



# American Friends of the Brunner Cropper Club

Volume I, Issue I

January 2015

## Special points of interest:

- Upcoming Events
- Show Results
- Club Meeting Minutes
- Pictures

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## President's Message *Layne Gardner*

Hello Brunner Pouter enthusiasts!

We begin another breeding season full of hope and confidence that this year will be productive and will move our breeding goals forward. I have my birds paired and one pair already on eggs. With some luck and good fertility, in another couple of months there should be a good group of little blue white bars on the floor.



The National in Ontario was the best American pigeon show I have ever attended. We had a good group of both birds and fanciers and the future looks bright for the breed and club. We encourage everyone to become involved. We are in the process of determining club meets throughout the country as well as the National meet for the club. Make certain you communicate with your district director to ensure that we have meets in your area. I will be attending the Great Western, the Premier Show in Salt Lake City, the Pageant, and with some luck the National in Massachusetts. I will also attend the Leipzig show in Germany. There is bound to be some good Brunners at all of these shows, with the possible exception of the National. It is important that we have our breed displayed for all to see and the National is a great place to show off our breed. Anyone planning on attending and exhibiting at the National, let others know so we can generate some enthusiasm. The same holds true for other shows. Communicate with each other so we can get everyone involved.

I am honored to serve as the president of the AFBCC and will do my best to see that the goals of the club are met. I'm not much on the telephone but I will answer emails. I look forward to the growth of the club and progress of the breed.

*Layne*



AFBCC Members at the Ontario National



## From the Bulletin Editor *Bob Bollinger*

Hello everyone! I hope you enjoy my new foray in bulletin publication. The first thing I want to do is thank Helen Symington for her years of hard work doing our bulletin. The AFBCC has evolved into a world recognized club and much of that recognition is due to our great bulletin. Helen thank you so much for enriching the hobby for so many brunner fanciers!

I would also like to thank everyone for all their contributions to this issue. A bulletin rises or falls based on content. I am so pleased with the material that I received for this issue. Thank you Layne, Carlin, Jim, Corey, and Scott for all the great pictures. I also appreciate your articles, emails, and show reports. Lets

keep this energy up for our future bulletins

In our next issue, I will publish our old constitution for everyone to review and I plan to update our show list. Let's start thinking about our fall events so everyone has time to plan accordingly.

I look forward to keeping up the great tradition that Helen and Fred started and I would like to encourage everyone to join in. You don't have to write a literary epic or have a beautifully formatted show report. Just send me a couple of sentences in a quick email and I will do the rest. Everything you send is greatly appreciated.

## Special Thank You - Helen & Jim



**The club wishes to express our sincere gratitude to Helen Symington for all her years of service putting together our AFBCC bulletin. Our bulletin is the envy of many clubs due to the significant effort on Helen's part. Thank you so much for all your work! It's greatly appreciated!!**



## Thank You to John Hanson—Our Judge!



We also wish to extend a special "Thank You" to John Hanson of New South Wales, Australia for judging our brunners at the National. John has been a great supporter of our club as well as brunners world wide!

John's Blenheim Stud lofts in Australia boasts a number of wonderful breeds including brunners. I have seen a num-

ber of pictures of excellent yellows, reds, and whites. John certainly demonstrated his prowess with the birds as he went through a very tough field at Ontario. I know everyone appreciated his efforts and I didn't hear anyone question any of his decisions.

Thanks again John!!



## Treasurer's Report *Mike Hughes*

Our Treasurer's report is being compiled. We will have a summary of last year in our next bulletin!

## From the Western Director

*Corey Hays*

Hello everyone. My name is Corey Hays. I live in Santee, California which is east of San Diego. I've been elected by the club members to take over the western director position for the club. A little more about myself... I've had pigeons off and on since I was ten years old. Now being forty five years old, my son Conner and I have had Brunner's for the last seven years or so. We have a 8 foot by 24 foot loft and raise whites, reds, yellows, blacks, blue bars, mealy, creme and grizzles. All our birds coming from J&J Lofts . A big thank you to Jim Clinton and Jeff Young for all their knowledge and help with quality stock over the years.

