

Journal of the

National Finch & Softbill Society

Volume 20, No. 2

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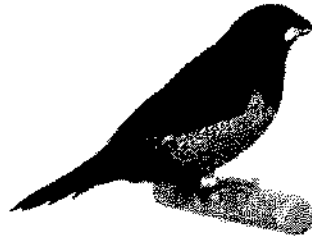
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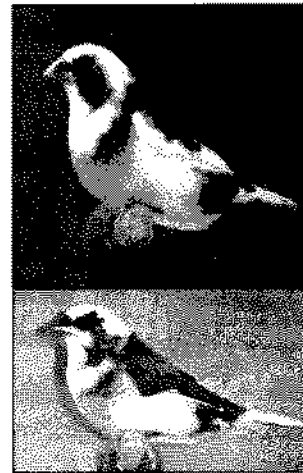
This book also covers the general description, management, accommodation, feeding and breeding plus detailed Dutch and UK show standards.

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The National Finch & 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.

On the Cover....

Our thanks once again to Roy Beckham for sharing another of his wonderful photographs with us. Mark Shipway, of Australia, has written an article for us about the Five-Colored Munia, which you will find on Page 21 of this issue.

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Journal of the National Finch and Softbill Society

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From the Editor

Thank you to John Wilson for his contribution of the "Did You Know?" boxes included in our Jan/Feb issue!

We inadvertently chopped off some items in our Jan/Feb issue:

The last lines of Janis Clark's article should have read, "*Here's hoping 2003 is the best breeding year for all of you!*"

Dr. Al Decoteau's comments following the Baltimore Bird Fanciers' Show Report were not complete and should have read, "*A small show for a Regional, however, quality was good. Both Shafttails were superb and in good condition. as was the magnificent Cutthroat. Amazing how many exhibitors are unfamiliar with the great book "Finches and Sparrows."*"

Lastly, I hope you will all join me in thanking NFSS member Christine Kumar for sharing her wonderful computer drawings with us. They can be found on pages 22, 28, & 68. My only regret is that we can't show the vibrant colors!

Martie Lauster

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NFSS President's Message March, 2003



Who said that?

Who would have thought any Finch or Softbill would be capable of mimicking human words or phrases? I have known for some time that the male African Red Headed Finch and the Tri-Colored Nun have a small window to incorporate words and other noises into their song, and I enjoy watching to see if more are to follow.

Recently I was quite taken back. While chasing a fledging hand-fed Gouldian near the cage of our 2 year old pet White-eared Bulbul, the Bulbul clearly repeated the phrase I was using: "where did he go, where did he go"? I immediately forgot where he (the Gouldian) actually did go, I was so stunned. Since then, he says it regularly, 80 to 90 percent on request. Earlier, I often thought I heard him say: "what, what, what" and "kiss you, kiss you" but attributed that to 'old lady with parakeet' syndrome, as the only person to 'hear' the words! So now, I can add our Bulbul to the 'speakers', as we learn more and more of these windows.

Speaking of speaking; NFSS will present the second "Afternoon Of Aviculture", Thursday November 20, 2003, the day before the National Cage Bird Show, in Dallas. We have some excellent speakers lined up! Please do your best to attend, and meet the people you have read about or corresponded with via email.

AFA has been working very closely with the END (Exotic Newcastle Disease) task force in California. They have implemented bold procedures designed to protect aviculturists from random depopulation, giving specific guidelines on protecting birds. Also, because of the CA, NV & AZ outbreaks of END, AFA has moved its annual convention from Ontario CA to San Antonio, Texas.

Take a look at our NFSS web site for Harry Bryant's Legislative Update, for the most recent particulars.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Sally Huntington". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light-colored background.

Sally Huntington, President, National Finch & Softbill Society

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A Misguided Belief To Dispel

By Mark Shipway

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Few aviculturalists are unaware of the espoused fostering abilities of the Bengalese (*Lonchura domestica* - this scientific name may now be inappropriate) and the contribution it has made to aviculture. Despite this contribution, it rarely raises any interest in avicultural literature in Australia. This article draws the reader's attention to the irony that this "common" bird is probably the most misunderstood finch in Australian aviculture today. It's time to do justice for the bird which has done so much for us in the past and will, no doubt, into the future.

With the escalating interest in the Bengalese in recent years in the U.S., Japan and Europe, it has now been accepted that the Bengalese, like the domesticated breeds of the Jungle Fowl, Rock Dove, and various duck species, such as the Mallard, is merely **the domesticated form of a wild species**, in its case the White Rumped Munia (*Lonchura striata*). Consequently, you will now often read its scientific name as *L. striata* or *L. striata domestica*. The long held avicultural opinion that the Bengalese is a **hybrid** with unknown ancestry is a **misguided** belief probably sourced from the early avicultural pioneers' unfamiliarity with the genetic principles of domestication and sustained by our lack of knowledge

of the species from which the bird is derived. It appears that ornithologists and European and American Munia specialists have now accepted these developments, but in many ways, this view has not been espoused by the general avicultural community.

In modern times, rightly or wrongly, the hybrid belief may have been exploited so as to justify hybridising the pure Bengalese with other species to produce new types, or in Australia's case, to improve or create Self Bengalese. In 1999, I attended London's National Bengalese Fancier's Association annual show and noticed that a majority of the birds present were a new recently imported strain from Continental Europe which was the result of recent hybridisation and backcrossing with the Black Munia (*Lonchura stygia*) from Southern Irian Jaya or, as claimed by one breeder, the White Headed Munia (*Lonchura maja*). This "type" is aptly named by the Americans as the "Euro" Society (Bengalese) and is obviously not available in Australia. They are effectively F3 and F4 generation birds with fixated imported characteristics.

My view on the origin of the Bengalese developed independently of views overseas but was confirmed by my subsequent

research into these views. I have set out the evidence below which convinced me about the origin of the pure Bengalese.

Genetic Principles of Domestication

The idea that domesticated breeds such as the Bengalese have hybrid histories was shared by domestic animal breeders before Charles Darwin's time. The view probably started with Linnaeus, who named the Bengalese in 1766. We are all familiar with Darwin's work...or are we? In the chapter entitled "Variation Under Domestication" from "On the Origin of Species" he says:

"One circumstance which has struck me much: namely, that all the breeders of various domestic animals ... are firmly convinced that the several breeds to which each has attended, are descended from so many aboriginally distinct species."

He goes on at length to disprove this conviction and concludes:

*"When in any country several domestic breeds have once been established, their occasional intercrossing, with the aid of selection, has no doubt, largely aided in the formation of new sub breeds [such as the Euro Bengalese]; but [this has] been **greatly exaggerated** ... I am convinced that the **accumulative action of selection**, whether applied methodically and more quickly, or unconsciously and more slowly, but more effectively, is by far the predominant power."*

Put another way, by implication, before Darwin's time it was assumed that because not all the

characteristics of a domesticated breed matched those of a wild species, it was assumed the former must be the result of the crossing of several species (this is the basis upon which the Bengalese hybrid myth was developed). Darwin questioned this assumption. According to his theory, differences between the White Rumped Munia and the Bengalese can be better accounted for as being the result of selective breeding of one species by the Chinese or Japanese over a long period rather than hybridisation between two or more species. As you no doubt are aware, Darwin's views largely reshaped those of the evolutionists and geneticists in his time and have formed the basis for modern evolutionary science.

As far as I can gather, the only differences between the Bengalese and the White Rumped Munia which could have been seen by those who developed the hybrid myth could only have been size, intensity of colour and, more particularly, readiness to breed. Selective breeding can easily account for these factors. In fact, the process of domestication can be very short. Restall (1996, p155) reports, in the context of discussing the evolution of wild races of the Hooded Munia (*L. spectabilis*), that "it is certainly possible to establish a stable, self perpetuating population of a variant *Lonchura* in captivity in as few as 8 years".

Of course, the fact that a Bengalese may be piebald, fawn, chestnut, chocolate dilute, fawn dilute, chestnut dilute, crested, frill, grey, pearl, ino or white is attributable to a mutation and is a separate issue to the one about the

ancestry of the bird. Throughout this article I am referring to the natural chocolate or wild form. The piebald effect is caused by one of two separate mutations, one of which now predominates the breed and has a complex genetic make-up which has been described as "penetrance". (As a side note, the fact that selfs have traditionally been so uncommon in Australia is that, as far as I am aware, we never benefited from an import of wild White Rumped Munias which Europe received from Asia from the 1950's and 60's).

The White Rumped Munia (*Lonchura striata*)

As I indicated above, the hybrid myth has been perpetuated up until now probably because the White rumped Munia remains a relatively unknown species in aviculture. I

in June 2000 when a large earthquake hit late at night after which, having been shaken off their perch, several Munias were flying around the town, disoriented, colliding with house windows and balconies. (Samui Island and near Chiang Mai, both in Thailand (race *subsquamicolis*. For avid birdwatchers, try looking in the road side vegetation back from the main tourist beach on Samui) and Vietnam (probably race *subsquamicolis* or *swinhoei*), you can see them at close quarters, packed in unsanitary conditions in the Hanoi bird markets together with Australian grassfinches imported from China.

Restall (1996) suggests that the **western** races (India, Nepal, Myanma) have more sharply contrasted colouring and those to

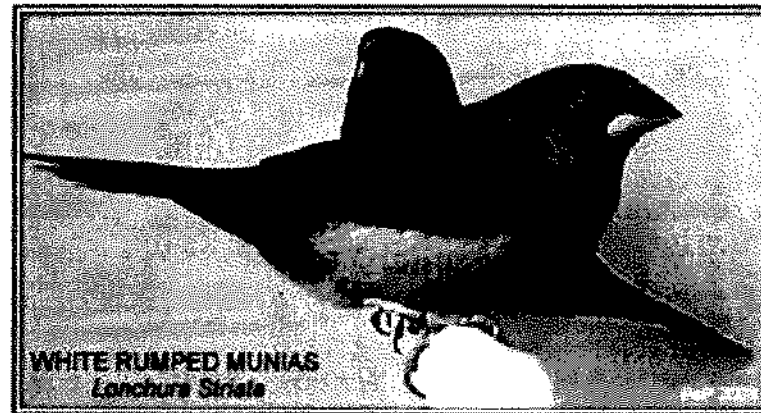


Photo Courtesy of ©Jim Warburton

have observed two of the nine races of the White Rumped Munia in the wild and one in captivity. In the wild in Sumatra (race *sumatrensis*), their nests are abundant in the hill park next to the centre of Bukitinggi town, Central Sumatra. I was there

the **south** (Malay Peninsula and Sumatra) are more spotted and marked whilst those from the **east** (Taiwan, China and Indo-China) are paler and more fawn and tawny. Restall (1996) reports that they are threatened in Singapore and Hong

Kong.

I have also bred hundreds of Bengalese and see none of their characteristics, which cannot be said to come directly from the White Rumped Munia and its races directly or be explained by selective breeding. A photograph of this species can be seen at the following web site www.pop.dircon.co.uk. I have found that **sexing** the White Rumped Munia, like the Bengalese, is a simple matter, in that apart from the male's song, his distance call is generally higher pitched and variable in tone ("d-d-dri") whilst the female's call is a simple low monotone ("d-d-droot"). Scientific research has now confirmed these differences (Okanoya K, Kimura T, Journal of Comparative Psychology 107:4) 386 – 394 DEC 1996). This is particularly helpful when viewing the birds at a distance. At closer quarters, the width of the lower mandible may, additionally, be used, but is best used as a guide only.

Other Munias

It has been claimed in a lot of older avicultural literature that a variety of possible munias could be ancestors of the Bengalese, from the Silverbill to the Nuns. I see no physical characteristics nor motives to suggest that the Bengalese possess genes obtained from a species other than the White Rumped Munia directly or which cannot be accounted for by selective breeding.

The Spice Finch (*Lonchura punctulata*) (aka Scaly Breasted Munia)

The nature of the relationship between the Spice Finch and the

Bengalese has been the source of significant confusion throughout avicultural history, which has been largely based on assumptions derived from appearances, rather than on any empirical evidence. Whilst the visual similarities between these species is obvious, these qualities are also expressly evident in other munia species such as the Moluccan, Dusky, Javan and White Bellied Munias (all, bar one, which I have observed). In fact, on the evidence I have seen, these latter species are more similar to the Bengalese/White-Rumped Munia than the Spice Finch appears to be, as there are also significant differences between these latter two species (namely call feather colour, structure and variation of tone, bill colour). The probable reason for the confusion is that the other species listed above are, and have always been, relatively unknown in



Photo Courtesy of ©Jim Warburton

aviculture.

Whilst I have no doubt that there have been successful attempts at hybridisation with the Spice Finch and back-crossing to Bengalese, resulting in Self Bengalese, it naturally follows that these "Selfs" are not pure Bengalese at all. In any event, it would appear that the results of such experiments have been largely unreliable.

Despite what might appear to the cursory observer as similar to the Spice Finch, I guarantee that my Selfs, which I selectively bred from recessive pieds in the early 1990's, have no Spice Finch ancestry. It would appear other breeders of Selfs have had similar perception problems (see E Nannes, *Queensland Aviculture Magazine, June 1986, p29*). I sometimes have to stipulate that my Selfs are pure Bengalese.

The untenable link that the Bengalese has to the Spice Finch is best illustrated by the following example. In 1976, E. Nannes from Rockhampton began a hybridisation program with various munias (see E Nannes, *ibid*) in the quest to produce Self Bengalese, which took him many years. The results of multi-generational backcrossing to Bengalese were that the Tri-Coloured Nun outcrosses proved to produce the most fertile hybrid offspring and hence made backcrossing to Bengalese most effective - closely followed by the Black Headed Nun, White Headed Nun, Chestnut Breasted Munia and least effective backcross species - which produced all infertile offspring was the Spice Finch hybrids (as a side note he refers to the "Nutmeg Finch" which used to be in

Australian aviaries and I believe he must be referring to the more colourful Indian race of the Spice Finch *punctulata*. Whilst this race has probably died out here, race *topela* from Indo-China survives here in the wild which may prop up otherwise unsustainable captive populations). I have raised this experiment only as a means to illustrate the relationship between the Spice Finch and the Bengalese/White Rumped Munia and not for the purposes of criticising the hybridisation which may have been undertaken on the assumption that the Bengalese is itself a hybrid.

Nannes' results do not surprise me since in all locations that I have seen the White Rumped Munia in the wild, Spice finches live nearby but prefer, on average, more grassy habitats and do not appear to associate with the former. I believe that the case may be different if the White Rumped Munia shared the same distribution as the Javan (*L. Leucogastroides*, bird spotters can easily find these birds on the paddy fields of the resort town of Panganderan, south west Java) or Moluccan (*L. molucca*). can be found on the paddy fields in picturesque Tanatoraja district of southern Sulawesi or in Ujung Padang city centre particularly on the lawns in the grounds of Fort Rotterdam feeding with Pallid Munias) Munias which appear to be closely related. These three species may have evolved separately only because their distributions do not overlap.

Calls

Munias can be distinguished most easily by their calls when viewed in the distance in the wild.

The new hybrid strain I saw in London had a hybrid call similar to the White Rumped Munia but tainted by hints of what could best be described as Nun-like sounds (probably inherited from the Black Munia). I have also found that hybrids with Javan Munias also have slight hybrid calls.

From my viewpoint, the crucial factor challenging the hybrid theory is that, to the trained ear, the Bengalese has an identical call to the White Rumped Munia and is distinguishable from other Munias, including the Spice Finch. Their calls are very similar to both the Javan, Dusky (*L. fuscans*) and Mollucan Munias (and possibly White Bellied Munias, *L. leucogastrea*, but I have not seen this uncommon munia to date) but can still be distinguished if the listener is familiar with their calls.

I am therefore without a doubt that if pure Bengalese are hybrids - wouldn't it follow that the sound of their calls would deviate from those of the White Rumped Munia, even in a minor way?

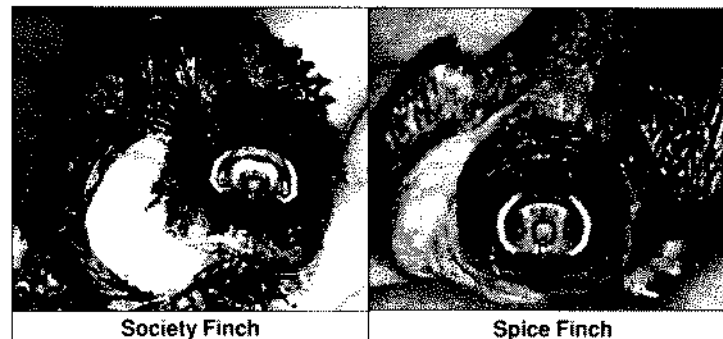
Nestling Palate Markings

Both Restall (1996) and Immelmann (1968-72) found that

the mouth palate markings of pure Self Bengalese and White Rumped Munia nestlings are the same but together differ from those of other munias.

Belly Flecks

Most of the brown Asian non-Nun Munia species have belly flecks including the Spice Finch, White Rumped, Spotted-sided, Mollucan and even Javan Munias (on the flanks in first year adults only according to Restall). Whilst I can see that, based on appearances, it is easy to assume the flecks on the belly of the pure Bengalese come from the Spice Finch, close examination shows that these flecks are different both in style and intensity. The White Rumped Munia already had its own unique flecks which were maintained in the species as it was domesticated into the Bengalese. Of course, some Bengalese strains show pronounced flecks but curiously, I doubt these are pure Bengalese (such as Euro Bengalese in Europe) or they are obscure strains resulting from intense selection. In other words, the point I am making is that the flecks on pure Bengalese are sourced from Spice finches as



Photos Courtesy of ©Roy Beckham

much as the bibs on our aviary Long tailed finches (*Poephila acuticauda*) are the result of hybridisation with Black Throated finches (*P. cincta*).

