

T h e Pheasant Pen

WASHINGTON ORNAMENTAL & GAME BIRD BREEDERS



Larry Clark
15016 269th Ave SE
Issaquah, Wa 98027

www.wogbb.com

JANUARY 2014

Harry J. Hardy

4566 Portland Street

Burnaby BC CANADA, V5J2N9

Zip code not valid!

Dues Thru 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

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Honorary Members

• Jim Abernathy	• George Allen Jr.
• Westley Batterson	• Edna Goldstone
• JoAnne Elbert	• Phil and Bobby Krueger
• Jim Harvey	• Bruce Morgan
• Joe & Marge Longo	

WOGBB President's message

Short and sweet – This is our planning meeting for the year - please attend and let us know what you what to do this year for meetings.

The meeting this month is at the Burke Museum, it will be a once in a lifetime opportunity to get behind the scenes of their ornithology department.

The plan is to get done in time to get to a sports bar or other establishment to watch the big game, so note the time change.

I hope to see you at the museum.

Larry

Treasurer's Report

Checking as of Jan 1 \$1713.95

Savings as of Jan 1 \$200.96

Total of accounts \$4214.91

WOGBB Meeting Minutes

December 15, 2013

On December 15, 2013 a medium sized gaggle of club members each apparently willing to forgo another day on their own farm to honor the business of the Club by attending the last minute relocated Christmas party meeting held at the Poodle Dog Restaurant, at Fife, Thurston County, Washington. Unfortunately at the very last moment Vice President Craig Holmes was called upon to work the day so that sent Larry Scrambling to find an alternate site for the Christmas party meeting.....and the default location was, again, the Poodle Dog. All attending understood the predicament of last minute rescheduling and lamented the loss of much of the Christmas spirit and festivities we have all come to enjoy through the years with Christmas parties alternating over the years between various members private homes. Something about Christmas in the home of members, with all the decorations, presents under a Christmas tree, and best of all, a feast of pot-luck dishes supporting a ham and turkey cooked fresh from the oven simply can't be compared to ordering off the menu at the Poodle Dog, no disrespect for the Poodle Dog intended, of course.

By the time pleasantries were exchanged, food ordered and enjoyed, the meeting formally was called to order at 3:00 p.m. Minutes from the November meeting were approved as printed in the Pen. Treasurer Steve Dazey reported that he was awaiting receipt from Craig of the \$500 paid on behalf of the club on account of the Club's participation in the Animals of the World exhibition at the September Puyallup Fair. Members commented that this represents a substantial portion of the club income and makes club projects much easier to finance. The fact that most members have arranged to receive The Pheasant Pen via E-mail means that the club now recognizes considerable savings in postage and printing costs, while members receive the added benefit of instant access and ease of virtual storage and retrieval of past issues. Evidently the mailed copies of the Pen are now down to fewer than a dozen each month. Hopefully, all members, including honorary members, will follow up with providing Larry with E-mail addresses where they too can receive their monthly copy of the Pheasant Pen and the Club will be able to totally forego hard copy printing and postage for mailing the same.

Larry then led a discussion of the current state of the Club's effort to create and manage a workable virtual presence via a club sponsored website. He summarized the history of the current website development efforts which have been spearheaded of recent years by Vice President Craig Holmes, with a not insignificant investment in outside hired assistance. Most fortunately, new members Arnold Wang and Becky Sundstrom spoke up and volunteered to jump in and assist moving the project to the next level. Arnold designs and manages websites professionally and feels it should be a reasonable expectation that with his volunteer assistance the re-constituted website for the club should be up and running by March 1, 2014.....and all without a significant depletion of the club treasury to accomplish this lofty goal. Hopefully Arnold and Larry will find both the time to debrief about the current state of site development, to develop the technical nuts and bolts of a user friendly website, and to provide a step by step orientation to the same for those of us neophyte members who barely navigate the internet and who have literally resisted the temptation to begin even a basic introduction to social media. Baby steps, please, but it is exciting that we now find the promise of a working website, grown from within. First just the website.....then perhaps down the road to include a social media component.....Who knows? Perhaps 2014 can indeed be a banner year for exploring the possibilities for greater communication within Northwest Aviculture.....even if that means doing so through greater reliance to the world of virtual communications. But please, members don't get the notion that our website will substitute for direct face to face communications with and between our members!!!

