



# American Friends of the Brunner Cropper Club

Volume 2, Issue 2,

October 2016

## Special points of interest:

- Upcoming Events
- Learning From Pigeons
- Pictures

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## President's Message *Layne Gardner*

Alright! The show season is here! Now if the birds will only cooperate and finish up their molt then we'll be able to show them off to their best ability.

I had a good breeding season and raised a nice little group of blue white bar Brunners and as always, most are mediocre with a couple being above average. When I say mediocre, I mean that breeding from them will likely result in youngsters that are of the same quality as their parents. What we're all looking for are young birds that are better than their parents. This doesn't happen too often so we need to be on the lookout for specific traits that we want to improve.

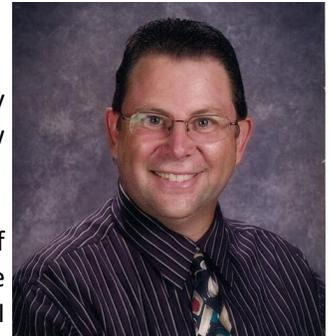
If we aren't certain where our particular birds need improvement, then the shows are a super place to determine this. When you examine your birds next to the bird that won champion, you can probably see a difference. If you can't, don't be shy about asking a more seasoned breeder for input. We want everyone to understand the makeup of a good Brunner since this helps tremendously when deciding which birds to use in the breeding pen.

I'll be visiting the German Pigeon Show in Erfurt this November and will take some photos to include in the bulletin. Last year Bob and I had a great time going over the Brunners in the show. A repeat of that would be most welcome, hint, hint!

I encourage everyone to make the effort to show their birds at once this season and preferably more than once. Getting a chance to compare your birds with other Brunners in the show really does help to improve one's perception of the breed and most especially, their own stock.

We are fortunate to have a good group of very nice people in the Brunner club who are willing to help out others. If you need an upgrade in quality, contact someone who does well with their birds and can guide you in your purchase. There are many colors available so everyone should be able to find something that piques their interest.

I wish everyone the best of success and most importantly, a FUN show season. Not everyone gets to win but everyone does get to have fun!



*Layne*



## From the Vice-President *Fred Maenpa*

Greetings from California to all AFBCC members and friends. As September draws to a close we begin to turn our attentions to the upcoming show season. I hope your 2016 breeding season was a success and wish everyone the best throughout this

years show season. I have included a few photos of our AFBCC awards for 2016. We will be offering awards for each of the three individual districts, for the Pageant of Pigeons, and the NPA Grand National in January 2017. The District Meet for the Western District is just around the corner, October 15 & 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in Watsonville, California. The "Great Western" normally draws between 1,700 to 1,800 birds, a couple hundred Pouters, and possibility 50 Brunners. This year Frank Barrachina is scheduled to judge most of the Pouter breeds with Larry Jolly handling the Brunners. I will have a complete show report prepared for our next bulletin.

I would like to remind everyone to please stay in contact with your area District Directors. If possible, offer to do whatever is needed to help make your district shows a success. Our Directors work very hard to promote our Brunners, but they can't do everything themselves. Brunner Croppers have constantly been one of the top pouter breeds shown at pigeon shows across the country. Do your part and help to promote our wonderful little breed and the AFBCC.

Out West the first of our larger shows of the season was the LAPC Young Bird Show on September 11. We had four AFBCC members showing, Corey Hays, Leon Stephens, Jim Symington, and myself. The winning bird was a very nice Black YH bred and shown by Jim Symington. His YH also went on to be the sixth best bird overall in the "Parade of Champions" and won Jim a 50lb bag of feed. Additional Pouter breeds in the top ten included: #1 March-

enero Pouter owned by Alax Garcia, #4 French Pouter bred by Fred Maenpa, and #9 Horseman Pouter shown by Charlie Rowe. That means, with Jim's Brunner Cropper at #6, there were four Pouters selected in the "Top Ten Breeds", each one taking home a 50lb bag of feed. The judge's for the "Parade of Champions" were Frank Barrachina, Tally Mezzanato, and John De Carlo Jr. Congratulations again to Jim Symington with wins in both the Brunner and Holle classes, and a special thank you to everyone for showing. I have included a number of pictures taken at the YBS for everyone to enjoy.

I would also like to remind all AFBCC members to order your 2017 club bands from Mike Hughes. The bands should be in Mike's hands sometime in mid December and in your mailbox around the first of the year. They are sold on a first, come first served, basis and are 45 cents per band with a \$3.00 charge for mailing. Don't miss out on club bands, order today, while you are still thinking about it. Send Mike a check for your 2017 bands and renew your 2017 AFBCC membership at the same time. If I am not mistaken there will only be 1,200 bands available.

