

PIGEON FANCIERS SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC. - PIGEON FANCIERS SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC. - PIGEON FANCIERS SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC. - PIGEON FANCIERS SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC. - PIGEON FANCIERS SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC.

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PIGEON FANCIERS SOCIETY OF NSW INC

Est. 1917



HAPPY NEW YEAR

NEWSLETTER 2012

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THE PIGEON FANCIERS SOCIETY OF NSW SOUTH WALES INC.

- PATRONS:** DES SANDERS, JOHN HANSON
- PRESIDENT:** JOHN HICKMAN - 55 HILLTOP ROAD, WAMBERAL NSW 226
PHONE: 4384-3460 or 0458 036 074 Email: john.hickman@y7mail.com
- VICE PRESIDENT:** WALTER HITCHELL AND DES SANDERS
- SECRETARY:** WALTER HITCHELL (OAM)
72 NORTH STREET, KATOOMBA NSW 2780
PHONE: 4782-2292 Email: hitchell@bigpond.net.au
- RING SECRETARY/
MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR** TONY DESSMANN
8 NORTH AVENUE, ROSSMORE NSW 2171
PHONE: (02) 9606-5619 Email: anthonydessmann@yahoo.com.au
- TREASURER:** JIM MACKAY – PHONE: (02) 4621-1188
- ANNUAL SHOW SECRETARY:** CATHERINE WEEKES - P.O.BOX 28, TOWN CENTRE, MT DRUITT NSW 2770
PHONE: (02) 9628-1081 Email: mweekes@bigpond.net.au
- YOUNG BIRD SECRETARY:** JOHN HICKMAN - 55 HILLTOP ROAD, WAMBERAL NSW 226
PHONE: 4384-3460 or 0458 036 074 Email: john.hickman@y7mail.com
- AWARDS COMMITTEE:** DES SANDERS, JOHN HANSON
- PAVILION MANAGERS:** PETER RYAN
- PUBLICITY OFFICER:** LISA WEEKES
- CHIEF STEWARD:** PETER RYAN
- MEMBERSHIP PARTICULARS:** NEW MEMBERS - \$20.00
JUNIOR'S (UNDER 16'S) - \$5.00
RENEWAL – PENSIONER - \$8.00
RENEWAL – SENIOR & COMBINED FAMILY RATE - \$15.00

Please note that the renewal of membership falls due on the 1st July each year. Cheques and money orders must be made payable to the PFS of NSW Inc. and can be mailed to the Membership Co-Coordinator, TONY DESSMANN, address as indicated above, New Membership enquires and membership forms can be obtained from the secretary, either show secretaries or from the PFS website – www.pfsnsw.com

CLUB MEETINGS: ARE CONDUCTED ON THE THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH, COMMENCING AT 7.30PM, VENUE BEING THE PIGEON & POULTRY PAVILION, FAIRFIELD SHOWGROUNDS, SMITHFIELD RD, FAIRFIELD. VISITORS ARE WELCOME.

CLUBS NEWSLETTER: THE EDITOR INVITES SUBMISSIONS AND ARTICLES FROM MEMBERS, INCLUDING REPORTS, ESPECIALLY FROM COUNTRY AREAS.

RINGS: PIGEON RINGS CAN BE PURCHASED FROM OUR RING SECRETARY FOR \$0.45 EACH, ONLY AVAILABLE IN LOTS OF TEN. (COST \$4.50 FOR TEN RINGS) PLUS \$2.50 POSTAGE.

THE VIEWS AND OPINIONS HEREIN ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE PFS OF NSW INC., IT'S NEITHER COMMITTEE NOR THE EDITOR.



NEWS FROM THE PUBLICITY OFFICER

By Lisa Weekes



Happy New Year to all, 2013 is a year for new beginnings for the Pigeon Fanciers Society of NSW Inc, 2012 was a rollercoaster ride for the pigeon fraternity, with the PMV1 outbreak and the passing of our club president Bob Weekes, I am sure we are hoping 2013 brings a better year for all.

For those who will have the opportunity to travel to Sydney in January 2013, there will be an exhibition of works by Ho Hai Tran featuring pigeon portraits - "**Fancy**".