One of the things that I had brought up at the National during our club meeting is for us to hold an auction at our shows in or-

der to raise monies for the club. These monies could be used to purchase better awards. It can be a 50/50 auction or 100% to the club. The donators can decide.

I also wanted to mention, my son Conner who is 12 years old, is the only junior member breeding Brunner's on the west coast. We really need to find some young pigeon people and introduce them to our small little Brunner's and let them know how easy they are to raise. Maybe donate a pair or two to the junior auctions to increase interest. Anyways, let me know your thoughts or ideas.

May all of you have a great breeding season, *Corey Hays*



## From the Eastern Director

*Bob Bollinger*

We had a great show season here in the East. There were nice brunner showings at several events with lots of folks who are interested in the breed. Regrettably, I missed several nice shows this past year due to work travel. I was out of the country nearly the entire month of November. I missed the Big Apple, the WRPA fall show, and a nice show at Quincy. The NYBS was very fun and I was very proud of two nice birds that I showed. Reading and the National did not disappoint. What an excellent year!

I am also excited to hear that brunners are on the rise in the mid-west. I have heard from a number of folks from Oklahoma to Nebraska who are really interested in the breed. Many are actively acquiring more birds and I expect to see great things moving forward. The folks out there held several nice shows this season. I have heard nice reports from Hastings and other events. Great job!

A number of our members went to Europe this past fall to acquire birds to augment their breeding stock. I was lucky enough to get a few more nice yellows and I am very excited to see how they do in my breeding pen.

I owe a special thanks to Larry Jolly and Fred Maenpa for all their help in my acquisition of the birds. I appreciate all their help in Germany, the Netherlands, and Canada as they made their long journey to my loft.

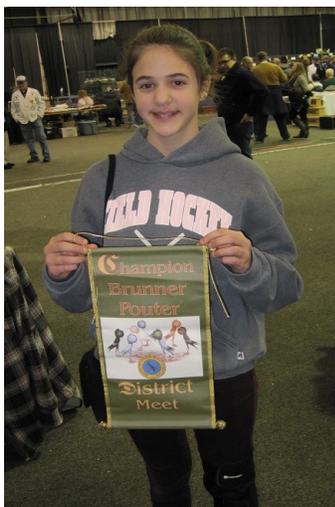
It's still too cold to start breeding brunners here in the East. It's been a long time since we have seen single digit temperatures for so long. Good luck as you all start breeding.!

*Bob Bollinger*





**Brunner  
Pouter Wins  
Best Pouter  
Cropper  
Overall at  
Louisville!**



**Marissa Shirk Reading  
(Lancaster) Champion**

## **NYBS Louisville** *by Bob Bollinger*

The NYBS was once again a great event. The CPCC certainly knows how to hold a well-organized and classy show. Hats off to Bryan and the club for making it truly enjoyable. There was a nice showing of brunners at the NYBS with 33 birds by quite a few exhibitors. Along with the nice atmosphere, it was also nice to see young people in the aisles. I talked with a couple of young people who were genuinely interested in birds and our breed. In fact, the 4<sup>th</sup> place brunner was shown by a junior. His blue white bar was truly an impressive bird.

Bryan Neuner judged the birds picking a very nice red as Champion and a yellow as Reserve Champion. Both birds were bred by me and they happened to be brother and sister. The red brunner went on to take Champion Pouter Cropper Overall. Jerry Sindelar judged the overall group representing 256 birds. There were a lot of spectacular birds in the overall lineup. I was very proud of the red, he just never stopped showing.

## **Junior Members win at Reading Meet** *by Bob Bollinger*

Once again, the Reading Pigeon Assn Winter Show in Lancaster, PA did not disappoint. Tom Bollinger judged 19 brunners from several exhibitors. With Tom's school and work commitments, it's been a while since his last judging assignment at the Pigeon Fanciers of New South Wales show in Sydney, in 2013. There were quite a few stellar birds in Lancaster and the task was not easy!

The competition at Reading was excellent with an Ash Red OC from Marissa Shirk winning top honors and a wonderful Red YC bred by Stephania Shirk taking reserve. (see results attached) We owe a special thanks to the Eastern Pouter Cropper Club for hosting the show. Howard and Linda do a wonderful job of coordinating the event and running the paperwork. There were 72 pouters and croppers overall at Lancaster and there was a lot of interest in the judging and results.

