American Racing Pigeon Union, Inc.
Minutes of the Annual Mid-Year Board Meeting
Denver, CO
July 11, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Hundrup at 8:00 a.m.

Members present: John Hundrup, Karen Clifton, Joyce Stierlin, Ronnie Shumaker, Robert McKenna, Terry Finnerty, Toni Wiaderski, Jeff Life, Gary Heindel, Deone Roberts.

Guest present: Doug Burnett, California

Following the flag salute and moment of silence in respect of those who passed, President Hundrup opened the floor for public comments. There were none.

Officer Reports

President’s Report – John Hundrup
Hundrup solicited a motion to accept the 2021 annual meeting minutes as posted. Motion was made to do so. Stierlin/Life. Passed, with Finnerty abstaining, no reason stated.

President Hundrup initiated his report with an update on Frank Meder. Mr. Meder will not be able to attend future meetings. Mr. Meder retains his position until the election is completed. John noted that Bud Williams has COVID and pneumonia and was not able to attend the mid-year meeting.

Hundrup went on to summarize that all projects that the board has completed have met with positive results, except for recent nastiness on social media. John said it appears there have been efforts made by some to divide the board.

Continuing his report, Hundrup shared that Shannon Demler is resigning. Demler is fed up with election arguments and petty calls. One of the candidates running for office retained an attorney who submitted a letter indicating possible litigation.

Ballots went out the end of May allowing more time than required by our by-laws for delivery. Also allowed for time to receive returns due to bad or changed addresses that members have not provided. Mailing ballots with the newsletter inclusion is much less expensive and has been done for more than 20 years with nobody complaining. John said even the current board members were voted in using the same method and they had no complaints. President Hundrup said that members will be advised once the election is finalized.

John said all else is moving along well. He thanked the board for the work they do. He noted that Ronnie has been busy assisting with and testing the new phone application and has been very active in his zone. Hundrup also indicated that Jeff has been busy within his zone and with national race rules.

President’s Agenda – John Hundrup
New and on-going items have been addressed:

1. Directors’ manuals have been made available in hard copy form and digital form.
2. It is ongoing that during the meeting there are no interruptions of the speaker that has the floor.
3. John asked officers and directors again for articles for quarterly publications and the yearbook. Only a few of the directors are submitting articles.
4. Reading materials prior to the meeting creates a faster and more efficient use of board time.
5. EWINSPEED® program adjustments are made as needed. Joyce, Craig and John continue to work together. Per the maintenance agreement, we will proceed as we have been. Historic combine race reports are wrong and need to be at the top of the wish list. Member clubs have shuffled back and forth and records are affected. The contract will be reviewed again in October 2022.
6. Distribution of newsletters will continue. The members still want to receive hard copies of the newsletter.
7. The AU Lobbyist continues to protect AU members’ right to race through continued lobbying efforts with regard to pending legislation: the Lacy Amendment and the Animal Welfare Act.

The list continued with items that had been completed in the past.

**Executive Vice President Update – Robert McKenna**
Robert McKenna said he went to California in May for an event. A member came up to him and said the board did nothing for him. McKenna found out there was an infraction filed. Apparently, the man was supplied a wrong phone number; it was 1 digit off. Bob determined that the flyer had also not spoken to Shannon. The complaint was regarding lack of watering pigeons on the trailer and birds being released 15 minutes apart. The member wants a decision before young birds, so Bob wanted to address it this board session if possible. It may have to be done electronically; however, Hundrup does not anticipate the necessary responses before the next meeting. After discussion by board members, it was determined that McKenna would handle it in the normal method and that an investigator should be assigned to work with all parties and provide recommendations at the next board meeting.

**Vice President Update – Joyce Stierlin**
Joyce indicated that most of her report will be included with the EWINSPEED® report later in the meeting.

**Committee Reports**

**Drug Test Committee – John Hundrup**
John said there have been very few issues for the last couple of years. He indicated he received a call regarding where testing is being done. Hundrup reminded the board that paperwork and information pertaining to testing and banned substances is on the AU website.

**National Youth/Youth Clocking – Ronnie Shumaker**
Shumaker said he believes the new system is ready to use. We have the product; we just need users. It is a countermark use system. Southwest Louisiana Combine donated 3 countermark machines and countermarks. The AU office has 2 machines.

