The Pheasant Pen

WASHINGTON ORNAMENTAL & GAME BIRD BREEDERS

www.wogbb.com

Larry Clark
15016 269th Ave SE
Issaquah, Wa 98027

May 2014

Washington Ornamental and Game Bird Breeders

Our mission and goals

1. To promote the welfare and encourage the breeding of pheasants, waterfowl, and other species of fowl, quail, partridge, and related birds to the generally accepted representative standards and pure of the wild species.
2. To share breeding and propagation methods.
3. To introduce new species of birds into private and public aviaries; to improve present captive breeding stock and to catalog present captive bird species and aviculture in the Pacific Northwest.
4. To interest more individuals and groups in aviculture.
5. To promote programs and other goals as may be deemed to be in the best interest of Pacific Northwest Aviculture.

Web site: www.wogbb.com and follow us at www.facebook.com/wogbb

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• Westley Batterson	• Edna Goldstone
• JoAnne Elbert	• Phil and Bobby Krueger
• Jim Harvey	• Bruce Morgan
• Joe & Marge Longo	

WOGBB President's message

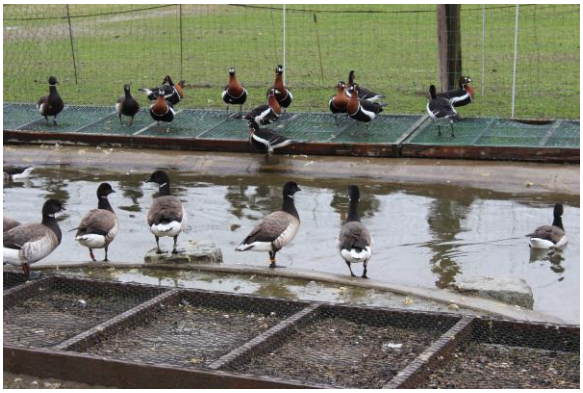
Running a little late this month, this retirement life is busier than when I was working. As of April 30th I retired from Boeing, so my Boeing email will not work, please delete that email from your contacts. I will now be using my home email of "manchododfarms@live.com" but I'm not on my computer near as much as I was when working so it might take a day or two to get back to you. This also means I have lost some of the advanced resources available to me a Boeing but I will get it all together in a couple of months

As a lot of you might have read a barn at the Puyallup Fair caught fire on Sunday night after the Fair closed. This was the barn that our birds where in but fortunately for Craig and I we had brought all the birds back home Sunday right after the fair so all birds were at home safe and sound. We did not go without some loss, all the nets and the plastic container that the nets were in did melt. Craig is working with the Fair management, and they have assured us that they will cover the cost of new nets for our pens. Craig will give a complete report at this month's meeting.

I would like to thanks Maynard Axelson for hosting the meeting in March. There were plenty of snow geese and swains in the fields to delight us all along with his private collection. See pictures below

This month we will be going to Kathy Fries estate in Kirkland, we were their last July to see her Sumer gardens but we thought it would be great to come by and see them in the spring. Kathy is a superb gardener along with raising several type of pheasants, quail and guinea fowl.

Hope to see you at a meeting!
Larry Clark



WOGBB Meeting minutes—*March 15, 2014*
Held at Maynard Axelson home in Mt. Vernon, WA.
The meeting was called to order at 3:17 pm by President Larry Clark

Reports:

***Minutes:** The January minutes were approved. There was no formal meeting in February so there were no minutes.

***Treasures:** Checking 1,327.23 Savings 281.17 and there are dues to be deposited. Paid out check to Craig Holmes 1733.84 for wire.

***Webpage:** webmaster**:** Becky (Sundstrom) has been busy working on up dates to the website as well as getting the member only site up. A domain has been purchased and the old website has been transferred. The club can also be found on Facebook now.

***Membership**: applications are coming in. Still working on member bird list.

***Show Chairman:** Craig (Holmes) announced that the Spring Fair at the Puyallup date will be Thursday April 10th to Sunday April 13th. Please let Craig or Larry (Clark) know as soon as possible if you are going to be able to show any of your birds due to space limits.