The most impressive part of this story is the fact that two different junior members won Champion and Reserve at the event. The young people handled the birds well and showed EXCELLENT specimens in excellent condition. They could have competed well at any of our National events. Additionally, noteworthy was our judge who was not too long ago a junior member himself. Tom did a great job reviewing the birds, working them in the pen, and making comments about the rationale for his decisions. I was very proud as John Heppner watched the competition and had positive words to say about Tom's work. Beyond Pennsylvania, I know that Connor Hays is actively showing in California and Heather Heidlauf is breeding and showing brunners in Georgia.

The prevalence of young people in our breed is a credit to the birds, our club, and mostly our members who provide a lot of encouragement and support. We are truly blessed and I am heartened for the future of our hobby!

## More to Come in our Next Issue!

I am so excited that we have a lot of wonderful material to share in our bulletin. In our next issue, we will be queuing up a copy of our old Constitution for everyone to review. We will also start talking about shows for next fall. Most importantly, I am looking forward to early reports out of the breeding pens.

Weather and cleaning up loose ends from the National has tied up a number of our officers. I look forward to everyone pre-thinking your updates, your shows, and subjects of interest for next time. Thanks ... it's going to be great!



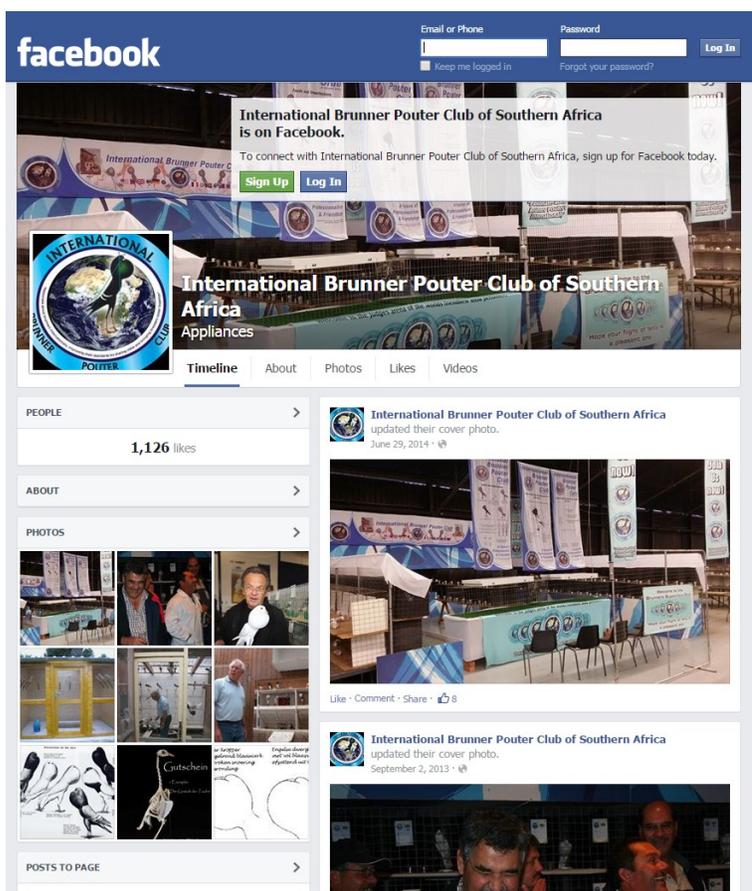
## Going Social and Other Cool Tech Stuff

In our general meeting at the Ontario National, we had an interesting discussion about the AFBCC possibly going social. In today's world, young people look to social media as their primary news source and communication medium. In fact, in many circles, web sites and email are considered antiquated. While I'm not sure we want to move away from these proven technologies, it is worth considering what we may want to do in the future. The following link will take you to the Facebook page for the International Brunner Pouter Club of Southern Africa. I recommend everyone log in and poke around a bit. You may find it quite interesting.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/International-Brunner-Pouter-Club-of-Southern-Africa/178324828875015>

Other things we may want to consider for the future include PayPal for paying our dues and bands. Think how much time we could all save and how easy it would be for Mike! I also use a really cool news aggregation tool called Zite. There you can list subjects of interest and the system will pull articles from all sorts of news sources. It is a very easy way to get information.