Shumaker sees it as more useful for youth groups. Youth must remove countermark and log in and enter the countermark number. Ronnie added that prior to a race, someone has to set up countermark numbers in the National Database (NDB). He said that the bird and countermark are matched for race results to post. A special section is marked “Juniors” in the NDB. With log in privileges, an adult coordinator can set up everything. Ronnie said nobody is using it yet.
Ronnie added that he visits schools in his area and is willing to talk to and work with any youth group.

Hundrup asked Terry Finnerty how his program is going. Finnerty stated that Don Chapin is having issues with the DOO file. Joyce Stierlin mentioned that Don has not contacted her about that. Finnerty said he will ask Chapin to contact Stierlin directly to work it out. TOP believes AU needs to license. TOP was advised to use existing format so as not to compromise the AU database. TOP does not have the tenths place and there needs to be a way to make the data compatible. TOP had already agreed to use the existing format. Don was advised.

**Right to Race – Karen Clifton**

Karen said that Greg Smith (AU lobbyist) posted comments 3 different times to the Federal Register and continues to monitor pending legislation. We are still waiting on final outcome as to if we will be exempt from USDA regulation as a result of the Animal Welfare Act or if members will face inspections. Greg informed that though very loosely stated from USDA, it looks like racing pigeons will not be regulated. Any bird hobbyist groups that are not granted a variance may be subject to regulation and inspection.

Karen said that the Lacy Amendment (pertaining to shipping of animals) looked like it was for all animals, but now looks that their focus was on exotic animals. Greg also monitored that to protect AU members.

We had an AI (Avian Influenza) outbreak this spring. Movement of birds in general was banned in many states, which meant some clubs were not able to complete their old bird season. The AU office made it a point to stay in contact with as many state vets as possible to seek consideration for continued racing. Each indicated they had empathy but would not amend for one small group of hobbyists when they are trying to protect the multi-million dollar poultry industry in their states. At the time of this writing, there are no lingering restrictions.

**Constitution & By-Laws**

John Hundrup reported that Shannon had not brought anything up to him in the last few months other than the candidate controversy.

**Competition Standards – Jeff Life**

Jeff said there is nothing new to report.

**Leadership/Retention – Terry Finnerty/Jeff Life/Deone Roberts**

Finnerty reported that there was recent bad PR from rooftop racing from New York. He received 3 phone calls about it.

He was also contacted about doing videos by two different individuals/companies. They wanted to include the rooftop scenarios. Finnerty would like to pursue that to see if that would help us promote.

Finnerty would also like to utilize Jim Jenner’s idea of putting together pieces to create a new video, plus Jenner asked about doing a reality show. Finnerty thinks that would be perfect. He would like to see more updated information.

Finnerty will talk to Jenner about formats and costs.

Ronnie Shumaker added that he spoke with Jim Jenner about a cost of offering his entire library of videos to members for a fee. They also discussed RDTV. Jenner’s would be a subscription
approach to viewing. Jenner did mention he would like to retire, but he does have a couple people working for him that could create further videos. Because the AU does not have the manpower nor ability to run that type of service, Jenner has offered that up to the AU.

Shumaker explained Jenner offered the subscription for $4000 for 1 year and could be ready to implement in January, or whenever the membership renewal takes place. We could use the roster for yearly implementation. Shumaker asked Jenner about bootlegging issues or sharing and Jenner said he did not care.

Finnerty asked if then Jenner could be enticed to work on a reality show along with that. That would be a different angle on promotion.

President Hundrup said the subscription would serve a promotion effort. Jenner does not make money off this venture, but rather it pays the cost of hosting the videos. John said there is a great deal of information on the site that is useful to people and thought it was a generous offer from Jim.

Wiaderski interjected that new members don’t know how to race and they ask how to do it. He says we have information that tells you how to do it. But we need to show them how to do it.

Vice President, Joyce Stierlin, said it would be great to see information for beginners no matter how it is offered (YouTube, etc.) and that it would be helpful to see the analytical data for the service so we have better understanding of potential new group to target or to foster.

Ronnie Shumaker said Jim has already collected the material. It is already on the website. If we had a link on our website where people go on and immediately receive instruction, that would be helpful. He added when you go into Jim Jenner’s website, all the movies are listed.

Finnerty made a motion to do a 1-year trial to do video subscription through Jim Jenner’s website for a cost of $4000/year. Then we can determine if a reality show would be worthy.

Wiaderski said the choice is very good for kids. $4000 is alright to start and if you want to go for a 2\textsuperscript{nd} year, charge $5. He said he didn’t know how many members we have per year, but suggested if we pull from our budget, he thinks it is a good idea. Initially go to the first year and then the 2\textsuperscript{nd}.

