.
Now Let's Make It the Fastest Growing Yearling Race
!!!IN JUST ONE YEAR IT HAS DOUBLED!!!!

***www.lyndhurstpigeonclub.com | lyndhurstpigeon@gmail.com | Vinnie Torre (201) 522-8599***

---

**New Hudson County Club**

Presents

**Hoboken 1-Bird Derby**
*** 95th Anniversary Derby Race ***
Organized in 1922 – Our 95th Year!!!

**500 Miles 1-Bird Derby - 2017**
“3,000 Pts” Guaranteed in Prizes

***www.lyndhurstpigeonclub.com | lyndhurstpigeon@gmail.com | Vinnie Torre (201) 522-8599***
1ST ANNUAL BLUE MOUNTAIN
ONE LOFT RACE

ALL POINTS BASED ON 300 PAID ENTRIES 3 RACES 150, 250 AND 350 MILES.
45,000 IN POINTS BASED ON 300 PAID ENTRIES IF ENTRIES EXCEED 300 BIRDS
POINTS WILL BE ADJUSTED ACCORDINGLY.

1ST RACE 9/28/17 TOMSBROOK VA - 150 MILES - 100 Pts FIRST 10 BIRDS
2nd RACE 10/5/17 RAPHINE VA - 250 MILES - 200 Pts FIRST 10 BIRDS
3rd RACE 10/12/17 PULASKI VA - 350 MILES - POINTS AS FOLLOW

| 1st  | 6,000 Pts | 10th-13th | 1,000 Pts | Bird AVG SPEED 3 RACES
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>4,000 Pts</td>
<td>14th-15th</td>
<td>800 Pts</td>
<td>1st 2,500 Pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>3,000 Pts</td>
<td>16th-18th</td>
<td>700 Pts</td>
<td>2nd 1,500 Pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th-6th</td>
<td>2,000 Pts</td>
<td>19th-20th</td>
<td>600 Pts</td>
<td>3rd 1,000 Pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th-9th</td>
<td>1,500 Pts</td>
<td>21st-30th</td>
<td>500 Pts</td>
<td>4th 500 Pts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ALL RACES WILL BE FLOWN WEATHER PERMITTING. IN THE EVENT OF A SMASH,
RACE WILL STAY OPEN FOR 72 HOURS. POINTS WILL BE ON CLOCKING ORDER.
BIRDS WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM MARCH 1ST THRU MAY 31ST
REPLACEMENTS JUNE 15TH DEADLINE. BIRDS WILL BE VACCINATED UPON ARRIVAL.

PERCH FEE 85.00 PER BIRD, 3 BIRD TEAM 170.00 - SAVINGS OF 85.00.
PERCH FEES DUE UPON ARRIVAL OF BIRDS.
ENTRY FEE 150.00 PER BIRD DUE AFTER 1ST 100 MILE TRAINING TOSS.

BIRDS REMAIN PROPERTY OF BREEDERS. BIRDS MUST BE CLAIMED WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER LAST RACE,
BREEDERS RESPONSIBLE FOR SHIPPING & HANDLING. BIRDS NOT CLAIMED BECOME PROPERTY OF OLR.
WEBSITE UNDER CONSTRUCTION. ALL TRAINING AND RACES WILL POSTED ON WEBSITE.
### I.F. HALL OF FAME

#### 2016 OLD Bird Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pos</th>
<th>Band Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Club/Combine</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>IF 15 ISL 991</td>
<td>Sami Eljamali - Samis/Rays Loft</td>
<td>Shirley, NY</td>
<td>174.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>IF 14 SVN 523</td>
<td>Al Kasharian - Whitehall Loft</td>
<td>Andover, NJ</td>
<td>167.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>IF 13 ERP 958</td>
<td>Hans Steiner - Washington Loft</td>
<td>Port Murray, NJ</td>
<td>166.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>IF 14 ERP 324</td>
<td>Hans Steiner - Washington Loft</td>
<td>Port Murray, NJ</td>
<td>166.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>IF 13 NHF 2555</td>
<td>John Panek - Holland Brook Loft</td>
<td>Branchburg, NJ</td>
<td>164.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>IF 11 ERP 5872</td>
<td>Hans Steiner - Washington Loft</td>
<td>Port Murray, NJ</td>
<td>163.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>IF 15 QCM 54</td>
<td>John Panek - Holland Brook Loft</td>
<td>Branchburg, NJ</td>
<td>158.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>IF 15 TAR 5535</td>
<td>Robert Sterner - Sterner Loft</td>
<td>Sunbury, PA</td>
<td>157.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>IF 12 NHF 1286</td>
<td>John Panek - Holland Brook Loft</td>
<td>Branchburg, NJ</td>
<td>157.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>IF 14 SLI 925</td>
<td>John Leggio - John Leggio &amp; Son</td>
<td>Shirley, NY</td>
<td>156.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>IF 15 NSBR 1557</td>
<td>Sami Eljamali - Samis/Rays Loft</td>
<td>Shirley, NY</td>
<td>153.90</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>AU 13 ARPU 53203</td>
<td>John Ferraro - Son of Farraro Loft</td>
<td>Spring Hill, FL</td>
<td>153.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>IF 13 BB 1372</td>
<td>John Panek - Holland Brook Loft</td>
<td>Branchburg, NJ</td>
<td>153.72</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### 5-25 Lofts

#### 76-150 Lofts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pos</th>
<th>Band Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Club/Combine</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>IF 13 ERP 958</td>
<td>Hans Steiner - Washington Loft</td>
<td>Port Murray, NJ</td>
<td>448.56</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>IF 14 ERP 324</td>
<td>Hans Steiner - Washington Loft</td>
<td>Port Murray, NJ</td>
<td>444.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>IF 15 QCM 54</td>
<td>John Panek - Holland Brook Loft</td>
<td>Branchburg, NJ</td>
<td>422.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>IF 14 SVN 523</td>
<td>Al Kasharian - Whitehall Loft</td>
<td>Andover, NJ</td>
<td>378.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>IF 13 NHF 2555</td>
<td>John Panek - Holland Brook Loft</td>
<td>Branchburg, NJ</td>
<td>378.28</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>IF 11 ERP 5872</td>
<td>Hans Steiner - Washington Loft</td>
<td>Port Murray, NJ</td>
<td>349.06</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>IF 12 NHF 1286</td>
<td>John Panek - Holland Brook Loft</td>
<td>Branchburg, NJ</td>
<td>342.41</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>IF 13 BB 1372</td>
<td>John Panek - Holland Brook Loft</td>
<td>Branchburg, NJ</td>
<td>298.37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### I.F. CHAMPION LOFT – 2016 OLD Bird Awards

#### 5-25 Lofts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name / Loft</th>
<th>Club/Combine</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Leggio</td>
<td>Southeastern Long Island Club</td>
<td>.9779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Cosgrove</td>
<td>Jersey Shore Pigeon Club</td>
<td>.9756</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Ferraro</td>
<td>Unit Ten HPC</td>
<td>.9753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Sterner</td>
<td>Turbotville Area RPC</td>
<td>.9738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Panek</td>
<td>Bound Brook Pigeon Club</td>
<td>.9697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvatore Leo M.D.</td>
<td>Northern Long Island Club</td>
<td>.9642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al Kasharian</td>
<td>North West Jersey</td>
<td>.9638</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sami Eljamali</td>
<td>Southeastern Long Island Club</td>
<td>.9550</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 26-75 Lofts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name / Loft</th>
<th>Club/Combine</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robert Bankard</td>
<td>United Pigeon Combine</td>
<td>.9810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Leggio</td>
<td>Long Island Combine</td>
<td>.9647</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### 76-150 Lofts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name / Loft</th>
<th>Club/Combine</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Panek</td>
<td>Central Jersey Combine</td>
<td>.9645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al Kasharian</td>
<td>Central Jersey Combine</td>
<td>.9570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Cosgrove</td>
<td>Central Jersey Combine</td>
<td>.9494</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

2016 Old Bird Awards and Old Bird Champion Loft Results Compiled and Submitted by: Walter Cichon
## I.F. HALL OF FAME
### 2016 YOUNG Bird Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pos</th>
<th>Band Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>IF 16 Lorence Family 6132</td>
<td>Joe Lorence - Pal Joey - Holbrook, NY</td>
<td>184.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>AU 16 BISON 1641</td>
<td>Steve Mayr - Steve Mayr Loft - Dunkirk, NY</td>
<td>182.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>IF 16 CFL 11</td>
<td>Joe Colondona - Japs Loft - E Moriches, NY</td>
<td>180.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>AU 16 BISON 1661</td>
<td>Steve Mayr - Steve Mayr Loft - Dunkirk, NY</td>
<td>179.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>IF 16 EMC 2229</td>
<td>Pawel Grabowski - Pawel's Loft - Franklin Square, NY</td>
<td>168.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>IF 16 SLI 205</td>
<td>John Leggio - John Leggio &amp; Son - Shirley, NY</td>
<td>162.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>IF 16 EMC 2226</td>
<td>Pawel Grabowski - Pawel's Loft - Franklin Square, NY</td>
<td>162.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>IF 16 TAR 6757</td>
<td>Robert Sterner - Sterner loft - Sunbury, PA</td>
<td>159.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>IF 16 SLI 221</td>
<td>John Leggio - John Leggio &amp; Son - Shirley, NY</td>
<td>159.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>IF 16 CFL 8</td>
<td>Joe Colondona - Japs Loft - E Moriches, NY</td>
<td>156.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>IF 16 SLI 223</td>
<td>John Leggio - John Leggio &amp; Son - Shirley, NY</td>
<td>152.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>IF 16 BQC 421</td>
<td>Wiktor Gontowicz - Wiktor Loft - Brooklyn, NY</td>
<td>150.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>IF 16 SLI 217</td>
<td>John Leggio - John Leggio &amp; Son - Shirley, NY</td>
<td>150.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>IF 16 EMC 2228</td>
<td>Pawel Grabowski - Pawel's Loft - Franklin Square, NY</td>
<td>146.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
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<td>Wiktor Gontowicz - Wiktor Loft - Brooklyn, NY</td>
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<td>16.</td>
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<td>17.</td>
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## 5-25 Lofts

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<td>1.</td>
<td>IF 16 SCO 228</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>CU 16 GUE 936</td>
<td>Norbert Safko - Norberts Loft - Summitville, NY</td>
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<td>3.</td>
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<td>4.</td>
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<td>Diane Kasharian - Hope View Loft - Blairstown, NJ</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>IF 16 NHF 2323</td>
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<td>7.</td>
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<td>8.</td>
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<td>9.</td>
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<td>10.</td>
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## 26-75 Lofts

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### I.F. HALL OF FAME - 2016 YOUNG Bird Awards (continued)

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<td>26.</td>
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### I.F. CHAMPION LOFT

#### 2016 YOUNG Bird Awards

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name / Loft</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5-25 Lofts</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Steve Mayr</td>
<td>Bison Racing Pigeon Club</td>
<td>.9749</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joe Colondona</td>
<td>Southeastern Long Island Club</td>
<td>.9707</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joe Lorefice</td>
<td>Islip HPC.</td>
<td>9661</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don Hart</td>
<td>Unit Ten RPC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sami Eljamali</td>
<td>Southeastern Long Island Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wiktor Gontowicz</td>
<td>Viola RPC</td>
<td>.9586</td>
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<td>John Leggio</td>
<td>Southeastern Long Island Club</td>
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<td>Wiktor Gontowicz</td>
<td>Brooklyn Queens RPC</td>
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<td><strong>26-75 Lofts</strong></td>
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<td>Joe Colondona</td>
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<td>John Leggio</td>
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<td>Joe Lorefice</td>
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<td><strong>76-150 Lofts</strong></td>
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<td>John A. Kasharian</td>
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<td>Vincent Torre</td>
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<td>Al Kasharian</td>
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<td>John C. Kasharian</td>
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2016 Young Bird Awards and Young Bird Champion Loft Results Compiled and Submitted by: Walter Cichon

---

**Congratulations**

**To All I.F. Award Winners!**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reg#</th>
<th>Band#</th>
<th>CLR/Sex</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Owner</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>IF 97NHF3310</td>
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<td>Hooker</td>
<td>Lou Bernadone</td>
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<td>1999-002</td>
<td>IF 95SMR0787</td>
<td>B.Pen/C</td>
<td>The Terror</td>
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<td>John Stauffer</td>
<td>John Stauffer</td>
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<td>John Stauffer</td>
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<tr>
<td>1999-005</td>
<td>AU 88SAV946</td>
<td>BB/H</td>
<td>Savannah</td>
<td>Ron &amp; Bev Liszcz</td>
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<tr>
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<td>BB/H</td>
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<td>David Reynaldo</td>
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<td>1999-007</td>
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### Registered Champions Results 1999-2016 (Continued)

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<td>Red Magic</td>
<td>Khalid Yahya</td>
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<td>BCSP/H</td>
<td>Shakira</td>
<td>Joco Ricoca</td>
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Results Compiled and Submitted by: James Walker

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2016 I.F. SPEED RECORDS
Young & Old Birds

No Entries Received for 2016

2016 IF SPEED RECORDS (as of 12/1/16)

Speed Records Results Compiled and Submitted by: Beverly Gottlieb

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SPEED RECORDS FORMS ARE ON PAGE 62 AND THE IF WEBSITE.
The sun is just coming up over the hill. The flat roof of the city building starts to warm from the rising sun. It's the start of a beautiful spring morning. Mr. Lodewick has just finished his daily chore of cleaning the homing pigeon loft. They know it is now time for him to dig into the feed bags and give them their breakfast.

"Time to eat. Get in line." says Lulu, a little blue hen.

Princess White Night replies, "Oh Lulu, no one can fool you. You always know what’s going on."

"Someone has to keep on top of things," says Lulu. "Why, we wouldn't know anything if I didn’t ease drop on Mr. And Mrs. Lodewick. Sometimes my ears hurt I have to listen so hard."

"By the way, I have some very important news. Mr. Lodewick is bringing a new pigeon home today. I heard him tell the Misses this new pigeon might become the star of the loft.... can you imagine?"

"Well, of course I’m red. My mother was red, my father was red, I come from a long line of reds," replied the bird.

All the pigeons looked at each other in disbelief. Again the loft is silent. They don’t know what to say.

Finally from a high perch a very deep voice replies, “We’ve never had a red in this loft as long as I can remember and I’m the oldest pigeon here, ” said Horatio, a very distinguished looking bird who only speaks on very important matters. The residents go to him when they need advise or to settle a dispute. He is respected by one and all.

"The boss, what’s his name Ludwig, no... Lodewick, that’s it Lodewick. He brought me here to win the BIG RACE, THE 500."

"So, don’t even think about any of you winning. You know how they say pigeons can find their home from anyplace...and that we have an internal compass in our heads...well...I’ve got the best homing ability of any of you. I’m a winning homing pigeon and I will win again and again.”

