

Journal of the

# National Finch & Softbill Society

Vol. 25, No. 6

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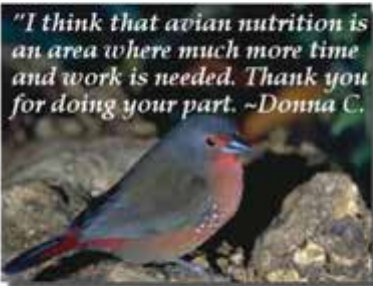




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## NFSS Mission Statement

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.

## Journal of the National Finch & Softbill Society

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Editorial Policy/Disclaimer: The Journal of the National Finch & Softbill Society is published bi-monthly by NFSS. The following deadlines normally apply to all aspects of the journal:

Deadline for Submissions: 15th day of Dec, Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, & Oct - NFSS members are encouraged to submit articles, drawings, and photographs. NFSS reserves the right to edit and/or reject all editorial, photographic, and advertising materials submitted for publication to the Journal of the National Finch & Softbill Society.

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New memberships and late renewals, (membership has expired) received after the fifteenth of the first month of Journal publication will receive six issues beginning with the following Journal. Cutoff dates are as follows: January 15, March 15, May 15, July 15, September 15, November 15.

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# Sorry We're Late!

Due to changes in our journal production team and the system we use to design each issue, we've experienced some delays in getting the journal out lately. The Jan/Feb 2009 issue should be in the mail by early February, and then we should be back on track after that. Thank you for your patience and understanding!

*Tom Keegan*  
2nd Vice President, Pro Tem

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# President's Message



## 2009, Twenty five Years of NFSS

2009 marks the 25th Anniversary of the National Finch and Softbill Society and I hope you the members have enjoyed it. In the upcoming year the board of directors plans updates to several aspects of the Society and you may have already noticed some of them. If you haven't visited our website recently at [www.NFSS.org](http://www.NFSS.org) I urge you to take a look at the improvements our new webmaster Cecile Aguilera has made. Our website has a wealth of information to include links to the Finch and Softbill Save program, Finch & Softbill specific information, the Census, Show information and much more. In addition the FinchShop carries some wonderful items. Be sure to take a look at the new lapel pins that are available and a DVD that is a compilation of all back issues of the NFSS journal is also available on the website for you to preorder.

Originally the proposed bylaws revision was to be printed in the Sep/Oct issue of the journal along with the article written by Bill Parlee that explained the changes. The revision was inadvertently left out when the journal went to print and therefore the entire revision will be published in an upcoming issue along with a new ballot and new deadline.

I'd like to thank Robert Mehl for his tireless support of NFSS through the many positions he filled on the board

of directors. Due to personal reasons Robert has stepped down from the Affiliations Liaison/Awards Director post and a special election will be held to fill this position.

In addition Brian Nagle resigned as Membership Director due primarily to a career change. Brian did an excellent job as Membership Director and I thank him. In the mean time Cecile Aguilera has been appointed Membership Director Pro Tem.

The Membership Director address is:

NFSS Membership  
PO Box 3230  
Santa Clara CA 95055-3230

Both Affiliations Liaison and Membership Director are elected offices and I urge anyone that may be interested in running for these positions to contact me at [r.peers@comcast.net](mailto:r.peers@comcast.net) or 630 740 7389 for more information or contact any board member at their contact information that is published in this journal.

In conclusion I would like to take this opportunity to thank our founder Bill Parlee for 25 years of dedicated service to the hobby we all love. It was the dream and the fortitude of Bill and a few other members that set the foundation that has made this Society so successful today.

Thank You, Bill.

Respectfully,  
*Bob Peers*  
President



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## Press Release

### 6th July, 2008

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# Changes at Save the Gouldian Fund

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The Save The Gouldian Fund was formed in September, 2005 as a funding body to support scientific research into the causes of the decline of wild populations of the Gouldian Finch across northern Australia. Under the stewardship of Mike Fidler, Elisabeth Fidler, and Marcus Pollard, the concept of a STGF developed to the point where it now provides significant support for the researchers tackling the problem head-on in the field.

Due to changed personal circumstances Marcus Pollard has resigned from his position as general manager of the STGF. We are very grateful to Marcus for the tremendous amount of time and effort that he put in to turning the STGF concept into the reality that it is today.

With the departure of Marcus, several 'new' faces are now working for the STGF to deliver the desired outcomes.

Arthur Orford, Western Australia, has taken over the role of General Manager. He will oversee the day to day operations of the STGF and to liaise with individual and club donors. Arthur can be contacted by email at: [birdswa@iprimus.com.au](mailto:birdswa@iprimus.com.au)

David Myers, New South Wales, has been named Communications Manager. He will liaise with the various print media publications to promote the STGF and to regularly report on new data coming out of the Gouldian Finch recovery

program. David can be contacted by email at: [zoeda@bigpond.com](mailto:zoeda@bigpond.com)

Chris Baker, New South Wales, will also be heavily involved in the communications area, bringing his artistic talent to the STGF. His work will be seen in many avicultural publications in the months ahead.

Bill Van Patten, Tennessee, will continue in his position as U.S. Communications Officer, coordinating the distribution of media releases and fund raising activities in North America. Bill can be reached at: [bill@fabulousfinch.com](mailto:bill@fabulousfinch.com)

Dr Sarah Pryke, together with one of her technical colleagues from Macquarie University, has taken over the role of STGF Web Master. There will be a short delay in website updates as they are currently working on a technology update to improve website performance and navigation. There will also be some new and interesting sections added. Have a look at the site in the coming months at [www.savethegouldian.org](http://www.savethegouldian.org)

John Butler, one of the foremost names in Australian aviculture, retains the role of STGF Open Day organiser.

## New Initiatives

STGF has recently entered into a joint venture with the World Wildlife Fund that will start within the next two



months. Basically this will see fire cells and their associated controlled burning programs being implemented on properties adjoining Mornington Wildlife Sanctuary for the first time since the Gouldian Finch research started. This is the first major step to restoring the Gouldian in the wild. We will report on this initiative in another article.

Another major development will be the shifting in focus of the Gouldian Finch research program from Mornington to Wyndham. The STGF has just negotiated a 21 year lease with Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley on the old Wyndham Town Hall. This is a heritage listed building which had fallen

into disuse and was currently being used for storage. Our intention is to refurbish and convert this building to provide facilities and accommodation for up to twenty scientists, including two executive suites, laboratory facilities, and enclosed garaging. Upon completion this complex will be known as the Wyndham Hall Science Village. A more detailed report will be provided in the near future.

*David Myers*  
**Communications Manager**  
*Save the Gouldian Fund*

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## Volunteer Opportunitites on the NFSS Board of Directors

The NFSS Board of Directors is seeking volunteers interested in serving in the following positions. If interested in any one (1) position, please send a brief personal Bio (100 words or less) to: Rebecca Mikel, NFSS Exec. Secretary, 13379 US 12 E., Union, MI 49130 or e-mail : [spkennel@aol.com](mailto:spkennel@aol.com)

Bio's must be post-marked no later than March 15th.

### Region 5 Vice-President

(must reside in AZ, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, UT or WY)

Responsible for encouraging membership in the region in which he/she resides, participate in quarterly on-line BOD meetings. Encouraged to attend the Regional show in their area and conduct a membership meeting. (elected/voting position)

### Membership Director

Responsible for receipt and processing of new and renewal memberships in the Society and for maintenance of NFSS Membership confidentiality. Demonstrated/working knowledge of computer file formats. Responsible for maintaining current membership rolls which are made available to Editor of Journal, Forum Moderator, Band Secretary, and President. Weekly time dedicated to entering information, documenting checks sent to Treasurer, sending membership materials to new/renewing members, approving memberships to NFSS forum(s), responding to calls/e-mails from members. (elected/voting position)

### Editor

Responsible for all activities related to

the production of the bi-monthly NFSS Journal. These include procuring articles and photographs, maintaining communication with NFSS Board to insure accuracy of NFSS information to be included in each issue, create/edit each issue, deliver to printer in timely manner and approve payment of invoices. (appointed/non-voting position)

## Awards / Affiliations

Responsible for club affiliations, selection of clubs hosting Regional Shows and for processing of awards for NFSS sanctioned shows and annual awards for the Society. (appointed/non-voting position)

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# THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY SPECIAL ELECTION BALLOT

\_\_\_\_\_ NFSS Membership Number  
This must be completed or the ballot will not be counted

Dual members will each have one (1) vote (you are allowed to make a photocopy of this ballot)

Ballots must be post marked by 28 February 2009

### MAIL BALLOTS TO:

Gail Benson  
144 N. Clyde Ave  
Palatine, IL. 60067

Vote for one candidate in each category by making an "X" in the box or writing in the name of a candidate

---

### 2nd Vice President - Publications

(All members may vote in this category)

Tom Keegan

Write in Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

---

Candidate Bio: Tom Keegan is Region 1 Vice President and been serving as 2nd VP on a pro tem basis since August 2008. He is also Secretary of the Massachusetts Cage Bird Association and 2nd Vice President of the Northeast Bird Group. Tom lives in Boston, MA where he works in health care research. He has been keeping finches for over 25 years and currently keeps a variety of mainly African waxbills and a few softbills. Tom hopes to continue working with the publications team to provide NFSS members with a quality journal and web site.