For those who have attended our shows in the last two years, you would have seen a photographer - Ho Hai Tran taking pictures and his assistant Chloe Cadhill writing up all the facts. Bob Weekes was contacted by Chloe and Ho, thanks to Bob Weekes and the diligent work of Chloe, Ho and Bob this was to promote the fancy pigeon and to showcase the hobby of the fancy pigeon to the general public, and a big thank you to the members of the PFS of NSW and to those who opened their homes and lofts for this exhibit and for the upcoming book which is due to be released in the next few

months. For those who are tech savvy and have an ipad, you can purchase a copy of the digital magazine called ON, which also features their works, this app is a must have for pigeon fancier. This app is available to purchase through iTunes for \$5.49.



<https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/on-magazine-issue-one-on-pigeons/id522619930?mt=8>

All who are interested in seeing the exhibit.
Fancy - An exhibition of works by Ho Hai Tran
Firstdraft Gallery,
116 – 118 Chalmers Street Surry Hills
Exhibition dates:
Opening night Wednesday January 30th 6 - 8pm
30 January 2013 – 16 February 2013



WE'RE ON FACEBOOK!

You can now follow us on our facebook page
<http://www.facebook.com/PigeonFanciersSocietyOfNswInc>
its a great way to keep up to date on the PFS.



FANCY

WEDNESDAY
30 JANUARY

6 - 8 P M

H O H A I T R A N
P H O T O G R A P H E R

FIRSTDRAFT GALLERY

116-118 CHALMERS ST. SURRY HILLS NSW 2010

PIGEON NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

By Fred Maenpa USA



To begin, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year. As we look forward to 2013 I must also look back at 2012 with many wonderful memories. As I look back I see a year that will be remembered as one of my best pigeon years ever. It was busy from the start and included many planned, and unplanned, adventures that will never be forgotten.

In January I traveled to Lakeland, Florida to the NPA National and won overall Champion Pouter and Cropper with a very nice Blue OC Brunner. In June I was honored to be a special guest judge at the PFS of NSW Eastern Classic Show in NSW Australia. It was an all breeds, all age, show held at the Fairfield City Show grounds.

In September it was the LAPC Young Bird Show, then in October the Great Western in Watsonville, California. November was very busy with the LAPC Pageant of Pigeons and the added task of being the show secretary after many years in the background.

After the Pageant my thoughts began to turn to Europe and the upcoming December shows in Germany. It was indeed a pleasure to attend the huge European show in Leipzig, a show that included over 35,000 pigeons, plus ducks, chickens, rabbits, and cage birds totaling over 100,000 animals. The show was held in a beautiful modern building and drew exhibitors from throughout the European nations. The weather was a bit on the chilly side, for a California boy, but the company was well worth it. Many of our AFBCC members and fellow American friends were included in the 20-25 American fanciers that were in attendance. It was great to visit with friends from around the world. They came from Australia, Africa, Scotland, The United Kingdom, Canada, Spain, as well as Germany, and other neighboring countries.

Many new friendships were made, and many past ones were renewed at the show, or during visits to their homes along the way. It was neat to spend three days with Bob Bollinger looking over the Brunner's as well as the thousands of other birds and animals on display. We were trying to locate and obtain birds for ourselves and other AFBCC members. Obtaining birds at the Leipzig show prove to be a bit of a challenge. After reviewing the catalog, looking over the birds, making our choices, the major job was still ahead. Waiting in a long line to "inquire" about the availability of a bird that might not be available could take two to three hours, or more. After three

days we were unable to pick up anything worthwhile in Leipzig.



Left: Fred judging at The PFS show 2012.

That is not to say that everyone was shut out. I was traveling with great group of fellow AFBCC members. Larry Jolly was our leader and the U.S. contact to import birds back into the states. In addition to Larry and myself, our group included AFBCC members Charlie Rowe and Mike Hughes, plus Ana Ellis, a Color Pigeon breeder from Illinois. Under Larry's leadership we were able to transport 110 birds back to the quarantine station in the Netherlands following the show. Most of the birds in this shipment were Color Pigeons and House Pigeons that were picked up by fellow Americans.

The second German shows was the VDT all pigeons show held in Nürnberg. It was very different from the Leipzig show held the week before. There were over 25,000 pigeons shown and over 1,200 Brunner's shown by the members of the German Brunner Cropper Club. What an outstanding display of birds and a wonderful group of fanciers supporting the Brunner's.

The German Brunner Cropper Club has over 400 members from many European countries. All birds entered are rated and birds that are rewarded 97 points are moved to a Champions row. (Refer to the photos taken on Champions row). More than one bird of a color can be rewarded 97 points and all birds with 97's are given certificates. But, from that group only 1 bird will be selected the overall Color Champion. After the Color Champions are selected, like in America, the overall Champion of the Show is selected. At this show the overall Champion was rewarded with a beautiful color plate that was suitable to be hung and displayed with pride on the winner's wall.

