

# **The History of the Chinese Owl**

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Where the Chinese Owl came from is anyone's guess. The most popular theory is that the birds were imported into Germany along with shipments of African Owls from North Africa.

The Chinese Owl was very popular in Germany around 1850 and they were first exhibited in Paris in 1865. The first Owls were all blue bars unlike those today. Now the Chinese Owl is bred in almost all colors, with many new colors being developed each year. The Chinese Owl of today is one of the smallest birds shown, with the cock being about 10 oz. and the hen about 8 oz.

The first Chinese Owl club in the U.S. was founded in New York in 1947. Walter Hollowell was the first president and James Kesselring the first secretary. Its name was the United Owl Club. The first Chinese Owl Club in California was formed in 1951. D. H. Andrews was elected president and William Hawkinson Sr. the secretary. Today we have the National Chinese Owl Club as the largest club in the U.S.

With over 100 outstanding breeders in the U.S. and Canada, the Chinese Owl is quickly becoming one of the more popular breeds at the shows.