

**Summer 2013**

**HORSEMAN THIEF POUTER ISSUE**

## What is your Goal or Dream Vacation?

By: Bill Albers

For some it may be to visit the Taj Mahal or walk the Great Wall in China. To others it may be to simply relax and soak up the sun be it on a cruise ship or Hawaiian beach.

On occasion I have wondered what do pigeon fanciers really desire when they have or have not experienced any of the above? What is a fancier's goal? There are those who breed a number of varieties and are very successful at the exhibitions. Also those who strictly maintain only one variety and are satisfied with the results. Myself I attempt to restrict the number of breeds to no more than four. Mainly due to lack of space. Where would it end should I have an acre or more available for my birds. However keeping my numbers down and still having the four breeds, it retains the opportunity to exhibit a variety of birds. This provides a larger display at the smaller Country Fairs. For the larger more competitive exhibits I attempt to show some quality birds of one variety or more. Also my involvement in club activities must be limited to two or three. Normally I appreciate and take on a challenge, then usually set a goal. For many years I have enjoyed the Pouters and Croppers. Only the past few years have mainly concentrated my efforts on them. Since the last Pouter-Cropper Combine was unable to exist for a long period of time, a resurrection became my goal. This initiative was requested of me by several Pouter-Cropper breeders. During my long term previous management career, the annual setting of objectives or goals became a financial incentive. In addition some job satisfaction. There is no financial incentive in the restart of the Pouter-Cropper Combine only the promotion of the fancy and job satisfaction. The other benefit of course is not only for me but all of our Pouter-Cropper Combine members and the fancy as a whole. In the long run there may be some advantages to individual members by providing some advertising opportunities. As I stated before, I cannot do this alone. Please set some goals, write some articles or short bits of information. Send them to Fred Koops. Don't let our second effort fail! The C.P.F.A. Has requested our Pouter-Cropper Combine to exhibit a good display at the February 2014 C.P.F.A. Classic in Sarnia Ontario. Offers have already been made to assist in promoting our combine. We need more, be it suggestions, prizes or financial help. The Sarnia Exhibition premises are excellent, meals and accommodations are available, more on this at a later date. The C.P.F.A. Is also planning a "special" issue on Pouters and Croppers in the January 2014 issue-News on the Wing. An excellent avenue for our Combine or the individual to promote the breed. For this special issue we requested some advertising, be it with or without a picture. In addition, the C.P.F.A. Is also requesting an article for this special issue. Put your pen or computer to work. My request to all members- Set a goal! Write an article, snap some pictures for our Pouter-Cropper Combine bulletin and the C.P.F.A. News on the Wing special issue next January 2014. This may not be your dream vacation but make it "your goal". Send ads and articles for News on the Wing to Clint Robertson. Send articles and pictures for the Pouter-Cropper Combine bulletin to Fred Koops. For the 2014 Classic our Pouter-Cropper Combine is fortunate to have John Heppner from California as Judge. John is a knowledgeable respected pigeon judge.

Opinions required- In order to ensure a more sustainable prize structure and Combine survival what are the opinions of our members? Please drop me a note as the following ideas have surfaced and were recommended by some members.

1. Annual membership be raised commencing in 2014.
2. Entry fees be raised for Woodstock 2013 to \$3.00 per bird.
3. Entry fees for Classic 2014 raised to \$3.50 per bird.
4. Each member exhibiting at the 2014 Classic donate one pair of birds for auction. Birds to be healthy, show standard and the funds raised to be donated to the Combine.
5. Combine members donate a financial "gift" to Combine Classic to assist with funding for Judge Heppner.

All of the above are suggestions only. They come from various members. Lets hear from you. If the above fundraisers are successful we would be able to carry out some real incentives for others to enjoy our Combine and exhibit with us. Certainly enlarging the Blower Club activity. The Combine needs a Show Chairperson or organizer. Any volunteers?

**Cropper- Question:**

Bird has completed moult but still has very poor quality feathering, no shine or lustre compared to others. Needs better plumage, thicker and stronger.