As we look to the future and how we can attract young people, we most certainly need to start creating a more technological presence. Brunners are blessed with a number of excellent young fanciers who are actively showing birds. Lets reach out to them and more like them!



**Reading (Lancaster) Winter Show  
AFBCC District Meet  
Hosted by the Eastern Pouter & Cropper  
Club  
January 10, 2015  
Brunner Pouters**



Judge – Tom Bollinger  
19 – Birds  
4 – Exhibitors

- 1- Marissa Shirk - #1023 Ash Red OC – **Champion** (junior)
- 2- Stephania Shirk - #6319 Red YC - **Reserve Champion** (junior)
- 3- Howard Kinsley - #11 Blue White Bar OH
- 4- Marissa Shirk - #1443 Blue OC (junior)
- 5- Stephania Shirk - #6318 Yellow YH (junior)
- 6- Howard Kinsley - #407 Silver OC
- 7- Howard Kinsley - #404 Black OC



*Third Reserve Junior Champion Overall – Brunner Pouter - Stephania Shirk – #6319 Red YC  
Judge – Stephan Ripper With many Junior competitors!*



# Brunner Pouters

## NPA Grand National 2015

### Ontario, California

Judge: John Hanson, Australia  
 144 Birds Shown  
 12 Exhibitors



### Overall

Place	Band	Color	Exhibitor		
1	3756	Black	OC J&J Lofts	Best Black	Champion
2	3778	Check	OH J&J Lofts	Best Check	Reserve Champion
3	3789	AOC	OC J&J Lofts	Best AOC	2nd Reserve Champ
4	149	Grizzle	YC Fred Maenpa	Best Grizzle	
5	4380	Blue Bar	YC Rich Barschdorf	Best Blue Bar	
6	1081	Yellow	OH J&J Lofts	Best Yellow	
7	673	White	YC Corey Hays	Best White	
8	928	Pied	OC J&J Lofts	Best Pied	
9	1165	Tiger	OC J&J Lofts	Best Tiger	
10	191	Mealy Bar	YC J&J Lofts	Best Mealy Bar	
11	327	White Bar	YC Beals & Gardner	Best White Bar	
12	76	Cream Bar	YH Fred Maenpa	Best Cream Bar	
13	2120	Red	OC Connor Hays	Best Red	
14	346	Silver Bar	YH Jim Symington	Best Silver Bar	
	617	Tortoise	YC Connor Hays		Junior Champion





# NPA Grand National 2015 - Class Winners



Champion #3742 J&J Loft



Another pic of Champ



Reserve # 3778 J&J Loft



3rd Place #3789 J&J Loft



4th #149 Fred Maenpa



5th #4380 Barschdorf



6th #1081 J&J Loft



7th # 673 Corey Hayes



8th #928 J&J Loft



9th #1165 Tiger



10th #191 J&J Lofts



11th 327 Beals & Gardner



12th #76 Fred Maenpa



13th #2120 Connor Hayes



#14 #346 Jim Symington



Jr Champ #617 Connor Hayes



# More Pictures - NPA Grand National 2015



Our Illustrious Judge—John Hanson ... surveying the white bars



Juniors including our own Connor Hayes



And the winner is!!



OH Bob Bollinger



Red YC Corey Hayes



OC Bob Bollinger



OH Beals & Gardner



Our Junior Champion with "The Champ"

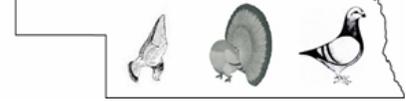


The Final Line-Up - What a nice group of birds!

