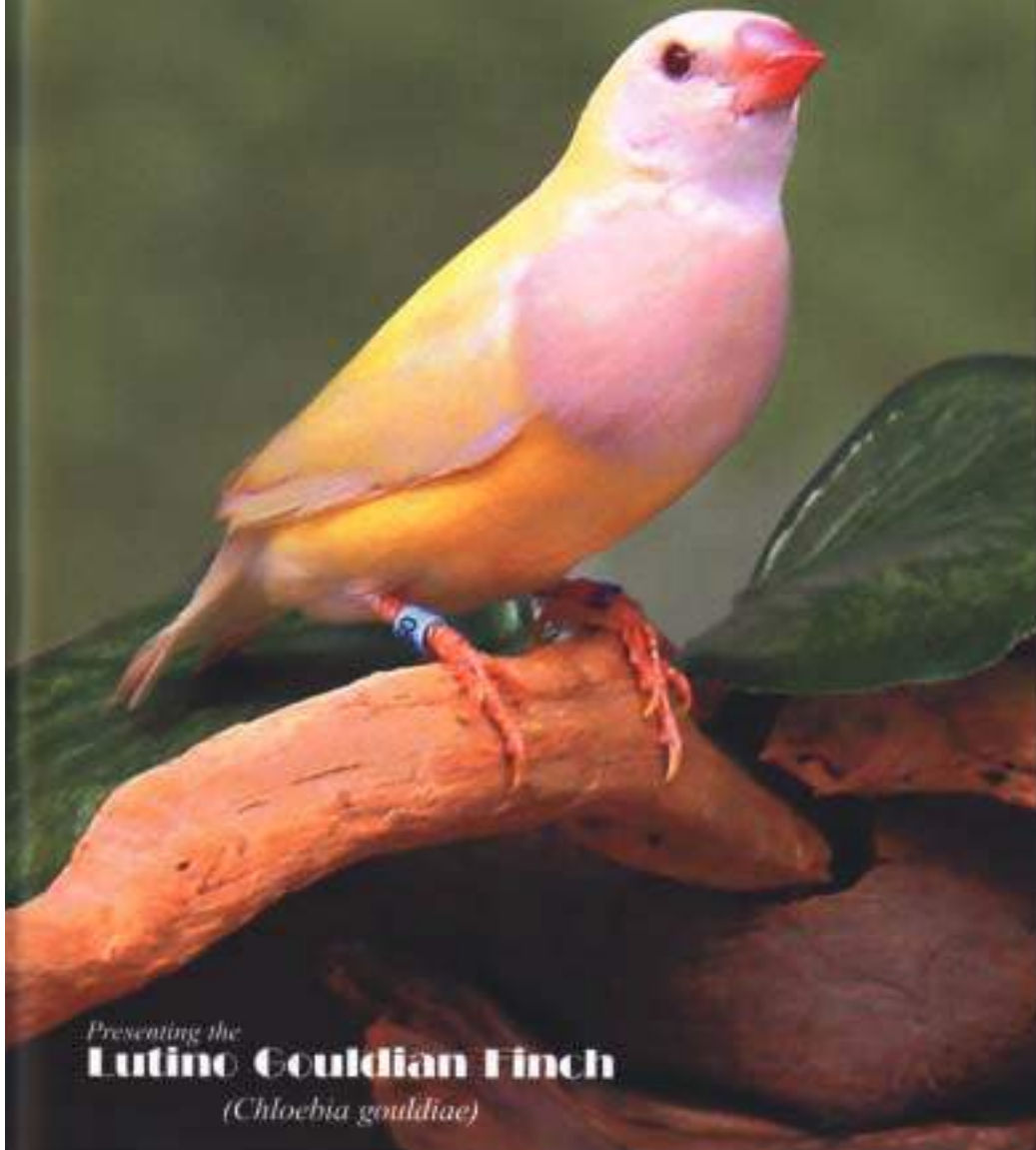


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Volume 21, No. 4

July/August, 2004



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### *Journal of the National Finch and Softbill Society*

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The National Finch and Softbill Society

## NFSS Mission Statement

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.

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## On the Cover

This issue's cover presents the gorgeous new Lutino mutation of the Lady Gouldian Finch. The bird pictured is "Winita", a granddaughter of the foundation Lutino Gouldian.

*Photo Courtesy ©Winnie McAlpin, Deimar Gouldian Aviary*

## NFSS President's Message

### July, 2004



To NAWA or not to NAWA...  
Is there a question?

A few points on the "Standards of Care" for the Animal Welfare Act, (A.W.A.), the regulations for federal government guidelines. These are currently being formed by the National Avian Welfare Association (NAWA).

At some level, we are all political libertarians when it comes to any form of government coming into our living room, our bedrooms or now, our aviaries. As NFSS president, I was invited to be an active member of NAWA upon its inception.

WHY NAWA? Why 'rules'? Why government in our flights? Well, folks, if it isn't the federal government with standards we HELP DEVELOP, it will be animal rights activists with self-invested agendas. The federal inspectors and veterinarians who are responsible for animal welfare in our republic are VERY CLEAR: "If we avian professionals, the true experts, do not write "standards of care", the feds' hands are tied when called upon to take action over bird 'abuse'. Without standards, the animal rightists come up with idealistic prattle that is often (not always) accepted by the uninformed as gospel. The A.W.A. will be the REAL GOSPEL.



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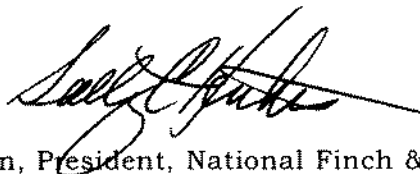
<p><b>Australian:</b> Grass finches Owl Finches Parrot Finches Gouldians Cherry Finches Star Finches</p>	<p><b>African:</b> Blue capped waxbills Purple Grenadiers Peters Twinspots</p> <p><b>Asia:</b> Strawberry Finches Bronze wing Manikins White &amp; Black headed Nuns Chestnut-breasted Manikins</p> <p><b>European:</b> Goldfinches Blue Tits</p>
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The NAWA avian guidelines we have worked on for months now are to be "Minimum Standards of Care" similar to those which have existed for years regarding the management and shipping, housing, etc., of cattle, pigs, horses, dogs, cats, fish, etc. They are "minimum standards" to use when they come across someone who is being "accused" of bird abuse. The feds hate it when extremists ALLEGE major violations of animal health, and THE FEDS HAVE NO GUIDELINE STANDARDS TO COMPARE AND USE TO INTERCEDE. If the NAWA standards DO NOT become of record, the extremists become the "experts" simply because they make the most noise. Being the supposed "experts", they dupe self-invested-image-do-gooders (celebrities, politicians, etc.) to write big checks so they look like nice people who love animals. The standards will show that the extremists are a minority opinion who, if they had their way, would even take away Grandma's canary.

In summary, we MUST give the feds something to use to fight off extremists. The feds, unlike the extreme anti-pet organizations, are NOT NOT NOT interested in taking "Grandma's canary away from her living room". The extremists are. We need this NAWA work. Please support us where and when you can.



Sally Huntington, President, National Finch & Softbill Society

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# Breeding for Quality: Important Terminology

by Michael Marcotrigiano,  
NFSS Science Editor

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The spunky and beautiful horse, Smarty Jones, lost the Triple Crown by coming up ten feet short after running 7,920 feet at Belmont. This may have cost his owner tens of millions of dollars in stud fees although he will do just fine with that much less. He is expected to be mated with about 200 mares a year and earn tens of thousands for each romantic encounter. Coming in second at a finch show on the other hand has little impact on one's finances and probably just as little on the winning bird's sex life! If I count labor, utilities, vet bills, and supplies, I'm losing just as much money after winning 7 best in shows then I did when I just began. So, unlike horses, when you breed birds it is pride in your achievements that is the major reward. That being said, it is very frustrating if, after six or seven generations, your birds look the same as they did when you started and your show results are still more dependent on luck than skill.

I have decided that a series of short articles discussing breeding methods and the genetics surrounding them might be helpful to those wanting to advance their lines with the goal of producing top notch birds with some consistency. Installment one will be brief and lay the foundation for future articles.

In order to discuss breeding, the following terms should be understood. I will add a bird example in parentheses if it helps explain the definition. Future articles will assume you know these terms or at least have access to them.

**Gene** – the physical unit of heredity consisting of a DNA sequence on a specific location on a chromosome.

**Allele** – an alternative form of a gene often expressed symbolically by a letter or abbreviation.

**Locus** (pl. loci) – the specific location of a gene on a chromosome.

**Genotype** – the sum total of the genetic makeup of an individual.

**Heterozygote** – in birds we often call these "splits". A one-locus genotype containing functionally different alleles (e.g. Aa, rather than AA or aa).

**Homozygote** – a one-locus genotype containing functionally identical alleles (e.g. AA, or aa).

**Hybrid** – an individual that is the product of a pairing between two species, or breeds within a species, or lines within a breed.

**Phenotype** – the observed category of a trait (e.g. the appearance).



**Simply-inherited trait** – a trait affected by one to a few genes.

**Qualitative trait** – a trait in which genotypes can be expressed in clear categories (e.g. chocolate:chestnut:fawn, in other words traits that are “either/or”).

**Quantitative trait** – a trait in which phenotype shows continuous numerical expression (e.g. size, weight).

**Quantitative trait locus (QTL)** – a locus that affects a quantitative trait.

**Polygenic** – a trait affected by many genes with no single gene having the overriding effect.

**Linkage** – the occurrence of two or more genes of interest located on the same chromosome.

**Sex linkage** – a gene located on a sex chromosome resulting in an inheritance pattern that is different from genes located on non-sex chromosomes (**autosomal**) and consequently different in males and females.

**Mutation** – the process that alters DNA to create new alleles.

**Dominance** – an interaction between genes at a single locus such that in heterozygotes one allele has more effect than the other. The allele with the greater effect is dominant over its **recessive** counterpart.

**Partial dominance** – when the expression of a heterozygote is intermediate to the expression of the homozygotes. The male dilute Gouldian (split for yellow body) is an example.

**Epistasis** – an interaction among genes at different loci such that the expression of a gene at one locus is dependent on the specific alleles present at one or more other loci.

**Line** – a group of related individuals within a breed.

**Line breeding** – the mating of individuals within a line.

**Purebred** – wholly of one line (i.e. not **crossbred**).

**Inbreeding** – the mating of close relatives.

**Outcrossing** (or outbreeding) – the mating of unrelated individuals.

**Backcrossing** – the mating of an individual to any other individual with which it has one or more ancestral breeds or lines in common.

**Hybrid vigor** (or Heterosis) – an increase in the performance of hybrids over purebreds or inbreds most noticeably in traits like fertility and infant survivability.

**inbreeding depression** – the reverse of hybrid vigor.

**Half sibs** – half brothers or sisters (i.e. they share a parent).

**Test cross** – a mating designed to reveal the genotype of an individual.

**Prepotency** – the ability of an individual to produce offspring like itself and especially uniform.

**Pleiotropy** – when a single gene affects more than one trait.

**Closed population** – a population that is closed to the introduction of genetic material from outside populations.

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Bourdon, R.M. 2000. Understanding Animal Breeding (2nd ed.). Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey.

*NESS member and Journal Science Editor, Michael Marcotrigiano (www.exoticfinches.com) breeds and exhibits show-quality Society finches and a limited number of Zebra finches. He is a faculty member in Biological Sciences and the Botanic Garden Director at Smith College in Massachusetts.*



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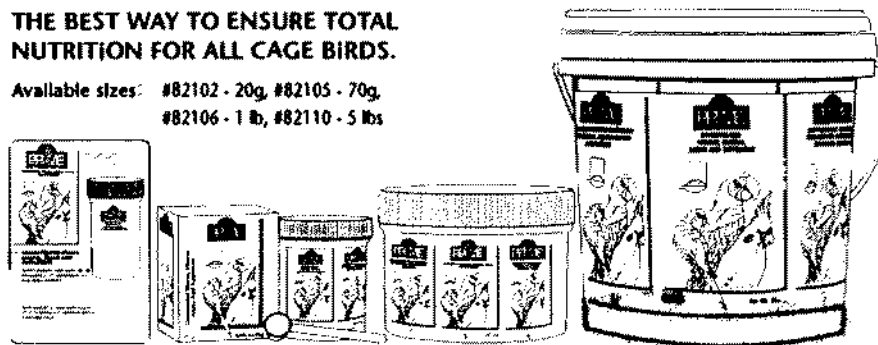


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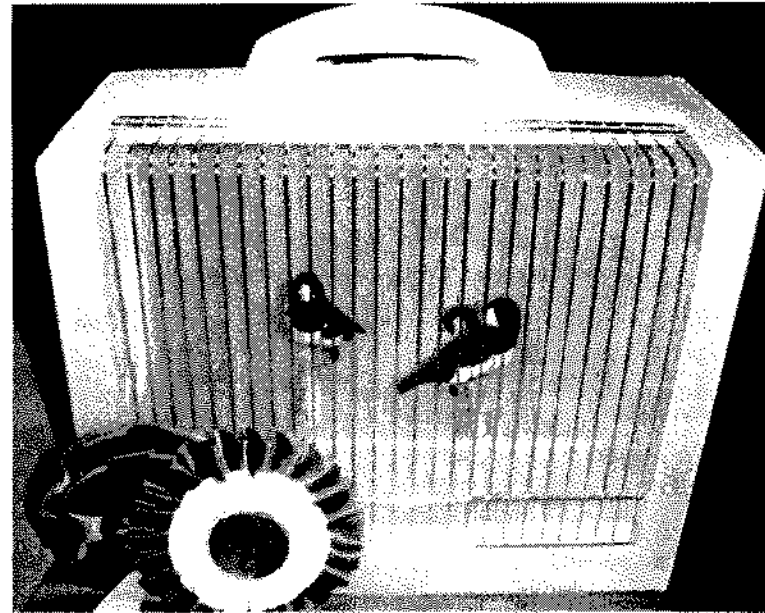


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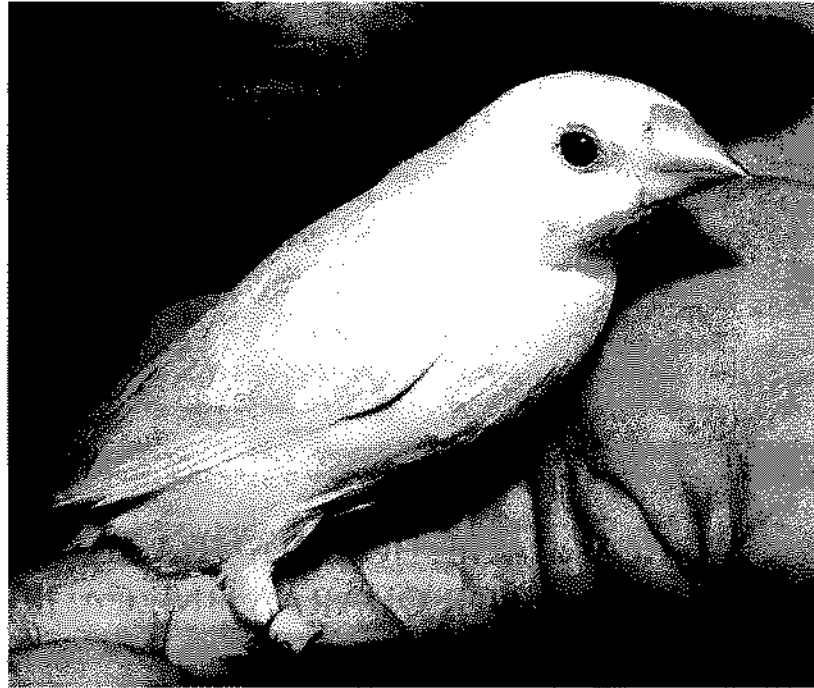
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# LUTINO GOULDIAN PROJECT

by Winnie McAlpin

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"Valie" - Lutino Gouldian Hen, bred at the Purple Parrot Aviary

*Photo Courtesy © Cindy Godwin*

The green bodied Gouldian Finch, which is native to Australia, was first introduced to the USA in the 1930's. The first yellow bodied Gouldians and the blue bodied Gouldians were imported together from Holland by Terry Dunham in 1984. Terry Dunham, according to our recent correspondence, estimates that he produced the first white bodied Gouldians,

which is a result of combining the yellow with the blue genes, within two years of having received the shipment. It is possible that our project may be the first Lutino Gouldian project in the USA and perhaps the first new Gouldian mutation to become established in the USA since 1986.

The name Lutino is derived from the word Ino, which indicates the genetic form, and the Latin word Luteus, meaning yellow. The adult Lutino Gouldian is a red eyed Gouldian with a white breast and yellow body. The gene is sex-linked recessive. Please refer to:

<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clivehesford/naming01.html>

for information concerning Lutino genetics. The Lutino Gouldian was first reported in Australia in 1958 with all stock eventually lost. Matthew M. Vriends, PhD, states that the Albino existed in Holland in the 1960's. Belgium reports having Lutino Gouldians in the late 1980's, which resulted in a sale to Japan in the early 1990's. Japan reports having Lutino Gouldians in 1967. A. J. Mobbs stated that he could have purchased a Lutino from Holland in 1982.

At the present it is known that the Lutino Gouldian exists in Belgium, Japan



"Winnie" - First Lutino Hen

Photo Courtesy © Cindy Godwin

and the USA. Belgium is reported as having one or more breeders of Lutino Gouldians, while Japan reports having about ten breeders. Many of the Lutinos in Japan have resulted from importation from Belgium, with recent purchases from stock which surfaced in Belgium in 2003. Lutinos in Japan are exchanged

rather than purchased among friends, sometimes given as gifts, but rarely sold. A Japanese breeder, named Y. Miyake, reported in the Cage and Aviary Birds magazine that he had produced Albino Gouldians by 1999. The Albino is a result of combining the Lutino with the Blue gene.

