

Australian Flying Tippler Union

WE ASPIRE TO INSPIRE

Autumn Issue

Home of The World's First Cyber Tippler Clubhouse on MSN

April 2010

AUSTRALIAN FLYING TIPLER UNION

Importers, Breeders and
Flyers of Quality English
Flying Tipplers.



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Danny McCarthy
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John Cox
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days of Tippling -
New York style
- Melbourne Young Bird
Pageant Show
pictures and story in
accompanying
Newsletter

For all Membership enquiries

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TIPPLERING AT MINUS 45 DEGREES

INTRODUCING CNTU MEMBER

DANNY KINNEAR



TIPPLERS NEW YORK STYLE

THE WAY IT WAS

BY

STAN OGOZALEK



The Australian Flying Tippler Union were invited by the Victorian Show Pigeon Federation to conduct our first Tippler show at the Melbourne Showground.
See the full story in our June issue.

AUSTRALIAN FLYING TIPPLER UNION

OFFICE BEARERS



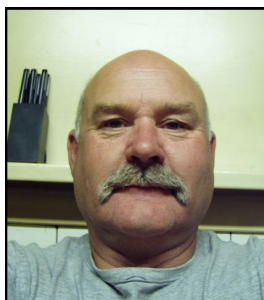
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DANNY MCCARTHY



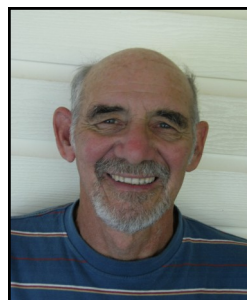
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President's Report 2009

2009 has been a very busy, but successful year for the AFTU. I am delighted to report that as a Tippler club we have jelled as a unit, with each of us taking time out of our busy lives to plan, prepare and put our goals into place, thereby successfully achieving what we set out to accomplish. A great deal of hard work and effort has been undertaken by all concerned, and we can now see the club moving forward - and in the right direction. It is lovely to see everyone putting their shoulders to the wheel to help the club achieve its goals.

The fact that the AFTU is an Australia-wide Club with members in nearly every State, in itself, presents many challenges that must be met by the Office Bearers, and I am proud to report that these tasks have been conducted in a truly professional manner - at all times. AFTU meetings have always been a real challenge for us, but our Secretary, John Cox has done a brilliant job in coordinating the hook-ups and getting the Agenda to the members (via the net) in a timely fashion. There are a few of our members who do not have a PC yet and cannot participate during the meeting, but in time I am sure we will overcome this problem. I must also take this opportunity to thank Fred for all his help with the Aussietippler web site, which is beautiful and extremely professional. It is a wonderful tool that he has given to the AFTU, providing a window to the world of tipplers, a conduit for learning about our sport and for making friends with folk from around the world. I would like to encourage all our members to please make good use of this site, as it is your site, and it is only by continuous use of this site that we can make it grow bigger and better. I would also like to thank our Editor, Mick Hoskins for the wonderful job he has done (and continues to do) with the AFTU newsletters and Fly Schedules. Let us applaud his immense generosity for providing the "Harry Shannon Old Bird Shield", all the additional Show trophies and the wonderful AFTU banner displayed at the Southern Combined Classic, held at the Melbourne Show Grounds on Sunday, 21 June 2009. It was through the joint efforts and hard work of Mick, John and Rupert that made our first-ever exhibition at a major Pigeon Show, such a resounding success. Thank you guys.

As indicated above, the exposure that the AFTU received from "being there", was priceless. A great deal of interest was shown by the public, who appeared to be duly impressed by what was on display at our stall. Even if I say so myself, our stall was "first class" and the displays and handouts were very good indeed. We had "The Harry Shannon Old Bird Shield", "The Davey Warrener Young Bird Cup" and a number of other trophies for the competitors exhibiting their birds, which were judged by Mr. Robert Verbeek, Secretary of the NTAA. Thank you Robert for a job well done. We were also graced with the presence of Jon Winchester, President of the NTAA, and on a personal note, though I have 'met' him through the internet, I was pleased to finally meet him, in person. All in all, the AFTU boys had a great time with Robert and Jon at the show, and took the opportunity to indulge in lengthy discussions about tipplers.

I just could not end without congratulating the winners on the day (and their birds).

1st Prize: for the best Old Hen won by Bonny with his Dunn hen:

1st Prize: for the best Old Cock won by John Cox,

1st Prize for the best Young Hen won by Rupert,

1st Prize for the best Young Cock also won by Rupert

Well-done guys all the best of luck for the next show.