In closing, I would like to invite everyone to take part in the 2016 LAPC Pageant of Pigeons (December 1-3, 2016) and the NPA Grand National (January 12-14, 2017), For information concerning the Pageant of Pigeons please contact me. I will be happy to send you a Premium Book, entry blank, or help you with your reservations. For information concerning the 2017 Grand National contact Orrie Morre. His contact information can be found on the NPA web site.

I look forward to seeing many of you at one of the shows this season. Best of luck to everyone and let's continue to promote our Brunners and the AFBCC whenever possible.

As always, *Fred Maenpa*

## J&J Lofts *by Jim Clinton*

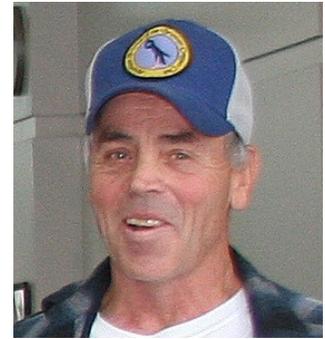
It late summer and the breeding season is nearly over, just finishing off the last few nests. There isn't much to report on at this time of year except from your own loft. I have cut down on colors and birds. I now only raise the self colors and trying to get the tigers of each color going. I did add andalusian. I have raised about six youngsters of this color. Like any new color or any color not being raised by many, the quality is just not there. I did raise some nice color, lighter andalusian with the dark lacing on the wings. It will take a few years but they should come along. I'll put about four pairs of them together next season. I have raised 100 birds, give or take, this season. The whites and yellows have advanced in quality very nicely. The reds are good in type but the cocks are a little thick. I will work them over yellows and that should put a little more fineness in them.

I am sort of reinventing the blacks a little. I have raised some with great color and back, They need a little work in the globe area. I have a lot of very nice globed blacks to cross with the rich colored birds that should give me just what I want next season.

I haven't been up to Jeff's house so I don't know what he has done this year. He will be coming down soon to help me look through our junior member's birds so we can get caught up then. She will be showing for the time at the Great Western. She has a lot of experience showing her chickens but this will be her first pigeon show.

I just set up training cages and will start training in for the Great Western soon.

*Jim Clinton*



## From the Western Director *Corey Hays*

Hi all,

Not a great year for my son and I this year. My son Conner broke the tibia in his leg and was out for six months. After his leg healed, he started his first year in high school. So, we ended up only pairing up a few pairs this year and raising only 35 birds. We raised a couple good ones but nothing spectacular.

We just went to our first show of the year, the Los Angeles Pigeon Club's young bird show in Irvine Park. Conner had the Champion Junior bird with a

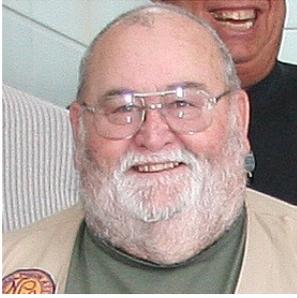
blue check. Jim Symington had best overall Brunner with a nice black. I think only twelve Brunner's were shown overall. This small show under some shade trees and a nice lunch.

Not sure what other shows, if any we will be attending this year. Possibly the Pageant in December.

That is all for now. Hope everyone had a great season. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the shows.

*Corey Hays*





## From the Midwest Director

*Carlin Wisenhunt*

Summer is finally over! Not soon enough to suit me. We had more 100 degree days just in June than we had all last year. Then we did it again in July and August. I don't take heat well, having been hospitalized twice for heat stroke in past years. Therefore, I do much better when it's cooler. Not that I'm a big fan of cold weather. Bitter cold is nobody's friend.

I had a very good year with my brunners, just need them to mature too see what I have. A few of the older birds look to be good show prospects so far. I plan to send an entry to the Shawnee show since we have a meet there, however, I'll likely be attending the DesMoines show the same weekend. I hate that these two shows are always the same weekend. First though, I'll be putting on the Pouter meet at the Nebraska show at Hastings. We will be having a Brunner meet there also with Jeff Bidroski judging. Champion and Reserve Champion Pouter awards will be custom carrying boxes instead of trophies.

I got to see a preview of Jeff Clark's young Brunners, and once again, he is going to be tough to beat at Hastings and DesMoines. I'm looking forward to trying though.