Stierlin clarified that she was saying evaluate how many hits there are before we continue an annual contract.

Finnerty suggested that we would do 1 year evaluation and determine if we would do it a second year.

Roberts interjected that she kept hearing reference to videos that are a little more advanced and what she hears at the office is a need for absolutely novice, beginner information. The clubs are not necessarily instructing the beginner.

Shumaker stated that the videos on Jenner’s site do address the beginner.

Hundrup said Jenner has agreed to foot the cost to initiate and handle membership – they will deal with that.

Joyce Stierlin said she did not think we were accomplishing getting new members with this.
Shumaker clarified that he understood that statement; however, he wants something that will introduce pigeon racing. He thinks for the price, it is a good deal and how do we share it with others? Jenner did not have a concern about control. He would like the number of members we have and that is how he came up with his annual figure. Otherwise, all Shumaker has for beginners is on EWINSPEED®

Finnerty said that building a relationship with the fancier is the value. It is important that we develop a film.

Jeff Life asked if there were a way to have a general AU number for people who call in wanting information, to give them access. If we have a link on our website, anybody could get instruction.

Executive Vice President, Robert McKenna, said that with regard to retention, new members are getting started, then quit. He said he believes this will help beginners persist.

Ronnie asked that with what McKenna is describing, would that need to be done on Jim Jenner’s side of the videos?

Life asked does an AU member use their AU ID number to access the site?

Shumaker said we would have to create a separate library. How do we distinguish when we click whether it will link to this library or the other library.

Deone Roberts said there would need to be 2.

Shumaker said that may be accomplished with the 1st link.

Shumaker said we’re at a point where we just put in a numeric membership. Jenner is not concerned. He was just trying to get an idea of membership numbers. He agreed with what Wiaderski said about recouping some cost, but then we would recruit a few members. Jenner wants to back off. Ronnie said he appreciates attention to this and he reminded that a motion is on the floor.

John Hundrup restated that Finnerty made a motion to do a 1-year trial to do video subscription through Jim Jenner’s website for a cost of $4000/year.

Gary Heindel said he is confused. He said you have to jump through some hoops now to watch the videos.

Joyce Stierlin says she believes a link on the AU website provides the AU ID, allowing entry.

Heindel stated that we would be asking too much of members. Stierlin asked how he would see it.

Gary said you have the button, but you need the number. Stierlin says the button takes you to the NDB which links to AU ID and takes you to the site.

Shumaker said it could be as simple as a link on the front page for pigeon videos. Joyce agreed. Shumaker continued saying that the landing page is Jenner’s page and you see options from there. The reason he mentions Jenner is because Jenner is open to any videos being allowed to
upload. It’s not about Jim Jenner. It’s just a matter of having technical skill to share information.

Toni Wiaderski said he did a presentation and he had a story. He told the board there was some interest but a lady complained about his pigeons. He started explaining to her. He said that once she understood, he goes to the zone meeting and she explains about the pigeons. It was a revelation to them. He has a story about a young fellow, but said he does not want to take the time to share.

Hundrup reminded of the motion. Finnerty made a motion to do a 1-year trial to do video subscription through Jim Jenner’s website for a cost of $4000/year. Finnerty/Wiaderski. Approved.

Shumaker will contact Jenner to discuss.

**National Office & Director Updates**

**National Office - Karen Clifton**
Clifton said we have received a couple of updates from Greg Smith on the Lacey Amendment and A.W.A. The AWA is still pending final disposition and it doesn’t appear the Lacey Amendment will impact us.

Karen said that having the membership renewal process automated saved a tremendous amount of time. The few clubs that did not want to enter on line submitted rosters, which were updated manually by office staff. Some clubs did not want to use the automated system and secretary of one club refused and the office accommodated those clubs.

Karen indicated that the CPA reports income is up. Band sales are up, however, expenses naturally went up as well. Clifton said there was an increase in accounting expenses, contract labor, taxes, postage, maintenance and utilities, plus upcoming legal fees.

Membership charts were handed out and it was noted that membership is up 9%.

Clifton received 23 scholarship applications and 9 did not comply with the requirements. The winners selected are Sophia Allen, Braden Bolton, and Kara Putnam. Each scholarship recipient will receive $2000 and will be featured in the 2022 AU Yearbook.

Karen said nearly all awards have been sent and the website has been brought current so that the winners are featured.

Stierlin commented that the band verification list for 2023 is already up and ready.

Shumaker commented that he has been asked to sell IF ATB bands.