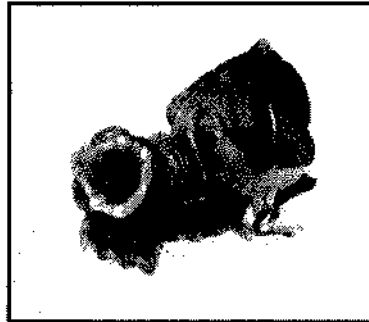
The Delmar Gouldian Aviary in Cleveland, Tennessee, acquired the first Lutino female as a loan on August 29, 2002 from Cindy Godwin, owner of the Purple Parrot in Gray, TN. Cindy had written an E-Group post about a red eyed Gouldian, which she had recently purchased in



"Winston" and "Abbey"  
Parents of "Winita" pictured on the cover.

Photo Courtesy © Winnie McAlpin

a group of 16 Gouldians. Winnie McAlpin, owner of Delmar Gouldian Aviary and moderator of the Gouldian Preservation Association E-Groups, had



Lutino Gouldian Gape Markings

*Photo Courtesy © Cindy Godwin*

recently completed a study about the Lutino Gouldian. This study had occurred at the Gouldian Preservation Association where James Watson, residing in Australia, and Daniel Wildemeersch, residing in Belgium, are participating members.

Winnie McAlpin, who is a member of NFSS, recognized the mutation in the post and contacted Cindy Godwin. Cindy had previously sold Gouldians to the Delmar Gouldian Aviary in June 1997. It is interesting that one of two birds purchased from Cindy in 1997 is the Great Great Grandmother of the first Lutino born in the Delmar Gouldian Aviary. An agreement was made that Winnie would breed the Lutino and split the offspring with Cindy. James Watson and Daniel Wildemeersch have remained as advisors for the Lutino Project. Even though the Lutino Project is not finalized, we feel that there has been enough progress to justify making the project public knowledge.

The first Lutino female was named Winnie by Cindy Godwin and resides at the Delmar Gouldian Aviary. Winnie the Lutino, is mated to a Black Head Green male from the Delmar Gouldian Aviary.

She is Lutino SF Pastel Green, has bred as sex-linked recessive, has produced 17 offspring, and has three Lutino Granddaughters to date. Winnie has a Lutino niece named Valie, who was born on Valentines Day 2003, from two green bodied Gouldians, which served as confirmation of the sex-linked recessive Lutino gene. A SF Pastel Green/Lutino male, son of Winnie, was mated to a Blue female in spring 2004, which resulted in seven offspring including two Lutinos. Through the mating of these offspring to Blue Gouldians, an Albino, which is a red eyed white bodied Gouldian, should be produced in the near future. All of the Lutinos, which have been produced to date, come from outcross matings. They are vibrant in color, produce healthy offspring, and have good vision.

We are excited about the Lutino project and want to express appreciation to all those who have helped with our project, including the NFSS editor, Martie Lauster. I would also like to express appreciation to Cindy Godwin for giving me the opportunity to become a pioneer in Gouldian genetics. Our special thanks to James Watson and Daniel Wildemeersch who have always been available for sound advice. Completing the Lutino Project, which is a rewarding challenge, could play a major role in the production of future Gouldian mutations. Having the Lutino Gouldian established should provide the opportunity for the production of a completed range of color mutations which has existed for many other avian species bred in the USA.

In closing, we would state that there are no Lutino Gouldians for sale presently. Future sales will most likely be extended to experienced breeders to insure that the Lutino Gouldians remain a viable mutation in the USA. You can be assured that we have a monitored security system and a guard dog on duty. (I would put "LOL" if I were writing for the Internet). Our sincere thanks to Jessica Streiff, who is planning to become an Avian veterinarian, for aviary sitting and

helping with the care of Delmar Gouldians. Inquiries about the Lutino as a mutation should be addressed to:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GPA101Genetics>

where international genetics experts, including members from MUTAVI Research & Advice Group, are available to answer your questions. We realize that Black and White photos cannot show the red eyes of a Lutino Gouldian. Colored photos of red eyed Lutino babies, juveniles and adults may be seen at Daniel Wildemeersch's web site at:

<http://users.skynet.be/fa398872/>

and Winnie McAlpin's web page at:

[http://www.geocities.com/gfinches2/Delmar\\_Gouldians.html](http://www.geocities.com/gfinches2/Delmar_Gouldians.html)

Colored photos have also been submitted to Dr. Terry Martin BVSc for publica-

tion in the Revised Guide to Gouldian Finches to be published by the Australian Birdkeeper.

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# Keeping and Breeding the Spreo Starling

*(Lamprotornis Superbus)*

By Ray Sherlock

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The Spreo Starling is a common African bird that is so popular in aviculture that I don't think a description is necessary. Obtaining a true pair is difficult as the sexes are identical. I have heard of different ways of distinguishing the sexes, such as the male being larger or more brightly coloured or the white band of the male is broader, but I have found these differences in both sexes.

I first bought a pair of Spreo Starlings fifteen years ago. I saw them on a dealer's stand at the National Cage and Aviary Birds show in Birmingham (U.K.) and just had to have them. The metallic colours and staring eyes captivated me. The only information I had about them was what the dealer told me as he boxed them up. "Keep them indoors till Spring and give them plenty of live food", he said.

I kept the pair in a parrot cage in my living room until late April when the last frosts had gone. The pair were placed in an aviary containing a pair each of Pekin Robins and Chinese Painted Quail. The first thing the pair did was to dive into a bath. After getting soaked through, unable to fly, they clambered up the wire to the highest perch where they began to call loudly to each other. Wings were drooped and tails flicked showing the white feathering on the rump. I had been feeding the birds a good softbill mixture along with fruit. Oranges and pears were their favourites among a wide variety that was offered. Mealworms

were fed every day as I was told by the dealer. Advice was sought from friends about breeding but I couldn't find anyone who had kept them before. I was told to put a large parakeet nest box high up in the aviary, which I did. There was a bit of commotion over the next couple of days and one of the pair was seen carrying leaves, but neither bird went near the nest box.

As with most species of Starlings, sexing cannot be done visually and as both birds were singing all day long, but not entering the box. I guessed I had two males. The box was left in place but the birds soon lost all interest in it. My first pair of Spreo's were a bit of a disappointment as far as breeding was concerned, but I was rarely to be without a pair for the next fifteen years.

There were a couple of things I learned that first year. The birds didn't need huge amounts of live food and they didn't need to be brought indoors for the winter. Sadly, I had to part with my first Starlings, along with most of my other birds, when I was forced to work away from home. My wife also worked and I had no one to look after them.

It would be another two years before I purchased my second pair. These also came from the National at Birmingham. The only advice I sought this time was whether they were a pair and what food were they being fed. The dealer assured me they were a pair and he also gave me a supply of softfood. Whenever I have

bought a pair of birds I have always obtained a supply of the same food they have been fed by their previous owner. When the birds have settled down in my aviaries, I slowly change the diet to the one I give to my other birds. I have tried feeding poultry pellets to my Starlings, mixing them with the softbill food or coating them with honey, but none have ever eaten enough to sustain them. I don't feed any kind of pellets to my birds as none of the species I have kept seem to eat or even sample them. A good softbill mixture is the key to a good diet along with plenty of fruit, vegetables and as large a variety of live food as possible if breeding is to be achieved. The only additive I give my birds is a calcium powder and multi vitamin sprinkled over live food - only when chicks are being reared. The minimum sized aviary I have kept them in was six feet long, three feet wide and six feet high. I cover the roof and sides to protect the birds from the wind and rain.

The aviary in which I first bred my spreo's in 1992 was a six foot cube with three sides and the roof covered. It had a flagstone floor with soil about six inches deep on top. Half inch square weld mesh painted black covered the whole aviary to deter mice. A budgie type nest box was provided and the pair started building immediately. Soft hay, coconut fibre and plenty of white feathers were used in the nest building. The first of three eggs was laid on the 18th of July and hatched out on the 31st. The other two eggs were dead in shell. The chick was fed mealworms, buffalo worms, crickets and any livefood I could find in the garden. The chick grew rapidly and left the nest after only two weeks old. It wasn't fully feathered and couldn't fly, but the weather was mild and it managed to roost on a perch at night in between both parents. The chick and the parents had to be treated for gapeworm and no more attempts at breeding took place that year. I have had a great deal of trouble over the years with gapeworm and have found Ivermec the best product for treating adults and

Panacur for chicks from five days and older. Last year, I had to treat the adults a number of times during the breeding season and I had to treat chicks in the nest. This year I removed all the soil and plants from my Spreo's aviary and covered the floor with pea gravel to a depth of four inches. No other birds share this aviary as last year the spreo's became aggressive towards all other birds which had to be removed for their own safety.

I checked the adults for parasites, checked their nails and beaks in case they needed clipping. Starlings kept in cages or indoor flights often get overgrown beaks. I then treated the adults with Ivermec before releasing them into the aviary.

I was told by keepers at both Bristol and Chester zoo's that the majority of Starling species prefer a large parakeet nest box with about four or five inches of the front removed instead of the conventional box with a hole at the top. This year's nest has been built mainly of coconut fibre and lined with hundreds of white feathers from an old pillow. The first of five turquoise eggs was laid on the 31st of March. Two chicks hatched naked and blind on the 16th of April and two the following day. The fifth egg was dead in shell. The adults were supplied with a large ceramic bowl on the floor of the aviary filled with mealworms. Waxmoths are fed twice a day and frozen crickets, thawed of course, once in the morning in separate feeders. The waxmoths are dusted with a multi vitamin once a day and the crickets are dusted with a calcium powder. A small cup full of mealworms is supplied each day. I sift through my mealworms several times a day looking for freshly moulted soft bodied white mealworms which are relished by all my birds and are always fed first to the chicks.

Haiths Universal softbill food is fed throughout the year. I have tried to encourage them to eat dried dog and cat food mixture, soaked for a couple of hours, with no success. This pair are also

very reluctant to eat fruit of any kind. Every other Spreo I have kept has eaten plenty of fruit. The only other foods given are the occasional spider, crane fly, cabbage white butterfly or moth that I can catch. I have supplied aphids, both green and black, in vast numbers but the Starlings rarely eat them. I used to feed woodlice and centipedes from my garden until I lost a nest of youngsters from poisoning. Tests were done on the dead chicks and it was found they had died from eating centipedes. The centipedes had eaten slugs which had eaten slug pellets from a neighbour's garden. I no longer feed any live food from the garden that could be contaminated, even though I don't use any pesticides or slug pellets myself.

Fresh water is supplied daily and also a large bath, which hangs from the aviary roof, is filled daily as these birds love to bathe many times a day. Hens will bathe even while incubating eggs and rearing young.

The young were closed rung with size M IOA rings at six days old.

The hen alone feeds the young for the first few days, joined by the cock as the young grow and are more demanding. Small live food is fed to the chicks when they first hatch and as they grow, the size of the live food increases. With three chicks in the nest, the parents will collect as much live food as they can carry and feed each bird in turn at each visit. My hen will carry twenty or more crickets at a time into the nest box. This way all the chicks get fed, unlike in some species of bird that will totally ignore the smallest chick in a brood and let it die from starvation.

I check the nest box once a day from the first day it's installed. That way, the birds become accustomed to my daily intrusion. Even so, the adults will give out a warning call to the chicks as I get close to the box. For the first two weeks the chicks are quite quiet in the box and will beg as I open the inspection door. After

two weeks they become very vocal while being fed and will crouch low in the nest when the door is open. If chicks are to be hand reared they should be removed from the nest before they are two weeks old as any later than this and they are reluctant to be fed and need to be force fed. Spreo's are easy to hand rear, as long as they are kept at the right temperature, and don't need to be treated for gapeworm at a very early age. I don't hand rear any bird unless it's really necessary. The chicks fledge at around three weeks of age and are very poor flyers. The placing of branches from the floor to the uppermost perch will help the youngsters roost off the floor.

The parents continue to feed the youngsters for a couple of weeks after fledging. They are very attentive parents and are very protective. They give out loud warning calls when danger threatens and you get to know what type of danger it is by the different calls - whether it is a cat, hawk or kestrel. All my other birds hide when the spreos give a warning call and even the wild house sparrows and blackbirds take notice.

Once the youngsters are feeding themselves, they are removed from their parents who are usually busy starting a second nest which involves renovating the previous one and re-lining it. The youngsters are a duller version of their parents and lack the white band across the chest and the eyes are dark. They gain the white band, metallic sheen and light eye ring at the first moult.

Spreo's are an ideal bird as an introduction to softbill keeping, they are very colourful, easy to house, feed and are very hardy. Provided with an adequate aviary, nest box and a varied, plentiful variety of live food, they are free breeding. Every effort should be made to breed this species so as to preserve it in aviculture for future generations.

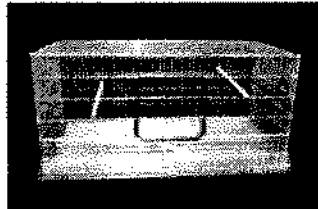
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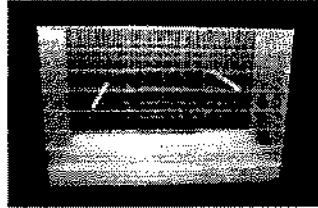
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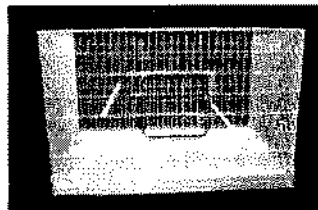
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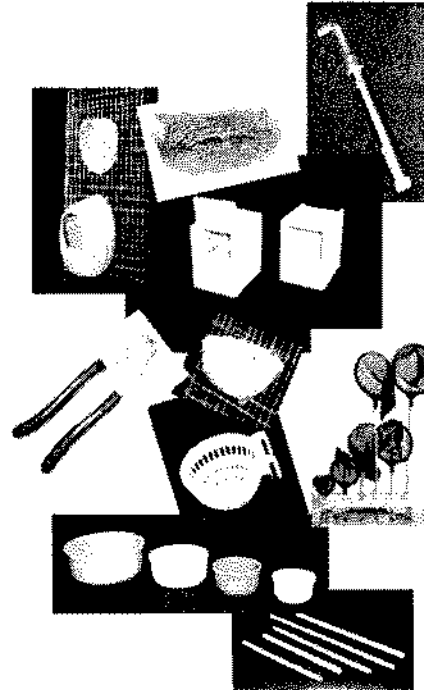
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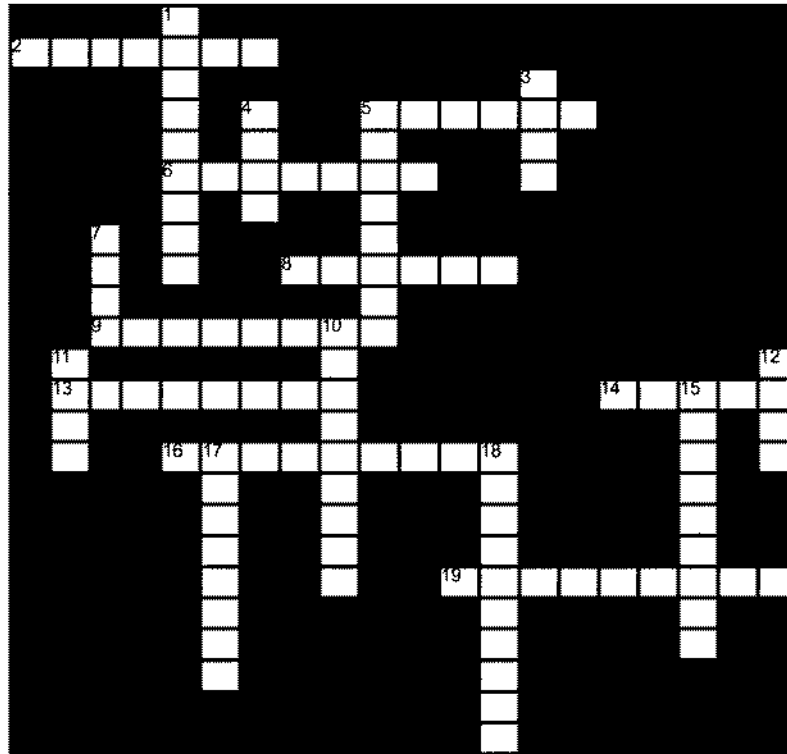


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# Youth and Aviculture



## Across

2. A source of protein for parents with chicks.
5. A kind of seed.
6. Species of finch most known to foster chicks.
8. A very large bird cage - often kept outside.
9. A very colorful finch.
13. All birds have these.
14. This species of finch has black and white stripes on its tail.
16. What we call birds whose gender can be identified by sight.
19. The name for the behavior of cleaning another bird's feathers and skin.

## Down

1. The name for what male and female finches do prior to breeding.
3. A finch's "bedroom".
4. Four-legged enemy of the bird room.
5. The name for a color variety of finch not normally seen in the wild.
7. In monomorphic species, one way to tell a male from a female finch.
10. Country of origin of the Shafttail finch.
11. The abbreviation for a national finch organization.
12. Placed on the leg to identify the bird.
15. Another name for the Society finch.
17. To warm eggs as with body heat.
18. A source of Calcium.

**Check the Sept/Oct issue for this puzzle's answers!**

# Youth and Aviculture



Star Finch  
Drawing by Kyle Pereira. Age 10, Modesto, California  
Thank you, Kyle!

Question: How many finches does it take to eat a cucumber?

Answer: One to sound the dinner bell - and 32 to drag it in from the garden!

