American Racing Pigeon Union

Pigeon Tracks

Ruger Weeks—2019 AU National Youth Race Winner

Four years old and a powerhouse of energy devoted to his pigeons, Ruger Weeks received his race prizes from Michael Gantner and Ed Minvielle (representing Benzing) at the 2019 AU National Convention in Ogden, Utah!

AU19RMR19019, BCC, was the winning pigeon and Ruger was the owner/breeder.

Ruger has been in love with the pigeons since he was born. He spends a lot of time in the loft and always goes with his dad to training, races and various events, such as county fair shows. Dad, Bo, has had the birds 15 years. Both Ruger and Bo are animal lovers. Ruger knows all his birds, but he also enjoys the family dogs, chickens, cows, cats and grandpa's race horses.

He is still quite proud of the race achievement and we know that the Rocky Mountain Racing Pigeon Club is too!

Congratulations Ruger!

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Find us on:

Instagram

Contact information:
American Racing Pigeon Union
PO Box 18465
Oklahoma City, OK 73154
1-800-755-2778, toll free
1-405-848-5801, telephone
1-405-848-5888, fax
www.pigeon.org

2019 AU Junior Membership Contest Winner

Genevieve Magli is the winner in the final AU Junior Membership Essay Contest.

At the time Genevieve won her prize, she was an eighth grade honor student.

Her interest in pigeons started when her family was given two white homing pigeons as pets. A loft of racing pigeons soon followed.

She is a busy lady. In addition to helping with the pigeons, Genevieve is active in school theater, plays the saxophone in the school band, and is on the chess team. She recently received recognition from the Duke University Talent Identification Program for her high scores on the ACT standardized test.

Smart girl! Smart move to enter the essay contest! Her prize is an electronic timing system from Ed Minvielle and Siegel's Pigeon Supply, as representatives of Benzing.

Genevieve likely has a brilliant future in front of her. Congratulations!

Five AU Youth Scholarships Awarded in 2019

Victoria Stephenson
Studying Anthropology & Art

Heather Richmond
Studying Civil Engineering

Adina Zidermanis
Studying Biology

Sebastian Padilla-Lopez
Studying Business Administration

Henry Charvat
Studying Biology

Don't miss out on YOUR scholarship! Apply, pages 8 and 9 of this newsletter!

To Fly Home You Have to Make a Home

By Cal Pasca

A fourth grade class in Durham, NC is embarking upon an amazing project and journey with homing pigeons.

Local fancier, Cal Pasca, North Carolina Friendly Flyers Combine race secretary and member of the RDU Club, loaned the class a pair of racing pigeons. The students plan to raise a few rounds of young birds to settle on the school grounds.

Phase one of the project will be learning about the life cycle of homing pigeons while caring for the breeding pair housed in a large parrot cage inside the classroom.

Phase two will be the students designing a small outdoor loft for the young birds. The students will loft-fly the young birds and will get a chance to take the birds to their home and release them to come back to the schoolyard loft. The class will predict the path the birds will take and is hoping to use GPS technology to map the route the birds actually take and compare the two on a giant map they create of their city.

The students are excited for all the math and science topics raising and flying the birds will present.

Aaron Sebens is an innovative teacher in North Carolina. Several articles have been published about his creative learning methods that give the students hands-on and real life experience.

2020 CONVENTION YOUTH RACE
Karen Clifton, AU Executive Director

We have just learned that the Capital City Racing Pigeon club has generously offered to continue the 22 year old tradition of hosting a race just for AU junior members and you are invited to participate!

There is no cash entry fee. All participants will receive a certificate acknowledging their participation. The top ten will receive plaques and the winner will receive the plaque and a trophy.

Wayne (J.J.) Jackson from Baltimore, Maryland is a member of the Capital City RPC and is eager to handle the youth race for AU junior members. The race will be from 150 miles and the birds will be flown to J.J.'s loft. J.J. will be hosting a free picnic lunch at the loft on race day (Wednesday, October 21, 2020).

Any current AU junior member may submit one bird for the race. Birds will be accepted from March 1 through June 1, 2020, and should be shipped to:

Mr. John Celia
801 Tanley Road
Silver Spring, MD 20904-2842
301-622-0413

****** BE SURE TO MARK SHIPPING CONTAINER "JUNIOR MEMBER RACE" ******

Meet Gabriel Clement, age 11. Gabriel is in 5th grade. At 3 years old, he would carry around Baldhead Rollers. But over the last several years, he's gotten more into the Racing Homers. He still has his Parlor Tumblers and Baldhead Rollers. This is Gabriel's 5th year showing pigeons at the County Fair and his 2nd year racing.

During breeding season, Gabriel enjoys handling all of the peeps and watching them feather out. He is already looking forward to summer and different places to train for the race team. We're glad to have Gabriel on board.

Terry Finnerty
AU Lakes Zone Director

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2020 AU Convention Youth Race Entry Form

Parent/Guardian Name: _____
Youth Name: _____
Loft Name: _____
Phone #: _____
Mailing Address: _____
_____
_____
Email: _____

Band #	Color	Handler

Ship Bird To:
John Celia
801 Tanley Rd.
Silver Spring, MD 20904-2842
(301) 622-0413

AU Youth Convention Race Rules

AU Youth Convention birds are free for children age 17 and under.
Youth participants must be AU Junior Members.
One bird per youth.
Race is scheduled to be released from 150 miles.
Youth Race will compete for non-monetary prize(s).
Birds will be flown to one loft.
Free picnic at race loft day of race.