All the pigeons in the loft turn to stare at Princess White Night, “So much for being nice to the new guy.”
“He doesn’t look at all nervous,” said Glaydes as she starts to shake, “He seems a bit bold to me.” By this time Glaydes is shaking like a leaf and the new resident jumps to her perch and starts to push her off. This gets everyone screaming and flying around.

Big Red’s only reply is, “WHAT!”

Hiratio hasn’t moved. He stares down the new pigeon. “Listen Big Red, if you want to get along here you’d better mind your manners.”

Big Red just ruffles his feathers and stares back at Hiratio. No one moves.

“Big Red, that’s a perfect name for you,” replies Princess White Night as she tries to calm everyone down. “Maybe you will win the 500. We’ll see at the end of the season, it’s the last race of the year.”

“Well, aren’t you a cutie. What did you say your name was,” said Big Red.

“She didn’t!” replied Abraham. “But I will introduce you.” He points his wing towards Princess White Night and bellows, “This is Princess White Night. She comes from a long line of beautiful, smart, and kind pigeons!!!! and she’s Mrs. Lodewick’s pet. We all think very highly of her.”

“And she’s cute too,” replies Big Red with a smirk. “Hm...but that’s a long name. I think I’ll just call her Princess. Is that okay with you cutie?”

Princess is at a loss for words. “Well um, I...I guess so,” she finally replies.

Things settle down into a daily routine. Every morning Mr. Lodewick puts the pigeons into portable baskets and packs them into the back of the truck. Mrs. Lodewick is the trainer and she drives the pigeons far from the loft and releases them to fly home. This makes them stronger for the long races and also makes them familiar with their surrounding. They do not fly at night. On the last leg of a long race if they see something familiar they know their close to home, a good meal and safety. It would not be a good idea to spend a long race if they see something familiar they know their close to home.

As the days went on Princess and Big Red took turns sitting on the egg. It was always warm. One evening as Big Red was atop the egg he jumped.

“What’s happened?” Mrs. Lodewick was concerned. “He didn’t choose a very romantic way to show it,” was her only reply.

Princess who was sitting on a nest.

Upon their return, Glaydes marched into the loft and approached Princess. “Who did it?” She was so angry she couldn’t even shake.

“AN EGG!” “Who did that?” Glaydes screamed looking around.

“Who did it?” She was so angry she couldn’t even shake. Glaydes is on the floor of the loft pacing back and forth and shaking.

“Don’t worry Princess,” said Hiratio, “I’ve seen this happen a few times. Your feathers will grow back but no races for you until they do.” “And...as for you Big Red...I know what you’re up to.”

Glaydes is on the floor of the loft pacing back and forth and shaking. “What’s he up to? What’s he up to?” Not one pigeon answered her question. They all looked at Big Red and turned their backs to him. Big Red stared at them all and said, “WHAT?”

Mr. Lodewick had to comfort the Misses she was so upset. Her pet was injured. “Why did he do that to her, Issac?”

“I’ll tell you, Molissa, I think that Red likes your Princess.”

“I don’t think he chose a very romantic way to show it,” was her only reply.

Days turned into weeks and the daily routine at the loft continued. The birds went on the road training every day and came home to a nice breakfast of grains and seeds. Princess was getting better and feathers were coming out on her head. Big Red was the fastest pigeon in the loft and won a couple of races but no one was his friend but Princess. She was the only one to forgive him.

One sunny morning Mr. Lodewick did not put Princess into the training basket. When the misses saw she wasn’t there they gave her husband a knowing smile. As she drove to the release point all the birds were quiet except Glaydes.

“WHAT?”

All the other pigeons smiled and said nothing.

Upon their return, Glaydes marched into the loft and approached Princess who was sitting on a nest.

Shaking she said, “Why weren’t you with us today. I could hardly concentrate coming home. Are you sick!”

“No,” Princess replies smiling, and lifted her wing to show Glaydes the beautiful white egg she was sitting on.

“AN EGG!” “Who did that?” Glaydes screamed looking around. “Who did it?” She was so angry she couldn’t even shake.

In unison all the others turned to look at Big Red. “Who do you think?” Big Red slowly turned to face the others. “WHAT!”

Everyone in the loft except Glaydes knew that Princess and Big Red had mated. They finally accepted her decision and were trying to be nicer to him at Princess’s request. It seemed she saw another side to him.

As the days went on Princess and Big Red took turns sitting on the egg as was the custom of pigeons and took turns going training so the egg was always warm. One evening as Big Red was atop the egg he jumped.

“Hey, what was that? Something just kicked me.” He jumped off the nest and looked. The egg had a hole in it and a little beak was sticking out.

“T’M A FATHER, I’M A FATHER!”

Princess flew to the nest and all the other gathered as close as possible to see the egg.

“T’M A FATHER, PRINCESS, I’M A FATHER!”
Soon enough the young one had broken out its shell. The babe was covered in a soft yellow down. Princess and Big Red now took turns sitting on the nest with the baby chick underneath them to keep it warm. They both fed the baby and it grew and grew. Soon feathers began to replace the down. Everyone in the loft was betting on what color the baby would be.

“I think she's going to look like her mom,” Glaydes said, “A blue splash.”

“No way," replied Big Red. "She'll be a red just like the rest of my family.”

They had all already decided it was a girl and had named her Go. Lulu had heard the Mister telling the Misses that he thought the baby was special. With Princess's intelligence and the Red's speed this baby could become a great flyer.

One afternoon as the parents were changing shifts sitting on the chick, Big Red's eyes opened wide in amazement.

"I'll be darned.”

The baby was growing red feathers and white feathers.

"Princess,” yelled Big Red. "Look...Go looks like both of us.”

Princess turned and smiled at Big Red, and much to everyone's surprise, he smiled back at Princess. The two parents looked lovingly at their chick and someone thought they saw Big Red put his wing around Princess.

The 500 mile race was approaching. They already flew the 200 mile and the 300 mile races. The loft was full of activity the day the birds were to be brought to the club to be shipped to the race point. In the morning Mr. Lodewick put the bath pans on the roof, sprinkled a special ingredient into the pans and filled them with water. A bath always made the birds feel good. Whatever Mr. Lodewick added to the bath water made it even nicer. They loved it; jumped in splashed around, swam a little and finally hopped out. They fluffed their feathers and lounged in the sun to dry.

Mr. Lodewick made sure all the pigeons had a good meal in the morning. It was time for him to select which pigeons he would send to the 500 mile race. “Out of my way, out of my way,” he said, spinning around in circles. He was singing, “I'm gonna win, I'm gonna win. Don't even bother with the rest of them Mister, all you need is me!!!”

All the others just snickered. Mr. Lodewick always sent at least fifteen birds to this race. He started selecting and basketing birds. Big Red was the fifth bird put into the basket.

"See, I told you.”

The others just snickered again.

Hiratio cleared his throat. “But...you weren't the first one picked.”

The others laughed out loud over this comment. Especially from Hiratio who very seldom commented.

Princess was on an upper perch sitting on the nest warming Baby Go. She smiled as Big Red teased the others.

All of a sudden Mr. Lodewick's hand reached up and lifted Princess off the nest.

Big Red pushed his way to the front of the basket. "Nooooooo.....not Princess! She's not ready for such a long race. She has a baby to take care of! Don't do it!”

All the birds in the loft froze and stared as Princess was put into the hen side of the basket. Big Red tried to console her through the wicker divider.

"Don't worry Princess, everything will be okay.”

He yelled through the wickers of the basket. “GLAYDES, GLAYDES, take care of Go. We're leaving it up to you.” Glaydes started to shake.

"Don't worry Glaydes, we'll be home tomorrow. Please Glaydes, please...take care of Go.”

"Okay.....okay...I can do it Red, I think....Oh my....I think I might faint. Abraham, bring the smelling salts. I feel a little weak.

"You got a young one Princess,” said the Mister. “I know you'll fly as fast as you can to get back to your chick. It's the 500.....you have to go.”

So, the pigeons were delivered to the homing pigeon club, a plastic band put on their leg so that upon their arrival back at their loft it would be removed and placed into a special clock. The time of each pigeon's arrival would be noted in the clock. The pigeon that flew the distance of the race in the fastest time was declared the winner.

Big Red, Princess, and the other pigeons were put into a big truck with all the other birds entered into the race. The driver, a white haired little man named Alfonso hopped into the truck, started the engine and the long journey to the release point began. He would drive all night to get there early the next morning.

Most of the pigeons were quiet during the drive. They would bounce around in the basket every time the driver hit a bump in the road. They could hear him singing Italian love songs as he drove.

A few birds, the ones who thought they were the best, bragged all the way down the road. Of course, Big Red joined in and really was starting to get excited.

“What are ya all talking about.” He said. “You're all looking at the winner...Big Red. Big Red is gonna win the 500.”

A large imitating blue bar called Buster pushed his way through the basket until he was right in front of Big Red. The two birds were fierce competitors all season and didn't like each other either.

"Who do ya think you are?” “All of us are sick and tired of listening to you brag all season about how you're going to win the big 500 mile race.” All the other pigeons turned on Big Red.
“Yea, we’re all tired of you. We’ll see. We’ll see who wins.” We’ll see just how good you are,” they chanted.

The mob started to push towards Big Red. You could cut the tension in the basket with a knife.

“Oh yeah,” replied Big Red, not backing down. “You’re right, we’ll see tomorrow who the winner will be...and...it’ll be me...BIG RED.... the biggest and best in the state. Ha, ha, you’ll all be singing a different tune tomorrow. I’ll be the pigeon everyone will be talking about. I’ll have my picture hung on the wall of the pigeon club; the winner, the WINNER of the 500 mile race. Just keep out of my way on the way home. Oh yeah, no problem, you’ll all be behind me, ha ha.”

The mob turned and quieted down for the rest of the trip.

“Don’t worry, Princess,” whispered Big Red. “I won’t fight them. I’m saving all my energy for the race. I’ll be waiting at home for you. Just be careful. I’ll give Glyades a break when I get there and keep Go warm. Boy, what a nervous pigeon she is.” Don’t worry about a thing. We’ll be home tomorrow before dark and I’ll be the big champ.”

The truck traveled all night. Most of the pigeons tried to get some sleep to be in their best form in the morning. Big Red had trouble getting any sleep. He was worried about Princess, and Princess was worried about Go and her being able to make it home to her chick. But she knew if she couldn’t make it Big Red would and he would raise the baby.

Over hill and dale the truck traveled. Hours and hours passes and finally the truck came to a halt.

The pigeons knew they were at the release point. They could hear Alfonso unlocking the large back doors of the truck and with a loud creaking noise the doors moved. They had been in darkness all night but now they could see the sun filtering through the air holes of the baskets. Alfonso always waited before he released the birds so they could settle down after their bumpy ride. He pulled out his little folding chair, dropped into the seat, and devoured the cheese he had brought from home. He hummed to himself between bites and then closed his eyes for a few minutes of rest warming his face with the bright sunlight.

Every bird in the truck knew it was only a matter of minutes before Alfonso pulled the big handle that opened the basket doors. The stronger birds were pushing their way towards the front to get a good start.

Alfonso wiped his mustache with his fingers and rose from the seat. He moved towards the handle. “Okay my little friends,” he cooed in his Italian accent, “It’s time for you to go home. Fly as fast as you can.” With a little laugh he pulled the handle hard. It was exactly 8:00am.

BANG, BANG, BANG, the doors of the baskets opened. The bright sunlight blinded the birds for a second. Pigeons were racing out of the truck. Some flew high, some were pushed to the ground by the birds above them and had to re-start. Some were so scared they just froze on the spot and stayed in the truck. Hundreds and hundreds of pigeons were exiting the truck at one time. Blue-bars, checkers, whites, reds, and a few splashes like Princess darkened the sky and blocked the sun. They soared higher and higher circling, trying to get their bearings. Twenty or thirty birds left immediately and headed for home. They were the leaders. Surely one of those leaders would be the winner. Alfonso checked all the baskets and shooed the remaining pigeons out and closed all the doors. His job was complete and he could take his time returning home. He might even stop at that nice Italian Deli and grab a sandwich for the ride. As he started the truck he looked skyward and saw that all the birds were on their way home. The group of leaders were no longer in sight, they were already five miles from the truck and heading east; home.

Big Red and his rival Buster were in the lead pack. They were both strong birds and were flying next to each other. Buster was too close. He was trying to knock Big Red off his pace, but Big Red just pushed a little harder and soon he was at the front. But Buster was right on his tail feathers. Red knew he had a tough race ahead. And then there was Princess. She was also with the leaders, but a the back of the pack. Because she was so intelligent she knew how to leave the truck without hitting any other birds. Every once in a while Big Red glanced to check on her. He was really proud of her. She was keeping up. The pigeons soared over mountains, valleys, towns and cities, never slowing down. That would be a big mistake. The winner of the 500 Mile Race would keep up the pace for the entire race. It would take at least ten to twelve hours to get home.

The birds pushed on, hour after hour. They all had a lot of training and this helped them to keep going. They had flown the 350 Mile Race two weeks ago, so another one hundred and fifty miles would be a snap. Big Red could see the sun was moving to the west. It must be afternoon. A few more hours and we’ll be close, he thought. He could still see Princess behind him.

“What a nice sunny day,” Big Red was thinking as he continued to flap his wings. He could see a forest below and cows in a pasture. Cars moving down the roads looked like toys they were so small. Everything was going nicely. Buster had fallen behind two other pigeons. Big Red knew he wouldn’t be able to catch up. At this point Big Red knew he could win the race.

All of a sudden the sky darkened. Big Red glanced upward. It was a hawk. He was so big he blocked the sun from Big Red’s back. Red could see his sharp beak and talons. One hit from those talons could knock a bird out of the sky and the hawk would have pigeon for dinner. The hawk had Big Red in his sights. Hawks were fast and the he flexed his talons for the hit. Red knew at this moment that he was the target. He stopped flapping his wings, dropped immediately twenty feet and veered sharply left. Phew...the hawk had missed him.

“That was a close call.” Big Red thought. He rose and got back into the lead.

All of a sudden Big Red remembered Princess was behind him. He turned to glance back. All the racers had scattered in different directions trying to avoid the hawk attack. THUMP! The hawk hit a bird. Its talons ripped into the racer but he couldn’t hold on to it and the pigeon started tumbling to earth, feathers falling everywhere. It was Princess.....Big Red saw her white flight feathers floating towards earth.

“Oh no, it’s Princess!” He kept flapping his wings towards home. It was the BIG RACE.

“The race.....Princess.....Big Red’s mind went from one to the other. What should he do. He knew everyone at home was counting on him to win this race. He flapped again and again heading towards
home. All of a sudden he made a sharp U-turn. A race was a race... but there was only one Princess.

“If I live through this I can win next year.”