Another Contemporary Opinion

In 1998, I stumbled across Robin Restall's book titled, *Munias and Mannikins*, whose view totally convinced me about the origin of the Bengalese. At page 83, he says:

"This is a domesticated variety of the Striated Munia [aka. White Rumped Munia, my emphasis], almost certainly the Chinese race L.s.swinhoei. There is a popular belief among cage bird keepers that the bengalese is a fertile hybrid, produced hundreds of years ago by the Chinese, using a mixture of various species, details of which are lost in antiquity. The irony of this is that the activities of modern bird breeders in cross-breeding the bengalese with various other munias, in an ongoing effort to produce novel types [such as the 'Euro' Bengalese], are ... turning the bengalese into the hybrid it never was [my emphasis]. The double irony is that some strains of these new types may only be produced with the aid of pure bengalese to act as foster parents."

Euro Bengalese are popular in Europe and are increasing in popularity in the U.S. as specialist Bengalese societies are established (I understand they were recently imported into California by Sigie Meyer and into Louisiana by Garry Landry). Photographs of a variety of the Euro Bengalese mutations can be seen at the following internet sites:

www.pop.dircon.co.uk
www.zebrafinch.com
www.exoticfinches.com.

Whilst I cannot be certain, the photograph of the Self Bengalese in Russell Kingston's new book "Finches and Seed Eating Birds" at page 216 appears to me to be a Euro Bengalese. Photographs of Self pure Bengalese (see *Finch News*, January 1998 p.5) and White Rumped Munias are difficult to find and the Self pure bird is still unnecessarily uncommon in Australian aviaries.

Conclusion

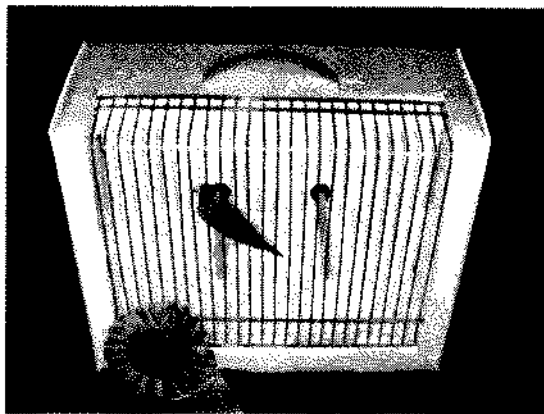
Without the trustworthy Bengalese, aviculture would not be in such an advanced stage that it is today. Mutation breeders owe much to its willingness to rear the young of less common species and variants. Whilst few aviculturalists are without a pair, they remain one of the least written about species and are arguably the most misunderstood species in our aviaries. It's time, folks, to acknowledge it for what it is and to abandon the misguided hybrid belief.

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1. Darwin C, *On the Origin of Species*
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3. Kingston R "Keeping and Breeding Finches and Seed-Eaters", Indruss, 1998
4. Ninnes E, *Queensland Aviculture*, June 1986 p.29
5. Restall. R , *Munias and Mannikins*, 1996, Pica.

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| Black-crowned Waxbill | | Red Headed (<i>Erythrura psittacea</i>) | \$250/pr |
| (<i>Estrilda nonnula</i>)..... | \$200/pr | Red-Headed Pied | \$450/pr |
| Blue-capped Cordon Bleu | | Red-Headed Sea Green | \$250/pr |
| (<i>Uraeginthus cyanocephalus</i>)..... | \$80/pr | Peter's Twinspot | |
| Blue-breasted Cordon Bleu | | (<i>Hypargos niveoguttatus</i>) | \$150/pr |
| (<i>Uraeginthus angolensis</i>)..... | \$80/pr | Purple Grenadier | |
| Cherry Finch (<i>Aidemosyne modesta</i>) ... | \$120/pr | (<i>Uraeginthus ianthinogaster</i>) | \$250/pr |
| Cherry Finch (Isabel) | \$180/pr | Quail finch (Limited Pairs Available) | |
| Crimson Finch S.A..... | \$250/pr | (<i>Ortygospiza atricollis</i>) | \$150/pr |
| Crimson Pileated finch S.A. | \$250/pr | White Button Quail | \$25/pr |
| Diamond Firetail (<i>Emblema guttata</i>) | \$130/pr | Red-browed Firetail (Sydney waxbill) | |
| Diamond Firetail (fawn)..... | \$150/pr | (<i>Aegintha temporalis</i>) | \$280/pr |
| Emerald Spotted Dove | \$150/pr | Red-faced Crimson Wing | |
| Pigmy Ground Dove..... | \$100/pr | (<i>Cryptospiza reichenovii</i>)..... | \$120/pr |
| Dybowski Twinspot | | Red-headed Finch | |
| (<i>Euschistospiza dybowskii</i>) | \$175/pr | (<i>Amadina erythrocephala</i>) | \$80/pr |
| Female gold breasted waxbill..... | \$80/ea | Red Munia (strawberry) | |
| Golden-breasted Bunting | | (<i>Amandava amandava</i>) | \$80/pr |
| (<i>Emberiza flaviventris</i>) | \$130/pr | Shafftail (<i>Poephila acuticauda</i>) | \$100/pr |
| Goldfinch, New Zealand | | Saint Helena Waxbill | \$120/pr |
| (<i>Carduelis Carduelis</i>) | \$69/pr | Star Finch, Red faced | |
| Gouldian Finch (red, black, yellow head) | | <i>Neochmia ruficauda</i>) | \$100/pr |
| (<i>Chloebia gouldiae</i>) | \$150/pr | Star Finch Yellow faced | \$120/pr |
| Gouldian Finch (white breasted) | \$200/pr | Silverbill (<i>Lonchura malabarica</i>) | \$40/pr |
| Green Singer (<i>Serinus mozambesi</i>)..... | \$125/ea | Silverbill Grey-headed | |
| Grey Singer (Yellow-rumped Serin) | | (<i>Lonchura griseicapalla</i>) | \$80/pr |
| (<i>Serinus atrogularis</i>) | \$100/pr | Paradise Tanager..... | \$1200/pr |
| Red-legged Honeycreeper | \$450/pr | Turquoise Tanager (<i>T. mexicana</i>) | \$400/pr |
| Purple-legged Honeycreeper | \$450/pr | Violet-eared Waxbill | |
| Jacanni Finch | \$100/pr | (<i>Uraeginthus granatina</i>) | \$300/pr |
| Masked Grass Finch | | Scaly-crowned Weaver | |
| (<i>Poephila personata</i>) | \$150/pr | (<i>Sporopipes squamifrons</i>) | \$80/pr |
| Melba Finch (<i>Pytilia melba</i>) | \$120/pr | Golden Weaver | \$90/pr |
| Nuns, White and Black Hooded | | Whydahs: | |
| (<i>Lonchura Malacca, L. maja</i>) | \$60/pr | Shaft-tailed (Queen) (<i>Vidua regia</i>) . | \$175/pr |
| Owl Finch (<i>Poephila bichenovii</i>)..... | \$175/pr | Straw-tailed (Fisher) <i>Vidua fischeri</i> . | \$175/pr |
| Painted Finch (<i>Emblema picta</i>) | \$450/pr | Paradise (<i>Steganura paradisaea</i>) ... | \$180/pr |
| Parrot Finches: | | Steel Blue (<i>Vidua hypocherina</i>) | \$180/pr |
| Blue-faced (<i>Erythrura trichroa</i>) | \$225/pr | Yellow-bellied Waxbill (Sweet) | |
| Forbes (<i>Erythrura tricolor</i>) | \$350/pr | (<i>Estrilda melanotis</i>)..... | \$80/pr |
| Peales | \$500/pr | Yellow Canary (Giant Green Singer) | |
| | | (<i>Serinus flaviventris</i>) | \$120/pr |

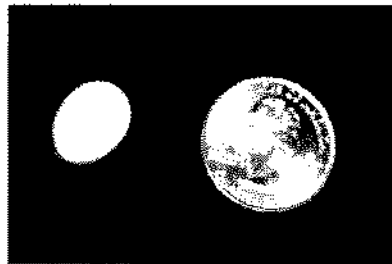
Coming Attractions

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The Baby Gouldian

By William Slocumb & Jeffrey Moore
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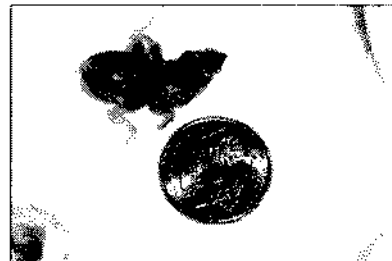
This baby Lady Gouldian Finch was abandoned by its parents when it hatched on January 5, 2003. It was one of three birds that were rejected by immature parents. Unfortunately, two of the babies did not survive the first day. Thankfully, this little guy has been thriving. It is amazing to watch it develop as the days go by. I think we have done very well at our first attempt at hand feeding a baby bird!



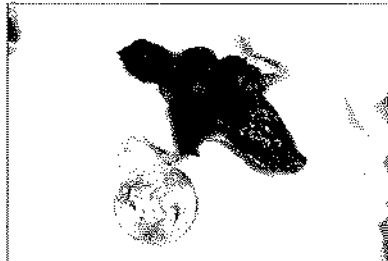
This is a picture of an unhatched Gouldian egg next to a quarter. As the chick grew, I took pictures with the quarter as a way of keeping up with the baby's growth.



This is what the baby looked like on the day it hatched. It was so tiny, it had to be fed with the flat end of a wooden toothpick.



The baby is three days old in this photo, and is doing very well. It has to eat every 30 minutes during the day, and it gets fed 3 times in the middle of the night.



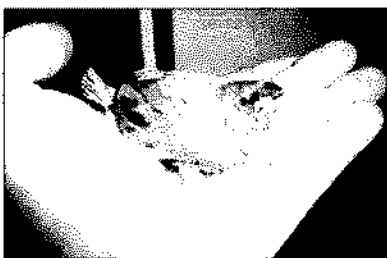
The baby outgrew the quarter several days ago! It finally has feathers appearing on the wings, but the eyes still are not open. We are only feeding every hour during the day, and it goes all night without eating.



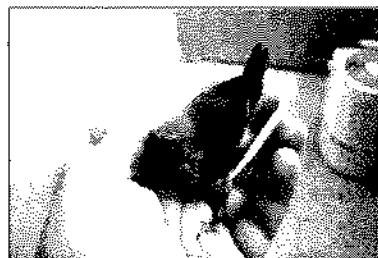
13 days old, and it has feathers popping out all over. Its eyes are now open, and it is starting to look like a bird.



This is the baby's 16th day with us. It is going 1 1/2 hours between feedings now. Its feathers still aren't looking like "feathers".



The baby is 19 days old now, and doing very well. It enjoys being held, but until it is fully feathered, it has to stay in its box in the bathroom where the temperature and humidity are controlled. It will get to come out and watch TV with us in just a few more days.



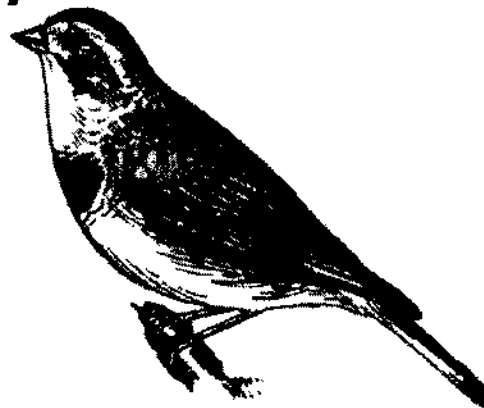
The baby is 24 days old in this photo. It took its first flight today! It flew from the top of the cage to the top of my head (a total of about 2 feet). We are very proud!

William Slocumb and Jeffrey Moore are new NFSS members who live in Atlanta, Georgia and are just starting to breed Gouldian Finches. Their flock currently consists of about 16 Gouldians of different color varieties, as well as a few pairs of Yellow and Red Factor Canaries and Society Finches.

Although their first attempt at hand-feeding has been successful and rewarding, they are not anxious to do it again anytime soon. They have learned that hand-feeding a baby finch should only be attempted by someone with a lot of time and dedication, and ONLY if there are no other options. If you care to contact William or Jeff with any questions, they can be reached by email at the following addresses: wmslocumb@hotmail.com and zenreactor@yahoo.com.

Welcome to NFSS, William & Jeff - and congratulations on a job well done!

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Five Coloured Munia

(*Lonchura quinticolor*)

by Mark Shipway
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The Five Coloured Munia can best be described by imagining the Chestnut Breasted Munia, remove the chestnut breast and the black breast bar, and replace the black lores, cheeks and throat with flecked grey like the Chestnut Breasted Munia's crown (although this varies between the races). I believe the bill may also be larger than the Chestnut's. It would also appear to be very similar in appearance to the Hooded Munia from New Guinea and the Solomon Islands but since I have not seen a Hooded Munia in the flesh I am unable to give further details.

The Five coloured Munia has a call most similar to, but yet distinct from, the Chestnut Breasted Munia, and more different to the flecked group (ie, Spice Finches, Javan, Moluccan and White Rumped Munias/Bengalese etc) and the Nun group (ie, White-Headed, Black-Headed, Tri-coloured, Pale-Headed..... Munias) of Munias.

The Five Coloured Munia will only be seen in the much drier parts of Indonesia, namely, east of the Wallace Line from Lombok to about Timor which brings them very close to Australia. Restall (1996) reports that "virtually nothing has been written about this bird in the wild, with no description of nest, eggs, or any behaviour." It exists in three

races which vary slightly in colouration, namely *quinticolor*, *sumbae* and *wallacii*. I found them very common on Flores where I saw them feeding in open fields with the Timor race of the Zebra Finch (which I found differed from the Australian race by more than just plumage - their call was more like the St. Helena). When I was in the town of Ende on Flores, about to board a plane to Bali, I remember seeing large numbers of both species feeding on the lawns at the airport - although they appeared in even larger numbers closer to the beach. They can be seen in captivity on Lombok at the Mataram bird markets, where you'll also see caged Pin-Tailed Parrot Finches (which unfortunately are threatened in all of Indonesia whilst unregulated trapping continues).

I have found that sexing the Five coloured Munias is the same as for the other munias in that the sexes have distinct calls but I found that with the pair I kept in 1998 (race *wallacii*), the male had a bill much larger than the female's, as if it was an exaggeration of this trait, which is present, but much milder, in other munia species.

Whilst I have no genetic evidence, it would not surprise me if the Five Coloured Munia's ancestors colonised Northern Au-

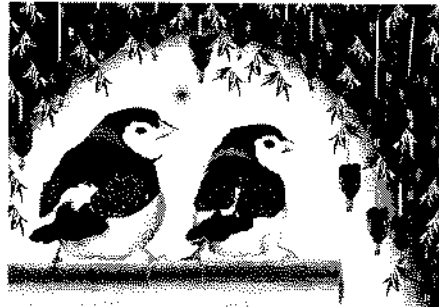
stralia (prior to the time both the Pale Headed Munia and the Zebra Finch arrived) and eventually evolved into the Pictorella Munia as they adapted to an even drier climate. I believe this warrants further investigation.

Its first breeding in captivity was detailed by Green (1986). Very little has been written about their habits

in captivity. In Indonesia, they are trapped in large numbers to support the domestic trade.

References

1. Green R (1986) "Breeding the Five-coloured Munia". Avic. Mag. 92:181-183.....
2. Restall R (1996) "Munias and Mannikins" Pika



Original Drawing by ©Christine Kumar

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*A Visit to NFSS Region 4
Meet...*

Clint Harris



10'x15' SANCTUARY

Sanctuary: noun - A place giving refuge or asylum

Greetings from Texas. My name is Clint Harris and I am a construction superintendent for a commercial contractor. My wife Cathy and I have been married for 27 years, and we have two children. By the time this article is printed, I will be 50 years old. We live in a medium sized town near the very geographic center of Texas. The weather extremes in this part of the state can run from one hundred consecutive days of 100 degrees plus in the summer to wicked, wintry days with wind chills in the low teens. There is a saying in Texas. "If you don't like the weather, wait ten minutes". Besides my finches, our present menagerie includes a Yorkshire Terrier (Sophie), a mixed Terrier (Ginger), two English budgies (Huey and Chief), two cockatiels (Woody and Alphonse), a Nanday conure (Paco), and a Siamese fighting fish (Chin-fu). The normal male cocktail is 26 years old this year and was hand fed by Cathy.

My earliest recollection of birds was at age 9. My family lived in

San Jose, California, and my younger brother Clifford and I used to walk several blocks - perhaps a mile - to an Eden-like paradise called Andy's Pet Shop. At that time (1962) the store had what seemed to be a huge flight which contained an inconceivable number of finches and canaries. Clouds of polychromatic birds undulating in rhythmic waves within the confines of this voluminous walk-in flight. The cacophony of songs, calls, and trills was mesmerizing. The sight of scores, if not hundreds of birds was breath taking. I was in Bates and Busenbark heaven. Many a blissful hour was spent lost in thought and fantasy within the hallowed grounds of Andy's Pet Shop. I believe it was on El Camino Real Street. Perhaps some readers know of it.

By 1972 I was living in Arlington, Texas. I was 19 and the proud manager of a Dairy Queen. With my first performance bonus (a princely sum of \$500), I intended to treat myself to a 50 gallon aquarium, with as many fish as it could hold. I walked out of the mall

pet store with my aquatic booty, but I also left with a gorgeous pair of zebra finches. I soon acquired a pair of red eared waxbills and the rest is history as they say.

In late 1977 my wife and I went to the Ft Worth Zoo and I saw the most gloriously colored little birds I had ever seen. A small exhibit housing perhaps a dozen Lady Gouldians held me transfixed. I spoke to the bird keeper and he told me they were on loan from a local breeder named Jim Hulsey. At that time Gouldians were still fairly uncommon, if not rare - at least in Texas. The keeper advised me the Ft Worth Bird Club was having a meeting the next day and invited me to go. I met Jim at the meeting and he invited me to his aviary.

I was thunderstruck by what I saw. Rows and rows of cages and flights containing many species of Australian finches; firetails, cherrys, owls, Gouldians, shafttails, stars, mask, zebras, and parsons. I was guilty of breaking one of the Ten Commandments; I coveted my neighbor's finches. I was hooked. It was through Jim that I eventually met my beloved mentor Clarence Culwell. I will never forget the patience of these remarkable gentlemen as I literally pummeled them with questions. Over the years each of them liberally shared over 75 years of combined knowledge and experience. My first bird room was modeled after

Clarence's. Sadly, Jim died in the fall of 2001.