**Sport Development – Deone Roberts**
For any board members who were not aware of daily tasks Roberts handles, she provided a rundown. She spoke a list of events that will be published in the Update that members have done since the last Update newsletter. Roberts also outlined results from Internet ads. The results were good. What was utilized in a recent ad was a video contracted from a videography business in Missouri. We anticipate doing perhaps 2 more videos through the company, each with different focus of interest. The first one was geared to sharing youth information. The second and perhaps third will deal with the club camaraderie and competition.
Shumaker pointed out that a rural cooperative sends out a little magazine, which is a little costly - $1600 for ¼ page. Perhaps David Stephenson could do a photograph for that purpose. Perhaps clubs could place ads and utilize the photo and AU could do a matching funding for area ads. Ronnie added that for those that are not aware, David Stephenson (one of our members) teaches web and video creation and perhaps he has a student that would apprentice with this type of effort.

**Zone Director Reports**

**Northwest – Jeff Life**
Jeff stated it has been pretty quiet in his zone with no in-fighting.

Life said he attended Mt. St. Helens’ zone meeting, which is an annual event. The speaker was from California with a topic geared more to the one-loft racing. He said it was well attended and an enjoyable time.

Right now, Jeff said he is not seeing growth in his area and he feels the members in his zone need to push more for new members.

Finnerty suggested combining young bird and old bird seasons.

Stierlin commented that we need to come up with an analysis of participation number for each of the seasons (young bird and old bird).

**Pacific-Mountain – Frank Meder**
Joyce Stierlin spoke on behalf of Frank Meder. Joyce said the California State Racing Pigeon Organization will be having the state convention this year with the Bakersfield RPC hosting. It will be November 4, 2022.

Joyce offered explanation about a situation in Southern California where one truck picks up many clubs and released in the same place at the same time. They are slowly coming into compliance with rules on organizations.

**Southwest – Bud Williams**
Not present for the meeting.

**Plains – Gary Heindel**
Gary said the Midwest Race took place June 25.

He said Avian Flu shut down racing in Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, Iowa and Kansas.

Heindel said with the ban on racing, some members in Wisconsin shipped with some Minnesota clubs. Race results showed in Wisconsin, though Wisconsin shut down. Heindel wondered if we can get parameters set up so we know what to anticipate during an outbreak that could be published for all members to see? He asked about getting a variance so pigeon racing could continue even during an outbreak.

It was mentioned that every time there is an outbreak, there is potential for mutation of the virus. Jeff Life said he doubted that a state vet would give pigeon racing a green light during an outbreak (without research) with potential new mutations.
Clifton stated she talked with Dr. Kazmierczak and Dr. Miller about the potential of reinvigorating the Avian Assistance Council. She said both were interested and felt it might be a path forward to building better relationships with state veterinarians.

**Southeast – Ronnie Shumaker**
Shumaker said he keeps Jeff busy and asks a lot of questions of Jeff as situations arise within his zone.

Ronnie went on to say that there were not pauses in racing in the SE zone due to outbreaks. He said no one was shut down from racing.

Ronnie reported that there are some issues with clubs in Mississippi that they are working through. He has been busy helping others with EWINSPEED® and working on the youth application. Ronnie has also assisted race secretaries that had a challenge with printing diplomas.

**Northeast – Toni Wiaderski**
Toni said his zone has been quiet. He received 2 calls about how to start a junior club. He said the person had 3 members and wanted to know how to get more. Toni suggested making presentations to draw interest, building a small loft. Wiaderski advised the caller to get birds at an auction. He said working with juniors is very hard. Perhaps we can give something to him to make him happy.

Toni said flying is expensive. Members who are workers to support the club help with selling bands to help pay for shipping. Last week his club had a dinner for handlers. Wiaderski told them don’t save the money for the club; give it to members to support people. Make them happy. One new member had to spend a lot of money just to drive to the club. She asked Toni what she could do and he told her to start a new club.

**Lakes – Terry Finnerty**
Finnerty previously submitted to the board a proposed agreement to be used between local organizations and beginners. He reintroduced it as it was not understood that it was a final version. It is designed for 1 year use of a clock. Currently we have 5 donated electronic clocks in the AU office. Finnerty approached Don Chapin to donate 5 new systems.

He said Cleveland has worked hard to put together a convention. There are no complaints. They have 2 more new members, for a total of 10 new members this year.

Terry said Herbots is bringing in birds and is the speaker. He will be talking about vaccines.

Finnerty reported all birds are vaccinated and chipped.