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# Society Finches as Companion Birds

*Paul Rodenhauer, M.D.*

Some bird folks might challenge twelve years of experience with pet birds as an insufficient basis from which to draw conclusions, especially in the absence of scientific studies. It seems perfectly reasonable, however, to offer observations and impressions based on experience. One of my observations about birds is that every species, in the wild or in the home, offers something special. The one species found in our homes that has no counterpart in the wild offers something extraordinarily special: hand-raised society finches make exceptional pets.

Sally and Vince Huntington's engaging article on hand-raised finches, "Meet the Companion Finch," that appeared in the June, 2003 issue of *BirdTalk* piqued my interest in these tiny creatures as companions. Shortly after reading this remarkably informative account of Sally's observations based on her experiences with hand-raised finches, I contacted her. As a result of my curiosity, I've become the owner of two progeny from Sally's aviary, female societies Raven and Cricket. An extraordinarily dynamic duo, they enliven and enrich each and every day.

Our day usually begins at 7:00 AM with birdsong broadcast by New Mexico's exclusively classical music station as it ushers in its morning program. Raven and Cricket respond as if the melodious sounds were reveille. The Bourke's parakeets chime in and add dimension by fluttering to attention. By the time bird breakfast is served a half hour later, Raven and Cricket have stretched, preened enough to feel presentable,

and begun the morning segment of their out-of-cage time.

## Sociability

As if living up to their name were their first priority, dancing on the top of the Bourkes' cage constitutes their first social activity. The next destinations are the dome tops belonging to the Hahn's macaw, and the widowed, olive-pied, peach-faced lovebird. Neither comes close to matching the societies' interest in socializing at this early hour. The last station on this round-robin is my shoulder from which Raven and Cricket invite a period of petting with a series of coos and chirps. As her name implies, Cricket is especially good at chirping. They both specialize in seeking attention. Then back to the Bourke's they go, and the rounding and resting ritual continues for a couple of hours until return-to-cage time or the urge to indulge in another extremely important ritual, bath time, occurs. When the brimming bath dish sitting on the cage grate beckons, the usual time to return to their cage is pre-empted by the urge to dive in. If they need a reminder of cage time, an extended forefinger accompanied by a simple "up-up" results in two hop-ups and in they go with no resistance—most of the time. Habituation helps. The closer this request is to their usual return-to-cage time the greater the success rate on the first try; however, they cooperate fully about ninety percent of the time. They are eager to please.

## Disposition and Behaviors

Other traits that characterize this duo's dispositions include their even-



tempered, cheerful nature, their extreme trust in human kindness, and their quiet, social activity, which is not at all disruptive or intrusive even in a home inhabited by other bird species. That's not to say that Raven and Cricket don't each have a favorite foreign cage to invade when the opportunity arises. When the Bourke's are free-ranging while their cage is being wiped down, tiny Raven enters their domain and makes herself very much at home. Her vigorous show of preening her snow-white plumage makes a statement about how easily she could adapt to this huge, luxurious, stainless steel cage. Interestingly, Cricket's predilection is the Hahn's macaw's domain, which is identical to the Bourkes' cage, where her brown-pearl coloration makes it difficult for me to determine her presence inside the cage when the macaw is returning.

Raven's and Cricket's behaviors are extremely engaging, entertaining, and complementary in their compatibility with each other and with me. Their

level of activity is pleasantly paced. They are eminently companionable, seeking closeness with me whenever possible. Although competition for my attention emerges at times, which reflects something about the connection between them, they seem to downplay it when their antics—mostly limited to a few beak on beak pecks—are noticed. Sometimes I notice a little shoving. It would be difficult to determine which is stronger, their bond to each other or to me. What is clear, however, is that they are highly, often preferentially interactive with me and that their bond with me is firm and enduring. The only times I've ever noticed any ripple in their trust of me is on the rare occasions that I am wearing a patterned shirt. Whether or not this is related to a preference for sameness, namely monochromatic apparel, or fear of change in routine (I'm usually going out at such times), patterns are apparently disturbing. They are a little wary of strangers, perhaps partly for the same reason.

Patterns on the computer screen present no problem, however. Raven and Cricket are laptop aficionados. Never, ever nippy, they do, however, imitate the bigger species in their interest in chewing, though it seems to be limited to the paperwork found on my desk. This temptation is facilitated by their love of my laptop and its proximity to my papers. Although I assume that the warmth of the keyboard is the primary element that determines the attraction, another kind of warmth, namely companionship, might compete favorably as the primary draw. Their interest extends to wanting to sit—often sleep—on my wrist whenever I'm typing, and to rest on the open keyboard whenever I'm not.



Behavior that these societies share with bigger species isn't limited to chewing paper. While the macaw and I have conversations in English—"Wanna bath," "Want some juice," "Is that good?," "Get on shoulder"—and most intimately in bird talk through clicks and clucks, Raven and Cricket are extremely responsive to the human voice and interact not only vocally but also physically. They fly to my shoulder when I call their names and being petted in response is apparently perceived as a huge reward. Except for repetition, praise and petting, i.e., the operant conditioning derived from everyday handling, no special effort, training or rewards, including treats, have been necessary to imprint this response or others, such as finger training. Behaviors the societies don't share with larger species include occasional moodiness, irritability, unpredictability, aggressive biting, feather picking, phobias, or screaming. Furthermore, bonding with humans isn't interrupted if societies are kept in pairs.

## Adaptability and Intelligence

Despite their shared tendency with most avian species to appreciate routines, society finches are highly adaptable. The aftermath of hurricane Katrina sent me and my flock into exile for eight weeks during which time we lived in Chincoteague Island, VA, courtesy of good friends who donated their rental property. Although all the birds coped quite well with the uprooting and three days of travel each way, Raven, an only finch at that time (a situation she seemed to enjoy), managed the transitions and adapted to her new surroundings without any sign of distress. Small size isn't the only factor to which we can attribute adaptability. True, the Bourke's were the next least disturbed

by the disruption, but the lovebird was least accepting. Again, only for Raven the move from New Orleans to Albuquerque was a piece of seedcake.

Size isn't the only determiner of intelligence either. The intelligence of society finches, though insufficiently studied, is also probably underappreciated. Their vigilance—they don't miss anything—and their ability to anticipate and habituate are remarkably developed capacities. Problem solving stands out in their repertoire. If confronted with a kernel of fresh corn that is unwieldy, Cricket will place it under her foot and dissect it with surgical precision. If I want them to return to their cage, Cricket will sometimes bypass the opportunity to ride on my finger and fly ahead, arriving inside the cage before Raven, who'd rather hitchhike. No competition, of course!

## Curiosity

Raven and Cricket are inquisitive, adventurous, and involved no matter what the current activity. They seem to study situations, enjoy novelty—"eating out" in the evening, a good example, is described later—and capitalize on opportunities for attention. Like toddlers in the stage of separation-individuation called *rapprochement*, they check back periodically during their twice-a-day free flight time, landing on my shoulder or head, getting petted or talked to, then off they go.

On flashing snow-white and pearl-gray wings, the duo repeat their morning activities each evening with free-range time during cage clean-ups, BBC World News, and dinner, but without the same gusto expressed in morning rounds. Periods of repose are longer, and a tendency occurs to indulge in mini-sleepovers here and there as twilight sets

in. That's not to say they miss any opportunity to "inquire" about the activities of the other birds or that they miss any occasion to investigate what I'm doing, especially at the laptop. Eating out is a very special event, however, as is their need for involvement the upkeep of their cage. They have a need to "help" with cleaning and watch closely as I remove the very small, almost insignificant amount of chaff from their seed dish. I routinely set the dish on the apron of their cage where they then devour the freshened seed as if it were a rare feast—a daily event, but each picnic is relished as a special occasion. They love their routines, but celebrating novelty is high up on their 'to-do' list. It would be difficult to resist allowing this example of novelty to become part of their routine.

They don't resist sleep in favor of novelty, however, so an evening escort back to their cage is seldom required. Before sundown, they're usually perched for the night, side by side, waiting for the protective black cover to be lowered over their cage.

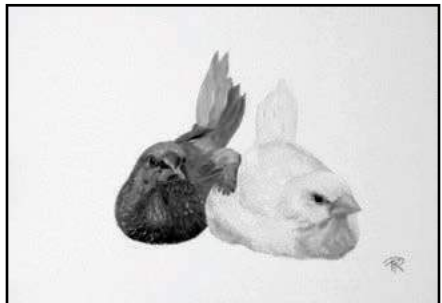
## Caretaking

To own hand-reared society finches is to live in the company of cheerful, contented, healthy, meaningfully interactive, inquisitive, intelligent creatures that clearly feel at home in the company of humans. There are many advantages to keeping society finches as pets from the point of view of caretaking as well. There is no need for wing clipping—that is, in a bird-safe household, which is a fundamental requirement. My interpretation of a bird-safe environment includes covered mirrors, drawn blinds, no human traffic that results in open doors, no range top cooking during out-of-cage time, no toxins, and no non-

bird pets. Living alone is an asset in this regard.