When Buster saw Big Red coming towards him he started to smile. He knew his rival had thrown the race away. He laughed as Big Red passed, “Sucker.”

Big Red couldn’t think of Buster now. He stopped flapping his wings and glided towards earth, searching the ground for his mate. He had seen the hawk fly off so he knew Princess was laying somewhere hurt.....or dead!!!!!!!!

Through some tree tops he saw blue and white feathers. He glided closer and saw her. She was just lying on the ground, one wing under her and one wing to her side.

“No.....let her be okay. Let her be alive!!!!!!”

Big Red landed a few inches away, tucked his flight feathers under his wings and slowly walked to her. She wasn’t moving. Her eyes were closed. It didn’t look good.

“Oh Princess, I’m so sorry. Please talk to me. Say something. Don’t closed. It didn’t look good.

“Hurt.....or dead!!!!!!!!

Big Red poked his head out of the crevice, looked in all directions, and decided it was safe for them to come out. Big Red crawled out and Princess followed.

“Red, why did you come back,” whispered Princess. “You lost the race.”

She was alive!!!!!!

Red was overjoyed. She was alive, hurt, but alive.

“Do you think that race is more important than you. You’re my mate,” he answered.

“You should have left me. My wing is hurt. I don’t think I can make it home. You go Red, maybe you still have a chance, you could still win,” she answered.

“Forget that race, I’m staying with you. It’ll be dark soon. We’ll rest for the night and try to get home in the morning. It’s not that far. Do you think you can make it to that rock. We can hide in its crevice. It will protect us for the night,” he said.

The two birds headed for the rock. Princess was able to walk with Big Red’s help and they crawled into the protection of the crevice. It was a tight fit. The warmth of their bodies next to each other made a cozy nook for them. It would also protect them from animals throughout the night. Princess knew why Big Red moved them there but she kept silent.

The sun soon faded into the west and twilight turned to darkness. The mated pair huddled together and tried to rest.

“Don’t cry yet, Molissa, if they’re alive, they’ll try to get home.” He put his arm around his wife.

Inside the loft there was silence. Everyone feared the worst. They knew if a bird didn’t make it home the day of the race, it would stop and rest for the night. It would also become easy pickings for other animals. A good meal.

Hiratio took charge and questioned the returning racers. “Did any of you see either of them?”

They responded that they had not. The only thing they knew was that Princess and Big Red were in the lead pack. The rest had all been at least fifteen minutes behind.

Glaydes was still at her post, sitting on Go. But upon hearing this news she started to shake...and shake and shake.

“Glaydes, get a grip. You may have to adopt Go, if her parents don’t return. You’re the only other one the chick knows,” said Hirato.

Still shaking Glaydes responded, “Oh no, Princess has to come home. What will we do without her. What will I do? She’s my best friend.” Now Glaydes was crying along with shaking.

“Easy does it Glaydes,” said Lulu. Princess is smart and Big Red is a great flyer. They’ll be home.” Although Lulu tried to comfort Glaydes she was worried. This was not like either bird.

It was dark now and the loft settled for the night. They would have to wait until tomorrow.

Princess and Big Red didn’t get much rest. The howling of hungry animals kept them awake. During the night they heard a noise close by. Red turned his head and saw two small beady red eyes watching them. It was a weasel. He was too large to get into the crevice and soon moved on in search of another meal.

Darkness turned to light. It was daybreak. The long night was over.

“Princess, are you awake?” whispered Big Red.

“I am. I’m so glad morning is here. I just hope that I can make it home. Promise me Red that if I can’t, you’ll go on without me.”

“Sure, sure,” Big Red answered. He knew he would never leave her, but it was what she wanted to hear.

Big Red poked his head out of the crevice, looked in all directions, and decided it was safe for them to come out. Big Red crawled out and Princess followed.

“How do you feel. Do you think you can fly?” he asked.

“I can try,” replied Princess. She was missing a couple of flights and also some tail feathers. She had a small hole in her side where the hawk’s talons had ripped her.

“Okay, lets give it a try,” said Big Red. You go first Princess and I’ll follow.

Princess flapped her wings and slowly left the ground. Big Red could see she was hurt, but she was airbourn and that’s all that counted. It would be a slow trip but Big Red was confident they
As they near the landing board no one on the ground moves...or speaks: pigeon or person. It's like time is standing still for everyone but the two birds. Princess approaches and hit the board. She's so weak her legs buckle and she belly-flops, skidding to a stop. Big Red lands gracefully next to her.

Glaydes has her eye shut. "Is she down? Has she landed? Is she okay?"

The pigeons are high-fiving and patting each other on the back. "Open your eyes Glaydes," yells Lulu. "She's home....they're both home."

Glaydes of course starts to shake. She lifts one wing and whispers, "Your Mom and Pop are home baby. " Go smiles.

Mr. Lodewick picks Princess up. He examines her closely and determines she'll be okay. The missing flight and tail feathers with grow back and her body wound will heal.

Of course Mrs. Lodewick is crying again. She smiles through her tears at her husband. He places Princess into her hands and says, "Give her a drink and let her go to her young one."

Mrs. Lodewick holds Princess and places a dish of water in front of her. Princess takes a long drink and looks up at the Misses. Molissa strokes her gently and kisses the top of her head. She enters the loft with Princess in hand. Glaydes hops off the nest. All the pigeons step back to give them room. Mrs. Lodewick gingerly put Princess down on her nest. Princess settles on her baby and closes her eyes. She's home.

Outside Big Red is standing on the platform. Mr. Lodewick starts walking towards him. "Uh oh, I think the Mister is mad. I lost the race. " says Big Red. He picks the bird up in his huge hands. The pigeons in the loft are now all looking outside wondering what's going to happen.

"Well, well, well....You blew the race, Red. You know what though? I'd have done the same thing if it was my mate. Love is love. You're both home and next year's another race season. You can win the Big Race next year."

With that Mrs. Lodewick put her arm around her husband and adds, "Yup, but Princess is staying home."

Night falls and Mr. And Mrs. Lodewick get ready for bed. They talk about the long day they had, kiss and go to sleep.

But....the loft is alive with activity. All the pigeons are clapping and patting Big Red on his back. "Our hero," the say in unison.

Big Red blushes as his feathers turn a brighter red and replies, "What!"

All the pigeons settle for the night. They know race season has ended and they will all dream about next year and the Big 500.
Fellow fanciers,

Within the past few weeks we have been fielding an unusually large number of questions regarding very sick and dying birds in lofts around the USA mostly, but not exclusively, in the northeastern part of the US from New England all the way to Minnesota, and as far south as Tennessee. Almost all of those reporting the sick birds are show fanciers who have just returned from shows. By coincidence, there is also an outbreak of bird flu in Europe, and Reo Virus in Australia. There are some who are asking if this is more than a coincidence, and if it is possible that there could be a correlation.

I have had a recent discussion with Dr. Raf Herbots in Belgium regarding the bird flu in Europe, and he has basically told me that while, yes, there is an outbreak, it is only in ducks, geese and turkeys, not in pigeons, and that pigeons are not inclined to get this disease, nor do they host it. So, while the authorities in Europe have had to temporarily stop pigeon transport or racing, as Raf has said, "This is not new for us. We have had to deal with this before. I am confident that once the temperatures in Europe start to go up, things will go back to normal." Keep in mind that this type of bird flu is a cold weather virus. So, as far as the European outbreak of bird flu is concerned, that does not appear to have any correlation with what has been happening recently to the aforementioned show birds.

As to the Reo virus outbreak in Australia, I have been in contact with Dr. Colin Walker regarding this and am awaiting his response. On a personal note, I feel confident that as it regards the problems that our fellow fanciers have been experiencing in the northeastern part of the country, the Reo virus has no connection. What I think is going on is exactly the same thing that the racing fanciers around the USA have been dealing with for some time now and which we have had some excellent seminars about just recently in the USA from European speakers Dr. Raf Herbots and PHD Pharmacologist Jean Louis Jorrissen. and it is the following: Circo virus is present now, and can be isolated in almost every pigeon, not only in Europe but also in America. Circo, once awakened by stress, starts a domino effect in which Adeno virus and Herpes virus often become players. Also, it is a known fact that these viruses "almost never travel alone." For simplicity sake, we can look at it in this way, the viruses are a vehicle with empty seats in the back, and bacteria almost always come along for the ride. The bacteria most often associated with the Adeno virus is E.Coli, but Salmonella and other bacteria, including those that cause bad respiratory infections, have also been found associated with these viruses. Another way to look at it is that the virus becomes the primary infection that opens the door for the bacteria to enter. Some researchers have also found that in almost every case canker is also present.

The consensus among all of the veterinarians and pharmacologists that I am associated with and who are primarily involved in pigeon health is that we should all be vaccinating our birds as often as possible, up to 5 or 6 times per year. We should vaccinate for PMV, Herpes, pox and salmonella. There are vaccines available for those diseases. I have also gotten educated about how to properly use LaSota vaccine on pigeons, and even though LaSota is a chicken vaccine for Newcastle disease, it does give our pigeons an immunity bump, especially if those pigeons have already been vaccinated for PMV. Strong immune systems are what help most to ward off these diseases, and any time you vaccinate your birds you are helping the immune system get stronger.

There is also good news to report on the PMV vaccine situation in the USA. It now appears that there has finally been approval of a new PMV vaccine that will be produced by the same team that is producing our KM-1 salmonella vaccine right now. That is certainly good news, as we desperately need a PMV vaccine here in the States.

Hopefully this info will be of some help. As soon as I hear anything from Dr. Walker, I will post that as well.

Hang in there guys. There's light at the end of the tunnel.

All the best,

Ed
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Omemee, Ont, Canada K0L2W0
(705) 341-1809

ANIMAL WILDLIFE
Charles Kacyk
47 Urma Pl.
Saddle Brook, NJ 07663
(201) 488-7665

ARR
Stacy "Bubba" Wilson
3920 N. Mountain Grove Rd.
Alma, AR 72921
(479) 719-0512
bubbavanrazorback@yahoo.com

ASH
Ashland Flying Club
Frank Monberger
309 Tanner St.
Ringtown, PA 17967
(570) 889-0997

ATB
American Trenton Breeders
Jerry Johnson
07316 Lake Rd.
Hicksville, OH 43526
(419) 439-6930
Jnjsr@yahoo.com

ATHENS, GA
Athens Area Racing Pigeon Club
Rance Wright
171 Martin Pl.
Arnoldsville, GA 30619
(706)742-8712

B
I.F. Stock
Val Matteucci
P. O. Box 374
Hicksville, NY 11802
(516) 794-3612
valmatteucci@optimum.net

BAMBINO
Vivencio Suga
94-125 Pahu St. #1
Waipahu, HI  96797
(808) 393-1855

BANA LOFT
Tomasz Banasiak
208 Wilmont Ave.
Barrington, NJ 08007
(856) 649-4169

BARRERA
Narciso Barrera
208 McKinney St.
Burlington, NC 27217
(336) 684-1030

BB
Bound Brook Club
Ronald Kostecki
172 Fairview Dr.
Neshanic Station, NJ 08853
(908) 391-9093
RKostecki12@comcast.net

BBF
Bound Brook Homing Pigeon Club
Ronald Kostecki
172 Fairview Dr.
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(908) 391-9093
RKostecki12@comcast.net
2017 I.F. Band Listing Continued

BCPA
Broad Channel R.P.A.
Robert Steiner, Sr.
404 N. Samsula Dr.
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168
(386) 482-3423

BFL Loft
Randy Burns
P.O. Box 227
Cimarron, KS 67835
(716) 255-2435

BHS
Bristol Club
Robert McCafferty
2442 Ogden Ave.
Bensalem, PA 19020
(215) 638-2980

BID
Biddeford Racers
Dennis Cyr
6 Stockman Ave.
Saco, ME 04072
(207) 284-7041
only1number1@gwi.net

BOB
Bob's Loft
Bob Brown
30602 State Hwy. 77
Townville, PA 16360
(814) 566-8453

BOW INV
Bowmanville Invitational RPC
Pat Woolner
41 Fourth St.
Bowmanville, Ontario, Canada L1C2G5
(905) 623-7417

BPRC
Baileyton Pigeon Racing Club
Tina Evans
1304 Davis St.
Morristown, TN 37814
(423) 839-6476

BQC
Brooklyn Queens Club
Joseph Swint
985 Waring Ave., Apt. 4E
Bronx, NY 10469
(347) 248-6099

BRA
Braintree Racing Pigeon Club
Dr. Dave Urnek
808 Commercial St.
Braintree, MA 02184
(617) 823-0575
dave@allaboardsupply.com

BRA-NWD
Dr. Dave Urnek
808 Commercial St.
Braintree, MA 02184
(617) 823-0575
dave@allaboardsupply.com

BSC
Bay Shore Club
Charles Barbiero
3 Houston St.
Red Bank, NJ 07701
(732) 530-7395
Adonis517@verizon.net

BUFFALO
Buffalo R.P.C.
George Huber
66 W. Hazeltine Ave.
Kenmore, NY 14217
(716) 875-0355

BWI
Baltimore Washington International
Andy Phillips
308 Church St.
Baltimore, MD 21225
(410) 226-5845
phillipssonlofts@aol.com

BBC
Browning Pigeon Club
Joe Steiner
2712 South St.
Baltimore, MD 21218
(410) 752-1123

C

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I. F. Stock
Val Matteucci
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CAP CITY
Cap City Club
Richard Clayton
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Bozman, MD  21612
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CAPITOL CITY
Capitol City Club
Ed Stanislawczyk
390 Spotswood Gravel Hill Rd.
Monroe Twp., NJ 08831
(732) 521-3100
estan43@verizon.net

CARPC
Central Alberta RPC
Guido Pfiffner
390 Spotswood Gravel Hill Rd.
Ponoka AB, Can T4J1R3
(403) 783-8300
northstardoves@explomet.com

CBS
Cliff Stratulat
1049 Normandy Dr.
Moosejaw, Saskatchewan,
Canada S6H3G8
(306) 692-8208

CCC
Carroll County Club
Wayne Lowe
12001 Clyde Young Rd.
Woodsboro, MD 21798
(301) 845-6715
Wandblowe@aol.com
CCF  
Coastal Carolina Flyers  
Jerome Hickman  
129 Tiff Lane  
Elizabeth City, NC 27909  
(757) 576-7157

CCM  
Club Colombofilo Metropolitano  
Nelson Velez  
P.O. Box 986  
San Lorenzo, PR 07754  
(787) 444-7804

CFL  
Joe Colondona  
61 Inlet View Path  
E. Moriches, NY 11940  
(631) 960-3696

CHEN LOFT  
Dave Chen  
126 Red Oak Ln.  
Bangor, PA 18013  
(484) 542-6888

CHH  
Charlotte Harbor HC  
Dick Bachman  
11080 Waterford Ave.  
Englewood, FL 34224  
(941) 474-8524