*NFSS welcomes any and all submissions for the Youth and Aviculture page. Please send your artwork, photos, jokes, riddles and any ideas to the NFSS Journal Youth Editor:*

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# The New Society Finch - A Breeder's Dilemma...

by Martie Lauster

*a summary of conversations among the members of*

[http://groups.yahoo.com/  
group/societyfinch](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/societyfinch)

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Throughout April this year, there was (and continues to be) a very lively discussion/debate about Society Finches on the Society Finch discussion list at Yahoo. This list includes breeders from all across the U.S., as well as the U.K., Australia, Canada, and other countries and counts among its members some of the top Society breeders from all the above locations. It is an invaluable resource for anyone involved or interested in Society Finches and is easily joined at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/societyfinch>. Because there are many breeders who either don't have computer access, don't know about this list, or just aren't on it for one reason or another, it was felt this conversation would be something worthwhile sharing with everyone. This paper is a summary of the conversation submitted with the approval of those on the Society Finch list.

## **History**

### **Just an Overview...**

I preface this section with the caveat that it is not meant to cover the entire history of the Society Finch - but is an overview only. While the following is a generalization of events, it is known and

acknowledged that there have been breeders doing other things in other places throughout the time period. Overall, however, the following is the general course of events that has led U.S. Society breeders to an interesting crossroad...

### **In the Beginning**

For some many, many years in this country, the Society Finch has been known to most as that sweet little pied bird in various shades of brown splashed with white. Inexpensive and widely available - found in quantities and a staple in any pet shop - a great foster parent - an excellent choice as a "beginner bird" and not thought of much beyond these actually pretty wonderful qualities. It was easy to breed and the "real" challenges in many people's minds were in the more difficult species.

### **Japan**

While we here in the U.S. seemed satisfied with the Society as it was, breeders in other countries took them much more seriously and much work was being done to develop new color mutations, size, and type. Notably, the

Japanese had developed an amazing array of Society forms - and were reliably breeding "self" birds which showed no white markings - and brought in color mutations developed in Europe - such as Gray and dilute forms of the self birds. Additionally, the Japanese developed "frilled" Societies. U.S. breeders were long familiar with crested birds - but the Japanese produced Societies with chest, neck, head, and even all-over frills in many combinations. Type had been

Mar/Apr and May/June, 1999 issues. These articles are also available at Michael's website at [www.exoticfinches.com/mypubs/pubHOME.htm](http://www.exoticfinches.com/mypubs/pubHOME.htm). In the five short years these beautiful birds have been in the United States, they have proliferated throughout the country and are now commonly seen on the show bench.

#### Europe

In Europe, a different tack was taken by some breeders. They produced a still



**Chocolate Self Society Finch**

*Photo Courtesy: Roy Beckham*

developed as well and these birds were larger and more robust than the ones generally found in the U.S.

During 1998, U.S. breeders Michael Marcotrigiano, Garrie Landry, and Shimpei Tanaguchi worked together to import a number of Japanese Society Finches to the United States. These birds arrived at their destinations in early 1999. This is a very interesting story and well-documented details can be found in Michael's excellent articles about this - published in the NFSS Journal in the

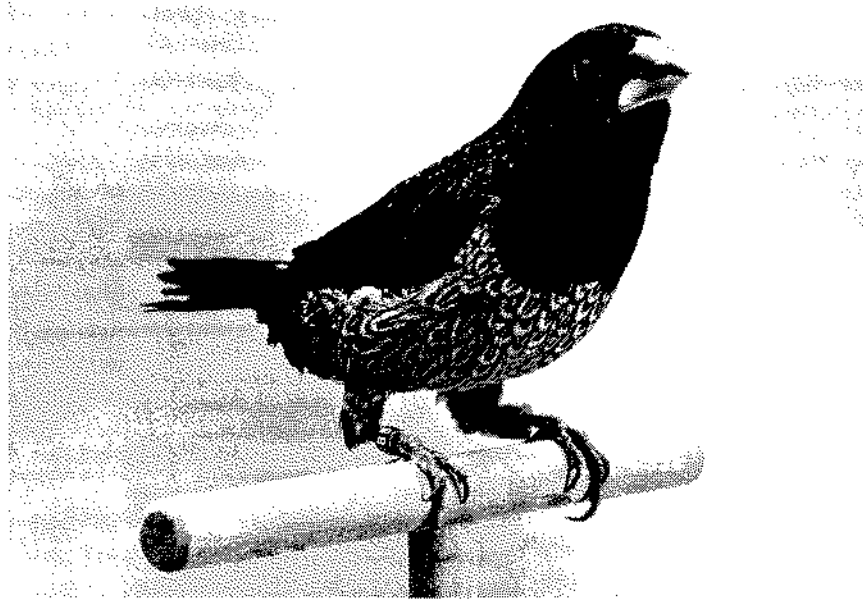
larger and even more robust Society and spent many years perfecting not only type, but deep, even coloration and very pronounced and well-defined belly scales. While it is not clear exactly when this happened, it is known to be around 20 or so years ago that some Mannikin blood was introduced with the goal of bringing in an even deeper color and more pronounced markings. While not all agree about which Mannikins were used - it is generally believed that the Black-Headed and White-Headed Nuns may have been the ones. Most agree this was

not continued and the resulting offspring were then crossed back into other Societies over many, many generations. This long and laborious selection process culminated in what we see today in this country and commonly call the "Euro Black-Brown" Society. There are also Euro Black-Grey, Euro Red-Brown and Euro Mocca-Brown birds here, but there are many fewer of these. The exact ori-

2000 - that any were dispersed to other breeders. When Bob Rittman passed away in 2002, his birds were dispersed to several breeders here in the U.S. They are beginning just now to be available in larger numbers.

### **The Issues**

The introduction of Japanese Societies in the United States was well



**European Black-Brown Society Finch**

*Photo Courtesy © Roy Beckham*

gins of these other colors is unclear, but indications are that they, too, are likely of hybrid descent.

It is known that one breeder here in the U.S. worked privately with a few Euros brought to the U.S. by one of our importers somewhere around 1990. These were not widely dispersed and largely unknown to most breeders. Several years later, the late Bob Rittman imported a number of them from Europe and began to work on them. The Euro birds do not breed as prolifically as the Japanese and U.S. Societies and it was a few years later - approximately 1999 or

received. These birds were definite improvements to the existing birds here and offered a plethora of new directions for U.S. breeders to go. Their colors, frills, and excellent type brought a new perception of the Society Finch. Many breeders took on the challenge and are on the way to establishing these birds, which are widely proliferated here.

The European birds are another step - but certainly a giant one. Many breeders question whether the Euro Society is actually a giant step forward or a side step to a separate type of Society. Where do they belong in the scheme of



**Result of cross between a European Black-Brown and Chocolate Society Finch**

*Photo Courtesy © Roy Beckham*

Society Finch development? While much of the conversation on the Society Finch list centered around show classifications, the real crux of the issue is what breeders will do with this new bird. This will steer future show classifications - as it is what breeders are bringing to the table that affects U.S. show classifications.

### **Hybrid?**

One of the major bones of contention among some U.S. breeders is the introduction some 20 or more years ago of Mannikin blood to the Euro Society. There is in many camps a distaste for the production of hybrids which is not the case in other countries. Maintaining purity of species is very important to many. There is certainly hybridization commonly done in this country - perhaps the most notable being the Red Factor Canary, produced by crosses with Red Siskins. There is also "mule" production in some

areas - primarily with Canaries, Siskins, and Goldfinches. This is not the case, however, with most finches and the majority of breeders work with pure lines of the many species available here. For many, the word "hybrid" is a dirty one, indeed. But is the Euro Society a "hybrid" in the sense we in the United States normally would describe a hybrid?

Here again, is a "muddy" situation. It is generally accepted that Mannikin blood was introduced during one short time and 20 or more years ago. A whole lot of time was spent and work done following this to develop the Euro Society we see today. The fact remains, however, that once other blood is introduced - it is never completely eradicated. While DNA testing has not been done as far as we know, there is to the best of our knowledge some percentage of Mannikin blood in the Euro Society we see today and this is troublesome to many purists.

### **What Will U.S. Breeders do with the Euro Society?**

For those breeders not so concerned with or put off by the hybrid factor, there remain other difficult questions. The Euro Society is a definite departure from the birds commonly seen on our show benches and in our bird rooms. While they are becoming more available, they still cannot be considered common. Many of them are not as prolific breeders as the U.S. and Japanese Societies.

The big question is whether we will maintain them as separate entities or if we will cross them into our own stock - potentially losing the qualities of both and creating some new form that carries altered features and losing pure forms of both.

There are breeders on each - and both sides of this question. There is fear of losing both Society types. Many are truly enamored with one or the other or both and feel strongly about keeping them separate and distinct forms. It is

generally accepted and seen by those who have done it - that crosses produce a much "improved" (in terms of size, color, and markings) U.S./Japanese Society - and do much to undo the years of work done to create the Euro. The ever-present and often passionate hybrid issue further complicates this practice.

Only time and continued communication among Society Finch breeders will provide the answer to the question of the future of the Society Finch in the United States. It is a serious question - one not to be taken lightly. We stand at a crossroad. There is much heated and passionate debate going on. In the final chapter, will we have two very different forms of the Society Finch - will we have a bird much different than both - or will all three - a distinct Euro, a U.S./Japanese bird, and a "combination" be commonly seen? All Society breeders will participate in some way in the shaping of this future. The time is right for each of us to step back and think about where we stand and what our own contribution will be.

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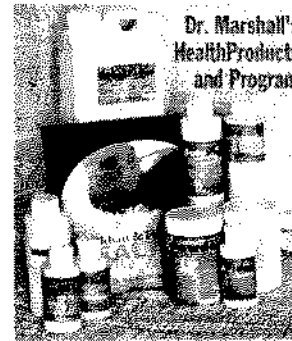
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# The Puerto Rico Bird Show

By Dale Laird

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I just returned from judging the June show for the Asociacion De Criadores De Finches del Este in Puerto Rico. This was my first time on the island and I know it will not be my last. There were 11 exhibitors with 139 birds: three Cut Throats, about a dozen Goulds and the rest were all Zebras and Societies.

Puerto Rico severely limits the species of birds which can be bred in captivity so the dedicated breeders there specialize in a very limited number of species - mostly Zebras and Societies. After years of working predominantly with these two species, the quality of the birds is really showing. I just count myself lucky I could use condition to eliminate some, as conformation and color were superb through out.

Six of the birds on the top bench were closed-banded 2004 birds. The first place five-month-old Silver Zebra Cock was one of the best I have ever seen. It was about four inches in length and cobby with a great head, full face, and superb top and bottom line. It, along with the vast majority of the birds, was exceptionally well cage trained. When a judge can pick up the cage, move his hand to the left and have the bird hop right & turn to face your hand, then repeat it in the opposite direction on command you know the exhibitor has worked with this bird. I was amazed to see this over and over again as birds came before me. These

exhibitors definitely know the importance of the bird being trained for presentation.

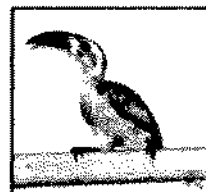
Several of the more unusual birds I saw were the blackest of black Black-Brown Societies, absolutely superb Black-Grey Societies, brilliant Red Brown Societies, pale and muted HUGE Ino Societies, my first ever Grey Societies and Pearl Societies - all with good size, top lines, and well set wings and tails. Strongly marked Black Cheeked Florida Fancy Zebras, larger Black Cheek Zebras, superbly marked Pied Zebras and very cobby large Normal Zebras.

Of all the birds I saw, there were easily 15 to 20 that could have competed at any show in the country and place well up the top bench - if not win the show. What a pleasure to judge.

The club is planning on traveling as a group to the Nationals in Dallas next year to compete with their best birds. The level of competition just went up another notch for all of us if they attend. I cannot wait.

I definitely look forward to another trip to the island and especially having the pleasure of visiting with such dedicated aviculturists. If you have the opportunity to attend one of their semi-annual shows, please do so. It will be an experience you will never forget.





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# Finch Fanciers Picnic

By Sandy Carmody

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**Finch Fanciers Picnic Attendees**

Row 1 (l to r): Vicky, Victoria, Zaida, Tani, Sandy  
 Row 2 (l to r): Kurt, John, Billy & Jussara, Robert, Daniel  
 Row 3 (l to r): Beth, Carl, Shelly, Karen  
 Row 4 (l to r): Sandi, Margaret, Betti, Andy, Cindi  
 Row 5 (l to r): Bill, Rui, Connie, Dave

The Finch Fanciers picnic was held July 10th at the home of Karen and Andy Perna. It all started with an invitation that welcomed us to come to a picnic for a day of trading and selling birds and an opportunity to meet people and talk about birds all day.

When asked what made her think of having the picnic, Karen said, "The reason I decided to have a Finch Fanciers picnic was to give people a place to get together, and share our common interest. Many of us belong to groups on the internet, yet never meet the people we inter-

act with. The picnic was to give everyone a reason to meet and spend some time together with the opportunity to trade birds for expanded bloodlines, or just get some of the finches they had been wanting. Hopefully, some of us will learn



**Sandi and Betti doing a little bird shopping.**

something new, or a better way to care for our birds and make some new friends along the way."

The picnickers all had some expectations of the day and it seems that all expectations were met or exceeded. Among these expectations were hopes of meeting people they communicated with on-line and socializing with their computer friends. Others were long-time friends of Karen and Andy, but wanted to meet other finch fanciers and see their birds. All were happy to have a whole day to talk birds. There were also opportunities to buy and sell birds and swap bloodlines.

People had different views of what the best part of the day was. It was a chance to see birds they had only seen in pictures before and to see how others set up their cages. For those selling birds, they knew their birds would be going to good homes. Others felt meeting the people on the NFSS lists was best. It opened up new opportunities to network, an important facet in finding par-

ticular birds. All agreed the setting and food were fabulous.

Robert Mehl did a survey on how far people traveled to the picnic. The farthest was Robert himself at 278 miles.

The closest was Sandi at 45 miles. Overall people drove a total of 1,192 miles, an average of 99 miles each car to attend the picnic.

All the people present and conversations told me a lot, but I found that the thank you notes posted on the lists spoke volumes.

Karen wrote and thanked people for coming and making the day a success. She said, "...and as I have always suspected, bird people are The BEST."

From Billy Wasserman and his wife Jussara. "What a great day it was! Perfect weather, great food, and loads of great people talking about finches. I met



**Newlyweds Billy and Jussara Wasserman relax at the picnic.**

new friends and added faces to email friends. I picked up a young pair of Red Faced Parrot Finches and 25 pounds of Karen's legendary millet spray. We had a wonderful day."

From Sandi von Pier "I met so many wonderful people. Karen and Andy, your

home is lovely and I just adore your creatures, furred and feathered. I just had a phenomenal time."

From Robert Mehl, who supplied goods from the NFSS Finch shop for us to buy and supplied applications for those who were not yet NFSS members. "Seeing the faces behind all the emails was great. Getting to know each other, Seeing everyone's birds, making contacts for sharing bloodlines was of incalculable value. Getting more beautiful birds was equally exciting. But the thing I like most about these outings are the things I see that help me better take care of my birds."


The entire Finch Fanciers picnic was a huge success and we're hoping it will become an annual event. Everyone

commented that they'd like to see more events like this and I agree. Who could pass up a wonderful opportunity to meet the people we correspond with on the lists, network, buy and sell birds, spend all day talking about small birds, see birds we have never seen before and most importantly learn from each other.

Robert Mehl encouraged new members to join NFSS and "get those applications in so your first journal will have a picture of you smiling back."


My hat is off to Karen not just for thinking of everything and having everything from the delicious food to the bird sales and swaps well organized, but for promoting the interest in our beloved small birds with such grace and ease.


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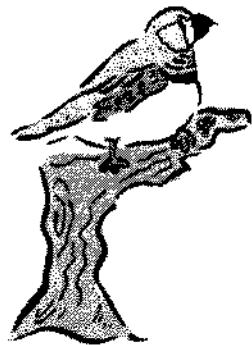
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- ⊗ Bird-related information

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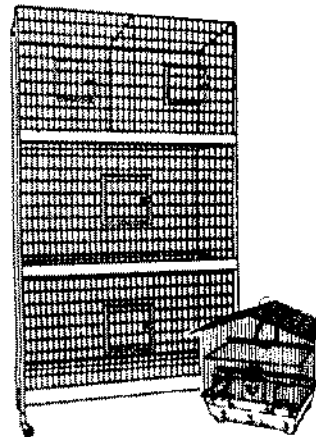
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# Federal Register:

## June 4, 2004

(Volume 69, Number 108)  
[Proposed Rules] [Page 31537-31541]

From the Federal Register Online via GPO Access [wais.access.gpo.gov]

*To all NFSS members:*

*The following document is printed here for your information. NFSS, working through the National Avian Welfare Alliance (NAWA), will submit recommendations just prior to the November 1st deadline. This information and news surrounding it has been at the NFSS website (<http://www.nfss.org>) and will continue to be updated as new information becomes available. We will include any further developments in the next issue of the NFSS Journal. In addition, if any of our members have any personal or good relationships with their Congressmen and/or Senators. I would appreciate it if you would let me know. We may need your help in the future.*

*Harry Bryant, NFSS 2nd Vice President and Legislative Attache  
E-Mail: [utuweb@aol.com](mailto:utuweb@aol.com)*

### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health  
Inspection Service

9 CFR Parts 2 and 3 Animal Welfare;  
Regulations and Standards for Birds,  
Rats, and Mice

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health  
Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Advance notice of proposed  
rulemaking and request for comments.

### SUMMARY

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 amended the definition of animal in the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) by specifically excluding birds, rats of the genus *Rattus*, and mice of the genus *Mus*, bred for use in research. In a separate document published in the Rules and Regulations section of today's

Federal Register, we are amending the definition of animal in our regulations to be consistent with the definition of animal in the AWA. At this time, we are also considering several changes to the regulations to help promote the humane handling, care, treatment, and transportation of birds, rats, and mice not specifically excluded from coverage under the AWA. Specifically, we intend to extend enforcement of the AWA to birds other than birds bred for use in research. However, before we can do so, we believe it is necessary to consider what regulations and standards are appropriate for them. Therefore, we are soliciting comments from the public to help determine how we should regulate the care and use of those animals. In addition, we are considering if we should continue to regulate the handling, care, treatment, and transportation of rats and mice covered by the Act under

the general standards in the regulations or if we should establish specific standards for them. To aid in that determination, we are soliciting comments from the public concerning the regulation of those animals. Finally, we are requesting data and information from the public regarding the potential economic effects on entities that may be affected if we were to establish specific standards for birds, rats, and mice not specifically excluded from coverage under the AWA.