Societies' small, manageable size and smooth, lilted flight allows them to have plenty of exercise on a daily basis. Unlike most bird species, they can easily be kept in pairs or small groups to satisfy their need for bird companionship and still maintain their bond with humans. They are not messy. Their diet of finch seed, fresh fruits and vegetables, vitamins, grit, cuttlebone and spring water is easy to maintain as is their habit of bathing several times a day. Veterinarian visits are usually limited to periodic pedicures.

I've spoken with many bird folks who would agree with the old Pennsylvania Dutch saying, "We grow too soon old and too late smart." We often discover our ideal pet birds after considerable trial and error. If I were to limit my choice of companion birds to one species, the choice would be society finches, hands down. Their attributes exceed those of larger birds in many ways and they present none of the problems so often encountered particularly with hookbills. Based on my experience with society finches, there is only one observation that I consider a disadvantage to keeping them as pets: their life spans are painfully short.



Original Art by Paul Rodenhauer, M.D.

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## An Important Notice Regarding the 2008 Bylaw Revision

New year... new news. Be the first to know what is making headlines. The September/October issue of the Journal contained an article by past-President Bill Parlee about a proposed amendment (revision) to the NFSS bylaws. The revised bylaws were inadvertently left out of that issue, however, and are therefore included here. A new ballot is included here also. Note that the deadline for voting on this amendment has been moved forward to Feb 28, 2009. If you already voted using the old ballot, there is no need to vote again. Your original vote will be counted. On behalf of the "Publications Department," I am sorry for any confusion this oversight may have caused. But please take a moment now to review the revised bylaws and send in your ballot!

*Tom Keegan*

2nd Vice President (pro tem)

## NFSS By-Laws (Revised 2008)

**Mission Statement:** The National Finch and Softbill Society is dedicated to promoting the enjoyment of keeping and breeding Finches and Softbills to all interested parties, enhancing our knowledge of the proper care of these birds, encouraging breeding programs, and working with other organizations for the preservation of aviculture in this country.

### ARTICLE 1: NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION

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

### ARTICLE 2: STATUS

The National Finch and Softbill Society, is a nonprofit organization as described in section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The fiscal year of the Society shall be January 1st, through December 31st.

### ARTICLE 3: HOME OFFICE

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

### ARTICLE 4: MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

#### Paragraph One

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

#### Paragraph Two

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



their vote in a way as then adopted by the Society

#### Paragraph Three

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

#### Paragraph Four

If a member's dues remain unpaid beyond the twelve month membership period, said membership shall cease. Should a member's membership cease and be renewed at a later date, the membership shall begin at that payment date. To retain the members membership number and related data, said membership must be renewed within (60) sixty days of expiration.

#### Paragraph Five

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

#### Paragraph Six

Affiliated clubs are not members, but are affiliated for the purpose of promotion and recognition by the way of awards for exhibitions. NFSS will publicize show dates and results for affiliates in the official Journal of the Society as then prescribed by the Board of Directors. Affiliates can not vote in elections but do receive a copy of the society journal. Types of awards and affiliation costs will be determined by the Board of Directors."

### ARTICLE 5: TERM OF OFFICE, ELECTIONS, OFFICERS

#### **Term of Office**

##### Paragraph One

All officers elected by the membership of the Society shall serve for a period of two years. Each officer, elected or holding an elected position will have one vote. If a board member has assumed two positions, he/she may exercise only one vote. Appointed Manager positions, and other non-voting positions in service of the Society are created or eliminated as needed by a majority vote of the Board. The outgoing President of the Society shall be a non-voting member of the board for the following term. The Board by majority vote may reject an application for any position, either elected or appointed, if the Boards feels the applicant is not qualified to hold that position.

#### **Election**

##### Paragraph Two

Elections will be held every two years, with the results announced at the annual membership meeting or as maybe occasioned by death or removal of an officer (note paragraph 5 below). Election ballots, either separate or included in the

official journal of the Society, shall be mailed at least forty five (45) days prior to the date that ballots must be returned by mail. This date shall be determined for each election by the Board of Directors. Any such ballot be will counted by at least two members of the Society and one witness as pre-approved by the Board of Directors, or an accounting firm selected by the Board of Directors. Ballots will be counted in sufficient time for the results to be announced at the general membership meeting. An officer is elected by receiving the greatest number of votes cast for that office. In the case of a tie in any election result, the tie will be broken by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

#### Paragraph Three

The Board of Directors shall appoint a Nominating Committee at the 2nd Quarter meeting consisting of at least three members, who must produce a slate of officers for the election. The committee shall produce at least one name, and not more than three names for each office by August 1st. A write-in space must be allowed for each office on the ballot. Nominees must be at least 18 years of age when nominated and a current member of the Society and may not run for more than one voting position on the Board of Directors. A presently elected officer may temporarily assume the duties of another officer at the direction of the Board of Directors and in accordance with the Backup Officers document and other provisions of the By-laws. The nominating committee is responsible for producing the ballot and sending it to the NFSS President and the editor of the NFSS Journal for printing and mailing. Should submission of more than three names be received for any office, they will be presented to the Board, and the Board will select the

three most qualified applicants for each position.

#### Paragraph Four

All elections of this Society shall be by secret ballot only. Ballots will be counted by no less than two members of the society and one witness as pre-approved by the Board of Directors or a counting firm selected by the Board of Directors.

#### Paragraph Five

In the event an Officer, either elected or appointed, dies, resigns, or is removed, the Board may appoint a Pro Tem Officer. If less than 180 days remain until the next regularly scheduled election the Pro Tem Officer will serve until that time. If more than 180 days remain until the next regularly scheduled election, the Pro Tem officer will serve until a special election is held, such period not to exceed 180 days or the publication of the next published Journal, following the 180 day limit.

### **Elected Officers**

#### Paragraph Six

**President** – The President of NFSS shall preside over all Board of Directors meetings, annual membership meetings, and attend to the day to day operations of the Society. He/she shall abide by the bylaws of the Society, and coordinate and delegate the activities of the other officers of NFSS.

#### Paragraph Seven

**First Vice-President (Education)** – Shall fill the position of the President in absentia. Shall be first in succession to fill the position of the President should the President be unable to fulfill his/her term, in accordance with all other terms of the by-laws. The First Vice-President

coordinates the activities of, and is responsible for, all Regional Vice-Presidents and will coordinate the educational programs of the Society. The First Vice-President also approves any checks made payable to the President.

Paragraph Eight

**Second Vice-President (Publications)** – Shall be second in succession to fill the position of President. The Second Vice-President shall chair the publishing committee and is responsible for all publications produced by the Society both in print and electronic media. This officer may also supervise the NFSS Web Site. The Second Vice-President additionally supervises the Advertising and Promotions Manager.

Paragraph Nine

**Third Vice-President (NFSS Finch/Softbill Save-FSS)** – The Finch and Softbill Save Director coordinates the activities of the NFSS Captive Breeding Program. He/she complies and assists in publishing the yearly census as well as collecting data and maintaining. Said officer shall be responsible for the forwarding of funds and reports in a timely manner to Treasurer.

Paragraph Ten

**Fourth Vice-President (Judges Panel/Standards/Research)** – This officer must be a NFSS Panel Judge as he/she will serve as the Judges Panel Director. He/she shall also chair the Research and Standards Committee and be in charge of Specie Classifications, be responsible for shows or exhibitions of the Society and maintain the records points earned by members and birds from these exhibitions. In addition, the Fourth Vice-President represents the NFSS as liaison with the National Cage Bird Show

Board and other National bird shows. Said officer shall be responsible for the forwarding of funds and reports in a timely manner to the Treasurer.

Paragraph Eleven

**Executive Secretary** – This officer takes minutes during all board meetings, including those conducted electronically on the Internet. The Executive Secretary, or designated representative, shall maintain an archive of all minutes and the Society's official documents, and assist other board members with correspondence as necessary.

Paragraph Twelve

**Treasurer** – The Treasurer shall prepare and submit to the Board at the 4th Quarter Board meeting, a budget to be approved by the Board, indicating proposed income and expenditures for the upcoming year. He/she is responsible for establishing and maintaining Society financial accounts. The Treasurer is responsible for receiving and depositing funds into those accounts, and paying the Society's debts in a timely manner. The Treasurer is required to file in a timely manner, all tax information and returns as required by our IRS 990 (501c) status. All funds, records, receipts, and expenditures for the previous year or shorter period upon relief of the Treasurer, will be reviewed by two members of the Board of Directors, not to include the current Treasurer, as appointed by the Board of Directors. The results of the review will be presented to the Board of Directors upon completion. Further an audit of the financial accounts will be completed as above, upon the removal, or resignation of any Treasurer.