On Saturday evening our traveling group was pleased to be invited to the Brunner Club Banquet / dinner. The food was great and it was nice to see how they recognize their members. Larry was recognized as having been a member of their club for 10 years.

Another major difference between the Leipzig and Nürnberg shows was how the birds were sold in Nürnberg. Both shows offered catalogs with listings of birds for sale out of the show, but in Nürnberg the line was much shorter making it easier to purchase birds. In addition, there was a sale section offering birds on a first come, first serve basis.

The sale section was set up like a show with a single bird in each cage with a cage card on the front. The card included the breed, band number, owner, and cost for the bird. To purchase a bird you needed to pull the card, take it to the desk at the entrance to the sale section and pay the amount requested. Once the bird was purchased a sold sticker was placed on the card and the card returned to the cage. The new owner was given a receipt that would be needed to pick up the bird at any time later. When one was ready to remove the bird you were asked to show the receipt to person at the desk and provide a box for transport. Before the bird could be placed in the box, the band number was checked and matched to the cage card. If the numbers matched, the receipt was signed and the bird was released. The receipt was also checked as you were leaving the show hall.

With this additional offering of birds, in the sale section, many of our American friends were able to pick up the birds they were looking to obtain.

A few of our AFBCC members are now looking forward to their imports clearing quarantine somewhere around the first part of March. Our members looking forward to their new arrivals are; Charlie Rowe, Mike Hughes, Jim Symington, Jim Clinton, Larry Jolly, Bob Bollinger, Leon Stephens, Sieglinde Tate, and myself. Much to our surprise an additional 220 birds were picked up in Nürnberg. This was double the count obtained in Leipzig. With the large number of additional birds, Larry was forced to rent another van to transport everything back to the quarantine station in the Netherlands.

Once again, what a trip and what a year! So many wonderful memories, stories to tell, and photographs to show to help remember my pigeon travels in 2012. With 2013 just around the corner, I am still looking forward to one more show before the 2013 breeding season begins. Best of luck in 2013

TREATING PIGEONS WITH SPRADDLE LEGS



Spraddle Legs is a condition caused as a result of a newly hatched pigeon not being able to get good footing in the Hatcher or brooder right after hatching. The photos here are of a Silver Spangled Hamburg chick that hatched in a GQF Sportsman and jumped out of the tray and tried to walk around on the tin foil in the bottom of the incubator for 36 hours. Its legs were unable to get a grip on the surface and so have slipped out to the sides. This condition is usually correctable if detected and treated in the first few days. The idea is to immediately give the pigeon something it can walk on (paper or cloth towel, wire mesh, etc) and assist it in keeping its legs under it until it gains strength in its legs. Although the examples here are of the Hamburg chick the treatment can easily be adapted for pigeons.



Spraddle Legged Chick

A 3/4 in. band aid makes an excellent prosthesis, because the “pad” in the middle is just the right width to keep the chick’s legs the correct distance apart. But you can also use string, yarn, masking tape, etc. Cut the band aid in half lengthwise to get the correct width.



It may take two people here. One to hold the chick and the other to tape its legs. Here’s what it should look like when it’s finished.



The legs are the same distance apart as the gauze pad in the band aid. Right after applying the band aid, the chick can already remain upright, even though it’s legs are still weak and it’s sitting on its hocks, and not using its feet. It’s getting used to the idea of standing erect.



The same chick the following day. Standing Up!!

If the pigeon's legs haven't gotten too weak, the adhesive will usually give out about the same time the pigeons is walking and no longer needs it. Keep an eye on it and if the band aid lets go and it still isn't walking on its own, apply another band aid. We've had to do this four times in some cases. Once you have successfully restored a pigeon's ability to walk, you can proudly add "PPT" after your name: Pigeon Physical Therapist!

LICE



Lice are a common problem for pigeons. They can become contaminated from other birds while in race crates, from feral pigeons or while pecking around in the yard. Lice are parasitic, meaning they feed off of the host, in our case the pigeon.