CLASSIC  
Connecticut Classic Club  
Bob Carney  
2042 John Fitch Blvd.  
S. Windsor, CT 06074  
(860) 967-6789

CLAUSING  
David Clausing  
6018 NW C.R. 661-A  
Arcadia, FL 34266  
(863) 444-0300  
clausingdavid@gmail.com

CMC  
Central Mass. Club  
Ray Cliche  
190 Bardwell St.  
Belchertown, MA 01007  
(413) 543-5750  
Racliche@yahoo.com

CMP  
Central Maine Pigeon Flyers  
Roy Hudson  
42 Back Shore Rd.  
Round Pond, ME  04564  
(207) 529-2189

COPC  
Carteret, Onslow Pigeon Club  
Rex Straughan  
347 Hogsans Rd.  
Hubert, NC 28539  
(910) 330-2578  
rex.straughn@hhrmc.org

COURT LOFT  
Sal Bennici  
314 Union St.  
Brooklyn, NY  11231  
(646) 721-0019

CURE  
Greater Omaha Racing Pigeon Inv.  
Walter Codney  
24794 Applewood Rd.  
Council Bluffs, IA 51503  
(712) 526-2318  
Cell: (712) 310-1357

CVHP  
Central VA Homing Pigeon Club  
Jason Floyd  
42 Top Ridge Rd.  
Lynchburg, VA  24601  
(434) 942-1940  
j.p.floyd87@aol.com

CVI  
Connellsville R.P.C.  
Robert Morris  
1748 Grindstone Rd.  
Grindstone, PA 15442  
(724) 677-0301

CVR  
Cumberland Valley R. P. C.  
Bob Moschel  
18104 Nolman Dr.  
Fair Play, MD 21740  
(240) 818-4652  
alliancesecuritybob@msn.com

D  
DBS  
Jacksonville Club  
Nick Matarese  
423 Fawlor Manning Rd.  
Richlands, NC 28574  
(910) 330-2624  
dbspigeons@enbarqmail.com

DCUI  
Dutchess County Ulster Invitational  
Ray Pereira  
5 Farmview Rd.  
Wappinger Falls, NY  12590  
(914) 760-5642

DEA  
Dennis Aycock  
5411 W. Monte Cristo  
Glendale, AZ 85306  
(602) 938-4962  
Deasaa5411@aol.com

DENNIS TERRIZZI  
Dennis Terrizzi  
73 Park Lane Dr.  
Albertson, NY 11507  
(516) 554-7812  
dennaelc@optonline.net

DIAMOND  
Jack Marzillano  
22 Hillberry Ln.  
Holbrook, NY 11741  
(631) 960-3696  
rockymarz@aol.com

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Tony Diaz  
602 Eldert Ln.  
Brooklyn, NY 11208  
(718) 683-1266  
tnova430@aol.com

DVC  
Delaware Valley Pigeon Club  
Joe Martino, Jr.  
2219-B New Hope St.  
Norristown, PA 19401  
(610) 277-2997  
jmartinojr@verizon.net
2017 I.F. Band Listing  Continued

E

E. I. F. Stock
Val Matteucci
P. O. Box 374
Hicksville, NY 11802
(516) 794-3612
valmatteucci@optimum.net

E.F. PIGEON

Joe Campione
148 Lamar St.
W. Babylon, NY 11704
(516) 640-6467

ECC

Effingham County R.P.C.
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1758 Courthouse Rd.
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EMC

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Hicksville, NY 11802
(516) 794-3612
valmatteucci@optimum.net

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Tal Erglis
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Clifton Park, NY 12065
(518) 371-7949

EMPIRE-CA

Jim McInnes
184 Hunt Rd.
Brighton, Ont, Canada K0K1H0
(613) 475-6052

ERIE, PA

Erie Racing Pigeon Club
Bob Brown
30602 State Hwy. 77
Townville, PA 16360
(814) 566-8453

ERP

Easton Racing Pigeon Club
Gary Karcher, Jr.
375 Center St.
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865
(908) 319-4129
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F

FCC

F. Colombofile Cuban
Gustavo Garcia
141 S. Park St.
Elizabeth, NJ 07206
(908) 358-2414

FFF

Flying For Fun
Robert Griffiths
630 Carolina Bay Dr.
Apt. 314
Wilmington, NC 28403
(910) 399-4445
tranquility@gmail.com

FFP

Flying Frenzy Pigeon Club
Jamie Murphy
103 New Hope Church Rd.
Alma, GA 31510
(912) 282-9142

FJT

Taranto Loft II
Frank Taranto, Sr.
49 Glen Ave.
Fairfield, NJ 07004
(973) 812-7938

FL GUO

Qi Tao Guo
1168 Albury Ave.
Spring Hill, FL 34606
(646) 639-2898

FOYS

Foy’s Pigeon Supplies
Jerry Gagne
3185 Bennetts Run Rd.
Beaver Falls, PA 15010
(724) 843-6889
info@foyspetsupplies.com

FVC

Frank Viola HPC
Peter Viola
557 17th St.
Brooklyn, NY 11215
(646) 773-6546
firstsgtpv@aol.com

F

GALT

Steve Wojteczko
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Cambridge, Ontario,
Canada N1R2C5
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GE

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GEF

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GOD

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2017 I.F. Band Listing  Continued

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GOLD WINGS
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Mamamadamukes@aol.com

GPC
Greater Philadelphia Club
Ray Dydk
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Philadelphia, PA 19137
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GURNAY, USA
Gurnay Club
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(330) 465-1059
bntjrw@embarqmail.com

GVI
Grand Valley Invitational
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H

HALL
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HBG
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Lewisberry, PA 17339
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Arvel@ptd.net

HC
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291 Circle Rd.
Hampton, SC 29924
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HOM
Heart Of Michigan Pigeon Club
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Eaton Rapids, MI 48827
(517) 663-1305
iluvtbears@sbcglobal.net

HDL
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HOMEWARD ANGELS
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HPC
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HPL
High Point Loft
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HRP
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IDF
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N. Bergen, NJ 07047
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IRISH SYND  
Irish Syndicate  
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Interstate R.P. Combine  
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Sting2359@aol.com

ISL  
Islip Homing Club  
Doug Franz  
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Bay Shore, NY 11706  
(516) 527-0748

J & D LOFT  
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Hicksville, NY 11801  
(516) 987-1598

JERZY  
Mike Bride  
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birdbrainmike@roadrunner.com

JFP  
Joe & Fran Politi  
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Holbrook, NY 11741  
(631) 981-8915

JKMA  
Suburban Combine, Inc.  
Gary Moore  
730 Sandra La.  
Phoenixville, PA 19460-2322  
(610) 933-6654  
G_Moore730@msn.com

JM  
Thumb Area Flyers  
Arnhold Ludwig  
4325 Mayer Rd.  
China, MI 48054  
(586) 601-8328

JNC  
Jacksonville Club  
Nick Matarese  
423 Fawlor Manning Rd.  
Richlands, NC 28574  
(910) 330-2624  
dbspigeons@enbarqmail.com

JND  
Nick Lu  
1230 South 4th St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19147  
(215) 275-9161

JSC  
Jersey Shore RPC  
Kurt Deyback  
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Brick, NJ 08724  
(908) 433-6451  
tootser@comcast.net

JUTRAS  
Jerry Jutras  
102 Plains View Rd.  
Williamsburg, VA 23188  
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faithfellowship@cox.net

KING LOU RACE  
Robert Waters  
326 King Ave.  
Bronx, NY 10464  
(718) 885-1143

KOLV  
Kolvenbag & Son  
Geert Kolvenbag  
293 Hickory Dr.  
Kennett Square, PA 19348-1551  
(610) 347-0908  
gkolvenbag@gmail.com

KING LOU RACE  
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Bronx, NY 10464  
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LA LOMA  
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LAT  
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LBR  
Lindenhurst Homing  
Tom Marvelli  
48 Columbine Ave.  
Islip, NY 11751  
(631) 277-0530

LBRA  
Lindenhurst Club  
Tom Marvelli  
48 Columbine Ave.  
Islip, NY 11751  
(631) 277-0530

LCC  
Connecticut Classic Pigeon Club  
Bob Carney  
2042 John Fitch Blvd.  
S. Windsor, CT 06074  
(860) 967-6789

LCM  
Lyndhurst H.P.C.  
Nick Palladino  
950 Westside Ave.  
Jersey City, NJ 07306  
(201) 435-3990

LGL  
Lion Gate Lofts  
Neil Migliore  
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(631) 582-5566  
info@liongatelofts.com
2017 I.F. Band Listing  Continued

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LHR
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LIN
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Tom Marvelli
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Islip, NY 11751
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LLF
Lakeland Flyers
Kenny Peer
10 White Oak Rd.
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(973) 227-2286

LM
Lansing R P C
Roberta Townsend
6525 E. Clark Rd.
Bath, MI 48808
(517) 641-6328

LMA
Mingo Homing Club
T.C. Ward
6574 Knoll Ct.
New Tripoli, PA 18066
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Ditoward@aol.com

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(781) 844-7596

LOREFOICE FAMILY
Joe Lorefoice
855 Greenbelt Pkwy.
Holbrook, NY 11741
(631) 868-0662
Nos. 6001 - 6200

LOREFOICE FAMILY
Cowboy Lorefoice
12220 N. Kalama Circle
Marana, AZ 85653
(520) 237-8086
Nos. 6201 - 6500

LPC
Lennox Park Club
George Watson
2533 Green St.
Chester, PA 19013
(610) 220-9185

LPM
Lennox Park Club
George Watson
2533 Green St.
Chester, PA 19013
(610) 220-9185

LU
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LUDO
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PigeonRing@gmail.com

LVC
Lykens Valley Club
Harvey Moore, Jr.
333 Clarks Valley Rd.
Tower City, PA 17980
(717) 647-4739
Hmoore@epix.net

LWH
Washington Combine Flyers
Aundre Harris
12320 Crain Hwy.
Brandywine, MD 20613
(240) 375-9717

LYN
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M
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Michael Cunningham
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(443) 794-8962
mjccarpet1@aol.com

MAIER
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925 Chatfield Rd.
Warrington, PA 18976
(215) 343-0403
tawnybrown@verizon.net

MAX SPEED
Plotr Ksiazek
P.O. Box 556
Sugar Loaf, NY 10961
(845) 978-0253

MCF
Morris County Flyers
Tim Kasharian
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Vienna, NJ 07880
(908) 625-2183
timothykasharian@gmail.com

MDL
Michael Cautillo
94 Centre St.
Bronx, NY 10464
(646) 261-3087
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MET</strong></td>
<td><strong>NAF</strong></td>
<td><strong>NHF</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Metchun Pigeon Club</td>
<td>Suburban Combine, Inc.</td>
<td>North Hudson Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Panek</td>
<td>Gary Moore</td>
<td>James Corso</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Deerhill Rd.</td>
<td>730 Sandra L.a.</td>
<td>1224 46th St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerville, NJ 08876</td>
<td>Phoenixville, PA 19460-2322</td>
<td>N. Bergen, NJ 07047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(908) 581-7202</td>
<td>(610) 933-6654</td>
<td>(201) 867-2776</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:hbrookone@yahoo.com">hbrookone@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:G_Moore730@msn.com">G_Moore730@msn.com</a></td>
<td>Cell: (201) 450-4551</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **MH** | **NCC** | **NJF** |
| Mingo Homing Club | Northern Catskill Club, Inc. | Northwest Junior Flyers |
| T. C. Ward | Joe Costa | Tim Tessier |
| 6574 Knoll Ct. | 15 Feller New Mark Rd. | P.O. Box 325 |
| New Tripoli, PA 18066 | Red Hook, NY 12571 | Chesterfield, MA 01012 |
| (610) 298-8303 | (845) 758-3555 | (413) 296-4359 |
| Ditoward@aol.com | pigeonman1313@yahoo.com | Florenceprecision@verizon.net |

| **MNH** | **NEIL** | **NKC** |
| Manchester Racing Pigeon Club | Neil George | Washington Combine Flyers |
| Glen O’Keefe | 200-10 46 Ave. | Aundre Harris |
| 122 Harriman Hill Rd. | Bayside, NY 11361 | 12320 Crain Hwy. |
| Raymond, NH 03077 | (718) 570-6305 | Brandywine, MD 20613 |
| (603) 895-4631 |  | (240) 375-9719 |
| Glennokeefe@yahoo.com |  |  |

| **MRC** | **NET** | **NLI** |
| Middlesex R.P.C. | North-East Tennessee RPC | Northern Long Island |
| Mary Bajer | Clayton Grubbs | Tom Newman |
| 51 Davidson Mill Rd. | 1401 6th St. Ext. | 20 Oak Tree Dr. |
| N. Brunswick, NJ 08902 | Bristol, TN 37620 | Smithtown, NY 11787 |
| (732) 422-8589 | (423) 956-7404 | (631) 724-2431 |
| hilowloft@aol.com | ccg042@aol.com | tjnewman1@optonline.net |

| **MRP** | **NEVER HAPPEN** | **NORHSTARLOFT** |
| Mohawk RPC | Kevin Williams | North Star Loft |
| Harold Southerland | 150 Tremont St. | Guido Pfiffner |
| 2014 Phillipi Rd. | Braintree, MA 02184 | Box 40 Site 1 RR 3 |
| Mohawk, TN 37810 | (617) 281-6688 | Ponoka AB, Canada T4J1R3 |
| (423) 552-6572 | sgtwindows@hotmail.com | (403) 783-8300 |
| mamaw2lucas@yahoo.com |  | northstardoves@explornet.com |

| **MTFL** | **NEW** | **NPC** |
| Meletios Tsarouthsis | Newark HPC | North Penn Homing |
| 2686 Winona Rd. | Jim Lister | Joe Serrill |
| Baldwin, NY 11510 | 2 Stockton Dr. | 402 Lawn Ave. |
| (516) 643-4424 | New Castle, DE 19720 | Sellersville, PA 18960 |
|  | (302) 345-0140 | (215) 257-8979 |
|  | listerks@gmail.com | jaserrill@gmail.com |

| **MVRC** | **NHCF** | **NPR** |
| Mid Valley Racing Club | North Hudson Club | Northampton Pigeon Racing Club |
| Raymond Rodriguez | James Corso | Al Guzara |
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| Wallkill, NY 12589 | N. Bergen, NJ 07047 | Northhampton, PA 18067 |
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2017 I.F. Band Listing Continued

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OPC
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PFL
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NSBR
Nassau Suffolk Band Race
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2017 I.F. Band Listing  Continued

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2017 I.F. Band Listing Continued

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2017 I.F. Band Listing  Continued

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I cannot count how many times I have heard flyers say they cull young birds that come home late from races. I believe this is an absolute ludicrous statement in this day and age of higher losses. Predators do take a lot of our young athletes as well as accidents with all the high tension electrical transmission towers traversing across our race courses. I hear theories about all the electrical interference confusing the bird's navigation. Solar flare ups definitely cause confusion. I will share experiences that seem to "weld the love for home in the memory of our beloved flying athletes". Every flyer has or will experience the late arrival of young birds from a bad training toss or early races in the pigeons racing career.