Over the years I have kept and bred budgies, cockatiels, lovebirds, Australian parakeets, conures, and finches. But I have always had an affection and fascination with exotic finches. My various facilities have included large outside flights and



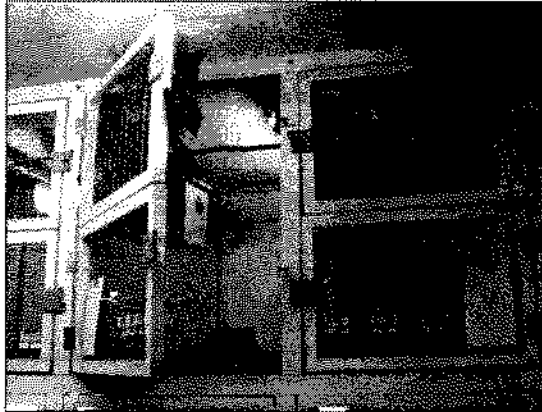
A few of Clint's Blue Faced Parrot Finches

small spaces such as converted sheds. My current bird room is a modest sized 10'x15' (3.05m x 4.57m). I am fortunate that my beautiful wife loves birds and indulges me in my avian excesses.

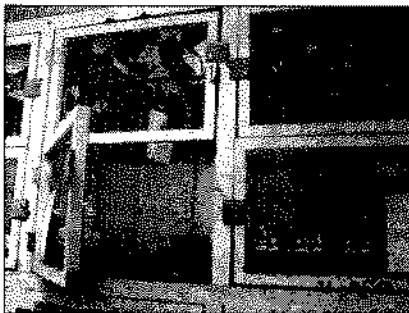
My current collection contains what may be my favorite Australian bird, the dynamite diamond firetail. I also keep owls, Gouldians, red head and blue face parrot finches. In the past I have kept stars, shafttails, Parsons, mask, strawberrys, cherrys, Cuban melodious, Forbes, Sydney waxbills, painteds, red eared waxbills, orange cheeks, cordon blues, and the Billy Bob Johnson variegated seed wacker. If ya'll are anything like me (and I hope for your sanity you are not) you are constantly scheming how you can add that next "just gotta

have" species to your bird room or aviary. I have a wish list and chief on the list is the red eared firetail (*Emblema ocalata*). So many birds and so little space.

I keep and breed my birds in cages. Their sizes range from 16"x24"x36" (41cmx61cmx92cm) to 32"x36"x48" (81cmx92cmx122cm). Certainly the goal should be to



provide the largest size cage possible. I try to create a mini environment within each cage particular to a specific species. The parrot finches, for instance, enjoy live plants and silk vines for privacy.



Their cage floor is a natural litter of Bermuda hay, switch grass, spaghm moss, and coca fiber. I

tell myself that this might resemble the forest floor of some Pacific island. I keep many plants in the cages and bird room. The plants assist in maintaining a high level of humidity (roughly 70-80%), provide nesting sites, refuge from aggressors or ardent suitors, and it gives the birds a greater sense of safety. A sense of security is

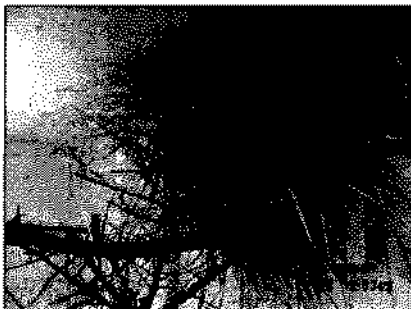
something that should not be discounted. While many species will breed with minimal accommodations, others require more specialized environments.

In the wild most of the Australians either feed on the ground or very low to the ground. They move about by hopping and it is very natural for them to spend a fair amount of

time on the cage floor (read ground), so instead of bare wire or newspaper, I place various grasses and organic chemically free soils (*Azalea* potting soil). Finches forage for a living. It is their nature to hunt for food.

I remove soiled grasses and replace them with fresh hay as required. The scent of hay is pleasing to me and the introduction of it never fails to solicit an immediate response among the birds. My hand is hardly out of the cage before they are down investigating what may well be treasure to them. Their natural sense of curiosity demands a thorough investigation. Firetail cocks set about to locate the longest piece they can dredge up

and proffer the scepter-like grass stem to tempt interested females.



I often tie several stalks of spray millet and hang them from the perches. No bird can resist millet sprays and they spend many hours climbing among the stalks. When in season I also tie up bundles of Johnson grass I harvest from known clean sources. It is not uncommon to see oceans of these tough-stemmed grasses fill the land-scape as far as the eye can see. Their seed heads are a great treat to the birds. I am fond of saying that by doing things like this I cannot help but imagine that it conjures up primordial instincts in them. Little things like these allow finches to be finches. Encouraging them to forage keeps them from being bored (read feather plucking and bullying), and I believe hones dormant but essential instincts that improves their sense of well being and even perhaps stimulates breeding triggers.

Natural perches cut from various species of bushes and trees are provided. I include ones with vary-

ing diameters and textures. Doing so I believe provides appropriate gripping surfaces to minimize or eliminate feet and claw problems. Seldom do I have to clip nails. The diverse diameters require the birds to use varying grasping postures and permits a wider range of muscle use. You might be surprised how often a firetail will perch on a twig whose thickness is not much greater than a pencil lead. I do not install the perches the full width of the cage. That is, they are not rigidly secured to each side of the cage partition. I mill a piece of 1"x2" (2.54cm x 5.08cm) pine to 1 1/2" x 1 1/2" (3.81cmx3.81cm) and drill a 1/4" (6.35mm) hole part way through. On the opposite side of



the 1"x2", I install a #12 5/8", (15.8mm) pan head screw that hooks over the 1"x2" 16 gauge wire which I snug up with a screw driver. The 1"x2" becomes a semipermanent fixture. I take the branch/perch and whittle the end until it fits tightly in the hole, add a couple of drops of wood glue and twist the branch snugly into the perch holder. This arrangement allows for spring in the perch when they land and

launch. It may have no real value, but it is just a little something that more closely resembles their natural world. When the perches become soiled, it is simple matter of giving them a twist and replacing them with another branch. I avoid straight branches, but instead offer twisted and gnarly ones. Obviously, one must make certain the specie one is using is non poisonous.

My bird room has a large south facing window that floods the entire room with light. I have three 48", (122cm) double-tube full spectrum florescent fixtures. Each cage has one single 24"(61cm) similar light. These are controlled by inexpensive digital timers that come on at various times depending on the season. During breeding season



they come on at 6 AM and go off at 9:30 PM.

I have some smaller wattage lights also connected to timers that turn off sequentially, to somewhat mimic a gradual decrease in daylight (read sunset). I keep several strategically placed night

lights so the room is never absolutely dark.



I provide bathing dishes nearly everyday. There are many reasons for doing so. Bathing is often a social activity, perhaps even a ritual. Bathing keeps feathers in top condition- tight to the body- allowing

for greater conservation of body heat. Birds that return to the nest with damp feathers contribute to increased humidity within the nest. Birds who are permitted to bathe frequently will finish their molt in less time and often with better results. Few people who observe finches dipping and splashing can

deny the obvious abandon and enthusiasm they exhibit. It is a stimulating activity and no bird should be denied the opportunity to bathe regularly.

Keeping and breeding these kinetic iridescent jewels provides me with tremendous satisfaction. I

sense that I can actively play a small part in preserving some of the species for the collective benefit of humankind. I hope that does not sound narcissistic or grandiose, because I honestly believe every person who dedicates themselves to breeding finches and softbills makes a positive contribution to conservation.

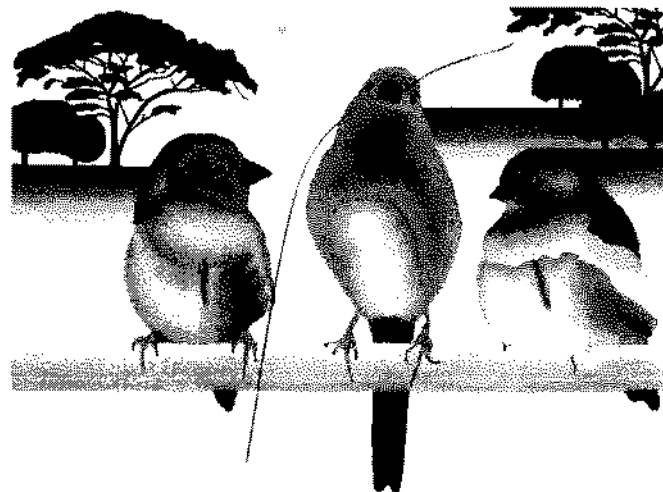
It grieves me to share that the fate of many of the Australians in the wild now hinges on tragically small numbers of birds. Recent estimates are that less than 1200 Gouldians exist in the wild. Stars are facing a similar fate. Loss of habitat is the chief reason. Similar stories can be told for waxbills as well. Twenty years ago one could buy red cheek cordon blues all day long for \$25 a pair. Now they are numbered among the birds found on the CITES list, and they can no longer be imported- from anywhere.

Like many finch lovers, I have a passion for them. I find them beautiful, challenging, and

intriguing. So much energy bound within glorious colors and crisp patterns. I never tire of just watching them go about their daily and seasonal activities. I will never be accused of being a tree hugger per se, but I do possess a very healthy respect for the natural world. I am a minor player in a collective endeavor to ensure that future children have the opportunity to enjoy the exhilaration of peeking into a nest box and seeing tiny pink bodies huddled among straw and coca fiber. I get such a quiet sense of satisfaction that I am humbled by how these diminutive birds will reward anyone who invests the time and effort with immeasurable joy. My bird room is my sanctuary and within the serenity of this asylum, I can restore my soul.

Respectfully,

Clint Harris
Temple, Texas charris@vvm.com



Original Drawing by ©Christine Kumar

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Pale headed Munia

(*Lonchura Pallida*)

by Mark Shipway
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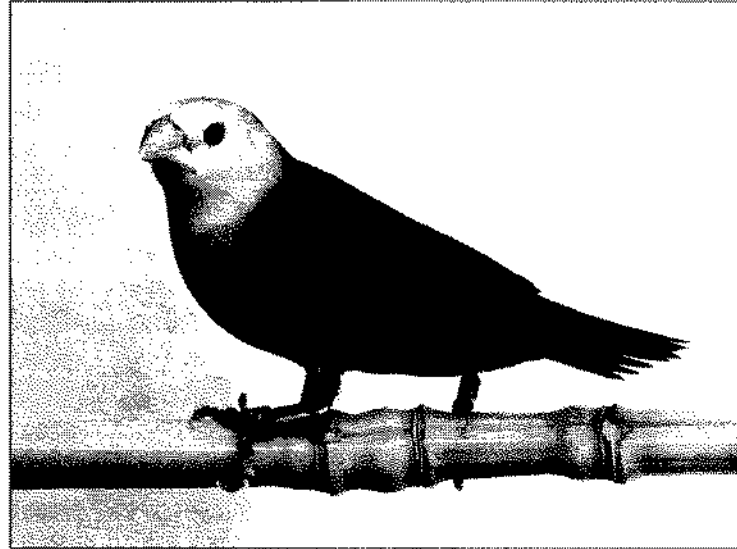


Photo Courtesy of ©Roy Beckham

With seven Munia species having pale heads (including the White Headed, Grey Headed, Grey Crowned (see www.pop.dircon.co.uk/page56.html), Black Throated (see www.pop.dircon.co.uk) and Australia's Yellow Rumped Munias) it is easy to confuse the birds and their names. These species spread across parts of Indonesia, New Guinea and Australia. This article is about the relatively unknown Pale Headed Munia.

Without going into a confusing formal description, I believe the best

way to describe this Munia is for you to imagine a White Headed Munia with the brown and black on the throat, breast, and under-parts replaced with caramel-yellow. Apart from that, everything else remains the same. A scanned photograph of this bird may be seen at the internet site "www.pop.dircon.co.uk/page45.html". Two races are recognised, namely, *pallida* and *subcastanea*.

The Pale Headed Munia is distributed east of the Wallace Line, namely, southern Sulawesi, Lombok, Sumbawa, Sumba and other

Indonesian islands close by. They appear to be one of the few Munias in Asia that has extended its range to include drier environments (east of the Wallace Line) which the White Headed Munia and Black Headed Munias have not appeared to do as well. In fact, its distribution brings it very close to Australian shores being just off the coast of the Kimberleys, but on Indonesian land, namely Sumba and Timor. For the keen bird spotters out there, a good place to see them is around the city of Ujung Padang, in Southern Sulawesi, where they appear to be oblivious to the city pollution and the millions of people with whom they share the city. They freely fly about the city's parks and gardens together with Moluccan Munias (*L. molucca*) particularly in the grounds of Fort Rotterdam built by the Dutch in 1667, and are seen just as frequently on the rice fields out of town. Unfortunately, southern Sulawesi appears to be the only area where they are abundant. I have seen them also on Lombok feeding with the Five Coloured Munia (*L. quinticolour*), where they much less common and more difficult to find. Restall, (1996, p.139), states that "virtually nothing is recorded about this bird in the wild".

On their record in captivity, it appears that they have never really been in high demand. I found that in the areas where they are seen in the wild the local bird markets rarely offer them for sale but instead readily offer the White Headed Munia, which has to be imported into the area. This is curious since I find the Pale Headed Munia a far more attractive bird. I did, however, have the chance of studying these birds in a private collection on Lombok.

I doubt this species was ever imported into Australia but its keeping would no doubt be very similar to the other Munias in our aviaries. Restall, (1996, p139), extensively studied them in captivity - and happened to breed them - and commented that. "It seems to be the geographical representative of the White Headed Munia.".....

When you see a Pale Headed Munia, their close relationship to our Yellow Rumped Munia becomes apparent. It would appear that this species has a special significance for Australia. For many years, when naturalists attempted to determine the origin of our Yellow Rumped Munia, they concluded that it evolved from and became a desert form of the Chestnut Breasted Munia - probably because they looked at Australia's birds in isolation. It is now clear that the Yellow Rump and the Pale Headed Munia are probably evolutionarily linked, given their close distribution and both of their adaptations to drier habitats. When the Pale Heads came to Australia, the Chestnut Breasted Munias probably had not yet come across from New Guinea, but were not far behind. Being specialists in wetter climates, the Chestnut Breasted Munias probably spread from Cape York down the east coast of Australia and west to the Northern Territory where it relatively recently met up with the Yellow Rump, which had by this time adapted to Australia's climate.

We can only hope that one day we will have the chance to keep this species in Australia.

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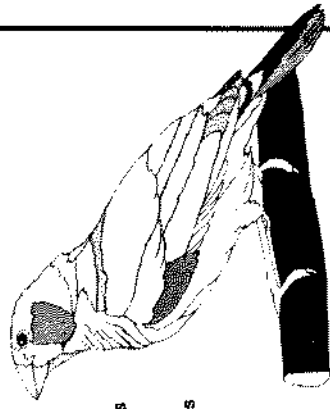
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Treasure Coast Exotic Bird Club Donates \$20,000.00 to the University of Florida



Pictured L to R: Rob Stolz, TCEBC Treasurer; Kathy Dwyer, TCEBC President; Carolyn Frazier, Executive Secretary, Awards & Scholarships, University of Florida; Linda Castaner, TCEBC Member. Photo by Ron Castaner.

The Treasure Coast Exotic Bird Club, in Stuart, Florida, has presented a \$20,000.00 endowment to the University of Florida Veterinary School. This money will be used for scholarships for Veterinary students studying Avian Veterinary medicine and planning to practice in the state of Florida.

Each year, for the past five years, this club has donated two \$500.00 scholarships to the University of Florida Veterinary School. Along with these donations, the club saved money made at their Bird Fairs and Raffles in both a savings account and CD, until their \$20,000.00 goal was reached.



Ron Castaner, NFSS Region 2 VP and TCEBC Member, presents a scholarship to a Veterinary student at the University of Florida.

BOOK REVIEW:
**ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ESTRILDID
 FINCHES**

by Matthew M. Vriends & Tanya M. Heming-Vriends.

By Ian Hinze
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Without doubt the single most important family of birds in aviculture is the *Estrildidae*, or estrildid finches - consisting of waxbills, mannikins, Australian finches and parrot-finches - and to which such popular species as the zebra finch, society finch, gouldian finch and Java rice bird belong. These are now thoroughly domesticated species and an indication of just why estrildid finches are so highly prized throughout the world - many make the ideal cage-birds and are, therefore, frequently the beginner's choice.

Unfortunately, since Derek Goodwin's monumental tome *Estrildid Finches of the World*, published in 1982, went out of print - and mysteriously has never been reprinted in spite of the obvious demand (second-hand copies have more than doubled in value from the original selling price) - there has been a veritable void in the avian, and particularly avicultural, literature on the family. At long last, that void has been filled wonderfully well by a Dutch father and daughter couple.

Dr. Matthew Vriends and his daughter, Tanya, have produced a work that is such an absolute joy to possess. It had me wishing I'd owned such a book when I was first starting out with birds, almost 40 years ago. *Encyclopedia of Estrildid Finches* is divided into two parts: 1) Understanding the origin of your pet finch; hous-

ing management and care; common illnesses and their treatment; food and water; breeding, and 2) Estrildidae (*Estrildinae*, *Amadinae* and *Erythrurae*) - the species section.

The classification of the family chosen by the authors (after Wolters, *et al.*) will not please everyone, myself included, but to their credit a second classification, that by Sibley, Ahlquist and Monroe, is provided alongside for comparison (pages 254-255). The latter is more to my liking (not to mention that by Howard & Moore (1994) plus Restall's (1996) definitive work on munias and mannikins (*Lonchura*)), but *Birds of Africa, Volume VII*, which is earmarked for publication next year, will undoubtedly change things even further, such is science.

A perpetual argument thrown aviculture's way is that there is too much reliance on wild-caught birds and, it must be said, the bulk of estrildid finches offered for sale are, indeed, wild-caught. A major reason for this is that the correct husbandry requirements for various species within the family have previously been poorly documented - now there can be no excuse! The authors are to be commended on the simplistic way they guide even an absolute beginner through the best acclimatisation, housing and feeding methods which, if adhered to, would have him or her becoming a seriously accomplished

breeder by the time the last page was read – providing they are able to put the book down!

