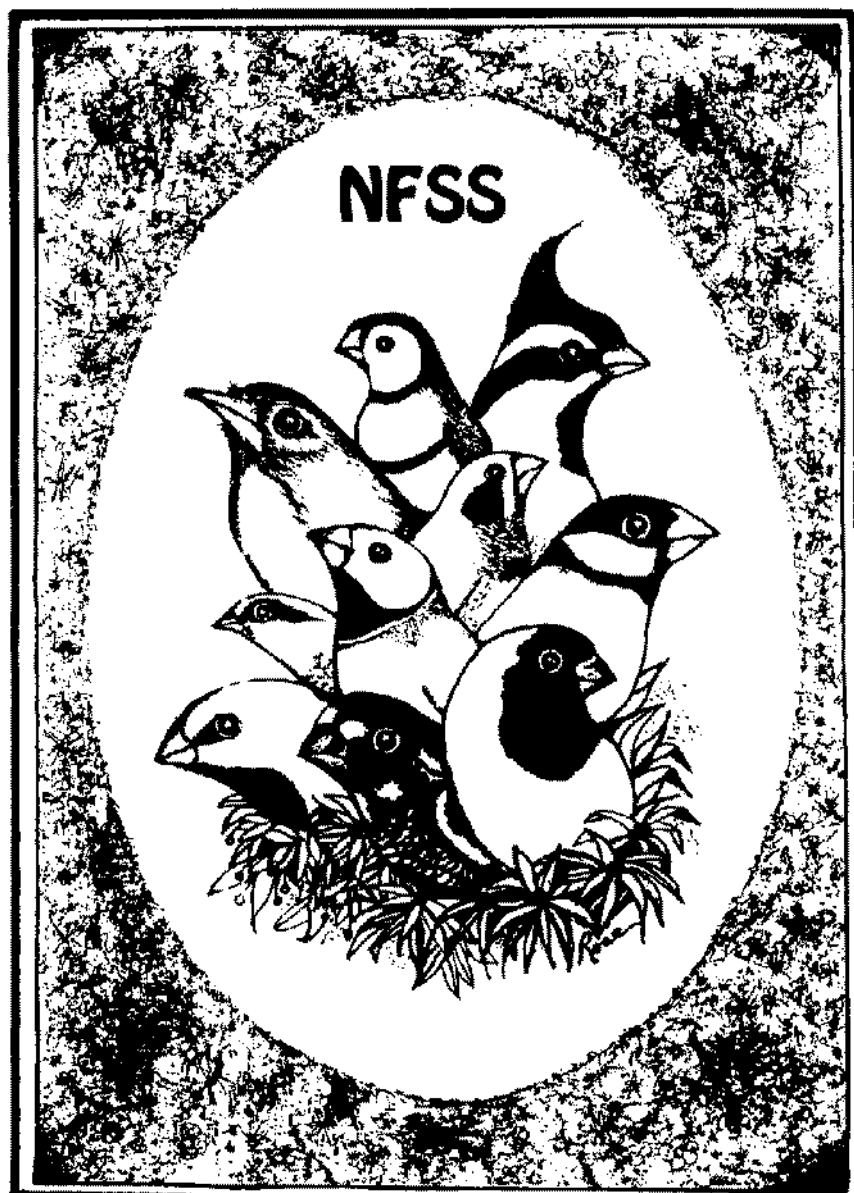


The NFSS Bulletin

Vol. 14 No. 6



National Finch & Softbill Society

November—December 1997



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Thank you to you all!!

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In this issue:

The election results for the 1998/1999 NFSS Board of Directors have been tallied and the new elected individuals are listed at the end of News & Notes.

We have several articles from our regular authors. Dale Laird gives us some words of advice about who you might want to buy birds from and why. Tim Roche this issue writes about the European Blackbird. Ron Castaner tells us about how he prepares his birds for winter. We get introduced to the new NFSS editor, Kerri McCoy, when she talks to us about a special finch she had. Gail Kaitschuck describes how she successfully hand-fed a tiny Owl Finch. Also in this *Bulletin* is part I of another workshop that gave at the 1997 Annual AFA convention. Another Star Finch Standard Proposal is being published. In the 1997 Handbook issue (July/Aug) I printed the incorrect bylaws. The correct bylaws therefore are reprinted in this issue. Finally is the annual Cumulative Index for all *Bulletins* from April 1984 to the present.

Deadline for the next issue is
January 1st 1998

Send to:

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Birmingham, AL 35243

The NFSS Bulletin

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NFSS Logo, adopted Fall 1994
by Rose Gianferrara, Bonita Springs, Florida

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NFSS News & Notes

A New Editor has been chosen

Three highly qualified and superb members stepped forward to apply for NFSS editor position. The Board of Directors had a tough decision in choosing from the three candidates. After much deliberation Kerri McCoy, from Birmingham, Alabama was voted as new NFSS editor of the *Bulletin*. The Board, and myself, would like to deeply thank the other two candidates for their offer to assist NFSS as editor. It truly was not an easy decision. Ms. McCoy will take over as editor beginning with the next issue, the Jan/Feb 1998 issue.

Addition to 1996 Annual Census Report

Mr. Mains phone number was not included in the census report. Here it is and please add it to your census listing.

Wayne Mains KY-3170 (606) 581-8997)

New Census Manager

New FinchSave Manager, Daniel Almaguer, will take over as Census Manager from Stephen Hoppin. The NFSS membership, and aviculture as whole, owes a big thank you to Mr. Hoppin for all his work with the census over the past two years. Please:

Remember the Annual Census :

The NFSS Annual Census provides aviculture and aviculturists with much needed information. The census provides finchkeepers with a way to contact other members that are keeping certain species; it gives NFSS members an idea of what species of finch and softbill are out there; it provides some data on what species could be considered common or rare; it also gives us an idea on how the status of those species has changed over the years; and much other information. So please, no matter how big or small your collection, take the time to fill out the Census Form that will be included in the Jan/Feb 1998 *Bulletin*. Alone none of us would be able to keep birds indefinitely. We all depend on each other, so please help contribute to all of our knowledge and be part of the census program.

Apprentice Judges Update

Dennis Lewis of Florida has passed the NFSS test to apprentice to become a judge.

Current List of Apprentices:

Frank Hudson of Texas

Jerry McCawley of Arizona

Dennis Lewis of Florida

All must apprentice three times. To date no apprentice reports have been received.

Inactive Judge Rejoins the NFSS Judges Panel

The NFSS Board of Directors has voted to reactivate Martha Wigmore to the NFSS Judges Panel.

1997 Election Result

The election for the 1998/1999 term of the NFSS Board of Directors is complete. The turn out for this election was tremendous. 337 members returned their ballots. The turn out was up almost 400% from the last election. Most of the credit for the increase in votes goes to the election committee for all their hard work. The election committee was made up of Clarence Culwell, Ginny Allen, and Charlie Anchor. The membership thanks you three.

The Newly Elected Board is:

President	Ron Castaner	Liaison Officer	Ginny Allen
1st Vice President	Dale Laird	Region #1P	Kris Kroner
2nd Vice President	Martha Wigmore	Region #2VP	Armando Lee
3rd Vice President	Daniel Almaguer	Region #3VP	Tom Rood
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Executive Secretary	Paul Williams	Region #6VP	Sally Huntington
Treasurer	Lynda Bakula	Region #7 VP	* Tie vote
Leg Band Secretary	Eileen Laird		

* votes for Region #7 Vice President were a tie between two candidates. Second ballots have been sent to members of that region for a second vote.

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From the Editor's Desk



Last issue's (Sept/Oct 97) article "Gouldian Finches" apparently had some inaccurate statements concerning the genetics of Gouldians. I need to first apologize to the author for allowing those inaccuracies to be printed. One of the jobs of the editor is to verify all facts and I am at fault for missing those. I also apologize to the membership for the errors.

Several members wrote to me in response to those incorrect statements. I would like the entire membership to know that writers for the *Bulletin* receive no payment or gift of any sort for their articles. These generous people submit their work out of the kindness of their heart for the benefit of the rest of us. If you look back of the years you'll see that several people have given articles on a regular basis to NFSS. The enlightening and enriching Dale Laird is one, the intelligent and giving Tim Roche is another, and Ron Castaner has also been one. I sincerely thank those three contributors, and the many others over the past two years, for their dedication. Without them the last two year's *Bulletins* would not have mounted to much.

Whether someone is a Board Member, or they are running for a Board position, has no effect on whether or not someone's work is printed. Please keep in mind that only the editor receives any monetary

gain, all other officers of NFSS are volunteer positions. From the President to Regional VPs; Band Secretary and FinchShop to Awards and Census Managers they receive nothing, except maybe some emotional gratification, for all their hours of endless hardwork. Without the dedication of these volunteers, of officers and authors, the rest of us members would have nothing to enjoy every other month.

As I said I made a couple of mistakes. I just mentioned one, the other is that I printed the wrong by-laws in the July/Aug 1997 *Bulletin Handbook* issue. In this Issue I have reprinted the most current, and correct, NFSS bylaws. Again I apologize for the error. I am my toughest critic and it seems the more I try the more I mess up. Reminds me of a 60's song that has a phrase, "If I never would have loved, I never would have cried." If I only would not have tried, I would not have made mistakes.

I'm not a big sport fan but I saw a commercial once with Michael Jordan that impressed me. I don't remember what the commercial was for, but it had Michael Jordan stating all the miss shots and mistakes he has made during the games over his career. At the end of the commercial he says that if he hadn't tried and made all those errors he would not be as great as he is. I'm not saying I'm a great editor. I don't seem to have the nack for fine details that it

takes. But with all the mistakes I have made, I have never given up.

For those unaware; the NFSS editorial staff consist of me and an outdated computer. The editor receives \$200 for each issue. That really doesn't pay bills and a "real" full-time job is also necessary.

It is nearly impossible to read a book or periodical that doesn't have some incorrect, or atleast controversial, statement. Proir to the 6th century, the leaders and great minds of the time beleived that the Sun, and all other planets, revolved around the Earth. late 5th or early 6th Century. a physicist and astrnomer. Galileo Galilei, came to realize that the Earth rotated around the Sun. We now know that Galileo was right. Does that mean that those people who beleived that the Sun moved around Earth should be negatively critized no matter what contribution they made to society.

Before they discovered of our current knowledge of genes and genetics, scientists over the ages have had all kinds of theories of how living things acquired characteristics from their parents. One of the greatest minds of the 19th Century was a man by the name of Jean Baptiste Lamarck. Lamarck believed in a theory that an animal received characteristics from actions of its parents. For example; Lamarck beleived if we wanted a longer Society Finch what we needed to do was to stretch out the parents for awhile then breed

them. The offspring would be slightly longer than the normal Society. We could then stretch the bahies and hreed them for even longer birds.

We all know this incorrect, hut is that a reason to mock Lamarck. He made a lot contributions to the science of hiology. Lamarck is not remembered as an idiot, but as an extremely intelligent man who just beleived wrong in how characteristics are acquired.

This is how our building hlocks of knowledge are created. Incorrect ideas maybe beleived and stated until a more correct idea is found and proven to others. When Galileo realized that the Earth was revoloving around the Sun it was up to him to prove it to others, and in a positive way. If Galilieo would have run around telling everyone they were wrong and he was right; we would remember someone else as discovering the fact that the Earth revoloved around the Sun.