Lice eat pigeon feathers. You can see the small holes in the veins of flight feathers. Lice will look like a thin brown fleck. Upon closer inspection, you will realize it is a louse. Lice have six legs. After handling a bird that is infested, often lice can end up attached to your clothing. There are many different types of lice. The names, feather louse, wing louse, etc. have been dubbed depending on what area of the body they primarily like to inhabit. They live their entire lives on the pigeon and lay their eggs on their host. They will leave their host only to infest another bird.



The pictures above show's what they look like. Although not harmful to the birds, they do chew holes in the feathers of birds. When you hear someone talk about "pinholes" in Pigeons, that is what they mean. It is the damage these Lice do.

DIPPING PIGEONS WITH LICE



Above: I use mala wash as a dip for treating feather lice in my birds. What I do is fill a bucket with the correct mixture of dip. I gently, but firmly hold the bird by the wings over its head.

Right: I submerge the bird, gently moving the bird from side to side, allowing for a good coating of dip.



Right: This last picture shows the bird submerged up to its neck. I do not completely submerge the bird under water. The bird's head is always above water. When I am finished I return the bird to the pen it was in. The dip makes flying very difficult for a couple of hours until the bird dries off.



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SELECTED PIGEON BREEDER DEFINITIONS

by Frank Mosca



A.O.C. - a show term meaning Any Other Color and normally used to refer to birds other than standard color in the breed under discussion.

Bar or Barring - the two bands which cross the wings toward the rear of the shield. Depending on the color of these bars, the birds are called black barred, brown barred or red barred. If a bird happens to carry Toy Stencil, the pigment in the bar area is normally washed out and the bird is known as white-bar. There is also a TAIL BAR which is approximately 1 cm. from the end of the tail. In blues, the tail bar is black. In ash-red, it's an ashy white; in browns, it's brown.

Cere

(Beak cere) the fleshy part above the nares on the upper bill. In some breeds, Carrier and Barb, for ex., this cere is enormous, in others, such as the Color Pigeon group, it is as small as in the wild species.

(Eye cere) Bare skin around the eyelid.

Checker/Check/Chequer - the triangular blotches of color across the lighter wing shield. Depending on the base color of the bird, the pigeon is known as a blue check, red check, etc. If Toy Stencil (cf.) is also present, a checkered pigeon may be known as a "spangled" or "white check".

Cock - a male pigeon

Driving - the behavior of the cock bird for the few days before his hen lays her first

egg of the nesting cycle. He forces her away from the proximity of other cocks and in a loft situation often forces her back to the nesting site.

Hen - a female pigeon

Incubation Period - in most cases, 18 days from date of laying of the second egg. However, depending on ambient temperature and how tightly the parents sit the nest, this may vary up to two days either way.

Grouse Legged - having small feathers down the legs (tarsi) and all toes. Some American breeders have suggested this is incorrect nomenclature since they look in bird books and say no grouse listed has such feathering. However, they neglect to take into account that the term was originally a British one and there the word grouse is used for the birds we, in the States, call ptarmigan (Lagopus sp.). Those birds (grouse) are feathered on the feet and toes EXACTLY as the pigeons are, hence the term. (cf. **muff & slipped**)

Keel - the breastbone

Milk - The cottage-cheese looking crop substance produced by both cock and hen to feed the young from hatch till about ten days. Its production is stimulated by prolactin and it was from pigeons and doves that this chemical (which also stimulates mammalian milk production) was first identified.

Muffs - Large feathers completely covering the legs (tarsi) and the toes. Some of these feathers can be up to six inches (15.3 cm) or more long. (cf. **grouse legged & slipped**)

Primaries - The first ten large flight feathers of the pigeon. They are counted from inside out, so that if you spread a bird's wing while its head is toward you, the feather farthest toward the outside is primary flight number ten. (cf.: **Secondaries**)

Old Bird - A bird from its second year of life on. Birds are considered old as of Jan. 1 or the second year following their birth, no matter what month that birth was. (Cf. **Yearling & Young Bird**)

Rolling - a continuous downward performance of backward somersaulting in flight - in the U.S. almost invariably applied to the performances of the Birmingham Roller. There are other breeds which roll in a different manner, but these are still rare here. (Cf. **tumbler**)

Secondaries - The inner flight feathers of the wing which provide lift. Few fanciers, if any, follow the ornithological nomenclature that separates the tertiary feathers from the secondary ones.

LEIPZIG SHOW 2012

By Bob Nolan USA

Slippered - Short feathers covering the legs (tarsi) and the middle toe only. About the only slippered breeds are the English and Pigmy Pouters. (cf. **muff & grouse legged**)

Squab - a young pigeon still in the nest. Usage reserved by fanciers for one that is to be used for food at the table.