Paragraph Thirteen

**Membership Director** – Shall be responsi-

ble for the receipt and processing of new and renewal memberships in the Society and for the maintenance of the NFSS Membership data base and it's confidentiality. Said officer shall be responsible for the forwarding of funds and reports in a timely manner to the Treasurer.

Paragraph Fourteen

Affiliate/Awards Director – Shall be responsible for club affiliations, selection of clubs hosting Regional Shows and for the processing of awards for NFSS sanctioned shows and annual awards for the Society. Said officer shall be responsible for the forwarding of funds and reports in a timely manner to the Treasurer.

Paragraph Fifteen

Band Secretary – Shall be responsible for the ordering and issuance of official numbered closed bands in accordance with the policy of the Society, and maintaining the NFSS Band Secretary's permanent band records. Said officer shall be responsible for the forwarding of funds and reports in a timely manner to the Treasurer.

Paragraph Sixteen

Finchshop Director – Shall be responsible for the inventory and sales of merchandise offered to the general public. He/she must receive and process customer orders, order from vendors, and work with the NFSS Journal editor and the Web-master to update the FinchShop Catalog as needed. New products must also be sought and recommended to the Board of Directors for approval. Said officer shall be responsible for the forwarding of funds and reports in a timely manner to the Treasurer. Any Society inventory must be maintained in good order and forwarded in a timely manner upon resignation or when a

newly appointed director had been appointed.

Paragraph Seventeen

Regional Vice-Presidents – Shall be responsible for encouraging membership and club affiliation in the Society within the region in which he/she resides. Regional Vice Presidents are responsible to the First Vice-President and will serve as part of the Education Committee. Regional Vice Presidents are encouraged to attend the Regional Show of their area and hold at least one membership meeting annually within their region. They will assist the Legislative Liaison by keeping abreast of legislative activity within their region that could affect NFSS and it members, and report any activity. Regional Vice Presidents must report quarterly to the Board of Directors, what activities they have taken part in, or sponsored on behalf of NFSS.

## Appointed Officers

Paragraph Eighteen

NFSS JOURNAL Editor (responsible to the Second Vice-President and the President). He/she is responsible for all activities related to the production of the NFSS JOURNAL and it's timely delivery to NFSS members.. These include procuring articles and photographs, maintaining communication with all NFSS Board members to insure accuracy of NFSS information and forms to be included in each issue, create/edit each NFSS JOURNAL issue, deliver it to the printer in a timely manner and approve payment of a printer invoice for each issue. Said officer shall provide to the Treasurer, Board approved documentation which supports the timely delivery of the Journal to the Printer".

## Paragraph Nineteen

NFSS Web Site Manager (responsible to the Second Vice-President). He/she is responsible for maintaining and updating the NFSS Web Site.

## Paragraph Twenty

Advertising and Promotions Manager (responsible to the 2nd Vice President). Shall be responsible for seeking and collecting advertisements for the NFSS Journal and Web Site, and collecting payment for same. At the direction of the Board of Directors, he/she will place advertisements in major show and avicultural publications. The Advertising and Promotions Manager is responsible to the 2nd Vice President and will work with the NFSS Journal Editor. Said officer shall be responsible for the forwarding of funds and reports in a timely manner to the Treasurer. Said officer cooperates with Regional Vice-Presidents in the promotion of Regional shows.

## Paragraph Twenty-one

Forum Moderator (responsible to the President). Shall be responsible for writing and distributing list rules and enforcing a civil forum through moderation. Works with the Membership Director to coordinate subscription to the forum and is responsible for the unsubscription of members who continually prevent a civil forum from taking place.

## Paragraph Twenty-two

Legislative Liaison (responsible to the President). Shall be responsible along with Regional Vice Presidents, in keeping abreast of both local and national legislative activities that could effect bird owners, breeders, and exhibitors. Further, to report possible efforts that are not in our best interests, to the Board

of Directors in a timely manner. Shall be responsible for working with other local and national Avicultural organizations in protecting our right to own and enjoy our birds. Shall at Board direction, report all developments to our membership, in the way then set forth by the Board of Directors.

## Paragraph Twenty-three

American Federation of Aviculture Representative (responsible to the President) Shall be responsible for keeping the NFSS membership informed as to activities of the AFA through the NFSS JOURNAL and electronic media.

## Paragraph Twenty-four

Parliamentarian: The Parliamentarian shall be charged with interpreting the by-laws of the Society. He/She may select a committee of not more than three members to assist in resolving questions initiated by the Board of Directors. The committee's determinations will be binding. In cases where submitted issues are determined not to be covered by the NFSS by-laws, the committee will use the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, in determining questions.

## Paragraph Twenty Five

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

## ARTICLE 6: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Paragraph One

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



## Paragraph Two

The Board of Directors has the sole authority to conduct the business of the Society. The regularly scheduled Board meetings will be held either in person, by mail, or electronically via email online, on a quarterly basis as designated by the Board of Directors. The quarters shall be Calendar quarters beginning with the January-March quarter. The 4th Quarter Board Meeting may be started prior to the annual membership meeting and completed during the normally scheduled online meeting. The Board of Directors may not occasion a meeting without first sending a notice to all board members. Such a notice must be sent by mail or email at least ten days prior to said meeting.

## Paragraph Three

**Quorum:** If 50% of the Board is in attendance, a director's vote received by mail or email prior to the closing of the vote, shall be valid. If 50% of the Board members are not in attendance, business may be discussed but official actions may not take place. The agenda for Board meetings will be presented to the Board by the President or other designee, ten days prior to the beginning of the meeting. Additional items may be submitted to the Secretary by any Board member before the start of the meeting. The Secretary will provide the final agenda at the start of the meeting. A Board member may add an urgent item to the agenda during the meeting at the pleasure of the President.

## Paragraph Four

4.0 "Board meetings will be conducted in accordance with the by laws. Meetings will be online and attendance is required by all elected officers. Elected Board members that are unexcused from missing a meeting may be removed in

accordance with the provisions of the by laws. All Board members should make themselves available during meetings to offer comments.

4.1 An agenda will be offered, items will come up for a short period of discussion, after which motions and seconds will be entertained. During this time elected officers should monitor daily postings to the Board's Forum. If a motion is seconded, a vote will be called for. This will continue until all items on the agenda are presented or tabled for a future meeting.

4.2 Should there be electronic failures that prevent a Board member from voting, his/her vote may be accepted by email by the Secretary.

## Paragraph Five

**Emergency Board Meetings:** These may take place after a twenty-four hour email notice to all Board members, when four elected members of the Board and the President or next officer in line of ascension deem it necessary. A quorum of 50% of the elected Board is required to hold an Emergency Board meeting. During an emergency meeting of the Board, no action may be taken on the removal of an officer or on an amendment to these bylaws.

## Paragraph Six

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

## Paragraph Seven

The Board of Directors shall not be personally liable for the debts, liabilities, or other obligations of the corporation. No part of the income or assets of this corporation shall be used to the benefit of any private individual or member, unless specifically authorized by provisions of the by-laws, or by vote of the Board of Directors. Any monies authorized will be for the sole purpose of conducting NFSS business. This Society shall have no capital stock, its object and purpose being solely of a benevolent character, and not for individual pecuniary gain or profit to its members.

## Paragraph Eight

The President or Board of Directors may ask for or accept volunteers to fill positions for the completion of work needed by the Society. Volunteers that hold positions that are not elected or listed as department heads in the By-laws will not be required to be on the Board of Directors and may not have to take part in Board meetings.

## ARTICLE 7: COMMITTEES

## Paragraph One

The President or Board of Directors may form a committee for the purpose of carrying out the goals and administration of the Society. Standing Committees may include, but are not limited to the following: Show Committee, Publishing Committee, Research Committee, Judge's Panel, Standards Committee, Education Committee and Finch Save Committee. Committees may be established or disbanded as needed.

## Paragraph Two

Show Committee: The Show Committee, chaired by the Fourth Vice-President, shall be responsible for all activities

required to achieve the Society's participation in National level exhibitions.

## Paragraph Three

Publishing Committee: The Publishing Committee, chaired by the Second Vice-President, shall assist in the responsibility for the Society Web site, all publications and printed materials of this Society. The committee shall include but is not limited to the Second Vice President, the Journal editor, the Advertising Director and the Web site Manager.

## Paragraph Four

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

## Paragraph Five

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

## Paragraph Six

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

## Paragraph Seven

7.0 Judges Panel: Shall consist of all approved judges in accordance with the standards set forth by the Society. The procedure for nominating a judge for the Judges Panel shall consist of a written application by the potential judge, who is a current member of the Society. Nomination to the Judges Panel may

not take place until the potential judge has completed testing and apprenticeship under the formula as then required by the Board of Directors of the Society. Said apprentice must be nominated by at least two of the judges that the apprentice, apprenticed under.