We have at our exposal, so many races to choose to enter such as regular club races, auction races, futurity races, convention races and the ever increasing popular OLRs (One Loft Races). Most flyers keep too many birds over the winter and we tend to breed more pigeons than our young bird lofts can adequately handle so elect to send out some birds for other flyers to test in their locations.

When we race our home teams we look for any and every way to "motivate our pigeons to race home". I have a belief that pigeons that fail to come home from a toss or race and experience a night out REALLY APPRECIATE THEIR HOME when they come home to their personal piece of real estate they own – their perch!!! They remember what it is like to be scared and away from the security of their home. I wish to illustrate what experience I have with my birds both flown from my home loft and birds I have sent out to races.

Next year I sent Walt pigeons as well as two other flyers. Fast forward to the 100 miler qualifier. 15003 was out overnight and three weeks later topped the race sheet at 1st place in the 250. 15003 learned the love for his home navigating directly home to her perch.
the morning after the 100 miler qualifier to say 16038 failed to come home.  I said great, he will be home and you won't lose him. I mentioned he would be a winner. I think Ralph thought I was crazy. On the day of the 150 Walt told me that he placed 2nd in the race and was happy to say Ralph covered for him as my pigeon won the race. 16038 grew to love his home. What is it with these pigeons that are out overnight and learn a greater love for their home. Seems one night out it creates a bond for their loft and their piece of real estate – their perch.

I have had a couple similar situations. In 2012 I was racing in two combines in two directions on two different days. We shipped south in the Western Michigan Association flying on Saturday. We shipped SW in the Michiana Combine flying Sundays. I was very busy with the Bed and Breakfast Inn so training was whenever my wife and I went out car shopping. One day 60 miles north and next day 30 miles SE. We were going to Mishawaka, Indiana to look at car dealers for a new SUV. Jitka would say “catch the YB team and we will take them out for a fly”. It did not matter what direction we went we would take the birds. I had 33 youngsters released and only 32 came home. I got a call from a guy that he had a pigeon of mine. Told me the odd thing was a hawk was chasing it and it flew into his uncle’s garage and stayed there on top of the big door. I made arrangements to pick up the pigeon the next morning in Buchanan, MI where the man worked. I kept her in for 3 days for her to appreciate home. Fast forward two weeks – she was 1st place flying SW on Sunday. Her nestmate brother was 1st place combine flying South the week before. Those South African imports proved their worth.

Another time I was training for the Michigan State Races with another guy in my club. I would take them 2x a week and Joe Gorka would take them 2x a week. We ship on Friday for Saturday release. Joe trained on Thursday and a DC splash hen trapped in his loft. He threw it out of his loft and it went right back in. Joe called me and that night I drove the 15 minutes away to pick it up. It was dark so I had the small basket in front with me. I started cooing to her and she cooed back. I took her out of the basket and held her up to my neck and cooed more. She cooed back. When I got home I placed her on her perch and then turned on the lights. She flew down to the drinker and back to her perch cooing and bobbing her head. I shipped here the next afternoon and she was my first clock bird on Saturday so go figure. She did not win the race but she is a winner in my eyes as she went from disoriented to my first bird in one day. Pigeons do get disoriented and when given a chance prove their love for home.

I am sure other flyers may have some similar experiences. Perhaps this article will make flyers more aware to take good notes of pigeons coming late and how they perform in races later. All the best to everyone in 2017. My goal this year is to win the BOW 200 so I would have won each race once in four years. Handlers can only handle a team of 3 per breeder so we will see. I have 9 youngsters that will go to 3 handlers. Now your all probably thinking I am hoping none will come home the day of the 100 mile qualifier. That thought has come across my mind. What are the chances I could score a 4th year in a row with a late comer from the 100? If one of my birds scores in a race – yes, I want it to be the 200!  

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Salmonella or paratyphus, most fancier think this is only present in lofts that are very dirty, where there is no hygiene, the fancier doesn’t take care of his pigeons, and plenty fanciers think that this can’t be a problem in their own loft.

I have to say, if you think so, you are quite wrong. Nowadays, during my daily practice I see plenty of problems related to the Salmonella bacteria. Especially during the molting and breeding period, but also during racing season etc, you can have Salmonella related problems.

Therefore I think it is useful to say in this article something more concerning this sometimes “hidden” disease.

A vet from the USA claims that there is Salmonella present in all lofts. All lofts may be too much but I am convinced that the Salmonella bacteria is more present in plenty different lofts than is assumed.

All pigeons look very healthy, they are not thin, they don’t show any sign of illness, but…

We see a lot of carrier pigeons with Salmonella, these are those healthy looking pigeons but in their body there are small abscesses from Salmonella. When everything goes like it should be, the bacteria stays inside the body, but in cases of stress, the sleeping bacteria comes awake and there is excretion of the bacteria and the pigeons can become ill. The abscesses can be located in the lungs (cf picture), ovaria, testikels etc, what explain also sometimes (temporary) infertility in those pigeons.

Stress situations for a pigeon can be very various, such as moving the bird into another loft, or during molting, breeding, races etc. Every time the pigeon becomes a bit tired, exhausted, it has less immunity and at that moment it is possible that there is excretion of the bacteria to other pigeons who become ill.

The symptoms of pigeons infected with Salmonella can be very different like:

- Swollen articulations:
  - Legs: The pigeons will limb (see photo)
  - Wings: The pigeons will drop a wing

- Less appetite
- Becoming thin (see photo below)
- Sudden death
- Clear eggs
- Dark Eggs
- Unilateral ophtalmie
- Abscesses at the head
- Opiostothonus

So pay attention if a pigeon cannot fly anymore to their nestbox, or a pigeon that starts to limb. Also too much clear (not fertilised) or dark eggs (embryo died in the egg, wasn’t able to come out of the egg) (see photo below.)

Fluffed up pigeons, and becoming thin…

A Lack of good performances during the racing season can also be caused by Salmonella.

Always keep in mind that all these symptoms can be due to Salmonella.
TRANSMISSION
The infection with Salmonella can be horizontal (transfered by the food, the water, the droppings, etc) and vertical (when the Salmonella is located in the gonads).
This means that a youngster can be infected already in the egg!!!

DIAGNOSE
Salmonella can infect very fast a whole loft, so it is very important to make a quick and efficient diagnose, not only for the pigeons that are ill, but also for the other ones that seems to be healthy at that moment.

1) Bloodsamples, searching for antibodies
Bloodsampling is a good and fast method to have a diagnose, but there are much false negative, because the antibodies are not yet in or already out of the blood of the pigeon. When positive you can be quite sure, when negative you can’t be sure at all.

2) Dropping samples
   - **Quick test:** Is possible to do but not always reliable
   - **Culture:** This is the best method to diagnose, but the excretion of the Salmonella bacteria is not every time high enough to detect it by a culture.

Therefore collect always 5 days dropping samples in order to be sure of the diagnosis.
Certainly for screening the lofts, gather 5 days droppings, from all the different pigeons, mix it very well and if it is very hot mix some water in it so it is not very dry.

Make sure the lab examines specific the Salmonella strain of the pigeons, nl Salmonella Typhimurium var. Copenhagen.type II
When it was possible to grow a culture of the Salmonella strain, the lab will make an antibiogram, so you will know what kind of antibiotics will be most convenient to treat your specific strain of Salmonella.
Some labs have also the possibility to make an auto-vaccine, this means a vaccine specific based on your “home” Salmonella strain.

**Screening on diseases, vaccinating programs, etc., are the NEW NORMAL in the Pigeon Sport.**

Don’t forget to give after an antibiotic treatment probiotics in order to rebuild the intestinal flora.
Next to the antibiotics sanitary measurements are also very important.

**Hygiène** is one of the most important, cleaning, desinfecting with Javel, dettol, using the flame eliminating rats and mice.

TREATMENT
Once the diagnosis of Salmonella is sure, you have to treat first of all.
The antibiogram will tell you what kind of **antibiotics** you use the best, in order to treat the Salmonella. Some antibiotics will be better than other ones to try to “cure” the carriers, such as medication based on fluoroquinolones. Others won’t have that much power to treat and “clean” the carriers.

Make use of a **quarantaine** place for:
Sick pigeons, new pigeons before introducing into the loft, and pigeons after a race that entered very late.

Stop the **stress** factor, this means:
Avoid overcrowding and stop breeding.

Sometimes **euthanasia** of some very ill pigeons is necessary when they don’t react to the treatment as it should be. This is sometimes the only possibility to eradicate the Salmonella completely out of the loft.

Regular **screening** after all this is highly recommended.

**PREVENTION**
All these **management** factors mentioned as a part of the treatment are things to keep in mind for prevention of this disease.
Also regular **screening** by taking 5 days dropping samples and ask the vet to make a culture of this, so you can treat immediately when this is positive.

And… **vaccination**!!

Some vets/fanciers are pro, others are contra, but I am surely pro.
Vaccinating against salmonella will not only give more immunity against the Salmonella itself, but I am convinced that the pigeon will be stronger to beat any other disease. This doesn’t mean that they won’t become ill at all, but, there is certainly a positive effect on the health of the pigeon in general.

Here in Belgium we use attenued living vaccines, these give a very good imminity and it is only necessary to inject once a year.

When you use living vaccines after an antibiotic treatment, it is better to wait minimum 5 days between the vaccination and the treatment, so there is no interference.

You can also use an auto vaccine, based on the Salmonella strain in your loft, that can be made in certain labs after they could isolate the Salmonella out of the 5 days dropping samples.

If you want to vaccinate against Salmonella, without having seen troubles before and having screened your loft, it is sometimes better to treat before the vaccination, because of the possibility of the presence of the bacteria. But… screening before is the best.

I have seen already much cases of Salmonella during the years, and it is a very difficult disease, it is sometimes very hard to get rid of it completely, but I saw that when a fancier treats like it should be, keeps in mind the sanitary measurements and the screenings and vaccinations, it is certainly possible to make sure your pigeons become healthy and clean of Salmonella afterwards.
Salmonella - An Old Bacteria That Is Still Very Hot (continued)

Like I wrote in the article of last year, also these things like screenings, vaccination programs etc become more and more the New Normal in pigeon sports.

Salmonella is/maybe a very old bacteria and disease in the pigeon sport, but it stays a very important disease!!!

Keep in mind that a healthy pigeon loft is 1 of the 3 important topics to achieve the best performances, but nowadays we have plenty more possibilities to screen and check our birds, make use of it!!!

THE NEW NORMAL in pigeon sports is there in every different aspects related tot he pigeon sport and is more and more common, also concerning the medical, scientific part.

- Medical supervising
- Screenings
- Vaccination programs
- Regularly visits of a vet
- DNA
- Parentage verification
- Qualitygenes
- LDHA
- DRD4
- Artificial Insemination

Don't hesitate to contact me for more information about any topic.

Help-A-Beginner – Name, Well Deserved!

By: Roberta N. Jackson

I am new to the pigeon world. I started my small business three years ago. Dovely Moments White Dove Releasing.

I struggle to find someone to talk pigeons. Basically to learn more about pigeons and how to properly train the birds that I have raised for dove releasing.

Other dover releasers refused to talk to and with me about the training. I was told, “Why should I talk with you, you are my competition.”

I was struggling trying to find somewhere to purchase feed at a cheaper price, then what I was paying. One day, I was talking to another pigeon lover about the price of feed, she told me about a man that she gets her feed from and gave me the phone number of a gentleman by the name of Sam Pixley. I was only feeding pellets. I had no clue conditioning feed, even existed.

Mr. Pixley has helped me on a monthly basis delivering quality feed, grit and corn-cob bedding. When and if I have questions about pigeons, and their needs, I will call Mr. Pixley and he offers recommendations that have worked for me.

Mr. Pixley will answer any of my questions without hesitation. I have yet to ask a question that he could not answer. Mr. Pixley has raised a couple of white homers for me, to help me and bring new blood into my loft. Because of my limited knowledge of training, I thought I did not have homing pigeons. (It was me, not the birds.)

I mention that I need another training crate and Mr. Pixley has an extra, which he gave me without accepting one cent. I recently learned, by reading a book, that Mr. Pixley shared with me (SkyTalk 2015) that Mr. Pixley is 1st Vice President of the I.F. and Chairperson of the I.F. Help-A-Beginner Program.

Mr. Pixley has been nothing short of a blessing to me and my new fascination with pigeons. I am grateful for Mr. Pixley and if I could cast a vote, Mr. Pixley would get my vote, he has definitely lived up to his title, Help-A-Beginner.

Thank you!
Roberta N. Jackson
Dovely Moments
Dear Beginner:
Welcome to the Help-A-Beginner program! The program is kicking into gear and this letter is to inform you of the expected time frame of events that will occur. Save this letter and use it as a guideline for the year.

**January-February**
Some of America's best flyers/breeders are being asked if they will volunteer to be part of the Help-A-Beginner program and how many beginners they would be willing to help.

**Late February-March**
A letter will be sent to all beginners and breeders/mentors assigning beginners to mentors. The beginners will first call or write their assigned mentors to work out all the details, this will entail sending $60.00 to the mentor to cover the cost of shipping birds. This cost will include, but is not limited to the purchase of proper shipping containers. It is important to remember that you will be working around the mentor's schedule and not the other way around. The mentor should receive your utmost respect.

**March-July**
Beginners will begin receiving birds from their mentors. It is important that you follow-up with your mentor letting him know that you received the birds and how you like them, and how you plan on settling them. Be sure to mention if you plan on flying them on your young bird team, etc. Remember your mentor will be sending you good birds and wants to know that the birds arrived safely. This is also the time to ask questions pertaining to your breeding and old bird season. May-June I will be checking with all the beginners and mentors to see how everything is progressing.

**June**
You should be in continued communication with your mentor and keep him updated on your progress. I can't emphasize enough the importance of keeping the lines of communication open with your mentor.

**Late July-August**
Most everyone is beginning to train his or her young birds. Now is a good time to get some tips on how to handle the training to prevent losses. Be sure to ask about medication, feeding, etc.

**September-November**
Young bird race season will probably be in full swing and a regular call to your mentor will help avoid mistakes and help improve your results.