By the way members, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that our Club year (as the financial year) starts on the 1st of July each year, and all club dues should be paid by the end of the first week of July. Those of you who have not yet renewed your membership, please send your dues by cheque or money order to John Cox, or by direct deposit into the AFTU bank account. Please contact John Cox (03 57722957) who will guide you on how to direct deposit your dues. The AFTU has to budget like most other clubs and businesses and relies heavily on club fees to conduct the day-to-day running of the club. Things like Newsletters, Trophies, Postage etc need to be paid for by the AFTU: these do not come for free. Without money coming in, the AFTU will be hard-pressed to survive. I would also like to remind members that the AFTU rings/bands are for our tipplers ONLY, and should not be used for any other breeds of pigeon, even those that happen to be owned by AFTU members.

The AFTU has a very well prepared Fly Calendar, which you should be receiving with our next Newsletter. Could we please adhere to the fly dates shown on the calendar, as we are trying to keep a record of all our members' fly-times, be it an Official Fly or an Honour system fly. It does not matter what times are achieved with our birds - we all have to start somewhere and it is the participation that counts. Please ensure that you forward your "fly times" to the Fly Boss (John Cox) via the internet/fax/or by 'phone so that he can coordinate and accurately record all Club Fly times and pass this information on to Mick to publish in the next edition of our Newsletter. Following this method of reporting will give the AFTU and its members, a pretty good idea of how our birds are progressing.

In closing, I would like to remind all our members that we are a Tippler Club first and last, and the main reason for forming our club was to fly our birds in competition : this is what the club is all about, so please train and fly your birds and let's all have some fun with our sport. It is only by participating and competing, that we can advance our skills in the sport.

Finally, please always remember the AFTU Motto "We Aspire to Inspire"

That, my friends, in a nutshell says it all. Keep Happy and Keep Flying.

Cheers,

Danny McCarthy

President, AFTU

Secretary / Treasurers Report

Hello all AFTU members,

This is a brief news letter to fill you in with what has been going on and what we have planned down the track. The 2010 rings have been ordered, we are trying a new type of ring this year, they are plastic coated Aluminium with printed information under the plastic coating and are supposed to be easy to read for a long period.

I have ordered 1000 this year in "A" size so hopefully we will have enough for all this year.

So place your orders with the ring secretary Aidan McIlhatton, same costs as last year,,

We are also having an AFTU family day on Sunday 6/6/2010 Barbeque lunch at Karkarook Park cnr Warrigul road and Fairchild street in Moorabbin. (Melway page 78 ref. D 8)

Danny and Pat are coming over from Perth, Mick and Liz, Hai and family down from Sydney, Aidan is planning on attending from Brissy. Hopefully Chris as well,

No pigeons just family and Kids. Hope to see as many as possible there. Danny and Rupert will be cooking so it will be worth the effort :-))

But for the Pigeon nuts, Saturday we do have an the option of visiting a few lofts or the young bird show in Geelong, to be decided soon. The girls are going shopping so if you want a free day pigeoneering just hand over the credit card to the missus,,:-))

As you will know, about half of our members competed in the International Fly,,, a good effort was put in by all, I think all enjoyed the day.

The Pere's saw to it that most of us were DQ'd but Hai's team put an excellent effort in and cracked a new Australian record for an Official fly of 9 hours and 16 minutes I'm sure you all will join me in a big Congratulations to Hai...well done Hai I'm sure your next try will be even longer...

Club members have put in a lot of good flies over this summer. Ruperts birds put in 6 hours in training showing off to a prospective new member, needless to say Darryl has joined the club. Welcome Darryl Sinclair.

Bonny's birds had a good 5 hour training fly just 2 days before the comp, apparently they did everything right and were on target. But the Pere's thought differently on competition day :-(And Hai's birds also had an 8 hour fly showing off their ability for some of the Sydney boys.

We now have a few more interested to fly up there, things are on the move club wise...so look out, there is going to be a lot of competition before you know it.

I also organised personal rings for a lot of members to try this year, phone no's etc, so if you missed out and are interested get in touch with me and I'll give you the details for next year.

For those wondering, the club Due's are payable late June / July. Please remember, the club year runs with the financial year 1/7/ to 30/6. So we will give everyone a reminder with your ring delivery.

There are a few AFTU club jackets left so if you don't have one yet check with Rupert to see what sizes are left and you can also deal direct with Rupert.

We have 18 members and there is a lot of interest out there at the moment, so the more flying we do the more interest it generates in our club. There are a lot of flyers of other breeds that are showing interest in Flying Tiplers once they see them in the air.