7.1 Final approval of a new judge shall be by the Board of Directors. This will consist of a majority vote of the Board after verification from the Judges Panel Chair that the requirements have been completed. All associated paperwork, including the test will be retained by the Judges Panel Chair. If the Board deems necessary, it may review copies of all paperwork in the apprentice process, excluding the test taken.

7.2 A Panel judge may be either sanctioned or removed from the Judges Panel as recommended by the director of the Judges Panel and approved by the majority of the Board in accord with the most current NFSS Judges Handbook procedures. NFSS judges may not judge a show if they are not in current with their membership and judging fees.

#### Paragraph Eight

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

collected for this program will remain the sole property of the Society.

## ARTICLE 8: MEMBERSHIP MEETING

### Paragraph One

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

### Paragraph Two

There is no Board of Directors meeting during the general membership meeting. Therefore no motions may be made and no votes taken as no official business is conducted.

### Paragraph Three

The annual membership meeting of the Society shall consist of, but is not limited to, a State of the Society report given by the President or his/her representative, the Treasurer or appointed representative will report on our year to date financial condition and possible suggestions for the future budget year, awards presentation, announcement of election results, if applicable and a longer more casual discussion period when members may make their views known to the Board of Directors.

### Paragraph Four

Regional meetings may be held at the direction of the Regional Vice-Presidents. Official business is not conducted at regional meetings. These meetings are for the general membership of the Society and are primarily to discuss ideas which may be presented to the Board of Directors at a later time. These meetings may also sponsor educational programs for the membership.

ARTICLE 9: DISSOLUTION

Paragraph One

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

Paragraph Two

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

ARTICLE 10: AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

Paragraph One

Proposed amendments to the bylaws must be sponsored by at least two members of the Society and received by the

President by certified mail only. Any properly submitted by-law change that is considered by a vote of the majority of the Board members to not be in the best interest of the Society as a whole, may be denied consideration.

Paragraph Two

Proposed amendments to the bylaws must be published in Journal of the Society at least 30 days prior to the vote.. Any amendment to the bylaws of this Society must be approved by two-thirds of those responding. Any such ballot will be counted by at least two members of the Society and one witness as pre-approved by the Board of Directors, or an accounting firm selected by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 11: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

All matters of the Society will be conducted in accordance with the by-laws or Robert's rules of order as described in Article 5, paragraph 24.

THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY  
BYLAWS AMMENDMENT BALLOT

\_\_\_\_\_ NFSS Membership Number

This must be completed or the ballot will not be counted

Dual members will each have one (1) vote. You are allowed to make a photocopy of this ballot

**Ballots must be postmarked by: February 28, 2009**

MAIL BALLOTS TO:  
Gail Benson - NFSS Elections  
144 N Clyde Avenue  
Palatine, IL 60067

Vote to approve or disapprove of the amendment by making an "X" on the line next to one choice.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Approve of the proposed Bylaws Amendment
- \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove of the proposed Bylaws Amendment

**NFSS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION Yes ! I want to support NFSS!**  
**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**  
 MEMBERSHIP ORDER / RENEWAL ORDER / DVD ORDER

## PRIMARY MEMBER

FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

## DUAL MEMBER

FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

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

CITY / ST / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTRY if outside USA: \_\_\_\_\_

DAYTIME PH# ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ (in case we have questions about your order)

\_\_\_\_ Membership \$30.00 If Renewal NFSS# \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Dual-Membership \$35.00 If Dual - DualNFSS# \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Junior Membership \$10.00 If Renewal NFSS# \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ FOREIGN Membership \$42.00 US Dollars If Renewal NFSS# \_\_\_\_\_

PRIMARY MEMBER EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

DUAL MEMBER EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR WEBSITE ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR AVIARY NAME \_\_\_\_\_

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 Nov/Dec Journal

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Please make checks payable to NFSS in U.S. currency

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### NFSS @ 25 VIDEO MAIL-IN ORDER FORM

In celebration of our 25th Anniversary year, now you can order all backissues of the NFSS Journal in one DVD! For a limited time, we are accepting pre-orders for this DVD at a discounted price of \$15.00 per DVD until 12/31/08, order yours today!

Please print clearly and provide all necessary mailing information and return your payment (make check payable to NFSS) with this completed order form to:

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Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of the NFSS @ 25 DVD compilation of the 1984-2008 NFSS Journal Backissues**



If ordered before January 1st 2009\* Pre-order Sales Price : DVD's are \$15.00 USD each including domestic shipping, USA. We must receive your order and payment by December 31, 2008.

**Qty of DVDs \_\_\_\_\_ x 15.00 = TOTAL:\$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Would you like us to send NFSS membership information? Yes or No

Please note that your order will ship after January 1st 2009 in order to allow for inclusion of the 2008 Nov/Dec Journal content.

\*Orders received on or after January 1, 2009: the regular sales price will be \$20.00 USD per DVD shipped domestic (USA).

Questions or order followup: Ph/Fax (408)716-7775 or [NFSS25@nfss.org](mailto:NFSS25@nfss.org)

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Amount Ordered	\$5-\$25		\$26-\$75		\$76-\$125		\$126-\$350	
Shipping Charges	\$4		\$9		\$13		\$18	
<b>PACKAGE SIZE</b>	<b>2oz-56.8g</b>	<b>qty</b>	<b>4oz-113g</b>	<b>qty</b>	<b>8oz-227g</b>	<b>qty</b>	<b>28.2oz-800g</b>	<b>qty</b>
ALL BIRD EXOTIC	\$7.95/pk		\$14.95/pk		\$21.95/pk		\$59.95/pk	
ALL BIRD EXOTIC PLUS	\$8.95/pk		\$16.95/pk		\$24.95/pk		\$69.95/pk	
<b>TOTAL + SHIPPING</b>								
<b>NAME</b>					<b>TELEPHONE</b>			
<b>SHIPPING ADDRESS</b>				<b>CITY</b>			<b>STATE</b>	<b>ZIP CODE</b>

# NFSS Bands

*Paula Hansen, NFSS Band Secretary*

Plastic Bands are a good way to learn to band your birds. They are not permanent and can be removed once a bird is sexed or sold. Each string contains 10 bands of one color. They come with a tool to assist in placing the band on properly. Open the plastic band wide enough to slip the bird's leg in. Don't over extend the plastic when widening with the tool, this may cause the band not to close completely. Detailed instructions are provided. Banding birds with split plastic bands for identification of breeder isn't practical as they are removable, it doesn't prove the year the bird fledged, and isn't recognized for birds to accumulate points in a NFSS Show. However, the breeder showing will acquire points using colored plastic bands. Using single color split bands identifies family groups from a distance or that chick who lost its closed band prior to fledgling.

You can apply the plastic bands any time. Some use the split plastic bands to learn to band birds later with closed bands. Getting used to holding chicks is the trick. Some don't even use the tool we send to apply the plastic bands; instead they practice the closed band technique using plastic bands. This avoids having to squeeze the plastic band shut in addition to learning the closed band technique. Others only band the offspring with the plastic bands so they do not sell off their breeding stock by mistake. They also use the colors to help in sexing their birds. Placing different colored bands on each chick in a clutch can help visually identify which bird is the male/female when trying to sex each chick. Some place bands on left

leg and other clutches right leg this too helps to identify one family group different clutches during the year.

Upon pairing unrelated birds, the split plastic bands can be removed and reused.

Closed bands remain on the bird for life. Normally bands are applied to chicks at ages 10 to 16 days or 8 to 10 depending on the species. NFSS has a recommended size for closed bands for each species. They appear in each journal and on the NFSS website. Use caution when banding your birds. Don't squeeze the bird's body and have someone assist you when learning to close band your bird. The band should be slightly loose to move up and down the leg of the bird but fit well enough not to slip past the bird's ankle or knuckle. Bands should never look like a loose bracelet on the bird's leg.

All closed band orders for the new year are held until Christmas week. This is to ensure that breeders have bands just in time for early clutches. Should members need bands immediately use the NFSS website to order, e-mail the band secretary or call. Check the NFSS website at: <http://nfss.org> for color availability or email me at: [bands@nfss.org](mailto:bands@nfss.org).

Applying closed bands can be a scary experience for the first timer. Have a friend help you. Take your time. Sit down at a table do not stand in the middle of the room.

Prepare before you pick the chick up —place a cloth down on the surface below your hand or where you will



Step 1: Cup hand and place bird in your palm.



Step 2: Close your 3 fingers over the bird lightly.



Step 3: Your thumb and pointer finger holds the bird's leg. 3 Toes are relaxed & pointed to receive the band. The 4<sup>th</sup> toe is in place.

be banding the bird. Should you drop the band you can easily retrieve it and not look for hours where it rolled and bounced off to. I can't tell you how many times I have done that. You need a toothpick and a dab of lubricant. It can be an ointment, cream or KY jelly. I'll explain below.

