



Heartland News ©

Newsletter of Heart of America Game Breeders' Association

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Raising Chiloe Wigeons

by Bernie Jager

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Reprinted from the June-July, 2008 Heartland News

There are three varieties of Wigeons. The Eurasian Wigeon is native to Europe and Asia. The American Wigeon or Baldpate as many breeders call this duck is native to the western United States and Canada. The last one is the Chiloe Wigeon which is named after the Chiloe Island off the coast of the South American country of Chile. In the wilds of South America, they forage along the shoreline of inland lakes and rivers. They nest in tall grasses and weeds and lay from six to eight eggs in nests located close to the shoreline. Since they are not native to our country, they are a favorite of many breeders because no federal permit is required to raise and sell them.

The beautiful iridescent green on their heads, their white cheeks, the white and black on their chests, and the rust color on their sides make this duck a must for your collection. The color really stands out when the sun is shining on them. Both sexes have the same colors, but the color is more vivid and stands out more on the male. The males also have a larger head and body than the females. They do very well in mixed collections, but during the breeding season they can get a little aggressive. We kept two pairs of Chiloe Wigeons with a couple of pairs of Ring Teal, two pairs of Mandarins, and five Emperor Geese. (Bernie no longer raises waterfowl.)

The pen size was about 30 feet by 40 feet. The sides of the pen were made of 2" x 4" welded wire. We used plastic lexan about 1' high all the way around the bottom of the wire so none of the babies can get out. The top of the pen was covered with 2" netting. We used 4' x 4' x 12' treated lumber to hold up the netting. The poles were placed every 12 feet in the pen. We nailed metal hubcaps from old cars to the tops of the poles and used poly propylene cable from all the side poles and over the hubcaps to support the netting. This support was important since we get a lot of snow in Michigan.

The pond was about 18 feet around and 4 feet deep. The sides of the pond were sloped so the babies could get in and out of the water easily. We have a geothermal furnace in our house and all the warm water was pumped under ground through a 1 inch plastic pipe into all my ponds. This kept a 4 to 5 foot diameter hole open in the ice so we could leave the waterfowl outside the year round. Come spring, our waterfowl was in prime condition for breeding.

From the middle of February through July, we fed a 16% duck breeder pellet and from August until February, we fed 12% duck grower pellet. The food was kept in a pan placed under a shelter so that it stayed dry. The first couple of weeks, the babies were fed 28% turkey crumble starter. After 3 weeks, they were fed a small pellet duck grower.

Chiloe Wigeons are quite easy to raise. In 2007, our two pairs laid seventeen eggs and sixteen hatched. The adult birds make great parents and all the babies swam in the pond with their parents. When they were about eight weeks old, we caught the young so we could vent sex them and band them. Each male got a blue

(Continued on page 2)

band on the left foot and each female got a pink band on the right foot.

Chiloe Wigeons will nest in many different types of nest boxes. We put old Christmas trees in front of the entrance to the nest box so that only a little of the entrance was visible. Several years ago, we had a large box on the ground that looked like a Wood Duck box. It had an enclosed ramp about 20 inches long going up to the entrance hole. One of Chiloe hens laid a clutch of eggs in the box, and one of the American Goldeneye hens laid a clutch next to the eggs of the Chiloe Wigeon. I did not bother them and both hens had a good hatch. Strange things can happen with birds! A mixture of leaves, straw, and sawdust is used for nesting material. Incubation is 25 to 26 days. Chiloe Wigeons are a great duck for beginners.

When building your pens, try to make them as predator-proof as possible. Before starting to raise waterfowl, talk to several breeders to get some tips and advice on the species you would like to raise. Always ask a lot of questions. Remember that many good breeders have made many mistakes over the years.

Coming Events

Oct.4-6 **JACOB'S CAVE SPRING SWAPPING DAYS** located between Versailles & Gravois Mills, MO on state road TT off Hwy 5. Thurs, Fri. & Sat. 6 A. M. till 10 P. M. & Sun. 6 A. M. till noon. Out of state sellers of birds & animals must contact the Missouri Division of Animal Health at 573-751-3377 prior to coming to the swap. Admission \$5.00 per vehicle per day. For additional fees, go to www.jacobscave.com, email: jacobscave@earthlink.net or Ph. 573-378-4374.