#### **DATES**

We will consider all comments that we receive on or before **November 1, 2004**.

#### **ADDRESSES**

You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

**Webform:** The preferred method is to use the webform located at:

<http://comments.aphis.usda.gov>:

<http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/leaving.cgi?from=leavingFR.html&log=linklog&to=http://comments.aphis.usda.gov>.

This webform is designed to allow commenters to associate each of their comments with the issues identified in the advance notice, and to allow APHIS to more easily analyze the comments received regarding each issue.

**Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:** Please send four copies of your comment (an original and three copies) to:

Docket No. 98-106-4.

Regulatory Analysis and Development  
PPD, APHIS, Station 3C71  
4700 River Road Unit 118  
Riverdale, MD 20737-1238

Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. 98-106-4.

**E-mail:** Address your comment to:

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<mailto:regulations@aphis.usda.gov>

Your comment must be contained in the

body of your message: do not send attached files. Please include your name and address in your message and "Docket No. 98-106-4" on the subject line.

**Federal eRulemaking Portal:** Go to:

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<<http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/leaving.cgi?from=leavingFR.html&log=linklog&to=http://www.regulations.gov>>

...and follow the instructions for locating this docket and submitting comments.

**Reading Room:** You may read any comments that we receive on this docket in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690-2817 before coming.

**Other Information:** You may view APHIS documents published in the Federal Register and related information, including the names of groups and individuals who have commented on APHIS dockets, on the Internet at:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrepor.html>

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#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Dr. Jerry DePoyster  
Senior Veterinary Medical Officer,  
Animal Care, APHIS  
4700 River Road Unit 84  
Riverdale, MD 20737-1234  
(301) 734-7586.



**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION****Background**

Under the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) (7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.), the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to promulgate standards and other requirements governing the humane handling, care, treatment, and transportation of certain animals by dealers, research facilities, exhibitors, operators of auction sales, and carriers and intermediate handlers. Within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), responsibility for administering the AWA has been delegated to the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). Within APHIS, the responsibility for administering the AWA has been delegated to the Deputy Administrator for Animal Care. Regulations established under the AWA are contained in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) in 9 CFR parts 1, 2, and 3. Part 1 contains definitions for terms used in parts 2 and 3; part 2 provides administrative requirements and sets forth institutional responsibilities for regulated parties; and part 3 contains specifications for the humane handling, care, treatment, and transportation of animals covered by the AWA. Currently, part 3 consists of subparts A through E, which contain specific standards for dogs and cats, guinea pigs and hamsters, rabbits, nonhuman primates, and marine mammals, respectively, and subpart F, which sets forth general standards for warm-blooded animals not otherwise specified in that part.

**Definition of Animal**

The Federal Laboratory Animal Welfare Act (Pub. L. 89-544), commonly referred to as the Animal Welfare Act, was enacted in 1966 to protect owners from pet theft, prevent use of stolen pets, and ensure the humane treatment of research animals. Under that Act, an animal was defined as live dogs, cats, monkeys (nonhuman primate mammals), guinea pigs, hamsters, or rabbits. The Animal Welfare Act of 1970 (Pub. L. 91-

597) expanded the list of covered animals to include all warm-blooded animals determined by the Secretary of Agriculture as being used, or intended for use, in research, testing, experimentation, or exhibition, or as a pet, and specifically excluded horses not used for research purposes and other farm animals when used for agricultural purposes.

In 1971, USDA amended the definition of animal in Sec. 1.1 of the regulations to incorporate the 1970 amendments to the Act and to specifically exclude birds, rats, and mice for enforcement purposes. In 1989, USDA further amended that definition by, among other things, narrowing the exclusion for rats and mice to only those rats of the genus *Rattus* and mice of the genus *Mus* bred for use in research. The AWA's definition of animal has excluded the types of rats and mice commonly bred and used in research and all birds from coverage for over 30 years. Other types of rats and mice, such as wild rats and mice, are covered by the regulations and standards in part 2 and subpart F of part 3.

(The regulations can be viewed on Animal Care's Internet site at

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ac/>

<<http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/leaving.cgi?from=leavingFR.html&log=linklog&to=http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ac/>>

by selecting "Publications": the regulations are listed under the heading Animal Welfare Act, Regulations, and Standards, subheading Animal Care Regulations.)

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-171, signed into law on May 13, 2002), included provisions that amended the definition of animal in the AWA (7 U.S.C. 2132(g)) by specifically excluding birds, rats of the genus *Rattus*, and mice of the genus *Mus*, bred for use in research. While the definition of animal in the regulations has excluded rats of the genus *Rattus* and

mice of the genus *Mus* bred for use in research, that definition has also excluded all birds (i.e., not just those birds bred for use in research). Therefore, in a separate document published in the Rules and Regulations section of today's Federal Register, we are amending the definition of animal in the regulations to be consistent with the definition of animal in the AWA by narrowing the scope of the exclusion for birds to only those birds bred for use in research. Our final rule is intended only to make the definition of animal in the regulations consistent with the definition of animal in AWA.

#### **Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking**

At this time, we are considering several changes to the regulations to help promote the humane handling, care, treatment, and transportation of birds, rats, and mice not specifically excluded from coverage under the AWA. Specifically, we are notifying the public that we intend to extend enforcement of the AWA to birds not bred for use in research that are sold as pets at the wholesale level, or transported in commerce, or used for exhibition, research, teaching, testing, or experimentation purposes. However, before we can begin enforcing the AWA with respect to such birds, we believe it is necessary to consider what regulations and standards are appropriate for them. Therefore, in this document, we are soliciting comments from the public to help determine how we should regulate the care and use of those animals. In addition, we are considering if we should continue to regulate the handling, care, treatment, and transportation of rats and mice covered by the AWA under the general standards in subpart F of part 3 or if we should establish specific standards for those animals. To aid in that determination, we are soliciting comments from the public concerning the regulation of rats and mice, except for rats of the genus *Rattus* and mice of the genus *Mus* bred for use in research, that are

sold as pets at the wholesale level, or transported in commerce, or used for exhibition, research, teaching, testing, or experimentation purposes. Finally, we are requesting data and information from the public regarding the potential economic effects on entities that may be affected if we were to establish specific standards for all covered rats and mice and for birds other than birds specifically bred for use in research.

This advance notice of proposed rulemaking is intended to help promote the humane handling, care, treatment, and transportation of birds, rats, and mice covered by the AWA. This action follows a notice published in the Federal Register on January 28, 1999 (64 FR 4356-4367, Docket No. 98-106-1) that informed the public of our receipt of a petition for rulemaking concerning the regulation of birds, rats, and mice, and that solicited comments from the public on that petition.

#### **Request for Comments: Birds**

Birds belong to a diverse class (Aves) of warmblooded vertebrates characterized by having a body covered with feathers and forelimbs modified as wings. There are approximately 9,000 species of birds belonging to about 30 orders. Although all birds share a common origin, birds today live in all the major biogeographic regions of the world and are highly diverse morphologically and behaviorally, exhibiting variation in, among other things, body and wing size and structure, modes of locomotion, and dietary requirements. As a result of this diversity, birds maintained in captivity often require unique husbandry and care. For this reason, we do not believe that the general standards in subpart F of part 3 would be appropriate or adequate to provide for the humane handling, care, treatment, and transportation of birds. Therefore, we are soliciting comments from the public to aid in the development of appropriate standards for birds not specifically excluded from coverage

under the AWA. In addition, we are also reviewing the regulations in parts 1 and 2 to determine if any changes are necessary before we can regulate the care and use of birds not specifically bred for use in research. Therefore, we are also soliciting comment on certain provisions in part 2 as they pertain to birds.

When we determine how to regulate the handling, care, treatment, and transportation of birds other than birds bred for use in research, we will publish a proposed rule for public comment in the Federal Register. Any changes to our Animal Care program and regulations that may result from such a proposal will be addressed in that document.

In particular, we invite responses to the questions listed below. Although the following questions solicit comments concerning the regulation of all birds not specifically excluded from coverage under the AWA, we welcome responses that pertain to a specific type of bird. Please make it explicit in your response if your comment addresses a specific type of bird or if your response pertains to birds in general.

As mentioned above, part 3 of the regulations contains specifications for the humane handling, care, treatment, and transportation of animals covered by the AWA. Among other things, the standards in part 3 address the following considerations:

Facilities and operations (including space, structure and construction, waste disposal, heating, ventilation, lighting, and interior surface requirements for indoor and outdoor primary enclosures and housing facilities);

Animal health and husbandry (including requirements for sanitation and feeding, watering, and separation and classification of animals); and

Transportation (including specifications for primary enclosures, pri-

mary conveyances, terminal facilities and the feeding, watering, care, and handling of animals in transit).

Please describe minimum standards that would be appropriate for birds other than birds bred for use in research, including requirements for facilities and operations, animal health and husbandry, and transportation. Please submit specific data to support any suggested standards.

We are aware of several published programs of humane care and use for birds. Should the standards we develop for birds, except for birds bred for use in research, be consistent with any published program(s) for the care and use of birds? If so, please submit a copy of any suggested programs and specific data to support those standards.

Sections 2.1 and 2.25 of the regulations provide licensing and registration requirements for dealers, exhibitors, operators of auction sales, and carriers and intermediate handlers. In Sec. 2.1, paragraph (a)(3) provides exemptions from licensing requirements for certain entities, such as retail pet stores that sell non-dangerous, pet-type animals, including birds, at retail only. Should we revise or add exemptions for certain dealers, exhibitors, operators of auction sales, and carriers and intermediate handlers of birds not bred for use in research? If so, what should those exemptions be? Please provide supporting data. (For example, we are aware that there are many entities who breed small numbers of birds; if we should exempt those entities, what criteria should we use to determine which entities should be exempt?)

Currently, Sec. 2.130 provides minimum age requirements for the commercial transportation of dogs and cats. Should we establish minimum age requirements for the transportation of birds other than birds bred for use in research? If so, what factors should we consider when determining those

requirements? (For example, if the animals are weaned, the species of bird under consideration, etc.) Please provide specific supporting data.

When conducting an inspection, USDA inspectors follow a given facility's biosafety procedures or use recommended protective clothing and equipment, such as coveralls, disposable gloves, and disposable or sanitizable boots. We invite comments on what procedures, equipment, and supplies should inspectors use in order to protect birds from transmitted diseases. Should additional procedures, equipment, or supplies be employed to inspect nesting birds? Please explain.

Comments are also invited concerning the number and size of entities that may be affected if we were to regulate birds other than birds bred for use in research. (Such entities may include dealers, research facilities, exhibitors, operators of auction sales, and carriers and intermediate handlers of birds not specifically bred for use in research that are sold as pets at the wholesale level, transported in commerce, or used for exhibition, research, teaching, testing, or experimentation purposes.)

What is the number of each species of birds, except for birds bred for use in research, that are currently sold as pets at the wholesale level, transported in commerce, or used for exhibition, research, teaching, testing, or experimentation purposes?

Comments are invited regarding the current physical structures, equipment, staffing, licensing, and paperwork used in the handling, care, treatment, and transportation of birds other than birds bred for use in research and how those operations may be affected if we were to extend enforcement of the AWA to those animals. In addition, if you are submitting suggested standards for birds in response to questions 1 or 2, please address how those standards would affect facility operations.

What are the potential economic effects, in terms of time and/or money, on entities that may be affected if we were to regulate birds other than birds bred for use in research?

Do you have any other specific concerns or recommendations pertaining to the regulation of birds other than birds bred for use in research?

#### **Request for Comments: Rats and Mice**

In addition to the protections afforded by the standards and regulations in parts 2 and 3 of the regulations, the vast majority of animals used in biomedical research, including birds, rats, and mice, are provided oversight by Public Health Service (PHS) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, through voluntary accreditation by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC), or both. Most biomedical research in the United States is performed in laboratories funded at least in part by PHS. The PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals covers live vertebrate animals that are involved in activities supported by PHS. The PHS policy requires an Animal Welfare Assurance, which is a document that commits the research institution to a program of animal care and use that is consistent with the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (referred to below as the Guide), a publication produced by the National Research Council to assist institutions in caring for and using animals in ways judged to be scientifically, technically, and humanely appropriate.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>11</sup> The Guide can be viewed on the National Academies Press' Internet site at

[http://www.nap.edu/readingroom/  
books/labrats/](http://www.nap.edu/readingroom/books/labrats/)

[http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov  
/cgi-bin/leaving.cgi?](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/leaving.cgi?)

from=leavingFR.html&log=  
linklog&to=http://www.nap.edu/  
readingroom/books/labrats/

In addition to PHS oversight, many U.S. research facilities are accredited by AAALAC. This private organization, through inspections and reviews, accredits laboratories that meet or exceed the animal care standards in the Guide. Research facilities seek AAALAC accreditation for assistance with public relations and in receiving grants.

While the AWA and the regulations address a broader range of activities than does the Guide, we believe that many of the minimum standards for the care and use of animals contained in the Guide are applicable in research and non-research environments alike. As a result, we have made, whenever possible, the standards in part 3 consistent with the Guide in order to eliminate confusion and to simplify compliance for entities that must comply with both the regulations and the Guide. In those cases where the regulations are consistent with the Guide, it is because we have reviewed the Guide and determined that its program for animal care and use is appropriate and adequate to provide for the humane handling, care, treatment, and transportation of the animals in question.

We are soliciting comments to help us determine whether we should continue to regulate rats and mice other than rats of the genus *Rattus* and mice of the genus *Mus* bred for use in research under the general standards in subpart F of part 3, or if we should adopt specific standards for those animals. While the Guide does not provide husbandry specifications for the care and use of birds, as they are not commonly used in biomedical research, it does provide specifications for the care and use of rats and mice. Therefore, we also request comment on the adequacy of the specifications in the Guide as they pertain to the humane handling, care, treatment, and transportation of rats and mice. If we

determine that specific standards should be established for rats and mice covered by the AWA, we will publish a proposed rule for public comment in the Federal Register. Any changes to our Animal Care program and regulations that may result from such a proposal will be addressed in that document.

In particular, we invite responses to the questions listed below. Although the following questions solicit comments concerning the regulation of all rats and mice covered by the AWA, we welcome responses that pertain to only rats or to mice, or to a specific type of rat or mouse. Please make it explicit in your response if your comment addresses a specific type of animal or if your response pertains to rats and mice in general.

Should rats and/or mice other than rats of the genus *Rattus* and mice of the genus *Mus* bred for use in research continue to be regulated under the general standards in subpart F of part 3? If so, please submit any data available to support the continued regulation of those animals under that subpart.

As mentioned above, part 3 contains specifications for the humane handling, care, treatment, and transportation of animals covered by the AWA. Among other things, the standards in part 3 address the following considerations:

Facilities and operations (including space, structure and construction, waste disposal, heating, ventilation, lighting, and interior surface requirements for indoor and outdoor primary enclosures and housing facilities);

Animal health and husbandry (including requirements for sanitation and feeding, watering, and separation and classification of animals); and

Transportation (including specifications for primary enclosures, primary conveyances, terminal facilities and the feeding, watering,

care, and handling of animals in transit).

Should specific standards be developed for rats and/or mice other than rats of the genus *Rattus* and mice of the genus *Mus* bred for use in research? If so, what minimum standards would be appropriate for those animals, including requirements for facilities and operations, animal health and husbandry, and transportation? Please submit specific data to support any suggested standards.

As noted above, research institutions funded at least in part by the Public Health Service of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services are required to follow a program of animal care and use that is consistent with the National Research Council's Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. To eliminate confusion and simplify compliance for entities that must comply with the regulations and the Guide, we have, whenever possible, made the standards in part 3 of the regulations consistent with the program of animal care and use in the Guide. If specific standards should be developed for rats and mice other than rats of the genus *Rattus* and mice of the genus *Mus* bred for use in research, are the specifications for the care and use of rats and mice contained in the Guide appropriate and adequate to provide for the humane care, handling, treatment, and transportation of those animals? If so, please submit specific data to support the adoption of the Guide's specifications for rats and mice.

Comments are invited concerning the number and size of entities that use rats and mice, except for rats of the genus *Rattus* and mice of the genus *Mus* bred for use in research, for purposes covered by the AWA. (Such entities may include dealers, research facilities, exhibitors, operators of auction sales, and carriers and intermediate handlers of rats and mice covered by the AWA that are sold as pets at the wholesale level, transported in commerce, used in

exhibits, or used for research, teaching, testing, or experimentation purposes.)

What is the number of each species of rats and mice, except for rats of the genus *Rattus* and mice of the genus *Mus* bred for use in research, that are currently sold as pets at the wholesale level, transported in commerce, used in exhibits, or used for research, teaching, testing, or experimentation purposes?

Comments are invited concerning the current physical structures, equipment, staffing, licensing, and paperwork used in the handling, care, treatment, and transportation of rats and mice, except for rats of the genus *Rattus* and mice of the genus *Mus* bred for use in research, for purposes covered by the AWA. If you are submitting suggested standards for rats and mice in response to question 12 or believe that we should establish specific standards for covered rats and mice that are consistent with the Guide (see question 13, above), please address how those standards would affect facility operations.

What are the potential economic effects, in terms of time and/ or money, on entities that may be affected if we were to establish specific standards for rats and mice covered by the AWA? (Such entities may include dealers, research facilities, exhibitors, operators of auction sales, and carriers and intermediate handlers of rats and mice covered by the AWA that are sold as pets at the wholesale level, transported in commerce, used in exhibits, or used for research, teaching, testing, experimentation, or exhibition purposes.)