Accepting Birds March 1st – June 1st (replacements by June 1st)

AU Convention Youth Race
Shipping Tuesday, October 20th
Race Wednesday, October 21st

www.capcityrpc.wordpress.com

4-H Flying Clovers

In 2017, Mike Netzky initiated 4-H involvement with racing homing pigeons in Michigan. Since then, the 4-H Flying Clovers RPC has been chartered and bylaws have been adopted. Netzky, and the group of kids and parents, not only have learned so much in the process, but they are learning important life skills for their adulthood. One focus has become humanitarian activities through the club.

It has been three years, and now they have more than 35 participants. Only kids hold club offices, but both parents and kids can vote. They have overcome the minor obstacle of juggling time for all the activities in which the kids are involved, to transition into activities of community service. The club has become a partnership, with the kids and parents, of learning and serving in the community.

The new members enjoy loaner lofts and free young birds for those who don't have the skills or finances. Other equipment such as feeders, waterers and basic starting supplies are available to new members as well. It is a membership of total involvement, emphasizing responsibility, education, sportsmanship, community service, and of course, FUN!

Local media has contributed much to the club's success in getting the club known. It is not unusual for the club to be featured on the paper's front page. Television, too, has covered club activities, gaining positive attention and new members.

Being 4-H affiliated, the club is a 501(3)C not-for-profit organization under Michigan State University sponsorship. Most of the funding comes from donations. They will supply their tax exempt number to anyone who would like to support their work. Donations help with a variety of club efforts: website, electronic clocks, GPS tracker rings, loaner lofts, paid publicity, medications, loft supplies, bird transportation, and more.

Our club won "Volunteer of the Year"

One of the goals they have for 2020 is to provide a loft, birds, and instruction to a local drug and alcohol center which houses 40 residents. They would also like to provide the same to the local Native American tribal youth. Along with that, they would like to grow their membership. Their challenges for the year are laid out before them. Outside assistance will be received gratefully. Perhaps you would like to get in touch with Mike to see how to help. You can reach Mike via:

Mike Netzky
10900 Botsford Ln.
Petoskey, MI 49770
847-714-2134
Mnetzky1@aol.com

A one of a kind hat!

4-H Flying Clovers photo gallery

KERELL LAKE

G. RANDALL GOSS/NEWS-REVIEW

FUTURE FLYER

ABOVE: A male homing pigeon sits on two eggs, one that is in the process of hatching, in the Pickeral Lake bird loft of Mike Nettzkey, Wednesday. Nettzkey has started a racing pigeon club in the

Front page of Petoskey News Review

Our president, Sam, with his award for his bird in the 2019 AU Youth Race in Utah. His sister, Veronica and his brother, Isaac are among the family's eight sibblings!!!!

First loaner loft at new member's home

Ben and Ellie with their three AU Youth Race awards

AMERICAN RACING PIGEON UNION
YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The AU Youth Scholarship Program has been established to further the good work of the National Ladies' Auxiliary.

AU members and their relatives are eligible to apply for a scholarship. Criteria is listed below:

- Must be 23 years old or younger
- Must have a minimum B average
- Must be an AU member or relative of an AU member
- Must submit a ***signed application, bio, proof of GPA & photo by no later than June 1***
- Bio will include educational & professional goals, work experience & community service involvement. Tell us how you work within the community (service programs, clubs, scouting, church, etc.) Be sure to include any certificates of acknowledgement or achievement and letters of recommendation. Supporting letters from educators are important.

Applications ***must be postmarked no later than June 1 each year***. Applications and bios will be reviewed by the AU Youth Scholarship Committee The top three essays (with the above information) will be selected. Each scholarship recipient will receive $2,000.00 to assist toward fulfilling their educational goals.

Award recipients will be notified. Upon receipt of proof of enrollment for the Fall semester, a check will be issued.

Scholarship winners will be announced each year at the annual AU Convention.

MAIL APPLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS TO:

ARPU
SCHOLARSHIP FUND
PO BOX 18465
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73154-0465

AMERICAN RACING PIGEON UNI
YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICAT

Complete ALL questions & return with bio & a current photograph postmarked no later than 6/1

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS:_____ CITY:_____

STATE: _____ ZIP:_____ EMAIL: _____

COLLEGE ATTENDING IN THE FALL: _____

COLLEGE LEVEL: FRESHMAN__ SOPH__ JUNIOR__ SENIOR__ GRADUATE__

FIELD OF STUDY: _____

HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE GPA (as of the completion of the last semester – provide proof)_____

HOBBIES/CLUBS/COMMUNITY PROJECTS_____
_____
_____

HONORS RECEIVED (not required - include copies of certificates, etc.):_____
_____
_____

DESCRIBE FINANCIAL NEED:_____
_____
_____

ARE YOU AN AU MEMBER OR RELATED TO AN AU MEMBER? INCLUDE AU ID NUMBER _____. IF RELATED TO AN AU MEMBER, EXPLAIN:_____
_____

SUBMIT THIS COMPLETED APPLICATION ALONG WITH A BRIEF BIO/ESSAY WHICH INCLUDES:

- EDUCATIONAL GOALS
- PROFESSIONAL GOALS
- WORK EXPERIENCE
- COMMUNITY SERVICE INVOLVEMENT – HOW DO YOU GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY?
- LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FOR ACHIEVEMENTS

MUST HAVE A MINIMUM B AVERAGE & BE 23 YEARS OLD OR YOUNGER

_____ _____
Applicant Signature Parent/Guardian Signature