Oct. 6 **SWAP & TRADE DAYS** sponsored by Tri-K Pigeon & Bantam Club, Kankakee, IL Fairgrounds 213 W. 4000 S. Rd. Doors open at 5 a. m. Poultry & game birds must have proof of being Pullorum-Typhoid clean & Parrot-type birds must be tested for Newcastle Disease. Out of state sellers must obtain a port of entry number within 48 hours prior to entry by calling 217-782-4944. Sellers must complete a sales record listing the seller's name, address, ph. #, the swap date, and an app. number of birds or animals brought to the swap. For inf., call Brian Malone, 815-697-2980, Dave Malone 815-953-4511, or Alex Ramirez 708-516-9722. Permits are required for wildlife. Call Dave Buza @ 815-933-5218 for permit info.

Oct. 12-13 **AFTON, OK POULTRY SWAP**, 53991 E 59 Hwy. (3 miles south of Buffalo Ranch on Hwy. 59.) Free overnight camping. Concession, plenty of shade. Set-up \$2.00 per vehicle per day. For inf., web site: www.aftonpoultryswap.com or call 918-257-4651 or 918-257-3436. Swaps held the third Saturday and Sunday of each month through November.

Oct. 13 **TSC ANIMAL SWAP** 8 A. M. to ?, Tractor Supply, North Topeka on Hwy. 24. Buyers free, no set-up for sellers. For info. & space availability, call Andy @785-845-0040. Watch for dates on Craigslist. Swaps held the 3rd Sunday of the month.

Oct. 18-19 **MID-OHIO SWAP MEET** 8076 St. Rt. 241, Mt. Hope, OH. For info., call 330-674-7661.

Oct. 19 **40th ANNUAL FALL POULTRY SHOW** sponsored by Rocky Mountain Feather Fanciers, Adams County Fair Grounds, 9755 Henderson Rd., Brighton, CO. For info., call John Baker, 303-870-4616. Roger Graham & the RMP&W Soc. will set up a game bird display.

Oct. 26 **SWAP MEET**, 7 a. m. to noon Rain or shine!, Premiere Farm & Home, 900 SW University Avenue, Topeka, KS. (Go south on Topeka Blvd, then go west on University Blvd. Across from Forbes Field.) Buyers & sellers free. Owners are responsible for testing all poultry. No goats. For info, call Karl Sauvage 785-547-5046 or Dee Sauvage 785-207-0779.

Oct. 26 **FALL BIRD & ALL PET FAIR**, 9:00 A. M. TO 3:00 P. M. Ozark Empire Fair Ground, 3001 N. Grant Springfield, MO. Admission: \$5.00. National & local vendors selling birds, feed, cages, & much more. For table rental and info e-mail Mike @ksfinchman@yahoo.com or call 620-429-1872.

Oct. 26 **WBGBA SWAP** sponsored by the Wisconsin Bird & Game Breeders Assn., 6:30 A. M.- Noon, heated Expo Building, Fond du Lac Cty. Fairgrounds, Fond du Lac, WI. (between US Hwy. 45 & Martin Ave.) Admission \$5.00. Friday set-up from 4:00 P. M. to 9:00 P. M. Sellers must have blood testing papers. No turkeys or hoof stock due to Dept. of Agriculture regulations. For swap info., call Jim Bleuer @ 920-379-6188 or e-mail jim@bleueracres.com Web site: wbagba.org

Oct. 27 **BIRD & ANIMAL SWAP & SALE DAYS** Monroe County Fairgrounds, Waterloo, IL, Hwy 156 West. Gate opens 5:30 A. M. Closes 11 or earlier as vendors sell out. Swap sponsored by Midwest Bird & Animal Breeders Association, For info., call Walter Rau @ 618-939-6809 or go to www.mbaba.org Out of state sellers must obtain a port of entry number by calling 217-782-4944. Poultry must be P-T clean before being exhibited or sold.

Nov. 1-2 **MID-OHIO ALTERNATIVE BIRD & ANIMAL AUCTION** 8076 St. Rt. 241, Mt. Hope, OH. For info., call 330-674-7661.

Nov. 30 **MINI MEGA SHOW** sponsored by Heart of America Bantam Club. HOABC will host the North America Waterfowl Association national show at the Kansas State Fairgrounds, Hutchison, KS For info., call Ryan Carey, ph. 620-245-7469.