One further item of old business: Larry will get after Craig to follow through with ordering the black vinyl coated chicken wire are specifically authorized back in October. Any members who are planning new pen construction in 2014 or 2015 are urged to contact Craig or Larry and firm their order if they wish to get in on the very favorable price and shipping terms which the Club's co-operative purchase will promise to offer. Those of us locally who have been using this product now for up to ten years or more have many good things to report and commend it to our members for general acceptance and usage. So long as the product is not simply abused by asking it to survive hookbills (parrots) or to double as primary cage enclosures for the likes of vinyl chewing dogs, etc., use of this class of fencing product does truly extend the useful life of our aviary enclosures by ten or more years. Add to that the fact that the black color provides greatly enhanced visibility into enclosures while reducing visual unsightliness of rusted chickenwire and a good case can be made for use of this product. I still would not recommend reliance upon any mere chickenwire strength product, without backup support or exterior primary enclosure security fencing where dogs, coyotes, wolves, bobcats, and/or cougars are a menace, for most backyard aviaries it does have enough to commend its use throughout the aviary. My experience is that it serves the purpose of excluding raccoons, skunks, mink, and housecats much better than any of the sessile or plastic nettings so often relied upon to reduce the cost of top of cage enclosure products. All of the purely plastic or fabric products, including even heavy duty fish netting will permit entry with little to stop raccoons, etc. and are simply not worth the effort of installation if one values her birds alive more than as feed for vermin.

As new business, Larry reviewed preliminary plans for 2014. January is firmly scheduled, 3rd Saturday for the Burke Museum tour in Seattle. Full details including map and instructions and anticipated highlights will be outlined in the January Pen by Larry. February meeting remains open. The hope is that March will be scheduled to coincide with the spring migration massing on the Skagit Flats---hopefully to be hosted by Maynard Axelson as in years past. April will be Spring Fair at Puyallup. September will be the Puyallup Fair. This leaves plenty of monthly meetings for members to host---If you are willing to host a monthly meeting please contact Larry or Craig and get your bid in early---hopefully the calendar for the year can be fleshed out pretty well by the end of January. Larry says he is open to suggestions and hopes to involve more of our members---including members brand new to the fancy---in meetings and programs in 2014!!!!

With no further pressing business to address the meeting was adjourned and all present participated in our annual fun gift exchange---with one notable twist this year: For I think the first time in the club's history no one "stole" the gift from another member!! All despite some really cool gifts. Steve Dazey displayed his own artistic creations of hand crafted pens, razors, and other curios made of unique woods from around the world and which he personally turned and finished using a micro lathe. And he sold some to members who wanted to give one of a kind gifts, too.

JANUARY Meeting

January 19th **12:00 NOON**

BURKE MUSEUM

Locate on the University of Washington Campus

John Klicka (*Don and Betts Baepler Endowed Professorship and Curator of Birds*) will be our host and give us behind the scenes tour, show where and how they preserve the birds that they receive for their collections. There are flesh eating beetles that they use on some things. The collection of birds is pretty impressive and all that is not familiar to the public.

The museum is open 10-5 pm on Sunday.

There is a café available for a lunch and beverages.

Location, Map, and Directions

The Burke Museum is on the University of Washington campus at the corner of **17th Avenue NE and NE 45th Street**.

Visit by car

- **From I-5**, exit east onto NE 45th Street. Travel east on NE 45th Street to 17th Avenue NE (Memorial Way). Turn right onto 17th. The museum will be immediately on your right.
- **From Highway 520**, exit north onto Montlake Boulevard NE. Turn left onto NE Pacific Street. Turn right and head north on 15th Avenue NE. Turn right and head east on NE 45th St. Take your next right on 17th Avenue NE (Memorial Way). The museum will be immediately on your right.
- Museum parking is operated by the University of Washington. Enter the UW campus at 17th Ave NE (Memorial Way) and NE 45th Street.
- Parking is free on Sunday's

"The plan is it have our meeting first, than tour the facilities in time to get some ware to watch the football game, so don't let missing the game be an excuse for not coming"

Editor's Note: For an article this month, I am reproducing the Introduction and the Standards for a Lady Amherst Pheasant. As you read the introduction you will understand the purpose and use of this standard. These standards are in use today to judge bird shows like the Utah Pheasant Society Show that Craig Holmes and I attended in November. Do note the color picture reproduced in this article is not from the Standard. The Standards pictures are in black and white so I picked some color pictures as reference. I am not a judge nor do I pretend to be one so take a look at these pictures or compare them to your Lady Amherst and see how they stand up to the Standard. Throughout 2014, I will reproduce different birds for you to review, if you would like a complete copy of the latest Standard, 1988 printing, let me know and I will get you in contact with the Utah club who has copies available.

