

## Letter from the President

I hope everyone has made it through Corona and house arrest ok. The last few months have been a little challenging to be sure. The shortages were minor problems for us but never a big issue. The upside has been spending more time with the birds. I've kept better records than I sometimes do. The biggest loss for us is not traveling to visit family as much as we had planned. The other thing affected was Brenda was scheduled for cataract surgery in April, we are doing it now. The right eye was done June 8 and the left will be done June 17. She says the first eye is so much better than before.

Hope everyone has had a decent breeding season that for those of us in Florida is about to end. I have had a pretty good one. After adding a number of better breeders to my stock of Show racing homers from some friends, I'm looking forward to seeing an improvement in quality. I have banded over 60 so far with the last ones in the nest now. I can't wait to see how they develop through the moult. A number of them are looking real nice up to this point. I have also raised about forty Classic Old Frills. I should have a few that will help improve my breeding stock. Have raised a lot of mismarks that will be easy to cull early. I have seen some improvement in some traits I'm working on.

I haven't had as good of season in raising Komorner tumblers. They didn't sit the nest well and haven't raised two in the nest often. Have banded about 15 and maybe a couple will develop into something for the show pen. Also raised a few baldhead rollers but that is a breed on the way out for me. With my old standby racing homers I have banded about 60 that have been shipped out to friends to race and test for me. I usually have a few bright spots every year to prove my breeders are still decent. I also use them as feeders for the other breeds. Most of them are feeding show homers now.

The NYBS in Louisville has been canceled, so that is one trip we won't be making this year. Waiting to see about other out of state shows so we can plan other trips. We went to 9 shows last year. Three were show homer shows only. The others were all breeds. The homer shows will be held unless there is a major issue before show time. The NPA is still planning on the National in Louisville in January. I would expect to start hearing from some of the other shows plans in July or August.

At this time we expect to still have our show November 20-21. I haven't talked to anyone at the VFW yet but plan to in the next few weeks. With Florida opening up as they are now I don't expect a problem unless the corona comes back hard in the late fall. One last bit of information on a sad note. I don't know how many of you knew Joe Russo but he passed away in May from the virus. The last number of years he was strictly a racing man but he use to show in the past with us.

Hope this all finds you well and hoping to see you all in the coming show season.

Charlie Busack