We have been approached as to whether we want to put on a display at the National this year in Melbourne. We would need to be there 3—4 days running, so it would take a lot of man hours to set up and maintain for the duration of the Show. What are your thoughts on this, we need to decide quickly, please give me some feedback.

On another note have we started to plan out our breeding season ? Plan our matings to breed birds for the long term ?

Rupert had another fly on Monday 26/ 4/ 10. His birds flew well for 6 hours then along came the Pere's and spoiled the day, they picked one bird out and chased it down and out of sight so he dropped the other 2 and the 3rd returned after a couple of hours with a few feathers missing.

That is about all I have for you now, hope to catch up with all at the Family day 6/ 6/ 2010

John Cox AFTU Sec.



Editor's Report

- The tale of the two Danny's—Flying Tiplers— from minus 40 to plus 40
- Stan Ogozalek's recollections of Flying Tiplers New York Style

In this issue we are privileged to have Newsletter articles from Danny Kinnear and Stan Ogozalek, two of the most respected Tipplermen men in the world today.

We have heard many times on our Tippler forums of the various discussions of the difficulty of flying Tiplers in Forty degree Plus heat, both here in Australia and on the Continent. So with this in mind we can say there is a real irony in the contrast of the flying conditions of the Tippler world's two Danny's.

Danny McCarthy of Australia and the focus of one of our feature stories, **Danny Kinnear** of Canada.

With the aid of the various Tippler forums now available, most of us in Australia will have heard of the climate both AFTU members Danny and Karim Cooper fly their Tiplers in. Their Tiplers fly in what some would call very, very oppressive conditions of forty degree PLUS heat, something most of us here in Aus experience at least some time of the summer period but not as regularly.

But, on the other end of the temperature scale let's spare a thought for our very good **CNTU** friend **Danny Kinnear** and the part of the world he lives and flies his Tiplers, in which would have to be some of most inhospitable Tippler flying conditions on the planet.

Danny and his Tiplers live in a country where the temperature plummets to MINUS forty degrees ! Conditions most of us here in Australia can never ever contemplate unless our continent is plunged suddenly into an ice age. It really is a tribute to Danny Boy that at an age most of us would be looking for a warm climate to scurry off and retire to and be warm in our twilight years, he has no intention of moving.

All I can say is, you are one hell of a Tipplerman for the tenacity you show in the conditions you choose to fly your Tiplers and for this we have the highest respect for you.

Well done Danny Boy and thank you for the privilege of presenting this article for our members to enjoy.

Our next guest in this issue is none other than Tippler historian **Stan Ogozalek** who hails from **New Jersey**. Anyone who has been in the Tippler game for any length of time will be quite familiar with Stan and the huge part he has played in the development of the Flying Tippler sport in the USA.

Stan is one of the mild mannered gentlemen of our sport, who always speaks his mind from a lifetime of experience with Tiplers.

One of the legacies Stan has presented to the Tippler world is a series of photos of his visit to the UK, home of the Flying Tippler during which time the UK had some of the best ever Tippler men on their flying rosters.

On this visit during the summer of 1970 he photographed some of the legends of the sport during their heyday periods.

In this article Stan gives us newbies a most valuable insight into the history of Flying Tippers in the USA.

The AFTU would like to Thank Stan for his contribution which will be an everlasting tribute to the way it was in New York Tippler scene.

We hope that you enjoy both of these articles as much as we enjoy in presenting them to you.

To all Members and Friends of the AFTU Please accept my sincere apologies for the huge delay in producing this latest AFTU Newsletter, as you are all quite aware, it has taken quite some time to get it to print, due to family commitments, so "Thank You " for your patience, I hope you enjoy the articles.

We have a few "Special" issues coming up, so hang in there I am sure you will enjoy them as well.



Dear Gentlemen,

My name is Dan Kinnear. I was born sixty years ago in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Toronto was and still is the hot bed of tippler flying in Canada. My dad had tipplers and that is how I got started in the tippler sport. Back in the 1960's there were a lot of tippler flyers.

A man by the name of Wilf Leclere got me into the competition part of the sport. Timing back then was different than it is today. I was 12 years old when I started timing for Wilf. Being Wilf's timer did not mean I personally timed Wilf's own birds. I was driven to Wilf's competitor's loft by 8:00 a.m. and timed the competitor's birds for Wilf. The competitor drove his own time to time Wilf's birds.

Each others timers had to be driven to the respective lofts no later than 8:00 a.m. Normal release was 6:00 a.m. by the race competitors. After the race the timer would be driven home by the competitor. Timers were not required to be there upon release except for "Long Day record race" where the timer must be there upon release. These were the rules of the CNTA. I learned quite a bit from the experience.