Encyclopedia of Estrildid Finches is lavishly illustrated with black and white sketches and photographs of both birds and equipment – plus almost 400 of the most beautiful color photographs one could ever imagine. Near the front of the book there are 8 pages of these photographs, highlighting different birdrooms and aviaries, as well as foods and equipment – but joy of joys, close to the center are grouped together 48 pages of absolutely outstanding pictures of many different birds. All the photographs are completely new to me, making a refreshing change, and so are some of the species depicted. Particularly beneficial is that, occasionally, a number of different races are shown on the same page – a real boon for identification!

Most of the old favorites are there, of course, including mutations, but so too, are pictures of gray-headed olive-backs, crimson (red)-breasted bluebills, brown twinspots, black munias, white-spotted mannikins and many more besides. There are also stunning photographs of the juveniles and nestlings of a number of different species, plus good close-up shots of their mouth markings.

Following on from the tremendously informative sections found in part 1 of the text (see above), wherein is found excellent basic husbandry techniques and recommendations for combating common illnesses, is the species section, which starts about a quarter of the way into the book. It contains concise descriptions of each species, plus geographic variations (subspecies), habitat, aviculture, food and any alternative names. On occasion, rough black and white sketches of certain species

accompany the text and it would be nit-picking to say these don't always capture the real 'jizz' of the bird. They are certainly no worse than the color ones found in Goodwin's book and, similarly, do not detract from the excellent "meat", the overall subject matter. They are also more than compensated for by the high quality color shots.

As well as the expected indexes at the rear (common and scientific names), plus the classification comparisons mentioned earlier, there is a short bibliography and a rather novel multilingual index of common names, i.e. in Danish, German, French, Italian and Dutch. This is becoming normal in scientific works but is uncommon in aviculture.

This book shouldn't be compared with Goodwin's, and it isn't meant to be! Rather, each compliments the other. Unlike Goodwin's, which is primarily an ornithological treatise, one has to consider whether or not it is of any real benefit to the aviculturist and to this I would say a resounding 'Yes!' The experienced aviculturist might possibly feel there's nothing in the book that he/she doesn't already know. Personally, I think all too often the basics are taken for granted, which a serious lack of regular breeding successes clearly emphasizes.

Encyclopedia of Estrildid Finches is a common sense book, a truly excellent introduction to the *Estrildidae* and their required husbandry, and top of the list for anyone considering taking up birdkeeping. In the avian library it can rightly stand alongside Derek Goodwin's *Estrildid finches of the world*, Robin Restall's *Munias and mannikins* and Klaus Immelmann's *Australian Finches*. Thoroughly recommended!

Hardback. 211 pages, published by Hancock House (Canada & USA). Price US \$60.00.

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NFSS Legislation News

March, 2003

By Harry Bryant, NFSS Legislative Director

The first two months of 2003 brings both good and bad news for the aviculturist. More information on legislation and other issues affecting bird owners can be found on the NFSS website at [<http://www.nfss.org/legis/legismain.html>].

On the Federal level:

The Exotic Newcastle Disease (END) outbreak in California continues to escalate, with parts of Arizona and Nevada reporting outbreaks, and the USDA declaring an extraordinary emergency for the States of Arizona, California, and Nevada. These declarations allow USDA to apply federal authority within those states. (more details below)

On the State and Local levels:

Proposed Legislation (AB-202) was introduced on January 28, 2003 to the California Assembly that would make it illegal for pet stores to possess or sell un-weaned baby birds. It's imperative the Assembly gets letters in support of this bill, and we have placed more information on this matter as well as several sample letters and the addresses to send them to on the NFSS website [<http://www.nfss.org/legis/stateinfo/ca/AB-202-2-7-03.htm>] for your use.

Animal Rights Activity:

Guardians; Companions and Pets

Various animal-rights groups continue their agenda to ultimately change the legal standing of "pets" to "guardians" for animals. See the article "Let's Look at Using the Legal Term "Guardian" Rather Than "Owner" - Is This a Necessary, or Even a Good, Idea?" - by Genny Wall directly following this report for a detailed explanation of the ramifications of this issue.

In view of the above, it's interesting to note that in Colorado on February 15, 2002, Rep. Mark Cloer killed his own bill that would have made Colorado's pets "companions" under the law. Rep. Cloer had only introduced the proposed legislation on February 9, 2003.

Doris Day Animal League loses previous court victory

On January 14, 2003, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit overturned the Doris Day Animal League's (DDAL) July 2001 District Court victory., finding that people who sell and breed animals out of their homes fall under the definition of "retail pet stores" that are exempt from

regulation under federal law.

Exotic Newcastle Disease (END) – More News:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has declared an extraordinary emergency for the States of Arizona, California, and Nevada. These declarations allow USDA to apply federal authority within Arizona, California and Nevada.

- Exotic Newcastle Disease (END) was confirmed on October 1, 2002, in the State of California. On January 16, 2003, END was also confirmed in a backyard flock in the State of Nevada. In Arizona, a backyard flock was also confirmed with END on February 4, 2003.
- Effective January 7, 2003, APHIS imposed a federal quarantine that regulates the interstate movement of all species of birds and poultry products from Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties, CA.
- Effective January 17, 2003, APHIS imposed a federal quarantine that regulates the interstate movement of all species of birds and poultry products from Clark and a portion of Nye County, NV.
- Effective February 10, 2003, APHIS imposed a federal quarantine that regulates the interstate movement of all species of birds and poultry products from all of La Paz and Yuma Counties and a portion of Mohave County, AZ.

If you have any questions about this situation, please feel free to call USDA, APHIS, VS, Emergency Programs at 800-940-6524, 301-734-8073 or their website(s) Federal - <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/issues/enc/exoticnc.html>; State (CA) - http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/ah/Newcastle_info.htm

The Following States are not allowing Birds from the states where END has broken out.

- Arizona (END exists)
- California (END exists)
- Florida (Ban Exists)
- Georgia (Ban Exists)
- Hawaii (Ban Exists)
- Iowa (Ban Exists)
- Massachusetts (Ban Exists)
- Nevada (END exists)
- Oregon (Ban Exists)
- Texas (Ban Exists)
- Utah (Ban Exists)
- Washington (Ban Exists)

End is a contagious viral disease affecting many species of birds including poultry and wild birds. This is probably one of the most infectious diseases of poultry in the world with a death rate of almost 100 percent in

unvaccinated poultry flocks and so virulent that many birds die without showing any clinical signs. The disease can even infect and cause death in vaccinated poultry.

END is extremely contagious. The spread is primarily through direct contact between healthy birds and the bodily fluids of infected birds. It can be transmitted through infected bird droppings as well as secretions from the nose, mouth and eyes. It spreads rapidly among confined birds like commercially raised chickens. The disease is also easily spread by virus-bearing material picked up on shoes and clothing and carried from an infected flock to a healthy one.

This disease affects the respiratory, nervous and digestive systems, with an incubation period ranging from two to 15 days. Infected birds may exhibit the following signs:

- ❖ Respiratory: sneezing, gasping for air, nasal discharge, coughing
- ❖ Digestive: greenish, watery diarrhea
- ❖ Nervous: muscular tremors, droopy wings, twisting head & neck, circling, complete paralysis
- ❖ Partial or complete reduction in egg production
- ❖ Production of thin-shelled eggs
- ❖ Swelling of the tissues around the eyes & in the neck
- ❖ Sudden death
- ❖ Increased number of deaths in a flock

Exotic Newcastle disease (END) was confirmed on October 1, 2002, in the State of California, and has now spread beyond backyard flocks to affect 17 commercial operations in California. On January 16, 2003, END was also confirmed in a backyard flock in the State of Nevada. A backyard flock was confirmed with END on February 4, 2003, in the State of Arizona. Clinical signs in infected birds include respiratory, nervous, and gastrointestinal signs. Mortality is up to 90% of exposed birds. Investigations are on-going and all figures are pending final validation. Veterinary Services is exploring all options to send Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) personnel, other federal government personnel, and is working with the States to consider additional resources to meet the labor demands. APHIS has developed a plan for nation END surveillance. This plan enhances the already extensive surveillance underway.

The following link is to the State of California's END website.

http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/ah/Newcastle_info.htm

The following link is to the State of Nevada's END website.

<http://www.agri.state.nv.us/END.htm>

The following link is to the State of Arizona's END website.

<http://agriculture.state.az.us/newcastle.htm>

If you have any questions about this situation, please feel free to call USDA, APHIS, VS, Emergency Programs at 800-940-6524, 301-734-8073, or e-mail at EMOC@APHIS.USDA.GOV

Let's Look at Using the Legal Term "Guardian" Rather Than "Owner"

Is This a Necessary, or Even a Good Idea?

Genny Wall, AFA Avian Welfare Chair

Experience should teach us to be most on our guard to protect liberty when the government's purposes are beneficial. The greatest dangers to liberty lurk in insidious encroachment by men of zeal, well meaning but without understanding." (Louis D. Brandeis, Justice of the United States Supreme Court)

DOES IT MAKE A DIFFERENCE WHICH WORD WE USE? ISN'T "GUARDIAN" A KINDER WORD THAN "OWNER?"

Animal Rights activists are pushing nationwide for federal, state, and local laws that use the term "Guardian" rather than "Owner" with respect to our relationship with our animals. What does this mean to us as animal owners and keepers? Is it important that we understand the legal and practical ramifications of the words "Guardian" and "Owner?" I believe that it is.

I have no argument with anyone who wants to see animals kept in a humane way, and I support legislation that is truly designed and implemented to protect animals and ensure their welfare. However, the humane treatment of animals is really not the issue when we look at

what is behind this push to substitute the term "Guardian" for "Owner" in the minds of the public and in our legal system.

ROUND ONE - THE "WARM FUZZIES" CONVINCED THE PUBLIC TO ACCEPT THE USE OF THE TERM GUARDIAN INSTEAD OF "OWNER"

The animal rights public argument is that this kinder, gentler term "Guardian" more accurately reflects the position which humans should occupy with respect to animals. They say that it will make people more responsible for the animals in their care. However, despite the appealing packaging and propaganda, animal rights activists who have an understanding of the law understand the legal and practical applications of the term "Guardian," and they use it to advance the animal rights agenda of no use of animals by man - not for food, fiber, research, entertainment, or as pets. In legal terms, the rights and obligations of a "Guardian," and the Guardian's abilities to resist intrusion from outsiders, are limited when compared to the rights and abilities of an "Owner." A person who owns property has rights under

the U. S. Constitution not to be deprived of that property without Due Process of Law. In contrast, a "Guardian" does not enjoy the same level of Constitutional protections afforded to an "Owner."

Due Process can require a much higher standard of proof and more structured and stringent legal procedures to remove an animal from an "Owner" than from a "Guardian." A "Guardian" can be easily and quickly appointed, and just as easily and quickly removed, by a judge, often without a hearing or a trial.

In some courts, a simple statement by an "interested party" can suffice to allow the judge to appoint or remove a Guardian. Again, in contrast, an Owner cannot be so appointed and removed, although the physical custody of the owner's animals can be taken from him if he neglects or abuses his animals. In such a case the owner is entitled to participate in, and oppose, legal proceedings regarding his animals - legal proceedings in which he is entitled to know the evidence against him and in which he is entitled to present a defense. Despite claims by animal rights activists that tell us otherwise, an "Owner" does not have the absolute right to neglect or abuse his animals, and in most jurisdictions in this country there are laws against animal abuse and neglect. Where there are not such laws, there should be, and I support enacting such legislation in those jurisdictions.

In essence, if we are "Guardians" rather than "Owners" of our animals, it is the State (i.e. the government), and not the individual, who owns the animal.

If we are "Guardians" rather than owners, then ultimately it will be the State, and not the individual, who has the power to say who will care for the animal, how it will be cared for, where it will reside, what medical treatments it will or will not undergo, and who will make all the other decisions regarding the health, welfare, life and death, or destruction, of that animal. I do not believe animal ownership and care is a function which is, or which should be, properly exercised by the State. Further, when we say the "State" is the owner of the animal, it is unclear which arm of the "State" will have and exercise this ownership. If the federal, state, and local jurisdictions all have "Guardianship" laws, and if they conflict, who will prevail and which laws will be effective? The confusion about who is ultimately responsible for the care of animals subject to "Guardianship" laws can lead to more hardship and suffering of the animals who are allegedly neglected or abused by their owners. Also, the humans who are subjected to these conflicting laws, who care about their animals, will also suffer as decisions regarding the care and custody of their animals remain in legal no-man's land.

At this time there is no State that has the financial or practical ability to assume this role as animal owner, or to carry it out in a way that would benefit animals. If history provides us any lessons, history has shown us that when a State is unprepared to carry out a role that has been imposed upon it, the State delegates that function. So, if the State becomes the owner of our animals, when that delegation takes place, who will the

States delegate to? The former "Owners?" The citizenry at large? Animal Control? USDA? Animal Rights organizations? Local or national rescue organizations? What is the point of making the State the owner of animals if the State is not prepared to perform this function and must delegate this right and duty? it seems pointless to me to engage in this kind of useless legislation, if in fact the goal is to make things better for animals. But as I have said, that is not the real purpose behind the push for "Guardianship" for animals.

So, what is the true purpose behind this push for using the term "Guardian"? From my legal perspective I see that purpose to be to achieve public acceptance for the concept of animal "Guardians" in a general sense, so that the door can be opened to animal rights activists who don't believe humans should have or keep animals and who seek the removal of animals from their owners on simple, perhaps unfounded, allegations of abuse or neglect.

Litigation to defend against such proceedings is expensive, and can be exhausting, both in financial terms and in terms of personal suffering. Many people will relinquish animals rather than defend themselves in a legal proceeding to remove animals from their custody. If animal rights advocates can get the public to accept the term "Guardian" (Round One) the move to the next step (Round Two) is deceptively simple.

**ROUND TWO - THE REAL
BATTLE BEGINS -
"Guardian ad Litem"**

I recently attended a parrot wel-

fare meeting at which a speaker was an animal rights attorney who has stated that he believes that his 4-year-old son is no different from a chimp, and who advocates extending legal rights to certain animals. This attorney stated that it was a goal of animal rights advocates to establish "Guardians ad Litem" for animals. The members of the audience, not being attorneys, did not seem to grasp the serious legal implications of this statement and did not seem to be alarmed by it. However, being a practicing attorney, I am quite familiar with the term "Guardian ad Litem" - literally, it is Latin for Guardian for Lawsuit. A "Guardian ad Litem" is a person appointed by a court whose sole purpose and function is to engage in litigation on behalf of an incapacitated person.

Despite the "warm fuzziest" of Round One of the Guardian campaign, there is nothing in the definition or law of Guardian ad Litem that provides for, or requires that, the Guardian ad Litem care for the incapacitated person. The sole function of the Guardian ad Litem is to engage in litigation. As this animal rights attorney made clear, the animal rights goal is to extend this function to animals so that lawsuits can be brought on behalf of animals by animal rights activists. The attorney said activists are already "waiting in the wings" to receive these appointments.

There are many existing laws and legal procedures that the federal government, the States, and local governments can use against Owners to protect animals from abuse and neglect by their

owners, within the bounds of Due Process.

Even so, animal rights activists continue to push for more federal, state, and local laws regulating animals and their care. When evaluating such proposed animal laws, I examine each proposed law with an eye to whether or not it actually helps animals, and support it or oppose it on that basis.

Animal activists claim that the government fails to use these existing animal protective laws and legal procedures, and that this alleged failure by our government justifies delegating that protective function to animal rights activists who are waiting to be appointed Guardians ad Litem. I do not believe that this approach is wise, or appropriate, or justified, as a response to the supposed failure of our government to enforce laws already in existence regarding animal neglect or cruelty. The appropriate response is to enforce the animal welfare laws already on the books, and where those laws are weak or non-existent, to strengthen them. It is also important to note that, whether or not such lawsuits by Guardians ad Litem for animals can be justified, they are very expensive to the animal Owner to defend against. I asked this attorney during the question and answer period following his talk, (1) who would care for animals removed from their owners under this plan? and (2) who would finance such litigation. He did not answer either of my questions.

The powerhouse Animal Rights organizations presently spend virtually nothing from their

huge annual revenues or assets on the direct care of animals. I see no reason to believe that if they are successful in removing animals from their owners in large numbers they will miraculously change their modes of operation. The smaller rescue groups are barely able to afford the care of the animals that presently come into their care. I see no reason to believe rescuers will be able to care for animals removed from their owners by Guardians ad Litem.

Perhaps the attorney did not answer my questions because the answer is obvious - if no funds are available for the care of removed animals, euthanasia is in all likelihood the only option for most removed animals. The answer to my second question is also obvious - we, the taxpayers, the financial supporters of the State, would pay for this litigation. We will all become the financial backers of the animal rights agenda if we make the State the owner of our animals.

In my view, this animal rights attorney's stated goal of creating Guardians ad Litem for animals, and of allowing litigation to be pursued on behalf of animals, will do nothing to provide for or ensure the welfare of animals in our care. On the contrary, it appears quite clear to me that the goal of Round Two is to remove animals from the care and custody of their owners, not to provide for the care of the animals. The goal of Round Two is political, not humane.

**ROUND THREE - WILL WE SEE
ULTIMATE REMOVAL OF ANI-
MALS FROM THEIR OWNERS,**

AND EUTHANASIA?

