

CANADIAN INDIAN FANTAIL CLUB

The Canadian Indian Fantail Club held its final show of the 2013 year end at the CPFA National Show that was held in Sarnia on Feb 1-2, 2014. The show organizers have worked hard for a year to make this a memorable show and deserve our thanks and admiration. The show was tremendous in so many ways; the hall was well set up; the entries were full; the quality was evident everywhere; the banquet was great; the elite auction was amazing....

The CIFIC show was a huge success. For starters the judge was none other than John Heppner, the master himself. I think everyone was excited to have John looking at their birds and he commented more than once on the impressive quality of the birds being shown. While we didn't break records for the number of entries the show had good numbers of exhibitors and birds. A main exhibitor was Rick Leimann, as he has been for many years with our club. To say that Rick makes a difference would be a huge understatement. He has shown, judged and let birds go to the other members of the club for over 20 years and without his involvement the club would be much further behind where it is. Rick placed 4 birds in the "elite auction" held Sunday morning and they sold for a combined amount of around \$900 with 3 of the 4 birds going home with club members and the fourth bird going to California.

The show itself was dominated by birds brought by Rick as well. The show champion was a young mealy cock. The judge called it a "game changer". What a great way to describe this bird. It was a large bodied bird with rock solid stance. The most impressive trait though was the tail. One of the largest tails most of us have ever seen but carried perfectly balanced on this bird. Truly impressive. This bird will be seen for years in the shows. The first runner up was an old white cock in perfect show shape again shown by Rick. It is a testament to Rick that in spite of his sweep of most of the classes that the members of the club are genuinely happy for him.

The club also tried to be innovative at this show as well. To start with 4 of the members had their wives with them so we arranged to make sure the girls all had casino gift certificates on Saturday morning. Nothing goes over better than winning money! We had the usual brass tags at the show for the show winners. We also had plaques made for champ and the reserves. The plaques had a glass mount that allowed a picture to be inserted under it. We arranged to bring a photo printer to the show and the winners were photographed, the pics were printed and placed in the respective plaque right at the show so that the actual bird could be displayed along with its award. It was very well received by the club members and will become a staple for the show winners at club future shows.

The CIFIC has moved forward at an impressive rate lately and the club is signing members at every show. The camaraderie among the club members is obvious and the members make it their mission to make sure new members are given a great start with their birds. If you have ever thought of adding Indian Fantails to your list of breeds now is a great time to join our club.