

## It's Show Time in the Great Show Halls of the A.G.H.A.

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Show time means training time. Picking the Show Team and total concentrated preparation to get these young show birds ready to compete to their very top ability. For those that show old birds, they are already trained and mostly need a good feed schedule and supplements that you may give them. In this writing, we will concentrate on preparing the young birds for show.

First the part that genetics plays. If a bird doesn't have the total package there is no use if putting time into him or her. Let's take the body (36 points)- if a bird doesn't come into this world with the genetics to have a body, there isn't enough feed in the world to put one on them. You have to have something to work with and genetics is the way to do it. Here at H&H, we have not kept a bird that didn't have a body for many years and all of the birds in our loft have a good body. A top show bird has to have the total package including a good head and the ability to show but the body is the most important. The good head on a Giant Homer is must and it is a constant challenge to breed. Always remember- a good head is the hardest to get and the easiest to lose! The ability to show can make a difference in the show results. The ability to show is a trait that can be inherited, top show birds will not pass it on to all of their produce. Those that do receive it should always be considered for breeders.

Show coop [ training is a must to have a successful show bird! One hour once a week is enough as you don't want to them to become pets. Handle them firmly but gently as once they find out you aren't going to put them in the gumbo pot they will respond to the training you give them. A Brewer's Yeast pill down the throat at this time is good as it is an appetite enhancer and makes their feathers shine. Pro-Bios a couple of times a week gets their gut in good shape and is just plain good for them.

Here at H&H, we give Red Cell vitamins along with the Pro-Bios. We also give the show team electrolytes a week prior, during, and after the shows. A bath once a week with Borax water (2 tablespoons to 5 gallons of water) is a favorite treat for the team. It helps them to be bug free for show time.

**Always remember to handle your birds like the potential champions they are and they will respond. If you are fortunate to have a champion, your Giant Homer will have crossed and survived many hurdles on the way to becoming Champion. You and your Champion will have to work at it but it's worth it .**

**We hope you have that Champion!**

### **PICTURE FROM THE PAST**



**Ed Berthelot of Santa Fe, Texas and Glenn Saucier of Ville Platte, La. in deep discussion at the 2008 American Giant Homer Futurity in El Reno, Oklahoma.**