Suggest: For fast results, give the bird one brewers yeast tablet and one cod liver oil tablet each day for 10 days. Then every other day for 5 days. Dropping this medicine into the birds mouth, not in water or feed. These medicines are available at your local pharmacy.

Sometime ago a member asked me what my mission would be in restarting the Pouter-Cropper Combine. After giving this some thought the following is my opinion. Lets hear from you, the member. Canadian National Pouter-Cropper Combine Mission Statement

The C.N.P.C.C.- promotes friendships, camaraderie and the belief its on a basis of you get what you put into it. The Combine promotes an unselfish attitude in order to assist the fellow and new fanciers and for them to derive greater benefits and pleasure by belonging to the Combine.

The Combine promotes good health, welfare and ethical treatment of our birds both at home and at a show or exhibition. The Pigeon fancy needs a special "Blower" club or Combine and must encourage members to make it successful. All Combine members must act and display in a professional, ethical manner.

**What Breed of Pouter or Cropper do you raise?**

I have had several requests from individuals for specific Pouters or Croppers offered for sale. I have the following proposal to have Fred and John Koops list the various breeds by number on our membership directory. Please forward to John and Fred the variety you breed. For Example:

- |                     |                        |                             |
|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Bavarian Pouter  | 8. Holle Cropper       | 15. Silesian Pouter         |
| 2. Brunner Pouter   | 9. Marchenero Pouter   | 16. Swing Pouter            |
| 3. Czech Ice Pouter | 10. Norwich Cropper    | 17. Spanish Pouter          |
| 4. Dutch Cropper    | 11. Pigmy Pouter       | 18. Stellar Pouter          |
| 5. Gaditano Pouter  | 12. Pomeranian Pouter  | 19. Steiger Pouter          |
| 6. Hanna Pouter     | 13. Reversewing Pouter | 20. Voorburg Shield Cropper |
| 7. Horseman Pouter  | 14. Saxon Pouter       |                             |

If you wish to add more, write to Fred or John Koops, our bulletin Editors

**New loft For sale**

**A brand new 6 by 12 loft  
with windows and doors.**

**Ready To load**

**Cost: \$400**

**Contact: Paul (519) 446-2456**

## Canadian National Pouter-Cropper Combine

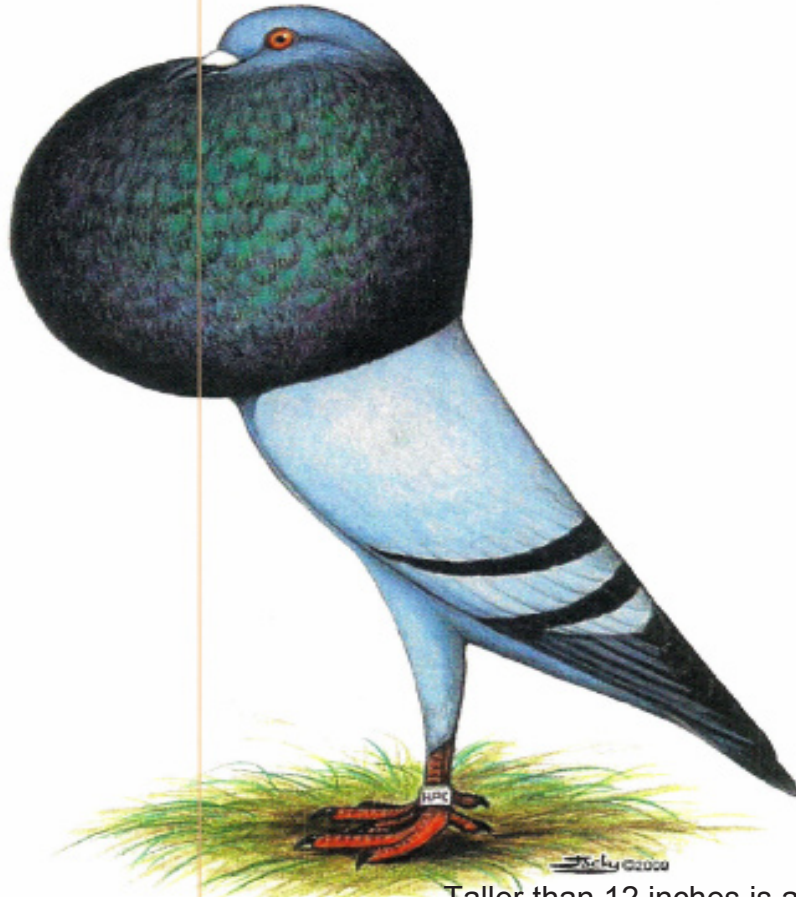
Date		Expenses	Income	Total
2012	Opening Balance			0
	Membership Fees		\$240.00	
	Entries and Sale Cages		327.50	
	Donations		84.69	
	Refund Woodstock Show-overpayment on entries		55.00	707.19
2012	Cheque #357 to Woodstock Show	325.00		
	cash	2.50		
	Postage and Trophies	92.00		
	Advertisement in Feather Fancier	20.00		440.00
December 2012	Balance			266.79
January 2013	Opening Balance			266.79
	Membership Fees		170.00	
	Donations		25.00	
	Membership Fees 2014		10.00	205.00
May 2013	Canada Post and Staples Cheque# 66 to Fred Koops	54.01		471.79
	Cheque #63 - advertisement in the Feather Fancier	33.90		87.91
May 31, 2013	Balance			383.88