Just a reminder for everyone to be sure to get your bird vaccinated before the shows. I vaccinate all of mine, even the birds that I don't keep.

Good luck and enjoy the shows and friendship.

*Carlin*

*Bob...a few pics to go with that article. Don't have many in feather right now. These 2 are nest mate T pattern blues that are out of a pair of blacks. I really like them. Plan to use them on recessive red and then put those into my tortoiseshell and almond projects. Plan to show them at Hastings for sure. Had a good year with the white bars as well. Raised 70+ brunners, so will have plenty to pick from and a lot to spread around.*

*Carlin*



## From the Eastern Director *Bob Bollinger*

Things are well in the East. Brunners continue to gain in popularity and there are quite a few folks who have been acquiring birds. I have had the opportunity to pre-view some of the youngsters from the acquisitions at our early events. They are looking good and I think we will have some wonderful competition this year.

Speaking of shows, I would like to encourage everyone to join us in Louisville. The AFBCC is holding a District Meet in conjunction with the CPCC. The CPCC does a great job hosting pouters /croppers at the NYBS, and with this being their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary show, it should be extremely nice. I also expect some nice birds at the White Rose and Big Apple Shows in November.



Fred has worked hard to get us some very nice AFBCC awards again this year. To the left you will see the really cool slates we have for the National, the Pageant, and our district events.

So, please come out and join the fun! I look forward to seeing you at the shows!

*Bob*



***Don't Forget to Check Out and Post To Our Facebook Page !!***



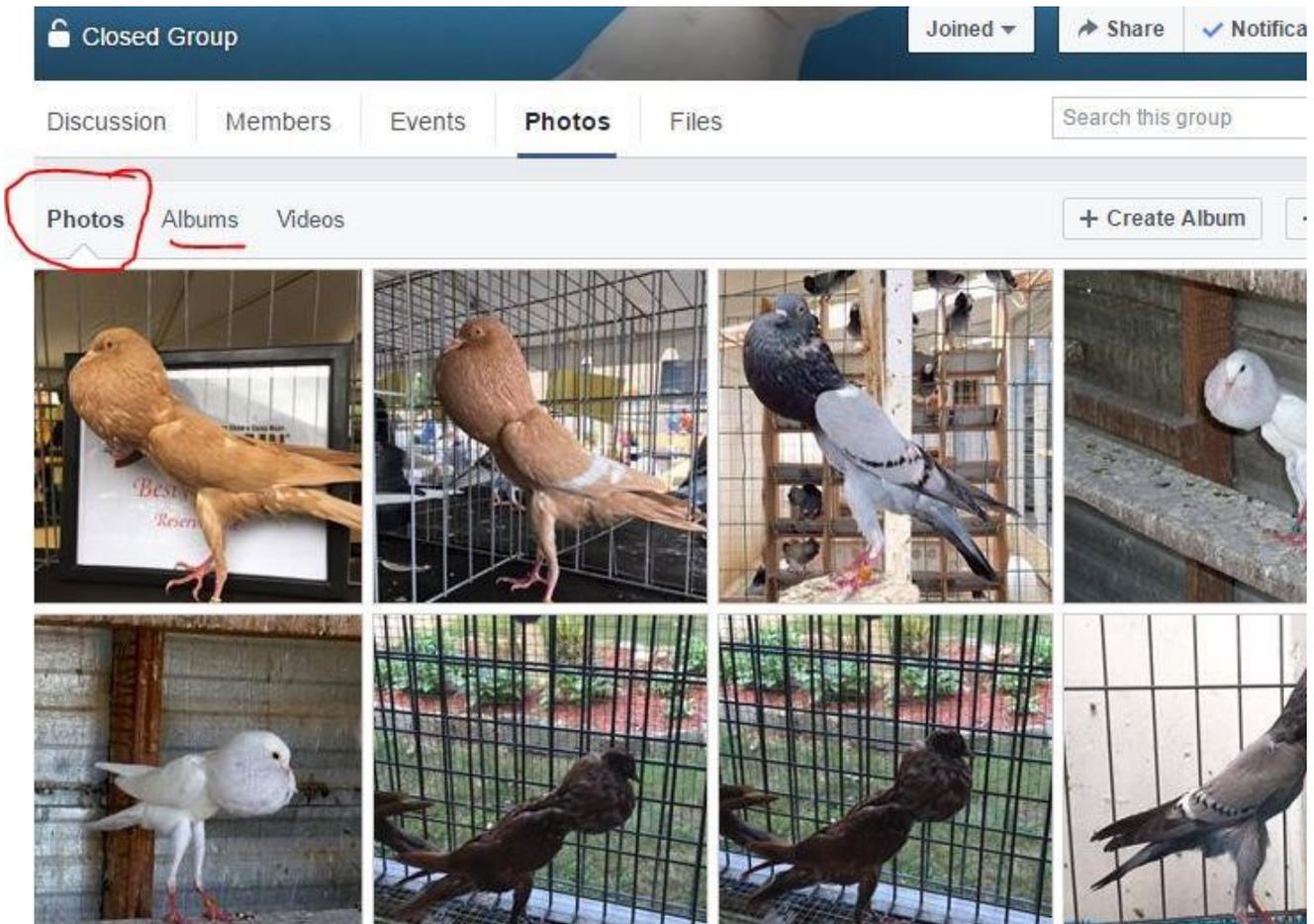
### From the Bulletin Editor / Web Master *Bob Bollinger*