The same rules apply to our knowledge of aviculture. If you read something that you beleive to be incorrect it is your duty to rectify things with proof and do so in a positive manner. There are enough people outside our little world of aviculture attacking us, that we definitely do not need to attack each other. Instead if we use proof to correct our knowledge and in a positive manner aviculture will continue to grow.

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Who Do You Buy a Bird From?

*by Dale Laird
Winter Park, FL*

When you go looking for your next companion Amazon or the mate for that gorgeous female finch you have, what do you look for?

Is it a bird that the parents have been compared to a standard developed for that species and evaluated by a number of recognized experts in that field? Does the seller have the bird close-banded or micro-chipped to prove the parentage and line the birds came from? That is one of the reasons I show birds and when somebody asked me for a reference of who to buy a bird from, I send them to another exhibitor. The primary reason is most successful exhibitors only breed healthy full bodied birds that come the closest to meeting the standard for that species. That is the only way a top exhibitor can be consistently successful on the show bench. With but a few exceptions, almost all the standards call for the bird to have a straight top line, wings well set against the body and wing tips meeting at the base of the tail. The eyes are clear and properly positioned. The bird is not puffy or lethargic. This is a very broad description but meets most birds.

I have seen some very nice breeder's homes who are only

interested in how many they can breed. I have also seen the very worst. When we get caught up in the numbers and not the quality of the birds, the hobby suffers. Unless we have a professional who is trained to evaluate the quality of the species look at our birds we may never know if we are producing top quality birds or just breeding for the numbers. A couple of years ago a Gouldian breeder was bragging that he had raised 54 Gouldians (fostering the babies) from the one pair he was selling. The male had a roller coaster back, drooping wings tips, lumpy breast, and no substance in the back end. The female was small and skinny (after that many eggs in one year; no wonder). I can only assume all the babies looked as bad as the parents.

Exhibition breeders usually do not breed in large numbers per pair. They may have a number of birds for sale but that is normally from having several pairs of excellent quality birds on hand.

I have expressed this opinion on more than one occasion and had bird owners become defensive concerning the quality of their birds. I can only say "Put you best in a show cage and let's have an expert take a look at them." You may be right. See you at the next show.

European Blackbird (*Turdus merula*)

by Tim Roche
Tewksbury, MA

European Blackbirds are members of the thrush family and are common over Europe. They are regular visitors to urban gardens throughout the continent. The male is a handsome sooty black with a yellow bill which turns deep orange in the breeding season. The female is brown with the same yellow bill throughout the year. The young resemble the female but are much more streaked. The colour is what first attracts one to this bird, but it is the song which really endears it and has made him one of my personal favorites. Delivered from a house apex or lofty perch, or even sometimes in flight, his melodious ramblings are unlike that of any other thrush. Unlike the repetitive songs of many members of his family, the Blackbird attains soprano status at the bird opera.

Diet is extremely important to the well being of this bird. First a good quality moist insectivorous food should be standard. Chopped cheese and finely diced fruit and vegetables should also be provided. Outside the breeding season, their consumption of live food is not that vigorous, and a half dozen mealworms or other grubs will take care of their daily needs at that time.

Because of their size (almost 11") the Blackbird is best maintained and bred in a decent size aviary. Somewhere around the 10' X 6' X 6' is sufficient for a pair. These birds love to search the open ground for morsels, so aviary planting should be kept to a minimum with one or two small conifers being sufficient. The birds I have owned have never been fussy about a nest site when it comes time, building just about any where it was big enough to hold their structure. Course and fine dried grasses with a bowl of mud are necessary for nest construction. Four to six green speckled eggs hatch after a fourteen day incubation. At this stage, live food should be increased according to the growth of the chicks. Earthworms, snails, crickets and abundant mealworms will all be fed to the gaping yellow mouths of the ugly young. Being a thrush, and thus territorial, the Blackbird pair should be housed alone, as inclusion of any other of the genus in the enclosure will result in death. Indeed they should not even be kept in sight of each other as this distraction often interferes with breeding.

Its been 11 years since I last kept and bred this bird, but having written this article, my design pencil is out for the construction of a new aviary. I haven't seen any at shows in the Northeast, so if anybody knows of their existence in the country, I'd be grateful if you would E-mail me at TRoche@aol.com or phone (508) 851-3053.

Life with Oonie

*by Kerri McCoy
The new NFSS Editor
Birmingham, AL*

We aviculturists spend an exorbitant amount of time trying to become better educated about our chosen hobby. Whether it is reading an avian medical journal, or studying a genetics chart, we are all constantly trying to retain more and more information in hopes of bettering our ability to care for our precious feathered friends.

What seed do you use? How much a pound? Ob, try this set-up, guaranteed to bring you breeding success. The list could go on and on and on. At the end of the day though, where do the majority of us "retire"; to our bird rooms, of course. Not to read an avian medical journal but, to simply sit and enjoy our birds.

Too many articles out there that you find in magazines deal with the sterile aspect of bird keeping. What about the reasons why we keep the birds in the first place? Our passion for them is what drives us. Why not write specifically about our passions from time to time.

My greatest love and passion so far in my bird keeping has been my remarkable relationship with a female Blue Cap Cordon Bleu named Oonie. Little Oonie was

brought into this world by a set of parents that although were great breeders, and "hatchers", were lousy parents when it came time to care for what they had created.

Countless times before Oonie there had been other clutches that were always abandoned on the twelve day mark. I donned my "Bird Mom" hat and took over the parenting process myself. I am proud to say that I have a flight full of beautiful Blue Cap babies that could not have survived had I not raised them myself.

But, Oonie was special. She was the only chick in the clutch that had survived. She had a strength about her; and I believe to this day she was kept alive so that I would have the experience of knowing and loving her.

Normally when I handraised birds (which is only when necessary), I do not spend the time with the birds to allow them to fully bond with me. I want them to grow up and be birds. I want the males to sing like their fathers and the hens to call like their moms. Oonie was raised in completely the same way but she just wouldn't accept that I was not truly Mom.

From the very beginning she chose to be with me. Whether it was flying to land on my arm when I opened the cage or refusing to leave my finger and go back on her perch. Initially I fought it. I didn't want

her to bond with me. How would I find the time to devote just to her? But, she was relentless. Finally, my heart gave in and Oonie became much more than just another feathered friend in my bird room but, a very special and personal part of my life. I loved her.

Oonie became part of the family. All four dogs in the house knew better than to ever lay a paw on her. My three year old son would anxiously ask if he could "hold her" and even my husband would be found in the dining room talking to her from time to time.

I have never in the years of bird keeping had a finch that was so devoted to a human being. Oonie would sleep in the crook of my neck while I typed away on the computer. Anytime she heard my voice in the house she would call to me, begging me for my attentions, which I gladly reciprocated.

When Oonie passed away I was completely and totally devastated. My heart ached to hear her little voice and my body yearned to feel her warmth on the crook of my neck. I buried Oonie beneath the rose bushes in the garden that receives all the afternoon sunshine. I still on occasion visit with her. She was my friend.

When you have that next clutch you are so excited about, look past the numbers in the nest, or the possible show winning potential. Look into those sweet little eyes and be so very thankful for the incredible miracle that is before you.

Hand-feeding Owl Finches

by Gail Kaltschuck
Augusta, GA

Yes, I can personally attest to the fact that you can feed something as small as a newborn Owl Finch and live to talk about.

It all started when I found myself with two new Owl Finch babies, skittish parents who refused to feed them and no Societies with babies small enough to place the new babies in. I had handfed abandoned Gouldian Finches, Zebras and Cutthroats but never anything as tiny as Owl Finches. I knew without intervention these fellas were not going to make it so I really had nothing to lose.

Out came my Water Nanny brooder, fully heated to the highest setting and in went the babies, placed on a bed of tissue in an egg poaching cup with holes in the top to provide humidity. The first challenge was finding a utensil small enough to feed them with; syringes were out as were toothpicks. I finally chose a series of artist's paintbrushes, trimmed to various number of bristles. The first brush contained only 6 bristles, the next 12 and so on. I figured

that if I made it to 1/2 of a hrush, I was home free. I had learned from handfeeding other finches not to introduce formula too rapidly. Hydration seems to be the key issue. The first three feedings were warmed gatorade only; then I graduated to a mixture gatorade and handfeeding formula, mixed to a consistency of gruel.

As the habies grew, the formula became thicker and they were able to take in more at a feeding.

How often to feed and whether to feed at night seems to be controversial in handfeeding. With such tiny birds, I handfed every two

hours for the first two weeks from 6 am to 11 pm; during the night I stretched this to 3 to 3 1/2 hours. After two weeks, I stopped night feeding as the babies are big enough to sleep through the night. Also, by this time, I am pretty exhausted. I work full time in a hospital but managed to plan my counseling sessions around the birds feeding schedule. As for folks asking what the Water Nanny was I was carrying into work, I just said it was a cooler to hold my beer and did not elaborate further.

It was during this time I got the news that my father had died and I had to fly up to Chicago for the funeral. Well, 2 Owl Finch babies (and two Cutthroat babies) checked

through two airports, two x-ray machines and traveled with me everywhere, even to the church for the funeral. It was bit bizarre but I was determined these little fellas would make it.

With such tiny birds, I handfed every two hours for the first two weeks. . .

And make it they did. Back home, they were getting fully feathered and quite loud in their demands for food. Interestingly, the Owl Finches weaned much easier than the Cutthroats; the Owls were nibbling on eggfood and millet a full 2 to 3 weeks before the Cutthroats even showed an interest in getting off of the formula.

And it is not true that handfed finches cannot be used for breeding. Once weaned, the Owl Finches were placed in cages containing their counterparts and although they remain very calm and less flighty than non-handfed finches, they do revert back to the wild; in fact, one is now in a nesting situation and as I write this, is sitting on her first batch of eggs. Hopefully she will be a good parent and I can hang up my 6 bristle paintbrush, egg poaching cup and Water Nanny for good.

PREPARING FINCHES FOR WINTER

by Ron Castaner
West Palm Beach, FL

*Written specifically for the "National Finch and Softbill Society".
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It is time again for our little feathered friends to get ready for another winter. I hope this will help you to get ready and to prepare you in case of any emergency: such as power loss etc.

Finches do not do very well in a cold climate, especially the wax-bills and the Gouldians. They come from and warm climates, so if they are not properly adjusted to their current climate, they may not survive. The change of weather plus a brisk wind is enough to send them into shock. So please, keep them out of any draft of any kind. Also, if any nest boxes are exposed to the weather, make sure to cover them because if the parents are not keeping them warm they will die in a matter of minutes.

Outdoor flights should be covered. I use visqueen, a brand name of plastic sheeting, and place portable heaters in each flight if the temperature is expected to be very low. Remember to make sure the

heater is not too close to the front of anything and that there is a grate in front of the element. Place it in a convenient hut out of the way place where the finches will not be in any danger of getting burned. Make sure it is not too close to the wire on the front of the flight, this will get very hot also and could burn their feet.

You can pick up some portable heaters in a thrift shop or Goodwill. Normally they are priced between five and fifteen dollars. Do not wait until the last minute as they sell quickly. Ask the sales person to plug them in to see if they work properly before you buy them.

Cold winds and dampness are one of the main enemies of finches in outdoor aviaries, not just low temperatures. Warmth is a serious necessity at night. Finches do better in an outdoor aviary in the summer, and it is also less trouble for the aviculturist. But the winter does create a problem, so be sure to give yourself enough time to prepare to meet their needs.