It saddens me to say it, but I believe that ultimately euthanasia of large numbers of animals will be the end result of a switch to using the legal term "Guardian" for animals instead of using the term "Owner." Owners have a vested interest in maintaining their animals, regardless of what their purpose is in maintaining that animal, whether for food, fiber, research, entertainment, or as a pet. That vested interest cannot be taken from an Owner without proof of neglect or abuse, that is, unless the Owner voluntarily relinquishes the animal. A Guardian has no such vested interest. If we accept the concept of legal Guardians for animals, and if the legal status actually changes, I anticipate the day will come when people finally realize what the legal ramifications of that term mean, and, when they come to that realization, it will be our animals who suffer. When people finally understand that as "Guardians" their animals can be

taken from them at any time, I anticipate that the human / animal bond will be diminished - not voluntarily, but out of necessity. It is common sense to me, should the day come when we are no longer "Owners," but merely "Guardians," that in order to avoid the emotional harm that would result from having his animals taken from him, a "Guardian" will become "guarded," and will not take as much interest in what happens to the animals under his care as he would if he were an "Owner." Animal rights advocates claim that "Owners" treat animals as a commodity. I see it in reverse. I see the day when "Guardians" will treat animals as a commodity, as an object not to be bonded with in the event that bond is broken by the actions of the State.

Not a pretty picture, and I hope that day never comes.

(Originally published in the AFA Watchbird, Volume XXIX, Number 4, 2002 - used with permission)

News from the FinchShop

FinchShop Talk

Extra, extra! The long-awaited finch and softbill photo CD is finally here! You won't believe the gorgeous photography. The photo CD includes about 500 full color photos of all your favorite finches and softbills, plus a screensaver featuring more than 150 photos representing a wide range of species. NFSS members, you did a great job with those cameras; and I know you'll be pleased with the finished product. Ginny Allen and Shirley Kemp deserve all the kudos we can give them for their tireless effort to produce this product. At just \$9.99, it's a steal! Buy it now in the FinchShop. ***Please note the screensaver is currently compatible only with Microsoft Windows operating systems.***



Photo ©Roy Beckham

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Interested in Forming a Bird Club? Let us help you!

By Ginny Allen

As Liaison Officer for the past several years, I have received many calls, letters, and e-mails from people all over the country concerning the availability of a club - or even just being able to talk with a fellow Finch hobbyist in their area. This often means contacting the Membership Director to see if there is a member or two located in the general area who would consent to be contacted, as known bird clubs are not available in their area. The Regional VP for that area is also contacted to assist each individual.

It is simple to form a club and affiliate with NFSS, thus getting the information to fellow Finch lovers via our NFSS Journal or the website (www.nfss.org) that there are interested Finch/Softbill hobbyists in their area. The delegate does not need to be a member of NFSS. We want a person to represent the club who will share information with club members.

Those of you receiving this Journal are members of NFSS. However, you can gather your bird friends, pet store representatives. Vet groups together and simply find a name for your club. There are no bylaws for you to follow to affiliate.

Bylaws are drawn up (or not) by the individual groups. Dues are set (or not) by these same groups. Meetings can be held at any time for any reason. I know of several clubs that meet socially to share ideas. They have no formal meetings or programs.

We have several "Regional Clubs" in NFSS. These are made up of people in a geographical area who formed a very loosely organized group in order to exchange ideas and even birds. One of the strongest is the Southeast Bird Fanciers---no bylaws, no dues, no officers. We meet for lunch at a bird fair in Atlanta several times a year and just chat. We also have a Yahoo chat group. The SEBF members also support the shows in the southeast and several members have become vendors as well. Perhaps some of you are interested in organizing something like this.

We are strongly encouraging Finch/Softbill hobbyists/breeders to join existing clubs in their areas and represent NFSS. It doesn't matter if the individual has a single pair of birds or breeds many birds. We enthusiastically encourage all to become a part of an avicultural

group. There is so much information to share and it is becoming more important that we all work together to promote effective legislation to protect our hobby. Our communication system has improved dramatically in the past few years and NFSS is recognized as a strong leader in aviculture.

The affiliation papers are simple

to complete and it is a flat fee of \$25.00 to affiliate. Feel free to contact me:

Ginny Allen
307 Brookwood Court
Opelika, AL 36801
334-749-7168
gndallen@earthlink.net

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Showing *is* Sharing

*News from NFSS
Judges Panel Director
Martha Wigmore*

Update your Show Catalogs this year!

NFSS Show Classifications, with their geographical arrangement are highly educational for finch and softbill enthusiasts in your communities as they read through the show catalog. Please edit your show catalogs this year and bring your classes up-to-date with the latest NFSS Show Classifications.

Last year, in 2002, EVERY NFSS affiliate was sent the current NFSS Show Classifications, either by acknowledged e-mail or by regular mail. EVERY club currently has them on hand. Please publish the complete NFSS classes in your show catalogs this year. Members, pass along this reminder to your show manager.

And remember, NFSS has a set of show secretary worksheets ready for your use. These secretary pages exactly match the NFSS classes and are a

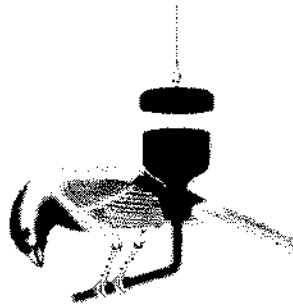
delight to use. Save your show manager some pre-show work! Please contact me for your copy.

Judges and Show Stewards:

I'd like to repeat this information from our last issue:
(1) Young bird classes are open to and (2) NFSS unflighted rosettes are awarded to current year, closed banded birds whose bands are from ANY source and ANY size. (3) NFSS individual bird points are given to birds with ANY size current year, closed NFSS or cross-registered bands.

NFSS band sizes are recommended sizes only. We do not enforce their "correct" application in any of our 3 exhibition programs, as NFSS has never defined the "correct" sizes - NFSS makes size recommendations only.

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*Bird Talk® magazine columnist
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- * Birds for sale (*only birds may be sold in the sale bird area.*)
- * Bird-related information

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2301 Putty Hill Avenue
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DIRECTIONS: Putty Hill Avenue & Old Harford Road is in the Parkville-Carney section of Baltimore County. From the Baltimore Beltway (I-895) drive towards Towson. Take the exit for Perring Parkway SOUTH (exit 30A). The next intersection is Putty Hill Avenue. From Perring Parkway turn LEFT onto Putty Hill Avenue. The hall is three blocks ahead on the right.

For more information, call: (410) 239-1928 or (410) 628-2051
beltbirdfanciers@aol.com

Day of event ONLY: (410) 688-4545

Please! For safety's sake NO pets are allowed in the hall. Only birds registered for the sales area will be admitted to the hall.

NFSS ELECTION

NFSS Bylaws specify that an election will be held every two years to elect the officers of the Society. These elections will be held in the fall of 2003. Nominations are open for all offices both elected and appointed. Volunteers are encouraged to contact Patrick Vance, election committee chairman at (248) 443-0643 or via e-mail at Spartanfinchman@cs.com.

In order to facilitate the membership in knowing what each officer does, the present officers have submitted descriptions of the responsibilities of their office and, when possible, the approximate amount of time each one requires. These responsibilities expand those simply stated in our NFSS Bylaws.

The elected officer positions on the NFSS Board of Directors require the officer to participate and vote in board meetings held four times yearly. These are sometimes conducted on the internet through an Officer's List. Therefore, internet accessibility is necessary for each candidate for NFSS office. Each officer prepares and submits a quarterly report to the NFSS Board of Directors at each of four scheduled board meetings held throughout that year.

NFSS Officer Responsibilities

President

The President of NFSS shall preside over all Board of Directors meetings, annual membership meetings, and attend to the day to day operations of the Society. He/she shall abide by the bylaws of the Society, coordinate and delegate the activities of the other officers of NFSS. This officer must diplomatically guide the organization to meet the needs of members, various clubs, and all NFSS activities.

Time requirements: 4 to 12 hours a week.

1st VP (Regional VPs, Education)

The 1st VP shall fill the position of President if needed and coordinates the activities of the Regional VPs, assisting them when necessary. He/she also chairs the Education Committee and coordinates the educational programs of the Society. The 1st VP also approves any checks made payable to the President.

2nd VP (Publications)

The 2nd Vice President shall be

second in line to the Presidency. The 2nd Vice President is responsible for all publications produced by the Society (both in print and electronic media) and chairs the Publishing Committee.

Other Responsibilities include: working closely with the Editor of the NFSS Journal and with the webmaster of the NFSS website. The 2nd Vice President shall have final authority and say over what content is published in all Society publications.

3rd VP (NFSS Finch/Softbill Save, Census)

The Finch and Softbill Save Director oversees the day-to-day running of the FSS program. Responsibilities include working closely with the FSS committee, Group Managers, and Species Captains to develop species profiles on all FSS registered species, obtaining content and producing the FSS newsletter. It is the responsibility of the FSS Director to oversee the Group Manager and Species Captains'

positions and assign tasks and deadlines in order to conduct the business of the FSS program.

Other duties include review and acceptance of individual applications to the FSS membership, maintaining species records, and submitting expense reports to the NFSS Treasurer every 90 days, as needed. Other responsibilities include adhering to a strict policy of preserving privacy and confidentiality of information involving the annual census and the Finch & Softbill Save Program.

The 3rd Vice President will be in charge of overseeing and gathering data for the society's annual census and publishing those statistics for publication in the NFSS Journal on a yearly basis.

Time required: 30 minutes per new participant in FSS. 30 minutes per participant for the Census.

4th VP (Judges Panel/Standards/Research)

This officer must be an NFSS Panel Judge as he/she will serve as the Panel Director. He/she shall also chair the Research and Standards Committee and be in charge of Specie Classifications, be responsible for shows or exhibitions of the Society and member points arising from these. In addition, the Fourth V.P. participates in all NFSS Board discussions and decisions. The Fourth VP also acts in support of NFSS' annual National Show as liaison with the National Cage Bird Show Board in obtaining award sponsorships, coordinating judge selections, and other NCBS business as required, and is also the judges' contact with the Great American Bird Show Board.

Time required: 4 - 10 or more hours/wk.

Membership Director

1. Maintain a current NFSS Membership Database (currently in MS Access) and paper file of all current members'

information.

2. Process new/renewing memberships as they arrive via Paypal and in the US Mail.
 - Enter/update member information in database.
 - Generate and mail confirmation letters, membership cards, and for new members-NFSS/Finch-shop Brochures.
 - File Paperwork in membership paper file.
3. Management of renewal notices (on the first of each month).
 - Send renewal notices to all those whose memberships are due to expire in the current month.
 - Send expiration notices to all those whose memberships have expired in the previous month.
 - Inactivate all members whose memberships have been expired for 60 days.
 - Notify appropriate NFSS Board members when Judges, FSS Members, etc. memberships have expired.
4. Assist NFSS Finch/Softbill Forum Moderator in maintenance of current membership on the Forum.
 - Receive requests for Forum Membership - verify NFSS membership - and communicate to Moderator.
 - On the first of each month - notify Moderator of those Forum members whose NFSS Memberships have been inactivated.
5. Communicate NFSS Member information to NFSS Board.
 - On the first of each month - generate Membership reports as specified by each Board Member and send to them.
 - Respond to Board Member requests for NFSS Membership information - ensure that this information is kept confidential and not shared beyond the NFSS Board.

- Provide a quarterly report to the NFSS Board to be submitted along with the Minutes of each Board Meeting.

Executive Secretary

The Secretary takes minutes during all board meetings, posts motions, writes and submits the minutes for board approval. All motions, important discussions, and votes must be documented and compiled into the quarterly minutes, which are then published in the *NFSS Journal*. It is also necessary to retype all reports submitted by the various officers so that they may also be published in the *NFSS Journal*.

Time required: 10-15 hours per quarter

Treasurer

After election and prior to start of term:

- Establish bookkeeping system
- Open bank accounts as needed by the Society (Currently for 2002/2003: one savings account and three checking accounts)
- Open electronic accounts as needed by the Society (Currently for 2002/2003: three PayPal accounts)

During term:

- Process payments (either as made by check or electronically - approximately 1,300 in 2002)
- Send info about those payments to President for approvals
- Make payments (for debts incurred by the Society-approx. 125 in 2002)
- Make deposits/transfer funds as required (both at the bank and electronically)
- Be involved in Board discussions/decisions
- Provide financial advice to the Society as needed

Annually:

- Prepare budget for upcoming year
- Prepare tax return(s)

Time required: 4-6 hours a week

Liaison Officer

The Liaison Officer is responsible for club affiliations. Re-affiliation packets must be sent to all current clubs in January of each year. As these are returned, they must be entered in a database and information on them sent to various other officers for the use of the Society. It is extremely important that a current list of affiliated clubs be maintained at all times. It is also the responsibility of the Liaison Officer to send information on shows and events to the Website Manager and the NFSS Journal Editor and to maintain a current list of shows and events.

This officer receives many emails, phone calls, and letters requesting information on the formation of new clubs, reaffiliations, and general information needed by finch hobbyists. It has become the contact position for NFSS so replies must be made in a timely fashion.

The Liaison Officer must work closely with the Awards Manager.

Time required: Jan-Apr 8 hours per week. Apr-Dec 4 hours per week.

Band Secretary

Maintaining the NFSS Band Secretary's yearly permanent records. This consists of recording each order received by band number run, NFSS member's name, NFSS membership number, and date filled. Each size band is to have it's own separate set of recorded entries for that year.

Band Budget: A yearly budget is provided to the Band Secretary. Budgets are documented in the Officer meeting minutes and posted on the NFSS Website. It is the Band Secretary's responsibility to keep within their budget. Should the need arise, the Band Secretary must request a

Secretary's responsibility to keep within their budget. Should the need arise, the Band Secretary must request a authorization to increase the existing budget prior to the Board Members for authorization. Break down of expected expenses of: bands, office supplies, & postage. This can take up to 1 hour to 4 hours yearly depending on how much statistics you need to review to justify requesting amount in budget.

Band Ordering: Orders are to be checked for accuracy of payment versus requested amount of bands. Membership numbers are to be checked with the Monthly Membership Report. These reports are to be kept confidential and are not to be released to any non-board member. This Report is generated by the Newsletter or Membership Director monthly and sent to all Board Members. This can take up to 1 hour to 4 hours weekly depending on volume of orders

Supplier Selection: This is usually an independent decision of the Band Secretary. Consideration of price, availability, and the required custom NFSS engraving requirements. Color is usually selected by the Band Secretary or supplier.

Band Inventory/Receipting: The Band Secretary's inventory & orders are to be reviewed and ordered in May/June of any given year for the proceeding year. Orders for the proceeding year should be received by November of the current year. This is to allow for any unforeseen delays in receiving that order. New inventory must be verified upon receipt. The invoice, if provided in the shipment, must be reviewed to reflect the estimate previously quoted. If correct the signed & dated invoice is sent to the NFSS Treasurer. If no invoice was received notify the Treasurer directly. This can take up to 1 hour to 2 hours quarterly, depending on

how much volume & inventory you need to review. Report is posted to the NFSS Officer Yahoo Group.

Monthly Treasurer's Report: When finalizing orders the Band Secretary itemizes each order on a report. In a column type report should contain Pay Pal/Mail-in orders, member's name, dollar amount of bands ordered, handling fee, insurance fee, and total of each check. Totals of each item should be reflected on the bottom of each column. Note of itemized incurred expenses. (see below) This report is mailed along with all checks, postal receipts, and any miscellaneous expenses to the Treasurer at the end of each month. A copy of this report must be kept for the Band Secretary's records. Discrepancies must be accounted for. This can take up to 1 hour to 3 hours monthly depending on volume of orders

Allowable Miscellaneous Expenses: The Band Secretary may request an advance to cover the monthly expenses. Expenses accepted by NFSS for reimbursement are long distance band related telephone calls (copy of phone bill), padded envelopes(original receipt), and packing tape (original receipt), ink for printer, paper, copying instruction information, reorder forms, NFSS membership form. Reimbursements are made monthly by the Treasurer.

Mailings: It is required that all orders be mailed at least once a week, if possible twice through the US Post Office. A receipt is required reflecting mailing expense. Other resource mailing outlets are accepted but is requested to only use as needed.

Band Verification: This is provided to anyone who seeks to trace the bird who wears an NFSS band. Members who ordered that particular number/year/size knowingly and expect the Band Secretary to release their name, phone

number, and email address (if given). Membership Director can verify any previous NFSS member who doesn't appear on the Monthly NFSS Membership Report.

Cross-registering Bands with NFSS: Any finch or softbill wearing a closed traceable band issued by a national society other than NFSS can qualify to earn NFSS Championship points, by registering the band with NFSS. All judges and officials will recognize these as valid NFSS registered bands. To register, send the species of finch or softbill, the name of the issuing society, the inscription on the band and a \$5.00 per band fee to the NFSS Band Secretary. The \$5.00 per band/bird cross-registration fee for all FINCHSAVE registered offspring wearing closed traceable band equivalent to the NFSS band size M or larger will be waived. The Band Secretary will issue a letter confirming this registration and the exhibitor should carry this letter with the bird when exhibited.

Regional VP's responsibilities

There are eight Regional Vice Presidents. Each is responsible for encouraging membership and club affiliation in the Society within the region in which he/she resides. They work closely with the 1st VP. Each is encouraged to hold at least one membership meeting within their region annually.

Appointed Offices

FinchShop Manager

The FinchShop Manager oversees the inventory and sales of merchandise offered to the general public. This merchandise excludes leg bands and memberships. The manager works within financial guidelines approved by the Board and seeks Board approval for

any expenditures outside the stipulated guidelines. Specific duties: prepares and submits an annual budget; establishes and maintains contacts with vendors; maintains and replenishes inventory, as needed; receives and processes customer orders; resolves customer inquiries and complaints; receives and verifies vendor invoices; forwards invoices and customer payments to the Treasurer; works with the webmaster to update the FinchShop portion of the website as needed; works with the Journal Editor to update the FinchShop Catalog, as needed; seeks out and recommends to the Board new products; provides to the Board periodic reports of FinchShop activity; and may, at his/her discretion, represent NFSS at bird marts and bird shows for the purpose of promoting NFSS and selling FinchShop items and NFSS memberships. When the term of the manager expires and is not renewed, the current manager cooperates in the orderly hand-off of information, inventory, and related materials to the incoming manager.

NFSS Journal Editor

Responsible for all activities related to the production of the bi-monthly *NFSS Journal*. These include

- Procurement of articles and photographs
- Soliciting Journal Display and Classified Advertising. Management of Advertising Accounts including tracking of runs, receiving payment, and on occasion, development of ad copy.
- Maintain communications with all NFSS Board members to ensure accuracy of NFSS information and Forms to be included in each issue.
- Create/edit each Journal issue (currently in MS Publisher) and deliver to the Printer in enough time to meet the mailing deadlines.
- Work with printer to ensure deadlines

can be met, work out quality issues, and approve payment of printer invoice for each issue.