A Look at the Wigeon Family compiled by Terry Smith			
	American Wigeon	Chiloe Wigeon	European Wigeon
Scientific name	<i>Anas America</i>	<i>Anas sibilatrix</i>	<i>Anas penelope</i>
Other names	Baldpate	Chilean Wigeon	Eurasian Wigeon
Distribution	Breeds in Alaska, parts of Canada - Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon, British Columbia; eastern half of Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, parts of N. & S. Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado, Utah, & Nevada. Winters along west coast from Bri. Columbia to the southern tip of Mexico; eastward to Florida, Puerto Rico, & Cuba & northward to Nova Scotia	Breeds in southern South America from Atacama to Tierra Del Fuego in Chile and from northern Argentina to the tip of South America & the Falkland Islands. Winters in Uruguay, Paraguay, and southern Brazil.	Breeds throughout Europe & Asia from 24° W in Iceland to 180° E in Anadyrland - includes the British Isles, Norway, Finland, northern Russia across Siberia to Commander Isle. Winters in North Africa, the Middle East, India, China, & Japan. Has been recorded in small numbers outside the breeding season on both the Pacific and Atlantic coasts.
Natural Habitat	Marshy areas associated with larger expanses of open water.	Prefers fresh-water lakes, rivers, and marshes where there is abundant vegetation.	During breeding season, it prefers small pools & lakes in the coniferous zone of northern Europe & Asia. In the British Isles - moorland tarns, islands in lochs, & bracken slopes. In winter, large flocks are found on shallow coastal waters, estuaries & saltings.
Food	Vegetable diet of grasses, sedges, algae & seeds; some animal matter including insects, but mostly snails.	Manly vegetable matter - grasses and aquatic vegetation.	Vegetable matter - eel grass and seaweed in coastal waters; effective grazer cropping short grasses; some animal matter - cockles & insects
Ease in propagating	Requires a bit more breeding "know how"	Easily propagated; recommended for the beginning waterfowl breeder	Requires a bit more breeding "know how"
Breeding	1 to 2 years of age; most pairs are formed by February	Breeds at 1 to 2 years of age.	Breeds at 1 to 2 years of age
Nesting in captivity	Natural cover, ground nesting with close or open cover; ground box	Natural cover, ground nesting with close or open cover; ground box; occasionally a raised box	Natural cover, ground nesting with close or open cover; ground box
Clutch Size	6 to 7 creamy-white eggs laid from the end of May to the first half of June	5 to 8 white or pale buff eggs laid from the end of April through June depending on location	7 to 10 creamy-white to pale buff eggs (up to 16 eggs have been recorded) laid from late April or early May to June
Incubation	25 days	24 to 26 days	24 to 25 days
Fledging	40 to 45 days	45 to 55 days	40 to 50 days
Status	Surveys of wintering populations show that this species is one of the most abundant North American game ducks.	Numbers are declining due to hunting - it was the 6th most common species in hunters' kills in Chile.	One of the most common of wintering ducks in China, Japan, & the British Isles. Up to 500,000 may winter together.

HOAGBA Board Meeting Minutes March 15, 2019

John Smith, John Christner, & Thomas Lehman had gone to pick up donated peafowl. In John's absence Terry Smith opened the meeting at 12:30 pm. Board members present were: Terry Smith, Ted Golka, LaDonna Licktieg, Myrna Tuley Dennis Connolly, and Cindy Hoffman.

Dennis Connolly moved that the minutes of the September 14, 2018, meeting be accepted. LaDonna Licktieg 2nd, motion passed.

Terry Smith gave the Treasurer's report and told the board that she had the bank statements if anyone wanted to see them, but she had not made copies of them. Ted Golka moved that \$5000 be transferred from the checking account to the CD's. Using what would be needed to making one CD total \$10,000 with the remainder of the \$5000 going to the second CD. Dennis Connolly 2nd and passed.

Old Business

Auction - Fall auction date is September 14. The 2020 dates have not yet been booked. As was voted on at the last Board meeting the club will pay someone to be at the gate from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm until the person arrives John, Roger and Ted will take care of the gate. Terry Smith reported that because of the severe weather in the mid states and the health issues of some of the members we were in need of a relief clerk in the main arena and help in other areas of the auction.