I was away from the tippler sport due to joining the Armed Forces in Winnipeg, Manitoba. When I returned to Ontario, I started flying with the FTA (Flying Tippler Association). I obtained birds from my Dad who had birds from Donny Wilson and Harry Hunt. They had strains of Peewee, Pas, and Waterfall and some Lincoln. I won my very first old bird race and trophy with a time of 9hrs. 31 minutes.

In 1977 I met a young enthusiast by the name of Oskar Zovic. We hit it off right away. We were two guys that were crazy over tipplers. We would talk about them forever. We both belonged to the Flying Tippler Association of America. Later we joined the CNTA club. We had quite a few issues with the way the club was run. It was run by the President of the club and none of the members had a say as to how the club was run.



In 1984 Oskar, Kemo Basic and myself formed a new tippler club. We called it the Ontario Tippler Union. It later was changed to the Canadian National Tippler Union (CNTU). We flew under the International rules, the same rules as the NTU in England.

My official best times were 15hrs.47mins. in old birds and 15hrs.14 mins. in young bird races.

In 1988 I went into homers for a few years. I had some moderate success with them. In 1995 I had a minor heart attack. From then I did little flying. In 1998 Oskar got me interested in the tipplers again.

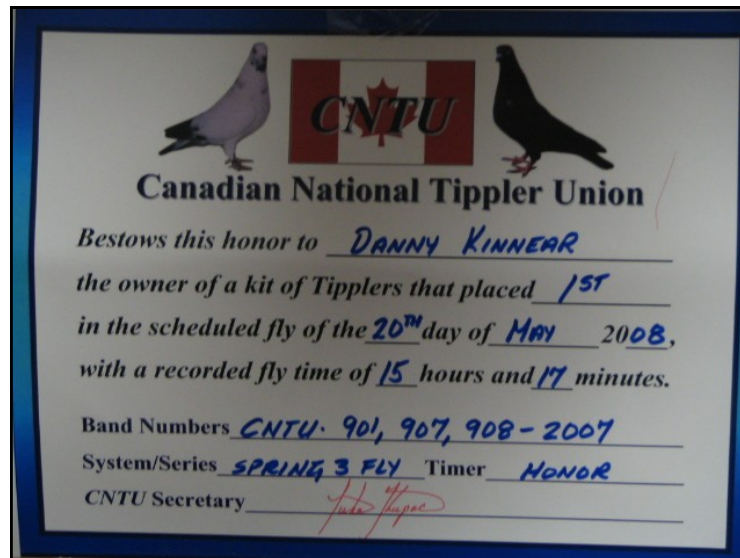
I timed Oskar that year and I was able to obtain eggs from the flyers I timed. I was on my way back from there. In 2001, I had a kit of five youngsters that I knew would have no trouble breaking the North American young bird record.

You could feed these birds crap and they would fly. Long Day came and I had them ready to go. Unfortunately I had a hawk attack right off the bat. One bird flew threw a big tree with the hawk after him. Unable to determine whether he might have touched a branch or not I disqualified myself. The birds reunited and flew the day with no problem.



After 15hrs.30mins I decided to throw for the birds. It was around 104 to 110 degrees Fahrenheit and very high humidity that day. When birds came down they were not very thirsty. I had them well hydrated. That was thanks to my buddy Oskar.

He taught me how to hydrate the birds. My birds of today consist mainly from Oskar's family and a few from Nino whose birds come down from Oskar. Oskar has developed his family of tipplers over a 25 year period. They consist of Sheffield (Davies) and Bartholomew.



I moved to Winnipeg, Manitoba in 2003. I had to fight the neighbours and City Hall in 2005 to have my pigeon permit approved. It is quite different flying here than in Toronto. Due to the abundance of snow and extreme cold winter weather as cold as -45 with the wind chill, I do not train or fly the birds until beginning of April. The cold would freeze their lungs as well as mine. The snow covered buildings and ground all look alike and would be hard for them to distinguish their home. There is no benefit to try and fly in these conditions. I heat the coop to -2 so I can clean the loft and so I don't freeze my valuable birds. If I start breeding in late February the heat gets turned up so the drinking water, eggs or youngsters won't freeze.

The pigeon hawk arrives in mid march. There aren't any birds of any kind to eat here except mine. Our temperature as of March 26 is -25 C and -31C with the wind chill with a fresh snow storm 2 days ago. We got 25cms of snow this past 2 days. To show you the fluctuations in temperature we have here I flew a kit of young birds in July 2007. At release time (5 a.m.) the temperature was +4 C. By the time I dropped the birds at 5:15 p.m. it was +42 C. This +42C is extremely rare temperatures for Manitoba. Our summers usually are around +27C to +30C. In the few years that I have been able to fly the birds here in Winnipeg my best time was 15hrs 17mins.