---

**Beginner's Name:**
**Street Address:**
**City, State, Zip:**
**Home Telephone:**
**Work:**
**Email Address:**
**Years in the sport of racing pigeons:**
**Do you belong to an I.F. Affiliated Club?**
**Were you an IF member last year?**
**Have you flown one YB or OB season?**
**Member of which Racing Pigeon Club:**

---

**Name of Club President:**
**President's Phone number:**
**Name of Club Race Secretary:**
**Secretary's Phone number:**

---

**I am seeking help with:**

---

**I certify that I meet all the qualifications for the Help-A-Beginner program and I agree to accept the responsibility of the expense for shipping any birds to me. I also agree to keep the breeder updated of all successes obtained as a result of his/her help as well as sending final results in to the IF HAB Chairman at the end of the season.**

---

**We certify that the above named applicant is a member of our club in good standing and has flown at least one race season, but not more than one young or old bird season. The applicant has a loft, which is not detrimental to the image of the sport and maintains the loft in a clean and healthy fashion.**
1. This contest is open to all students who are members, sons and daughters of members or grand children of International Federation members. Membership must be continuous for a five-year period. Students must be attending an accredited two or four-year college or university and not have already graduated. Only one entry per student is permitted. One-year scholarships are awarded annually and are limited to undergraduate studies at accredited educational/technical institutions. Scholarships are not automatically renewable. The student must take 12 credits. Current scholarship recipients must re-apply each year and are limited to a total of two scholarship awards. Essay must be accompanied with official transcript from high school or college.

2. The contest is for an original essay written in English. It must have a minimum of 500 words and not exceed 750 words excluding title page and bibliography. One or two letter words such as I, to, and we are not counted. When counting words in a date, a numerical date (2012) or a date spelled out (Seventeen seventy six) shall be counted as one word. The topic of the essay shall deal with how pigeons touched and affected the student’s family life. Also the topic of the essay, can deal with an event, person, philosophy or ideal associated with the Racing Pigeons. Clear, well expressed, original essays are sought.

3. The Essay document shall have two parts: a) title page, b) essay. The title page shall include the essay title, the contestant’s name, address, and telephone number. In addition, the title page shall include the name, grade, address, and telephone number of the high school or college the contestant is attending. The name and address of the person who is a International Federation member, through relationship to said member, and the club to which they belong.

4. The essay shall be typed double-spaced on white bond paper using a computer, a word processor, or a typewriter. Graphics are not permitted. The original copy of the essay should be submitted including a file in MS Word, MS Works or a text file.

5. The essay will be judged on the following criteria:
   A. Historical accuracy
   B. Clarity of thought
   C. Organization
   D. Grammar and Spelling
   E. Creativity
   F. Documentation

6. The International Federation establishes the closing date for this contest will be October 1st of each year.


8. The winning essays of the contest will be submitted for publication in The Skytalk magazine.

9. Participants in this contest agree that the interpretation of rules and the decisions of the International Federation and its judges are final.

SUBMIT ENTRY TO:

Scott Landry
11 Evergreen Lane
Industry, ME 04938
Phone: (207) 491-9041
scottlandry78@gmail.com
International Federation of American Homing Pigeon Fanciers

Name:________________________________________________________Date of Birth:______________

Address:_____________________________________City:______________State:______Zip:____________

Phone Number (_____)_____________

Email:______________________________________

(If under 21): Name of Parent or Guardian_______________________________________

Address:______________________________City:______________State:______Zip:____________

Phone Number: (____)________________

Name of Pigeon Flyer that inspired you:_______________________________________________________

Relationship to above individual:__________________________________

Most Recent School Attended: _____________________________________Year Graduate HS:___________

School Address:_______________________________City:______________State:______Zip:____________

Name of College You Plan On Attending:_______________________________________

Address:_____________________________________City:______________State:______Zip:____________

Date of Acceptance:____________________

Program that you will be enrolled in:____________________________________________

Duration of program:________________________________________________________

Refer to Scholarship entry rules and attach your essay to the entry form.

SUBMIT ENTRY TO:
Scott Landry
11 Evergreen Lane • Industry, ME 04938
Phone: (207) 491-9041
scottlandry78@gmail.com
1. To qualify a bird must:
   - Win five or more diplomas of 85 airline survey miles and over.
   - Win one or more diplomas with an airline survey of a full 290 miles or more to its loft. (Exception for Hawaii: substitute from the longest possible race station where under 290 miles.)
   - Win diplomas in two or more separate years of competition.
   - Score 125 or more points.

2. A bird can only score points or get credit for a diploma once for a single performance. This is to say that a bird cannot get credit for more than one diploma if competing in two or more organizations at one time. (Owner decides which club or combine diploma performance to use.)

3. Points toward champion are allotted thusly:
   - Winning bird receives a base of 20 points, regardless of the size of the organization in which it competed.
   - The second diploma winner gets one point less than the winner.
   - The third diploma winner gets three points less than the winner, etc. until diploma positions are gone based one diploma position for every 5 lofts or fraction thereof.

4. Examples for points awarding:
   - 211 birds, 20 lofts, and 391 miles–The winner gets 20 points plus 2.11 plus 3.91 for 26.02 points. The second diploma gets one point less or 25.02. The third diploma gets 2 points less or 24.02. The fourth diploma gets 3 points less or 23.02.
   - 2000 birds, 198 lofts, and 391 miles–The winner gets 20 points plus 20.00 (for birds) plus 3.91 for 43.91, second diploma gets 1 point less or 42.91 and so on with 20th diploma getting 23.91 points.

5. When a bird has achieved this award, each diploma performance will be listed on the Champion Certificate showing position, distance, date, speed number of birds and lofts competing.

6. Points will NOT be totaled on the certificate. Thus, later diploma performances by a champion may be entered on the certificate. Only one champion certificate will ever be issued to an individual bird. (Champion bird diplomas issued prior to January 1999 which are non-registered may be returned by your club secretary to the Champion Pigeon Chairman for certification and issue of a Registered Champion Certificate diploma. (There is no charge for this service)

7. The bird must have won the diplomas within the last 10 years. If you feel your bird meets the “Requirement” for the Registered Champion Certificate, contact your club secretary with the diplomas the bird has won. The secretary will then check the requirements and figure the points. If the secretary is satisfied that the bird qualifies, he or she will complete the record section.


The club secretary will then forward this application to the Champion Pigeon Chairman who will recheck the bird’s record and issue a Champion Registered Certificate signed by an I.F. official. DO NOT SEND DIPLOMA. The certificate will be sent to the club secretary for the signature of the club president and the club secretary. Certificates are issued at no charge.

Registered Champion Certificate Chairperson
James Walker
309 Green Avenue
Lyndhurst, NJ 07071
(201) 939-3142
Registered Champion Certificate Entry Form

Please type or BLOCK-LETTER the following spaces so that we will get your name, etc., correct. Forms also available on line at www.ifpigeon.com

I, ________________________________________ of _______________________________ Street, City of __________________________ and State of _________ Zip ___________ do hereby submit to my Club Secretary for verification and completion of this application for a REGISTERED CHAMPION BIRD AWARD.

Banded __________________________ Name if any __________________________ owned and flown by me.

Date____________ Signed______________________________ Record of Diploma Performance________________

This Entry Form must be signed by the Officer of the Organization you are submitting your race results for!

Combine results submitted; Combine officer's signature required.

Club results submitted; Club officer's signature required.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>POSITION</th>
<th>DISTANCE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>SPEED</th>
<th>BIRD</th>
<th>LOFTS</th>
<th>POSITION 20 OR LESS</th>
<th>DISTANCE 1%</th>
<th>BIRD 1%</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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Signature of Club Secretary ____________________

Name of Club ___________________________________

For official use only

Register Number_______ Date of Issue ______

City, State Zip _______________________________

Phone# _______________________________________

Entry Forms
Also Available online at www.ifpigeon.com

RETURN TO:
Registered Champion Chairperson
James Walker
309 Green Avenue
Lyndhurst, NJ 07071
Phone: (201) 939-3142
Champion Loft Award Rules

You must be an I.F. member to qualify for this award. Race results and schedule must be submitted.

Champion Loft Award Rules

CATEGORIES:

- 5-25 lofts
- 26-75 lofts
- 76-150 lofts
- 151 to 300 lofts

*Only Average Speed Races from one Club or Combine race series.

All races must be flown during the calendar year submitted.

All races submitted for each division application must be from the same organization. You may not mix results from different clubs or include a combination of the club with combine results. No section results are permitted! It is necessary for combine results to have been flown from the same club.

Distances used are based on the individual's loft survey, not the designation of the race distance by the club, combine or other competing organization. Your loft must fly the minimum distance (51) at each distance to be eligible. All survey decimals will be rounded up. For example, 151 miles will be considered 200 miles and can be used at 100 miles. The same rule will apply on all loft distances right to the 500. You must fly at least 451 miles to qualify for the 500 mile race.

You may use a longer average speed race in place of a shorter race. Old Birds: only submit the best finish in a 100-200-300-400-500 mile Race.

Results for old bird entry for I.F. Champion loft is September 1.

Young Birds: only submit the best finish in 2-100, 2-200 and 2-300 or more mile races. Results for young bird entry must be submitted by December 31.

If flying “A” and “B” race on the same day, submit all “A” or all “B” race results. No mixing of A & B race. The exception to the use of mixing A & B race is only allowed race cancellation of a previous scheduled race occurs; a make up to race is rescheduled for release on the same day. The release, may be from the same station, or a shorter, or longer station will be allowed for release as long as they are considered for the Average Speed for that series of races.

One race per day, per Club, or Combine is allowed. If you fly two or more clubs in the same combine, your total entry of birds shipped to the common release point must be counted in your club or combine entry for the I.F. Champion loft award. This is to take into account for any drag to your loft by the amount of birds, you shipped. No section results are allowed.

The use of a race less than 250 miles in place of a second 300 mile average speed young bird race is acceptable if your Club/Combine does not fly two 300 mile Young bird races. Please make a note on your application. The race must be at least 225 miles or over to qualify.

We understand that many clubs start out with a high turnout for shipping and later in the season the number of loft’s shipping drops, therefore, the new rules allow consideration for our smaller clubs to compete for awards. Now, races with fewer than five lofts will qualify as long as there are three lofts at three different locations participating in the race. This rule change does not allow.

Two lofts on the same property, in the same race, to be counted as the 2nd or 3rd loft in the race, as part of the three loft requirement.

*Your loft will only be entered once into a Category. “The largest Category.” An example is if you have 10 lofts in the club and 25 lofts in the combine. You may only enter your best results once into the same category. If you combine is 50 lofts, then you may enter your loft results into that category as well. The exception will be if you fly in a second club and have results for this second club that puts your loft in the same category twice results determined by formula/factors.

Applicant must be paid up IF member by April 1st to be eligible for Old birds and September 1st for young birds. An application can be submitted by the flyer or breeder or by a club/combine official on behalf of the bird or loft. Secretaries are urged to send in applications for deserving members or their birds, so they can receive the credit that they have earned and is due their accomplishments.

Legible copies of race results must be submitted with each application, with each position highlighted or otherwise identified. Do not send diplomas. Race results should show the name of the competing organization, the number of birds shipped by the organization, the survey distances flown by individual birds and/or lofts, and all positions won by birds in the race. If this information is not provided on the race sheet, a certification of the information by the race secretary is permissible. Race schedule must accompany application. To cut down on paper work, we will accept win speed reports as an alternative of actual race reports, for your loft. You must send Race Winners report and the Single flyer report and fill out the award application in full.

Applications completed incorrectly or improperly, or received more than two weeks after the deadline date, September 1st for Old birds, and December 31 for young birds, (though properly postmarked before the deadline) are subject to disqualification. Applications postmarked after the deadline date will be disqualified.

Faxed or Emailed results are not allowed! Applications are online, and forms are online.

SUBMIT TO:
Walter Cichon
P.O. Box 436
West Islip, NY 11795
Email:
Pigeon0446@hotmail.com
Champion Loft Award Entry Form

Name ___________________________________________
Address _________________________________________
Fly in Assn. with ___________________________________
Loft Name _______________________________________
Pres. Signature ____________________________________
Race Sec. Signature ________________________________

Please enclose race results that go with these races.

Only Average Speed Races are permitted.
Send Race Schedule. OB 100, 200, 300, 400, 500.
YB (2) 100, (2) 200, (2) 300

This Entry Form must be signed by the Officer of the Organization you are submitting your race results for!
Combine results submitted; Combine officer’s signature required.
Club results submitted; Club officer’s signature required.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DATE OF RACE</th>
<th>DISTANCE OF RACE</th>
<th>TOTAL # OF LOFTS IN RACE</th>
<th>TOTAL # OF BIRDS IN RACE</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
<th># OF BIRDS SENT BY YOUR LOFT</th>
<th>WINNER’S SPEED</th>
<th>YOUR BEST SPEED</th>
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Entry Forms Also Available online at www.ifpigeon.com
This person does not have to be a pigeon fancier, but can be anyone you think has contributed to the pigeon hobby and sport. Please explain why you feel the person you have selected should receive this award. Attach any articles, etc. that you feel may be helpful to your choice.

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PERSON OF THE YEAR CANDIDATE
Name __________________________
Address _________________________
Phone __________________________
Pigeon Fancier □ Yes □ No

Submit by August 1st to:
Rich Smith
289 W. Valley Stream Blvd.
Valley Stream, NY 11580

Entry Forms Also Available online at www.ifpigeon.com
Individual Membership Application

Please print and then fill out the form below including a check for $15.00 made out to the “International Federation” and mail to the following address:

Val Matteucci
P.O. Box 374
Hicksville, NY 11802

Name:__________________________________________________________________________

Address:________________________________________________________________________

City/State/Zip Code:_______________________________________________________________

Phone:___________________________________________________________________________

Email:___________________________________________________________________________

Place an “x” next to Member or Renewal.

❏ $15.00 New Member Dues

❏ $15.00 Renewal Dues

❏ $25.00 For International Members

❏ $10.00 Junior Dues (17 years & under)

I hereby request formal admission to the International Federation of America homing Pigeon Fanciers Inc. and if accepted to membership, agree to be bound by its Articles, Bylaws, Regulations and Conditions as they may now exist or may be subsequently adopted.

Signature:________________________________________________________________________

Print Name:______________________________________________________________________

The International Federation would like to welcome you to the sport! Thank you for your membership.
Speed Records
Award Entry Form

This Form May Also Be Used For Young-Bird Entry

Check One:  □ Old Bird  □ Young Bird
Distance ______ Speed-Ypm ______ Mph ______
Date _______ Flyer __________________________
Name ______________________________________

Check One:
□ Club  □ Combine  □ Concourse  □ Other
___________________________________________
Name Of Loft _______________________________
Owned By __________________________________
Street Address_______________________________
___________________________________________
City, State, Zip_______________________________
Telephone__________________________________
Flying With _________________________________

For the young bird speed list best races from the following distances:
50-100, 100-150, 150-200, 200-250, 250-300,
300-350, 350-400, 400-450, 450-500, 500-plus.

For the speed list best races from the following distances:
50-100, 100-150, 150-200, 200-250, 250-300,
300-350, 350-400, 400-450, 450-500, 500-550,
550-600, 600-650, 650-700, 700-750, 750-800,
800-850, 850-900, 900-950, 950-1000,
1050-1100, -plus.