Old Business:

* **The wire has come in** it is being stored at Craig (Holmes) house please contact him to make arrangements for pick up if you had pre-order any or to see if any is left over. The cost is $186.15 per roll for members and $200.00 for non-members. It is 6 feet by 150 feet 1 inch coated wire. A pallet was ordered which has 12 rolls on it there was a discussion on approving ordering more if there was a club demand for it.

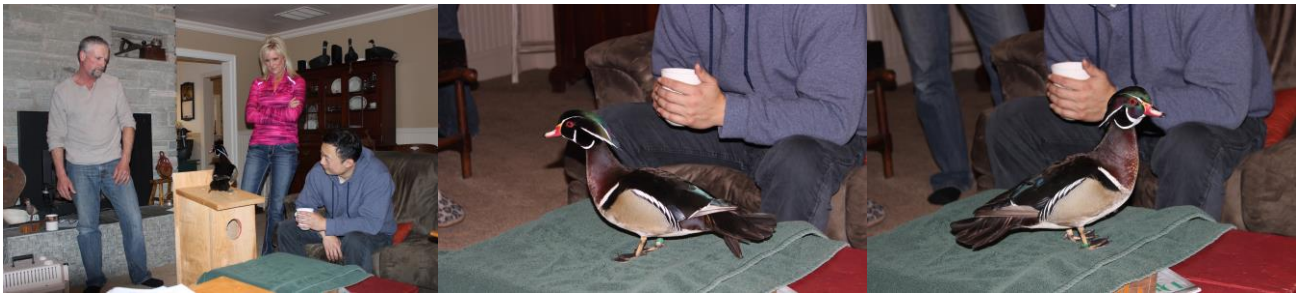
*Meeting updates are as followed: Spring Fair—April
Kathy Fries---May/ Kirkland, WA.
June & July Open
September---Open: possibly revisiting the Burke Museum
October---Arnold & Debbie Shouten /Port Angeles, WA.
November---Cabela's/Tulalip, WA.
December---confirming location

New Business:

*Becky (Sundstrom) would like people to please send her pictures for the web-site.

*Craig (Holmes) heard from the city of Covington that they are still interested in the club putting up the Wood Duck nesting boxes that were made some time back in one of their parks. Please contact Craig about directions and the time this will be done.

We had a special guest visit from
Echo



Meeting ended 4:02 pm.
Minutes submitted by Diana Clark----Membership Chair

The May Meeting

Sunday May 18th, 2:00 PM

Kathy & Ed Fries

We will have Potluck lunch will be at their home, enjoy her birds and Spring Garden

Directions

From Renton Head North on I-405 North approx.	14 miles
Take Exit 20A on the right for Northeast 116th Street	.3 miles
Take the ramp onto NE 116th Street and head towards Lake Washington	1.4 miles
Continue onto NE Juanita Drive	2.0 miles
Turn left onto Holmes Point Drive at the stoplight	.4 miles
Take the 1st left onto Champagne Point Rd NE	.2 miles
Take the 1st left onto NE Champagne Point Place	.1 miles
Turn right onto bricked driveway at 7643 and follow drive down to Anubis Statue	

Kathy & Ed Fries
7643 NE Champagne Point Place
Kirkland, WA 98034
206-915-8533

Here are some pictures
from our last visit:

Incubation and Embryology - University of Illinois

(reprinted from Utah Pheasant Society, Newsletter April 2014)

Some Reasons For Poor Hatches

Poor results in hatching are commonly caused by the improper control of temperature and humidity. When the temperature or humidity is too high or too low for a long period of time, the normal growth and development of the embryo is affected.

To obtain the best possible hatch, keep the temperature as near 100.5 degrees F. as possible for the entire incubation period in a still air Incubator. There will be a fluctuation of two or three degrees above or below 100.5 degrees F., but there should not be prolonged periods of high or low temperatures. High temperature is especially serious.