Squeaker - a young pigeon still in the nest.

Standard - A written outline accepted by club members that defines the physical characteristics of the breed of pigeon under discussion. Normally, a standard is written in such a way that no bird presently alive will achieve perfection. A standard is, therefore, actually the outline of a theoretically "perfect" pigeon that each breeder strives to achieve in his own loft.

Tumbler - a bird that somersaults in flight. There are various methods of tumbling depending on breed. Normally, the term is used for those birds that do only a few somersaults, while the term rolling is reserved for birds that do continuous somersaults that blur into a ball-like look. Some tumbler breeds bred for mainly for show purposes have lost the ability to somersault. (Cf. **roller**)

Wattle - See beak cere.

Yearling - A bird in its second year of life. This is defined as January 1st of the next year. Thus, if a bird is hatched and banded with its year of birth band on Dec. 7, it will still be considered as a yearling for purposes of racing or show come January 1 of the next year. Some breeds do not use the yearling terminology and consider all birds simply Old Birds from the second year on.

Young Bird - a bird in the year of its birth.



Above: Entrance to show hall at Leipzig, Germany. Over 33,000 pigeons in this show. Also 30,000 poultry, 25,000 rabbits, 2,000 canaries and various other small animals.



Above: Two Hessian Pouters were rated superior at Leipzig, Germany. Hessian Pouters are extremely popular in Europe although rare in the U.S. and Australia. These large globed Pouters have trouble standing long quarantines without getting sour crop so they are hard to import.



Above: Emblem for Nurnburg show. This show had 25,000 pigeons in it. Thousands of Pouters which are very popular in Germany



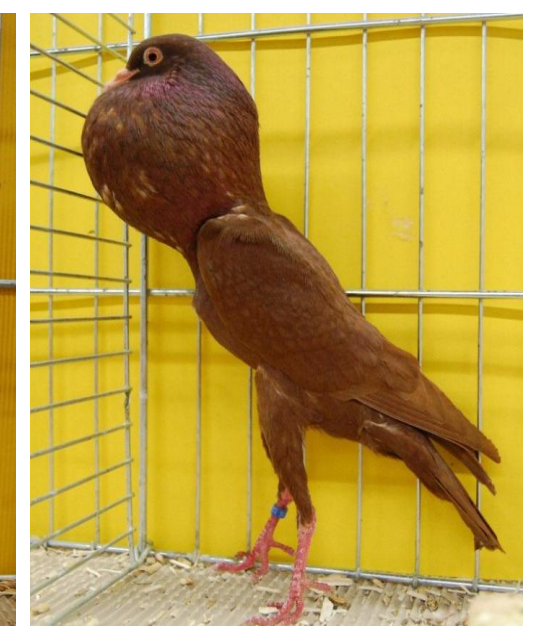
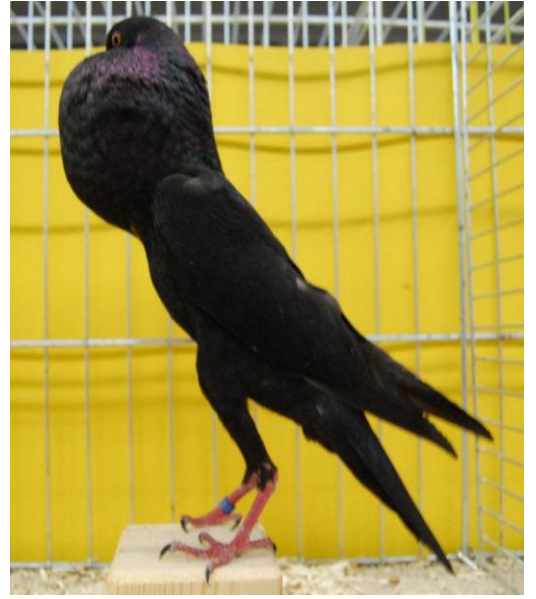
Giant paper mache Pouters at Nurnburg - Germany show. Left to right Roger Miller, Sieglinde Tate, Bob Nolan and Allan Makin.



Above: Outstanding black Norwich cock rated 97 at Nurnburg. Note excellent rose wing markings on this bird. Pose could be better.