NFSS Website Manager

An appointed position, responsible for maintaining and keeping the NFSS website up-to-date. Works under the direction of the 2nd VP.

Awards Manager

The Awards Manager is a non-elected, non-voting, appointed position and was created by an action of the Board of Directors to oversee providing NFSS awards for Affiliated Clubs, Annual Events, Special Recognition and any other occasion as assigned.

The Awards manager will purchase NFSS awards from manufacturers and receive all award orders and payments from affiliated clubs. He/she will also see that the orders are filled and shipped within an appropriate time before the show date to the appropriate recipient as indicated on the order form. Annually, The Awards Manager will order and deliver NFSS awards for NFSS divisions affiliated with both NCBS and GABS National Bird Shows.

The Awards Manager will order and deliver NFSS Merit Awards to the Annual Membership Meeting when applicable.

The Awards Manager will order and deliver any other Award to be presented by NFSS for any other reason as determined by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Time Requirement: approx. 2 hours/wk.

Legislative Director

The Legislative Director for NFSS is responsible for investigating and reporting on any current or proposed legislation at the state or federal level that would affect bird owners/breeders, and notifying the membership, as well as following any bird-related developments

within the Animal Rights movement. He/she is also responsible for developing an on-line "legislative department" where members can contact their representatives and access information dealing with bird-related legislation. In addition, the Legislative Director is "involved with setting up a "grassroots" movement within the membership to quickly react to any proposed legislation or threats to aviculture.

Advertising and Promotion Manager

Design and arrange for ads to be placed in major show catalogs throughout the year. During 2002, these shows were GABS, NCBS, and the AFA Convention. This entails contacting each show manager/advertising contact, determining prices and required format, design of each ad, arrangement for payment through the NFSS Treasurer, and delivering ads and payment to each show prior to their deadlines.

Development of a strategy for NFSS Advertising and Promotion and presentation of recommendations to the Board of Directors. Implement strategy as approved and directed by the NFSS Board.

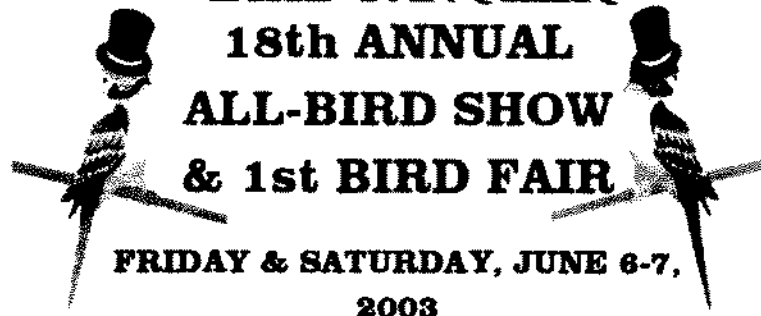
Moderator: NFSS Finch/Softbill Forum

Acts as moderator of the NFSS LISTSERV at the pleasure of the NFSS board under the direction of the Second Vice-president. (publications).

Determines eligibility and approves subscribers in conjunction with the membership director. Writes and distributes list rules. (welcome letter at bottom) Enforces a civil forum through thoughtful correspondence with subscribers and unsubscription of those whose contributions prevent a civil forum.

The moderator is not a censor of viewpoints, but an enforcer of civility.

ILLINI BIRD FANCIERS



NFSS REGION 3 REGIONAL SHOW

**ROUTE 66 HOTEL
& CONFERENCE CENTER
625 EAST ST. JOSEPH STREET.
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS**

(217) 529-6626

Easy access: Take Exit 92A off Interstate 55 or
Exit 97B off Interstate 72.

6th Street exit into the South side of Springfield.

Turn left (West) at 2nd stoplight @ St. Joseph St.

Asking vendors to set up as early as possible on Friday.

Vendors Hours: June 6, 1pm to 9pm

June 7, 8am to 5pm

Enter birds for show no later than 9pm on June 6

And no later than 8:30am on June 7, 2003.

Judging to start June 7, 2003 @ 9am

With Show and Fair ending @ 5pm.

Contact: IlliniBirdFanciers@yahoo.com

or

Pats @ (217) 787-0399

NESS 1ST QUARTER, 2003, BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The 1st Quarter 2003 Board Meeting took place online between February 3, 2003 and February 28, 2003. There was a general discussion regarding the NFSS producing a Junior Award, an award that local clubs could purchase and award to junior exhibitors. By NFSS definition, a junior is an exhibitor who is 16 years or younger. Following this was a lengthy discussion on producing an NFSS Youth Program, under the direction of the 1st Vice-President, that might be promoted through 4H, FFA, schools, Boy Scouts of America, etc. The motivation behind the Youth Program would be to reach out to youth and expose them to aviculture, thereby gaining their interest in the keeping and exhibition of Finches/Softbills.

Russell Kingston, notable Australian Aviculturist had accepted NFSS president Sally Huntington's invitation to speak on NFSS' behalf at the AFA annual meeting which was scheduled for California. However, because of Newcastle fears, AFA has moved its annual meeting to San Antonio TX. The additional transportation costs for the Texas extension for Mr. Kingston's trip (\$2000) appears prohibitive at this time. We are saddened by these ever-increasing impacts of this Newcastle virus.

Darla Dandre and Patrick Vance, chairmembers of the 2004 NFSS Election Committee, report that there is at least one person running for every position on the NFSS Board of Directors with the exception of Executive Secretary. Any NFSS member interested in running for this position, or members with questions regarding this position, are encouraged to contact Patrick Vance at spartanfinchman@cs.com

Another discussion took place regarding the purchase of new software for the editing of the NFSS Journal. Though not finalized at this point, the software would be state-of-the-art and would be available to NFSS, as a not-for-profit organization, at a great savings.

Motions

Motion 2003-01: Motion by Martie Lauster, seconded by Armando Lee that we pursue appointing someone - or a committee - to look into the feasibility of producing an NFSS Youth Program curriculum that might be promoted through the 4-H, FFA, schools, etc. If approved by the Board, this activity would fall under the NFSS 1st VP - Education Department. **Vote: YES: 8 NO: 2 PASSED**

Motion 2003-02: Motion by Martie Lauster, seconded by Jim Felix, that the NFSS purchase Quark Software for editing the NFSS Journal at the cost of \$500.00. Actual purchase to be made at a later date on final recommendation of 2nd VP, Harry Bryant & the Journal Editor, Martie Lauster. This recommendation will be brought to the board no later than the 2nd Qtr, 2003, Board Mtg. **Vote: YES: 10 NO: 0 PASSED**

Respectfully submitted, Patrick Vance, NFSS Executive Secretary

1st Quarter, 2003, Officer's Reports

1st Vice President (Regional VP's, Education), Armando Lee

No report from the 1st V.P. Reports from the Regions 2 & 6 V.P.'s included here, no report from the other regions.

Armando J. Lee, NFSS 1st Vice President

Region 2 Vice President, Ron Castaner Southeast-AL,FL,GA,MS,NC, SC,TN)

The only thing to report, I was able to get Treasure Coast Exotic Bird Club, located in Stuart, Florida to affiliate with the NFSS.

Doing a class on finches and their care for the club members Sunday February 23, 2003, bringing mine hand raise and tame Diamond sparrow for them to see. The class will be on nesting, Genetics, care and hand feeding.

Region 6 Vice President, Vince Huntington (Pacific Coast – AK,CA,HI,OR,WA)

From California

1. ENDS leads the day to day aviculture scene. To the best of my knowledge, all southern California bird clubs have suspended regular and general meetings in order to prevent transmitting ENDS disease among memberships. San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park have closed their walk-in avian flights to the public. Central and Northern California continue avian activities as before, however, with some cautions, such as: watching where they go, feed stores, pet marts, flea markets, etc. to be aware of what you might be bringing back to your birds on feet, on bags, boxes, etc. Further, no shipping of birds is permitted by any method, air, train, auto, UPS, POSTAL, etc. from within California.
2. It was refreshing to see a strong negative response by NFSS members when some bird breeders used the e mail and Internet to openly discuss ways to 'go around' federal and state laws on preventing the potential spread of ENDS. The overall feeling here is, 'do the best we can to work within the state and federal system which appears to be trying very hard to control the disease.'

Vince Huntington, VP-NFSS Region Six.

2nd Vice President (Publications, Legislative Director), Harry Bryant

Publications - Update – website

PayPal Shopping Cart technology has now been implemented thru-out the NFSS website, with all orders being handled automatically.

Day-to-day updates have been turned over to Myra Markley, which frees me up to work on long range planning and other projects.

Legislative Update

Proposed legislation that would affect bird-owners, the "END" crisis out west, and the never-ending assault on aviculture by the "animal-rights" groups keep me occupied - updates on all of these matters can be found on the "Legislative" pages of the NFSS website.

Regards, Harry Bryant, NFSS 2nd Vice President & Legislative Director

3rd Vice President (NFSS Finch/Softbill Save Program, Census Mgr.),

Kerri McCoy

The FSS program has added one new membership since 4th quarter. The first FSS newsletter was mailed at the end of December and was well received by the FSS membership. Work has begun for the 2nd newsletter to be published in March of 2003.

I am in the process of inputting the data received from the NFSS census forms. I am notifying the membership in writing in the March/April issue of the Journal that the census deadline will be May 1. We anticipate publishing the results of the census in the May/June issue of the Journal.

Membership Director, Martie Lauster

Our membership continues to increase. This report reflects a 6.9% increase during the 1st quarter, 2003. Please join me in extending a warm welcome to our many new

members - as well as appreciation to our renewing members. The following is a report of the actual numbers ("Dual" are second names on Dual Memberships):

- Region 1: 156 Single/14 Dual = 170 Total
- Region 2: 141 Single/19 Dual = 160 Total
- Region 3: 158 Single/20 Dual = 178 Total
- Region 4: 62 Single/14 Dual = 76 Total
- Region 5: 35 Single/3 Dual = 38 Total
- Region 6: 128 Single/19 Dual = 147 Total
- Region 7: 11 Single/0 Dual = 11 Total
- Region 8: 12 Single/0 Dual = 12 Total

Total Membership: 704 Single/89 Dual = 793 Total

Respectfully submitted.

Martie Lauster, NFSS Membership Director

Treasurer, Mark Phelps

Financial Report for the period 1/1/03 - 2/19/03:

- Total Cash In Accounts - 24,393.09
- Total Income - 6,150.27 (39,305.00)
- Total Expenses - 5,462.23 (40,058.00)
- Total Gain/Loss - 688.04 (-753.00)

The numbers shown in parenthesis are the budget figures for 2003.

Speaking of the 2003 Budget...

Listed below is the approved budget for the calendar year 2003 that shows that we are planning on having a loss of \$753.00 this year. The board approved the additional costs of the "new and improved" Journal along with other programs that have caused this planned loss. This deficit will be easily covered by the amount that we now have in savings. These savings are a result of aggressive cost cutting and the frugality of the last few years. Because the society's finances are now in order, we will be able to provide more and better services to the membership.

Part of the reason we had such a large gain in 2002 was because the billing for the printing of the Nov/Dec Journal was not received until January of this year. This means that \$3,100.62 that should have been paid last year, was paid this year. We have to keep this in mind when comparing our actual income and expenses for 2003 against this new budget.

2003 BUDGET:

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| INCOME: | EXPENSES: |
| Bands 6,500.00 | Bands 6,163.00 |
| Membership 22,095.00 | Membership 1,084.00 |
| FinchShop 4,950.00 | FinchStop 3,706.00 |
| Affiliations 1,500.00 | Affiliations 350.00 |
| 4th VP/Judges Panel 260.00 | 4th VP/Judges Panel 175.00 |
| Journal 1,500.00 | Journal 22,600.00 |
| Awards 2,500.00 | Awards 2,500.00 |
| Finch/Softbill Save 0.00 | Finch/Softbill Save 200.00 |
| Advertising 0.00 | Advertising 750.00 |
| Misc. 0.00 | Misc. 2,530.00 |
| Total Income - 39,305.00 | Total Expenses - 40,058.00 |
| | Net Loss - -753.00 |

Respectfully submitted, Mark Phelps, NFSS Treasurer

Liaison Officer, Ginny Allen

Re-affiliation packets were mailed to 2001 and 2002 clubs the 2nd week of January. To date (Feb.23) there are 24 clubs who have affiliated for 2003. Upon affiliating, each club is sent an affiliated club packet which includes a NFSS brochure, FinchShop catalog, information list of safe/toxic plants, membership applications, and a personal letter.

I continue to receive inquiries by both email and telephone. Affiliation packets are sent when requested.

Ginny Allen, NFSS Liaison Officer

Band Secretary Report as of 2/19/03

Closed Metal Band Sales (by each string)

Dec A-25,B-32,C-62,D-601, E-128, G-6, J-6, K-42, L-16, M-0, R-0, T-0

Jan A-12, B-14, C-30, D-0, E-39, G-10, J-5, K-0, L-3, M-0, R-3, T-1

Feb A-10, B-16, C-24, D-428, E-154, G-2, J-1, K-20, L-8, M-1,R-0, T-0

2nd half of 2003 order for closed bands from our present supplier rec'd 2/18/03-\$1,911.00 with S&H.

Last revision of the band order form has definitely increased split plastic band sales.

Split Plastic Band Sales (by string)

Dec Sales XF Size orange-3, red-7, wht-4, dk bl-4, lt grn-10, yellow-6, pnk-5, purple-4

Sales in XCS Size white-1, yellow-1 Sales in XB Size - 0-

Sales in X3 Size - 0 -

Jan Sales XF Size or-6, blk3, red-7, wht-7, dk bl-4, lt bl-13,dr grn-0, lt grn-5, yellow-6,

pnk-4, purple-9 Sales XCS Size drk blue-1, drk grn-1

Sales in XCL Size or-1, blk-2, red-1, wht-1, drk bl-1, drk grn-1, lt grn-2, yellow-2,

pnk-1, purple-3. Sales in XB Size drk bl-1, lt grn-1

Sales in X3 Size - 0 -

Feb Sales XF Size or-3, blk-8, red-8, wht, dk bl-5, lt bl-4, drk grn-4, lt grn-2, yellow-7, pnk-8, purple-1

Sales XCS Size lt bl-3, yellow 5, purple 5

Sales in XCL Size -0-

Sales in XB Size red-3, wht-2, drk bl-2, lt bl-2, yel-1, pnk-1, drk bl-1, lt-grn-1

Sales in X3 Size red-2, wht-2, drk bl-2, lt bl-1, lt grn-1

Dec Sales 1,882.43 Pay Pal-26 / Mail In- 30

Jan Sales 2,181.65 Pay Pal-24 / Mail In- 51

Feb Sales 739.30 Pay Pal-15 / Mail In- 22 (as of 2/19/03)

New Insurance rates have been revised and email addresses are now being requested for members to include on the band order form. This will help with avoiding my phone calls to members.

Respectfully submitted, Paula Hansen, NFSS Band Secretary

NFSS Editor, Martie Lauster

I'd like to extend our sincere appreciation to those who have so graciously taken the time and energy to contribute the articles, photographs, and ideas that continue to enhance our Journal.

I have concentrated efforts during this quarter in gaining more advertisers to help

support the high cost of our publication and have met with some success. This success is solely due to the advice and counsel of Roy Beckham - who has tirelessly educated me in the "ways of the advertising world". Thanks to Roy, I am sending a very professional-looking, complete package to potential advertisers with an offering of a high quality, fairly priced product. While negotiations are still under way - there are six new full-page ads scheduled for the Mar/Apr issue. This effort will continue throughout this year.

Respectfully submitted, Martie Lauster, NFSS Journal Editor

REPORT OF NFSS 2001 FINANCIAL AUDIT

An audit of the 2001 financial records of the National Finch and Softball Society has been conducted by two members of the NFSS Board, Armando Lee and Martha Wigmore, as appointed by NFSS President Sally Huntington, and in accordance with the NFSS Bylaws. This Report of the results of our audit, conducted separately in October and November 2002 and compiled by e-mail correspondence, is submitted today for review by the NFSS Board. Questions raised about particular transactions have been resolved to our satisfaction. We have made some recommendations to the President and Treasurer in regards to 2002 and 2003 financial controls and record-keeping, which have been acknowledged and implemented.

Both Mr. Lee and Ms. Wigmore would like to emphasize that we found all 2001 records compiled by then-NFSS Treasurer Bobbi Keenan complete and well-organized, all bank statements present, all NFSS payment and deposit transactions well documented and traceable. No questionable bank transactions were found.

As internal auditors, we found that to a tremendous extent, with only a few immaterial exceptions, every 2001 financial transaction has a clear audit trail. The Treasurer obtained appropriate approvals for all financial activities, and the financial systems in place in 2001 demonstrate excellent control, oversight, and proper accountability. We wish to commend Bobbi Keenan's efforts for NFSS as Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

Armando Lee, NFSS 1st Vice President Martha Wigmore, NFSS 4th Vice President

**MOVING?
CHANGING YOUR E-MAIL
ADDRESS?
Don't forget to take NFSS with you!
Please notify:
Martie Lauster, NFSS Membership Director
4581 Lincoln Road
Macedon, NY 14502
(315) 524-7768 or miauster@rochester.rr.com**



Wisconsin Cage Bird Club, Inc.

Wisconsin Cage Bird Club, Inc. (WCBC)

26th Annual Show

to be held on

Saturday, June 28th, 2003

RAMADA INN

500 South Koeller - Oshkosh, WI 54902

Phone: 920-235-3700

FOUR DIVISIONS:

SPBE Judged by Miki Spartzak

ACS Judged by Bert McAulay

NFSS Judged by Miki Spartzak

Plus 2 ABS shows judged back-to-back, same day

ABS Judged by Larry Moore (WCBC) and

ABS Judge Fred Wagner (WINGS)

Hotel Rooms: \$45/ea (single or double)

Banquet: \$15/per person (children under 12, \$7.50)

Questions: Contact Bernle Rahmlow at (920) 231-8606

The Classifieds

GOULDIAN FINCHES - ALL MUTATIONS OWL FINCHES - GOLD BREASTED WAXBILLS - SOCIETIES

Healthy, Parent Raised: Kerri Pettey, Portland, OR. (503) 761-2371

WILL TRADE PARROTLETS

Blue, Yellow, Lutos Double Split for Owls or Gouldians.

