

American Racing Pigeon Union

PIGEON TRACKS

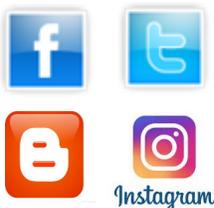


Spring
2018

In this issue:

What Is The Future of Pigeon Racing Tom Coletti, AU President	Page 2
How Much Do You Know About Cher Ami?	Page 3
A call for Youth Ambassador	Page 3
2018 Youth Membership Contest	Page 4
Higher Education	Page 5
Welcome 4-H Flying Clovers	Page 5
AU Youth Scholarship Application	Page 6
Reminders	Page 7

Find us on:



ARE YOU ON THE LIST?

Look who is competing in the junior races!

Karen Clifton, Executive Director

As mentioned in the January edition of *Pigeon Tracks*, there are two races just for AU junior members this year. The response has been great! The junior members listed below submitted entry forms and the birds are in and ready for competition.



The 2018 AU National Youth Race and the 2018 Midwest AU Junior Race will both be held in October. Once training begins later in the year, we will be sending updates to the junior members entered.

All participants will be recognized with plaques and certificates. Don't forget, the winner of the 2018 AU National Youth Race will be invited to attend the 2019 AU convention as our guest!

We wish you all the best of luck!

AU National Youth Race

Joshua Andronic
Nehemiah Andronic
Sorine Andronic
Conner Aycock
Khloe Ayock
Henry Bentley
Nathan Bentley
Gwen Berglund
David Dow
Oliver Elliott
Colt Gardner
Max Gardner
David Grzeda
Brynn Horton
Grayson Horton
Tyler Hundrup

Claire Jackson
Liam Kowalski
Milo Kowalski
Kaya Kurcz
Jessica Larson
Matthew Larson
Maggie McCracken
Addison McGuinness
Kensington McGuinness
Nash McGuinness
Brooklynne Michael
Christian Michael
Madison Michael
Tanner Michael
Isaac Paga
Sam Paga

(Continued on page 2)

ARE YOU ON THE LIST? continued

(Continued from page 1)

Veronica Paga
Ben Peters
Ellie Peters
Von Prochnow
Julianna Salinovici
Luke Salinovici
Sean Salinovici
Maritza Seagnamillo
Rafael Seagnamillo
Yazmin Seagnamillo
Victor Seagnamillo
Misa Smetana

Ehtan Spoelstra
Emmanuel Temores
Juliana Temores
Trey Thorn
Sylvie Wolken
Maggie Williams

Midwest Junior Race

Jack Gueller
Addison McGuiness
Kensington McGuiness
Brooklynne Michael
Christian Michael

Madison Michael
Tanner Michael
Brady Mueller
Ben Peters
Ellie Peters
Julianna Salinovici
Luke Salinovici
Sean Salinovici
Trey Thorn
Sylvie Wolken



WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF PIGEON RACING?

Tom Coletti, AU President

The American Racing Pigeon Union is your association. Yes, junior members are important! You are the future of the sport!

Though I have not had opportunity to meet most of our junior members, I have had the privilege to meet and work with several of the AU National Youth Race winners, Junior Member Essay Contest winners, AU Junior Ambassadors, and a number of junior members that belong to clubs in California, Washington, Arizona, Utah and even Florida.

One thing that impresses me most about the junior members of the AU is that they all seem to have a strong work ethic, commitment to school, devotion to family and love of the birds.

My hope is that you will continue your participation in the sport as you work your way through school. After all, you are the future of the sport of racing homing pigeons. Your



imagination, creativity, drive and leadership will move the national organization and sport forward as you progress through life.

Pigeon racing and camaraderie with club members can present you with valuable life lessons and lifetime friendships. You will also learn leadership skills along the way. Many of you will contribute those skills and eventually hold offices within your clubs, combine and possibly the national organization.

This is my last year as your President and I must say that you, our junior members, are valued and appreciated. It has been gratifying to meet those of you that I have. I will always carry your smiles and enthusiasm with me.

I wish you all a fantastic old bird season!

How Much Do You Know About Cher Ami?

It has been a century since the heroic pigeon delivered vital messages that saved lives during World War I. The American Racing Pigeon Union will celebrate this amazing bird and his legacy later this year in Washington D.C.

Your lobbyist, Greg Smith, has tapped into his resources and contacts and has reached out to the Smithsonian to see if they would be interested in helping us celebrate the anniversary of Cher Ami. They have already tentatively scheduled an event in October.

They will likely display pigeon war memorabilia and run movies regarding pigeons service in the military. Other possible events may include a press conference and working with

Veterans, various embassies, and the 77th Division. AU and IF members have been asked to help provide birds for an impressive release to commemorate the anniversary. As details are confirmed, we will provide updates. This will be a fantastic opportunity for positive publicity for all pigeon fanciers.

Because of this year's celebration of the wartime hero pigeon, Cher Ami, the focus of this year's junior membership contest is the bird and his story.

You will find the contest application form on page 4. Provide the requested information and submit your application by the deadline for a chance to win an electronic timing system

from Ed Minvielle and Charles Siegel & Son as representatives of Benzing Electronics.

We wish you good luck in the contest and hope you will celebrate along with us in paying tribute to this amazing pigeon.