Living in South Florida, I cover all my outdoor flights by the end of November. Heat produced by an open gas flame or smoking oil lamps is likely to prove disastrous to birds and should therefore be avoided. Remember to give them plenty of fresh air. If the heated air lacks humidity, the birds will lose the luster of their feathers and individual feathers become dry and brittle. Humidity may be supplied

simply by placing a pan or dish of near boiling water in some part of the aviary. Place a piece of wire over top to avoid any accidents.

I also leave a forty watt red bulb on with perches close by so they can get the extra warmth if needed. When finches that have been living in an outdoor aviary for some time suddenly refuse to enter the sheltered area, it is almost certain the sheltered area does not have enough light. Finches object quite strongly to entering a dark area. So it is of great importance that the sheltered area be bright enough to attract them inside. I also place several night lights so they can navigate with ease during the night. Strange noises can send the whole aviary in to an uproar.

The correct temperature at which finches are kept is a matter of considerable debate. Although acclimated finches will tolerate lower temperatures, I recommend the lowest should not be less than sixty (60) degrees. Below this, the finches utilize a considerable amount of energy simply keeping the body warm and I feel their general condition and breeding performance will suffer. Make sure if you cannot control the temperature outside, specifically for Gouldians and waxbills, bring them inside until it warms up.

Another item to consider is if they have a container for bathing. make sure to give it to them during the warmest part of the day. If it

does not warm up then avoid it all together, or use warm tap water and use a heat lamp so they can dry faster and will not get a chill.

In cold weather finches require more carbohydrates, oils, and proteins since they provide the energy for body heat. Build your birds up on a good egg mixture, soaked seed, fruits, vegetables, and vitamins. All are a must to get them through the winter.

In the event you are hand feeding babies, make sure to have some heating pads on hand. Also, you may want to think about a warmer you can plug into your cigarette lighter. Then if there is a loss of power, you can still heat formula etc. Most pharmacies today sell the chemical heating pads that work great. Any one of these ideas should enable you to save the babies.

One of my main objectives I have been striving for is to develop a hardy strain of finches. If you have a good, selective breeding program, disease free, strong, healthy birds, which have proven to be of good quality for a couple of years, you might be able to keep them in a cooler climate. I can only relay what I have found to work for me.

In closing, I would like to wish each of you a healthy and successful winter with your little friends. Good luck!!

Finch Availability: Past Present, and Future and the Need for Cooperative Breeding Programs (Part I)

*by Robert Petrie
Kansas City, MO*

**Authors note. This is one of two workshops I had the privilege of giving at this years AFA annual conference. I gave this talk to help spark some more interest in our FinchSave program. I felt the membership might enjoy the talk. This is only part of the talk and hopefully part II will follow in the next Bulletin.*

The various species of finches available to the average American aviculturist have gone through many changes over the past several decades. The major factors causing the changes began in the 1960s with Australia's ban on all wildlife imports and exports. This shaped what species of Australian finches are and are not available today in the US. Then in the early part of the 1970s the US. government implemented a mandatory quarantine requirement on all imported birds into the country. The quarantine requirement came about do to the outbreak of Newcastle disease and its threat on the poultry industry. This quarantine requirement changed who and how birds would be brought into the country. In 1992 the US. government enacted the Wild Bird Conservation Act, the WBCA, which has had pronounced effect on what species are currently available. Each one of these factors has been influential in shaping the finch population in American aviculture, and just as importantly is the question of what effect will these factors have on the future availability of finch species?

What is a "Finch"? The term finch is not a scientific classification like an Order, Family or Genus. It is a commonly used term for small Passerine birds whose diet contains primarily seeds. For the purpose of this paper we are defining a "Finch" as a bird species belonging to any of the following: the Families Estrildidae, Ploceidae, and Fringillidae and the Subfamily Emberizinae of the Family Embrizidae. For those like myself who can never remember what species belong to what Family. The Family Estrildidae is composed of the typical African and Australian finches like the waxbills, mannikins, parrot-finches, pytilias, twinspots and those types of birds. There is currently some debate about the Family Ploceidae and in this paper we have include the Weavers, Whydahs and Old World Sparrows in the Family. The Fringillidae family is the canary type finches, such as the Serins and Siskins and other European finches like the Linnet and Chaffinch. In the Family Emberizidae we have only included the Subfamily Emberizinae, which includes the old World Buntings, the Grassquits and the South American Seed eaters. We have excluded the

Cardinals and Grosbeaks of the Family *Emberizidae* because of their larger size and the fact that they are typically managed more like softbills. According to Brookes, M. and Birkhead, T. 1991 there are 124 species of *Estrildidae* finches, 150 species of *Ploceidae* finches, 148 species of *Fringillidae* finches, and 281 species in the Subfamily *Emberizinae*. That gives a total of 703 species of what we are considering to finches in the world.

One of the intentions of this paper was to put together a list of species that are, or were, found in American aviculture. The list was not intended to be absolutely complete but to include the vast majority, atleast 95% of the species, so that we may get a good picture of the various species once in the past and/or presently found in American avicultural collections. The list was compiled using several different sources for reference. We used the many avicultural books that included finches, journal and magazine articles, past and present lists from quarantine stations, species listed in the classified sections of national avicultural magazines. From those sources we have created a list of 152 species of finches that are known to have been found in American aviculture. There most likely are a couple of rare species not included on the list that are kept by some aviculturists, but the list still gives us a good reliable picture of the species in our collections. Although it may appear to be a relatively long list, when compared to the number of finch species in the world it is a small portion. Only 22% of the known finch species have been a part of American aviculture.

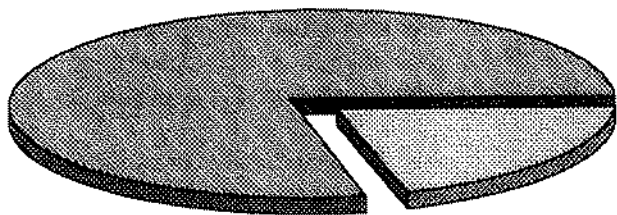


Chart 1. Percentage of known captive finch species to the known finch species in the world

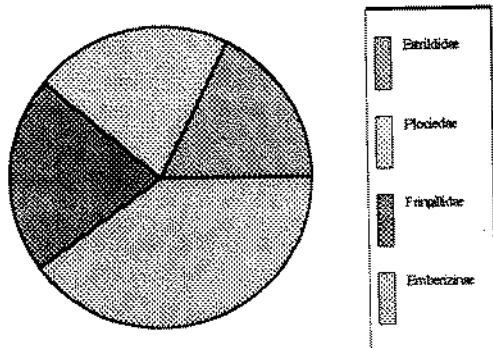


Chart 2. Percentage the families make up of all the known species of finches of the world

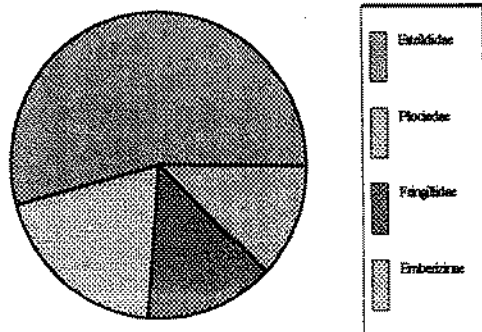
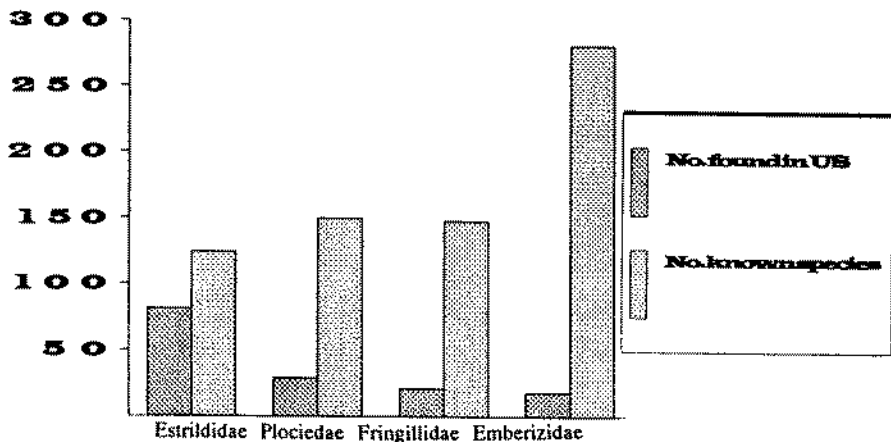


Chart 3. Percentage the families make up of the known finches species in American aviculture

Chart 2 displays how the Families and Subfamily make up the percentages of the entire known finch species in the world. It shows that the Subfamily Emberizinae is makes up about 2/3 of all known Finches. The other three Families each only make about 1/5 of the known finches. Chart 3 displays how the Families, and Subfamily, make up the North American captive population. It instead shows that the Family Estrildidae makes up about 2/3 of population and the other three are each 1/5 or less.



From chart 4 it is apparent that more than half the Estrildid finch species have been found in the US; where as, a much smaller percentage of the Families Ploceidae and Fringillidae and Subfamily Emberizinae have been a part of our collections. To anyone that has been a finch enthusiast for very long here in America this information should be no surprise.

Another intention of this paper was to use the previous mentioned list to try and give an estimation on the availability of each species of finch in the future. To just pick a finch species and state, "I think 'blank' will be common in American aviculture in the future", is quite arbitrary and subjective. We were looking for an estimation that would be more objective and based upon the past and present trends of the individual species. This estimation or probability number needed to be based on two things. First how rare or common is the species in American aviculture. If a species is still being imported into the country in fair numbers than it was considered common. Secondly the number needed to reflect how many individuals of that species are being reproduced in captivity. We did not look at whether a species was considered difficult to breed or not, instead whether or not it was being reproduced. If a species is a free breeder and hardly anyone breeds them it has the same effect as a rarely bred species. The probability number would then be derived by multiplying the two given numbers together.

The first number was based upon our assessment of the current availability of the species here in America. A number on a scale from 0 to 10 was assigned to each species, with 0 being no individuals of the species being found in the United States and 10 with the species as available as Society or Zebra Finches. Again any species still being imported was considered common, 7 to 9. The second number was based on the known frequency of breedings in captivity. Once again the species was given a number on a scale from 0 to 10, with 0 being the species has never bred in captivity. Ten is the frequency of breedings is as high as those of Society and Zebra Finches. These two numbers were then multiplied to give us a number that is an estimation of the future availability of the species. Although there is a certain degree of subjectiveness to the numbers, any disagreement should only change the numbers slightly and since they are just estimations they can still be considered reliable, especially when comparing the different species to each other.

This estimation or probability number assigned to each species may have little merit by itself, for example the probability number for Rosy-rump Waxbills was 45. That doesn't necessarily mean there is a 45% chance that Rosy-rumps will still be available in the future. But when we are able to compare that with other species like Red-eared Waxbills that scored 63 or Black-check Waxbills that scored 24 we get a good idea how much better Rosy-rumps chances are than Black-checks but not as good as Red-ears at still being available in the US in the future.