Do you have any other specific concerns or recommendations pertaining to the regulation of rats and mice other than rats of the genus *Rattus* and mice of the genus *Mus* bred for use in research?

**DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS:  
NOVEMBER 1**

Addresses (including e-mail and web) are as follows:

**Webform:** The preferred method is to use the webform located at

<http://comments.aphis.usda.gov>

<http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/leaving.cgi?from=leavingFR.html&log=linklog&to=>

<http://comments.aphis.usda.gov>.

This webform is designed to allow commenters to associate each of their comments with the issues identified in the advance notice, and to allow APHIS to more easily analyze the comments received regarding each issue.

**Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:** Please send four copies of your comment (an original and three copies) to

Docket No. 98-106-4,  
Regulatory Analysis and Development  
PPD, APHIS, Station 3C71  
4700 River Road Unit 118  
Riverdale, MD 20737-1238.

Please state that your comment refers to

Docket No. 98-106-4.

**E-mail:** Address your comment to

[regulations@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:regulations@aphis.usda.gov)

<mailto:regulations@aphis.usda.gov>

Your comment must be contained in the body of your message; do not send attached files. Please include your name and address in your message and "Docket No. 98-106-4" on the subject line.

**Federal eRulemaking Portal:** Go to

<http://www.regulations.gov>

<<http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/leaving.cgi?from=leavingFR.html&log=linklog&to=http://www.regulations.gov>>

and follow the instructions for locating this docket and submitting comments.



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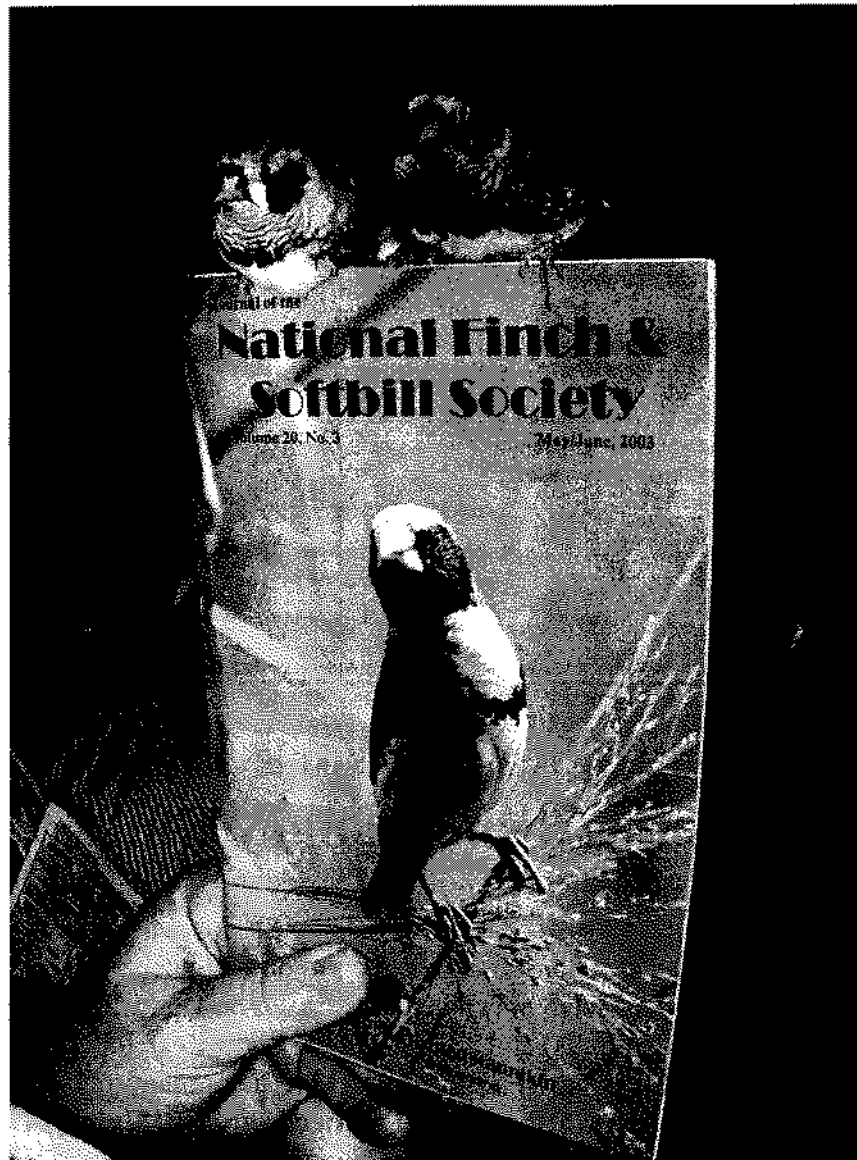
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We know that bird clubs are the backbone of American Aviculture. We also know that fund raising is a constant battle for most clubs. If you need help with your fund raising efforts, please email or write

**ladygouldianfinch.com**

5389 Pheasant Run, Stone Mountain, Ga. 30087





### **NFSS Class is in Session!**

Our thanks to Ron Castaner for sharing this delightful photo of his two pet Zebra Finches, Spike and Peanut. Ron was trying to read the paper on a Sunday morning in June and Spike and Peanut kept landing on it in order to get his attention. He finally picked up a copy of the NFSS Journal - which they lighted on right away - maybe even our birds are interested in the Journal?



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[www.newyorkfinch.com](http://www.newyorkfinch.com)

Contact: Stan (718) 967-6899 ([barstand@aaahawk.com](mailto:barstand@aaahawk.com))

Nizam (Pres.) (718) 835-8590

## NFSS 2nd Quarter, 2004, Board Meeting Minutes

The NFSS 2nd Quarter, 2004, Board meeting was called to order by President, Sally Huntington, on May 1, 2004.

President, Sally Huntington announced the following:

Proposed by-law revisions will be ready for the board's review by the NCBS meeting.

Randy Taylor will speak at the Afternoon of Aviculture this year. Others pending.

Paula Hansen will speak at the AFA Convention.

**Motion 2004-2:** NFSS 4th Vice President, Martha Wigmore, made a motion that NFSS adopt the following changes to the NFSS Classifications:

*(Young Classes are even numbers: Old Classes are odd numbers.)*

### SECTION THREE - GOULDIAN FINCHES

Enter bird in HIGHEST class number that covers any of the bird's visible features.

#### Normal Gouldian

- 300 Red-headed Normal Cock 301
- 302 Red-headed Normal Hen 303
- 304 Black-headed Normal Cock 305
- 306 Black-headed Normal Hen 307
- 308 Orange-headed Normal Cock 309
- 310 Orange-headed Normal Hen 311

#### Normal Gouldian/Other Color Breast

- 312 Red-headed Normal w/ White Breast 313
- 314 Black-headed Normal w/White Breast 315
- 316 Orange-headed Normal w/White Breast 317
- 318 Normal Gouldian w/Other Color Breast 319

#### Yellow Bodied Gouldian

- 320 Yellow Bodied w/ Purple Breast 321
- 322 Yellow Bodied w/White Breast 323
- 324 Yellow Bodied w/Other Color Breast 325

#### Blue Bodied Gouldian

- 326 Blue Bodied Gouldian 327

#### Any Other Variety

- 328 Dilute 329
- 330 Silver 331
- 332 Any Other Variety (AOV) 333

### SECTION FOUR - AUSTRALIAN FINCHES

No changes are proposed, other than to renumber from 400 through 434 the remaining Australian classes which were previously grouped with the Gouldian classes.

All subsequent Section Numbers (and corresponding Class numbers) will have to be increased by one to accommodate the insertion of the new separate Section Three for Gouldians. Motion seconded by NFSS Executive Secretary, Martie Lauster

**Motion PASSED:** 9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

**Motion 2004-3:** NFSS 2nd Vice President, Harry Bryant, made a motion to have a band registry program developed by Tim Ames. Motion Seconded by NFSS Band Secretary, Paula Hansen.

**Quorum not achieved for this motion.**

**Motion 2004-4:** NFSS Regional Vice President, Region 1, Robert Fairchild, made a motion to either reduce or eliminate the \$5.00 charge to register traceable non NFSS bands. This would only be for bands that could be traced through a club or band registry company. Motion seconded by NFSS 2nd Vice President, Harry Bryant

**Quorum not achieved for this motion.**

**Motion 2004-5:** NFSS Executive Secretary, Martie Lauster, made a motion that a membership poll be conducted with the purpose of determining our members' perceived value of the products and services we offer as well as to receive suggestions for enhancements to membership benefits. One board member to be assigned to manage the process and if needed, a member volunteer be sought to enter data into a database that can be used for reporting and analysis. Motion seconded by NFSS 3rd Vice President, Randy Taylor.

**Motion PASSED:** 8 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstain.

**Motion 2004-6:** NFSS 4th Vice President, Martha Wigmore, made a motion that NFSS increase its yearly donation to the National Cage Bird Show from \$400.00 to \$600.00.

Motion seconded by NFSS Executive Secretary, Martie Lauster.

**Motion PASSED:** 5 Yes, 2 No, 2 Abstain.

**Motion 2004-7:** As a quorum was not achieved for motions 2004-3 and 2004-4, President Sally Huntington asked the board to decide how to proceed with them. NFSS Regional Vice President— Region 6, Raspberry, made a motion that the vote be concluded as scheduled and allow new motions to be formed at the next board meeting for any issue that any board member feels warrants discussion again. Motion seconded by NFSS 2nd Vice President, Harry Bryant.

**Motion PASSED:** 8 Yes, 1 No, 0 Abstain.

### 2nd Quarter, 2004. NFSS Officers' Reports

NFSS 4th Vice President, Martha Wigmore, and NFSS 1st Vice President, Armando Lee, submitted the following report of the 2002 Financial Audit:

3/3/04 To the NFSS Board of Directors:

#### REPORT OF 2002 FINANCIAL AUDIT

An audit of the 2002 financial records of the National Finch and Softbill 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 November 2003 and February 2004 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.

The 2002 records compiled by NFSS Treasurer Mark Phelps are complete and well-organized, all bank records present, all NFSS payment and deposit transactions well documented and traceable (with a few exceptions noted). No questionable bank transactions were found. We particularly would like to compliment Mr. Phelps on the degree of professionalism with which he has handled vendors and government agencies.

As internal auditors, we found that,

with a few exceptions as referenced in the detailed report, every 2002 financial transaction has an acceptable audit trail. The Treasurer obtained appropriate approvals for all financial activities, although documentation of this will be improved for 2003. The financial systems in place in 2002 demonstrate good control, oversight, and proper accountability. Per Mr. Phelps, the 2003 records should be even better documented and the reports will be better for tracing activities. We thank Mark Phelps for his fine efforts as NFSS Treasurer with what has become a more complicated environment for NFSS financial affairs.

Respectfully submitted,

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

### NFSS Third Vice President *(Finch/Softbill Save Program and Census Manager)*

Finch and Softbill Save now has a total membership of 35. Renewal dates were indicated on the last Newsletter's mailing label. I have had quite a bit of correspondence indicating interest in joining the program but not many that have actually joined.

Ten extra copies of the second quarter NL were mailed out again in an attempt to stimulate interest in the program. Ron Castaner has converted the last issue of the NL into pdf format making it much easier to send electronically. Roy Beckham has offered his services in laser printing the NL but I am not sure that it will save any money due to increased postage fees. Additional Biological Species Profiles and Husbandry Guidelines have been completed and will be published in future issues of the NL.

I have completed editing the forms for the Annual Census along with the instructions. The September/October issue of the Journal will announce the Census and I am hoping to also have it available on-line at that time.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Taylor, 3rd VP

### NFSS 4th Vice President *(Judges Panel/Standards/Research)*

Judges Panel Report

There are currently 25 members of the NFSS Judges Panel. No members are cur-

rently involved in the Apprentice Program. All but one judge have paid the 2004 Judge's Fee. One judge (the same judge with unpaid fee for 2004) has had four straight years without judging shows with NFSS, and has no reported shows for this, the fifth year. Per the "NFSS Judges Handbook" (pg. 2), this judge will be required to submit to evaluation before continuing to judge with NFSS.

#### Research and Standards Committee

(1) Society Finch Standard Revision Committee: The update of the Society Finch Standard is underway with co-chairs Julie Duimstra and Clarence Culwell. NFSS members have been encouraged to forward their thoughts on the newer Society mutations to the Committee chairs for the Committee's consideration.

(2) Proposed General Standard: At the 1st Qtr 2004 Board meeting, Board members returned the Proposed General Standard back to Committee for further work. The Judges Panel will be involved in resolving the issues in question this year.

(3) Gould Finch Standard Revision Committee: A committee will be established to revise the Gouldian Finch Standard. Some members have expressed their interest. Additional volunteers are welcome.

(4) Pairs Standard: A concern was expressed to the Judges Panel Director that NFSS judges were not uniformly applying the NFSS Pairs Standard (adopted in 2001). Judges are reminded to review the NFSS Standard and apply it correctly.

#### Specie Classifications

A class schedule for the new Gouldian Section has been submitted to the Board for their consideration at this Board meeting. Later this year, the NFSS Classifications and corresponding Secretary Worksheets will be available on the NFSS website. Our affiliated clubs will then have these at their fingertips. Watch for further information!

#### No Doves or Quail at NCBS 2004

NFSS' Annual National Show, held in conjunction with the National Cage Bird Show, will NOT allow Doves and Quail entries this year. The NCBS Board of Directors has announced that there will be no Doves and Quail Section at NCBS in Lansing, Michigan. After some discussion, the NFSS

Board agreed this will have no impact on awarding points at this show. NCBS' decision is best explained by NCBS President Bonnie Cain in her message to NFSS dated 4/08/04 which follows:

Dear Martha,

The decision made at our spring meeting to TEMPORARILY delete the Doves and Quail from the catalog was indeed viewed as a way to avoid intervention by agricultural officials. Current edicts from such officials, some of which appear on the NFSS web site, include quail and doves under the category of poultry as their target. Recent decisions by the Texas officials makes the distinction between exotic and cage birds versus poultry quite clear. The same sort of categorization is reflected in other states and by federal agencies.

I speak for all the NCBS Directors when I say that we feel this categorization fails to take into account that any doves and quail that may be shown as a cage bird would probably be exempt from the exposure commercial poultry flocks may have to disease. Nonetheless, such distinction is not made by those pursuing the current avian health concerns for our government. These officials are working on several diseases and to date have made little distinction between poultry and cage birds, and no provision for identifying a dove or quail as exempt from the poultry classification. Should officials be moved to make such distinction our concerns would be alleviated.

Yesterday the news from British Columbia, Canada, was that 19 million birds are to be killed to stop the spread of avian flu. Various states in the U.S. have taken a variety of measures to control problems within their jurisdiction. So it appears that at the present time these problems persist and we can only hope they will be relieved in the near future.

NCBS sincerely wants to put on a show this year in Michigan and next year we will be in Texas. By eliminating the doves and quail for now we hope to encounter no obstacles to conducting a cage bird show regardless of whatever the current avian disease situation is in the poultry sector. We fully expect that these disease conditions will abate and restoring doves and

quail to the NCBS show will be accomplished. If you would like to discuss this matter further please do contact me.

Best wishes. Bonnie Cain, President. NCBS

Respectfully submitted,  
Martha Wigmore

NFSS Membership Director

2nd Quarter Membership Report:

Single Memberships: 687

Dual Memberships: 101

Affiliated Memberships: 33

Total NFSS Memberships: 821

Submitted By:

Linda Hughes  
NFSS Membership Director

NFSS Treasurer

Just a quick reminder to start things off... Please remember that all checks should be made out to "The National Finch and Softbill Society" or "NFSS" - not to the person that you are sending your check to. Our bank has been forgiving when it comes to cashing checks that are not made out to NFSS, but one of these days they are going to clamp down on me. and I'll be sending checks back to members to be voided and rewritten. Until then. I'll keep being extra friendly to the tellers...

If you look at the figures below. it still looks like we are losing our shirts. Not to worry. We knew going into this year that we would be paying for two Journals in 2004 that should have been paid for in 2003. thanks to our printer being slow in submitting his invoices for payment. If you back out those two payments. we would actually be sitting here with a \$2.400 gain instead of a \$5.200 loss.

Totals for the period 1/1/04 to 5/31/04:

Cash In Accounts: \$18,116.76

Total Income: \$21,760.

(\$45,081.00 budgeted)

Total Expenses: \$26,984.67

(\$45,425.00 budgeted)

Total Loss: -\$5,224.09

(-\$344.00 budgeted)

2nd Quarter Financial Report

For the period 1/1/04 to 7/5/04

As previously stated, the elevated Journal expenses and the overall loss for the year

are due to two invoices from the printer that were for 2003 that were received and paid in 2004.

The numbers in parentheses are the budget figures for that department:

Cash In Accounts:

Checking - Main & Bands: 2,793.66

Checking - FinchShop: 100.00

Checking - Membership: 1,111.47

Savings: 10,554.84

Advances: 1,000.00

Total Cash In Accounts: 15,559.97

Income:

Bands: 7,241.40 (10,271.00)

FinchShop: 2,121.86 (2,750.00)

Membership: 10,690.00 (24,095.00)

Journal: 827.00 (2,500.00)

Affiliations/Awards: 3,472.00 (3,750.00)

Finch/Softbill Save: 105.00 (150.00)

4th VP/Judges Panel Fees: 230.00 (250.00)

1st VP/Regional VP's: 0.00 (0.00)

Advertising: 0.00 (0.00)

Misc: 86.76 (1,315.00)

Total Income: 24,774.02 (45,081.00)

Expenses:

Bands: 8,052.84 (9,260.00)

FinchShop: 1,781.12 (1,731.00)

Membership: 227.33 (1,084.00)

Journal: 20,515.44 (27,000.00)

Affiliations/Awards: 1,317.48 (2,825.00)

Finch/Softbill Save: 68.67 (200.00)

4th VP/Judges Panel: 13.35 (175.00)

1st VP/Regional VP's: 0.00 (1,000.00)

Advertising 250.00: (475.00)

Misc: 328.67 (1,675.00)

Total Expenses: 32,554.90 (45,425.00)

Total Loss: -7,780.88 (-344.00)

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Phelps. NFSS Treasurer

NFSS Band Secretary

April 2004: \$525.65

Pay Pat: 19/ Mail In:13

\*May 2004: \$560.75

Pay Pat: 14/ Mail In:20

June 2004: \$549.15

Pay Pat: 8/Mail In: 10

Respectfully Submitted.