Pick up the chick with one hand and make a fist with the other hand. Turn your fist in an upward position. (mental picture -knuckles down & fingers up.) Open your fingers & place the chick in the palm of your hand, the birds head facing you, right side up in the cup of your hand, not upside down. Cup your hand more. This will wedge the chicks head in a pocket in your palm of your hand. The chick will lay quietly. Now close your 3 fingers lightly over the chick. This will make a dark environment for the chick and it will lay still, warm and quite. With your free hand maneuver the chicks leg. It should be held under your thumb and on top of your pointing finger. (mental picture-like holding the remote when changing channels on the TV.) Toes should be exposed past the thumb pointing away from you.

Notice the chicks toe receiving the band will automatically uncurl, stop wiggling, straighten, and come to a point. If it doesn't happen adjust the chick in that pocket in the palm. Check your 3 fingers covering the chick it has to be dark in your cupped palm for this technique to work! Toes will straighten. Take your time the chick is okay and warm just don't squeeze it tight.

Once you achieve a pointed 3 toes, this is where you slip the band over the 3 pointed front toes slowly & carefully. Remember finches have 4 toes of which 3 go through the ring first. That 4th(rear) toe should be lying open & flat against the chick's leg waiting for the band to slide over it and the leg at the same time. Once you slide that band on free this is where the 4th toe (it's usually the nail that gets snagged in the band) needs a little help getting free. Place the toothpick between the 4th toe and the leg lift the toe away from the leg and it will free

itself without causing any harm to the chick. Toes have very soft bone. You can practice banding using this technique with an adult bird using the split plastic bands however the adults will fuss more until you place them in that dark cup of your palm covering with the 3 fingers.

Ordering bands you can submit your order through the NFSS website using PayPal or mail-in your order. I'll receive your order and mail it out. This hopefully will ease the stress level a notch or two. Email me any time with your questions. If you are one of the late members who have babies hatching and need these fast, send me a separate email. Bands are usually mailed on Mondays or Fridays once a week.

All band orders come with instructions and membership applications. Make sure your membership is current. All orders containing closed bands are checked for the membership information. The NFSS Membership Director sends a new list monthly to the Band Secretary. Occasionally I have to ask "why" if your name doesn't appear as a member, and you will be requested to renew your membership. This may delay your order. If you are a representative of an affiliated club, this does not give you a personal membership to order closed bands. You must be an individual member.

All closed bands are registered in the Band Secretary's log book. Each string of closed bands is sequentially numbered and a string contains 10 bands. Should you wish to loan your bands to other NFSS members, contact me directly with their full name, NFSS member number, band size, and the band numbers. This is another perk for ordering NFSS Bands.

Over the past 5 years NFSS has really grown. With this growth so have the band orders. There may be times toward the end of the year when inventory runs low or completely out. I recommend bands be ordered early when possible, allow time to receive your bands. NFSS Bands are ordered 6 months in advance so the numbering is continuous, never duplicated throughout the year for any given size. There are no custom engraving available. This is how NFSS keeps the cost to its member's low and handling fee affordable. NFSS ships bands internationally.

Any questions you can contact directly – email: [bands@nfss.org](mailto:bands@nfss.org) or phone: (503) 581-8208 - after 7pm Pacific time. I do work full time so give me time to reach you.

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## Election Committee Notice

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NFSS has formed an Election Committee for the 2009 NFSS general election. The Committee so far includes Alfredo Brugueras, Tom Keegan, Rebecca Mickel, Lisa Murphy, Bob Peers, John Wilson, and Bill Parlee as Chairman. If you would like to serve on the search committee, would like to run for office, or would like to alert us to a member you know, that would be willing to run for office, you may contact us at [ElectionsNFSS@yahoogroups.com](mailto:ElectionsNFSS@yahoogroups.com).



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# NFSS BOD MEETING

## 3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER 2008

**PRESENT:** *Bob Peers, John Wilson, Ernesto Padilla, Jason Crean, Brian Nagle, Doug White, Paula Hansen, Vonda Zwick, Tom Keegan, Andy M ordoh, Gwynne Willison, Lisa Murphy, Sally Huntington, Rebecca Mikel, Roland Cristo, Katy Dodd, Mike Gravely, Sharon Dvorak, Bill Parlee, Robert Mehl, Bob Peers, Cecil Gunby, Laura Bewley.*

**RESIGNED:** Andy Mordoh, 2nd VP; Gwynne Willison, Advertising Manager; Katy Dodd, Editor

**APPOINTED:** Tom Keegan, 2nd VP Pro-Tem; Cecile Aguilera, Web Master; Gail Benson, Advertising Manager

**ELECTED:** Brian Nagle, Membership Director; Vince Moase Region 8 V.P.

**OPEN POSITIONS:** Editor , 2nd Vice-President, Region 5 VP

### BUSINESS CONDUCTED:

Journal was not submitted by deadline established to meet criteria for rec't of stipend. Delays were for legitimate reasons, BOD voted to pay stipend.

**TREASURY:** 8/1/08 Bank Balance: \$21,356.70 – as of 6/30/08 all invoice and expenses paid.

Have attained same level of Affiliated Clubs as last year

2008 Census form will be in Sept/Oct Journal with new census beginning 11/1/08

Several electronic elements / updates completed for FSS, continuing to seek volunteers

699 current NFSS members (480 single, 196 dual, 17 foreign, 6 junior).

NFSS judges membership dates changed to reflect 12/31 renewals for all

Re-established communication with 5 other Avicultural organizations with trade agreements

Draft of By Laws approved by BOD will be presented to membership for a vote

Any person wishing to donate items for raffle at '08 NCBS may send them to Rebecca Mikel

Revised Zebra standard to be published in Journal for review, sent to NFSS Judges

Judge's Handbook nearing completion

2007 Show Reports compiled

3 Judges names submitted for 2009 NCBS: Laura Tinker, Paul Williams, Armando Lee

Robert Mehl will order all awards for 2008 NCBS

2nd VP will assure the previous 2 yrs of Journals are stored on CD/Media device.

Current Publisher will edit and produce the next issue of the Journal.



**MOTIONS:**

<b>MOTION</b>	<b>BY</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>MOTION</b>	<b>RESULT</b>
2008-30	Mordoh	Hansen	Pay Jul/Aug Journal Stipend	Pass
2008-31	Mikel	Mehl	Appoint Gail Benson/Adv'g	Pass
2008-32	Hansen	Gunby	Accept By law revision	Pass
2008-33	Hansen	Murphy	Table Gen. Standards discussion until 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	Pass
2008-34	Wilson	Mikel	Table Adv'g discussion until 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	Pass
2008-35	Murphy	Mikel	Judge's names for 2009 NCBS: Laura Tinker, Paul Williams, Armonda Lee	Pass
2008-36	Wilson	Murphy	Appoint Cecile Aguilera as Website Manager	Pass
2008-37	Zwick	Wilson	Appoint T. Keegan , 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP Pro-Tem	Pass
2008-38	Hansen	Murphy	Table Insurance discussion until 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	Pass
2008-39	Mikel	Keegan	Purchase 2 NFSS banners at cost not to exceed \$200	Pass
2008-40	Wilson	Keegan	*SEE BELOW	Pass
2008-41	Keegan	Zwick	*SEE BELOW	Pass
2008-42	Hansen	Mehl	Accept 2007 Audit conducted by Gwynne Willison & Bill Parlee	Pass
2008-43	Hansen	Zwick	Accept minutes and adjourn meeting	Pass

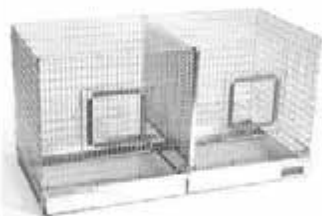
2008-40: 2nd VP and President authorized to negotiate services for editing last 2 Journals of 2008, staying within approved Journal budget, and not subject to time constraints of Editor's Stipend.

2008-41: All policies related to payment of stipend to NFSS Editor will be suspended until new Editor is appointed by vote of the BOD as NFSS Officer and stipend policy can be reviewed by BOD/New Editor. Editor stipend policies shall be either reaffirmed, rescinded, or changed by a vote of the BOD in order to end this suspension.

**NEXT MEETING: Convenes at NCBS, 11/20-23/08**

For a full/uncondensed version of the minutes, either refer to the NFSS website (nfss.org) or contact Rebecca Mikel, Executive Secretary.