*Table of Finches Species and the assigned Estimation Numbers

Common Name	Scientific Name			Probability #
Society Finches	<i>Lonchura domestica</i>	10	10	100
Zebra Finches	<i>Poephila guttata</i>	10	10	100
Gouldian Finches	<i>Chloebia gouldiae</i>	10	9	90
Masked Grass Finches	<i>Poephila personata</i>	8	6	48
Parson Finches	<i>Poephila cincta</i>	8	6	48
Shaftails	<i>Poephila acuticauda</i>	9	9	81
Star Finches	<i>Neochima ruficauda</i>	9	8	72
Crimson Finches	<i>Neochima phaeton</i>	6	6	36
Plum-head Finches (Cherry)	<i>Aidemosyne modesta</i>	8	7	56
Owl Finches	<i>Poephila bichenovii</i>	9	9	81
Red-browed Finches (Sydney)	<i>Aegintha temporalis</i>	2	1	3
Diamond Sparrows	<i>Emblema guttata</i>	8	8	64
Painted Finches	<i>Emblema picta</i>	6	4	24
Beautiful Firetails	<i>Emblema bella</i>	2	1	3
Redhead Finches	<i>Amadina erythrocephala</i>	7	7	49
Cutthroat Finches	<i>Amadina fasciata</i>	9	8	72
Quail Finches	<i>Ortygospiza atricollis</i>	5	4	20
Redheaded Bluebills	<i>Spermophaga ruficapilla</i>	3	3	9
Crimson Seedcrackers	<i>Pyrenetes sanguineus</i>	4	4	16
Aurora Finches	<i>Pytilia phoenicoptera</i>	6	7	42
Melba Finches	<i>Pytilia melba</i>	6	6	36
Yellow-winged Pytilias	<i>Pytilia hypogrammica</i>	5	6	30
Orange-winged Pytilias	<i>Pytilia afra</i>	5	6	30
Blue-faced Parrotfinches	<i>Erythrura trichroa</i>	9	8	72
Red-headed Parrotfinches	<i>Erythrura psittacea</i>	8	8	64
Peales Parrotfinches	<i>Erythrura cyaneovirens</i>	7	6	42
Forbes Parrotfinches	<i>Erythrura tricolor</i>	7	6	42
Bamboo Parrotfinches	<i>Erythrura hyperythra</i>	5	4	20
Pintail Nonpariel	<i>Erythrura prasina</i>	8	4	32
Green Avadavat	<i>Amanadava formosa</i>	8	5	40

Strawberry Finch	<i>Amandava amandava</i>	9	8	72
Goldbreasted Waxbills	<i>Amanadva subflava</i>	8	8	64
Red-faced Crimsonwings	<i>Cryptospiza reichenvoii</i>	8	5	40
Ethiopian Crimsonwings	<i>Cryptospiza salvadorii</i>	6	5	30
Yellow-bellied Waxbills (Swee)	<i>Estrilda melanotis</i>	8	4	32
Black-cheeked Waxbills	<i>Estrilda erythronotos</i>	6	4	24
Black-capped Waxbills	<i>Estrilda atricapilla</i>	4	3	12
Black-crowned Waxbills	<i>Estrilda nonnula</i>	2	1	3
Lavendar Waxbills	<i>Estrilda caerulescens</i>	8	4	32
Orange-cheeked Waxbills	<i>Estrilda melpoda</i>	9	7	63
Red-eared Waxbills	<i>Estrilda troglodytes</i>	9	7	63
St. Helenas Waxbills	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>	9	7	63
Rosy-rumped Waxbills	<i>Estrilda rhodopyga</i>	9	6	54
Peter's Twinspots	<i>Hypargos niveoguttatus</i>	8	7	56
Dybowski's Twinspots	<i>Euschistospiza dybowskii</i>	5	4	20
Dusky Twinspots	<i>Euschistospiza cinereovinacea</i>	4	3	12
Brown Twinspots	<i>Clytospiza monteiri</i>	2	2	4
Rosy Twinspots	<i>Hypargos margaritatus</i>	2	2	4
Green-backed Twinspots	<i>Mandingoa nitidulu</i>	6	4	24
African Fire Finches	<i>Lagnostica senegala</i>	8	8	64
Jameson's Fire Finches	<i>Lagnostica rhodopareia</i>	7	7	49
Black-bellied Fire Finches	<i>Lagnostica rara</i>	4	2	8
Bar-breasted Fire Finches	<i>Lagnostica rufopista</i>	4	2	8
Blue-billed Fire Finches	<i>Lagnostica rubricata</i>	4	2	8
Black-faced Fire Finches	<i>Lagnostica larvata</i>	4	2	8
Blue-capped Cordon-Bleus	<i>Uraeginthus cyanocephalus</i>	9	9	81
Red-cheeked Cordon-bleus	<i>Uraeginthus bengalus</i>	9	9	81
Angola Cordon-bleus	<i>Uraeginthus angolensis</i>	6	6	36
Purple Grenadiers	<i>Uraeginthus granatina</i>	7	4	28
Violet-eared Waxbills	<i>Uraeginthus ianthinogaster</i>	7	4	28

Indian Silverbills	<i>Lonchura malabarica</i>	9	8	72
African Silverbills	<i>Lonchura cantans</i>	8	8	64
Spice Finches	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	9	9	81
Rufous-backed Mannikins	<i>Lonchura nigriceps</i>	8	7	56
Bronze-winged Mannikins	<i>Lonchura cuellata</i>	8	8	64
Magpie Mannikins	<i>Lonchura fringilloides</i>	7	6	42
Pearl-headed Amadines	<i>Lonchura griseicapilla</i>	8	6	48
Moluccan Mannikins	<i>Lonchura molucca</i>	8	6	48
White-rumped Mannikins	<i>Lonchura striata</i>	8	6	48
White-hooded Nuns	<i>Lonchura maja</i>	9	7	63
Black-headed Nuns	<i>Lonchura ferruginosa</i>	9	7	63
Tricolor Nuns	<i>Lonchura malacca</i>	8	7	56
Black and White Mannikins	<i>Lonchura bicolor</i>	5	4	20
Grand Valley Mannikins	<i>Lonchura teerinki</i>	3	4	12
Pale-headed Nuns	<i>Lonchura pallida</i>	5	4	20
Yellow-rumped Mannikins	<i>Lonchura flaviprymna</i>	4	4	16
Chestnut-breasted Mannikins	<i>Lonchura castaneothorax</i>	6	4	24
Pictorella Finches	<i>Lonchura pectoralis</i>	6	4	24
Dusky Munias	<i>Lonchura fuscans</i>	5	3	15
White-bellied Mannikins	<i>Lonchura leucogastra</i>	5	3	15
Bib Mannikins	<i>Lonchura nana</i>	4	3	12
Java Rice Birds	<i>Padda oryzivora</i>	10	9	90
Timor Sparrow	<i>Padda fuscata</i>	7	6	42
Chaffinches	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	7	5	35
Brambling	<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>	5	3	15
Yellow-crowned Canaries	<i>Serinus canicollis</i>	6	4	24
Streaky Seed eaters	<i>Serinus striolatus</i>	6	4	24
White-bellied Canaries	<i>Serinus dorsostriatus</i>	6	4	24
Yellow-rumped Seed eaters	<i>Serinus atrogularis</i>	6	4	24
Green Singing Finches	<i>Serinus mozambicus</i>	8	8	64
Grey Singing Finches	<i>Serinus leucopygius</i>	8	7	56
Alario Finches	<i>Serinus alario</i>	6	4	24
African Citrils	<i>Serinus citrinelloides</i>	6	4	24

Brimstone Canaries	<i>Serinus flaviventris</i>	6	4	24
European Greenfinches	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	8	5	40
Eurasian Goldfinches	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	8	8	64
European Siskins	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>	8	5	40
Linnets	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	8	5	40
Red Siskin	<i>Carduelis cucullata</i>	7	7	49
Hooded Siskins	<i>Carduelis magellanica</i>	8	6	48
Black Siskins	<i>Carduelis atrata</i>	8	4	32
Himalayan Greenfinches	<i>Carduelis spinoides</i>	4	4	16
Black-headed Greenfinches	<i>Carduelis ambigua</i>	4	4	16
Eastern Great Rosefinches	<i>Carpodacus rubicilloides</i>	8	5	40
Dark Breasted Rosefinches	<i>Carpodacus nipalensis</i>	8	5	40
White-browed Rosefinches	<i>Carpodacus thura</i>	6	4	24
Pallas Rosefinches	<i>Carpodacus roseus</i>	6	3	18
Long-tailed Rosefinches	<i>Uragus sibiicus</i>	6	3	18
Masked Hawfinches	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	4	4	16
White-winged Grosbeaks	<i>Mycerobas melanozanthos</i>	5	3	15
Collared Grosebeaks	<i>Mycerobas affinis</i>	5	3	15
Grey-headed Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula erythaca</i>	8	3	24
Napoleon Weavers	<i>Euplectes afra</i>	7	6	42
Crimson Crowned Weavers	<i>Euplectes hordeacea</i>	7	6	42
Red Bishops	<i>Euplectes orix</i>	9	7	63
Masked Weavers	<i>Ploceus luteola</i>	6	4	24
Baya Weavers	<i>Ploceus philippinus</i>	6	4	24
Half-masked Weavers	<i>Ploceus vitellinus</i>	6	4	24
Scaly-crowned Weavers	<i>Sporopipes squamifrons</i>	7	3	21
Red-headed Queleas	<i>Quelea erythropis</i>	7	4	28
Red-billed Queleas	<i>Quelea quelea</i>	7	4	28
Rufous-tailed Weavers	<i>Histurgops ruficauda</i>	8	4	32
White-headed Buffalo Weavers	<i>Dinemellia dinemelli</i>	7	4	28
Black Buffalo Weavers	<i>Bubalornis albirostris</i>	4	4	16

Yellow-mantled Wydahs	<i>Coliuspasser macrourus</i>	7	3	21
White-winged Wydahs	<i>Coliuspasser albonotatus</i>	7	3	21
Red Collared Whydahs	<i>Coliuspasser ardens</i>	4	3	12
Combassous	<i>Vidua chalybeata</i>	8	3	24
Paradise Whydahs	<i>Vidua paradisea</i>	8	2	16
Pintail Whydahs	<i>Vidua macroura</i>	8	2	16
Fischers Whydahs	<i>Vidua fischeri</i>	8	1	8
Queens Whydahs	<i>Vidua regia</i>	6	1	6
Blue-Steel Whydahs	<i>Vidua hypocherina</i>	8	2	16
Yellowhammers	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	8	6	48
Golden Breasted Buntings	<i>Emberiza flaviventris</i>	7	4	28
Cinnamon Breasted Buntings	<i>Emberiza tahapisi</i>	6	4	24
Yellow-throated Bunting	<i>Emberiza elegans</i>	8	4	32
Crimson Pileated Finches	<i>Coryphospingus pileatus</i>	8	4	32
Black-crested Finches	<i>Melophus lathami</i>	7	5	35
Collared Warbling Finches	<i>Poospiza hispaniolensis</i>	6	4	24
Saffron Finches	<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>	7	4	28
Lined Seed eaters	<i>Sporophila lineola</i>	6	4	24
Collared Finch	<i>Sporophila collaris</i>	5	4	20
Variable Seed eaters	<i>Sporophila aurita</i>	6	4	24
Black and White Seed eaters	<i>Sporophila luctuosa</i>	8	4	32
Parrot-billed Seed eaters	<i>Sporophila peruviana</i>	8	4	32
Chestnut-throated Seed eaters	<i>Sporophila telasco</i>	8	4	32
Band-tailed Seed eaters	<i>Catamenia analis</i>	8	4	32
Cuban Melodious Finches	<i>Tiaris canora</i>	8	8	64
Olive Finches	<i>Tiaris olivacea</i>	6	6	36
Jacarini Finches	<i>Volatinae jacarini</i>	6	6	36

Revised Star Finch Standard

Proposal

(*Neochmia ruficauda*)

Proposed by Luis Garcia for the National Finch and Softbill Society
This is a revised proposal of the Star Finch Standard. It is only a proposal and any comments considering this proposal should be sent to the Judges panel Chairman.