Paula Hansen. NFSS Band Secretary

Liaison Officer

(Club Delegates/Show Dates)

Hello Everyone.

35 clubs have affiliated with NFSS this year so far. I have sent out affiliation packets back in January to all the clubs listed below and I just recently sent postcard reminder notes to the clubs that do not have a "2004" in front of their names. I don't know what else we can do to make the clubs affiliate in the beginning of the year. They miss out on journals when they wait until their show or the middle of the year

2003 Label List from Ginny Allen  
2004 Affiliations/Awards Mailing

2004-Aviary and Cage Bird Society of So. Florida, Bob Tame-President, 22523 SW65th Terrace, Boca Raton, FL 33428

2004-Alamo Exhibition Cage Bird Club, Durbin, Nathan 8745 Grissom Rd. PMB 249, San Antonio, TX 78251-4817

2004-Asociacion Criadores del Finches, Santos, Juan A., PO Box 102, Comerio, PR 00782

2004-Astoria Bird Club, Begonja, Ivica, 198-28 32nd Avenue, Bayside, NY 11358

2004-Badger Canary and Finch Club, Van Ornum, Evon, 943 Taft Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54902

2004-Baltimore Bird Fanciers, Haynes, Dorothy 4259A Necker Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21236

2004-Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society, Schwartz, Ray, 19 Olde Common Drive, Atkinson, NH 03811-2177

Cage Bird Club of Charlotte County, Kenne, Ron, 2705 E. Venice Avenue, Venice, FL 34292

Cajun Canary and Finch Club, Phelps, Meade, 4524 Taft Park, Metairie, LA 70002

Capitol Bird Society, Inc., Cristo, Roland, 11130 Edgewood Road, Auburn, CA 95603

2004-Cascade Canary Breeders, Johnson, Janel C., 16168 SE 146th Place, Renton WA 98059

2004-Central Alabama Avian Society, Lanier, Margie, 918 Willow Springs Road, Wetumpka, AL 36093

Central California Cage Bird Club, Gecsek, Ed, 31309 Conant Avenue #50, Modesto, CA 95350

Chester County Cage Bird Club, Rosenberger, Maria, PO Box 188, St. Peters, PA 19470

FOLD-Connecticut Canary and Finch Club, Felix, Felix, PO Box 340145, Hartford, CT 06134

Durham Avicultural Society of Ontario, PO Box 4, Pickering, ONT L1V 2R2, CANADA

2004-Eastside Finch Connection, Brown, KJ, 1357 S. Baywood Court, Canby, OR 97013

Empire Finch and Canary Breeders, Dillon, Gabe, 348 Atlantic Avenue, E. Rockaway, NY 11518

2004-Essex-Kent Cage Bird Society, Sylvester, David & Sue 192 13-14 Side Rd RR #2, Maidstone, ONT N0R 1K0, CAN  
Exotic Bird Club of Florida, PO Box 1177, Melbourne, FL 32902-1177

Foothills/Eastern Atlantic Bird Club, Schuster, Valerie, 1448 Yellowwood Court, Reston, VA 20190

2004-Fort Worth Bird Club, Culwell, Clarence, 250 Horseshoe Drive, Springtown, TX 76082

2004-Georgia Cage Bird Society, Miller, Pat, 2296 Fraser Road, Marietta, GA 30066

2004-GREAT AMERICAN CAGE BIRD SHOW, Dollar, Dave, PO Box 12058, Brooksville, FL 34603

2004-Great Lakes Avicultural Society, PO Box 140393, Grand Rapids, MI 49514

2004-Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club, Toby, Sharlan, 21414 Weiss Trail, Marengo, IL 60152

2004-Greater KC Avicultural Society, Michel, Maria, 6600 E. 128th Terrace, Grandview, MO 64030-1925

2004-Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Society, Jonnet, Margie, 434 Northview Drive, Verona PA 15147

FOLD-Greater Rochester Avicultural Society, Goonan, Patrick F., 596 Clover Street, Rochester, NY 14610

Gulf South Bird Club, Chauvin, Danny, 1409 Bayou Blue Road, Houma, LA 70364

Honolulu Canary and Finch Club, Perreira, Kathy, 1884 Alalahomoe Street, Honolulu, HI 96819

- 2004-Illini Bird Fanciers. Davis. Jodith.  
5454 Kimberly Lane. Pleasant Plains, IL  
62677  
International Finch and Canary Club,  
Sacca. Mary Ellen. 303 Abbott Road,  
Buffalo. NY 14220
- 2004-Mid America Cage Bird Club.  
Thielking, John. 8209 Twana Drive.  
Urbandale. IA 50322
- 2004-Middle Tennessee Cage Bird Club.  
Wilma Crawford V.P.. 1447 Twin Oak Dr..  
Murfreesboro, Tn. 37130
- Missouri Cage Bird Club. Burhans. Dennis.  
11 Fawn View Lane, O'Fallon. MO 63366
- 2004-Mo-Kan Cage Bird Club. Willis,  
Doug. 1302 Robertson Avenue. Carthage.  
MO 64836
- 2004-Motor City Bird Breeders. Piekarz,  
Pat. 32813 Jeffersoo, St. Clair Shores. MI  
48082
- 2004-National Institute of Red-Orange  
Canaries. Merriman. Ellie. 12248 E.  
Warren Drive. Mokena. IL 60448
- Neotropical Finch Breeders. Eitnrear. Jack,  
218 Conway Drive, San Antonio TX 78209-  
1716
- 2004-New York Finch and Type Canary  
Club, Kulak. Stan. 17 Pembroke Loop,  
Staten Island, NY 10309
- 2004-Peninsula Caged Bird Society,  
Rogers. Bea, 3728 Concord Drive, Suffolk,  
VA 23435
- Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society.  
Blazich. April. 806 Merwin Road, Raleigh.  
NC 27606
- Rocky Mountain Society of Aviculture.  
McManus. Lisa. 588 Revere Street. Aurora.  
CO 80011
- SCVC & EBC, PO Box 3466. Santa Clara.  
CA 95055
- Sociedad Avicultores Puertorriquenos.  
Mateo. Julio. RR-5 Box 8418 Suite #72.  
Bayamon. PR 00956
- Society of Canary and Finch Breeders.  
Vance. Patrick. 18175 Avilla Blvd.. Lathrup  
Village, MI 48076
- 2004-South East Tennessee Aviculture  
Society. Wilma Crawford V.P.. 1447 Twin  
Oak Dr.. Murfreesboro. Tn. 37130
- South Mississippi Cage Bird Society, PO  
Box 7012. D'Iberville. MS 39540
- 2004-Southeast Bird Fanciers, Allen.  
Ginny. 307 Brookwood Court. Opelika. AL  
36801
- 2004-Sun Coast Avian Society, P.O. Box  
1846, Pinellas Park. FL 33780-1846
- 2004-Tennessee Valley Exotic Bird Club,  
P.O. Box 3595, Knoxville. TN 37927
- 2004-Texas Bird Breeders Association,  
Culwell. Clarence. 250 Horseshoe Drive.  
Springtown. TX 76082
- 2004-Treasure Coast Exotic Bird Club.  
Dunn. Jim. 2932 Birthe Court. Port St.  
Lucie. FL 34953
- Tri-State Avian Society, Laster, Barry.  
10508 Lake Iamonia Drive. Tallahassee,  
FL 32312
- 2004-Wisconsin Cage Bird Club, Rahmlow.  
Janice. 1856 Jefferson Street. Oshkosh.  
WI 54901
- Gray, Angela. PO Box 2229. W.  
Brattleboro. VT 05303-2229
- Kasper. Ron. 3264 Via-Marin - 36. LaJolla.  
CA 92037
- Lazzeroni. Ivo. 524 S. Dancove Drive.  
West Covina. CA 91791-2130
- Vieweg. Kathy. 40 Cedar Road. Chestnut  
Hill. MA 02467
- New New New New
- New-Finch Society of San Diego County.  
Thomasson. Mike. PO Box 1392. El Cajon.  
CA 92022
- New-Canary & Finch Society (Texas).  
Jones. Helen, 348 Magnolia Drive,  
Huffman, Texas 77336
- New-Timothy Ames. 713 Key Street.  
Maumee. OH 43537-3452
- New-TASC. Jason Crean. 2812 Edgewood  
Parkway. Woodridge. Illinois 60517
- Next year I am going to send out packets in  
the beginning of December. I am hoping  
that they do not get lost in the holiday mail.  
This was a new position for me this year  
and I did not start my position as Affiliation  
Manager until Jan 1st and I have been play-  
ing catch-up ever since. I am hoping that I  
will have more time for this next year so that  
I can concentrate on attracting new clubs to  
NFSS as well.
- Something is bothering me. The price for  
an NFSS Affiliation is \$25.00 and a price for  
an NFSS Membership is \$30.00+/- depend-



ing on your status of membership. What keeps individuals from purchasing an Affiliation instead of a Membership? Just thinking.....

The affiliations department has little to do for the remainder of the year with the exception of fielding questions. However, do not think that my hands will be idle, the Awards Manager position that I also hold is just about ready to shift into High Gear.

Thank you for your attention.  
Darla Dandre, NFSS Affiliations Manager -  
Dbirdranch@aol.com

NFSS Finch Shop Manager

The FinchShop has added several new items including the candler, Logo cap, and Logo polo shirt. Sales for this quarter were above those of last year. but so were expenses. I am awaiting figures from Mark as many of the sales are through PayPal and some expenses are still pending. Adding items initially is a set back as there are minimum quantity and the profit margin is not that great so we do not recoup the investment until 75% of the stock is sold. We will be adding a Gouldian beeswax candle shortly that I think many members will like. There is no initial outlay of funds. I have represented NFSS at several Marts in the Mid Atlantic region. which has produced modest sales but has significantly increased our visibility.

Robert Mehl, FinchShop Manager

NFSS Awards Manager

Hello Everyone.

To date we have sold approximately \$1825.95 in Awards. I anticipate we will sell over \$2500.00 by the end of the 2004 show season.

We have lowered the pricing for the Rosettes and I anticipate increased sales figures because of the lower pricing. Everyone I have talked to is very happy with the new rosettes.

We introduced and have ON SALE NOW...A "Judges Award" Rosette that NFSS Judges can buy to give away at the shows that they judge. When the Judges were polled earlier in the year about 80% said that they would buy rosettes to give away at the shows that they judge. The

price for this Rosette is \$5.00 each and includes shipping. Since these Awards are purchased by the Judge and NOT the NFSS Affiliate club (local club) Show Manager, they will NOT be listed on the Awards Order Form. I have asked and sent copy to Martie to announce the Judges Award in the Journal. I also need to do another postcard mailing and e-mailing announcement to all the judges to let them know that I have them and that they may start ordering them from me NOW!

I am sending a "feeler" flyer out with all the Awards orders this year asking clubs if they are interested in Section and Class Rosettes and Ribbons. I am hoping for a good response to my questionnaire. I will only carry stock on these items if 50% or more of the NFSS Affiliates seem to be interested in them.

I have just received a package. compliments of Kaytee that contains Cage Tags, Entry Forms and Class Stickers. I do not have a lot of them but what I do have. I will assemble into packets and send out with our NFSS Awards Orders. I do have "samples" (one of each) available to anyone who would like to see one - send a S.A.S.E. to me and I will be happy to send one back to you.

I have just placed our "big" order with the Rosette manufacturer and I am dreading assembling the rosettes together into the "Sets" when they arrive. I will have over 500 rosettes in the living room that will have to be assembled into the sets of 11 that we sell.

Next year I am going to change the design of the Novice and Youth awards so that they are the same style of rosette. Their colors will remain the same making them easy to tell them apart. I didn't like the Youth rosette when I first received it and I thought it would look better if it looked more like the Novice rosette. We will have to sell out of the current ones first. At the current rate of sale (demand) this may take until 2005 or 2006.

Speaking of Sales:

Item Sales to Date

- 16 Best Finch or Softbill in Division Plaques
- 9 2nd Best Finch or Softbill In

- Division Plaques
- 7 3rd Best Finch or Softbill in Division Plaque
- 8 Best Finch in Show Plaques
- 3 Best Softbill in Show Plaques
- 2 Custom Plaques
- 25 Basic Rosette Sets (1st thru 10th place + Best unflighted)
- 4 Unflighted Add on sets (2nd and 3rd place Unflighted)
- 18 Novice Rosettes
- 7 Youth Rosettes
- 1 Judges Special Award

Remember, Show Managers are the ones that are purchasing these awards. Most likely, they are NOT NFSS members. I get lots of feedback from beginners wanting to know why there are lots of awards at one particular show and none at another OR they call up telling me that they never received their awards and then I have to explain to them that NFSS does not provide awards - the local club has to purchase them. If they do not purchase them then

they will not be awarded at the show. I have mentioned that NFSS members should volunteer at the local club level and participate in their show committees so that when it does come time to order the awards for the show, they can have some input as to which awards they want to buy and offer to their exhibitors. Some shows that purchase many awards and use them as incentive to get people to show. I have also had people contact me that placed in a show that did not offer plaques and wanted to purchase their own plaque to mark the occasion. I liked that! I was happy to accommodate their request!

Lots to do in the Awards Office this year! I had better jump to it!

Respectfully Submitted,

Darla Dandre, NFSS Awards Manager  
Dbirdranch@aol.com

**It is with great sadness that we note the passing of Dick Ivy, a noted and active aviculturist, on June 11, 2004. For many, many years, Dick put incredible energy into efforts toward avian education and was very active in club endeavors - both at the local and national levels. Among his many contributions to aviculture, Dick started up and supported the Peninsula Cage Bird Society, Bird Clubs of Virginia, and Bird Clubs of America. He was an avid proponent for sharing and support among local bird clubs and many local clubs across the country have benefited from his newsletters and sharing. He will be very missed by all who knew him and were touched by his passion for birds and the people who own them.**

## 2004/2005 NFSS Board of Directors/Appointed Officers

### President— Ms. Sally Huntington

5634 Carnegie Street, San Diego, CA 92122 (858) 452-9423 sallych@san.rr.com

#### 1st Vice President

*Regional VPs, Education*  
Mr. Armando J. Lee  
2905 SW 38th Terrace  
Cape Coral, FL 33990  
(239) 242-7675  
alee@swfla.rr.com

#### 2nd Vice President

*Publications*  
Mr. Harry Bryant  
Elyria, OH 44035  
utuweb@aol.com

#### 3rd Vice President

*NFSS Finch/Softbill Secy  
Prigyan/Census Mgr.*  
Randy Taylor  
17801 Robin Road  
Canyon, Texas 79109  
806-655-4398  
taylor\_finches1@cox.net

#### 4th Vice President

*Judges Panel/  
Standards/Research*  
Ms. Martha Wigmore  
18913 Boston St. NW  
Elk River, MN 55330  
(763) 241-0071  
newdhwig@mindspring.com

#### Membership Director

Ms. Linda Hughes  
P.O. Box 499  
Rhome, Tx 76078  
(817) 638-9006  
finchlady@bracketrysystems.com

#### Executive Secretary

Ms. Martie Lauster  
4581 Lincoln Road  
Macedon, NY 14502  
(315) 524-7768  
mlauster@rochester.rr.com

#### Treasurer

Mr. Mark Phelps  
P.O. Box 1231  
Lisle, IL 60532  
(815) 729-9789  
softbillboy@aol.com

#### Liaison Officer

*Club Delegates/Show Dates*  
Ms. Darla Dandre  
P.O. Box 1231  
Lisle, IL 60532  
(815) 729-9789  
dbirdbranch@aol.com

#### Band Secretary

Ms. Paula Hansen  
2234 Juneau Court SO.  
Salem, Oregon 97302  
(503) 581-8208  
phansen@carthlink.net

#### President Emeritus

Mr. William Parlee  
631 Talcootville Rd.  
Apt. 4N  
Vernon, CT 06066  
(860) 569-0200  
billhfdct@aol.com

#### Regional Vice Presidents

##### Region 1 V.P.

**(Northeast)**  
*CT, DE, MA, ME, MD, NH, NJ, NY,  
PA, RI, VA, VT, WV*  
Robert Fairchild  
P.O. Box 4395  
Virginia Beach, VA  
23454

##### Region 2 V.P.

**(Southeast)**  
*AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, TN*  
Mr. Ron Castaner  
13396 58th Court North  
Royal Palm Beach, FL,  
33411  
(561) 792-6794  
finches@bellsouth.net

##### Region 3 V.P.

**(Mid-Central)**  
*AR, IL, IN, KY, LA, MI, MO, OH,  
WI, Australia, Bermuda, England*  
Mr. Patrick Vance  
18175 Avilla  
Lathrup Village, MI 48076  
(248) 443-0643  
spartaufinchan@cs.com

##### Region 4 V.P.

**(Midwest)**  
*IA, KS, MN, NE, ND, OK, SD, TX*  
Mr. Clint Harris  
Temple, TX  
254-770-1986  
charris@vvm.com

##### Region 5 V.P.

**(Mountain)**  
*AZ, CO, ID, MT, NE, NM, UT, WY*  
Ms. Anna Sinclair  
2430 San Marcos  
Colorado Spgs. CO  
80910  
(719) 634-6404  
bill&annasinclair@citystar.com

