

TIM WOGOMAN OF TERREBONNE, OR

Tim flew in the Greater Seattle Club from 1983 thru 2012. During this time he was a very tough competitor in the club and the Puget Sound Concourse and Evergreen Concourse. In 2012 he moved to Terrebonne, Or. where he bought a beautiful piece of property that consists of 10 acres where he had a fantastic loft built and joined the CORP Club (Central Oregon Racing Pigeon Club). He flew the 2013 YB series with his new club where he made his presence immediately known. This year he won 8 Old Bird Races and was Champion Loft and Master Loft in the "A", "B", "C" and "D" races. He also won the 200-299 mile section in the Western Open flown from Winnemucca, Nv. VS 285 birds and 25 lofts. Tim's distance was 297 miles. In the yb bird series he won 10 races and again was Champion Loft and Master Loft in the "A", "B", "C" and "D" races.

Tim was born in Cody Wy. where he grew up on a ranch. He said he has always been around animals of some sort (horses, dogs, cats, chickens, etc.) and developed a sense for them. When he was ten years old his family moved to Des Moines, Wa. Tim got his first pigeons in 1958 when he was eleven and went from scrubs to fancies to rollers in the first six months that he had birds. It wasn't too much later when he got his first pair of racing homers and soon after, all the other birds he had were gone. He said when he got the homers, he would sit on a bucket in the loft and watch the birds for hours. Tim said he has a fascination with them that he never had with other animals. During this time with the birds, is when he learned that each one has its own personality and believes one of the key factors to success today is observation. He said he always looked forward to mating the birds and was excited about the different colors the babies would come out as. He kept the race birds until 1968 when he entered the Marine Corps.

It wasn't until 1982 when Tim got back into the birds. At that time he didn't know anyone that had race birds. But what he did have was an old pigeon magazine that mentioned a flyer in Olympia Wa. by the name of Joe Johnson. Tim said when he contacted Joe, he had no idea that Joe was one of the top pigeon guys in the area. He raised Tim ten young birds and only charged him \$10 each. Joe also loaned him two pair of breeders and when Tim went to pick up the 10 yb's, Joe gave him 15 other yb's free. Tim said that "Joe was in a class that is rare". Tim and I became good friends in 1983 when Joe gave him my name and shortly after Tim joined the Greater Seattle Club and raced young birds that season. He started mainly with Janssens from Joe Johnson and a few birds that I gave him that I acquired from Jim McCabe from Denver, Colorado.

LOFT: Tim said he believes you have to have a very good loft to compete. His loft is 80' X 16', that includes a 6' covered aviary. The loft consists of 1 widow cock section, 2 breeder sections, 3 yb sections and 1 widow hen section. The peak of the roof is 16' high and has a 1 foot opening running the full length of the loft covered by a false roof. He also has adjustable vents around 8" above the floor and an adjustable 18" opening at the front of the loft at the ceiling level. Look closely at the ceiling of the interior loft pictures and you can see the adjustable sliders in the ceiling to control airflow if needed. The loft has a 6' aviary running the full length of the flying sections (60 feet) that is divided so each flying section has its own aviary and a 20' X 16' aviary divided into two sections in front of the breeder sections. Both aviaries are covered by a roof. The birds spend a lot of time out in the open air. As I

mentioned earlier, he had the loft built, but did all the finish work (section dividers, perches, nest boxes, etc.) inside the loft himself. He also has a small loft that has 7 individual breeding sections.

BIRDS: The family of birds that Tim is flying today are Janssen based such as Van Osch, Flor Vervoorts, Jan Aarden, Sablons and some Gaby Vandenabeele down from Rik Cools birds. He said he's not hung up on the strain of the birds, as much as performance.

HEALTH: He hasn't PMV'D his birds for at least ten years. He does treat for Paratyphoid, worms, cocci, respiratory and canker. He likes using natural products like Organic Yogurt (all natural and no flavoring), Cod Liver Oil and Olive Oil on the feed so that the Brewers Yeast and Primalac he gives sticks to it. He uses vitamins and Primalac after medicating. He also uses Ultimate Elixir 2 to 3 times per week and Oregano powder (Avian Powder). He will medicate during the season if the birds don't look right or he sees a drop in performance.