*The Star Finch requires a little more effort to keep in top condition than most other finches, for this reason 30 points instead of the normal 25 will be awarded to this bird for Condition. Also since there are two distinctive sub-species (*N. r. ruficauda* and *N. r. clarescens*) of the Star Finch different in color pattern, I feel that 30 points instead of the normal 20 should be awarded to this bird for Color and Markings.

CONFORMATION	35 POINTS
Head and Body	20 pts
Wings	10 pts
Tail	5 pts
CONOITION	30 POINTS
COLOR AND MARKINGS	30 POINTS
DEPORTMENT AND PRESENTATION	5 POINTS

CONFORMATION (35 POINTS)

(distributed as follows)

HEAD AND BODY: 20 POINTS The head of the Star Finch shall be rounded and taper smoothly into the back of the neck without any depression or nip. On the cock the top of the head will be more flat.

There are two subspecies of the Star Finch, *Neochmia ruficauda ruficauda* and *Neochmia ruficauda clarescens*.

The body, on *N. r. ruficauda* will be 4" to 4 ¼" in length, this includes a short 1 ¼" tail and on *N. r. clarescens* it will be 4 ½" to 5" in length, which also includes a 1 ¼" tail. The body should not appear thin or snaky, but shall be more muscular at the chest and shoulders and taper to the tail. (More so on *N. r. clarescens*)

WINGS: 10 POINTS The wings shall be carried tightly to the body and must meet neatly at the base of the tail without touching. Dropped wings or wings puffed out from the body will be a fault.

TAIL: 5 POINTS The tail shall measure 1 ¼" in length, it shall taper slightly and should appear compact. A fanned or uneven tail will be a fault.

CONDITION (30 POINTS)

The Star Finch is a bird that requires a little more work by its owner to keep it in top condition. It should not be dull and should appear to have a clean, satin-like appearance. All feathers must be clean and neat, no fraying or misplaced feathers should be present. Nails and beak must be clean and of proper length. Eyes should be round, dark and bright. The bird should look alert while being judged.

COLOR AND MARKINGS (30 POINTS)

COCKS: In *N. r. ruficauda* the beak is dull red, this red spreads over the facial area on to the top of the head and stops just before the eyes. The red goes around the throat and cheeks ending at the end of the eyes. The upper body and wings are a grayish-green. The upper tail coverts are dull brownish-red, with small dull white dots. The tail is dull red-brown with a dull grayish underside. The dots appear from white to yellow and start from the throat (none above the eyes) down the chest and around the body to its flanks, where they appear irregular. The underside is a dull whitish-yellow which mixes into parts of the body color.

In *N. r. clarescens* the beak is a bright crimson red which spreads over the facial area to the top of the head encircling the eyes, going around the throat and cheeks just stopping at the start of the neck. The upper body is a olive-green and the wings a dark olive-green. The upper tail coverts are a wine red, with white dots. The tail is burgundy-red with a shade of gray and grayish

underside. The dots are white and start above the eyes and proceed down around the back of the eyes. They proceed down both sides of the cheeks and chest to the flanks just below the wings. The dots on the chest are larger and continue to the flanks where they form two almost continuous lines which end at the base of the tail. The underside is a lemon-yellow that does not "bleed" into the body color.

HENS: The Beak color of *N. r. ruficauda* is similar to the male, but the red on the head is limited to the frontal part of the forehead just above the nostrils. The body is a duller grayish-green and the underside is more of a whitish-yellow. On *N. r. clarescens* the red of the beak is similar to the male, however the red of the facial area stops just before the eyes on the head and cheeks. The body color is a duller shade of the male as is the yellow underside. This hen also has dots above the eyes but smaller than the male.

MUTATIONS:

PIED: The pied Star Finch will have areas of yellow or white feathers mostly around the face and wings, with some markings on the back. The marking should average out as close to 50% base color and 50% yellow or white pied. (NOTE: These markings should not be confused with the yellow or white feathers which appear on older birds.)

YELLOW-FACED: Beak and facial area bright yellow-orange instead of red with more intensity in color. Body color the same as normal male and female.

DEPORTMENT AND PRESENTATION (5 POINTS)

The Star Finch should be alert and remain fairly calm, it should perch at a 45 degree angle and show inquisitiveness while being judged.

*****Authors note:** The Star Finch Standard has had many contradictions since its original publishing in the Jan/Feb 1991 issue of the *Bulletin*. The main reason for this is due to the large number of hybrids between the two subspecies in captivity. The point I would like to make with this proposal is that all birds should be judged based on the original wild types and not the hybrids. ***

National Finch and Softbill Society

BYLAWS

Adopted by the Board of Directors on September 5, 1995 and by the membership on November 16, 1995. Replaces those adopted on November 10, 1983, September 8, 1985 and March 15, 1987.

Preamble to Bylaws - The National Finch and Softbill Society is dedicated to the introduction of the enjoyment of keeping and breeding finches and softbills to all interested parties, enhance the knowledge of our members in keeping and care of these birds, encourage breeding programs, and cooperate with organizations for the preservation of aviculture in this country.

ARTICLE 1 - NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION

This organization shall be known as the National Finch and Softbill Society. It shall also be known in a more casual manner as "NFSS", hereafter known as the Society.

ARTICLE 2 - STATUS

The National Finch and Softbill Society is a nonprofit organization, as described in section 501 (C) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE 3 - HOME OFFICE

The principal office of the Society shall be specified by the Board of Directors and so publicized in the Society bulletin. This address will be the official address for communicating with the Society and thus shall remain as static as possible.

ARTICLE 4 - MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

PARAGRAPH ONE

The dues for the membership in the Society shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

PARAGRAPH TWO

Membership is available to single members as well as dual members. Dual means any two individuals residing at the same address. Any dual membership will receive only one copy of a Society publication; however, dual members will count as two individual votes in regard to Society elections or other business.

PARAGRAPH THREE

Junior membership will be available at a reduced rate determined by the Board to any applicant under the age of sixteen.

PARAGRAPH FOUR

If a member's dues remain unpaid for a period exceeding sixty days beyond written or published notice, said member's privileges shall end.

PARAGRAPH FIVE

Membership in the Society is a privilege. Any member who misrepresents the Society, holds Society property without authorization, or in any other way is injurious to this Society as defined as, but not limited to, violating the by-laws or making a flagrant action against the good of the Society, may lose his/her privileges of membership, and receive a prorated refund of his/her unused dues. In order to cause action under this Paragraph, a member must file a deposit of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) with the Society Treasurer, along with papers which shall support a claim against a member of this Society. Such claim shall be taken up by the Board of Directors. If the claim is ruled legitimate and results in the removal of a member, the claimant will receive his/her deposit back. If a claim is unfounded, the deposit shall be forfeited by the claimant.

ARTICLE 5 - TERM OF OFFICE, ELECTIONS, OFFICERS

TERM OF OFFICE

PARAGRAPH ONE

All officers are elected by the membership. Members elected to hold office in the Society shall serve for a period of two years. Appointed Manager positions, and other non-voting jobs in service of the Society are created or eliminated as needed by an action of the Board.

ELECTION

PARAGRAPH TWO

Elections will be held every two years, with the results announced at the annual membership meeting, or as may be occasioned by death or removal of an officer (note Paragraph 5 below). A ballot, either separate or included in the official bulletin of the Society, shall be mailed at least sixty days prior to elections. A majority of the ballots counted on the day of the annual general membership meeting shall determine the outcome of the vote. A postmark as it pertains to this Paragraph may be considered an official US bulk mailing receipt.

PARAGRAPH THREE

The Board of Directors shall appoint a Nominating Committee at the 2nd Quarter Board meeting, consisting of at least three members, who must produce a slate of officers for the election. The committee shall produce at least one name, and not more than three names for each office by August 1st. A write-in space must be allowed for each office on the ballot.

PARAGRAPH FOUR

All election of this Society shall be by secret ballot only. Ballots will be counted by an appointee of the Board of Directors. Such appointee cannot be an elected officer of the Society.

PARAGRAPH FIVE

In the event an Officer, either elected or appointed, dies, resigns or is removed, the Board may appoint a Pro Tem. If less than 180 days remain until the next regularly scheduled election the Pro Tem will serve until that time. If more than 180 days remain until the next regularly scheduled election, the Pro Tem will serve until a special election is held (not to exceed 180 days).

OFFICERS

PARAGRAPH SIX

President: The President of the Society shall preside over all Board of Directors meetings, annual membership meetings, and shall attend to the day-to-day operations of the Society. The President shall abide by the bylaws of the Society, and shall coordinate and delegate the activities of the other officers of this Society.

PARAGRAPH SEVEN

First Vice-President: Shall fill the position of the President in absentia. Shall be first in succession to fill the position of the President should the President be unable to fill his/her term. The First Vice-President shall coordinate the activities of, and be responsible for all Regional Vice-Presidents and will assist the Regional Vice Presidents with club affiliations as necessary. The First Vice-President shall chair the Education Committee and coordinate the educational programs of the Society.

PARAGRAPH EIGHT

Second Vice-President: Shall be second in line to the Presidency. The Second Vice-President shall also chair the Publishing Committee.

PARAGRAPH NINE

Third Vice-President: Shall be third in line to the Presidency. He/She will be in charge of "FINCHSAVE, the captive breeding program of the Society. He/Sbe shall participate in the FINCHSAVE Committee and guide the captains and breeders involved in the program.

PARAGRAPH TEN

Fourth Vice-President: Shall be fourth in line to the Presidency. Must be a NFSS Panel Judge as he/she shall serve as the Panel Director. The Fourth Vice-President shall also chair the Research and Standards Committee and be in charge of Specie Classifications. He/Sbe shall also be responsible for shows or exhibitions of the Society and member points arising there from.

PARAGRAPH ELEVEN

Membership Director: Shall be responsible for receipt and processing of new and renewal membership in the Society and for the maintenance of membership records for bulletin mailings and the use of the Board of Directors. Shall ensure that membership records are not released except as authorized by the Board of Directors.

PARAGRAPH TWELVE

Executive Secretary: Shall be responsible for recording the minutes of all Board of Directors meetings, special or national membership meetings that may be called from time to time and prepare and distribute the minutes to the Board members. The Executive Secretary, or designated representative, will have available at each meeting the most recent issue of Robert's Rules of Order. He/Sbe shall maintain an archive of all minutes and the Society's official documents. He/She will assist other Board members with correspondence as necessary.

PARAGRAPH THIRTEEN

Treasurer: The calendar year for the Society shall be from January 1st to December 31st. The Treasurer shall prepare and submit to the Board, at the 4th Quarter Board meeting, a budget indicating proposed income and expenditures for the upcoming year for approval by the Board. All funds, records, receipts, and expenditures for the previous year, or shorter period upon relief of the Treasurer, will be reviewed by two members of the Board of Directors, not to include the current Treasurer, as appointed by the Board of Directors. The results of the review will be included with the annual budget or presented to the Board upon relief of the Treasurer. Shall be responsible for the collections and keeping of all Society funds and assessments. Shall maintain a bank account, and deposit Society funds in the account under the name "National Finch and Softbill Society". with the President and the Treasurer as signatories

with one signature required. The President may not draw on the funds of the Society in excess of \$200.00 without Board approval. All funds, with the exception of the operating funds, are to be kept in an interest bearing savings account. The Treasurer will promptly deposit all Society funds and promptly pay with Society funds, kept in a checking account, all debts incurred by the Society at the direction of the Board of Directors. Society funds shall be used for the Society business only.