##### Region 6 V.P.

**(Pacific Coast)**  
*AK, CA, HI, OR, WA*  
Raspberry  
Raspberry@europa.com  
Portland, Oregon

##### Region 7 V.P.

**(Caribbean)**  
*Puerto Rico/Caribbean Basin*  
Mr. Julio Mateo Soto  
RR5, Box 8418, Ste 72  
Bayamon, PR 00956

##### Region 8 V.P.

**(Canada)**  
Mr. Alfred Mion  
1619 Pilette Road,  
Windsor, Ontario,  
Canada N8Y 3C4  
(519) 948-6398  
julianne@mnsi.net

#### Appointed Officers

##### FinchShop Manager

Robert Mehl  
11108 Hollowbrook Rd  
Owings Mills, Md  
21117-1379  
(410) 581-7955  
Robert.Mehl@verizon.net

##### NFSS Editor

Ms. Martie Lauster  
4581 Lincoln Road  
Macedon, NY 14502  
(315) 524-7768  
mlauster@rochester.rr.com

##### NFSS Website Mgr.

Ms. Myra Markley  
Cedar Rapids, IA  
(319) 362-9390 (Eves)  
seffera@seffera.net  
Web Site Address:  
www.nfss.org

##### Awards Manager

Ms. Darla Dandre  
P.O. Box 1231  
Lisle, IL 60532  
(815) 729-9789  
dbirdbranch@aol.com

##### Advertising & Promotions

Ms. Brenda Josselet  
PMB 279  
6705 Hwy 290 West,  
Ste. 502  
Austin, TX 78735  
(512) 288-0891  
bjosselet@austin.rr.com

##### Moderator

##### NFSS Finch/Softbill Forum

Mr. John Wilson  
San Francisco, CA  
94110  
jwilson153@aol.com  
Forum Address:  
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NFSS

## NFSS Panel of Judges 2003

### **Nizam Ali**

135-11 114th Street  
South Ozone Park, NY  
11420

### **Charles Anchor**

12384 Laurel Lane  
Huntley, IL 60142  
Phone: 847-515-1090

### **Laura Bewley**

3538 S. 65 W. Avenue  
Tulsa, OK 74107  
Phone: 918-446-3999  
lbewley@yahoo.com

### **Harold Bowles**

230 College Circle  
Cedartown, GA 30125  
Phone: 770-748-4627  
Fax: 770-748-3969

### **Clarence Culwell**

250 Horseshoe Drive  
Springtown, TX 76082  
Phone: 817-220-5568  
COculwell@myfam.com

### **Dr. Al Decoteau**

P.O. Box 369  
Groton, MA 01450  
Phone: (603) 672-4568  
spbel@aol.com

### **Daren Decoteau**

89 Pleasantview Avenue  
Stratford, CT 06497  
Phone: (203) 378-4777  
greateagle@aol.com

### **Julie R. Duimstra**

4201 NE 125th Pl #163  
Portland, OR 97230  
Phone: 503-261-8788

### **Cecil Gunby**

8121 Route 1, Hwy. 54  
Sharpsburg, GA 30277  
Phone/Fax: 770-254-1261

### **Annette Howard**

P.O. Box 404  
Salem, OH 44460  
Phone: 330-337-7654  
bluehaven@voyager.net

### **Sally Huntington**

5634 Carnegie Street  
San Diego, CA 92122  
Phone: 858-452-9423  
sallych@san.rr.com

### **Joseph Krader**

2910 Alps Road  
Corona, CA 92881  
Phone: 909-272-6525

### **Dale Laird**

P.O. Box 2459  
Goldenrod, FL 32733  
Phone: 407-657-7989  
Jlaird2@cfl.rr.com

### **Armando Lec**

306 SE 22nd Street  
Cape Coral, FL 33990  
Phone: 239-242-7675  
alee@swfla.rr.com

### **Dennis J. Lewis**

7446 Glasgow Road  
Brooksville, FL 34613  
Phone: 352-596-3376  
dennis\_14519@msn.com

### **Brian Mandarich**

4743 E. Hedges Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93703  
Phone: 559-255-6508

### **Teri McAuliffe**

269 Thames Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906  
Phone/Fax: 719-576-9009  
jnglprds@aol.com

### **Conrad Meinert**

1212 E. 300 South  
Warsaw, IN 46580  
Phone: 574-269-2873  
Fax: 574-269-3142  
BirdmanofWarsaw@  
kconline.com

### **Marion (Miki) Spartzak**

945 Rosedale Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21237  
Phone: 410-687-8915  
mjs5295@comcast.net

### **Laura Tinker**

31 Grape Hollow Road  
Holmes, NY 12531  
845-855-2662  
laura.tinker.b@bayer.com

### **Patrick Vance**

18175 Avilla  
Lathrup Village, MI 48076  
Phone: 248-443-0643  
spartanfinchman@cs.com

### **Christine Voronovitch**

38 Liberty Street  
Manchester, CT 06040  
Phone: 860-649-8220  
lbtybeagle@aol.com

### **Ms. Jerri Wiesenfeld**

2379 Water Bluff Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32218  
Phone: 904-714-2133  
jerrisjavas@aol.com

### **Martha Newman Wigmore NFSS Panel Director**

18913 Boston Street NW  
Elk River, MN 55330  
Phone: 763-241-0071  
newdlwig@mindspring.com

### **Paul S. Williams**

101 Linden Drive  
Eufaula, AL 36027

## NFSS Affiliated Clubs/Events

REGIONAL CLUBS
<p><b>Southeast Bird Fanciers (SE U.S.)</b>  <u>Contact:</u> Ginny Allen (334) 749-7168            gndallen@earthlink.net  <u>Meetings:</u> 1st Sat. in Mar, Jun, Sep, and 2nd Sat. in Dec. at the Atlanta Farmers Market  <u>Website:</u>  <a href="http://members.tripod.com/sebf2/sebf.htm">http://members.tripod.com/sebf2/sebf.htm</a></p>
ALABAMA
<p><b>Central Alabama Avicultural Society (Montgomery)</b>  <u>Contact:</u> Margie Lanier (334) 567-4073            margielanier@yahoo.com  <u>Meetings:</u> 2nd Sun of ea. month, 2:30 pm            Prattville Library, Prattville, AL  <u>Club E-Mail:</u> caasshow@aol.com  <u>Website:</u> www.caasociety.com  <u>Show:</u> <b>Bird Show &amp; Fair - Sept. 4-5, 2004</b>            Governor's House Hotel, Montgomery, AL  <u>Show Contact:</u> Margie Lanier (info above)</p>
ARIZONA
<p><b>Great American Cage Bird Show (Tucson)</b>  <u>Contact:</u> Marion Spartzak (410) 687-8915            MJS5295@comcast.net  <u>Meetings:</u> 4th Sun of ea. month except Dec.            7849 Tommy Dr, La Mesa, CA  <u>Club E-Mail:</u> Sandhilllexotics@aol.com  <u>Shows:</u> <b>Annual Show - Day 1 - Oct. 2, 2004</b>  <u>Judge:</u> Sally Huntington  <b>Annual Show - Day 2 - Oct. 3, 2004</b>  <u>Judge:</u> Marion Spartzak  <u>Location:</u> Tucson Convention Center  <u>Contacts:</u> Dave Dollar (352) 799-7294            Sandhilllexotics@aol.com            or Miki Spartzak (410) 687-8915            MJS5295@comcast.net</p>

CALIFORNIA
<p><b>Finch Society of San Diego County</b>  <u>Contact:</u> Sally Huntington (858) 452-9423            sallych@san.rr.com  <u>Meetings:</u> 4th Sun of ea. month except Dec.            7849 Tommy Dr, La Mesa, CA  <u>Club E-Mail:</u> onedeergranny@aol.com</p>
CANADA
<p><b>Durham Cage Bird Society (Pickering, Ontario)</b>  <u>Contact:</u> Jaquie Blackburn (416) 282-5997            secretary@birdclub.ca  <u>Meetings:</u> 2nd Tue (except July &amp; Aug)            Rotary Park Pavilion, Lake Driveway W. Ajax  <u>Website:</u> www.birdclub.ca  <u>Show:</u> <b>Show - Sept. 18-19, 2004</b>            Jubilee Pavilion, 55 Lakeview Park            Road, Oshawa, Ontario  <u>Show Contact:</u> John Zerafa (905) 355-5542            showmanager@birdclub.ca</p>
<p><b>Essex-Kent Cage Bird Society (Ontario)</b>  <u>Contact:</u> Julianne Mion (519) 948-6398            julianne@mnsi.net</p>
<p><b>**REGION 8**</b>  <b>NFSS REGIONAL SHOW</b></p>
<p><u>Show:</u> <b>Annual Show - Oct. 16, 2004</b>            Fogolar Furlan Udine Complex,            1800 E.C. Row, N Service Road, Windsor  <u>Judge:</u> Cecil Gunby  <u>Show Contact:</u> Alfred Mion            (519) 948-6398 or julianne@mnsi.net</p>



Visit the NFSS Website  
[www.nfss.org](http://www.nfss.org)  
 for the latest finch/softbill  
 news and information!

## NFSS Affiliated Clubs/Events

### COLORADO

#### Rocky Mountain Society of Aviculture (Denver)

**Contact:** Anna Sinclair (719) 634-6404  
**Meetings:** 2nd Fri of each month, Lakeside Mall, 44th & Harlan, Denver  
**Club E-Mail:** birds@rmsa-birds.org  
**Website:** www.rmsa-birds.org  
**Show:** Bird Show - Nov. 6-7, 2004  
 Lakeside Mall, Denver  
**Judge:** Annette Howard, Miki Spartzak  
**Contact:** Lisa McManus (303) 341-1239  
 conurecare@comcast.net

### FLORIDA

#### Aviary & Cage Bird Society of South Florida (Ft. Lauderdale)

**Contact:** Marcia David (954) 321-9229  
 marbilld@comcast.net  
**Meetings:** 2nd Sun of ea. month, 2 pm  
 Flamingo Gardens Gallery, Davie, FL  
**Website:** www.feathers.org  
**Event:** Annual Expo - Aug. 21, 2004  
 Omni Aud., BCC Campus, Coconut Creek  
**Event Contact:** Jane Tame  
 jane.tame@mci.com

#### Exotic Bird Club of Florida (Palm Bay)

**Contact:** Ginny Heptig (321) 952-9780  
 yngathrt@aol.com  
**Meetings:** 2nd Sun of ea. month, Greater Palm Bay Senior Ctr. 1275 Culver Dr.  
**Club E-Mail:** ywweir@aol.com  
**Website:** www.homestead.com/exoticbirdclubofflorida  
**Show:** Bird Show & Fair - Sept. 12, 2004  
 Greater Palm Bay Senior Center  
 1275 Culver Dr., Palm Bay  
**Judge:** Jerri Wiesenfeld  
**Show Contact:** Ginny Heptig (See info above)

#### Treasure Coast Exotic Bird Club (Stuart)

**Contact:** Jim Dunn (772) 344-8374  
 jdunn3@adelphia.net  
**Meetings:** 4th Sun of ea. month,  
 Pt. Salerno Town Hall

#### Suncoast Avian Society (Pinellas Park)

**Contact:** Joe Ventimiglia (727) 392-9391  
 whoward7@tampabay.rr.com  
**Meetings:** 1st Sun of ea. month, 2 pm  
 Leisure World Mobile Home Park  
**Event:** Bird Fair - Oct. 17, 2004  
 6340 126th Ave N, Largo  
**Contact:** Mari Howard  
 whoward7@tampabay.rr.com

### GEORGIA

#### Georgia Cage Bird Society (Atlanta)

**Contact:** Pat Miller (770) 425-9455  
 jandpmiller@mindspring.com  
**Meetings:** 4th Sun of ea. month, 2:30 pm  
 Smyrna Community Center  
**Show:** Bird Show - Nov. 6-7, 2004  
 Jim Miller Park - Marietta, GA  
**Show Contact:** Pat Miller (See above)

### ILLINOIS

#### Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club (Chicago)

**Contact:** Diana Federl (630) 325-4414  
 dianafederl@yahoo.com  
**Meetings:** 3rd Fri. of ea. month, American Legion Hall, 310 Butterfield Rd., Elmhurst  
**Club E-Mail:** secretary@gccbc.org  
**Website:** www.gccbc.org  
**Event:** Bird Fair - Sept. 2, 2004  
 Dupage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton  
**Show:** Bird Show - Nov. 6, 2004  
 Park Plaza Hotel, 75 W. Algonquin Rd., Arlington Heights  
**Judge:** Dr. Al Decoteau  
**Show Contact:** Sharlan Toby (815) 568-6727

#### Illini Bird Fanciers (Springfield)

**Contact:** Patte Montgomery (217) 787-0399  
 illinibirdfanciers@yahoo.com  
**Meetings:** 4th Sun of ea. month, Var. Locations  
**Club E-Mail:** illinibirdfanciers@yahoo.com

## NFSS Affiliated Clubs/Events

### National Institute of Red-Orange Canaries

*Contact:* Stephan V. Hopman (815) 469-8425  
birdhop@aol.com

*Meetings:* 1st Fri. of ea. month except Nov.

*Event:* **Baby Feather Show & Fair -  
Sept. 11, 2004**

Elk Grove Village Town Hall, 2400 S.  
Arlington Hts. Rd., Arlington Heights

*Show:* **NIROC Fall 2004 Show -  
Nov. 27, 2004**

Park Plaza Chicago, 75 W. Algonquin  
Rd., Arlington Heights

*Judge:* Jerri Wiesenfeld

*Show Contact:* Cam Catalano (630) 971-8637

### IOWA

### Mid America Cage Bird Society (Des Moines)

*Contact:* John Thielking (515) 278-9159

*Meetings:* 4th Sun of ea. month, 2 pm  
Des Moines Botanical Ctr.  
909 E. River Drive, Des Moines

*Event:* **Feather Fair - Aug. 22, 2004**

Des Moines Botanical Ctr. (See above)

*Contact:* John Thielking (See above)

*Show:* **Annual Bird Show - Oct. 2, 2004**

Ramada Inn, 5055 Merle Hay Rd. Johnston

*Judge:* Laura Bewley

*Contact:* John Thielking (See above)

### MARYLAND

### Baltimore Bird Fanciers, Inc.

*Contact:* Barbara Shannon (410) 356-5850

*Meetings:* 3rd Sun. of ea. mo. - Towson Library

*Club E-Mail:* drhaynesq@yahoo.com

### \*\*REGION 1\*\* NFSS REGIONAL SHOW

*Show:* **Show - Oct. 16, 2004**

Tall Cedars Hall, Parkville

*Contact:* Dorothy Haynes

(410) 256-9326 drhaynesq@yahoo.com

### MICHIGAN

### Great Lakes Avicultural Society (Grand Rapids)

*Contact:* Diana Hugo (616) 842-0163

pdhugo@charter.net

*Meetings:* 2nd Mon. of each month - UAW  
Hall, 4269 Alpine, Grand Rapids

*Website:* www.angelfire.com/mi4/glas

### \*\*REGION 3\*\* NFSS REGIONAL SHOW

*Show:* **Show - Oct. 16, 2004**

The Delta Plex, 2500 Turner NW,  
Grand Rapids

*Judge:* Paul Williams

*Contact:* Diana Hugo (616) 842-0163

### Motor City Bird Breeders (Detroit)

*Contact:* Pat Piekarz (586) 296-2957

dpiekarz1@comcast.net

*Meetings:* 1st weekend of each month at  
club members' homes.

*Show:* **Bird Show & Fair - Oct. 23, 2004**

Italian American Cultural Center, Warren, MI

*Contact:* Pat Piekarz (See above)

### MISSOURI

### Greater Kansas City Avicultural Society (Kansas City)

*Contact:* Anthony Day (816) 356-9533  
sterryday@aol.com

*Meetings:* 2nd Sun of ea. month, Trail West  
Library - 11401 E 23rd St. - Independence

*Events:* **Fall Bird Fair - Aug. 14, 2004**

Grandview, MO

*Show:* **Bird Show - Oct. 16, 2004**

Best Western, KC South,  
5701 Longview Road, Kansas City

*Judge:* Dr. Al Decoteau

*Show & Event Contact:* Maria Michel

membirdsetmichel@kc.rr.com

## NFSS Affiliated Clubs/Events

### Mo-Kan Cage Bird Club (Columbus, KS)

**Contact:** Doug Willis (417) 358-7248  
dwillis71@cox-internet.com

**Events:** Bird Fair - Oct. 10, 2004  
Motel 7, Springfield, MO.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

#### Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society (Manchester)

**Contact:** Ray Schwartz (603) 362-6106  
prismsdad@aol.com

**Meetings:** 2nd Mon. of each month  
Villa Crest, Manchester, NH

**Website:** www.boaf.com

**Show:** Bird Show Oct. 23, 2004  
Center of NH Radisson Hotel  
700 Elm St. Manchester

**Judge:** Dr. Al Decoteau

**Contact:** Ray Schwartz (See above)

### NEW YORK

#### Astoria Bird Club (New York City)

**Contact:** Dan Griffin (718) 994-1614  
dgriffin11@optionline.net

**Meetings:** 3rd Sun. of each month  
23-18 29th St. Astoria, NY

**Club E-Mail:** AstoriaBirdClub@aol.com

#### \*\*REGION 1\*\* NFSS REGIONAL SHOW

**Show:** Annual Show Nov. 6, 2004  
St. Jude School, Brooklyn  
**Judge:** Dennis Lewis  
**Show Contact:** Ivica John Begonja  
(718) 423-8506 mostina@aol.com

### New York Finch and Type Canary Club (New York City)

**Contact:** Stan Kulak (718) 967-6899  
barstand@aaahawk.com

**Meetings:** 2nd Sun. of each month except  
Jul. & Aug. 1:00 p.m.  
Averill Blvd. Pk. Elmont

**Website:** www.newyorkfinch.com

**Show:** Annual Show Oct. 16, 2004  
St. Jude Church, Brooklyn

**Judge:** Laura Tinker

**Contact:** Stan Kulak (See Above)

### NORTH CAROLINA

#### Raleigh-Durham Cage Bird Society (Raleigh)

**Contact:** April Blazich (919) 851-8079  
aprilb@bellsouth.net

**Meetings:** 3rd Sun of ea. month, Glen Eden  
Pitot Park, Glen Eden Dr., Raleigh

**Website:** www.rdcbs.org

### OREGON

#### Eastside Finch Connection (Portland)

**Contact:** Mary Smith (503) 634-2233  
smithwm@open.org

**Meetings:** 1st Mon. of ea. month - 7 pm,  
Clackamas Comm. Club Hall,  
15711 SE 90th, Clackamas

#### \*\*REGION 6\*\* NFSS REGIONAL SHOW

**Show:** Bird Show, Raffle & Sale  
Nov. 13-14, 2004  
Gresham National Guard Armory,  
500 N. Division, Portland  
**Judge:** Cecil Gunby  
**Contact:** Linda Brown (503) 266-7606  
jeeperspeepers55@aol.com



Renew your NFSS membership early if you can! It will help save renewal notices and prevent you from missing any benefits.