## MIDWEST - AFBCC SHOW

2014 FALL SHOW - HASTINGS, NEBRASKA  
 JUDGE - MIKE SWEENEY OF LINCOLN, NE

Central Nebraska Pigeon Association



### 54 BIRDS SHOWN

GRAND CHAMPION BRUNNER - CREAM BAR YOUNG HEN #864 - CARLIN WHISENHUNT  
 BEST SELF BRUNNER - YELLOW OLD HEN #2427 - SCOTT C. ADAMS  
 BEST OPPOSITE SEX - RED OLD COCK #4273 - SCOTT C. ADAMS  
 BEST BAR OR CHECK BRUNNER - CREAM BAR YOUNG HEN #864 - CARLIN WHISENHUNT  
 BEST OPPOSITE SEX - BLUE BAR OLD COCK # 1868 - JEFF CLARK  
 BEST ANY OTHER COLOR - BLACK TIGER OLD COCK #2436 - MICHAEL MARTINEZ  
 BEST OPPOSITE SEX - BLACK WHITE BAR - YOUNG HEN #502 - WADE SCHUETT

## National Young Bird Show

### AFBCC District Meet

Hosted by the Central Cropper & Pouter Club

October 25, 2014

### Brunner Pouters



Judge – Bryan Neuner  
 37 – Birds

Bob Bollinger - #510 Red YC - **Champion**

Bob Bollinger - #553 Yellow YH - **Reserve Champion**

Best White - #1995 YC – Helmut Baer

Best White Bar - #8858 YC – Eli Neal (junior exhibitor)

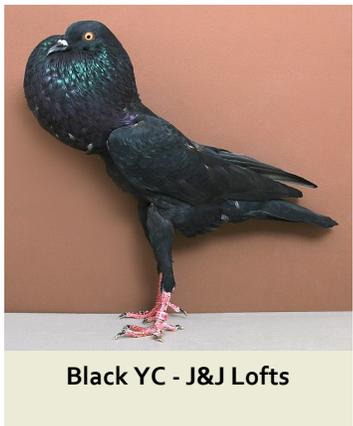
Best Black - #800 – Mike Crook



**Grand Champion Pouter Cropper – Brunner Pouter - #510 Red YC – Bob Bollinger**  
**256 Total Pouter Croppers Judge: Jerry Sindelar**

## Great Western Larry Jolly Judge

	AOC	YC	#113	Fred Maenpa	White	YH	# 7	Fred Maenpa
1	Black	YH	# 1	Fred Maenpa	1 White	YC	# 131	J & J Lofts–Best Color
2	Black	YH	# 120	J & J Lofts	2 White	YC	# 15	Fred Maenpa
3	Black	YH	# 173	J & J Lofts				
4	Black	YH	#7433	Leon Stephens	Yellow	YH	# 134	J & J Lofts
5	Black	YH	# 835	Charlie Rowe	Yellow	YC	# 285	J & J Lofts- Best Color
					Yellow	OH	# 108	J & J Lofts
1	Black	YC	# 104	J & J Lofts-Best Color				
2	Black	YC	#7436	Leon Stephens				
3	Black	YC	#7421	Leon Stephens				
4	Black	YC	# 834	Charlie Rowe				
1	Blue	YH	# 13	Fred Maenpa –Best Color				
2	Blue	YH	# 193	J & J Lofts				
1	Blue	YC	#4791	Rich Barschdorf				
2	Blue	YC	# 126	J & J Lofts				
3	Blue	YC	#4387	Rich Barschdorf				
4	Blue	YC	#4790	Rich Barschdorf				
5	Blue	YC	# 719	Fred Maenpa				
	Blue	YH	# 145	Fred Maenpa – Best Color				
	Check							
	Cream	YH	# 145	J & J Lofts - Best Color				
	Cream	YH	# 53	Fred Maenpa				
	Cream	YC	# 73	Fred Maenpa				
1	Grizzle	YH	# 118	J & J Lofts - Best Color				
2	Grizzle	YH	# 55	Fred Maenpa				
1	Grizzle	YC	# 36	Fred Maenpa				
2	Grizzle	YC	# 139	J & J Lofts				
3	Grizzle	YC	#4386	Rich Barschdorf				
1	Tiger	YH	#7434	Leon Stephens- Best Color				
2	Tiger	YH	#7435	Leon Stephens				



Black YC - J&J Lofts



Full results for all of our meets are posted on:

[BrunnerCropper.com](http://BrunnerCropper.com)



# Reading (Lancaster) Winter Meet 2015



Champion Marissa with our judge Tom Bollinger



What a nice class of yellows!