That was last summer. I am just starting to get my birds into the consistency I am looking for. I hope that you all find some interest in this letter.

Dan Kinnear (Danny-Boy)

March 26, 2009



The Way It Was

by Stan Ogozalek

In the 1930's, Flying Tiplers were very rare in the New York Metro area. However, there was one Flying Tippler fancier who did rather well, he was Fred Ehrbach of Maspeth, Queens, New York. His team of Tiplers flew a grand time of 17 hours and 18 minutes on May 23, 1937, a record time that held until Michael Beat of Downey, California flew a kit for 18 hours plus many years later. It is unknown where Fred Ehrbach's stock came from or what family they were but they had the 'fly' in them and that was enough. I tend to believe that his Tippler stock came from Canada.

Now, there were very few fanciers in the NY Metro area that knew about quality Flying Tiplers or the long flying times that were possible with them. Who knew about the training and feeding of Flying Tiplers? And what were 'droppers'? Kit boxes? Feed-Ups? Very few, indeed, knew about the training, etc. There was little, if any, information about Flying Tiplers to be had.....

New York City is made up of the five boroughs, they are Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island. But when we say the New York Metro area we must include Long Island and cities in New Jersey such as Jersey City, Bayonne, Hoboken, Union City, West New York as well, with a few others that border or surround NYC.

The fanciers in those days flew 'mobs' or what we called 'stocks' of pigeons such as Domestic Flights, Vienna tumblers, Rollers, Budapests, Stettiner tumblers and 'Bell-Necked' tumblers plus other types. There was what was referred to as 'Mixed Stocks' which were made up of different breeds of flying pigeons, some fanciers preferred to have it this way. And they flew them in numbers from the tenement rooftops or the backyards of the cities. There were many 'coops' back then and on almost any day one could see the stocks whirling in the sky high above the tenement rooftops, often mingling with one another, etc. These 'coops' were nothing more than wooden crates that the fanciers found or "acquired" from the many factories nearby..... there were enough local jobs back then. And the 'coops' had to be fortified because of the fear of theft and that happened all too often. There was nothing more disheartening than after climbing the three or four flights of staircases and then the metal ladder that led to the rooftop....lifting the cover to access the roof and then seeing the coop door wide open and the entire stock gone. It happened just like that back then. Now, these crates or 'coops' varied in size and housed more numbers than they should have in comfort. It would be about two decades before there were enough Tiplers to be seen and bought from the cages in the pigeon exchanges/stores and for long time flying to take hold.

In the late 1940's and early 1950's, Flying Tiplers were rare though there were a few fanciers that did have them. One such fancier was the late Lou Wolfe of Merrick, Long Island. Somehow, he was able to make contact and correspond with the well known Flying Tippler legend by the name of Sam Billingham of the UK. After much correspondence between the two, Sam Billingham sent some high quality Flying Tippler stock to Lou Wolfe. Lou recorded some good flying

times from the Billingham strain of Tiplers and I believe that those flying times were done in contests held by the Flying Tippler Association that began in 1936. Lou, years later, became the secretary for the American Tippler Union and its monthly meetings were held in his basement for many years. His sizeable lot was the location for the American Tippler Union Lawn Shows that were enjoyed by many fanciers who came from all around and as far away as Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. I remember them well, what a time it was!

When Doug Prud'Homme of Canada flew a record breaking time of 15 hours and 58 minutes with a kit of young Tiplers in 1955, a fancier from Jersey City, Mickey Conticchio, tried to import some of that stock but was unsuccessful for whatever reason. And then there was a fancier who owned a hardware store on the Hudson Boulevard in Jersey City that flew a stock of what was then known as 'Canadians'. They were Flying Tiplers that more than likely came from the Toronto area in Canada. Well, this fancier was known as 'Barnickel Bill' and his 'Canadians' were known to fly many hours and often into the dark and returning the following morning. I often heard fanciers talking about 'Barnickel Bill' and his stock of 'Canadians' while hanging out in one of the pigeon stores in Hoboken. Because they were said to be very good high flyers as well as long time flyers, fanciers sought them. But it was known that he didn't sell many Tiplers and one could only hope to catch some of his lost youngsters. Years passed and the hardware store closed, no one knows what happened to his 'Canadians'.....