## NFSS Affiliated Clubs/Events

### PENNSYLVANIA

#### Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Society

(Pittsburgh)

Contact: Jim Felix (412) 462-0969  
justuff1@comcast.net

Club E-Mail: mjonnet@katz.pitt.edu

Show: Show Nov. 6, 2004 Holiday Inn  
RIDC Park, Pittsburgh

Judge: Martha Wigmore

Contact: Margie Jonnet  
(412) 795-1904 mjonnet@katz.pitt.edu

### PUERTO RICO

#### Asociation De Criadores de Finches Del Este

Contact: Victor Cordero 893-7723

### TENNESSEE

#### Middle Tennessee Cage Bird Club

(Nashville)

Contact: Lisa Mellies (615) 890-6906  
tnma2@comcast.net

Meetings: 3rd Sun. of each month 1 pm  
Donelson Senior Ctr.  
108 Donelson Park - Donelson, TN

Show/Event: Bird Fair and Show -  
Oct. 2-3, 2004 - Tennessee  
State Fairgrounds, Nashville

Judge: Cecil Gunby

Contact: Bob Bryant  
lbryant@vci.net

#### Southeast TN Avicultural Society

(Niota)

Contact: Janet Burrell (423) 472-1306  
jgb2202@aol.com

Meetings: 2nd Sun. of each month 2 pm  
Niota Elementary School

#### \*\*REGION 2\*\*

#### NFSS REGIONAL SHOW

Show: S.T.A.S. Show & Fair Oct. 23, 2004

2 Shows in One-Day Special Event

Niota Elementary School

Judges: Clarence Culwell  
Paul Williams

Show Contacts:

Theresa Burnette tjburn@compfn.net

Marilyn Massey mklmass@cs.com

Janette Burrell jgb2202@aol.com

#### Tennessee Valley Exotic Bird Club

(Knoxville)

Contact: Terri Bartow (865) 548-1966

Meetings: 1st Tue. of each month - Church  
of the Good Samaritan

Club E-Mail: bggrass@hotmail.com

Club Website: tvebc@kornet.org

### TEXAS

#### Aiamo Exhibition Bird Club Inc.

(San Antonio)

Contact: Nathan Durbin (210) 433-1840  
tak@stic.net

Website: www.aebc.org

Events: Fair - Sept. 25, 2004

Live Oak Civic Center, Live Oak, TX

Just NE of San Antonio on Pat Booker Rd.



Did you know you can renew your membership for more than one year? We have added multiple year membership options to all forms available both in the Journal and at the website.

## NFSS Affiliated Clubs/Events

### Canary & Finch Society (Pasadena)

**Contact:** Helen Jones (281) 324-4100  
**Meetings:** 2nd Sun of each month -  
 Pasadena Town Square Mall  
**Show:** 9th Annual Bird Show -  
 Sept. 17, 2004  
 Holiday Inn at JFK, 15222 John F.  
 Kennedy Blvd., Houston, TX  
**Judge:** Jerri Wiesenfeld

### Fort Worth Bird Club (Fort Worth)

**Contact:** Clarence Culwell (817) 220-5568  
 COculwell@myfam.com  
**Meetings:** 2nd Sun of each month - Fort  
 Worth Botanical Garden - Azalea Room  
**Club E-Mail:** cirelm@swbell.net  
**Club Website:** www.fwbc.org

### \*\*REGION 4\*\* NFSS REGIONAL SHOW

**Show:** Fort Worth 51st Annual Bird Show  
 - Sept. 25, 2004 Grapevine Con-  
 vention Ctr, 1209 S. Main, Grapevine  
**Judge:** Paul Williams  
**Contact:** Jerry Cason (817) 237-5867  
 jerrycason@mindspring.com

### Texas Bird Breeders (Temple)

**Contact:** Clarence Culwell (817) 220-5568  
 COculwell@myfam.com  
**Meetings:** Feb and Aug on 3rd Weekend  
**Show:** Annual Show & Fair - Nov. 13, 2004  
 Mayborn Convention Center  
 (Exit 304 on I-35), Temple  
**Contact:** Clarence Culwell (See Above)

### VIRGINIA

### Peninsula Cage Bird Society, Inc. (Hampton)

**Contact:** Bea Rogers (757) 484-6001  
**Meetings:** 3rd Sun. of each month at 2 pm  
**Website:** www.vapeninsulacagedbirdclub.org  
**Events:** Bird Marts - Spring & Fall, 2004  
 Annual Bird Clubs of Virginia Convention

### WASHINGTON

### Cascade Canary Breeders Association (Seattle)

**Contact:** Janel C. Johnson (425) 226-8899  
 katbird57@aol.com  
**Meetings:** 3rd Sun. of each month at 2 pm,  
 Keppler's Feed - 16442 SE  
 Renton-Issaquah Rd. - Renton  
**Show:** 36th Annual Canary & Finch Show  
 & Exhibition - Nov. 27-28, 2004  
 The Clubhouse at Ballinger Lakes,  
 23000 Lakeview Dr., Mountlake Terrace  
**Contact:** Janel Johnson (See Above)

### WISCONSIN

### Badger Canary & Finch Club (Milwaukee)

**Contact:** Sue Feldstein (262) 965-5367  
**Meetings:** 3rd Sat. of each month - No  
 meetings in Dec. or Jan.  
**Club E-Mail:** devanornum@aol.com  
**Club Website:**  
 www.badgercanaryandfinchclub.org  
**Show:** Annual Bird Show & Fair -  
 Oct. 16, 2004 Ramada Inn Oshkosh  
**Judge:** Martha Wigmore  
**Contact:** Evon Van Ornum  
 devanornum@aol.com

### Wisconsin Cage Bird Club (Oshkosh)

**Contact:** Dave Bluma (920) 428-4595  
 Davidbluma@aol.com  
**Meetings:** 3rd Sun. of each month.  
**Event:** Fall Bird Fair Aug. 29, 2004  
 Columbus Club, Oshkosh, WI  
**Contact:** Jack Vater (920) 206-8831



# 2004 AFFILIATION AGREEMENT

The basic affiliation fee is \$25.00.



Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Club City/St: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Club affiliation entitles your organization to receive all NFSS publications and to exercise the privileges of the Society. These include, but are not limited to:

- **NFSS Journal**--- Our newly formatted bi-monthly publication connects you with other finch and softbill enthusiasts around the world. It includes articles on breeding, housing, diet, management, products, specific species, and experiences of other aviculturists.
- **www.NFSS.org**--- Visit our ever-expanding website for the latest information on NFSS activities, officers, affiliated clubs and their websites, 2004 affiliated shows and events, archives, advertisements and Avicultural links.
- **Finchshop**--- Looking for an unusual gift? Finchshop is our department store. Items and order forms are available in the NFSS Journal and on the website - [www.NFSS.org](http://www.NFSS.org)
- **Finch Save**--- The goal of this restructured member participation group is to establish and maintain all finch and softbill species in American aviculture.
- **Census**--- The annual NFSS Census can connect you with other breeders for the purpose of exchanging breeding stock.
- **Affiliated Shows and Events**--- are advertised in the NFSS Journal and on the website.
- **NFSS Panel Judges**--- are available for shows.
- **Awards with the NFSS Logo**--- (plaques and rosettes) are available at new reduced prices!
- **Annual Achievement Awards**--- are presented at the National Cage Bird Show.

Once we receive your application and fee, we will list your organization among the affiliated clubs in the NFSS Journal and on the NFSS website. Please write, email or phone me for an Affiliation Application and Awards Catalog!

Send your check for \$25.00  
made payable to NFSS to:

Darla Dandre  
NFSS Affiliations & Awards Manager  
PO Box 1231, Lisle, IL 60532  
Phone: 815-729-9789  
E-Mail: [Dbirdranch@aol.com](mailto:Dbirdranch@aol.com)

# 2004 NFSS AWARDS ORDER FORM

You may request a color catalog featuring our awards being offered this year or use the order form below.

Your show information must be submitted as soon as possible but no later than two months before your show date.

Circle me!

**YOU MUST BE AN AFFILIATED CLUB TO ORDER AWARDS**  
 If you have not done so already, you may affiliate now.....**\$25.00**

**Plaques -**

- Best Finch or Softbill in Division . . . . . \$25.00
- 2nd Place Finch or Softbill in Division . . \$25.00
- 3rd Place Finch or Softbill in Division . . \$25.00
- Best Finch in Show . . . . . \$25.00
- Best Softbill in Show . . . . . \$25.00
- Make your own Award! . . . . . \$25.00

Engraving Information:

**Rosettes -**

- Basic Rosette Set (1-10 + Best Unflighted) . \$25.00
- Unflighted Rosette Add-on (2nd & 3rd Place) . \$6.00
- Novice Rosette . . . . . \$3.00
- Youth Rosette . . . . . \$3.00

**Please make check payable to NFSS and mail to:**

**Darla Dandre**  
**Awards Manager**  
**PO Box 1231**  
**Lisle, IL 60532**  
 815-729-9789  
 Dbirdranch@aol.com

Please, no express mail or parcels! -  
 Thanks!

**Affiliation Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_ + Awards Order \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

SHIP AWARDS TO: NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out ALL the information!

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Show Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Judge: \_\_\_\_\_

Show Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ St: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail or web site: \_\_\_\_\_

Show Manager: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

NFSS Club Delegate: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Publish this information in the Journal? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_**

<b>NFSS MEMBER and NON-MEMBER ORDER FORM</b>					
Split Plastic Band Choices: Red, Dk Green, Lt Green, White, Pink, Black, Purple, Yellow, Orange, Dk Blue, Lt Blue					
					<b>MINIMUM ORDER \$5.00</b>
<b>SPLIT PLASTIC BANDS - \$1.50 PER STRING OF 10 BANDS</b>					
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 an NFSS Member #. Orders are processed weekly as received. Please, no mail requiring signatures.*

**The banding and marking of wild birds is very tightly regulated by the Federal government. It is illegal to use ANY band on a bird that is released to the wild except a Federal band issued by US Fish and Wildlife.**

<b>ALUMINUM BANDS - \$3.25 PER STRING OF 10 BANDS</b>													
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** \$2.00\_\_\_\_\_

**PLASTIC & ALUMINUM SUBTOTAL**\_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL**\_\_\_\_\_

<b>BANDS FOR YEAR:</b> _____	<b>NFSS MEMBER #:</b> _____
<b>NAME:</b> _____	
<b>ADDRESS:</b> _____	
<b>CITY/STATE/ZIP:</b> _____	
<b>E-MAIL:</b> _____	
<b>PAYMENT PAYABLE TO NFSS</b>	
<b>MAIL TO: Paula Hansen, 2234 Juneau Ct. S., Salem, OR 97302</b>	

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

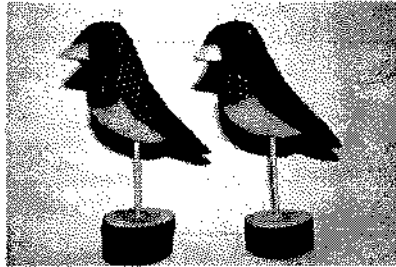
- Size A: Gold-breasted Waxbill, Orange-cheeked Waxbill, Owl (Bicheno) Finch, Quail Finch, Red-eared Waxbill, Strawberry Finch, and other small waxbills.
- Size B: Black-cheeked Waxbill, Cordon Bleu, Cuban Melodious Finch, Fire Finch, Olive Finch, Rufous-backed Mannikin, Timor Zebra, Peales Parrot Finch.
- Size C: B&W Mannikin, Violet Eared & Blue-capped Waxbills, Purple Grenadier, Bronze-winged Mannikin, Cherry Finch, Green Singing Finch, Grey Singing Finch, Heck's Shaftail, Lavender Finch, Painted Finch, Pileated Finch, Pytilias, Red-headed & Forbes (Blue-Breasted) Parrot Finches, Shaftail Finch, Silverbills, Star Finch, Red Siskin, Society (Bengalese) Finch, Standard Zebra.
- Size D: Blue-faced Parrot Finch, Lady Gouldian Finch, Chestnut-breasted & most smaller mannikins, most other Parrot finches, Pictorella Finch, Pintailed Nonpareil, most Twinspots, Yellow-rumped Finch.
- Size E: Black-crested Finch, Diamond sparrow, European Greenfinch, Golden Song Sparrow, Nuns, Peter's Twinspot, Siskins, Spice Finch, European Goldfinch, European Zebra.
- Size G: Magpie Mannikin, Siberian Goldfinch, most larger mannikins, small tanagers.
- Size J: Pekin Robin, Silver-eared Mesias, most small softbills.
- Size K: Java Rice Birds, Red-crested Cardinal, Saffron Finch, Shama Thrush
- Size L: Diamond Dove, Mousebirds, other small doves, quail, softbills.
- Size M: Leaf Birds, Pagoda Mynah, large Sunbirds, Superb Starlings.
- Size R: Green/Purple 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 Twinspots, 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 XJ: Lovcbirds, Rosellas, Many Softbills,

# NFSS FinchShop



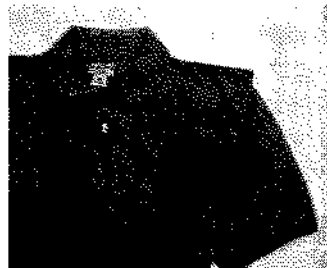
### Gouldian Finch Beeswax Candle

These adorable Gouldian finch candles are handmade from honeycomb beeswax. The candle is approximately 5 inches high. Makes a great gift for your favorite finch lover. Available in two versions: red head and black head purple **Cost \$10.00 each**



### NFSS Logo Cap

An adjustable (one size fits most) 100% cotton dark blue cap with the graphic in tan and green National Finch & Softbill Society lettering. **Cost \$16.00 each**



### NFSS Logo Polo Shirt

A short sleeve, tan, 100% pre-shrunk cotton Polo Shirt with embroidered Logo over left chest. Bird graphic is blue with National Finch & Softbill Society in green. Available in men's sizes: M, L, and XL. **Cost \$28.00 each**



### NFSS Logo Pin

A multicolored, silk-screened lapel pin featuring the NFSS logo. The pin measures 1 1/4 inch (32mm). Show your pride in being a member! **Cost \$2.50 each**



**NFSS**  
the National Finch  
and Softbill Society

## FinchShop Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Item (specify size /color if applicable)	Price
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**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:** \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form with your check payable to NFSS to:

**Robert Mehl**  
NFSS Finch Shop Manager  
11108 Hollowbrook Road  
Owings Mills, MD 21117-1379





# Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Dual Membership 2nd Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

New Member? \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal (List NFSS #) \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Dues (Select One)

	Single	Dual	Foreign	Junior
1 Year:	\$30 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$35 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$35 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$22.50 <input type="checkbox"/>
3 Years:	\$85 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$99 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$99 <input type="checkbox"/>	
5 Years:	\$140 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$165 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$165 <input type="checkbox"/>	
Life:	\$1500 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$1740 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$1740 <input type="checkbox"/>	

Mail Application and Check Payable to NFSS:

Ms. Linda Hughes  
P.O. Box 499  
Rhome, TX 76079



## NFSS FINCH/SOFTBILL SAVE Information/Application Request

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Request to:  
Mr. Randy Taylor  
17801 Robin Road, Canyon, TX 79015

## The Classifieds

### **ROBERT MEHL & RAY GLINES**

Breeders of Zebras, Stars, Blue-capped Waxbills, Owls, RH & BH Parrot Finches and Button Quails. Owings Mills, MD, (410) 581-7955, e-mail: Robert.Mehl @verizon.net. Current list of available birdson web-site: <http://mysite.verizon.net>

**SUPERB STARLINGS:** will trade for Gouldian Finches: Call John Kilmer (Portland, OR) (509) 443-2505 [kilmjoh@quest.net](mailto:kilmjoh@quest.net)

**FOR SALE:** Gouldian Finches (Blue), Seagreen parrot finches (Pied), Diamond Sparrows (Fawn), Black-Checked Zebra. David Drumm, MI (517) 543-5335 or [ldrumm@core.com](mailto:ldrumm@core.com)

**WANTED:** Rufous Bellied Niltava, Green Cardinal/Vermillion Cardinal, Red Whiskered Bulbul - Please call or email to Ken (602) 622-9591 or [klim-sprint01@earthlink.net](mailto:klim-sprint01@earthlink.net)

**WANTED:** 2-3 Male Red Billed Fire Finches and also looking for 1-3 pairs of Green Avadavats. Have 2 Female Red Billed Fire Finches to sell or trade. Please call Randy at work (408) 842-0313 or e-mail [franklin@garlic.com](mailto:franklin@garlic.com).

**FOR SALE:** Star Finches (yellow faced, normals and peds), shafttails (normals and fawns), diamond Firetails, Lady gouldians, show societies (chocolate, fawns and whites) all nfss banded, taking orders for spring hatch. Will ship.

E-mail: [studioone@cox-internet.com](mailto:studioone@cox-internet.com)  
Darrin Hill, Species captain, Star and Shafttail finch. Finch and Softbill Save. NFSS.

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July/August, 2004



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