"97" Rated Birds from Champions Row in Nürnberg



A Successful Club Day of the Dutch Damascene Club

**Text: Ben Kocken
Photos: Wybe van der Hoek**

On August 25 the members of the Dutch Damascene Club came to Elim in Drenthe, to hold their annual club meeting. This day is traditionally hold at one of the members; each year someone spontaneously volunteers to organize this day. This happens always in a very friendly atmosphere, and also the ladies coming along are well catered for. This time we had been invited in the beautiful countryside of Drenthe at Piet and Margreet Langenkamp's, where we had a warm welcome and no effort was spared to make it an enjoyable day.



Around 11 o'clock, when the ladies had left to go to the town to shop and visit the weekly market, the chairman opened the meeting and the topics were dealt with quickly. We held a minute's silence in memory of Meindert Hauber, who was one of the Founder Members of our Club and from the start has done a lot of work for us for guidance of the breed and the draft of the standard. He was a faithful visitor to our club days until in recent years his health did not allow this anymore. Furthermore, we discussed the upcoming 20th anniversary of the club, and the forthcoming European Damascene show in 2013 in Frankenau, Germany, where some club members will participate.

Above: A vigorous Damascene, photo © 2012 Damascener Club Nederland.

Another topic was the renewed Standard. Several members were not pleased with the new standard drawing. However, this cannot be changed due to the new rules of the Entente Europeenne, and the new drawings by artist Frindell. Still many members opted for maintaining the former drawing of the Ideal 'Dutch' Damascene together with the new drawing. Furthermore, there turned out to be a mistake in the newly published Standard. At the 'Faults' the remark "Too dark feather shafts" has not been deleted and also several earlier comments have not been taken into account. This has been a thorn in the eye of the members for many years. Often a pigeon was wrongly disqualified in this section, as one obviously could not distinguish a difference in what is too dark, or just a visible (dark) feather shaft. The dark feather shaft is important for proper pigmentation of wing bars and eye ceres. Because of this indistinctness, frequently - mostly female - birds were disqualified for the prizes, or worse, for breeding. And furthermore, this "fault" is not mentioned in the German standard.



The ruby eye was again mentioned in the standard; this breed typical characteristic was sorely missed by the breeders during the last years. We only rarely see a true ruby red eye, still to award a 93 points or higher predicate, a fiery dark red eye is required.

Also the Chequer Pattern was explained. This should be regular, with a 5:3 ratio of Chequer pattern to ground colour (ice colour). Preferably, a 3-angular Chequer pattern is desired. It should be taken into account that this is as yet something we aim for.



Judge Willem de Wal (photo above and to the left) and Judge Menno Apperlo (photo below) discussing the young animals.

The award ceremony was a milestone. Finally, after 7 continuous years, Ben Kocken was toppled from his throne. William Datema was the new Club Champion with a beautiful old hen.

There were more noticeable shifts on the battlefield. Finally new names appeared at the awards ceremony, including – a comeback - Jerry Hoekman and our new member Jisk Bouma. This indicates a good improvement and distribution of our beloved breed.



These improvements were also evident in the young animals discussion. This year the discussion was led by Willem de Wal and Menno Apperlo, under the watchful and vigilant eye of the members. Few comments on the width of the breast and head shape, although some birds were not yet fully matured.

Right: A chequered Damascene by Jerry Hoekman.

A few remarks on the eyes, the double eye cere and the dark pigmented eye ceres' colour.

The Chequers are still the "under dog" compared to the barred ones, although we see yearly progress. Difficult points are intensive and full Chequer pattern. Some pigeons should have had a more intense marking up to the wing bow, and if the right Chequer marking was reached, a reddish tinge in the chest was playing tricks. Pairing with a good barred pigeon with rich, intense colour, long bars, preferably with even a beginning of a third band, seems



to me the only remedy to achieve the required result. Winner of the young bird discussion was Ben Kocken, with a pigeon par excellence. My only personal little wish was that the eye ceres of this pigeon could be slightly more pronounced a double ring.

Then the BBQ grill was lit, and in the company of the ladies and in a friendly atmosphere we all enjoyed our favorite grilled foods.

Left: To his great pleasure, Chairman Willem Datema, winner of the 2011 Club Show, was presented with the original Damascene Club Logo T-shirt.



**Except for a single shower it has been a sunny day.
Family Langenkamp thanks for the hospitality!**



**For more information: Damascener Club Nederland (DCN).
Secretary: Ben Kocken, e-mail: ben.kocken@planet.nl
website: <http://www.damascener.nl>**