An incubator that is run warm, constantly averaging a bit above 100.5 degrees F will tend to produce an early hatch. One that is run cold, a bit below 100.5 degrees F will tend to produce a late hatch.

To obtain the proper temperature reading, place the bulb of the thermometer so that it is on a level w it h the place where the embryos will begin to develop in the eggs. This is approximately 1/4 inch below the top surface of the shell when the egg is on its side. This applies to chicken, duck, pheasant, quail, and other species' eggs. The bulb of the thermometer should not be in contact with an egg.

Check the thermometer. Is it accurate? An error of one degree for 21 days can seriously interfere with embryonic growth.

To check the incubator thermometer, place the bulb next to the bulb of a clinical (the oral kind used to check body temperature) or a laboratory thermometer. Hold under lukewarm tap water and compare the readings. Make an adjustment for any error in the incubator thermometer

A thermometer in which the Mercury column is split will not give an accurate reading.

Rarely is the humidity too high in a still- air incubator. Normally it tends to be low. Thus, the water pan should cover at least one- half of the surface area of the incubator.

The humidity should be raised during the last three days of incubation. Adding another water pan or a wet sponge helps to do this. Embryos need considerable moisture to hatch properly and easily. High humidity tends to produce a late hatch; low humidity an early hatch.

Do not turn the eggs the last three days of incubation. The embryos are moving into hatching position and do not need to be turned. Keep the incubator closed to maintain proper temperature and humidity, but do not seal it tight for the embryo needs oxygen.

Don't forget to place a cloth, crinoline is best, on the screen floor of the incubator. This protects the navel, the place where the abdomen closes after surrounding the remains of the yolk, from injury. It also makes c leaning the incubator easier. The longer eggs are held before setting, the lower the fertility will be. Try to set eggs before they are ten days old. At three weeks, the fertility will drop to zero.

Allow the newly hatched chicks to dry out in the incubator until they fluff up. Then place them in a brooding unit.

Candling Eggs

Eggs are candled to determine the condition of the air cell, yolk, and white. Candling detects bloody whites, blood spots, or meat spots, and enables observation of germ development. Candling is done in a darkened room with the egg held before a light. The light penetrates the egg and makes it possible to observe the Inside of the egg.

The candler should be set on a box or table at a convenient height (about 38 to 44 inches from the floor), so the light will not shine directly into the eyes of the operator. In candling, the egg is held in a slanting position with the large end against the hole in the candler. The egg is grasped by the small end and, while held between the thumb arid tips of the first two fingers, is turned quickly to the right or left. This moves the contents of the egg and throws the yolk nearer the shell. Because of the color of their shells, brown eggs are more difficult to candle than white eggs. To do a reasonable job, an extensive knowledge of candling is not necessary, particularly if the eggs are all relatively fresh. One should be able to distinguish a fresh egg from a stale egg and detect such abnormalities as bloody whites, blood spots, meat spots, and cracked shells. In a fresh egg, the air space is plainly visible and moves freely. The white is thin and clear. In the stale egg, the air space is plainly visible and moves freely. The white is thin.