There was a lot interest in the judging



Two of our juniors placed well in the Junior Show



white bars

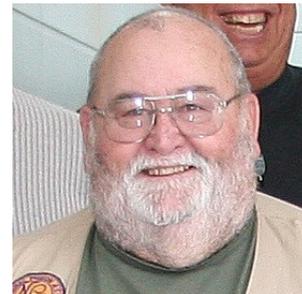


Stephania with her brunner from Junior Show

## From the Members

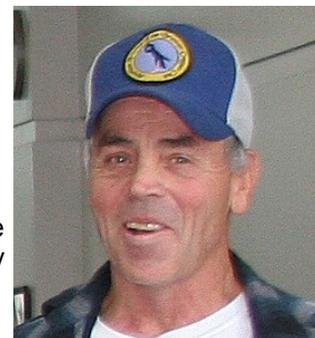
Carlin Whisenhunt writes — ... I like the white bars a lot. Wade Schuett has some from you, and we have been working together on the pouters for a couple of years. I've known his dad for years. (he's a frillback master breeder) and Wade since he was born. Very nice young man. He really likes the white bars, and wants to expand into the other colors as well. You will probably be hearing from him. .... Very good pigeon man, on the board of the state pigeon club. I really enjoyed the National. Will be sending some pictures soon. Jim Clinton took a lot of pictures of individual birds to send to you, so should have a bunch. Got home to 8 inches of snow. Had to move that before I could feed the birds. Barely got that done and got 7 more. Was 3 days before I got any rest. My back is killing me, but I sure had a good time and saw the best pouter show ever. Also met a lot of great folks. Was worth all that it cost.

Regards CARLIN



## This Past Year for J&J Lofts *by Jim Clinton*

J&J lofts attended three shows this last season. The Great Western, The Fresno show and the Grand National. We won champion and reserve at all three shows. What a great season. All the glory to God. The Great Western was, as always, a good show with all the usual people plus a couple new ones. Our judge was Charlie and he did a good. The Fresno show was a first for us. It was a little smaller than the Great western, but still a good show. The highlight of the show for me was the heavy rain that fell during the show. We had not received rain like that for some time. I just stood at the entrance and watched. I donated a carved brunner that I had carved a couple years ago, as an award on behalf of the brunner club. Last was the Grand National. Always a great show. I met some out of state brunner breeders and they seem like a great bunch. We got to spend some time with Cory Hays and son and Larry Jolly at the show and over lunch. There were around 150 brunners on display. All in all a good show, except for running over a homeless fellow's bike. That's a long story. Jeff and I made it right for him.



As for my half of J&J Lofts I have made some changes. All my barred birds are gone. I am raising blacks, whites, yellows and reds. I will also be doing tigers in those colors and blue. I have only forty nine birds in my loft as of March 1st. That's less than half of what I had last season. I have been raising between two hundred and fifty and three hundred the last few years but expect to raise only one hundred plus this season. I'm breeding from twenty one pairs. I hope everyone has a good breeding season.



Jeff (L) and Jim (R) of J&J Lofts



Fresno Champion



Fresno Display and VERY NICE Carved Awards

## Annual Meeting Minutes - Ontario, CA

Our annual meeting was held on Saturday, January 31, 2015 at the NPA Grand National in Ontario, CA.

Members in attendance; Corey Hayes, Mike Hughes, Larry Jolly, Jim Clinton, Jeff Young, Scott Adams, Jim Symington, Layne Gardner, Fred Maenpa, and Bob Bollinger

A discussion was held regarding our upcoming offers. There were a number vacancies to be filled which resulted in the slate as follows: (approved by all members present)

- President—Layne Gardner
- Vice-President—Fred Maenpa
- Secretary / Treasurer—Mike Hughes
- Western Director—Corey Hays
- Midwest Director—Scott Adams
- Eastern Director—Bob Bollinger
- Canadian Director—optional to add
- Bulletin Editor—Bob Bollinger
- (Bulletin Mailer—Fred Maenpa)

Club members expressed their great appreciation to Helen Symington (and Jim) for all their hard work on the bulletin over the last several years. We are the envy of many clubs and a standard to be judged by. Thank you Helen! Members also expressed their appreciation for John Hanson judging the National.