Troop 34 - The troop's representative proposed that the 2nd payment be 2% of overall profit when the lots in the main arena and equipment are between 800 and 1000 and the bonus be 3% of the overall profit when the lots in the main arena and equipment are 1000 or more. The 2nd payment would either be a 2% or 3% of profit. After some discussion the board asked that Terry continue working with the scouts regarding the amount and the bonus.

Membership - Terry reported that a lot of members are delinquent in their dues. Current membership is 207. New members since the fall meeting: Molly Browning, Topeka, KS; Michael K. Herron, Kampsville, IL; Edgar & Jacki Lundberg, Ft. Scott, KS; Phil Smith, Linconville, KS; and Kim Sorensen, Centralia, MO.

New Business

John Smith will talk to the Fair Board about the possibility of storing the club trailer on the Fair grounds. Terry Smith asked about getting trailer keys made so a couple of the club members could have them. Hopefully this would prevent an issue of the trailer being locked when we need to get in it to setup for the auction.

Ted Golka made the suggestion that the board start looking at a Legacy Program. He stated that the club has lost 3 of its older members to death in as many months. He said he would guess the average age of the HOAGBA Executive Board is close to 70. The club should have something set up for properly disposing of the HOAGBA funds when the

time comes. It's like making out a will - no one likes to do it, but eventually it will be needed. Since this would involve a change to Article 1 Section III of the By-Laws, Terry moved that the club proceed by printing the proposed wording in the newsletter. Ted Golka seconded the motion which passed. The Board members will vote on the proposed change and look at options at the next meeting.

Dennis Connolly moved for adjournment 2nd by LaDonna Licktieg and passed, the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Ted Golka Secretary

3/16/19 Auction Report

Cash & Checks in Money Box	\$52,200.66
Minus start up money	<u>-987.50</u>
Consignment sales	\$51,213.26
Admissions	3,175.00
Don Utterback Set-up	<u>20.00</u>
Auction Income	\$54,408.26
Paid out to Consignors	<u>-\$44,279.77</u>
Gross Profit	\$10,128.39
Auction Expenses	<u>-\$5,359.49</u>
Auction Profit	\$4,768.90

Expenses To Put on the Auction

Advertising	\$377.50
Auction Web Site	80.64
Auctioneers - 3	775.00
Director Expense	480.00
Facility rent Johnson Cty. Fair Board	900.00
Madden Rental (pota-pots)	183.60
Help - Preparation of tags, etc.	300.00
bid list, sale bill prep & mailing, & follow-up	
Help - Clerks & Office Help	667.00
Help - Boy Scout Troop 34	650.00
Liability Insurance	304.75
Office Supplies for auction	170.88
Sale bill printing	93.05
Sale bill mailing	171.87
Trailer Locks, Personal Property & License	135.20
Permits - USDA	<u>70.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$5,359.49

Break Down of the Auction			
Auction	# of Consignors	# of Lots	Comm. Paid
Main Arena	25	575	\$32,095.19
Equipment	18	343	\$4,264.80
Cage Birds	16	132	\$2,195.81
Animals	5	20	\$803.85
Baby Birds	11	242	\$4,920.12
		1312	\$44,279.77
Total lots handled by Troop 34 was 918 lots.			

Treasurer's Report 9/1/18 to 2/28/19

Does not include any spring auction expenses

Income

Membership Dues	\$990.00
9/15/18 Auction Profit	2,056.21
Advertising refund	<u>65.00</u>
Total Income	\$3,111.21

Expenses

NL editor 6 months—T. Smith	\$300.00
NL Printing—Niffie Printing	646.68
NL mailing & postage—SH Post Office	237.31
Bulk Mailing Permit	225.00
Office Supplies - Officemax	<u>190.20</u>
Total Expenses	\$1,599.19

Checking balance as of	
Scholarship fund as of 2/25/19	\$3,812.09
12-17 month CD as of 2/25/19	\$6,555.12
6-11 month CD as of 3/4/19	\$4,045.28
36 month CD as go 1/31/19	\$5,025.21

Reports submitted by
Terry Smith, HOAGBA Treasurer

Grey Junglefowl

by Dan Cowell

Reprinted from the May, 2007 Heartland News

Other Names: Sonnerat's Junglefowl

Range: Central and southern India

Subspecies: None

Habitat: Varied, from dense jungle and bamboo forests to clearings and villages near humans.