PARAGRAPH FOURTEEN

Leg Band Secretary: Shall be responsible for the ordering and issuance of official leg bands of the Society in accordance with the then policy of the Society. The Leg Band Secretary shall report to the President of the Society.

PARAGRAPH FIFTEEN

Liaison Officer: Shall be responsible for the interrelationships between the Society and other national and local avicultural organizations. He/She will also assist the First Vice-President and Regional Vice Presidents with club affiliations, and the Awards Manager as necessary.

PARAGRAPH SIXTEEN

Regional Vice-President: Shall be responsible for encouraging membership and club affiliation in the National Finch and Softbill Society within the region in which he/she resides. There is one Regional Vice-President in each region. Regional Vice-Presidents are responsible to the First Vice President. He/She will serve as part of the Educational Committee with the First Vice President. Regional Vice-Presidents are to encourage to hold at least one membership meeting within their regions annually.

PARAGRAPH SEVENTEEN

Honorary Officers: The Board of Directors may, by a majority vote, create a non-voting Board position to recognize a member's outstanding contribution to the Society.

ARTICLE 6 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PARAGRAPH ONE

The Board of Directors shall consist of all elected and appointed officers of the Society.

PARAGRAPH TWO

Quorum: The Board of Directors, having sole authority to conduct the business of the Society, shall decide matters by a simple majority of those

present at the Board meeting when a quorum of 50% of the Board members are present, or, for Board meetings conducted by mail, responding.

PARAGRAPH THREE

Board Meetings: The regularly scheduled Board meetings will be held either in person or by mail on a quarterly basis as designated by the Board of Directors. The quarters shall be calendar quarters beginning with the January-March quarter. The 4th Quarter Board meeting will be held prior to the annual membership meeting. The Board of Directors may not occasion a meeting without first sending notice to all Board members. Such a notice must be post-marked at least ten days prior to said meeting. If 50% of the Board is in attendance, a Director's votes received by mail, prior to the vote, shall be valid. If 50% of the Board are not in attendance motions, discussions, 2nds, proposals, etc. may take place. With-in 30 days an agenda, with discussions attached, will be sent to the Board for vote. The agenda for Board meetings by mail shall be distributed to all Board members in advance of each Board meeting by mail. and interested Board members may submit written discussions of an agenda item to the President who will forward them to the Executive Secretary for distribution to all Board members may submit written discussions of an agenda item to the President who will forward them to the Executive Secretary for distribution to all Board members prior to the vote. The specific timetable for distribution of the agenda and discussions shall be determined by the Board.

Emergency Board meetings may take place when four members of the Board and the President or next officer in line of ascension deem it necessary, without written notice. A quorum of 50% of the Board is required to hold an Emergency Board meeting. At an emergency meeting only the business called for can be conducted. During an emergency meeting of the Board, no action may be taken on the removal of an officer or on an amendment to these Bylaws.

PARAGRAPH FOUR

Any elected officer of the Society found by the Board to be injurious to the Society, as defined in, but not limited to, the *Membership* Article 4, Paragraph 5 may be removed from office by a two thirds vote of all Directors. A written complaint against said officer must be signed by at least two Board members and must be received by the President by certified mail in order to be considered by the whole Board.

ARTICLE 7 - COMMITTEES

PARAGRAPH ONE

The President or Board of Directors may form a committee for the purpose of carrying out the goals and administration of the Society. Standing Committees may include, but are not limited to the following:

PARAGRAPH TWO

Show Committee: The Show Committee, chaired by the Fourth Vice-President, shall be responsible all activities required to achieve the Society's participation in national level exhibitions.

PARAGRAPH THREE

Publishing Committee: The Publishing Committee, chaired by the Second Vice-President, shall be responsible for all publications of this Society. It shall produce and edit a bi-monthly bulletin for the membership of the Society. It shall produce a Handbook or yearbook for the Society, and any other publications as directed by the Board of Directors.

PARAGRAPH FOUR

Research Committee: Shall conduct research on a given subject at the pleasure of the Board of Directors, and will assist members of the Society with matters of avicultural interest.

PARAGRAPH FIVE

Education Committee: This committee will assist its chairman, the First Vice-President, in developing educational programs for the members of this Society. The membership of this Committee shall include the Regional Vice Presidents.

PARAGRAPH SIX

Standards Committee: The Standards Committee shall work with the Judges Panel and other interested parties in an ongoing effort to establish Standards of Perfection for the individual species.

PARAGRAPH SEVEN

Judges Panel: Shall consist of all approved judges in accordance with the standards set forth by the Society. The procedure for nominating a judge for the Judges Panel shall consist of a written application by the potential judge, who is a current member of the Society, and nomination by at least two members of the Judges Panel. Nomination by the Judges Panel may not take place until the potential judge has completed apprenticeship and testing under the formula as then required by the Board of Directors of the society. Final

approval of a new judge shall be by the Board of Directors. This will consist of a majority vote of the Board after review of all paperwork in the apprentice process excluding the test taken

A Panel judge may be either sanctioned or removed from the Judges Panel as recommended by the Director of the Judges Panel and approved by the majority of the Board in accord with the most current NFSS Judges Handbook procedures.

PARAGRAPH TEN

FINCHSAVE Committee: The Finchsave Committee shall assist the Director of the program. It shall consist of members designated by the Director and the Director. This Committee shall help develop and preserve policy in regard to this nationwide multi-species captive breeding program. The Committee may request funds for the administration of the FINCHSAVE program only. All funds used for the program must be authorized by the Board of Directors. All data, statistics, and information collected for this program will remain the sole property of the Society.

ARTICLE 8 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

PARAGRAPH ONE

The Society shall have an annual meeting held in conjunction with the National Show of the Society.

PARAGRAPH TWO

General membership votes on matters of the Society are only considered for the election of officers, the amendment of bylaws, or as otherwise set forth by the Board of Directors.

PARAGRAPH THREE

The annual membership meeting of the Society shall consist of, but is not limited to, a State of the Society report given by the President, an annual Treasurer's report which includes a summary of the proposed budget for the next year and a summary of the review of the current year funds, awards presentation, election of officers (every odd numbered year), etc., and a longer more casual discussion period when members may make their views known to the Board of Directors.

PARAGRAPH FOUR

Regional meetings may be held at the direction of the Regional Vice-Presidents. Business is not conducted at regional meetings. These meetings are for the general membership of the Society and are primarily to discuss ideas

which may be presented to the Board of Directors. These meetings may also sponsor educational programs for the membership.

ARTICLE 9- DISSOLUTIONS

PARAGRAPH ONE

Should it become necessary to dissolve the Society, all properties of the Society shall be sold or auctioned off, as determined by the Board of Directors. After all debts of the Society have been fully paid, the remaining moneys of the Society shall be given to a non-profit avicultural organization, as determined by the Board of Directors.

PARAGRAPH TWO

No part of the net earnings or the treasury of the society shall accrue to the benefit of or be distributed to members, officers, or other private persons upon dissolution.

ARTICLE 10 - AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

PARAGRAPH ONE

Amendments to the bylaws must be sponsored by at least two members of the Society and received by the President by certified mail.

PARAGRAPH TWO

Amendments to the bylaws must be published in a newsletter of the Society at least 30 days prior to the vote, tabulated at the next Board of Directors meeting. Any amendment to the bylaws of this Society must be approved by two thirds of those responding. Any such ballot may only be opened at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors or at an emergency Board meeting called for this purpose.

PARAGRAPH THREE

Urgent actions may be considered by the Board of Directors for earlier disposition. Such actions shall not constitute a change of bylaws in regard to paragraph two of this article.

ARTICLE 11 - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

All matters of business of the Society shall be conducted in parliamentary authority of Robert's Rules of Order. (most recent revised issue)

A CUMULATIVE INDEX to *The NFSS Bulletin*

April 1984—Sept./Oct. 1997



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"Official (Revised) Society Finch Standard", (approved by Board 2/95), as printed in SO94.

° **STAR FINCH**

"Proposed Star Finch Standard", JF91, reprinted JF95.

° **ZEBRA FINCH**

"Official Zebra Finch Standard", 10/84.

"Proposed Zebra Finch Standard Revision". JA97.

-T-

TREASURER'S REPORT

see

FINANCIAL REPORT

-UVWXYZ-



AMERICAN SINGER CANARY

"the quintessential singing finch"

come join us, contact:

Clayton Beegle, Secretary
Studio-M
Rt. 1 Box 186-B
Ridgeley, WV 26753
(304)738-1689

THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

The National Finch and Softbill Society is dedicated to the preservation of all finch and softbill species.

- NFSS Bulletin** Our bi-monthly *Bulletin* connects you with other finch and softbill keepers around the country. It includes articles on diet, breeding, management and the experiences of other aviculturists. NFSS keeps you abreast of the news on legislation.
- FINCHSAVE** The goal of *FINCHSAVE* is to establish and maintain all finch and softbill species in American aviculture. All members are encouraged to enhance the propagation of finches and softbills.
- Census** The annual NFSS Census can connect you with other breeders for the purpose of exchanging information or breeding stock.
- Leg Bands** NFSS offers, to members, closed traceable leg bands, in 9 sizes.
- Affiliations** Your club can affiliate and receive plaques and rosettes as show awards. Non-show clubs, too, can affiliate and receive service awards for members. Speakers are available, with slide programs that feature finches and softbills.
- National Show** All members are encouraged to attend and participate in NFSS' National show. An International Patronage Exchange brings awards from foreign countries.
- Judges Panel** Composed of individuals who have completed the apprenticeship program, all NFSS Panel Judges judge by the NFSS Standard of Judging, are approved by the Board of Directors, and are available to local clubs.
- Standards** At mid-year 1995 NFSS had exhibition standards for twelve species, including the first standard for softbill species, and several more in the works.
- Champions** NFSS sponsors a "Champion Exhibitor" and "Champion Bird" awards program. Both reward high achievements on the show bench.
- FINCHSHOP** The sales division of NFSS offers various items for sale to members. The profits are used to support the Society's other programs.