**Canadian National Pouter-Cropper Combine**  
**Specialty Breeders Show**  
**Nov. 22-23 2013**  
**Entry Fee Under Ten Birds will be \$3.50/Bird**  
**Entering 10 or more It will be \$3.00/Bird**

# Pigeon Remedies

This may of interest to a few ..... Some of the readers are aware that I actively participate in the racing sport. When shipping birds to a race, often 3500 birds are entered and the watering system (trough) will tend to service 4-500 birds each. Thus, often a recipe for disease. A few months ago, my race team came down with Circo Virus. Those that are not aware of this disease, it can be very deadly, primarily hitting young birds. It is similar to AIDS in humans, it completely shuts down the immune system, making the birds in danger to any infection that is normally kept in check. The disease being a virus, has no cure yet when the disease runs it's course, the birds are not carriers, unlike salmonella. Those that have problems with Circo, treat for secondary infections, coccidia, typhoid, etc. Of course, the medications place further strains on the birds. Generally, one tries to replace fluids as much as possible and one treatment is give the birds Pedialyte or even Gatorade. Incidentally, all birds are vaccinated for PMV and typhoid at 4 weeks, again at 10 weeks. I lost about 8 young racing homers, 3 Modenas and nearly 40 Voorburgs. The disease took a toll on the Voorburgs, they apparently were just more susceptible. I lost almost all the yg birds, save those that have been recently weaned. Treated for the secondary problems, cleaned daily, changed the PH of the water, added vitamins and probiotics regularly. Yet, daily, one or two more birds would come down with the disease (confirmed by the Cal State Lab and Dr. Zollars in Indiana) The samples sent were negative for salmonella, PMV, Adeno, cocci, & e.coli. In a conversation with a friend from Norway, he reported that a woman in Sweden has recommended treating bird viruses with carrot juice! She is not a pigeon fancier and I think I was told she may be a gypsy from one of the Eastern Countries. (Hungary?) Apparently, she raises other types of domestic birds or fowl. Of course my reply was, "Really, you know that doesn't make sense, one can't treat a virus!" His reply was, "Don't kill the messenger, I'm just repeating what some of the Europeans are doing for Circo, PMV and Adeno." OK, but after losing nearly 50 birds, one often gets desperate and will try something that goes against conventional wisdom. One yg bird loft had continual problems, the other lofts had either old birds or much older youngsters and were not infected. The birds that became infected were generally between 8 -12 weeks of age. Additionally, I kept 4 youngsters that normally would be dispatched that were desperately sick. Circo places a huge demand on the kidneys, a great amount of urea is produced and the birds rapidly became dehydrated and emaciated. Within 3-4 days, they are so "down" they are incapable of walking. Within 12 hours they die. So, I took the advice, made a 50/50 blend of carrot juice and water. Held the very sick birds to the drinker and gave the same blend to two lofts. This was on a Sunday, in fact July 5. I repeated holding the birds to drink about three or four times that day. The next morning before work I noticed what I thought was a slight improvement but fully expected the birds to be dead upon my return from work. Later, the birds appeared brighter, they no longer closed their eyes and while they could not walk yet, they were definitely improved over the day before. Also, no sick birds in either of the two treated lofts. On Tuesday, I was surprised to see the very sick birds try to eat and definitely the treated lofts showed an improvement. Only held the birds twice to drink since I went to work that day .. Tuesday evening, the sick birds were standing and tried to eat on their own. Wednesday morning, were eating and the responded well to offerings of safflower. I continued with the carrot juice until Friday and one week later, a visitor would not be able to tell which birds were sick. Of course, their weight is still down, but all are recovering nicely and next weekend they will be removed from isolation and join the community loft again. They were eager to take a bath last Sunday and fly readily to perches in the isolation cage. So A couple of ideas here The disease actually ran it's course and was in the final stages anyway or, my constant good care allowed survival of the fittest. Or????? does the beta carotene that is high in carrots acts as some blocking agent to a virus? Do carrots, high in sugar content and carbohydrates contribute to a recovery process? Is there something else? ..... ironically, I spoke to a racing homer fancier who's wife is a Chinese physician that specializes in Eastern remedies and life styles. I told him of the above and he rather smiled and said, "Of course, carrots have been used for years for viruses as well as other vegetable products". He indicated that this is a treatment for PMV and Adeno as well and apparently used readily in Europe and the Far East. So, I cannot comment more on the subject, makes little sense to me... but, if the birds even faintly look sick, carrot juice will be in the mix. just sharing some findings, don't kill the messenger.