Update: We just got word on the Midwest youth race, before sending out this newsletter, that the condition of the birds received is phenomenal! There are no issues at all. In fact, the birds were feeling so good they were bathing outdoors, enjoying the rain. Handler, Gary Heindel, anticipates 35-40 entries total when all birds are in. Best of luck to everyone!

Calling all junior members!

Would you like to serve as an AU Youth Ambassador? Your work would be featured in AU publications. It's a great way to get acquainted with other juniors and clubs across the country.

If you like to visit and you like to write, this is a perfect "gig" for you!

2018 Youth Membership Contest

ESSAY CONTEST

Cher Ami, the pigeon, was responsible for saving hundreds of lives during World War 1. Find out more about Cher Ami and share with us three specific pieces of information related to Cher Ami's story. Explain fully the item that you are sharing.

THE RULES

Write an essay about the topic above. The minimum length of the essay is 100 words. Provide enough explanation to make the point of your essay very clear. Essays must be the original work of the AU junior member. Following instructions and having the entry in by the deadline will improve your chances of winning.* Membership must be current to be eligible. (*Past AU Youth Membership Contest winners are not eligible to win.)

THE PRIZE

For the sixteenth year, the amazing prize of a Benzing electronic timing system has been donated by Ed Minvielle and Charles Siegel & Son, as representatives of Benzing. Ed & Siegel's want to see youth participation in the sport grow. The AU appreciates their generosity.

THE DEADLINE

The entries must be postmarked by September 7, 2018. The winner will be selected prior to, and announced during, the 2018 annual convention held in Chicago, Illinois. The AU "Youth Membership Contest" is open to all AU junior members.* (*Past AU Youth Membership Contest winners are not eligible to win.)

Please provide the following:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ CLUB (if applicable): _____

I hereby submit my entry in the 2018 AU Youth Membership Contest. I have read and understand the rules and certify that I have written the essay myself.

(Signature—Junior Member)

(Signature—Parent or Guardian)

(Date)

Return this entry form with your essay to the AU national office.

It must be postmarked no later than September 7, 2018.

Mail to: American Racing Pigeon Union, Inc., P.O. Box 18465, Oklahoma City, OK 73154

Higher Education

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 include the following:

- *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 & 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 let-*

ters 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.

Check page 6 for the application.

Welcome one of the newest groups in the AU: the 4-H Flying Clovers in Petoskey, MI! We're following along with their process on the AU blog.

<http://americanracingpigeonunion.blogspot.com/2018/04/more-than-just-birds.html>



Mail to:
ARPU
PO Box 18465
Oklahoma City, OK 73154

AMERICAN RACING PIGEON UNION YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



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

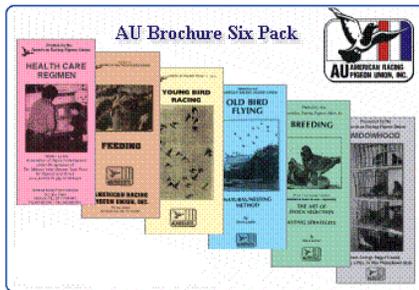
Showcase Lofts

We would love to see your lofts. Email your pictures and a little background about yourself and the loft to aupromo@aol.com. We will feature your loft on the AU website.



2016 AU loft contest winner.

**Need to promote your hobby?
We've got you covered!**



EXPERIENCE THE HOBBY OF A LIFETIME!
The Chattanooga Racing Pigeon Club invites you to learn about the sport of **RACING PIGEONS**. Their attention and unique ability to return to their home loft.

Visit with area pigeon enthusiasts and find out how easy it is to join the nearly 10,000 Americans who already raise and race pigeons.

Contact: Don Snow 423-718-8108

Division of the American Racing Pigeon Union
The American Racing Pigeon Union was founded in 1914 and is the only national organization devoted to the promotion of the sport of racing pigeons. Its members are located in all 50 states and 10 countries.

Visit www.pigeon.org for more information.

Pigeons & Veterans.
Our Racing Pigeon Club invites you to learn about the sport of **RACING RACING PIGEONS**. Their attention and unique ability to return to their home loft.

Discover the peace the pigeons can bring to those suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Depression and Anxiety Disorder.

WHAT PEACE THE PIGEON BRINGS

One veteran, Bubba, has been using pigeons to ease a decade of PTSD. These birds can find their way home from hundreds of miles away. They can recognize fields, photographic memorabilia and an incredible sense of smell.

But, Bubba doesn't just race his birds, he raises them from the time they hatch. He says these birds have helped him deal with and overcome stress disorder from fighting in this country. "It keeps me occupied as the birds don't come," Bubba says. "I can't usually see the ground because I spend so much time. Bubba loves his birds and his birds definitely love him back."

Race Horses of the Sky!

Racing Homers
Thoroughbreds of the Air

Let us know what you need.

You don't want to miss an opportunity to win a free Benzing Electronic Timing System, courtesy of Siegel's Pigeon Supply and Ed Minvielle. They have been providing this gift to the essay contest winner several years.

Don't let this awesome prize pass you by. All it takes is an essay submission and you will be in consideration to win.

DO NOT, REPEAT, DO NOT, let this pass you by! Did you know the value of this prize can be as high at **\$1000?**

SEE PAGE 4!

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