NESS Affiliates, Delegates & Shows

ALABAMA

Central Alabama Avicultural Society
Ginny Allen (334) 749-7168

Rocket City Cage Bird Club
June C. Hendrix

CALIFORNIA

Aviary Association of Kern
(805) 767-6110

Capitol City Bird Society
Mariana Mejia (916) 452-2037
Show October 25, 1997
Placer County Fairgrounds
Roseville, CA
Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau

Finch Society of San Diego County
Sally Huntington (619) 452-9423
Show #1 November 1, 1997
Panel Judge: Joseph Krader
Show #2 November 2, 1997
Panel Judge: Hal Koontz
San Diego, CA

Golden Gate Avian Society
Cathy Knight (510) 634-5068
Show November 8, 1997
Tracy, CA

COLORADO

Rocky Mountain Society of Aviculture
Julie Kern (303) 753-6145
Show November 20, 21 & 22
Denver, CO

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Association for Aviculture
Chris Voronovitch (860) 649-8220
Show October 25, 1997
Panel Judge: Christine Voronovitch
Manchester, CT

Connecticut Canary and Finch Club
Alfredo Robles (860) 951-9438
Show December 1997

FLORIDA

Aviary & Cage Bird Society of South
Florida

Phil Barth (305) 426-5340
Show August 23, 1997
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Panel Judge:

Colorbred Canary Club of Miami
Armando J. Lee
Show December 6, 1997
Panel Judge: Tom Rood
Miami, FL

Florida West Coast Avian Society
Todd Etzel (941) 322-2023
Show November 30, 1997
Sarasota, FL
Panel Judge: Stephen Hoppin

Florida State Fair Exotic Bird Show
Dale Laird (407) 657-7989
Double Show
February 15, 1997 *Saturday*
Panel Judge: Martha Wigmore
February 16, 1997 *Sunday*
Panel Judge: William Parlee
Tampa, FL

Heartland

Maxine June
Show January 1997

Sunshine State Cage Bird Society
Dale Laird (407) 657-7989
Show October 11, 1997
Panel Judge: Tom Rood
Orlando, FL

GEORGIA

Georgia Cage Bird Society
Candy Wright (404) 633-4364
Show November 1, 1997
Marietta, GA

HAWAII

Honolulu Canary and Finch Club
Kathy Perreira (808) 844-3629

ILLINOIS

Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club
Jane Muscato (630) 305-9043
Show November 1, 1997
Panel Judge: Tom Rood
Rolling Meadow, IL
Illini Bird Fanciers

Jan Marcott (217) 347-9690
Show June 7, 1997
 Panel Judge: Earl Courts
 Shelbyville, IL

**National Institute of Red-Orange
 Canaries (NIROC)**
 Stephan V. Hopman (815) 469-8455
Show November 29, 1997
 Panel Judge: Martha Wigmore
 Elk Grove Village, IL

INDIANA
Indiana Bird Fanciers
 Conrad Meinert (219) 269-2873
Show October 11, 1997
 Panel Judge: Miki Sparzak
 Fort Wayne, IN

IOWA
Mid-America Cage Bird Society
 Rhoda Shirley (515) 243-1511
Show October 4, 1997
 Panel Judge: Tom Rood
 Des Moines, IA

KANSAS
Kansas Avicultural Society
 Sharon Mills (316) 687-2497
Show October 10, 1997
 Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau
 Wichita, KS

KENTUCKY
Central Kentucky Cage Bird Society
 Ms. Boo Shea (606) 744-2551

LOUISIANA
Gulf South Bird Club, Inc.
 E. J. Nagel Jr. (504) 271-1840
Show October 18, 1997
 Panel Judge: Miki Sparzak
 Metairie, LA

MARYLAND
Baltimore Bird Fanciers
Show October 11, 1997

MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts Cage Bird Assoc.
 Dianna Smith (508) 540-3214
Show October 18, 1997
 Panel Judge: Charles Anchor
 Hanover, MA

MICHIGAN
Great Lakes Avicultural Society
 Diana Hugo (616) 842-0163
Show October 18, 1997
 Grand Rapids, MI

Mid-West Cage-Bird Club, Inc.
 Patrick Vance (810) 443-0643
Show September 6, 1997
 Panel Judge: Clarence Cuiwell

Motor City Bird Breeders, Inc.
 Ron Girling (810) 751-8265
Show October 25, 1997
 Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau
 Warren, MI

MISSOURI
Greater Kansas City Avic. Society
 Nita Haas (816) 331-5285
Show October 18, 1997
 Panel Judge: Paul Williams
 Grandview, MO

**Heart of America Hookbill & Finch
 Society**
 Moses Linn (816) 523-4661
Show June 13, 1997
 Grandview, MO

Missouri Cage Bird Association
 Richard & Rose Dickman
 (314) 928-3444
Show October 8, 1997
 Panel Judge: Patrick Vance
 Eureka, MO

NEW HAMPSHIRE
Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society
 hosting the:
Kaytee Great American Bird Show
Show October 4, 1997
 Holiday Inn Center of New Hampshire
 Manchester, NH
 Panel Judge: Daren Decoteau

**NFSS
INTERNATIONAL
AFFILIATES**

CANADA

**Budgerigar & Foreign Bird Society
of Ontario**

Jim Marks (416) 292-3852

Cage Bird Society of Hamilton

**Durham Avicultural Society of
Ontario**

Vincent Moase (905) 723-1978
Oshawa, Ontario, Canada

Essex-Kent Cage Bird Society
Alfred Mion (519) 948-6398

Show October 17, 18, & 19, 1997
Windsor, Ontario, Canada

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico Bird Club, Inc.
Gail Ranshaw (505) 822-1483

Show #1 September 27, 1997

Panel Judge: Ray Johnson

Show #2 September 28, 1997

Panel Judge: Conrad Meinert
Albuquerque, NM

NEW YORK

Finger Lakes Cage Bird Association
Rena Rouse (315) 252-7673

New York Finch & Type Canary Club
Barbara Kulak (718) 967-6899

Show October 18, 1997
Brooklyn, NY

**NFSS
INTERNATIONAL
CORRESPONDENTS**

AUSTRALIA

Queensland Finch Society
Gavin Dietz, P.O. Box 1600,
Coorparoo DC 4151
Queensland, Australia

GREAT BRITAIN

The Estrildian

Ian Hinze, Coetref, Tyn Lon,
Holyhead, Gwynedd LL65 3LJ,
Wales, United Kingdom

The Waxbill Finch Society

Mr. Buzz Hope-Inglis,
10 Litchfield Close, Plympton,
Plymouth PL7 3UU, England

Zehra Finch Society, England

Margaret Binns, 97 Bent Lanes,
Davyhulme, Nr. Urmston, Manchester,
M31 8WZ England

NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand Finch Breeders Assn.
293 Albany Highway
Albany, New Zealand

NORTH CAROLINA

Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society
April Blazich (919) 851-8079

OHIO

Fort Defiance Bird Club
Bea Endsley (419) 263-2795
Show September 27, 1997
Defiance, OH

**Toledo Bird Assn. & Zehra Finch Club
of America**

Rick Yunker (419) 691-9432
Show September 27, 1997
Panel Judge: Patrick Vance
Toledo, OH

OKLAHOMA**Bird Fanciers of Oklahoma**

Gene and June Miller (405) 382-7066

Show September 27, 1997

Panel Judge: Paul Williams

Oklahoma City, OK

OREGON**The Finch Connection**

Paula Hansen (503) 581-8208

PENNSYLVANIA**Central Pennsylvania Cage Bird Society**

Donald Strause (610) 926-5210

Delaware Valley Bird Club

Kris Kroner (215) 628-4143

Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Society

June & Ralph Turkovich (412) 795-5819

Show November 1, 1997

Monroeville, PA

Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau

Northeastern Penn. Cage Bird Club

Gary Fino (717) 829-3891

Seven Mountain's Exotic Bird Club

Kathy Temple (814) 832-2150

PUERTO RICO**Organización Puertorriqueña de Aves Exóticas, Inc.**

Jacky Civitares (787) 752-4433

Show #1 February 23, 1997

Ponce, PR

Show #2 April 20, 1997

Quebradillas, PR

Show #3 June 22, 1997

Guaynabo, PR

Show #4 August 24, 1997

Carolina, PR

Show #5 December 6, 1997

Panel Judge: Dr. AL Decoteau

Carolina, PR

Middle Tennessee Cage Bird Club

Eva Duffey (615) 361-5939

Show October 11, 1997

Antioch, TN

TEXAS**Alamo Exhibition Bird Club**

J. T. Payne (210) 695-8181

Canary & Finch Society

Noma Johnson (281) 930-9393

Show November 8, 1997

Panel Judge: Paul Williams

Pasadena, TX

Fort Worth Bird Club

Clarence Culwell (817) 220-5568

Show October 4, 1997

Panel Judge: Stephen Hoppin

Fort Worth, TX

Texas Bird Breeders and Fanciers Association

Clarence Culwell (817) 220-5568

Show October 25, 1997

Panel Judge: Cecil Gumby

Temple, TX

Texas Canary Club

Chris Davis (713) 361-3364

Show November 1, 1997**VIRGINIA****Peninsula Cage Bird Society**

Marian "Bea" Rogers

(757) 484-6001

WASHINGTON**Cascade Canary Breeders Association***Show* November 30, 1997**Pacific Northwest Spring Bird Exhibition***Show #1* April 18, 1997

Panel Judge: Miki Spartzak

Show #2 April 19, 1997

Panel Judge: Conrad Meinert

Show #3 April 20, 1997

Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau

Puyallup, WA

TENNESSEE

1997 Chronological Show List

There's a show for everyone

January

- 1/25 FL (34 entries)
Heartland Avian Soc
(Stephen Hoppin)

February

- 2/15 FL (133 entries)
Florida State Fair
Exotic Bird Show
Day 1
(Martha Wigmore)

- 2/16 FL (114 entries)
Florida State Fair
Exotic Bird Show
Day 2
(William Parlee)

- 2/23 PR (46 entries)
Organizacion Puer-
torriquena de Aves
Show #1
(Dr. Al Decoteau)
■ PR (96 entries)
Organizacion Puer-
torriquena de Aves
Show #2
(Dr. Al Decoteau)

April

- 4/18 WA
Pacific Northwest
Bird Show
Show #1
(Miki Sparzak)

- 4/19 WA
Pacific Northwest
Bird Show
Show #2
(Conrad Meinert)

- 4/20 PR
Organizacion
Puertorriquena
de Aves
Show #2

■ WA
Pacific Northwest
Bird Show
Day #3
(Dr. Al Decoteau)

June

- 6/7 IL
Illini Bird Fanciers
(Earl Courts)

6/13 MO
Heart of America
Hookbill and Finch
Soc.

- 6/22 PR
Organizacion Puer-
torriquena de Aves
Show #3

August

- 8/16 NY
Rochester Cage
Birds Club

- 8/23 FL
Aviary and Cage
Bird Society of
South Florida

- 8/24 PR
Organizacion Puer-
torriquena de Aves
Show #4

September

- 9/6 MI
Midwest Cage Bird
Club
(Clarence Culwell)

9/13 CA
Greater Brandon
Avian Society Inc.
■ PA
Chester County Bird
Breeders

9/27 OH
Fort Defiance Bird
Club

- OH
The Toledo Bird
Association
(Patrick Vance)

- OK
Bird Fanciers of
Oklahoma
(Paul Williams)

- NM
New Mexico Bird
Club
Day 1
(Ray Johnson)

- 9/28 NM
New Mexico Bird
Club
Day 2
(Conrad Meinert)
■ NY
Finger Lakes Cage
Bird Associatin

October

- 10/4 IA
Mid America Cage
Bird Society
(Tom Rood)

October

■ MI

Society of Canary & Finch Breeders

(Christine Voronovitch)

■ NH

Great American Bird Show

(Daren Decoteau)

■ TX

Fort Worth Bird Club
(Stephen Hoppin)

10/11 FL

Sunshine State Cage Bird Society

(Tom Road)

■ OH

Cleveland Cage Bird Society

■ IN

Indiana Bird Fanciers

(Miki Spartzak)

■ KS

Kansas Avicultural Society

(Dr. Al Decoteau)

10/18 LA

Gulf South Bird Club
(Miki Spartzak)

■ MA

Massachusetts Cage Bird Association

(Charles Anchor)

■ MI

Great Lakes Avicultural Society

■ MO

Greater Kansas City Avicultural Society

(Paul Williams)

■ NY

Baltimore Bird Fanciers

■ NY

New York Finch & Type Canary Club

10/25 CA

Fresno Canary and Finch Society

(Clayton Jones)

■ CT

Connecticut Association for Aviculture

(Christine Voronovitch)

■ OK

Oklahoma Cage Bird Society

■ MI

Motor City Bird Breeders

(Dr. Al Decoteau)

■ TX

Texas Bird Breeders Fanciers Association
(Cecil Gumby)

(Clayton Jones)

■ MO

Missouri Cage Bird Association

(Patrick Vance)

11/20, 21, & 22 CO

Rocky Mountain Society of Aviculture

The National Cage Bird Show

11/29 IL

National Institute of Red-orange Canaries

11/30 FL

Florida West Coast Avian Society

(Stephen Hoppin)

■ WA

Cascade Canary Breeders Assoc.