# HORSEMAN THIEF POUTER



**ORIGIN:** The history of the Horseman Thief Pouter can be traced back with some degree of certainty to the 17th century, possibly earlier. At one time a 'working thief pigeon' in and around areas of London. For the past 100 + years their stronghold has been based in and around Glasgow, Scotland. They are now considered to be a Scottish breed by fanciers around the world. They were first imported into North America in 2004.

**OVERALL IMPRESSION:** An alert and lively breed, responsive to human chat as well as to other birds in the loft or judgingpens. One could call a good working Horseman 'pushy' for the way they keep cooing, bowing and working at other birds or people.

## **DESCRIPTION:**

**HEIGHT:** From the high spot of the skull to ball of foot the ideal is 10 inches. The actual height range will vary from 9 inches to 11 inches.

Taller than 12 inches is a serious fault even if the bird is proportionate in over all size. Shorter than nine inches is a serious fault.

**LENGTH/STATION:** Not to be more than 12 to 13 inches long from the tip of beak to the end of tail. The Horseman can be broken down into three parts. First part being the head to the waist, which is at the top of the wing butts/ shoulder where the globe hits the body. Second part being from the waist down to the vent area where the back of the thighs join the lower body. Lastly from this vent area to the tip of the tail. In a well balanced bird the first part will be slightly more than either parts two or three, which should be roughly the same length. When stationing the eyes should be roughly perpendicular to the end of the toe nails. Eyes over any part of the toes or foot mean they are too erect.

## HORSEMAN THIEF POUTER

**HEAD:** Oval and neat with a slight forehead rising from the wattle in a flowing line.

**EYES & CERES:** Eyes to be bright and vibrant with a noticeable shine. All varieties to have the same red/orange colored eyes with the exception of pure white birds (absolutely no color including on the beak) can have either orange or bull eyes. Brown pattern birds have a 'false pearl' eye and shall not be cut points based on their eye color alone. The eye ceres shall be small, smooth and fine in texture.

**BEAK & WATTLE:** Medium wattle size, to be smooth and without coarseness. Medium beak length with color to match feather color (Black, Horn, Fleshly).