In the 1950's and into the 1960's, Baltimore, Maryland was the place to be if you were a Flying Tippler fancier. They had their local Flying Tippler club with fanciers such as Bill Hoffman, Charles Dvorak, Joseph Skirvan, Bill Logue and others. The competition was keen and the flying times quite good. Now, the question is where did their Flying Tiplers come from? My late friend from Toronto, Harry Hunt once told me during one of my many visits to 55 Astoria Avenue that the Canadian fanciers sold many Tiplers to the 'Americans' who would drive there. The Tiplers were sold for five dollars each.....a lot of money for any working man, whether American or Canadian, back then. So, it is my belief that the Tiplers in Baltimore came from the many lofts in and near Toronto. An old book to read, if you can find one nowadays, is 'The Time-Flying Tippler Pigeon Sport' written by John T. Curley and it tells all about the sport in Baltimore. There are photos of the lofts and Tiplers published in it.

In the mid 1960's, Mickey Conticchio, a Flying Tippler fancier living in Jersey City, drove to Baltimore to meet with the son of a Tippler fancier by the name of Bob Marshall who had recently passed. Mickey was able to obtain enough pairs for himself and another fancier, Charles De Fazio. These Tiplers were mostly prints and grizzles with some mottles and other colors. Some of the prints and grizzles can still be seen in the book 'The Encyclopedia of Pigeons'. Mickey and his friend, Charlie DeFazio kept and flew these Marshall strain Flying Tiplers for years with Mickey flying kits and Charlie flying a large mob or stock. Charlie loved his 'Light Prints' and enjoyed the weekends at the loft site watching them climb high into the blue sky and continuing for hours. Mickey would come by the loft site at 'Tooley's Truck Stop' on the 'back highway... Rte. 440' as it was called and find Charlie asleep and sitting on a 'milk crate' inside the loft. Mickey also flew a stock of Tiplers but his interest in kit flying grew in the following years. Now, Charlie raised many Tiplers from the ten pairs of breeders and as a result those that he did not like, for whatever reason, were taken to the pigeon stores in Hoboken. Those 'Marshall' strain of Flying Tiplers made their way into many 'coops' in the area.

A little bit about the pigeon stores in Hoboken and elsewhere.....

'Frank's' pigeon store was on the corner of Newark and Grand streets. Atop the one story building was Frank's Racing Homer loft and just fifty feet away on adjoining rooftop was a large loft that flew a mixed stock of pigeons. On any Saturday and in the rear of the store there was a card game going on.....etc. The cages inside the store were about five feet high by about four feet wide...three of them on the bottom with two or three right above them. Well, on the bottom, there was a fifty cent cage and then the dollar cage and another. But the above cages usually had Racing Homers inside with the prices being out of range for us kids.

And then, there was 'Neal's'just down the block from 'Frank's' on Grand street, Neal and his wife, Rita, managed the store. The cages inside were much larger though there was some smaller ones attached to the other wall. Another store, this one located in West New York, NJ, was located in the garage beneath the house on 51 street and was owned by Ernie Bublitz who was known as 'The Postman'. Years later, 'Bill's' Pet Store on Newark Avenue in Hoboken was a good place to hang out, many hours were spent there, etc.

One Saturday, Mickey and Charlie happened to be at 'Neal's' pigeon store and laying on the countertop was an issue of the American Pigeon Journal magazine. Inside the issue, Mickey's attention was drawn to an advertisement of the 'Flying Tippler Association', he joined the club shortly afterwards. As a result, he was able to contact other fanciers, one who was Teddy Pierog of Cleveland, Ohio. Teddy was packing it in with Flying Tipplers and would be starting with Racing Homers. Now, Teddy had imported Flying Tipplers from a top fancier in Birmingham/UK, Jack Boden. Mickey says that there were about a dozen or so Tipplers that he bought from Teddy and in that bunch was a kit of three Tipplers that flew a winning time of 19 hours plus. This was a very good start for Mickey and he raised enough and flew them well, but they flew rather low for his liking.....

Being an FTA member, he was able to meet other fanciers in the New York area, mostly on Long Island. After many phone calls, a meeting was agreed upon with the location being at a Pigeon Exchange in Copiague, Long Island. Shortly after that, the 'New York Flying Tippler Club' was formed. That Club lasted five years with the membership growing and coming from parts in New Jersey and Connecticut. A new name was needed and agreed upon by all, the 'American Tippler Union' came into existence in 1967. Lou Wolfe of Merrick, Long Island, made the offer of having the monthly meetings held in his basement and that practice continued and ended in the 1980's.