Description: The comb is red and dented, similar to that of the Red Junglefowl. The long neck hackles, which are much sought after by fly-tiers, are dark gray to black with white and yellow bars. These are lost each summer during the eclipse. The back and rump feathers are grayish-black with white streaks. Tail is black with a purple sheen. First year males will have shorter and duller feathers.

Description, Female: Darker than Red Junglefowl, the head is brown with light streaks on the forehead. The comb is very small and is dull red. The back, rump and wings are mottled brown and black; the breast is white, abdomen light buff and the flanks light brown.

Status in Wild: Status is very good since it has adapted to live near humans.

Status in Aviculture: Common and popular in both American and European aviculture.

Breeding Season: March to July.

Breeding Age: Second year.

Clutch Size: 4 to 6.

Incubation Period: 21 days.

Misc. Aviculture Notes: Easy to care for in captivity, but will need some protection from the elements.

Editor's note: We added Grey Junglefowl to our aviary last year. One pair laid this year, but we had trouble incubating them and only raised two chicks. About two weeks ago, John noticed a broken shell near the Grey Junglefowl hen's nest. Despite her ruffling of feathers and protective gestures, he managed to get her off the nest and discovered that five chicks had hatched out of the five eggs laid. I had already put away my brooding equipment, but they are now under my care until they are about four weeks old. I brood them just like I would any of the pheasant chicks.

When I went to the internet to find out more about the species, here are some of the things I learned:

- Grey Junglefowl are tropical member of the *galliformes*, an order consisting of five families and over 250 species of heavy-bodied ground-feeding birds that includes turkey, grouse, chicken, New World quail and Old World quail, ptarmigan, partridge, pheasant, francolin, junglefowl and the Cracidae.
- This bird is responsible for the yellow pigment in the legs and different body parts of domestic chicken species. The Grey Junglefowl has a single comb, a red face, and pinkish legs. While, the female has no comb and yellowish legs instead.
- The Grey Junglefowl forages in small mixed groups of both sexes, which feeds mainly on bamboo seeds, grains, termites, insects and berries.
- The breeding season in the wild occurs from February to May. Clutch size 4 and 7 pale creamy eggs, which are incubated for 21 days.
- Roosters, unlike many *galliformes*, often make dutiful fathers brooding chicks on or close to the ground during rainy nights. The hen rears the chicks for approximately 9 weeks and then abandons them to the rooster while she incubates a new clutch.
- Although Grey Junglefowls are plentiful, hunting them for meat and the use of the long neck hackle feathers to make fishing lures, has decreased their numbers significantly. Habitat loss is also another major threat to these magnificent birds. In general, Grey Junglefowls can be described as shy and secretive birds, that prefer to be in a place where they can hide to feel safe and comfortable.

Buy, Sell, Trade

Ad Policy for HOAGBA members: **The first 50 words are free.** Additional words are 10¢ each. Payment is due at the time the ad is placed. E-mail ads to smithkct@centurylink.net or fax them to 913-533-2497. Consider others. Change or cancel the ad when items in the ad sell. Neither the club nor its officers guarantee the integrity of advertisers nor will they get involved in any transactions or misunderstandings between a buyer and a seller. Due dates for ads & other information for each of the 6 newsletters: issue 1: January-February - January 10, issue 2: March-April - March 10, issue 3 May-June - May 10, issue 4: July - August June 10, issue 5: September-October - September 10, issue 6: November-December - November 10. Newsletters will be mailed by the first of the second month. i.e. Issue - January-February will be mailed by the first of February.

FOR SALE Peasants priced per pair: Green (versicolor) - \$120.00, Siamese Fireback - \$250.00, Malay Fireback - \$350.00, Bornean Fireback - \$400.00, Lady Amherst - \$65.00, Grey Peacock - \$250.00, Elliott's \$100.00, a few others. Kelly McMullan, ph. 318-949-2294 (leave message) or text 318-453-6569. (LA) (11/12)