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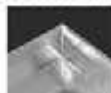
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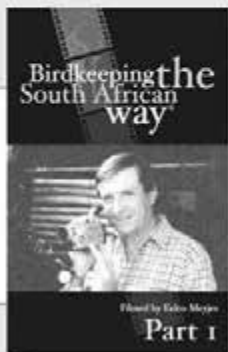
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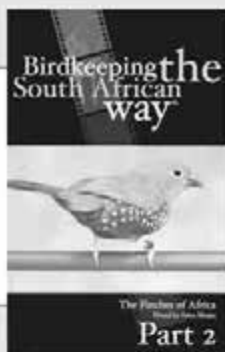
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# NFSS Affiliated Clubs/Events

Liaison Officer - Club Delegates/Show Dates — Mr. Robert Mehl  
11108 Hollowbrook Road Owings Mills, Maryland 21117  
RobertMehl@aol.com

*Note: Events may be held in states other than the home state of the club. Regional affiliates are those with no steady location, but should be checked for events near you.*

## Alabama

### Central Alabama Avicultural Society

Delegate: Jorge & Carmela Juez  
Meeting Schedule: 2nd Sunday of the Month  
Location: Montgomery Zoo/Quality Inn and Suites  
Info Contact: tedsexton@bellsouth.net

## California

### Central California Cage Bird Club

Delegate: Chryse Seeman  
Club website: www.mycccb.org  
Meeting Schedule: 3rd Sunday of the Month  
Location: Manchini Hall, Modesto, CA  
Show/Expo: 55th Annual Finch & Canary Show October 25th, 2008  
Location: SOS Club, 819 Sunset Ave. Modesto, CA  
Info contact: Chryse Seeman  
chryse95320@yahoo.com

### Finch Society of San Diego

Delegate: Sally Huntington  
Club website:  
www.sandiegofinchsociety.com  
Meeting Schedule: Sundays 7/27, 8/24, 9/28,  
10/26, 11/23  
Location: Elks Lodge 13219 Poway Rd. Poway,  
CA 92064  
Info contact: Sally Huntington  
sallych@san.rr.com

### Herbert Ibarra Elementary Bird Club

Delegate: Scott Golden - teacher  
Club Email: scottgoldensd@hotmail.com  
Meeting Schedule: Open  
Location: Herbert Ibarra Elementary

### Santa Clara Valley Canary & Exotic Bird Club

Delegate: Shanna Dollarhide  
Club Email: scvcebc@yahoo.com  
Club website: www.santaclarabirdclub.org  
Meeting Schedule: 2nd Sunday of the Month  
Location: Santa Clara, CA

Show/Expo: Annual Show Dec. 6, 2007  
Location: TBA  
Info contact: Shanna Dollarhide,  
Shanna@coloronthewing.com

### West Coast Zebra & Society Finch Show

Delegate: Chryse Seeman  
Show/Expo: Show July 26 2008, sales and speakers on July 25 and 27th, 2008  
Location: La Quinta Downtown, Sacramento, CA  
Judge: Clarence Culwell  
Info contact: Chryse Seeman, manager  
chryse95320@yahoo.com

## Colorado

### Rocky Mountain Society of Aviculture, Inc

Delegate: Lisa McManus  
Club website: www.rmsa-birds.org  
Show/Expo: Fall Show, Nov 8-9th 2008  
Location: National Western Complex, Denver, CO  
Judge: Al Decoteau & Conrad Meinert

## Florida

### Cage Bird Club of Charlotte County

Delegate: Sue Pacheco  
Club Email: pmhill@comcast.net  
Club website: www.caged-bird-club.com  
Meeting Schedule: 1st Friday of the Month  
Location: 20271 Tappen Zee Drive,  
Port Charlotte, FL  
Show/Expo: Bird Expo Mar. 30, 2008  
Location: Charlotte Fair Grounds

### Suncoast Avian Society

Delegate: Mari Howard  
Club website: www.suncoastaviansociety.org  
Meeting Schedule: 3rd Sunday of the Month  
Location: Moccasin Lake Park, Clearwater FL  
Show/Expo: Show Aug. 2, 2008  
Location: St Petersburg Coliseum, 535 4th Ave N.,  
St Petersburg, FL 34695  
Information contact: Mari Howard,  
whoward7@tampabay.rr.com

### Treasure Coast Exotic Bird Club

Delegate: Timothy McCormick,  
email: tm50et@yahoo.com  
Meeting Schedule: 4th Sunday of the Month 2 PM  
Location: Port Salerno Civic Center, Stuart, FL  
Show/Expo: Bird Fair Apr 6, 2008  
Location: Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center

**Tri-State Avian Society**

Delegate: Barry Laster  
 Club website: [Tristateaviansociety.org](http://Tristateaviansociety.org)  
 Meeting Schedule: 2nd Saturday of Month  
 Location: Tallahassee, FL  
 Show/Expo: Spring Bird Fair May 17-18, 2008  
 Location: North Florida Fairgrounds, 441 Paul Russell Rd, Tallahassee  
 Info contact: Barry Laster,  
[BarryL7523@comcast.net](mailto:BarryL7523@comcast.net)

**Illinois****Finch & Softbill Breeders & Exhibitors Club**

Delegate: Gail Benson  
 Club website: [www.fsbec.finchfiles.com](http://www.fsbec.finchfiles.com)  
 Meeting Schedule: 2nd Thurs. of the month  
 Location: Palatine, IL  
 Show/Expo: Annual Show Sept. 6th 2008  
 Location: Crowne Plaza, Mundelein, IL  
 Judge: Sally Huntington  
 Information contact: Gail Benson  
[gailsgouldians@comcast.net](mailto:gailsgouldians@comcast.net)

**Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club**

Delegate: Diana Federl  
 Club Email: [info@gccbc.org](mailto:info@gccbc.org)  
 Club website: [www.gccbc.org](http://www.gccbc.org)  
 Meeting Schedule: 3rd Friday of the Month  
 Location: 215 S. Riverside, Lombard, IL  
 Show/Expo: GCCBC 77th Show Nov 1, 2008  
 Location: DuPage Expo Center  
 Information contact: [president@gccbc.org](mailto:president@gccbc.org)

**The Avicultural Society of**

Chicagoland  
 Delegate: Jason Crean  
 Club Email: [tascchicago@aol.com](mailto:tascchicago@aol.com)  
 Club website: [www.tasc-chicago.org](http://www.tasc-chicago.org)  
 Meeting Schedule: Months with 5 Fridays at 7:30PM  
 Location: Lombard Log cabin, Lombard, IL  
 Show/Expo: Midwest Bird Expo April 2009  
 Location: Wheaton, IL  
 Info contact: Jason Crean  
[tascchicago@aol.com](mailto:tascchicago@aol.com)

**National Institute of Red Orange Canaries**

Delegate: Steve Hopman  
 Show/Expo: NIROC Annual Show  
 November 29th 2008  
 Location: Waterford Banquet & Conference Center,  
 933 S. Riverside Drive, Elmhurst, IL 60126  
 Info Contact: James Fessel [jdcafessel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jdcafessel@sbcglobal.net)

**International Asociacion de Criadores de Finches de Este Inc.**

Delegate: Ernesto Polidura  
 Contact: Rurico Vidal  
 Phone: (787) 653-7322

Show/Expo: 2008 Summer National Show June 27-29, 2008 Show entries are received on Friday the 27th from 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Place: Plaza del Carmen Mall Caguas, P.R.  
 Judge: Mr. Alfredo Brujeras  
 Show: 2008 Winter National Show November 7-9, 2008 Place: TBD  
 Judge: Mrs. Martha Wigmore

**Canadian Finch and Softbill Society**

Delegate: Vince Moase  
 Club Email: [vmoase@rogers.com](mailto:vmoase@rogers.com)  
 Show/Expo: Show Nov. 8-9 2008  
 Location: Brampton Fair Grounds 12942 Hearlake Rd. Brampton, Ontario  
 Judge: Allen Bennett, England. - Zebra Finches  
 Grant Rishman, Victoria, B.C. - Finches and Softbills

**Essex-Kent Cage Bird Society**

Delegate: Alfred Mion  
 Club website: [www.essexkentcbs.com](http://www.essexkentcbs.com)  
 Show/Expo: Show Sept. 28, 2008  
 Location: Fogolar Furlan Club,  
 Windsor, Canada  
 Information contact: Alfred Mion,  
[julianne@mnsi.net](mailto:julianne@mnsi.net)

**Iowa****Mid America Cage Bird Society**

Delegate: John Thielking  
 Club website: [www.MACBS.org](http://www.MACBS.org)  
 Meeting Schedule: 4th Sunday of the Month  
 Location: Des Moines Botanical Center 909 Robert D Ray Drive  
 Show/Expo: Bird Fairs, March 23, May 18, August 24, 2008  
 Location: Des Moines Botanical Center  
 Info contact: John Thielking,  
[Thielking@iowalink.com](mailto:Thielking@iowalink.com)

**Maryland****Baltimore Bird Fanciers**

Delegate: Robert Mehl  
 Club website: [www.baltimorebirdfanciers.org](http://www.baltimorebirdfanciers.org)  
 Meeting Schedule: 3rd Sunday of the Month except May & Oct 2PM  
 Location: Towson Public Library,  
 Baltimore County  
 Show/Expo: Spring Mart and Finch Show May 17, 2008  
 Location: Tall Cedars Hall, Parkvile,  
 MD 21234  
 Judge: Cecil Gunby  
 Info contact: Robert Mehl,  
[robert.mehl@verizon.net](mailto:robert.mehl@verizon.net)