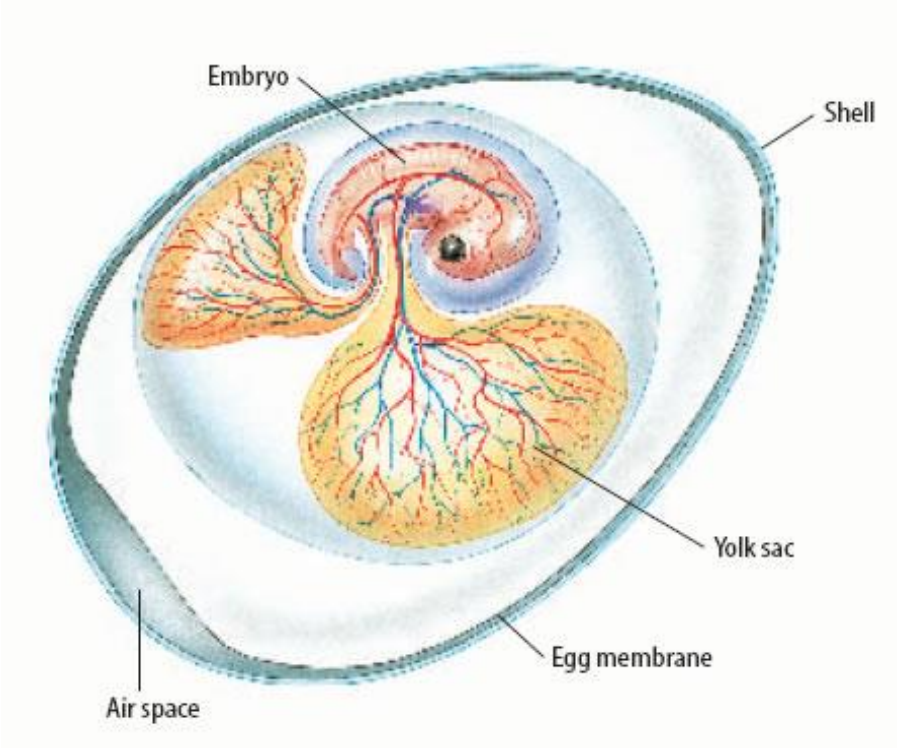
Most new laid eggs are good quality. Eggs not over two or three days old, if held under good conditions, will meet the specifications for Grade A. The only eggs to be removed by candling are those with bloody whites, blood or meat spots, and cracked shells.

Candling Incubated Eggs

Incubated eggs are candled to determine whether they are fertile and, infertile, to check the growth and development of the embryo. White eggs should be tested for fertility on the third day. Brown shelled eggs on the fifth or sixth day because it is difficult to see the embryo clearly before this time.

A small reddish area with blood vessels extending away from it will be visible in fertile eggs. This is the embryo floating around inside the egg, looking like a huge red spider. If the embryo dies, the blood draws away from the embryo and forms what is called a blood ring. All clear eggs and eggs showing blood rings or streaks should be removed from the incubator. If eggs are not candled during the early stages of incubation, it will be difficult to determine whether the egg was fertile; embryos that die early soon decompose and are not easily distinguished from rotten eggs. Candle the eggs every few days to observe the growth and development of the embryo.

So what happens inside an egg?



The embryo has grown significantly and the eye is usually visible (the darkest 'blob' you see in the egg). There are digits on the feet, the heart is completely enclosed in the thoracic cavity, and the embryo is starting to look more like a chick. Feathers start to grow from day 8.

There is a sack attached to the embryo that is called the allantois (shown in blue). This goes around the back and head of the embryo and holds the waste. This is the yucky bit you will find left in the shell when the chick hatches. The yolk sack is now very red and full of blood vessels that go out into the albumen (egg white). The air sack at the broad end of the egg has increased slightly in size.

What happens next? Eventually, the chick will fill almost all of the space inside the egg and the air sack will increase further in size. When the chick finally hatches, it will break through the inner membrane into the air sack to take its first breaths of air. It will crack / push through the shell with its egg tooth (attached to the end of the beak). This allows further oxygen into the air sack so the chick can continue to breathe.

Over the final 24 hours, the remainder of the yolk sack will be absorbed, this will give the chick enough energy to turn inside the shell and slowly break from the shell as it goes. It will then use its feet to push itself out of the shell.

There is little point in candling eggs during the final few days other than to check for the air sack size because you will not see much. The chick almost fills the shell. If you assist a chick in hatching, you take the risk of removing the shell too soon, before the yolk sack has been absorbed and before the navel has healed over where the allantois was attached. High humidity in the incubator will stop the membrane from drying out, keeping it soft and easy for the chick to break out. Chicks do not need food for the first 24-48 hours after hatching thanks to the energy they get from the yolk sack (this is why commercially they can sell and ship chicks as day olds' around the country).