

Arie Saarloos and Son (Klaaswaal, NL) A family team that brings home ace pigeon titles for the long distance year after year

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Arie Saarloos and his son Bert along with his family make up this great combination. A very successful team for the long distance races. First starting with Aarden based pigeons and later infused the lines from the old champion of Belgium Noel Peiren who is still competing at a high level. These laid the basis for the success that Arie and Bert still enjoy today. They recently bred and raced one of the best long distance pigeons of Europe named "The Blue Dusk." Everyone was talking about this pigeon and the performances he was putting up.

Basis of their family and how the team started

The first pigeons that were brought in were Aarden based, after this the Hagens Bros from Achthuizen were visited in 1988. From here youngsters were bought from the best pigeons, such as the "De Rode Kweker".

Fresh blood for the loft was searched for in the autumn of 1995 and for that Saarloos came to no one less than Noel Peiren from Zedelgem (Belgium). The best lines were brought to Klaaswaal from here too, such as from the lines of "De Apollo" and "De Artiest".

The first successes came in 1997 from national Montauban in sector 2 raced with yearlings. From this Montauban flight there were 5.717 pigeons, and the Saarloos Combination took 2e National.

After this, pigeons were acquired from the master from Zedelgem every year. At least 95% of the pigeons in their lofts have the Peiren blood. This resulted in a super year in 1999 with all the first championships and also due to a super pigeon crowned as the "Wondere Peiren." This cock came directly from Noel Peiren and was given to them as a youngster. The 'Wondere Peiren' became 1st national Ace Pigeon Extreme Long Distance and world champion extreme long distance in 1999, with the following prizes.

6e National Bergerac 14.284 p.

8e National St. Vincent 8.566 p.

12e National Dax 5.856 p.

There are still some children of the Wondere Peiren in their breeding lofts. Pigeons continue to come to Klaaswaal from Noel Peiren to freshen the line and always from his best. Mr. Peiren means a lot to the Saarloos family and has been a big influence in them and their success.

Bert Saarloos was brought in contact with pigeons for the first time in 1980 through his neighbor. These were fancy pigeons and high flyers. Through the presence of these pigeons there came an unexpected racing pigeon in the loft. Through the presence of this pigeon a lot is stemmed. Bert became a member with the pigeon association as young boy in the youth category.

In 1984 Bert's competition in the youth category came to an end due to his age and was forced to compete with the great seniors. This brought about the combination A. Saarloos & Son. Arie (the father of Bert), in the meantime stopped with his football (soccer) career. This combination became a good working team.

The ideas about care and quality were on the same level. The two men are from a family of five and could race with the pigeons with 100% support from mother Marry and the sisters Folke and Carla. Marry the mother of the family was "the Power" behind this beginning combination. She became in the course of the years the report center for the pigeon club and has done this a number of years. Through support of their mother and sisters the combination has become what they are now.

The first ten years.....

The first ten years the combination did not partake in the long distance and raced the regular series from all different distances. The first successes came in 1985 during the flight from St-Vincent which they flew for the first time. The "226" won the first prize in the Hoeksche Waard (regional). The "226" was two hours ahead the second pigeon. This resulted in 18e National of 19.344 p. The passion for the long distance was born that day.

Now, 25 years into the future and there have been a lot of beautiful, but also sad moments. As every pigeon fancier experiences. The recent top results and championships of the combination A. Saarloos & Son you can read in the performances. The sad moments are the races when some pigeons never come back when there were high expectations or are unable to race anymore because of injuries or something else. In the meantime Bert has gotten a lot of support from his wife Erica. She came in contact with racing pigeons for the first time through Bert. The enthusiasm she feels is a special experience and every time when the first pigeon of the race arrives, that special enthusiasm is there for Erica and Bert also.

The gentlemen are very strict in the care and cleaning, and Erica has learned that also in the meantime.

System flown and preparation for the long distance races along with feeding, supplements and medications used

When the season starts, the pigeons go every week to a race. In addition, the pigeons get two middle distance races between 400 and 500 kilometers. Then the season for the long distance starts and before they start racing on the distance, they have flown in between 1500 and 2000 kilometers.

The supplements they use are vitamin minerals from the vet for the food along with conditioning powder. The natural products from dhp of the Darba brand (www.darbaculture.com) are used. They also use garlic, carrots and peanuts. Peanuts are given every day during the racing season.

The feed they use is a light mixture from the Beyers brand and the Vandenabeele series. That is a type of condition mix, and then as the weekend approaches they get the high-fat mix of Garvo HR7000 mix.

In regards to medication Bert is very alert to lice and puts drops on the feathers by using the Schroeder brand. In the winter months they cure for worms and in the spring against canker if necessary, but this must have been confirmed by a vet who takes a throat smear.