Only interested in healthy birds

1-(800) 587-7459 or raybac1@bigplanet.com

SUPERB STARLINGS

For Sale or trade for Gouldian Finches.

John Kilmer (509) 443-2505. E-Mail: kilmjoh@qwest.net

WANTED: FEMALE VIOLET EARED WAXBILL

Katherine Clark (419) 352-0211

BRAZILIAN RED CRESTED CARDINAL (Paroaria coronata)

2001 pair available, domestic. DNA sexed, close banded.

raised out door year round: \$550 / pair: single males and females some-
times available too; can ship by airlines only. Also - GREEN

(YELLOW) CARDINAL (Gubernatrix cristata) WANTED.

Will pay shipping if needed. klmsprint01@earthlink.net

FOR SALE: OWL FINCHES

\$65 Ea: Rose Gianferara (239) 992-6331; E-Mail: bobrosegian@aol.com

WANTED: BLACK & WHITE CRESTED FINCHES

Looking for Black and White crested finches or to correspond with any-
one keeping them. Need new bloodline.

Email: jrsflor@aol.com Phone: (561) 967-1032

Display Ad Rates: Inside Cover \$30.00/Issue or \$150.00/Year; Full Page \$20.00/Issue or \$90.00/Year; Half-Page \$10.00/Issue or \$50.00/Year; Quarter-Page \$5.00/Issue or \$25.00/Year. Classifieds: \$3.00 (Up to three lines of text). Free Classifieds to Finch/Softbill Save Program Members. Classifieds are posted on the website at no extra charge.

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The ESTRILDIAN

The ESTRILDIAN is produced for the purpose of relating the most up to date information on all species belonging to the family Estrildidae both in the wild and in captivity. Within its 124 species are all of the *Waxbills, Parrot Finches, Mannikins and Australian finches*. The aviculturist and the scientist have much to offer each other and the ESTRILDIAN brings together like-minded enthusiasts from around the world. The magazine is sent to 13 different countries ranging from Australia to Puerto Rico and has many leading Zoo's, Aviculturists and Researchers as both members and contributors. With well over 100 members in the USA, we have now been able to reduce our overseas subscription rates.

12 months subscription is £15 Sterling; USA \$30 personal check accepted

ESTRILDID FORUM

10, Gable Terrace, Wheatley Hill, County Durham, DH6 3JT
ENGLAND

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NFSS-Affiliated Clubs/Events

| REGIONAL CLUBS |
|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;">Southeast Bird Fanciers <i>(AL, AR, GA, FL, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN)</i></p> <p><u>Mtgs:</u> Quarterly at the Atlanta Farmers Mkt. 1st Sat. - Mar/Jun/Sep 2nd Sat. - Dec</p> <p><u>Contact:</u> Ginny Allen (334) 749-7168 gndallen@earthlink.net</p> <p><u>Website:</u> http://members.tripod.com/sebfg/sebf.htm</p> |
| ALABAMA |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Central Alabama Avicultural Society <i>(Montgomery)</i></p> <p><u>Mtgs:</u> 2nd Sun. - 2:30 pm - Prattville City Library, Prattville</p> <p><u>Contact:</u> Margie Lanier (334) 567-4073 margielanier@yahoo.com</p> <p><u>E-Mail:</u> atomictiels@aol.com or margielanier@yahoo.com</p> <p><u>Show:</u> Aug. 30-31 - NFSS, NCS, NAPS, Color/Type Canaries. Governor's House Hotel</p> |
| CALIFORNIA |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Central California Cage Bird Club <i>(Modesto)</i></p> <p><u>Mtgs:</u> 3rd Sun. - Mancini Hall 718 Tuolumne Ave.</p> <p><u>Contact:</u> Ed Geeseck (209) 529-0663</p> <p><u>E-Mail:</u> jones7110@aol.com</p> <p><u>Show:</u> Oct. 25 - SOS Club, 819 Sunset Ave.</p> <p><u>Judge:</u> Julie Duimstra</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Capitol City Bird Society, Inc. <i>(Sacramento)</i></p> <p><u>Contact:</u> Roland Cristo (530) 823-1677 cristo@lanset.com</p> <p><u>E-Mail:</u> dlaviaries@aol.com</p> <p><u>Event:</u> Oct. 20 - Bird Mart & Educational Fund Raiser - CA Expo Bird Exhibition & State Fair Avian Display</p> |
| CANADA |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Durham Avicultural Society of Ontario <i>(Pickering, Ontario, Canada)</i></p> <p><u>Mtgs:</u> 2nd Tue. - Rotary Park Pavillion Lake Driveway W., Ajax</p> <p><u>Contact:</u> John Zerafa (905) 355-5542 showmanager@birdclub.ca</p> <p><u>Website:</u> www.birdclub.ca</p> <p><u>Show:</u> Sep. 20-21 - Jubilee Pavillion 55 Lakeview Park Rd. - Oshawa, Ont.</p> |

| FLORIDA |
|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;">Aviary & Cage Bird Society of South Florida <i>(Davie, FL)</i></p> <p><u>Mtgs:</u> 2nd Sun. - 2pm - Flamingo Gardens</p> <p><u>Contact:</u> Carrie Efstathion (954) 432-3349 carrie3@aol.com</p> <p><u>Website:</u> www.feathers.org</p> <p><u>Show:</u> Aug. 16 - Omni Aud. - Coral Springs</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Florida State Fair Exotic Bird Show <i>(Tampa)</i></p> <p><u>Contact:</u> Dale Laird (407) 657-7989 dalel2@prodigy.net</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Treasure Coast Exotic Bird Club <i>(Ft. Pierce, FL)</i></p> <p><u>Mtgs:</u> 4th Sun. - 2 pm - Port Salerno Civic Center - Stuart, FL</p> <p><u>Contact:</u> Jim Dunn (772) 344-8374 jdunn3@adelphia.net</p> <p><u>E-Mail:</u> jim.dwyer@netzero.net</p> <p><u>Show:</u> Aug. 17 - St. Lucie County Civic Ctr.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Tri-State Avian Society <i>(Tallahassee)</i></p> <p><u>Mtgs:</u> 3rd Sat. - 2 pm - Havana, FL</p> <p><u>Contact:</u> Barry Laster (850) 668-0908 burryf7523@earthlink.net</p> <p><u>Website:</u> www.tristateaviansociety.org</p> <p><u>Event:</u> May 16-17 - Annual Spring Bird Fair North Florida Fairgrounds</p> |
| GEORGIA |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Georgia Cage Bird Society <i>(Marietta - Atlanta area)</i></p> <p><u>Mtgs:</u> 4th Sun - 2:30 pm - Smyrna Community Center</p> <p><u>Contact:</u> Pat Miller (770) 425-9455 jandpmiller@mindspring.com</p> <p><u>Show:</u> Nov. 1-2 - Jim Miller Park - Marietta</p> <p><u>Judges:</u> Ms. Jerri Wiesenfeld - Armando Lee</p> |
| ILLINOIS |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Illini Bird Fanciers <i>(Springfield)</i></p> <p><u>Mtgs:</u> 4th Sun</p> <p><u>Contact:</u> Patte Montgomery (217) 787-0399 illinibirdfanciers@yahoo.com</p> <p><u>E-Mail:</u> ibf-birdsongs@insightbb.com</p> <p><u>Show/Fair:</u> REGIONAL SHOW - REG. 3 Jun 7-8 - Rt. 66 Hotel and Conference Center</p> <p><u>Judge:</u> Dennis Lewis</p> |

NFSS-Affiliated Clubs/Events

**National Institute of
Red Orange Canaries** (*Westchester*)
 Mtgs: 1st Fri. - Grace Evangelical Lutheran
 Church - Bristol & Devonshire
Contact: Steve Hopman (815) 469-8455
 birdhop@aol.com
Show: Nov. 29 - Raddison Hotel, 75W
 Algonquin Rd. Arlington Hts.
Judge: Laura Bewley
Event: Sep. 6 - Baby Feathers Fair, Elk
 Grove Village Township Hall

IOWA

Mid America Cage Bird Society
 (*Des Moines*)
Mtgs: 4th Sun - 2 pm - Des Moines
 Botanical Center
Contact: John Thielking (515) 278-9159
E-Mail: larry884@mchsi.com
Website: www.seffera.net/macbs/news.html
Show: Sep. 27 - Ramada Inn - Johnston, IA
Judge: Paul Williams
Event: 2003 Fairs: Mar 23, May 18, Aug 24
 Des Moines Botanical Ctr. 10 am - 4 pm
Event Contact: John (515) 278-9159

LOUISIANA

Gulf South Bird Club, Inc.
 (*New Orleans*)
Mtgs: 1st Sun. - 1pm
 1409 Bayou Blue Road, Houma, LA
Contact: Danny Chauvin (985) 876-7966
 cajunpride@mobiletel.com
Show: Oct. 18 Evergreen Cajun Center
 594 W. Main, Houma, LA
Judge: Conrad Meinert

Cajun Canary and Finch Club
 (*Metairie, LA*)
Mtgs: 2nd Mon. - 7:30 pm - 3412 Haring Rd.
Contact: Meade H. Phelps (504) 887-0724
 NEWORLEANSMEADE@cox.net
Event: Jun 20-21 All Bird Mart
 3314 Richland Ave

MARYLAND

Baltimore Bird Fanciers (*Baltimore*)
Mtgs: 3rd Sun. - Towson Public Library
Contact: Barbara Shannon (410) 356-5850
E-Mail: raymondreter@aol.com
Event: May 17 - Bird Mart - Tall Cedars Hall
 Parkville, MD
Show: Oct. 18 Tall Cedars Hall, Parkville
Contacts: (410) 628-2051 or (410) 329-1928

MICHIGAN

Great Lakes Avicultural Society
 (*Grand Rapids*)
Mtgs: 2nd Mon. - 7pm - UAW Hall
 4269 Alpine NW, Grand Rapids
Contact: Diana Hugo (616) 842-0163
 hugo@iserv.net
E-Mail: hugo@iserv.net or
 noahbird@ameritech.net
Website: www.angelfire.com/mi4/glas
Show: Oct. 18 - Rockford Middle School
 Rockford, MI
Judge: Annette Howard

MISSISSIPPI

South Mississippi Cage Bird Society
 (*Ocean Springs/Biloxi*)
Contact: Joyce Webb (228) 875-2704
 spdrwebb123@yahoo.com
E-Mail: litdebee@155.com
Website: www.smcb.org
Show: May 17-18 Imperial Palace Resort
 Casino Biloxi

MISSOURI

Missouri Cage Bird Club (*St. Louis*)
Mtgs: 1st Sun - Maplewood, MO
Contact: Dennis Berhans (636) 980-8569
Show: Nov. 1 - Days Inn - Eureka, MO



NFSS-Affiliated Clubs/Events

| | |
|---|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;">NEW HAMPSHIRE</p> <p>Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society (Manchester, NH) <i>Mtgs:</i> 2nd Mon - 7:30 pm - Villa Crest Retirement Center <i>Contact:</i> Ray Schwartz (603) 362-6106 prismsdad@aol.com <i>E-Mail:</i> editor@boaf.com <i>Website:</i> www.boaf.com <i>Show:</i> Oct. 25 <i>Judge:</i> Dennis Lewis <i>Events:</i> Apr. 13 & June 15 - Exotic Bird Expo and Mart <i>Location for all:</i> Center of NH Holiday Inn 700 Elm St., Manchester <i>Show/Event Info:</i> Rena Fox (603) 635-1324 cncaviary@parrotpages.com</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">PENNSYLVANIA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Society, Inc. (Pittsburgh) <i>Mtgs:</i> 2nd Sun. - 2 pm - Faith Community Church - Jefferson Rd. - Penn Hills <i>Contact:</i> Margie Jonnet (412) 795-1904 mjjonnet@katz.pitt.edu <i>Show:</i> Nov 1 - Palace Inn - Rte. 48 Monroeville</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chester County Bird Club, Inc. (Malvern) <i>Mtgs:</i> 2nd Sun - E. Whiteland Twnshp Bldg. <i>Contact:</i> Maria Rosenberger (610) 469-6402 Duckybathtime@aol.com</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">NEW YORK</p> <p>New York Finch & Type Canary Club (New York City) <i>Mtgs:</i> 2nd Sun - 1 pm - Averill Blvd Park Elmont, (L.I.), NY <i>Contact:</i> Stan Kulak (718) 967-6899 barstand@aahawk.com <i>Website:</i> www.nyfinch.com <i>Event:</i> June 8 - Feather Show - 1- 4 pm - Averill Blvd. Park - Elmont, (L.I.), NY <i>Show:</i> Oct. 18 - St. Jude's Church - 1677 Canarsie Rd. - Brooklyn</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">PUERTO RICO</p> <p>Asociacion Criadores De Finches, Inc. <i>Contact:</i> Jose Diaz (787) 747-7947 Criadores_Finches_Este@hotmail.com <i>E-Mail:</i> joserafaele@hotmail.com</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">NORTH CAROLINA</p> <p>Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society (Raleigh) <i>Mtgs:</i> 3rd Sun. - 2:30 pm- Glen Eden Pilot Pk <i>Contact:</i> April Blazich (919) 851-8079 aprilb@bellsouth.net <i>Website:</i> www.rdcb.org</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">TENNESSEE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Southeast Tennessee Avicultural Society (Niota) <i>Mtgs:</i> 2nd Sun. 2 pm - Niota Elementary Sch <i>Contact:</i> Janet Burrell (423) 472-1306 jgb2202@aol.com <i>E-Mail:</i> jgb2202@aol.com or tjburn2000@yahoo.com <i>Show:</i> Oct. 25 - Niota Elementary School <i>Judge:</i> Clarence Culwell</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">OREGON</p> <p>Eastside Finch Connection (Portland) <i>Mtgs:</i> 1st Mon. - 7 pm - Clackamas Comm. Club Hall - 15711 SE 90th <i>Contact:</i> K.J. Brown (503) 266-7606 jeeperspeepers55@aol.com</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Middle Tennessee Cage Bird Club (Nashville) <i>Mtgs:</i> 3rd Sun. - 2 pm - 108 Donelson Sr. Ctr <i>Contact:</i> Lisa Mellies (615) 789-4002 yui02@bellsouth.net <i>Show:</i> Oct. 4 - TN State Fair Grounds - Creative Arts Bldg. <i>Judge:</i> Annette Howard</p> |

NFSS-Affiliated Clubs/Events

| TEXAS |
|--|
| <p>Texas Bird Breeders (Temple) <u>Mtgs:</u> 2nd Sat. - Noon - Feb/May/Aug <u>Contact:</u> Clarence Culwell (817) 220-5568 culwell5@flash.net <u>Show:</u> Nov. 1 - Mayborn Convention Ctr. <u>Judge:</u> Paul Williams</p> |
| <p>Fort Worth Bird Club (Fort Worth) <u>Mtgs:</u> 3220 Botanic Garden Dr. <u>Contact:</u> Clarence Culwell (817) 220-5568 culwell5@flash.net <u>E-Mail:</u> circlm@swbell.net <u>Website:</u> www.fwbc.org <u>Show:</u> Sep. 28 - Grapevine Convention Ctr. 1209 S. Main - Grapevine, TX <u>Judge:</u> Charlie Anchor</p> |
| <p>Neotropical Finch Breeders Association (San Antonio) <u>Contact:</u> Jack Eitniear - (210) 828-5306 jce@estbinc.org <u>Yahoo Group:</u> www.yahoo.com/group/neofinchbreeders</p> |
| <p>Alamo Exhibition Bird Club, Inc. (San Antonio) <u>Mtgs:</u> 4th Sun - 2 PM - Becker CPA Center <u>Contact:</u> Nathan Durbin - (210) 433-1840 nake@stc.net <u>Events:</u> Apr. 19 & Sept. 27 Live Oak Civic Center - Live Oak</p> |

| WASHINGTON |
|---|
| <p>Cascade Canary Breeders Association (Seattle) <u>Mtgs:</u> 3rd Sun. - 2 pm - Leisure Estates Clubhouse - 201 Union Ave SE - Renton <u>Contact:</u> Janel C. Johnson (425) 226-8899 katbird57@aol.com</p> |
| WISCONSIN |
| <p>Badger Canary and Finch Club (Milwaukee) <u>Mtgs:</u> 3rd Sat - Members' homes <u>Contact:</u> Susan Feldstein (262) 965-5362 bneathhiswing@yahoo.com <u>E-Mail:</u> DEvanornum@aol.com <u>Event:</u> May 19 - All Bird Fair - Marshfield <u>Show:</u> Oct. 25 - Ramada Inn - Hwy 41 & 9th Oshkosh, WI <u>Judge:</u> Charles Anchor</p> |
| <p>Wisconsin Cage Bird Club (Oshkosh) <u>Contact:</u> Dave Bluma 920-428-4595 davidbluma@aol.com <u>Show:</u> Jun. 28 - Ramada Inn - 500 S. Koeller <u>Judge:</u> Miki Spartzak</p> |

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2003 AFFILIATION AGREEMENT



The basic affiliation fee is \$25.00. Make check payable to NFSS.

Mail to: Ginny Allen, Liaison Officer
307 Brookwood Court
Opelika, AL 36801
e-mail: gndallen@earthlink.net
Phone: (334) 749-7168

Club Name: _____

Club City/State: _____

Club Meeting Dates/Location: _____

Club Delegate: _____

Address: _____

*Phone: _____ *E-Mail: _____

*NFSS may use this information in the NFSS Journal and on the web site.

Delegate's Signature: _____

Club Officer: _____

Address: _____

*Phone: _____ *E-Mail: _____

Club E-Mail Contact (Important): _____

Club Web Site: _____

Show/Event Date: _____ Panel Judge: _____

Show Location: _____

Send NFSS Journal to: _____

Please list other fairs or events hosted by your club for listing in the NFSS Journal. Please include dates, locations, and a contact member with phone number and/or e-mail address: _____

2003 NFSS Awards Order Form

Please use a separate form
For each individual show!