CHINESE RINGNECK PHEASANT

(*Phasianus colchicus torquatus*)

Description

Male

HEAD AND NECK:

Forehead, iridescent bluish-green.

Crown, greyish-bronzy green with narrow well defined white eyebrows.

Throat, Neck and Tufts, bluish green with violet reflections.

Ear Coverts, dull black.

Collar, white, interrupted in front, wider on sides.

Wattles, scarlet, with a patch of purplish blue below the eye.

Beak, horny tan.

Eyes, red to yellow, pupil dark brown.

BODY:

Mantle, medium golden yellow, with black markings.

Upper and Middle Back, greyish blue green, with green and buff bars extending into upper rump.

Rump, grey, with tinges of blue and green, the sides of rump greyer edged with rufous.

Breast, purplish red, the sides lighter bordered with black.

Abdomen, bluish-black.

Flanks, light golden yellow; with large black markings.

WINGS:

Scapulars, maroon-chestnut, with black and pale buff markings.

Coverts, light grey, the greater with maroon chestnut elongated markings.

Primaries, light earthy brown, barred with whitish buff.

Secondaries, like the primaries except with less markings.

Tertiaries, chestnut, with black and pale buff markings.

TAIL:

Upper Coverts, grey, tinged with blue and green.

Rectrices, olive tan, with broad black cross bars through the center and with pink or mauve fringes,

Under Coverts, chestnut and cinnamon, more or less mottled with black.

LEGS AND FEET:

Thighs, greyish brown, with buff markings.

Legs and Feet, horny grey.

SIZE:

Size, small upright stance.

Length: 29 ¹/₂ - 31 ¹/₂ inches.

INDIVIDUAL VARIATION IS CONSIDERABLE.



CHINESE RINGNECK PHEASANT

(*Phasianus colchicus torquatus*)

Description

Female

HEAD AND NECK:

Crown, barred black and brown.

Face, whitish with black and buff markings.

Throat, plain whitish buff.

Neck, blackish with chestnut borders and a greyish buff tip, glossed with purplish pink.

Wattles, red

Beak, horny tan.

Iris, brown.

BODY:

Mantle, chestnut in the center with blackish brown and buffy grey borders.

Back and Flanks, buffy grey strongly mottled with blackish brown.

Upper Breast, buffy grey with small blackish brown mottling.

Lower Breast and Abdomen, pale buff finely vermiculated with blackish.

WINGS:

Coverts, blackish brown, strongly mottled with buffy grey.

Primaries and Secondaries, brown, with buff bars.

TAIL:

Tail, brown, vermiculated with black and chestnut, buff and black bars and spots in the middle.

LEGS AND FEET:

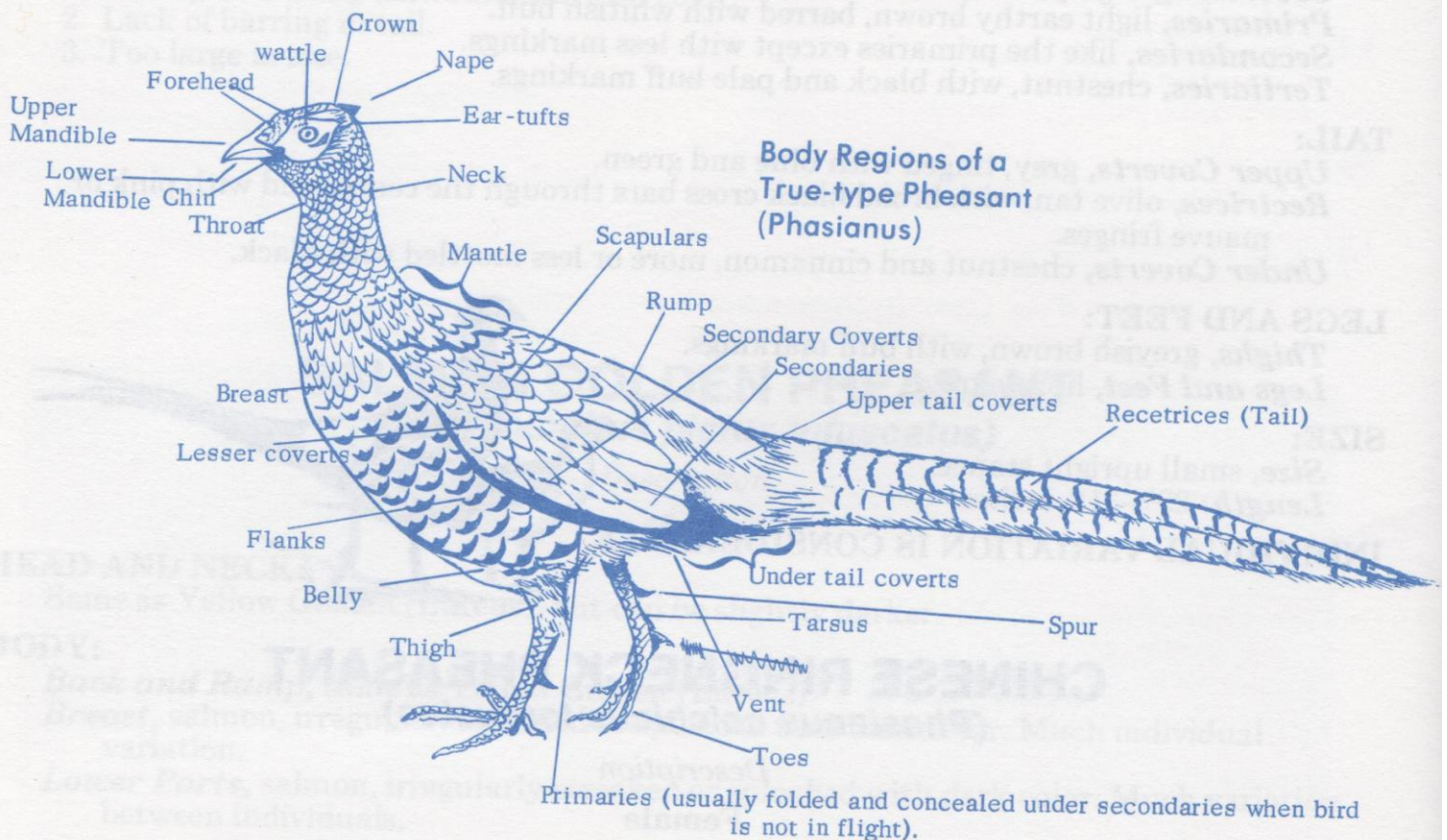
Thighs, buffy mottled with grey.

Legs and Feet, brownish grey

SIZE:

Size, small

More strongly mottled and darker appearing than blackneck and mongolian hens.



EDWARDS' PHEASANT

(*Lophura edwardsi*)

Description

Male

HEAD AND NECK:

Crest, white, and short, some feathers mixed with black.

Head and Neck, dark-blue.

Face Wattles, scarlet with two large lobes above and below.

Beak, whitish-green, blackish at base.

Iris, reddish-brown.

BODY:

Mantle and Upper Back, dark blue, the feathers having large, silky, blue fringes.

Lower Back and Rump, dark blue, with subterminal deep black and terminal metallic blue borders.

Breast, dark blue, the feathers with large, silky, blue fringes.

Abdomen and Vent, dull black.

WINGS:

Scapulars, dark blue, with subterminal deep black and terminal metallic blue borders.

Wing Coverts, dark blue, with subterminal black and terminal metallic green borders.

Secondaries, dark blue.

Primaries, brownish-black.

TAIL:

Tail Coverts, dark blue, with subterminal deep black and terminal metallic blue borders.

Rectrices, blue, comparatively short and straight. Central Pair rounded, not pointed, nor longer than the second and third.

Length: $9\frac{3}{4}$ - $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

LEGS AND FEET:

Thighs, dull black.

Legs and Feet, crimson.

SIZE:

Length: $22\frac{3}{4}$ - $25\frac{1}{2}$ inches.



EDWARDS' PHEASANT

(*Lophura edwardsi*;)

Description

Female

HEAD AND NECK:

Head and Neck, chestnut-brown, greyer than on the rest of the bird, no apparent crest.

Beak, horny brown.

Iris, hazel brown.

BODY:

Mantle, chestnut-brown, but redder than general color of the rest of the bird.

Body, chestnut brown; whole plumage very finely and inconspicuously vermiculated with black and the shafts of the feathers light brown.

WINGS:

Coverts, chestnut brown; very finely and inconspicuously vermiculated with black and the shafts of the feathers light brown.

Primaries, dark brown.

TAIL:

Three Central Pairs of Rectrices, dark brown.

Other Rectrices, black.

Length: $7\frac{7}{8}$ - $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

LEGS AND FEET:

Legs and Feet, scarlet.

SIZE:

Length: 21-22 inches.