In 1965, Perc Hagan of Traveler's Rest, South Carolina imported three pairs of the Wilf Lovatt strain of Flying Tipplers. Many of the ATU members later bought these Tipplers even though the price was FIFTY Dollars per pair, that was a lot of money back then. But then, the price was well worth it because the Tipplers proved to be very good. The guys mispronounced the name 'Lovatt' and would say 'Low-vatt' until we heard that the correct way of saying it was....'Love-it'. (Hey Bob! (the late Bob Kennedy of Deer Park, Long Island) How about them ...'Low-vatts'.. of yours?? Yeah, well, they went over on me again! Released them just before leaving for work in the morning but couldn't get them down!)

Bob held the old bird record in the ATU for many years until it was beaten by Bob Lewin of Manhattan, who flew Lovatts as well. Two weeks later, Bob Kennedy's kit of Lovatts became the record holders again with a time of 15.04. Years later, John Mead of North Middletown, NJ flew a kit of the 'Davies' type of Flying Tiplers from the loft of Oskar Zovic and beat Bob's time. I believe that John's record still holds.

In 1967, Vic Jendzo of Huntington, Long Island, imported four Tiplers from the loft of another well known English fancier from Derby, UK by the name of Gordon Hughes. For some unknown reason, the four Tiplers were three cocks and one hen. So, all of the breeding was done using that one hen, the Hughes Tiplers were all blues though in their background was the color grizzle. Why the Gordon Hughes Tiplers didn't catch on with the fanciers I cannot say, possibly the single blue color was the answer. Vic did some good flying times with his new imports and so a few fanciers bought them at the going rate of Forty Dollars per pair. One fancier was the late Walter 'Pop' Buraczewski who was to become good friends with Vic. Walter's son, Ed, still raises and flies the Hughes type Tiplers.

A teenage member of the ATU and an adult fancier drove to Toronto in the late 1960's and brought back the Frank Cochrane strain of Tiplers. This teenager, Mike Seiler, was coached by none other than Fred Ehrbach who had become a member of the ATU, after being absent from the sport for many years. The 'kid' did well for being coached by Fred.... maybe too well for a kid..... his kits beat many of the old timers. One can only imagine what happened at the ATU meetings afterwards, the result being members quitting and bad feelings that lasted for years.

Young Mike eventually left the club and started with some fancy short faced Tumblers and continues with them to this day.

Lastly, another strain of Flying Tiplers were imported by a fancier from Connecticut by the name of Anthony Bernat. These were the 'Macclesfield' Tiplers from the loft of a Welsh fancier, Tom Beechinor. Some ten pairs were brought in, nice type Tiplers, medium to small in size with colors such as prints, grizzles and I believe mottles. Fanciers from southern New Jersey and Philadelphia bought and flew these 'Maccs' and were pleased with them.

To be continued.....

USING FOSTER PARENTS

John Cox

Here are a few tips on fostering eggs for those of us who may have older birds, young inexperienced breeders or just want to increase the numbers of a favourite pair of Tipplers.

Choose a breed of similar size or slightly larger than your Tipplers, you also want a gentle bird that is a generous feeder and bear in mind that birds vary in the length of time that they produce milk, some will feed milk up to nine days, others only for four days.

It is safer to use related pairs as Foster parents because these traits run in families and if the Cock and Hen are on the same page everything runs a lot smoother.

Don't forget Medicate and top them up with Vitamins and Minerals, remember, they are raising your next champions.

Pair your Stock pair and Feeders up on the same day, hopefully they will lay together. Take the eggs from the stock pair and put them under the pair that has laid on the closest day to the stock pair. This step is necessary so the feeders will have the necessary milk to feed your new squeakers.

Throw the feeder's eggs away and synchronise the remaining two pair of feeders with the stock pair, most pairs will lay in ten to twelve days time, if you want to rest your stock hen and not have her lay too often, you can let her sit the eggs until the ninth day, then transfer them.

If you leave her sit the eggs, then after the tenth day the hen starts the process of getting ready to produce Pigeon Milk, this stresses both the Hen and the Cock if they go through this process but don't get to feed the milk to the Squeakers.

Another method is to leave the eggs under the Stock birds and transfer after the parents have fed them for the first nine to ten days, this is the slowest method. If you transfer the eggs straight away, theoretically you can get a pair of Squeakers every ten to twelve days, a nice kit of Siblings and very close in age.

Another point to remember is the housing, your feeders need plenty of room to stay healthy or they won't raise your champions with any vigour or health. Your squeakers are only going to be as good as the feeders that feed them, so if you don't give your Fosters the best of living conditions it defeats the purpose of fostering.

I keep my feeders in a mixed pen and they are an assortment of Liquorice all sorts.

There is no need of pedigree pens for your feeders, for the Stock birds only, this is necessary so you are sure of the parentage of your birds. It is easier to keep twelve pair in a loft than twelve pedigree pens if you are limited for loft space.