Mail with payment to:
Darla Dandre, P.O. Box 1231, Lisle, IL 60532
815-729-9789 or e-mail a copy to:
Dbirdranch@aol.com

This information must reach the Awards Manager as soon as possible but no later than two months BEFORE show date. Awards are sent Priority Mail to the designated person.

PLAQUES: All plaques are \$25.00 each. They are walnut finish with the engraved NFSS logo on brass over black plate on the left and the club information on brass over black plate on the right. All are 6" x 8".

*Please circle how you wish your plaques to read: Best in *DIVISION* or *SHOW**

If you do not make a selection, plaques will be engraved "Best in Division".

Club Name to be Engraved: _____

_____ 1st Place Plaque _____ 2nd Place Plaque _____ 3rd Place Plaque

_____ Best Finch in Show _____ Best Softbill in Show

_____ Service Award/Breeder Award (please provide engraving information).

Sub Total _____ Plaques @ \$25.00 per Plaque = \$ _____

ROSETTES: The basic set of rosettes for finches and softbills consists of eleven rosettes with the NFSS logo on the button. This includes 1st thru 10th place and Best Unflighted. Unflighted birds are those banded with current year (2002) bands.

_____ Basic Rosette Package (1-10 + Best Unflighted) \$45.00

_____ Unflighted ribbon add-on (2nd & 3rd Place) \$10.00

_____ Novice Ribbon \$ 7.00

Rosette and Ribbon Sub-Total = \$ _____

Affiliation Fee (if you haven't already issued a separate check) = \$ 25.00

Total Amount of Check PAYABLE TO NFSS: \$ _____

SHIP AWARDS TO: Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

SHOW INFORMATION: Date: _____ Judge: _____
Location: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
NFSS Club Delegate: _____
Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____
Show Manager: _____
Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Can this information be published in the NFSS Journal? Yes _____ No _____

NFSS MEMBER and NON-MEMBER ORDER FORM

Split Plastic Band Choices: Red, Dk Green, Lt Green, White, Pink, Black, Purple Yellow, Orange, Dk Blue, Lt Blue **MINIMUM ORDER \$5.00**

SPLIT PLASTIC BANDS - \$1.50 EA. 10 BANDS PER STRING

INDICATE QUANTITY BELOW AND COLOR

| XF | XCS | XCL | XB | X3 | SUBTOTAL |
|----|-----|-----|----|----|----------|
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

NFSS MEMBERS ONLY Closed traceable aluminum bands available in only the NFSS color of the year. Aluminum bands are engraved with initials NFS, Size Code, Year, and Number. There is no choice of number. All aluminum bands are recorded for permanent reference. Bands are ordered in strings of 10, same size. New members may order before receiving their membership number. Write "New" for a NFSS Member #. Orders are processed weekly as received. Please no mail requiring signatures.

ALUMINUM BANDS - \$3.25 EA. 10 BANDS PER STRING

INDICATE QUANTITY BELOW

| A | B | C | D | E | G | J | K | L | M | R | S | T | SUBTOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

If you choose not to include this sum. NFSS will NOT be responsible for replacements.

POSTAL INSURANCE
 Under \$50.00 - \$1.30
 \$50.00 to \$100.00 - \$2.20
 Over \$100.00 - \$3.20 _____

HANDLING FEE \$1.00
PLASTIC & ALUMINUM SUBTOTAL _____
TOTAL _____

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| BANDS FOR YEAR: _____ | NFSS MEMBER #: _____ |
| NAME: _____ | |
| ADDRESS: _____ | |
| CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____ | |
| E-MAIL: _____ | |

PAYMENT PAYABLE TO NFSS
MAIL TO: Paula Hansen, 2234 Juneau Ct. S., Salem, OR 97302

The National Finch and Softbill Society Guide to Ordering NFSS Closed Leg Bands

- Size A:** Gold-breasted Waxbill, Orange-cheeked Waxbill, Owl Finch (Bicheno), Quail Finch, Red-eared Waxbill, Strawberry Finch, and other small waxbills.
- Size B:** Black-cheeked Waxbill, Cordon Bleu, Cuban Melodious Finch, Fire Finch, Olive Finch, Rufous-backed Mannikin.
- Size C:** B&W Mannikin, Blue-capped Waxbill, Bronze-winged Mannikin, Cherry Finch, Green Singing finch, Grey Singing Finch, Heck's Shaft-tail, Lavender Finch, Painted Finch, Pileated Finch, Pytilias, Red-headed & Forbes (Blue-Breasted) Parrot Finches, Shafttail Finch, Silverbills, Star Finch.
- Size D:** Blue-faced Parrot finch, Chestnut-breasted Finch, Lady Gouldian Finch, most smaller mannikins, most other parrot finches, Pictorella Finch, Pintailed Nonpareil, most twinspace, Yellow-rumped Finch, Zebra finch.
- Size E:** Black-crested Finch, Diamond sparrow, European Greenfinch, Golden Song Sparrow, Nuns, Peter's Twinspace, Siskins, Society Finch (Bengalese), Spice Finch.
- Size G:** Magpie Mannikin, most larger mannikins, small tanagers.
- Size J:** European Goldfinch, Pekin robin, Silver-eared Mesias, most small softbills.
- Size K:** Java Rice Birds, Red-crested Cardinal, Saffron Finch, Shama Thrush
- Size L:** Diamond Dove, other small Doves, Quail, Softbills.
- Size M:** Leaf Birds, Pagoda Mynah, large sunbirds.
- Size R:** Green/Purple Starlings, Superb Starlings.
- Size S:** Indian Hill Mynah, Java Mynah, Ring-necked Dove, Toucanettes, White-tailed Jay.
- Size T:** Small Hornbills, Plush-capped Jay, small Toucans, small Touracos.

Banding instructions included with each order.

Guide to Ordering Open Plastic Leg Bands

- Size XF:** Cordon Bleu, Fire, Orange-Cheeked, Red-Eared, Lavender, Blue Capped Waxbills, Owl, Cherry, Green & Grey Singers, Painted, Hecks & Masked Grassfinch, Gouldian, Most Parrot Finches, Zebra, Bengalese (Society), Stars.
- Size XCS:** Nuns, Cutthroats, Diamond Firetails (Diamond Sparrows), most Twinspace, Siskins, (Canaries - Gloster, Fife, Miniature & Fancy).
- Size XCL:** Red Faced Pytilia, Pekin Robin, (Canaries - Roller, Borders, Lizard, Norwich, Yorkshire, Red Factor).
- Size XB:** Indian Shama, Diamond Dove, Chinese Painted (Button) Quail, Budgies, Grass Parakeets.
- Size X3:** Lovebirds, Rosellas, Many Softbills.



Membership Application

| | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Name: | | |
| Dual Membership 2 nd Name: | | |
| Address: | | |
| City: | | |
| State: | Zip: | Country: |
| Phone #: | | |
| E-Mail: | | |
| New Member? Renewal (List NFSS #) | | |
| How did you hear about us? | | |
| | | |
| Annual Dues: | Select One: | |
| | Single: \$30.00 | |
| | Dual: \$35.00 | |
| | Junior (under 16): \$22.50 | |
| | Foreign: \$35.00 | |
| <p>Bulk Mail Option: U.S. and Puerto Rico members may save \$5.00 on their membership dues by electing to receive the NFSS Journal via Bulk Mail. Please be aware that if you select this option, your Journals may take several weeks to arrive at your home. We have seen this delivery time increase since 9/11, which has necessitated tighter security and subsequent delays. Bulk Mail is not available to Foreign or Canadian members.</p> | | |
| Bulk Mail Option: (Subtract \$5.00) | | |
| TOTAL ENCLOSED: | | |
| <p>Mail Application and Check Payable to NFSS: Ms. Martie Lauster 4S81 Lincoln Road Macedon, NY 14502</p> | | |



The National Finch and Softbill Society
Finch and Softbill Save Application
2003 Program

**Please send me the NFSS Finch and Softbill Save Program
Guidelines and Application.**

Name: _____ NFSS # _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Email Address: _____

Please mail your completed application request to:

**Kerri McCoy - Finch and Softbill Save Director
4780 Settles Point Road
Suwanee, Georgia 30024**

**Telephone: (678) 546-3353, Fax: (678) 546-3352
Email: kerrimccoy@charter.net**

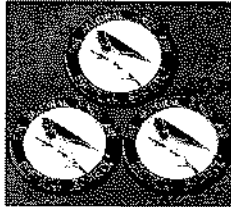


NFSS FINCH SHOP



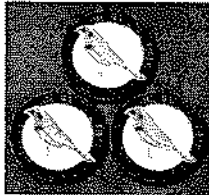
NFSS TOTE BAG

The NFSS Tote bag is available now with a pressure applied NFSS logo in color on one side. Great for bird events or just shopping. The bag is 100% cotton washable denim in a neutral color...very sturdy. It is 14" high X 16" wide and 4" deep with two 22" heavy web handles. **\$8.00**



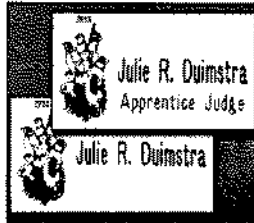
NFSS GOULDIAN FINCH PIN

A multicolored, enameled lapel pin featuring a red-headed Gouldian Finch design. The pin measures 1 inch (25mm) in diameter and is imprinted with the words: "The National Finch and Softbill Society" in gold colored lettering around the perimeter of the pin. A perfect gift for any Gouldian Finch fancier! **\$5.00**



NFSS ZEBRA FINCH PIN

A multicolored, enameled lapel pin featuring a stylized design of a Zebra Finch. The pin measures 1 inch (25mm) in diameter and is imprinted with the words: "The National Finch and Softbill Society" in gold colored lettering around the perimeter of the pin. A perfect gift for any Zebra Finch fancier! **\$5.00**



NFSS NAME BADGE

White plastic name badge with finely detailed black engraving. Each name badge is imprinted with the NFSS logo created by Rose Gianaferra.

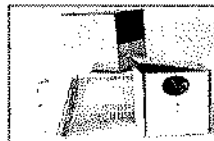
The standard name badge includes one line of engraving and a standard pin type fastener. **\$8.00**

(Add \$1.00 for second line of engraving; Add \$1.50 for Magnetic Fastener.)



NFSS BULLETIN (PAST ISSUES)

NFSS Bulletins published from the inception of NFSS in 1984 through the present. **Be sure to specify the year and volume when placing your order.** An index of all published articles (1984 to present) is available on the website. **\$4.00** each.



NEST BOX KITS

Nest boxes in kit form, 5" X 5" X 6" high. Choose from the five styles: Half-open front available in side or rear mount; Hinged-top lid with hole in front available in side, front, or rear mount. **\$4.99**



NFSS FINCH SHOP




NATURE'S JEWELS—GOULDIAN POSTER

This beautiful poster (24" x 36") depicting the many mutations of the Gouldian finch is now available thru NFSS FinchShop. The colors are intense and the 3-D look of the birds make this a most unusual addition to any room. **\$20.00**



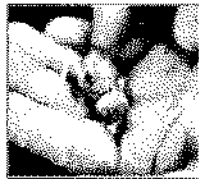
FINCHWEAR T-SHIRTS

White, high quality, 100% preshrunk cotton T-shirts (Hanes Beefy-T). Original artwork was painted by Frohawk over 100 years ago and is *SCREEN PRINTED* in stunning detail on these shirts. Choose the Gouldian Finch, Society Finch or Zebra Finch. Your choice of design on front or back of shirt. The eFinch logo appears in black on the sleeve or left front of the shirt. Available only in sizes L and XL, while supplies last. **\$16.50**



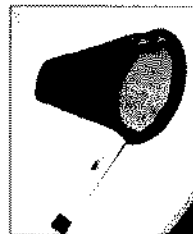
FINCH & SOFTBILL PHOTO CD/SCREEN SAVER

The NFSS photo CD is a compilation of nearly 500 photographs provided by NFSS members and a Microsoft Windows compatible screensaver comprised of more than 150 of the photos. All photos are in .jpg format for ease of viewing. The CD includes photos representing numerous species native to several continents, from Societies to Starlings, Waxbills to Weavers. What a great way to enjoy our favorite feathered friends! **\$9.99**



VIDEO—FINCH HUSBANDRY

This video (VHS Format) by Vince Moase, formerly of the Metro Toronto Zoo, spans time and aviaries built in two different residences. It was originally produced to help budding aviculturalists in Vince's local bird club. **\$25.00**

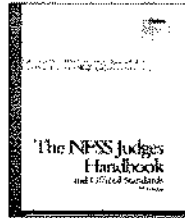


BIRD NETS

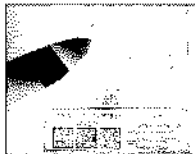
5 1/4" spring steel hoop with vinyl binding to prevent trauma. 100% dark nylon netting with secure seams. 5" hardwood handle. Perfect for use in catching finches in cages. **\$8.00**

NFSS FINCH SHOP

**JUDGES HANDBOOK AND OFFICIAL STANDARDS,
2ND EDITION**



This handy reference contains the official show standards that have been adopted by The National Finch and Softbill Society. Included are the standards of conduct for an NFSS Panel Judge, the current show classification schedule, points/awards schedules, banding information, Judge's report forms, the NFSS Bylaws, the Apprentice application and evaluation forms and information and procedures for those aspiring to become an NFSS Panel Judge. **\$13.00**



NFSS SHOW CAGE PLANS

The NFSS Show Cage Plans are offered for sale either individually or as a set of all 3 sizes. These are the specifications and blueprint for the box type show cages that are recommended for use by NFSS for exhibiting various species of finches & softbills.

\$4.00 ea. \$10.00 for set of all three.

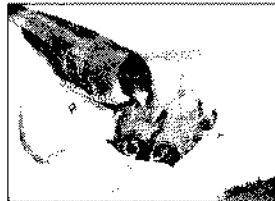
- NFSS #1** - For smaller finches & softbills up to and including the Zebra Finch in size.
- NFSS #2** - For finches & softbills larger than the Zebra Finch and up to the size of the Java Rice.
- NFSS #3** - For larger finches and softbills.

FINCH NOTE CARDS

5 1/2 x 4 1/4" Note Cards (With Envelopes)

These beautiful water colors by Sally Huntington have been viewed at the National Cage Bird Shows, Great American Bird Show, AFA, and numerous bird shows and marts across the USA. Her art has been a favorite of many collectors and bird fanciers. These cards are reduced representations of the original water colors. All prints are copywritten. No reproductions. **\$1.50 ea. - Ten for \$13.50.**

(Actual cards do not contain the Copyright Line.)



NEW!! Red Headed Finch & Chicks



NEW!! Mousebirds



Orange-breasted Male Zebra Finch



Pekin Robin



Blue Cap Warbill

Continued on next page...



NFSS FINCH SHOP



FINCH NOTE CARDS, *Continued from Previous Page* 5 1/2 x 4 1/4" Note Cards (With Envelopes)



Gouldian Finch Pair



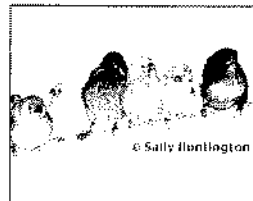
Diamond Sparrow



Gouldian Finch Trio



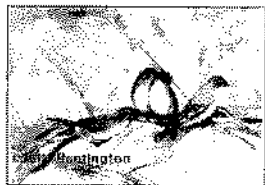
Fire Finch



"Mother's Day"



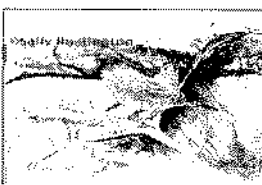
Gold Breasted Waxbill



Orange-Check Waxbill



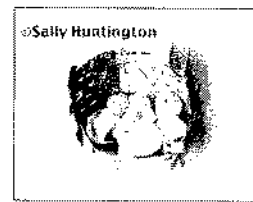
Owl Finch



Red-capped Finch



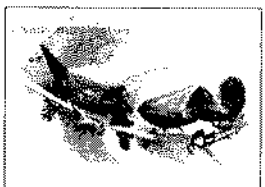
Pearl Headed Silverbill



White Society Finches



Red-Check Cordon Bleu



Red-Headed Parrot Finch



CFW Zebra Finch Pair



CFW Male in Show Cage



FinchShop Order Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ST _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

| Item | Price |
|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
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Shipping/Handling: Orders \$ 0.01 to \$9.99 - add \$3.85
 Orders \$10.00 to \$49.99 - add \$5.80
 Orders \$50.01 to \$99.99 - add \$7.70
 Orders \$100.00 and over add \$9.90 _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Please be sure to include all information needed to complete your order. Don't forget sizes, styles, etc!

Mail completed form with your check payable to NFSS to:

Sue Hoberkorn
 NFSS Finch Shop Manager
 1106 Hamilton Blvd.
 Hagerstown, MD 21742

Let's clear the air on air purifiers

Hospital, Pet Stores, Bird Owners. For over 25 years, **CLOUD 9 Sterile-Aire Purifiers** have been the air cleaner of choice for thousands of businesses and homes. Why do we continue to lead our competition? It's simple - **CLOUD 9's** full-fledged HEPA filter will remove bacteria, white powder flander, and even the smallest virus from your breathing air without any manufactured ozone or ions to pollute your home.

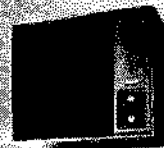
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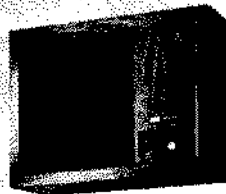
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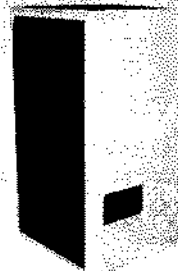
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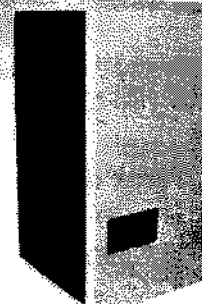
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