You must submit in writing the speed along with verification to the Speed Records Chairman.

Deadline for submission is December 1st of each year.

This form can be used for all speed record entry, in which case the copies should be sent to the Speed Records Chairman.

This report must be signed by:
President ________________________________
Organization________________________________
Address ____________________________________
Telephone _________________________________
Race Secretary ______________________________
Organization________________________________
Address ____________________________________
Telephone _________________________________

This Entry Form must be signed by the Officer of the Organization you are submitting your race results for!
Combine results submitted; Combine officer's signature required.
Club results submitted; Club officer's signature required.

• If entry is either officer, please have someone else sign.
• Use one entry form for each submission. All requested information must be included.
• Have this form signed by the president and race secretary of each organization at the level entered, (if on a club level, the club officers will sign; if on a combine level the combine officers must sign, etc.)
• Only races flown from a single common point and a common day at a common time will be considered.
• There must be an entry of at least five (5) lofts in every race.
• List only the first position of your loft in any race.
• You must be an if member in good standing dues paid for the entry year!
• Submit copies of race results with this form.
• All races flown within the last 5 years are eligible.

SEND ENTRIES TO:
Beverly Gottlieb
7140 Race Rd.
Hanover, MD 21076
beverlygott@hotmail.com
Rookie of the Year
Entry Form

• Awarded to first-time flyers whether young or old birds series.

• Submit all races in which you participated for average speed at club or combine level.

• Form must be filled out properly. Submit results with application.

• Must be paid-up IF Member before you enter your first race.

Deadline for submission:
December 1st

Series OB/YB Band # Position Distance Lofts

1. ________________________________
2. ________________________________
3. ________________________________
4. ________________________________
5. ________________________________
6. ________________________________
7. ________________________________
8. ________________________________
9. ________________________________
10. __________________________________
11. __________________________________
12. __________________________________

This Entry Form must be signed by the Officer of the Organization you are submitting your race results for!
Combine results submitted; Combine officer’s signature required.
Club results submitted; Club officer’s signature required.

MAIL TO:
Help-A-Beginner Chairman:
Sam Pixley
34 Mills Hollow Drive
Fredericksburg, VA 22406
(540) 752-9014
spixley3@verizon.net

Entry Forms Also Available online at www.ifpigeon.com
A H.O.F. pigeon must be clocked a minimum of three times in the top 10 percent of the birds in three individual races. The more times you clock your bird in the top ten percent the more points the bird will receive. Birds in competition with fewer than five lofts will qualify as long if there are a minimum of three lofts from three different locations participating in the race. Winners will be determined by a formula which consists of a base points set up in each Hall of Fame category, the number of Lofts in competition, the distance your bird flew and the amount of pigeons in the race. Plus the birds entered in the race by the applicant are all part of the formula/program.

There is no mixing Club, Combine, Concourse or Federation results into one application for a given bird. All races must be from the same level of completion.

No section results are allowed at all, only overall results accepted for your H.O.F bird.

Your bird will only be entered once into a Category, “The largest Category”. An example is if you have 10 lofts in the club and 25 lofts in the combine. You may only enter your best results once into the same category. If you combine is 50 lofts then you may enter the same bird into that category as well.

If your bird fly’s a special race outside your competition level then you may use that special race or races within the level of competition you are entering. You may use a special race one time either at the club level or with the combine results. A special race is a race that is outside the scope of your regular scheduled club or combines races. A special race is not a derby that is flown as part of another race.

We understand that many clubs start out with high turnout for shipping and later in the season the number of lofts shipping drops, therefore, the new rules allow consideration for our smaller clubs to compete for awards. Now, races with fewer than five lofts will qualify as long as there are three lofts at three different locations participating in the race. This rule change does not allow two lofts on the same property, in the same race, to be counted as the 2nd or 3rd loft in the race, as part of the 3 loft requirement.

Race schedule must accompany Application. Results determined by formula/factors. Applicant must be paid up IF member by April 1st and for Old bird’s awards, and September 1st for young birds.

An application can be submitted by the flyer or breeder or by a club/combine official on behalf of the bird or loft. Secretaries are urged to send in applications for deserving members or their birds, so they can receive the credit that they have earned and is due their accomplishments.

Legible copies of race results must be submitted with each application, with each position highlighted or otherwise identified. Do not send diplomas. Race results should show the name of the competing organization, the number of birds shipped by the organization, the survey distances flown by individual birds and/or lofts, and all positions won by birds in the race. If this information is not provided on the race sheet, a certification of the information by the race secretary is permissible. Race schedule must accompany Application. To cut down on paperwork we will accept win speed reports as an alternative of actual race reports, for your H.O.F application. You must send Race winners report and the Single bird report for each bird you are submitting for H.O.F and fill out the H.O.F. application in full. Applications completed incorrectly or improperly, or received more than two weeks after the deadline date (though properly postmarked before the deadline) are subject to disqualification. Applications postmarked after the deadline date will be disqualified.

Faxed or Emailed results are not allowed! Applications are on line, and forms are on line.

Winner in each category receives an engraved glass trophy plaque.

Deadline for submission of Old Bird entries is September 1st and for Young Birds December 31st.

SUBMIT TO:
Walter Cichon
P.O. Box 436
West Islip, NY 11795
HALL OF FAME
Award Entry Form

Owners Name: ____________________________________________

Street Address: __________________________________________

Town, State, Zip: __________________________________________

Telephone: _______________________________________________

For Performances in: _____ Young Birds

_______Old Birds

We hereby certify that the above data represents the true performance of the bird entered in this record and we are a paid-up I.F. Member:

Club Affiliation: ___________________________ Owner: ___________________________

Band No: ___________________________ Club Secretary: ___________________________

Color & Sex: ___________________________ Club President: ___________________________

This Entry Form must be signed by the Officer of the Organization you are submitting your race results for!

Combine results submitted; Combine officer’s signature required.

Club results submitted; Club officer’s signature required.

SUBMIT TO:
Walter Cichon
P.O. Box 436
West Islip, NY 11795
(631) 422-0446
Email: Pigeon0446@hotmail.com

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE OF FLIGHT</th>
<th>DISTANCE</th>
<th>TOTAL # OF LOFTS</th>
<th>TOTAL # OF BIRDS</th>
<th>YOUR POSITION</th>
<th>YOUR SPEED</th>
<th>WINNER’S SPEED</th>
<th># OF BIRDS YOU ENTERED</th>
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Entry Forms Also Available online at www.ifpigeon.com
1. Every November the International Federation has its own convention. Attended in large numbers. People attend this convention that are not even members of the International Federation because of the fellowship. There are seminars, loft visits, young bird races, awards banquet, bird auctions, friendship renewals, as well as plenty of activities for the children and wives.

2. The International Federation publishes a SkyTalk magazine yearly for our members. This magazine is full of advertisements for supplies, and supporters of the organization. A complete set of, Constitution and By-Laws, is available on the web page www.ifpigeon.com. Complete Band listings as well as award applications, award winners, interviews of champion I.F. members, articles from the leading Vets in the USA.

3. The International Federation supports a Scholarship Fund. An awarded is given to the winners of a scholarship essay for first second and third place; The Scholarship is available to members or members’ families to assist them with their secondary education.

4. The International Federation has legal defense funds available for members used primarily for fighting zoning ordinances.

5. The International Federation has its own awards program. Trophies are presented at the convention banquet. Recipients are recognized for their outstanding accomplishments in a national pigeon publication.

6. The International Federation has a web page that is updated regularly, the newsroom will give our members information that is current and relates to our sport.

7. The International Federation has Club and Individual bands available to the membership at close to cost plus shipping.

8. The International Federation has its own legal staff, as well as an attorney that is a member of the Board of Directors.

9. The International Federation employs its own secretary to assure business continuity.

10. The International Federation provides its members easy access to its officers, awards and Constitution and By-Laws chairmen.

11. The International Federation is closely associated with Bird Shippers of America whose primary purpose is to protect the right to ship live birds, of various types, through the United States Postal Service and hire a lobbyist in Washington, D.C. who actively leads us through the complicated scheme of our country’s politics in trying to succeed in our mission to ship our pigeons.

12. The International Federation has a HELP-A-BEGINNER COORDINATOR who will assist new people into the sport of Racing.

13. The IF has literature for promotional and beginner programs for our membership. The literature is also available in Spanish.

14. The International Federation has a Junior membership available to any under the age of 18.

15. The International Federation believes in Home Rule and this give clubs local control of their guidelines for racing in their clubs. The mission of this organization is to promote pigeon breeding, training, racing and exhibition, to Instruct and assist novices, organize districts or clubs and impart info. To promote the sport perfecting through organization a closer association of pigeon fanciers for their protection and For the development of good fellowship throughout the globe among them.

Furthermore, this organization is dedicated to the humane treatment of the animals around which we have formed a common bond.

The primary objectives of the I.F. are:

A) To plan and execute programs designed to advance the IF and the sport.

B) To maintain a policy of Home Rule.

C) To form local affiliates (Clubs, Combines, Concourses, Centers, etc.) through which the affairs of the IF and its members will be transacted.

D) To issue and sell an official, registered leg band.

E) To encourage national, state, and local legislation which may be beneficial to the sport, the IF, and its members, and to provide as much legal aid to its members as possible.

F) To maintain a limited financial surplus sufficient to protect the IF against times of emergency and to assure its continued operation and perpetuation.

The International Federation has serviced its members since 1881. We urge all pigeon enthusiasts who race, show, or just enjoy the keeping of pigeons to join the International Federation and experience the fellowship of our organization. YOU’LL BE GLAD YOU DID!

Additional resources including pigeon supply houses, publications, videos and web sites can be found at: www.IFpigeon.com
How Can Homing Pigeons Always Find Their Way Home?

In 2008 I was in my middle school’s science fair with a topic that caught everyone by surprise, “How do Homing Pigeons Find Their Way Home?” Now, eight years later, I was curious as to how much the scientology of homing pigeons navigation systems have changed. Many new experiments have been conducted but brain capacity and sensory and cognitive functions have been the center of research for years now. Looking into the brain of a homing pigeon can give breeders and racers a better understanding on how their birds will race.

Looking specifically at the brain of a homing pigeon, scientists were taken back by the results of an experiment looking at brain function and size as a pigeon aged. In humans our brains suffer as we begin to age and shrink in size and function; scientists expected this to happen in homing pigeons but were abruptly stopped, as this was not the case. Youngsters were seen to have a smaller hippocampus (part of the brain that helps long-term memory) and adult birds had a very large hippocampus. This means adult birds are better equipped to fly longer races because their long-term memory is more in tact; hence, their navigation is better.

Sensory research in homing pigeons has been largely research and experimented with. This is because they are not long distance navigators but somehow always fly back to their loft. Looking at youngsters, they usually take their first flight around two months old then gradually move farther from their loft as the season continues. This is not necessarily done to get the birds accustomed to flying, but more to develop their navigational skills.

Once the birds have the coordinates of their lofts imprinted it is much easier for the youngsters and juveniles to develop olfactory (smell) cues of the area. Looking at the olfactory bulb of youngsters there are significantly more neurons then adult birds. This led to the conclusion that there is a sensitive period of time where youngsters can imprint on their lofts, but once that period is over when they transition into adults the neurons decrease making it more difficult or impossible for older birds to imprint on new lofts. This is the main reason owners are told to move their birds at a young age if they are transitioning lofts or buying new birds.
Homing pigeons also tend to fly home in groups from their release sites. This is a navigational technique using every member of the flock. Usually the birds stay together and follow one of the few leaders. It was also found that the larger the flock, the slower the birds took to come home. So, the smaller the flock, the faster your birds will come home.

It is amazing how these birds can find their way home from hundreds of miles away. Their inbred ability to imprint their location and proceed to mark scent and sight cues is the main reasoning they can find their way home so easily. Traveling in flocks and communicating is also a secret to their success.

References


Congratulations Molly... Great Job!
Kids Corner

The IF Kids Corner made its debut in 2016. We have had some activity, but hope to have much more in 2017. This new page on the IF website features stories of our club’s youth.

We are hoping to inspire all our young flyers to be involved in the sport of pigeon racing and have FUN. The International Federation takes pride in their youth members. Encouraging our youth is the only way we can build our sport, and keep it flying.

This page is for members to share their "youthful" experiences with everyone. Whether a story or photo is of you, your child, or grandchild, we hope you will share it as inspiration.

Please email your stories/photos to DaybreakD@aol.com and we will publish them on the web for all to see.

2016 I.F. ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

WINNER

Andre Szysko

New Jersey

The Rookie of the Year is Andre Szysko who is a member of the Skylands Racing Pigeon Club, and the Northwest Jersey Racing Pigeon Club. Andre had an outstanding young bird season, and his record is noteworthy and exceptional. I have been informed that Andre was a member who always helps around the club, and if someone else ever needs help, he is always there for them. Andre I wish you many years of success and enjoyment in our great sport.

Yours in the Sport,
Sam Pixley

Adam Eijamali

of Sami’s Loft

Dylan - New Partner

for JAPs Loft
ATTENTION PIGEON FANCIERS

Thousands of Pigeons Dying

Why?

The title of this article is a bit misleading, yes thousands of birds have died, that is a fact, but as to WHY, I do not know. I am writing this at the end of December, so hopefully by the time this article gets to you, the answer is in hand, but don’t bet on it. This mystery disease has been hitting pigeons in North America for a number of months, and is still going strong. The reports from the hundreds of pigeon fanciers, that I have received, have no general symptoms, one day they either look fine, or a little fluffed up, and the next day they are dead. There are a lot of rumors, speculation, guesses from fanciers and answers from vets and so on. I have been working with a leading institutions for the last few months, and no institution has solved the problem, at least that I know of. Some of the suggestions as to what it is are all over the board. Wild birds somehow infecting the pigeons, it’s PMV, its paratyphoid, a brand new disease, a new strain of PMV, a new spin strain of Paratyphoid or a new strain of Adeno virus. Some have reported that it is only killing hens, it is only killing young birds, it happened when I came home from a show, could it be caused by a dirty loft, the droppings are very loose, the droppings are green the droppings are brown. Well I guess that this point, there is no commonality, the symptoms are all over the place.

What to do?, what to do? That is the question, and the answer is that I do not know. Pigeons that have never been shown are getting it, lofts that have had no new birds added are getting it, pigeons returning to a show are getting it, pigeons that were in a race or pigeons that have never flown are getting it. I clean the loft every day, why did I get it? This disease, in my humble opinion, is a virus, but I could be wrong. I had it a couple of months ago but now it has run its course and everything is back to normal. As the owner of Foy’s. I have just about every medication, and believe me, I tried a bunch, and so have others, but none ever worked. I have talked to many people and on at least three occasions, the pigeons were opened up and they were full of round worms! I worm my birds, what the heck happened? Many fanciers have vaccinated their pigeons, but that did not stop it.