FEED: Tim has his own feed mixed. His feed mixture consists of Popcorn, Wheat, Milo, Proso Millet, Canary Seed, Peas and a about 20% Safflower. His mixture is 13 1/2 to 14 1/2% Protein. He said he knows that many limit the feed, but he doesn't. The birds (Widow cocks and yb's) have feed in front of them 24/7. Once the birds learn that the feed will always be there, they do not over eat. He said if you want the birds to work hard, they need the fuel to do so. He does limit the feed to the Widow hens. After their exercise they get all they want for 30 minutes. When he reaches the 250 mile + he adds some additional Popcorn to the mixture. Most of the races he feeds the same mixture all week.

WIDOW COCKS & HENS: Tim flies Double Widowhood using the Round About System. He has found that it makes no difference if he lets them raise a round or not. Because of hawk problems, the birds are locked up during the winter months. February is when he usually starts letting them out again and starts training them 4 to 5 weeks before the first race in April. If the birds put too much weight on during the winter months, he will feed mainly wheat until the weight comes down. He tries to get around 15 tosses on the birds before the first race. His tosses are between 10 and 75 miles. Once the races start, he continues to toss them once or twice a week 25 to 40 miles. On the days that there not trained, he lets the cocks out in the morning and they usually fly 1 to 2 hours. When he lets them out he runs the Widow hens into the cock section. When it's time for the cocks to come in, he lets them trap into the hen section so that they trap quickly. Then it's the hens turn. When he lets the hens out, the cocks are run back into their loft where they are fed and watered. The hens fly about the same amount of time as the cocks do. When the hens return and trap into their section and are fed (once a day), he runs them out into a large walk-in aviary where they stay all day with water and grit. By keeping them in the aviary most of the day, they don't have a tendency to mate.

YOUNG BIRDS: He said he's a little old fashion here. He doesn't put his breeders together until Valentine's Day (February 14th). They are put on the Dark System the day they are weaned. Usually they are still a little wet under the wing when he puts them in the yb loft. The loft is darkened at 3:30pm and as soon as the sun goes down, he opens everything up, so they wake up to the morning sun. He puts them on natural light around June 21st, but he has waited as long as July 4th with no ill effects. They are on natural light for 3 weeks, and then they have light until 10:30pm and 3 weeks later he adds 45

minutes of more light. If the light isn't added, they will not hold their molt. He keeps an old retired pair of breeders with the yb's from the time they are weaned. He believes by doing this, it helps expose the babies to Adeno Virus in a milder form.

Tim puts the babies out in the aviary the first day they are weaned so they start to get familiar with the area and a week later gets them on the landing board. His birds trap into the aviary. Once they are familiar with the board and trapping, he gives them open loft for a week or two for a couple of hours each day. He said they learn this routine quickly and look forward to it. He said "It doesn't take them long before they are flying and it's a blast to watch them learning to control their flight". Soon after they start to route and are gone exploring. He makes a numerical list of all the yb's and the parents and puts them in sheet protectors and posts them on the wall so he can verify which pair each bird is out of . When he begins to train he makes a numerical list of the yb team on graph paper and marks each bird that goes on the training flight . He likes to handle each bird during this time to make sure the weight is ok and that it's not hurt or missing flights . It's time consuming, but he feels it's well worth the effort . He usually starts by putting them in the baskets about 100 feet from the loft to get them over their fear of the basket and one toss at about ½ mile . Then he goes 2 times or more if they are slow in coming at 10m,25m and 40 to 50m maybe 10 times and onto 60 to 75m a number of times . At first he might go every day for 3 days and when they are out to 40 miles and beyond, every other day until the first race then he trains on Tuesday and Thursday . He has 44 tosses on them now (SEPT. 29th) . Towards the end of young bird racing, he creates nesting areas and gives them bowls to help motivate . The cocks and hens are never separated during the YB flying season. He does everything at the same time daily (old & yb's) so they learn what's expected of them. Tim believes this is one more key factor to success.

I've know Tim for a great number of years and can tell you he would be a great asset and competitor to any club he belonged to. Tim is a doer. He doesn't sit back and say this is what needs to be done and then wait for someone else to do it. He's the type of guy that gets involved and makes sure the job gets done. He makes guys half his age standup and notice. He's always willing to help new members in the sport and also those that have been in the sport for years. Tim, thanks for taking the time to answer all my questions. If anyone has any questions for Tim, he can be reached by email at: t-wog@hotmail.com