**NECK, CROP & GLOBE:** Length of neck/crop/globe starting at the top of the shoulders to be in proportion with the birds over all size. The crop/globe shall be well sprung from the waist and be well balanced with the rest of the bird. There should be enough back globe for an over all round crop/globe. The crop/globe must be under complete control at all times, neither too small nor too large, with the beak resting on the crop/globe. Birds close to the ideal height will often times have a less distinct break at the waist. While this is a fault it is minor in comparison to a bird that is considerably taller even with a good break at the waist.

**BODY:** Body to be wedge shaped, smooth and hard in the hand, but not overly large or wide. Back to be but not round (AKA roach backed) to avoid side boarding with the cover feathers over the back. Keel to be straight and flow smoothly from the waist to the hip/leg joint, without extending much past the edge of the wings on a side view, carrying through in a smooth flowing line to the vent area. See side view for proper look. Brunner Pouter size and shape and type are a serious fault for being too small and thin. Norwich Cropper body size and type is a serious fault. The Horseman must be handled by the judge in order to feel the shape and condition of the body and keel.

**WINGS:** Held tight to the body with the flights resting on the tail and ending 1/2 to 1/4 inch from the end of the tail. See side view drawing for better understanding. Flight tips should not cross over each other.

**TAIL:** Flows smoothly from the body and is held tightly together roughly one and a half feathers wide.

**FEATHER:** Hard and tight feathering, in good flying condition. Hock, thigh and vent feathering can be slightly looser than the body feathering.

**LEGS:** Strong, straight and free of feathers below the hocks; set wide on the body. See front view for better understanding. Thighs are visible with no noticeable hinge at the body junction.

Length must be balanced with the over all bird. Legs that are too long or too short for the birds size are faults.

**COLORS:** All known colors (normal and rare) are recognized, including Self White. Any white markings, flights or pied markings are a fault.

**NATURE:** Alert and lively while performing constantly in the judging pen. They must be responsive to the judge, as well as to other birds when being judged.

**FAULTS:**

**MINOR:** Too tall in height; Too upright (perpendicular); Stained beak; Very small wattle; Small crop/globe that does not balance with the birds size; Body too thin (Brunner body); Large or flat head; Very narrow leg set; No waist (break of globe at waist); Worn feathers (sign of 'working' and to be a slight deduction and not a serious fault); Colored or stained beak or a few scattered colored feathers on Orange Eyed Whites.

**MAJOR:** Too low slung in station; Too long in length; Too short in height; Long length of beak; Very coarse wattle; Out of control globe; Over blowing or too large of a globe (should not be Tumbler, Roll, Flyer Cropper globe size); Too short of neck/crop/globe; Pear shaped globe; No back globe; Too thick in body; Prominent or deep keel; Roached or severe 'V' shaped backed; Long or crossed flights; Drooping wings and flights; Side boarding; Wild, nervous or not performing; Length of leg too long or short for proper proportion/balance; Norwich Cropper size or type; Too erect in station; Feathered feet; Pigmy legs (AKA cow hocked); Hinged legs at the body (obvious signs of hip joint); White or pied markings or flights; Dirty, broken or missing feathers (other than feathers worn from 'working' as a thief Pouter should); Body mites or feather lice.

**DISQUALIFICATIONS:** Any sign of sickness; Obvious sign of crossbreeding; Crooked toes; Colored or stained beak on Bull Eyed (Recessive) White (colored beak means they are some pied combination and not recessive white).