FOR SALE Priced per bird: Francolins: Erkel's - \$42.00, Black - \$60.00. Pheasants: Silver - \$35.00, Golden - \$45.00, Lady Amherst - \$45.00, Blue Ear - \$70.00, Swinhoe - \$45.00, Mikado - \$80.00, Reeves - \$40.00, Gray Peacock - \$135.00, Temmincks Tragopan - \$150.00, Edwards - \$70.00, Elliott - \$60.00, Cheer - \$65.00, Mature Golden - \$100.00. David Bauer, Cottonwood Grove Aviary, ph. 308-893-2707, email davidbauer@frontiernet.net. (NE) (11/12)

FOR SALE Lesser White-Front Geese; Ducks: Wood Ducks, Mandarins, Laysan Teal, Cinnamon Teal, N. Am. Pintail, Rosy-bill Pochard, Mallards, Silver Mallard, Indian Spotbill, Canvasback, Red Head, American Wigeon, Ruddy Shelduck, Cape Shelduck. James Colson, ph. 785-249-6656. (KS) (9-10/19)

FOR SALE OR TRADE Quail: Tennessee Red, Bobwhite, White Bobwhite - \$6.00 each. **WANTED** Lady Amherst male, Yellow Golden hen, Blue Scale Quail male, pr. Mexican Speckled. Jim Morelli, ph. 509-476-2831. (WA) 9-10/19

FOR SALE 2 2018 Edward's hens. 2019 hatch birds: Pheasants - Impeyans, Edwards, Cheer, Lady Amherst, Reeves, Elliott's; Quail - Valley, Gambel's, Blue Scale, Mexican Speckled; Barbary & Chucker Partridge; Black Francolins. John Smith, ph. 913-879-2587, (KS) (9-10/19)

FOR SALE Birds of all kinds: Finches, Softbills and more. Over 30 species of finches, Quail, Exotic Doves, and a variety of parrots. Request a current list from ksfinchman@yahoo.com or call Mike Langerot at 620-429-1872. Shipping available. (KS) (12/19)

Visit The Game Bird & Waterfowl Pages, the online game bird and waterfowl since 1997. Located at www.gbwf.org & the HOAGBA site at <http://www.gbwf.org/hoagba/index.html> (12/19)

Our 2019 catalog prices have been posted on our web site www.poulttrysupplies.com (12/19)

This 'N' That

by Terry Smith

Please remember Linda Darst with a card, a call, or a prayer. She is in a nursing home in Leavenworth, Kansas, recuperating from a vehicle accident. Steve was treated and released but Linda needs to be cared for while her injuries heal. Our condolences to Mark Wheeler and his wife on the recent death of her son. It was nice to see Jerry Jenkins at the auction. He lives in Linwood, the town in eastern Kansas that suffered severe tornado damage in early summer. Fortunately, the tornado went around his place.

There's no new information about when PT anitigen will be released and available to the public. Kansas waived blood testing until October of this year, but according to what I have heard about the release date, they may have to extend it. Blood testing requirements vary from state to state so if you are planning on taking birds into another state to show or sell, call the state veterinarian of that state to see what their policy is. I know from talking to various people there are almost as many policies as there are state animal health offices.

There was a lot of interest in the fall auction from buyers as well as new consignors. I want to thank Roger Graham, Ted and Janice Golka, and Scott Gray who helped me get the word out about the auction on Craigslist. Scott posted auction information in 12 different cities. If you have not checked out the new club web site, please do so. I created a photo gallery on the consignment page. I want to thank Jacki Lundburg, James Colson, and LaDonna Lickteig for sending me photos that I could upload. Next year, when I send out my email request for consignments, I hope more people will respond not only with a list of consignments, but also with some photos.

The comments in the proceeding paragraph were written before the auction. It was a big fall sale with 924 lots in the main arena. The highest selling lot was a pair of breeder Cape Barren Geese that sold for \$1100.00. As usual, we need more club members to pitch in and help. A **BIG THANKS** goes to Jason and Jeff Arn, Herb Bastian, Don Colson, John Christensen, Benny Dean, Cathy Gander, Ted Golka, Roger Graham, Luke and Charles Gray, Bill Griffin, Cindy Hoffman, Dan Kleinlein, David Las-