Motion to adjourn. Wiaderski/Stierlin. Passed.
Welcome/Introduction of Guests - Hundrup

Guest: Doug Burnett

Future Conventions Update – Robert McKenna
The Greater Gulf Coast Pigeon Association in the Houston area will be hosting the 2023 convention. Houston has hosted many Texas Center conventions already. The Chairman is Mike Bell. McKenna went on to say that Mike’s club is growing a lot and this the club members are a diverse group and get along very well.

Bob said two combines will fly the race and that they plan to have 2 races on 2 separate days. Birds will be alternated in combines. The hotel will be the one they always use. They want to guarantee a lot of rooms – it is not locked up yet. Bob said the hotel apparently wants 80 rooms confirmed. They have plenty money and don’t need to fundraise. McKenna said they are planning to have the convention during the first week in November 2023.

McKenna further reported that the 2024 convention would be hosted by the North Florida Racing Pigeon Combine. He has been in communication with Karin McMurtrie, one of the committee members. They will hold the convention in Orlando. Tentative dates for the convention are 11/20-11/24/2024. He said it is close to Thanksgiving, so they are looking at more dates, possibly the week after, December 10. Belgium presenters/breeders want to be there if the auction can be held the last day so people don’t leave early.

McKenna added that Chicago wanted to host in 2024, however, their application came in after the North FL group. They Chicago group has been asked if they would like to host in a future year but have not responded yet. He said that the Gulfcoast Homing Club has also expressed an interest in hosting, but nothing has been submitted.

Shumaker asked if the band race will coincide with the convention race for 2023 so the birds will be banded appropriately. He felt it would be a good piece of information for their advertising.

Life said Mt. St. Helens Combine has a son flying yearlings and the father flying OB and asked if they traded birds, would the record follow the bird?

Discussion commenced regarding the way some results are posting. It was suggested that perhaps a statement should be presented so members understand how they might reach a specific award more readily and how to deal with duplicate races appearing and their clean up.

EWINSPEED®/NDB/Office Admin Database - Stierlin/Hundrup
Joyce reported programming added during this period:

- Added race message indicating when members have not paid dues.
- Reduced clocking object size to speed loading and improve performance for large clubs.
- “Add Guest Loft” feature added. This will let race secretaries add a guest mid-season. Only members who are paid in another club can be added.
• Added duplicate check for loft names.
• Individually paid members now show up in “Add Guest Member” dialog.
• Allowed clockings under 60 miles on local reports, but they cannot be uploaded to NDB per ARPU race rules.

Joyce fielded 339 technical support calls during the period November 2021 through June 2022. She reported that there were 449 active users during the period.

Joyce then provided a wish list of enhancements and modifications to EWINSPEED®. The items were discussed. Joyce shared her opinion of the difficulty and amount of programming and time that would be required for each item. The board selected which items would be considered priority and which could wait until a later time for implementation. Several items were also removed from the list.

It was agreed that adding the total number of birds that participated in a season (AU Ace Pigeon and AU Hall of Fame) be added to the main pages. Joyce indicated it would not require much in terms of programming and the board agreed.

Previously Bud Williams and Karen Clifton both thought it would be good to automate the Registered and Elite Registered Champion awards, as well as the Long Distance and All Distance 5-year awards. The board agreed to pursue.

Joyce said she felt that we need to program to allow for recording hierarchical associations for time frames so historical combine reports use the associations at the time. It would be a task of medium difficulty.

There was discussion about determining how many flyers actually compete in a given season during a year. It was agreed that might offer some valuable information regarding a member’s motivation to fly.

It was also agreed that we should add analytics to review the health of EWINSPEED® site use.

There was unanimous approval by board to work on EWINSPEED® wish list as outlined by Stierlin.

**Review of New Board Action Requests**

**NW-192**
Add breeder name column with bird to show on EWINSPEED® race report. The program should keep evolving so that more data may be available to members so they don’t turn to Benzing Live or Wincompanion.

Joyce asked about a new report suggesting put it in the bird table and add it to each bird. Ronnie Shumaker said he didn’t see a need. Gary Heindel said it will be too much on the race secretary and that it will irritate people.

Jeff Life said he spoke with the member that submitted the Board Action Request and said if it fit on the page and was low cost to members, having more information is not bad; but he does not think that’s what we have here.
Finnerty asked how much it would cost. John Hundrup said we would need to consult Craig (programmer).

Stierlin said programming is pretty easy. She thinks there would be a revolt at adding that information for every bird.