Thanks to everyone who contributed to the bulletin. I am really grateful for your continued support. I feel very blessed that we have club officers and members who are willing to take the time to send pictures and say a few words. Many clubs have a lot of trouble finding material for their bulletin. Your support is a testament to the quality of our club and members. Again, I THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH. I would also like to encourage anyone to send me a note or a few pictures. I am more than willing to crop, edit, trim or do whatever it takes to share your contributions. Just send me an email!

Speaking of pictures, in the past after our bulletin was published, I would post the bulletin and all pictures to our web site. Moving forward, I have decided to use our Facebook group as the repository for our pictures. In todays world, web sites have their place, but managing pictures is best served in the social media environment. So, as we publish future bulletins, I will still post the bulletin itself and our show calendar to [www.brunnercropper.com](http://www.brunnercropper.com). However, pictures from the bulletin will be archived on Facebook. Below you can see a sample screen shot of our Facebook photo gallery. The social format is a wonderful tool for picture viewing, posting, and retrieval. Check it out!!

*Bob*



## Science News

from research organizations

### Pigeon flock members can 'overrule' incompetent leaders

Date: September 14, 2016

Source: Oxford University

Summary: Flock leaders who attempt to give their fellow pigeons incorrect information about their direction of travel can be overruled by the collective wisdom of the group, according to new research.



Flock of pigeons.

Credit: Zsuzsa Ákos



Flock leaders who attempt to give their fellow pigeons incorrect information about their direction of travel can be overruled by the collective wisdom of the group, according to new research from the University of Oxford.

Recent modelling work has predicted that the mistakes of a misinformed leader will propagate down a hierarchical decision-making system such as a pigeon flock. However, using a method known as 'clock-shifting' that interferes with pigeons' sense of direction, researchers have shown that bad leadership can be overcome, setting the flock back on the correct course.



## Pictures from Jim Clinton



Young Birds in the Fly Pen



Young Cock



Young Hen



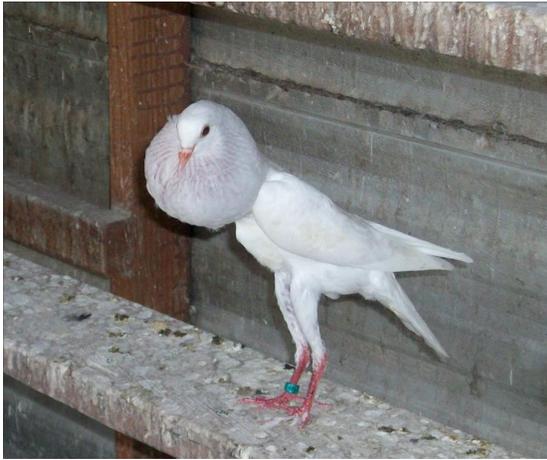
Young Black Cock



Young Black Cock



## More Pictures from Jim Clinton



Young White Cock #1



Father of Young White Cock #1



Young White Cock #2



Young White Cock #3

*What an impressive crop of whites! I can't wait to see them in person.*

*Bob*



## Some White Bars from Layne and Bob



*Two nice blue white bars youngsters from Layne and a 2015 late hatch yellow white bar from Bob. I think we can safely say that the quality of white bars in the US is definitely improving!*



