

# Newsletter of the United Swallow Club



Fall 2009 • Supporting Swallow Pigeons • <http://personal.riverusers.com/~swallowclub/> • Since 1969

## From the Editor

Gary Romig

The National Young Bird Show will be starting just about the time that you receive this newsletter. I hope that everyone who attends has a good show.

I have included two articles by Frank Bailey. I participate in one of the articles – kind of a conversation between Frank and myself. I want to thank Frank for sending me stuff for the bulletin. He has some interesting projects going and I feel our readers will enjoy them. And, the photos from Europe.

Please vote. the ballot is just below and if you are reading this on your computer you will be able to CLICK on Tim Starr's email address to address an email to him. I know there are not many options with the voting but you can at least give a vote of confidence to our officers. They are doing a very good job and I am sure they would appreciate it.

## Message from the President

Perry Mueller

Fall is finally here. I hope everyone had a good breeding season.

We have a few shows lined up this fall and winter. Our Annual Meet will be held in Des Moines this year.

There were twelve votes cast with seven going to Des Moines. Leon Stephens will be judging. I'm looking forward to seeing Leon again. The National Young Bird Show will be October 30. Late in January we will be having a District Meet at the NPA Nationals.

If you would like to have the club support a District Meet in your area, be sure to contact your District Director. We may be able to help out with some awards, depending on the number of birds entered.

The nominations for club officers was light this year. We only had five members send in nominations. Gary will have the ballot on this page. Be sure to vote.

I want to remind everyone again about our Breed of the Issue Special in the March-April 2010 Pure Breed Pigeon Magazine. Get out and take some pictures this Fall and Winter. It is time to start writing your articles and designing your ads.

## Ballot for 2010-2011 officers Please Vote by Nov 30th

Send to: Tim Starr, 8804 Ft. Loudon Rd.

Mercersburg, PA 17236

Or Call him at 717-328-9751

Here is Tim's email. Try clicking on it right here:

[timstarr@comcast.net](mailto:timstarr@comcast.net)

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Frank Baily

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Western District Director

Leon Stephens

Central District Director

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Eastern District Director

Merle Starr

Canadian District Director

(Currently no members)



## Info about the breed of the issue in the March and April Pure Bred Pigeon Magazine

- The deadline for ads and articles is February 15th.
- Advertising for swallows is 20% off regular price.
- Send all ads and articles directly to the purebred magazine
- They will help you design your ad if you need help.

# USC Membership May 2009

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## FRANK BAILEY ASKS WHY . . .

Why is it required to have finch markings on black spangles but not on blue, silver, red and yellow spangles... but when we look at the late great M. Frank Cook's paintings in the early 1900's we see his work showing finch markings on his painted birds? It has been our understanding that Cook painted from birds he owned and/or had viewed and sketched from for his work . . . so are we saying that in the late 1800's and early 1900's that the standard or wish required us to have finch markings on the flights of all spangles and not just on blacks, but later it was changed? Were the earlier other than Black Spangled Swallows and Spangle Wing Pigeons showing finch markings that were brought to America from Germany via the German immigrants? Does anyone know? Just wondering . . .

## RESPONSE FROM GARY ROMIG

Frank, Good question. But, I can't explain it. There does not seem to be any logic to it. It just came down to the preferences of the breeders in recent decades. Then

again, spangled Swallows don't look good with spangles in the muffs. If you raise one with finch marks more than likely a blue spangled bird will have lots of spangle pattern in the muffs. Blacks, on the other hand, seem to be able to overcome that problem. Not all color pigeons are consistent with having the requirement of finch marks in black spangles. I did an image of a black spangled Saxon Priest for a breeder in Germany and I put finch marks on it – thinking that was supposed to be like that. No, Black spangle Priests are not to have finch marks according to that breeder. But, look at all the black spangled starlings! I am not sure about Saxon White-tails or my own breed of Saxon Field Pigeons. Personally, I would prefer a finch marked black spangled Saxon Field Pigeons.

## FRANK'S REPLY

Gary, I just found it fascinating that today we have a requirement of finch marks having to be on the Black Spangled Swallow but not on the Red, Yellow, Blue or Dun. I wish you well, Frank.



*Saxon Wing Pigeon, Blue Spangled  
hv 96E Christoph Klemm*



*Saxon Swallow, Black Spangled  
sg 95Z Günter Gottwald*

# Frank Bailey's Saxon Blue Black Bar Fullhead Project

As I close out my breeding season for 2009 - and evaluate my three seasons so far:

Below are some five different young birds (three cocks and two hens) I raised this season that stand out amongst the others due to the extreme features they bring to future matings. The photos lack justice due to the fact that they do not offer the viewer two factors that only can be seen up close and personal.