Most important championships won

2019

3^e Pyreneeën cup

16^e Keizer Grote Fond

7^e National Ace Pigeon All Races (De As 19)

9^e National Ace Pigeon All Races (De Favoriet)

Top National Results 2019

Pau 84^e – 132^e – 186^e – 211^e -235^e- 307^e 10 of 18

St-Vincent 24^e-29^e-41^e-63^e-85^e-202^e-226^e 9 of 14

Perpignan 74^e-161^e-199^e-338^e 7 of 14

2017

3e WESM

3e WESM 8 entered

1e Euro Diamond Pigeon Award

Winner Euro Diamond Perpignan

1e International Ace Pigeon Perpignan 2016-2017

1e International Ace Pigeon All Races 2016-2017

1e Ace Pigeon toppigeons fondspiegel ZLU 2-years classification

1e Ace Pigeon Barcelona 4- year classification

2016

2e Ace Pigeon ZLU All Races 2016

2e Ace Pigeon Narbonne (4 years ZLU)

3e Ace Pigeon Narbonne (4 years ZLU)

3e W.E.S.M.

6e W.E.S.M. (8 entered)

FBZ: 2e non-nominated , 3e nominated, 2e general, 1e Marathon, 2e Best Ace Pigeon .
15e International Ace Pigeon Barcelona 3 years
16e International Ace Pigeon Barcelona 5 years

2015

1e ZLU Toppigeons Marathon Fondspiegel 3 year classification
1e Non-nominated Champion FBZ
1e Non-nominated Grote Fond Samenspel 3
2e Non-nominated Champion International Fond Zuid-Holland
2e Pyreneen cup ZLU
2e Ace Pigeon ZLU Noord and Zuid Holland with "Super 24"
2e National Ace Pigeon with "Super 24"
3e Keizer Champion Extreme Long Distance ZLU
5e Europabeker
5e Europamarathon
8e West European Super Marathon

2014

1e Europa Marathon 2014

1e ZLU Toppigeons Fondspiegel classification category 3
1e General Champion FBZ
1e Nominated Champion FBZ
1e Non-nominated Champion FBZ
1e Ace Pigeon Noord en Zuid Holland "Crack 808"
1e Keizer Samenspel 3 ZLU
2e Non-nominated Champion ZLU Zuid-Holland
2e Marathon Champion FBZ
2e and 4e Ace Pigeon FBZ
3e Keizer Champion ZLU Zuid-Holland
4e Europabeker
4e International Ace Pigeon Europabeker
6e Keizer Grote Fond ZLU
9e Pyreneen Cup

2013

- 1e Keizer Grote Fond Zlu 2013
- 1e Keizer Grote Fond Samenspel 3 2013
- 1e Non-nominated Champion Int. Fond Zuid Holland 2013
- 2e Keizer Int. Fond Zuid Holland 2013
- 2e Ace Pigeon Int. Fond Noord en Zuid Holland 2013
- 2e General FBZ (vriendenclub Flakkee, Barbant, Zeeland) 2013
- 4e Non-nominated FBZ 2013

2012

- 2e Keizer Int. Fond Zuid Holland 2012
- 4e Non-nominated Champion Int. Fond Zuid Holland 2012
- 2e Ace Pigeon Int. Fond Zuid Holland 2012
- ("281" brother of Le Tarbes)

2010

- 1e Super Prestige ZLU 2010
- 1e Keizer Int. Nat. Fond Zuid Holland 2010

2006

- 1e Champion Noord en Zuid Holland 2006
- 1e Champion NPO afdeling 5 Zuid- Holland 2006
- 1e Keizer Champion Overnight long distance Attractie Zuid- Beijerland 2006

2005

- 1e Champion Overnight long distance (non-nominated) Hoekschewaard 2005
- 3e Champion Non-nominated Extreme Long Distance Zuid-Holland 2005

2004

- 1e Champion Marathon FBZ 2004
- 1e Champion Overnight long distance (non-nominated) Hoekschewaard 2004
- 2e Champion Generaal FBZ 2004
- 3e Champion non-nominated FBZ 2004
- 3e Champion International Extreme Long Distance Gouden Duif 2004
- 3e Champion non-nominated Extreme Long Distance Zuid-Holland 2004

1999

- 1e World Champion Extreme Long Distance (versele laga) 1999
- 1e Super Champion Noord and Zuid Holland 1999
- 1e Champion Westelijke Marathon 1999

1e National Champion Pigeon N.P.O. Extreme Long Distance 1999
1e Champion non-nominated Extreme Long Distance Zuid-Holland 1999
3e Champion International Extreme Long Distance Gouden Duif 1999
1e Ace Pigeon Extreme Long Distance Zuid-Holland 1996
1e National Champion Multi-day long distance 1995
1e Super Champion Noord and Zuid Holland 1995

Current top racer of their loft and top birds in the breeding loft

Their best racing pigeon is currently the As 19. In the breeding loft is The Blue Dusk, D'n Arie Crack 808, Zoon Perpignan, Bonte Filipijn, Zoon Witslag and Witpen Barcelona.

Goals for the future

Their goal is to win a 1st national and to produce good racers from their top breeders. Also, having good races with great results makes Bert a happy man.

Secret to their success according to Bert

First, their pure strain keeps the pigeons strong. They often work with the pigeons and are with them as much as possible. Observing and taking the time to care for the pigeons is important. Watching the pigeons, their behavior, their energy. Having a good selection and not giving preventative medicine. Just as with humans, an animal remains strong if it can resist the germs itself as much as possible. Building resistance is good. In case of an illness they go to a veterinarian and coordinate an approach for the sickness. They go every 8 weeks to have the birds checked for health. Bert also says that success comes from taking the time and being patient with breeding and looking for the right pairings. Also, obtaining bloodlines where generations of champions come from.