I can offer a few suggestions, but they are not cures, in my mind, it must run it’s course, like any virus. Heck a common cold is a virus, and after spending billions of dollars trying to find something that will cure it, they still have not been able to come up with a cure, the only thing science can offer is different medications to treat the symptoms. The meds treat the head aches, stuffy noses, fevers, coughs and chills can be addressed, but the actual virus must run its course.

WHAT TO DO! Here is what I suggest. Always use the same drinkers in each section. All of my drinkers are numbered so that I do not accidently mix them up. Keep your loft clean. Keep the pigeons in semi darkness, if possible, and reduce stress such as showing and racing until your birds are normal. Vaccinate all your birds with a PMV shot, will drastically increases the immune system, and it may prevent some birds from getting this horrible disease. Clean your whole loft, including the aviary with common bleach, 1 cup to a gallon. Better yet, use Oxine which is much better. Don’t forget to clean the feeders and drinkers. Clean all the perches with Oxine or bleach and also spray all the cracks and crevices, including the floor. There is a brand new product on the market that I know will help as a preventative, and I would use it every day or at least three times a week. The product, Dr. Pigeons Health Show Water, fights the viruses and is not an antibiotic so you can use it as often as you like, but in all cases, change the water every day. If you are going to put your birds in a show or a race, use it 2-3 days before you basket them to take them to the event, during the show and after the show or race. It may be mixed with vitamins and probiotics, in fact, I suggest you do combine it with something like UltraPro or another product that combines vitamins and probiotics. You may also want to include electrolytes that will make the droppings more normal. Another product is Adeno Zap. Again it is not an antibiotic, but treats symptoms.

As I write this article, I got a call from a friend and is also an avian vet. We had a long conversation about the problem and he wanted me to add a few suggestions. Worm all of your pigeons with a product that treats roundworms, clean the loft the next day after treating. The drugs are not meant to kill roundworms, but to paralyze them so that they release in the pigeons. They are then passed out in the birds droppings. If you do not clean the floor after the medication, your birds may pick them up again.

Jerry Gagne
Owner Foy’s Pigeon Supplies
Ph: (724) 843-6889 • jerrygagne@foyspetsupplies.com
www.foyspetsupplies.com
An Artist Among Us

Sherry Beadle Owen

International Artist

Raised on a 290 section ranch in New Mexico, Sherry Beadle Owen began painting and studying what was to become her lifelong passion at the tender age of seven. Horses and ranch life with all its richness in nature were instilled in this cowgirl. Not only did she learn how to participate in cattle round ups and branding, but also how to cook for the cowboys.

Sherry’s art has been exhibited from Washington D.C. to Hollywood at the Golden Boot Awards.

She was appointed as a Good Will Ambassador by Governors of New Mexico and Texas while touring her art in Europe.

Sherry paints various categories including: Ranching, Native American, Elk, Bison, Big Game, Horse Racing, Dog Racing, Longhorns, Flowers, Murals, Polo and Pigeons.

Sherry has painted celebrity portraits of former Presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush; Ben Johnson, Actor; Mickey Gilley, Country Western Singer; Red Adair, Fire Fighter; John Cameron Swayze, News Broadcaster; Martin Jurow, Movie Producer; Audie Murphy, WWII Hero, Congressional Medal of Honor Actor; Governor William P. Clements, TX.

Her Equine Portraits include: Secretariat (TB), Triple Crown Winner; Favorite Trick (TB), Two Year Old Horse of the Year; Yellow Mount, Foundation Paint Sire; Le Bask, World Champion Arabian; All American Futurity Winners, Easy Date, Hot Idea and Real Win; World Champion, Pie in the Sky; Monksfield (TB) Two Time Champion Hurdler in Ireland and England.

Sherry married the love of her life Mike Owen and together they have Cedar Mist Loft where they both enjoy raising Bokhara Trumpeters, English Trumpeters, House Pigeons, and Racing Homers. They are also the owners of Boxes For Birds, one of our great and loyal advertisers *(see inside back cover)*. Today Sherry and Mike Owen reside in
The Capital City Racing Pigeon Club (CAP), located in the College Park, Maryland, had the honor of hosting the 136th IF National Convention in November 2016. CAP City has been serving the Washington DC, Maryland, and Virginia (DMV) area since 1952 and is the principle club in the Metropolitan Washington Racing Pigeon Fanciers (MWRPF) Concourse.

Planning for the convention started in early January and the organizational committee worked tirelessly to ensure that the convention would reflect the values and dedication of the club members as the race and activities unfolded.

Shipping night was electric with all the out of town breeders, distinguished guests, handers, and IF national officers eager about the next day’s main event – the convention race. 637 birds from every corner of the country were entered with 318 birds being shipped to the final race by 35 handlers. The convention birds were all like shining diamonds as handlers waited their turn to check their birds in with the race committee.

Very few handlers slept well that night wondering if they had done all they could to ensure success for their breeders. Every little detail was gone over and over until there was no time left to worry about “what ifs” – the race was on!

Joe Charvat – CAP City President

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The birds were released at 8:53 am in clear skies, 43 degrees and slight westerly winds. The first birds were reported by Drew Lesofski (Lavender Hill Lofts) at 4:30 when he had two birds arrive together and clocked 1 second apart flying a distance of 304 miles with a winning speed of 1170.729 ypm. The next bird was reported by Secuando Mota almost 5 minutes later flying a distance of 291 miles with a speed of 1158.086 ypm. June Walls clocked the 4th place bird 13 minutes later flying a distance of 320 miles with a 1138.653 ypm speed. 5th place was clicked in by Drew Lesofski 32 minutes behind the winner and the 6th place bird was clocked in by Leroy Blackledge flying 337 miles with a speed of 1075.988 ypm. Conditions on arrival were 60 degrees, clear skies, with a 12 mph NNW wind.

The next day was another fun packed day with seminars in the morning, additional loft visits, and of course the award banquet. IF Convention Chairman, Sam Pixley, awarded Richie Smith, IF National President with a Life Time Award prior to handing out handler and breeder trophies. The food and music lasted in the wee hours of the night and a good time was had by all.

The 2017 IF National Convention will be hosted by the Connecticut Classic Club.
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<tr>
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Above are 10 percent.
The complete list of the 2016 Convention Race Results is available online at:

www.ifpigeon.com

Congratulations to All!
The 137th I.F. Convention
November 2nd – November 4th 2017
Hosted by
CT Classic Club of New Britain, CT
www.ctclassicclub.com

300 Mile Race
Ship Thursday Nov. 2nd—Liberation Friday Nov. 3rd (weather permitting)

Overall Grand Prize 15,000 Points*
Prizes to be determined*
60/40 Breeder / Handler Split • Race Payouts to be determined*

Entry fee: $125.00 per bird, 5 for $500.00 (1 rotation bird),
12 for $1,000.00 (2 rotation birds).
Breeder can only enter 4 birds per handler; the 5th bird will be placed on rotation.

Birds will be accepted from March 1st to June 1st 2017.
Replacements accepted up to June 15th.
Payment must accompany birds or birds will be held in quarantine.

Make checks payable to: Classic Pigeons
All non-specified birds will go on rotation.
No handler may handle their own birds, each handler required to enter a minimum of 2 birds.
Birds to be shipped in approved postal boxes only, breeder pays for shipping.
All birds will be vaccinated against PMV upon arrival.
There will be a 150-mile tune-up race for convention birds only prior to Convention.
All birds in the I.F. Convention Race are subject to drug testing.
Convention Race will abide by I.F. race rules.
The first 20 birds clocked will be auctioned off on Saturday after the race.
All other birds become the property of the handler.

LOFT VISITATION - GUEST SPEAKERS
Banquet, Auction and Entertainment on Saturday night

For more information or if you have any questions please contact one of the following:
Committee Chairman - Bob Carney (860) 967-6789
Michael Zuber (860) 559-6462 (any questions in Polish contact Michael)
Wilberto Aponte (860) 967-5732 (any questions in Spanish contact Wilberto)
Email: ctcclassicclub@yahoo.com

Ship birds, with payment to:
Bob Carney, 2042 John Fitch Blvd., South Windsor, CT 06074

Please visit www.IFPigeon.com for 2017 convention, race and hotel updates.
To be a handler you must be CT Classic Club member or invitee.
Committee Reserves All Rights / Race Committee Rules are Final
*All payouts are subject to number of birds entered.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Loft name</th>
<th>Phone number</th>
<th>Approx. distance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wilberto Aponte</td>
<td>Fly by Night Loft</td>
<td>860-967-5732</td>
<td>315</td>
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<td>Mario Boksz</td>
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<td>Richard Bushey</td>
<td>R Bushey</td>
<td>860-689-6896</td>
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<td>Bob Carney</td>
<td>Bob Carney</td>
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<td>Robert Cisiewicz</td>
<td>Black Eagle Loft</td>
<td>203-218-4454</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liu Dan</td>
<td>Liu Loft</td>
<td>917-770-4617</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tom Derosa</td>
<td>Tom Derosa</td>
<td>203-915-5930</td>
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<td>Raymond Desanti Sr.</td>
<td>Ray &amp; Ray Loft</td>
<td>860-379-8800</td>
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<td>Dave Fenn</td>
<td>Fenn Loft</td>
<td>860-482-7080</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hector Feliciano</td>
<td>The One Loft</td>
<td>860-221-9770</td>
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<td>Dave Freytag</td>
<td>Freytag Loft</td>
<td>860-402-4880</td>
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<td>Joe Florentino</td>
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<td>203-800-0703</td>
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<td>Mike Karwowski</td>
<td>Karwowski Loft</td>
<td>860-978-7709</td>
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<td>Andrzej Kluk</td>
<td>Kluk Loft</td>
<td>860-869-7257</td>
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<td>Igor Kravchuk</td>
<td>Igors Loft</td>
<td>413-233-6800</td>
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<td>Andrew Lazicki</td>
<td>Lazicki Loft</td>
<td>860-995-9053</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mike Madonna</td>
<td>Mike Madonna</td>
<td>860-485-1432</td>
<td>300</td>
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<td>Freddy Martinez</td>
<td>Guess Who</td>
<td>203-339-2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bob McKenna</td>
<td>McKenna's Loft</td>
<td>860-617-4103</td>
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<td>Dan McKenna</td>
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<td>Steve Meyers</td>
<td>Meyers Family Loft</td>
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<td>Scantic Loft</td>
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<td>Don Nickle</td>
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<td>Jayson Pena</td>
<td>UFPF Pena</td>
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<td>Walter Piotrowski</td>
<td>Piotrowski Loft</td>
<td>860-805-6118</td>
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<td>Somvath Phouyaphone</td>
<td>Somvath Loft</td>
<td>860-256-9189</td>
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<td>Antoni Pupkowski</td>
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<td>Joey Rodrigues</td>
<td>Double J Loft</td>
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<td>Jonathan Spodnick</td>
<td>Lordship Loft</td>
<td>203-414-1368</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dale Steinmetz</td>
<td>Star Loft</td>
<td>203-876-8314</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Targonski</td>
<td>Targonski Loft</td>
<td>860-836-6370</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joe Tolpa</td>
<td>Tolpa's Loft</td>
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<td>Dave Waddington</td>
<td>Waddington Loft</td>
<td>860-608-8240</td>
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<td>Toni Wiaderski</td>
<td>T &amp; T Loft</td>
<td>203-464-2945</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul Wysocki</td>
<td>Wysocki Loft</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zygmunt Zarebski</td>
<td>A &amp; Z Loft</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Zuber</td>
<td>Zuber Loft</td>
<td>860-559-6462</td>
<td>315</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Please visit www.IFPigeon.com or www.ctclassicclub.com for 2017 convention, race and hotel updates.
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**NEW for 2018** EARLY BIRD COLOR ADS... $25 OFF! SAVE by sending Ads in by Nov. 30th. ALSO... $50 OFF when you submit two or more pages! We want to keep our Advertisers HAPPY!

Prepare ads EARLY & send in November! The LATEST ads will be accepted is 12/15/18.

**Ad Specifications:**
Magazine is trimmed to 8 1/2” x 11” — Bleed size 9” x 11 1/2” (¼” on all sides)

**Photo Requirements:**
Original photos always produce the best results. If emailing photos, please scan at 100% size at 300 dpi. Digital photos should be full reproduction size at 300 dpi. We cannot reproduce web site photos. We are not responsible for low-res photo quality if sent to use.

**Ad Copy Requirements:**
Ad copy must be sent by email, or attached in one of these formats (.doc, .wps, .txt). Do not type copy in all CAPS unless you want it printed in all caps.

**Camera-Ready Digital Ad Formats Accepted:**
300 dpi .jpeg or .tiff files (full size), Press Quality .pdf file, 300 dpi .psd file (please flatten or rasterize text in PhotoShop files).

**ADVERTISING RATES**
Prime pages are sold EARLY. If you desire a certain page call early for availability.
Advertising publishing fees are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Front Cover</td>
<td>$700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inside front cover</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Back Cover</td>
<td>$600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inside Back cover</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Color - Full Page</td>
<td>$325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Color - 1/2 Page</td>
<td>$200</td>
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<td>Color - 1/4 Page</td>
<td>$150</td>
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<tr>
<td>B &amp; W - Full Page</td>
<td>$200</td>
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(2018 - SOLD)

Only size available in black & white.

(The earlier your ad is received and PAID, the closer to the front of the book you will be.)

For More Information Contact: Susan Hurrell at (315) 765-8136 or DaybreakD@aol.com
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Fax 914.239.4593
DaybreakD@me.com
www.daybreakdesign.net

3 Photos by: Henk Kuijlaars
Courtesy of Lion Gate Lofts
Thank You 2017 Advertisers!

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BoxesForBirds.com

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CONWAY, AR 72032
CALL: 501-588-2283
EMAIL: SALES@BOXESFORBIRDS.COM

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BOKHARA TRUMPETERS
HUNGARIAN HOUSE PIGEONS
HUEBIN & BASTINE
SADDLE RACING HOMERS
WEST OF ENGLAND
ROLLERS & OTHERS

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MIKE’S CELL (501) 472-4783
EMAIL: ALOHAMIKEOWEN@GMAIL.COM

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Painting by Internationally-known artist,
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TWO BIRD
FOUR BIRD
EIGHT BIRD
SIXTEEN BIRD
Welcome New Members!

IFPigeon.com
CHECK IT OUT!

Then Tell Your Friends...

JOIN

JOIN NOW – JOIN LATER – JOIN TOMORROW

JUST JOIN THE IF.

Larger Membership = Larger Voice.

Managed by Active Pigeon Flyers since 1881.

Bands:
30 to 45 Cents Each
plus S&H

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ONLY $15.00

For more information:
Val Matteucci - 516.794.3612
e-mail - valmatteucci@optimum.net

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