**Maryland All Canary Club**

Delegate: Jonathan Smith

Club website:  
geocities.com/heartland/3575/macc.html  
Meeting Schedule: 4th Sunday of the Month  
Location: Varies  
Show/Expo: Show Oct. 4, 2008  
Location: TBD  
Judge: Miki Spartzak  
Info contact: Jonathan Smith  
jonbsmith@cox.net

## Massachusetts

### Massachusetts Cage Bird Association

Delegate: Tom Keegan  
Club website: www.massagebird.org  
Show/Expo: Show Oct. 18, 2008  
Location: TBD  
Judge: Nizam Ali

## Michigan

### Great Lakes Zebra and Society Finch Club

Delegate: Rebecca Mikel  
Club website:  
greatlakeszebra&societyfinchclub.com  
Show/Expo: Show Aug 23, 2008  
Location: Livonia, MI  
Info contact: Jim Heffernan,  
tielnmore@aol.com

### Michigan Society of Canary and Finch Breeders

Club Email: tielnmore@aol.com  
Club website: www.societyofcanaryandfinchbreedersofmichigan.com

## Minnesota

### Canary Club of Minnesota

Delegate: Jeanne Murphy,  
pinataminiatures@yahoo.com  
Club website: canaryclub.su.com  
Show/Expo: Show Oct 18, 2008  
Location: River Heights Motel, 1020 US Hwy 10  
Prescott, WI 1715-262-3266  
Information contact: Darlene Witt,  
pinataminiatures@yahoo.com

## Missouri

### Gateway Parrot Club

Delegate: Christine Kinkade  
Club website: gatewayparrotclub.org  
Meeting Schedule: 3rd Sunday of the Month, June 2nd, Aug. no meeting 2PM  
Location: Kirkwood Community Center, 1111 S Geyer Rd, Kirkwood, MO  
Show/Expo: All-American Hookbill Fair Aug 23-24, 2008  
Location: Greensfelder Reception Complex, Queeny Park, Baldwin, MO

Info contact: Phyllis Cotton  
vicepresident@gatewayparrotclub.com

## Greater Kansas City Avicultural Society

Delegate: Anthony Day  
Club website: www.kcas.org  
Show/Expo: GKCAS Bird Fair Oct. 18th 2008  
Location: Coronation of Our Lady Church, 1300 Bennington, Grandview, Mo 64030

## New Hampshire

### Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society

Delegate: Raymond Schwartz  
Club website: www.boaf.com  
Meeting Schedule: 2nd Monday of the Month  
Location: Villa Crest Retirement Center, Manchester, NH  
Show/Expo: 21st Annual Fall Show & Mart Oct. 25th 2008  
Location: NH National Guard Amory, Nashua, NH  
Info contact: Ray Schwartz,  
president@boaf.com

## New York

### Empire Finch & Canary Club

Delegate: John Lund, (516) 564-4692,  
email: IRMANPEREZ@aol.com  
Show/Expo: Show Nov 8, 2008  
Location: St. Marks Methodist Church, 200 Hempstead Ave, Rockville Center, NY  
Judge: Robert Vargo  
Info contact: Gabe Dillon 516-593-2841  
Other Divisions: Colorbred, Type, Fife, and Gloster Canaries

## New York Finch & Type Canary Club

Delegate: Stan Kulak  
Meeting Schedule: 2nd Sunday of the Month except holidays  
Location: Averill Blvd. Park, Elmont (Long Island), NY  
Show/Expo: Annual Show September 27, 2008  
St. Judes Church (Coyne Hall),  
1677 Canarsie Road, Brooklyn, NY  
Judge: Laura Tinker  
Info contact: Stan Kulak  
barstand@aahawk.com

## North Carolina

### Raleigh-Durham Cage Bird Society

Delegate: James Dvorak  
Club website: www.RDCBS.org  
Meeting Schedule: 3rd Sunday of the Month at 2:30 PM  
Location: Glen Eden Pilot Park, Raleigh  
Show/Expo: Fair and Show 5/24/08  
Location: NC State Fairgrounds  
Judge: Cecil Gunby & Ken Gunby



Info contact: John Marquis,  
john@jamcosys.com  
Other Divisions: 2 shows in one day

## Oregon

### Columbia Canary Club

Delegate: KJ and Linda Brown  
Show/Expo: Bird Show Nov 8-9 2008  
Location: National Guard Armory,  
10101 SE Clackamas Rd, Clackamas, OR  
Judge: Alfredo Bruguera  
Info contact: Linda Brown 503-266-7606  
JeepersPeepers55@aol.com  
Other Divisions: Type and Colorbred Canary

## Pennsylvania

### Chester County Bird Club

Delegate: Doris Rickards  
Club Email: Info@ccbirdclub.com  
Club website: www.ccbirdclub.com  
Meeting Schedule: 2nd Sun. of the month  
Location: East Whiteland Township Bldg  
Show/Expo date: 20th Annual Show & Mart  
November 8th, 2008  
Location: Church Farm School, 1001 East Lincoln  
Highway, Exton, PA  
Info contact: Doris Rickards  
Info@ccbirdclub.com

## Tennessee

### SE Tennessee Aviculture Society

Delegate: Susan Murphy  
Club website: www.stasbirdclub.com  
Meeting Schedule: 2nd Sunday of the month  
Location: Niota Elementary School  
Niota, TN  
Show/Expo: Fall Show & Fair NFSS Region 2 Finch  
& Softbill Show, Sept 27-28, 2008  
Location: George R. Stuart School,  
Cleveland, TN 37312  
Info contact: Lisa Murphy  
wlmurphy@usit.net  
Other Divisions: NCS, NAPS

## Texas

### Canary & Finch Society

Delegate: Mary Hearn  
Club Website: canaryfinchsociety.tripod.com  
Meeting Schedule: 2nd Sunday of the month  
Location: See Website for directions  
Show/Expo: Annual Show Oct. 11, 2008  
Location: Sheraton North Houston 281-442-5100  
or Tollfree reg. 800-325-3535  
Judge: Cecil Gunby  
Info contact: Mary Hearn mlshearn@comcast.net  
409-744-3141

## Fort Worth Bird Club

Delegate: Clarence Culwell  
Club website: www.fwbc.org  
Meeting Schedule: 2nd Sunday of the month  
Location: Botanical gardens, Fort Worth TX  
Show/Expo: 55th Annual All Bird  
Show Region 4 NFSS Show 11/27/2008  
Location: Grapevine Convention Center  
Judge: Ken Gunby  
Info contact: Jerry Casor show@fwbc.org

## Texas Bird Breeders

Delegate: Clarence Culwell  
Club website: ww.texasbirdbreeders.org  
Meeting Schedule: Quarterly  
Location: Varies  
Show/Expo: Fair and Show 1/8/2008  
Location: Mayborn Convention Center, Temple TX  
Judge: Laura Bewley  
Info contact: Clarence Culwell,  
coculwell@wccs.net

## Virginia

### Pennisula Caged Bird Society

Delegate: Peggy Duval  
Club website:  
www.vapennisulacagedbirdsociety.org  
Meeting Schedule: 3rd Sunday of the Month  
Location: Columbia Center, 12742 Nettles Dr.,  
Newport News, VA  
Show/Expo: Fall Bird Mart Cockatiel & NFSS Show  
Nov. 1st, 2008  
Location: Columbia Center, 12742 Nettles Dr.,  
Newport News, VA  
Info contact: finchbreeder@earthlink.net

## Washington

### Cascade Canary Breeders Association

Delegate: Janel Johnson  
Meeting Schedule: 3rd Sunday of the month  
Location: 120 West Sunset Way,  
Issaquah, WA 98027  
Show/Expo: Finch & Canary show  
Nov 29-30 2008  
Location: Evergreen State Fairgrounds, Monroe, WA  
Info contact: Janel Johnson,  
Katbird57@aol.com

## Wisconsin

### Central Wisconsin Cage and Exotic Bird Connection

Delegate: Marlene Minor  
Club website: www.cwwcbc.us/bc/  
Show/Expo: Annual Bird & Garden  
Fair May 24, 2008  
Location: Marshfield Fairgrounds  
Information contact: Marlene Minor mminor@tds.net



## Regional/National

### American Dove Association

Delegate: Denny Stapp

Club Website: [www.doveline.com](http://www.doveline.com)

Show/Expo: ADA @ the Nutritional Young Bird Show Oct. 18th, 2008

Location: Fair & Exposition Center, Louisville KY

Judge: Smith - Ringnecks Ken Becker- Diamonds

Info contact: Stapp

[secretary@doveline.com](mailto:secretary@doveline.com)

### Avicultural Society of America

Delegate: Sheri Hanna

Club Website: [www.asabirds.org](http://www.asabirds.org)

Info contact: Sheri Hanna [turacoldy@aol.com](mailto:turacoldy@aol.com) 805-208-1759

### Southeast Bird Fanciers

Delegate: Ginny Allen

Club website:

[www.members.tripod.com/sebfg/](http://www.members.tripod.com/sebfg/)

Location: Varies

Information contact: Ginny Allen

[gndallen@bellsouth.net](mailto:gndallen@bellsouth.net)

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