**One:** - they are tight feathered with very firm large full bodies that require nearly two solid hands to hold onto.

**Two:** - they're hybridized (made up of Thüringer Wing Pigeon, Saxon Fullhead Swallow and Silesian Wing Pigeon) > this is a priceless factor as it offers them higher resistance to illness found in long term in-breeding the same family - making them very healthy and more resistant to diseases! I began with the importation of four birds and only three would breed - two cocks and one hen in December '06. Since then I have bred about 50 of them. The fact that the stationing is so different between the Thüringer Wing Pigeon and the Saxon and the Silesian, it takes some heavy culling and starting with the best Thüringer material available. As you can see, stationing is not an issue any longer for me!

*NO BIRDS WERE TRIMMED FOR THE PHOTOS AS THEY WERE SHOT IN THE LOFT FREE FLYING... Remembering that the original make up of this family has 1/3 Silesian "spot" making it difficult to obtain and control the Fullhead cap.*



*NOTE THE STATIONING ON THIS BIRD AND THE PURENESS OF THE BLUE - "YOUNG HEN" - bar length, bar separation and consistent bar width from the top to bottom - very clean.*



*NOTE THE CREST HEIGHT & FULL MANE - CLEAN FULL-HEAD PLATE CUT ALL THE WAY BACK WITH STRONG PUSH BACK FEATHERING - THIS ONE IS A "YOUNG HEN" - I know the heart is short and the bars taper too much etc. But this bird's crest is an example of what my vision was in 2005 - "if I could only introduce the extreme high quality features found in the Thüringer Wing Pigeon genes" - here you're seeing my vision became reality with drilled in full curl rosettes! It is this breeder's opinion that the Thüringer standard characteristics are offering a presentation of true elegance.*



*NOTE THE EGG SHAPED HEAD & POWER THIS "YOUNG COCK" SHOWS - NICE STATIONING - A FULLHEAD PLATE CUT NICE AND CLEAN- THE WHITENESS OF THE WADDLE AND THE FULL BLUE UPPER BEAK COLOR -THE BAR SEPARATION IS ALSO VERY NICE - TIGHT FEATHERD AND A VERY LARGE & FULL BODIED BIRD.*

## Frank Bailey's Saxon Blue Black Bar Fullhead Project (continued)



NOTE THIS "YOUNG BLUE BARLESS COCK BIRD" – WHEN YOU OPEN HIS FLIGHTS HE IS SOOOOOOOOOO CLEAN AND FREE OF ANY IMPERFECTIONS – LITTLE LARGER MUFFS THAN MY OTHER ONE – CREST SET IS A LOWER THAN I'D LIKE.



NOTE THIS IS THE OLDEST OF THE TWO "YOUNG BLUE BARLESS COCK BIRDS" – HIS HEART IS A FULLER – SHORTER MUFFS – OPEN WING FLIGHT COLOR IS FREE OF ANY IMPERFECTIONS ALSO.

I have worked very hard on the recovery of the Blue Black Barred Saxon Fullhead Swallow for the past three breeding seasons. Because of the low numbers in the world, I imported Blue Black Barred Clean Legged Thüringer's and a pair of birds that were 1/2 Saxon Fullhead and 1/2 Silesian and in February 2007 began to cross these families. Today I have six breeding pairs that are made up to focus on different features that will be brought together in season four. This year I have raised 23 young birds.



This young hen is just now finishing up her junior molt. I like what I see here because of the visual extreme features she will offer next breeding season.

- She has not been trimmed in any way.
- Here muffs are superb for being just one generation from Thüringer Wing Pigeon clean legged X Silesian (muff shape is not great, but not bad).
- Her crest height is wonderful and she is giving me attributes we search for in the Thüringer Wing Pigeon.
- Her body is very full and powerful and yet still offering me the needed elegance.
- She has good body length and balance, her back closes well, her heart is okay, nice even color, clean beak.
- Bars are short and wedgy (but I have numerous others that have the bars I need).
- Her Fullhead plate or cap is short but it's okay because I have her mate chosen and he is a full well marked cock bird.

**Available from Frank Bailey**

Saxon Shields - Silesian Swallows - Saxon Swallows

360-668-1371

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**Swallows for Sale, from the loft of Bill Griebel Sr.**

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## From the lofts of Cor Van der Post in Netherlands



*Young Red and Yellow Fairy Swallows (Saxon Wing Pigeons)*



*Blue White bar Fairy Swallows (Saxon Wing Pigeons)*

## More Photos from Europe



*Red Barless Plainheaded Thuringer Swallow Photo from Mick Bassett*



*Black Nuremberg Swallow Photo from Mick Bassett*



*Color Pigeons in the Garden of Steffen Grund of Saxony, Germany*