**POINTS:**

**Height/Length 10**

**Head/Eye 5**

**Beak/Wattle . . . . . 5**

**Neck/Crop/ Globe 20**

**Body 10**

**Wings/Tail . . . . . 10**

**Feathers 5**

**Legs 5**

**Color 20**

**Nature 10**

**TOTAL .... 100**

**BAND SIZE: 8'**

<b>Bill Albers</b> 1739 Daleview Crs., Cambridge, On. N3H 4R4, 519-653-3739	2013
<b>Paul Aucoin</b> 179 Catharine Ave., Brantford, On. N3T 1Z1, 519-753-3322, lorimugsy@bell.net	2013
<b>Angelo Biffi</b> 5989 Wellington Rd., RR# 5 Rockwood, On., 519-843-6721	2012
<b>Andrew Bremer</b> 26 Matilda St. S. Dundas, On. L9H 3C3	2012
<b>Roger Boomhower</b> 54 Lemoine St., Belleville, On., K8P 4G9, 613-968-2306	2012
<b>Robert Burn</b> 17 North Park St., Belleville, On K8P 2Y1, 613-962-2641, robertburn@sympatico.ca	2012
<b>Steve Dainard</b> 25 Robertson Lane, Belleville, On., K8P 4C2. 613-966-4194	2012
<b>Laslo Fedor</b> 21 Corley Ave., Toronto, On, M4E 1T8, 416-694-3939	2012
<b>Afzal Kasuji</b> 71 Donlands Ave., Toronto, On., M4J 3N7, 416-778-5953	2013
<b>Fred Koops</b> 17 Edith Ave., Hamilton, On., L8T 4H3, 905-383-2108 pigeonkoops@hotmail.com	2013
<b>John Koops</b> 17 Edith Ave., Hamilton, On. L8T 4H3, 905-383-2108 john.koops@gmail.com	2013
<b>Victor McDonald</b> 131 Graham St., Apt.#1, Waterloo, On., N2J 1A2, 519-579-9608	2012
<b>Roy McNish</b> 909 Abbey Dawn Rd., Kingston, On. K7L 4V1, barbroymcnish@msn.com	2013
<b>Jim Merideth</b> 264 McGregor Side Rd., Sarnia, On., N7T 7H5, 519-344-7204	2013
<b>Bob Pommer</b> RR#1 Nottawa, On., L0M 1P0, 705-445-7383. fanmanbob@xplornet.ca	2013
<b>Charlie Power</b> RR #2, Box 608, 1600 Snyders Rd., Petersburg, On., N0B 2H0, 519-634-8788. charlespower36@hotmail.com	2013

<b>Justin Robertson</b> Box 306, NW 21-20-10 W, Amaranth, MB., R0H 0B0, 204-843-2986. clint@jacobins.ca, justrob456@hotmail.com	2013
<b>Drago Saric</b> 2 Lakeside Dr., Stoneycreek, On., L8E 5C1, 905-541-1265. dsaric@remaxdelmar.com	2012
<b>Zvonko Simunovic</b> 47 Mohawk Dr., Guelph, On., N1E 1H9, 519-836-9056	2012
<b>Jerry Sindelaar</b> 12 Pine Dr., Guelph, On., N1E 3Y4, 519-766-1572, jsindela@uoguelph.ca	2012
<b>Stan &amp; Pat Stavekis</b> PO Box 97, Clayton, NY, USA., 13624 315-686-2694. spsbird@twcny.rr.com	2013
<b>Henry Streicher</b> 6 Arthur Rd., Heidelberg, On., N0B 1Y0, 519-699-4299	2012
<b>Tyler Swaving</b> 6876 -5 <sup>th</sup> Line, Fergus, RR #1, Bellwood, On., N0B 1J0, 519-843-2059	2013
<b>Casey Vandermeer</b> 194 – 51559 RR #225, Sherwood Park, Ab., T8C 1H5, 780-499-7737. cvanderm@xplornet.com	2012
<b>Mike Vervoort</b> tristar@xplornet.com	2012
<b>Mike Vito</b> 5024 Winston Churchill Blvd., Terra Cotta, On., L0P 1N0, 416-735-3272. mvito@live.ca	2013
<b>Jeff Waite</b> RR #2, Trenton, On., K8V 5P5, 613-392-0191	2012
<b>Glyn Yugas</b> 1939 -17 <sup>th</sup> St. SE, Medicine Hat, AB., T1A 8H4. www.Glynyugas.com, gyugas@memlane.com	2013
<b>** 2013 Memberships are now due**</b> <b>Please remit \$10.00 to Bill Albers</b> <b>1739 Daleview Crs., Cambridge, On.</b> <b>N3H 4R4,</b>	