sen, Thomas Lehman, David Lehmer, LaDonna Lickteig, Roger McCormick, Jackie McCormick, Cody McCormick, John Smith, Terry Smith, Joe Twombly, Mark Wheeler, Randy Winterbarger, and Henry Yoder and his son. I especially want to thank Cion Hamilton and her soon who helped smooth out some of the problems with the fair grounds. I am sure I missed some people who pitched in while I was setting up the office. I have been working the club auctions since 1985 and this is the most problems-free auction, we have had. We did not have to resell anything because the buyer thought he was getting the cage of 4 quail for \$15.00 instead of \$60.00 (\$15 x the birds in the cage.) Everybody picked up their purchases, and there were no stolen birds. Great job!! Craigslist and the newly redesigned website with the photo gallery of some of the consignments did its job. The number of people attending the auction was down due to fall festivals, tractor shows, etc. but those who attended came to buy. Again, thanks to all the consignors, buyers, and volunteers. Your help has made this auction which began at the sale barn in Paola, Kansas, endure. I hate all the paperwork I have to do on the Sunday after the sale and in my spare time the following week, but I love seeing old friends and getting to meet in person those email and phone contacts. The auction dates for 2020 are **March 14 and September 19**. See you in the spring.

Helpful Hints

Compiled by Terry Smith

1. This information written by Nancy Egerer, who lived in Brighton, MI. It is reprinted from the Nov., 2005, Heartland News. "I have raised Button Quail for several years now and have always kept them in our wooden brooders in the winter time. This winter I wanted to experiment and see if they could live in their summer pens in the winter.

We built some really nice pens for them this summer. I put them out as soon as the weather warmed up. These birds were out all summer. As cold weather approached, I cleaned the houses and put in fresh wood chips. Then I got some soft straw and put a layer of that in, making sure I left room for a heat lamp should I need to put one in. I used plastic half gallon jugs for their water. These worked well because you can pop the ice right out and fill them again.

We had a really cold winter that year, but the Buttons did well even on the very cold days and nights. I would pick them up and they felt very warm. Cold snow or rain did not bother them at all so I will keep them outside from now on. I fed them meat builder crumbles with some finely ground corn (corn meal). You must have a back up heat source just in case they would need to have some heat.

If you like to breed your quail early this will not work because they do stop laying and will not lay again until the weather warms up. If you bring them in where it is warm, the buttons will start laying again. Extend their light to 14 hours per day and they will start to lay within a few days to a week and half.

I had days that I really worried whether they would be okay, but to my surprise they did so well. This year I am going to leave them out again, but I will bring them in in February and get them under lights so I can hatch some chicks earlier. I cut way back on breeders so there will not be as many as I had last year. I have talked to a couple of people who have kept them in pheasant buildings and barns in ground pens, and they have had no trouble keeping them. These little Button Quail are tougher than most people think.

2. Canker in chickens, turkeys, pheasants, and pigeons is caused by a protozoan parasite. Affected birds will have loss of appetite, will be droopy, will extend their necks and make frequent attempts to swallow. They lose weight rapidly, have watery eyes, have a foul-smelling discharge from the mouth, and white or yellow sores in their mouths and throats. Isolate affected birds. Combine 1 pound copper sulfate with 1 cup vinegar to make a stock solution. Add 1 tablespoon (1/2 ounce) of the stock solution to one gallon of drinking water for four to seven days. Do not use galvanized containers as copper sulfate interacts with galvanized metal. Non-meat birds can be treated with metromidazole (trade names Flagyl or Fish Zole, carnidazole (trade name Spartrix), and other canker medicines commonly used with pigeons Birds which recover will be carriers.

3. Here's a treat you might want to prepare for your birds. The bread was originally intended to be fed to parrots, cockatoos, and macaws, but it can also be fed to quail, partridge and pheasants. It is especially good for breeders because it is loaded with all sorts of nutritious ingredients. The recipe for Bird Corn Bread was originally printed in the September, 1978, Gazette. The amount for the baking powder is accurate. Mix all of these ingredients together: 3 cups small bird seed such as millet, 2 cups whole wheat flour, 2 cups corn meal, 2 cups soya meal, 1 cup Vionate, 1 cup baking powder, and 4 teaspoons salt. Make hole or "well" in the center of the dry ingredients and add 5 cups of eggs (shells included which have been broken up using a blender or food processor), 1 cup milk, and 1/2 cup wheat germ oil. Mix ingredients together. Place the mixture on two 12" x 16" jelly roll pans or rimmed cookie sheets. Be sure and grease the pans well unless you are using the non-stick kind. Bake in a 425° oven for about 25 minutes until the bread seems firm to the touch.

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