IMPORTING PIGEONS INTO AUSTRALIA

Mick Hoskins.

The task of importing Pigeons into Australia can be quite a high risk venture, there are no guarantees or certainty. So here is a very short overview of our experiences of an import shipment of Tipplers, without going into too many of the myriad of details we had to endure.

Due to unforeseen circumstances it may and has taken years for some Fanciers to receive that long awaited shipment. The dream to introduce that new gene pool into a club and to promote a fanciers favourite breed sometimes takes a battering.

What may have been a conservative budget allowance can increase quite considerably when Mother Nature becomes involved and the outcome can be far from favourable for some Fanciers.

From that very first day in 1997 when the import opportunity was offered, our goal was to import and provide a Tippler gene pool, second to none in the world. An opportunity to our allow our members and future members access to these little gems well into this century.

This foresight by the AFTU has enabled a second Tippler club, the NTAA, to come into existence, this kind act has allowed the new club to have bragging rights to some of these quality bloodlines.

We know the appreciation of our birds are there, as their members quite often sing the praises of these top quality bloodlines, provided to them by the AFTU at no cost, but that is what our club has endeavoured to do from day one, “ promote the Flying Tippler sport.”

In the following pages we have provided a quick look at just some of the conditions an import pigeon must endure, starting with a twelve week quarantine period in the UK and a minimum six weeks in Australian quarantine in an artificial atmosphere without direct sunlight.

Specially bred Sentinel chickens, bred in a completely sterile environment, are posted around the perimeter of the Quarantine building. Their death, will give indication of any airborne pathogens that may infect the inhabitants of the building, so it can be said, these Sentinels play a very valuable part in importing Pigeons or Poultry.

Recently there was a delay in a Pigeon import shipment because of a virus that wiped out the suppliers stock of these Sentinel Chickens. As some would be aware, our club was involved in a shipment that took just on two years to complete with the end result being approximately 3-4 dead very valuable Tipplers. The delay was caused because of the “ whole of country “ closure of avian exports out of the UK due to the very serious Avian viruses found in a number of sources ranging from dead swans and the boots of itinerant farm workers imported from Turkey and other countries.

Provided in this article is a list of the tests required by AQUIS before our imports are allowed entry into the country. It is quite extensive and even though it is very frustrating at times, they are necessary to ensure the safety of our unique Wild Bird population.





Con and Rupert in waiting room



Still waiting



Sentinel Chickens



Spotswood quarantine room



Spotswood quarantine room



Climate control



In the background is the entry door to the quarantine room. Climate controls on side walls.

APPROVED TESTING PROTOCOLS

(A) Tests for the importation of Pigeons into Australia

PATHOGEN	APPROVED TESTS	AUTHORITY FOR TEST METHOD
Influenza virus type A	ELISA AGID Egg inoculation	AAHL OIE, SCAHLS OIE, SCAHLS
Newcastle disease virus	HIT Egg inoculation	AAHL, OIE, SCAHLS OIE, SCAHLS
Paramyxovirus type 1 (pigeon)	HIT	OIE
Paramyxovirus type 2 and 3	HIT	OIE
<i>Salmonella</i> Pullorum, S Gallinarum, S En-	RSAT STAT	AARL, OIE SCAHLS
Arizona spp, S Pullorum, S Gallinarum, S Enteritidis, S. Hadar, other salmonella sero-types	Microbiological	AAHL
Equine Viral Encephalomyelitis	PRNT, HIT	OIE
Infectious Bursal disease	AGID, VN	OIE
Ornithobacterium rhinotracheale	Microbiological*	
West Nile virus	ELISA, PRNT	

AGID	agar gel immunodiffusion test
ELISA	enzyme-linked immunosorbent
HIT	haemagglutination inhibition test
PRNT	plaque reduction neutralisation test
RSAT	rapid slide agglutination test
STAT	serum tube agglutination test
OIE	Office International Des Epizooties
AAHL	Australian Animal Health Laboratory
SCAHLs	Subcommittee on Animal Health Laboratory Standards, Australia

* Microbiological testing for the presence of *Ornithobacterium rhinotracheale* is to be by the inoculation of specimens of exudate from the trachea, lung and airsac onto common non-selective blood or chocolate agar, and incubation for at least 48 hours under microaerobic conditions.

(B) Procedures for preparation of clarified faecal suspension.

Faecal samples are to be collected from all cages and mixed to a 40% suspension with buffered saline solution, followed by centrifugation at no more than 2000g.

MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW DUE

Membership year is July 1st to June 30th

AFTU CONTACT DETAILS

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