*Once again, pouters fared well at this year's Purgrain show in Souderton, PA. This yellow brunner, shown by Bob, took reserve champion overall with a very nice English winning the event. It is really impressive to have our local feed supplier sponsor the event and give back to the hobby. They put up a very nice tent in their parking lot and gave everyone free doughnuts, soft pretzels, hotdogs, and sodas. Even more impressive were the prizes including bags of feed and \$250, \$200, and \$150 gift cards for the top 3 winning birds!*





# LAPC YBS Juniors and Some of Corey's Birds



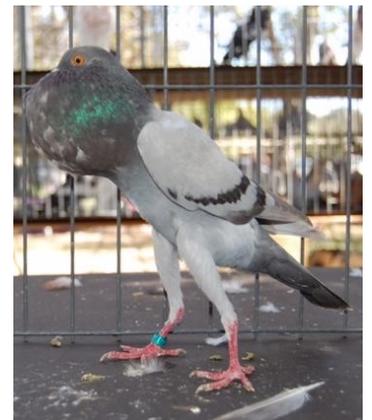


# LAPC Young Bird Show Pictures from Fred





## More LAPC Young Bird Show Pictures from Fred





## More LAPC Young Bird Show Pictures from Fred



*The LAPC Raffle with lots of donated feed!*

*Fred's nice young hen French Pouter*



# Club Officers 2016



President—Layne Gardner

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Vice President- Fred Maenpa

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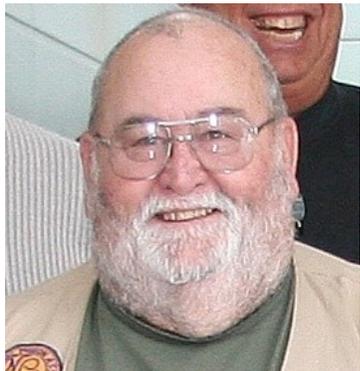
Secretary / Treasurer - Mike Hughes

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Western Director - Corey Hayes

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Midwest Director - Carlin Wisenhunt

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Eastern Director & Bulletin Editor - Bob Bollinger

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Canadian Director—Open

# Upcoming Events

## August 2016

### **White Rose Summer Show**

Manchester (York), PA  
August 7, 2016  
Contact: [Bob Bollinger](#)

## September 2016

### **LAPC Young Bird Show**

Irvine Park, Orange, CA  
September 11, 2016  
Contact: [Fred Maenpa](#)

## October 2016

### **Reading Young Bird Show**

*Pouters and Croppers hosted by: EPCC*  
Reading, PA  
October 2, 2016  
Contact: [Bob Bollinger](#)

### **Great Western**

Watsonville, CA  
AFBCC Meet  
October 8-9, 2016  
Contact: [John DeCarlo](#)

### **National Young Bird Show**

*Pouters and Croppers hosted by: CCPC*  
Joint AFBCC Meet  
Louisville, KY  
October 29, 2016  
Contact: [Bob Bollinger](#)

## November 2016

### **Hastings Nebraska**

*Pouters and Croppers hosted by:  
Mid-America Pouter and Cropper Club*  
Joint AFBCC Meet  
Hastings, NE  
First Weekend in November  
Contact: [Carlin Wisenhunt](#)

### **White Rose Fall Show**

*Pouters and Croppers hosted by: EPCC*  
Joint AFBCC Meet  
Emigsville (York), PA  
November 13, 2016  
Contact: [Bob Bollinger](#)

## **Big Apple**

*Pouters and Croppers hosted by: NPCC*  
New York City (really CT)  
November 20, 2016  
Contact: [Barbara Beer](#)

## December 2016

### **LAPC Pageant of Pigeons**

Ontario, CA  
AFBCC Meet  
December 1-3, 2016  
Contact: [Fred Maenpa](#)

### **Oklahoma Pigeon Assn**

*Pouters and Croppers hosted by:  
Mid-South Pouter and Cropper Club*  
Joint AFBCC Meet  
Shawnee, OK  
December 17, 2016  
Contact: [Gerald Butler](#)

### **Iowa State Pigeon Association Pigeons on the Prairie Show**

TBD??  
Des Moines, IA

## January 2017

### **Reading Pigeon Association**

*Pouters and Croppers hosted by: EPCC*  
January 12-15, 2017  
Lancaster, PA  
Contact: [Bob Bollinger](#)

### **NPA Grand National**

Vancouver, WA  
January 12-14, 2017  
AFBCC Meet  
Contact: [Fred Maenpa](#)

## Other Notable Shows



**FOR SALE!**



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



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

or



[mhughes1074@yahoo.com](mailto:mhughes1074@yahoo.com)

Use the friends and family option!

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)