Robert McKenna echoed how the report is too large; however, suggested that perhaps with a local report or a separate report, it might be accomplished.

Finnerty suggested an expanded report where you put what you want and asked if that would help everybody.

Stierlin said she did not believe it would.

Motion to approve. Life. Died for lack of second.

**NW-193**

Change 5.0 race schedules. An active racing member is an organization member who has shipped, clocked and reported in at least 2 races of the same regular series from one of the last two years. Note: An exemption can be requested for quarantines, etc., for longer durations.

Motion to approve. Stierlin/Finnerty. Passed.

**NW-194**

**EWINSPEED®** uses the bird’s correct speed to determine position on the race sheet. All birds clocked in dead time will have the same speed. Higher mileage bird would automatically win.

Jeff Life said it will still be incorrect in different lofts. Calculating the speed would make it right.

John Hundrup does not believe a time change for dead time is needed.

Life said if it calculates the speed, they should show up in the proper clocking order and that he just wants them in the right order.

Joyce suggested tabling, taking the example Life provided and determine later.

McKenna said the race is not in there anymore.

Motion to table to reevaluate. Finnerty/Wiaderski. Passed.

**LAKES-033**

Make section of the AU Champion Loft fairer to everyone. The current method of selecting Champion Loft is determined using a limited number of races out of all flown.

Races flown should be counted to determine Champion Loft. Recommend a flyer must have flown a minimum of 10 races in old birds and 6 in young birds to be eligible. While this method is still not perfect because some will still have an advantage because they will have club/combine/concourse results to choose from and some fly in more than one combine, it will go far to level the playing field.

Finnerty suggested pick birds in advance to level the field.
Ronnie said we take points divided by birds and asked about asking points and dividing by races. It was decided to table so that Finnerty could visit with Ron to get more information and report in October at the annual meetings. Finnerty/Wiaderski. Passed.

**PAC/MTN-061**
Display average distance from race stations to the lofts of competitors on race reports produced by EWINSPEED®

Jeff Life said he can’t see a reason for that. Joyce mentioned the flyer doing that. Motion to adopt (in absence of zone director). Stierlin. Died for lack of 2nd.

**PAC/MTN-062**
Reinstitute the Honor member to recognize members that have been AU members for 50 years and are 75 years of age or older.

The board would like to review this and prepare a proposal for the future. Joyce will put a list of criteria together and present at the October meetings. Motion to table. Stierlin/Shumaker. Passed.

**SE-045**
Countermarks or electronic chips should be permitted on shipping night only.

Ronnie Shumaker shared that the flyers want a temporary band. Robert McKenna said there has already been a ruling and it is too easy to pop off the band.

Jeff Life and Terry both stated that the club makes a determination based on who drives the trailer.

Finnerty pointed out that at the 2022 convention, they are having the driver and a separate liberator. It’s a club issue consensus.

Gary Heindel suggested putting a marker on the wing.

Ronnie Shumaker said that from the book on liberation, it is recommended that the release person have no birds in the race; and/or have a witness.

The board consensus was that it is a recommendation.

Died for lack of motion.

President Hundrup stated that the Zone Directors will contact members who submitted BAR’s to provide them with results.

**2022 Convention Update**
President Hundrup brought up meeting dates for the convention. He suggested flying in October 18, meet 19 & 20. That would allow plenty of time to conduct the annual board meetings and still attend shipping, seminars, etc. The board agreed.
**National Member Awards Review/Approval**

**Publicity Person of the Year – Dr. Frank Blazich.** The application was read aloud to detail all the work he has done on behalf of homing pigeons, sharing historical information, award presentation and PR on social media. Motion to approve was made by Finnerty/Wiaderski. Passed.

**Publicity Persons of the Year - Flying Clovers RPC.** The application was read aloud sharing that the club has used all possible methods of PR consistently. Motion to approve was made by Finnerty/Stierlin. Passed.

**Elwin Anderson Legends – Jesse Donoghue & Marcel Letellier.** Applications submitted were read. Marcel Letellier is not an AU member so the award was shifted to AU Person of the Year (per the award criteria). Motion to approve Mr. Letellier. Heindel/Wiaderski. Passed.

Jesse Donoghue reconsidered for Person of the Year. Motion to approve resubmission for Mr. Donoghue. Finnerty/Wiaderski. Passed.

**Good of the Order**

Jeff Life said the AU Sanctioned Race was to have been removed from anything.

Both Life and Shumaker discussed that federations are higher up in the hierarchy in organizations.

Motion to adjourn. Stierlin/Life. Passed.