November

11/1 CA

Finch Society of San Diego

Day 1

(Joseph Krader)

■ GA

Georgia Cage Bird Society

■ IL

Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club

(Tom Road)

■ PA

Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Society

(Dr Al Decoteau)

■ TX

Texas Canary Club

11/2 CA

Finch Society of San Diego

Day 2

(Hal Koontz)

11/8 CA

Canary and Finch Society

(Paul Williams)

■ CA

Golden Gate Avian Society

December

12/6 CA

Aviary Assoc. of California

■ CT

Connecticut Canary & Finch Club

■ FL

Colorbred Canary Club of Miami

(Tom Road)

■ PR

Organizacion Puertorriquena de Aves Exoticas

(Dr. Al Decoteau)

February '98

2/14 & 2/15 FL

Florida State Fair Bird Show
Two Day Show

FINCHSHOP

The National Finch and Softbill Society store

ITEM	QTY	SIZE/ STYLE	PRICE EACH	TOTAL AMT
NEW T-Shirt Design! 10 Colorful Finches in Stalks of Grass w/NFSS		M•L•XL•XXL (circle size) All 50/50 White	\$18.00	
Video "The Wonderful World of Finches and Soft- bills: An Introduction"		Members & Affiliates: Non-Members:	\$17.00 \$22.00	
Show Cage Plans (see sizes below)			\$4.00	
All 3 Show Cage Plans (set of all three)			\$10.00	
NFSS Plastic Water Bottle			\$6.00	
NFSS Zebra Pin			\$6.00	
NFSS Gouldian Pin			\$6.00	
Eric Peake Lithograph The Diamond Firetails Signed by the artist			\$35.00	
Name Badge (Members only) *Print name clearly *includes one line of engraving		2 lines - add \$1.00 Magnetic back add - \$1.00	\$7.50	
Past Bulletin Issues-1994 and later issues			\$4.00	
-1993 and earlier issues			\$3.00	
1997 NFSS Handbook (Membership Yearbook)		Includes Census & much more (Jul/Aug '97 issue)	\$4.00	
NFSS Judges Handbook and Official Standards		In handsome small 3-ring binder. Updated in 1995!	\$15.00	

NFSS SHOW CAGE PLANS

1 Cage Finches up to and including Zebras

2 Cage Finches larger than Zebras

3 Cage Softbills

SHIPPING &

HANDLING \$ _____

under \$10 add \$2.00

over \$10 add \$3.00

TOTAL \$ _____

Name _____ Member # _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Mail form and payment
(check or money order
payable to NFSS) to
FINCHSHOP
c/o Julie Duimstra
4400 NW Walnut Blvd. #68
Corvallis, OR 97330

THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

GUIDE TO ORDERING NFSS CLOSED LEG BANDS

NFSS welcomes comments and suggestions for this Guide. Contact the home office.

size "A"

Small Waxbills
Gold-breasted Waxbill
Orange-cheeked Waxbill
Bicheno (Owl) Finch
Quail Finch
Red-eared Waxbill
Strawberry Finch

size "B"

Black-cheeked Waxbill
Cordon Bleu Waxbill
Cuban Melodious Finch
Fire & Olive Finches
Lavender Finch
Rufous-backed Mannikin

size "C"

Black and White Mannikin
Blue-capped Waxbill
Bronze-winged Mannikin
Star & Cherry Finches
Green Singing Finch
Grey Singing Finch
Heck's Shafftail
Painted, Pileated Finches
Pytilias, Silverbills
Red-headed Parrot Finch
Shafftail Finch

size "D"

Blue-faced Parrot Finch
most other Parrot finches
Chestnut-breasted Finch
Gouldian Finch
Pictorella Finch
Pin-tailed Nonpareil
Yellow-rumped Finch
Zebra Finch
most smaller Mannikins
most Twinspots

size "E"

Black-crested Finch
Diamond Sparrow
Golden Song Sparrow

more size "E"

Nuns, Siskins
Peter's Twinspot
Society & Spice Finch

size "G"

European Goldfinch
Maggie Mannikin
other large Mannikins
small Tanagers

size "J"

Pekin Robin, Silver-eared Mesia
other small softbills

size "K"

Java Rice Bird
Red-crested Cardinal
Saffron. Shama Thrush

size "L"

Diamond Dove
other small doves
Quail, other softbills

size "M"

Pagoda Mynah, large Sunbirds
Leaf Birds

size "R"

Green/purple & Superb Starlings

size "S"

White-tailed Jay, Ring Neck Dove
Java & Indian Hill Mynahs
Toucanettes, Aracaris

size "T"

small Touracos, Plush-capped Jay
Small Toucans, small Hornbills

size "U"

Large Touracos, Large Toucans
Large Hornbills

THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

BAND ORDER FORM

Orders processed weekly as received.
Cashier's Check or Money Order will expedite your order.
Please, no mail requiring signatures.

NFSS offers to members only closed traceable aluminum bands. Available only in the NFSS color of the year, the bands are engraved with the initials *NFS*, size code, year and number. No choice of numbers.

All orders are recorded for permanent reference. Bands are ordered in strings of ten, all the same size. New members may order before receiving membership number. Write "New" for membership # on order form.

1997 or 1998 (CIRCLE CORRECT YEAR PLEASE)

BAND SIZE	# OF STRINGS	PRICE/ STRING	TOTAL AMT
A		\$2.75	
B		\$2.75	
C		\$2.75	
D		\$2.75	
E		\$2.75	
G		\$2.75	
J		\$2.75	
K		\$2.75	
L		\$2.75	
M		\$2.75	
R		\$2.75	
S		\$2.75	
T		\$2.75	
U		\$2.75	

POSTAL INSURANCE:

Under \$50 - \$.75

From \$50 to \$100 - \$1.60

Over \$100 - \$2.50

If you choose not to include this sum NFSS will not be responsible for replacement of bands lost in shipment.

SUBTOTAL _____

INSURANCE _____

TOTAL _____

Name _____ # _____

Membership

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Mail form and payment payable to **NFSS** to:

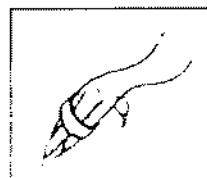
Ms. Eileen Laird
NFSS Band Secretary
1166 Village Forest Pl.
Winter Park, FL 32792
(407) 657-7989

LEG BANDING PROCEDURE

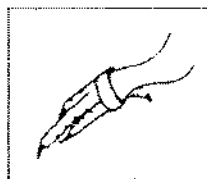
courtesy of
The National Finch and Softbill Society



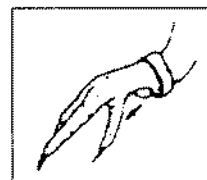
The most important thing to remember when banding chicks is to do it over a counter or table so if the chick is dropped it doesn't fall to the floor. The age to band varies between species but is generally between 5 and 10 days. You can tell by looking at the ankle joint (the joint where the toes come together) and the size of the band.



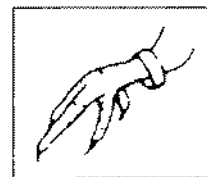
Have the bands, a toothpick (or other small blunt instrument) and some lubricant ready. Be sure you have the bands "right side up" for easier reading.



The band is generally placed on the bird's right leg. Banding just before the parents go to roost in the evening will prevent them from picking at the band. By the next morning they will have forgotten about it.



Hold the chick firmly but in such a way as to not cut off its breathing and so that you don't harm it. Remember, their bodies cannot tolerate compression. Put a little bit of lubricant on the chick's foot and slide the band over the three front toes and finally over the ankle joint. The back toe will probably have to be gently pried out from under the band with a toothpick. The band now should be in the proper location between the ankle and the elbow joints.



Check on the chick the next few days to be sure that the band has not slipped off and that there are no scrapes or irritations on the foot or leg.



the
**National Finch
and
Softbill
Society**

Welcomes Finch and Softbill Breeders and Enthusiasts!

- FINCHSAVE - aviculture's foremost cooperative breeding program •
 - Bi-monthly magazine - *The NFSS Bulletin* • Annual census •
 - Affiliated clubs worldwide • Show standards • Panel judges •
 - Awards • NFSS traceable bands in 9 sizes •

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ New _____ Renew _____
Member? _____ NFSS # _____

ANNUAL DUES: Single \$20 _____ Dual \$25* _____ (under 16 yrs) \$12.50 _____
Junior

* 2nd name for dual membership _____

U.S. (& Puerto Rico) 1st class mailing. add \$5.00.

Canadian & foreign subscriptions mailed 1st class. Please send US funds.

Canadian. add \$5.00 Foreign. add \$10.00



Mail application and check payable to NFSS
to Noreenbe Taylor - NFSS Membership Services
2980 SW 22 St.

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312

NFSS Classified Ads

Classified ads (except *FINCHSAVE* ads) are \$.15 per word, per issue.

FOR SALE

**WANTED: BUY OR TRADE
PARROT FINCHES-** Blue-faced,
Red-headed, Lutino, Peale's,
Bamboo, and Mindanao. FL.
Call DANIEL ALMAGUER
(407) 894-3808 or
DRAFinch@aol.com nd97

FINCHSAVE classifieds run *FREE* of charge to FINCHSAVE participants. All readers are welcome to respond to Finchsave ads.

NFSS Bulletin Advertising Rates

Display (camera ready) Ads:
Full page \$50/issue; \$200/year
Half page \$30/issue; \$120/year
Qtr. page \$20/issue; \$80/year
Inside cover \$70/issue; \$300/year

Classified Advertisements
FINCHSAVE: free to participants
Others: \$.15 per word, per issue

Deadlines

12/1, 2/1, 4/1, 6/1, 8/1, 10/1
for next bi-monthly issue.

**Send ad and payment
(payable to **NFSS**) to**

Kerri McCoy
NFSS Bulletin Editor
3412 Far Hill Cir
Birmingham, AL 35243-5015
(205) 969-9177

Changing Your Address?

Let NFSS be the first to greet
you at your new address!

Please send this form
or this information to

Noreene Taylor
NFSS Membership Chairman
2980 SW 22nd St.
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312

Club delegates should also send
their change of address

separately to
Ginny Allen
NFSS Liaison Officer
307 Brookwood Court
Opelika, AL 36801-3657

Membership

Name _____ # _____

New Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

NFSS Panel of Judges 1997

Charles Anchor
630 Lake Park Drive
Addison, IL 60101
(630) 543-3757

Laura Bewley
3538 S 65 W Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74107
(918) 446-3999

Harold Bowles
230 College Circle
Cedartown, GA 30125
(770) 748-4627

Jacky Civitarese
A-i Calie 1
Quintas de Country Club
Carolina, PR 00982
phone & fax
(787) 752-4433

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