There was discussion on our web presence. We agreed to consider doing a closed Facebook site for our members. Everyone was cautioned to consider their words before committing them to cyberspace. Layne and Bob will evaluate this and report back to the club.

A motion was made to reimburse Bob Bollinger \$189.76 for our web site (motion Scott A, second Layne G, passed)

Discussion on bands. We have never lost money on bands. We will continue to order them like the HPC. We will purchase the same number as preceding years plus or minus an estimated number based on interest. We will purchase size 8 bands. The NPA will be changing their recommended size for brunners to size 8. We will purchase 1300 bands for 2016 on a first come first served basis. Once they run out members may use NPA bands.

We reviewed a very old copy of our Constitution. Some changes were recommended and it was agreed that we will publish a copy for review in an upcoming bulletin. Members are encouraged to make recommendations and then it will take about 3 months (a bulletin cycle) to update and release.

The National Meet for next year was discussed. Traditionally the AFBC holds our national meet concurrent with the NPA Grand National. With next year's national in Connecticut, there is a concern that this may be inconvenient for the core nucleus of our club members. We will still host an event in CT, but we are considering where to hold our formal AFBC National Event.

Larry Jolly noted that he plans to attend the Leipzig show in Germany again in 2016. If members are interested in importing breeding stock. Please contact Larry.

Members discussed possibly having a bird auction at an upcoming events to help raise money for the club.

Members also discussed ways we can further improve our club and the birds by modeling some of the activities of the German Brunner club. Ideas as follows;

- Get clear on colors and classes (Larry to publish what the Germans are doing)
- Rewarding and suggesting genetic developments for the breed
- Nominating a member to travel to other regions of the US and the world to evaluate the overall quality of the birds and contrast that to our own birds. The Germans do this to highlight great birds and help others understand what they are collectively striving to achieve



# Upcoming Events

## October 2015

### **Reading Young Bird Show**

*Pouters and Croppers hosted by: EPCC*

Reading, PA

October 2015

Contact: [Bob Bollinger](#)

### **Great Western**

Watsonville, CA

October 2015

Contact: John DeCarlo

### **National Young Bird Show**

*Pouters and Croppers hosted by: CCPC*

*Recognized as an AFBCC Meet*

Louisville, KY

October 2015

## November 2015

### **Nebraska??**

*AFBCC Meet*

Hastings, NE

Contact: Scott Adams

### **White Rose Fall Show**

*Pouters and Croppers hosted by: EPCC*

Emigsville (York), PA

November 1, 2015

Contact: [Bob Bollinger](#)

### **Big Apple**

*Pouters and Croppers hosted by: NPCC*

New York City (really CT)

November 21, 2015

## December 2015

### **Iowa State Pigeon Association**

### **Pigeons on the Prairie Show**

*Pouters and Croppers hosted by: CCPC*

Des Moines, IA

December 2015

## January 2016

### **Reading Pigeon Association**

*Pouters and Croppers hosted by: EPCC*

*Joint AFBCC Meet*

Lancaster, PA

January 2016

Contact: [Bob Bollinger](#)

### **NPA Grand National**

*TBD Meet*

January 2016

Contact: Layne Gardner

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*This section is free for members to trade birds and enhance our breeding pens! Just mail your advertisement to Bob!*

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To join or renew

# Join the AFBCC!



The American Friends of the Brunner Cropper Club is dedicated to the promotion and advancement of the Brunner Cropper in the USA. We are a club that promotes friendship among Brunner Pouter breeders and anyone interested in the beautiful Brunner Cropper!

## Mail Forms to:

Mike Hughes  
AFBCC  
Secretary / Treasurer  
132 Poppy Rd  
Morenci, AZ 85540

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Membership Dues

Adult           \$15.00 / year    \_\_\_\_\_  
Juniors         \$ 5.00 / year     \_\_\_\_\_



[mike@norwichcropper.com](mailto:mike@norwichcropper.com)



We're on the Web!  
[brunnercropper.com](http://brunnercropper.com)